



## Welshot Code of Ethics

Welshot exists to provide photographers with enjoyable and fun learning experiences in a controlled and safe environment that is respectful to others and its surroundings.

For the purposes of this code of conduct declaration, the term “member” shall mean paid member, staff member, agent or contractor of Welshot.

### Reputation

- It is the responsibility of every member to ensure that his or her actions reflect positively upon the company.
- Members should not undertake any action that will bring the reputation of the company into question or disrepute.
- Members should act in the best interests of the company.
- Members have the responsibility to understand this code, as well as applicable laws and regulations affecting the photographic industry.
- Members should strive to follow the spirit of the Welshot Code of Conduct and Ethics. Payment of the annual subscription will be confirmation of their agreement to abide by the code. The code applies to all membership levels.
- Welshot’s board of directors (and its appointed agents) reserves the right to refuse membership to new applicants, and to revoke membership of any person who breaches the code.

### Members – General

All members are entitled to be treated with dignity, respect and common courtesy in their contacts with others and they need to act with integrity towards others at all times. Furthermore, all members are expected to adhere to this code of conduct while behind the camera.

- Members shall not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, religion or political affiliation or for their own personal or financial benefit.
- Members should ensure that their dealings with others exemplify and actively foster an environment of mutual trust and respect.
- Members shall not engage in sexual harassment or any behaviour which may be reasonably interpreted as demeaning or as an unwanted sexual advance.



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- Members shall respect other people's property and possessions.
- Members should treat others courteously and seek permission before joining others already photographing in an area.
- When shooting a model, one member at a time will be deemed to be the principal photographer and therefore the model's only focus.
- Members shall treat all subjects and models with respect and dignity at all times.
- Postings by members in social media such as Welshot's website or Facebook pages/groups must not contain libellous or defamatory material, nor should it contain any material that could reasonably be perceived as adult-themed.

## **Natural Habitat Code of Ethics**

The Welshot Code of Ethics is a guide for all members to follow in order to help protect and not cause harm to all nature and wildlife subjects and the environment, and also encourages actions that promote safety for the photographer and the subject.

- Members should regard the safety and well-being of their subjects above the importance of capturing their images. Members should acquaint themselves with and respect the behaviours of wildlife and ecosystems encountered.
- Members must adhere to all laws and regulations applicable to the jurisdiction where they are photographing, and must comply with signs and notices from relevant authorities.
- Members should view wildlife from a safe distance for both the photographer and the wildlife. If the animal interrupts its behaviour (resting, feeding, etc.), then the photographer is probably too close and should endeavour to distance themselves.
- Members should learn patterns of animal behaviour and know when not to interfere with animals' life cycles. First study the species to be photographed – particularly with regard to habitat and signs of stress. If there is a sign of stress, pull back.
- Members should never force an action by startling the wildlife, throwing objects or otherwise trying to promote a response.
- Members should never crowd, pursue, prevent escape, or make deliberate noises to distract, startle or harass wildlife. This is stressful and wastes valuable energy in needless flight.
- Members should never feed or leave food (baiting) for wildlife. Habituation due to food handouts can result in disease or even death of that animal, and injury to humans.
- Members should avoid coming between a parent and its offspring.



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- Members should never interfere with animals engaged in breeding, nesting, or caring for young.
- Members should never encroach on or disturb nests, burrows or dens as certain species may abandon their young if this occurs.
- Members should learn to recognise wildlife alarm signals and never forget that these animals are NOT tame no matter how docile or domesticated they may appear.
- Members should acquaint themselves with the fragility of the ecosystem and wherever possible stay on trails that are intended to lessen impact. All litter should be taken home for disposal/recycling..
- Members should not damage or remove any plant, life form or natural object.