

Code of Living & Ethical Responsibilities

Code of Living

- **1st Principle:** We will treat others and ourselves fairly and honourably
- **2nd Principle:** We will take responsibility for our choices
- **3rd Principle:** We will continually seek experience, knowledge and understanding and offer it to others truthfully
- **4th Principle:** We will value others as people with their experiences, beliefs and attitudes and we will behave with patience and compassion
- **5th Principle:** We will be aware of those who may be vulnerable and we will be vigilant against false hopes, unrealistic expectations and those who may misuse what we offer
- **6th Principle:** We will respect and protect the privacy, confidentiality, sovereignty and independence of others
- **7th Principle:** We will actively listen to others
- **8th Principle:** We will appropriately promote the use of the human preconscious mind for shaping lives

Ethical Responsibilities

Responsibilities to the client

- **SlimMinders** take all reasonable steps to avoid harm to their clients as a result of the group process.
- **SlimMinders** faced with situations that are beyond their competence will refer to other appropriate professionals.
- **SlimMinders** promote client autonomy and encourage clients to make responsible decisions on their own behalf.
- **SlimMinders** are responsible for setting and maintaining professional boundaries within the group relationship.
- **SlimMinders** must not exploit clients, past or present, in financial, sexual, emotional or any other way.

Confidentiality

- ***SlimMinders*** treat with confidence any personal information about clients, whether obtained directly or by inference. This applies to all verbal, written, recorded or computer stored material pertaining to the program context. All records, whether in written or any other form, need to be protected with the strictest of confidence.
- ***SlimMinders*** are responsible for protecting the client's rights of confidentiality in the supervisory context by ensuring that shared information is disguised appropriately.
- Exceptional circumstances may arise which give the ***SlimMinders*** good grounds for believing that the client will cause serious physical harm to others or themselves. In such circumstances, the breaking of confidentiality may be required, preferably with the client's permission.
- Any breaking of confidentiality should be minimised both by restricting the information conveyed to that which is pertinent to the immediate situation and by limiting it to those persons who can provide the help required by the client.
- Agreements about confidentiality continue after the client's death unless there are overriding legal considerations.
- Special care is required when using testimonials for reports and publication. The author must have the client's informed written consent.

Contracts

- Any publicity material and all written and oral information should reflect accurately the nature of the service offered and the training, qualifications and relevant experience of the ***SlimMinder***.
- ***SlimMinders*** are responsible for communicating the terms on which the program is being offered.

Responsibilities to Self as a ***SlimMinder***

- ***SlimMinders*** have a responsibility to themselves to maintain their own effectiveness, resilience and ability to help clients. They monitor their own personal functioning, and seek help or refrain from running programs when their functioning is significantly impaired by personal or emotional difficulties, illness, alcohol, drugs or any other cause.
- ***SlimMinders*** review their training and develop skills, monitor performance and provide accountability for practice.

Responsibilities to other *SlimMinders*

- ***SlimMinders*** do not conduct themselves in their **SlimMinds™** related activities in ways which undermine public confidence in either their role as ***SlimMinders*** or in the work of other ***SlimMinders***.
- ***SlimMinders*** are committed to the ethical code of their Professional Association, if there is one, which will include procedures to withdraw membership for unethical practice.
- ***SlimMinders*** do not solicit the clients of other ***SlimMinders***. They have an obligation not to impair the work of their colleagues. Nevertheless, ***SlimMinders*** need to be aware of the client's right to choose who they work with.

Responsibilities to the Wider Community

- ***SlimMinders*** work within the law.
- ***SlimMinders*** take all reasonable steps to be aware of current legislation affecting their work.

Complaint Procedure

Each ***SlimMinder*** will abide by the complaints process listed below:

1. If a client/participant makes a complaint to the ***SlimMinder*** and it cannot be resolved at that local level the complaint should be sent in writing to SlimMinds™ Head Office.
2. The ***SlimMinder*** will be notified in writing of the complaint and the complaint will go to the next board meeting... The Complainant and SlimMinder will be informed of the outcome and redress if required.
3. If the ***SlimMinder*** is deemed to have been in breach of their licensing agreement they may be required to refund the claimant the group fee.
4. Appeals can be lodged within 30 days of receiving the outcome letter.
5. Disciplinary procedures include the possibility that a ***SlimMinder*** may lose their licence to provide **SlimMinds™** Programs