

# RAT FANCIERS OF THE LAKES

## Code of Ethics

### Pet Owners

- I will work toward the betterment of the club to the best of my ability and encourage others to do likewise.
- I will attempt to promote a feeling of fellowship among my fellow members.
- I will keep my rats in appropriate caging, which allows for proper ventilation and cleaning, on healthy and appropriate bedding, and will clean these cages thoroughly as is necessary to maintain a healthy living environment.
- I will feed my rats healthy and appropriate food in sufficient amounts.
- I will seek appropriate veterinary care for all rats under my care.
- I will not needlessly kill or euthanize healthy animals.
- I will never give or sell rats to pet stores.
- I will obtain new pets from ethical and responsible sources, to encourage the ethical care of rats.
- I will not seek to breed my rats without research into genetics, husbandry, and budgeting, and without seeking a reputable mentor.
- I will lovingly handle my rats on a regular basis, and care for their social and mental health.
- As a member of the RFL, I am aware that I represent the club and the fancy. I understand that substantive violations of this Code of Ethics or actions consistently contrary to the best interests of the club and the fancy may result in expulsion from the club, according to our Bylaws.

*By signing below I agree to abide by the RFL Code of Ethics and the Bylaws as they currently stand. I understand that violation of this Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action by the club.*

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Print Name

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Signature

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Date