





# Ethics

## GSI Caller School

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Many years ago a committee was appointed in CALLERLAB to develop a yardstick by which callers could be measured for accreditation. The committee listed desired attributes and sent a questionnaire to callers all over the US asking them to rate the importance of each. The responses included one common point. "Above all, a caller should be ethical in professional and personal matters affecting square dancing."

Ethics, or a system of ethics, has to do with standards of conduct and moral judgment, particularly the standards of conduct of a given profession or group.

By having a code of ethics as a matter of public record, callers and dancers know what is expected avoiding potential problems, and having a guideline to handle complaints.

# Ethics

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***The professional caller must wholeheartedly subscribe to the established standards of relationships to accomplish the declared purpose and objective of callers in the square dance profession.***



## CODE OF ETHICS (Revised April 26, 2012)

*Code: The professional caller must wholeheartedly subscribe to the established standards of relationships to accomplish the declared purpose and objective of callers in the square dance profession.*

### I Acknowledge:

1. That I have an obligation to the dancers. Therefore, I shall provide information, instruction and leadership to enable and encourage the dancer to develop to his/her full potential so that he/she may derive the maximum satisfaction and pleasure from the activity.
2. That I have an obligation to the club organizations. Therefore, I shall participate in the development and maintenance of a sound and respected club organization, shall endeavor to discharge this obligation to the best of my ability, and advise them wisely and honestly.
3. That I have an obligation to the profession. Therefore, I shall respect the dignity of the leaders, teachers and callers as persons, and shall maintain an honorable reputation for personal integrity.
4. That I have an obligation to the activity as a whole. Therefore, in my personal, business, and social contacts I shall be conscious of its heritage and its future and conduct myself accordingly.
5. That I have an obligation to continue to work for professional growth; to adhere to uniform nomenclature; and to learn, to lead, and to contribute to the total square dance movement to the utmost extent of my ability.
6. That I have an obligation to all associations dealing with the activity. Therefore, I shall promote a spirit of cooperation between the various elements of the organization.
7. That I will conduct myself at dances in a responsible manner that would not discredit other callers in the profession. This includes: (a) Making every reasonable effort to arrive at calling engagements early enough to ensure that the dance will begin on time; (b) Refraining from using language in poor taste or telling jokes that may be embarrassing to the dancers; (c) Not calling under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance; (d) Not deviating from the advertised dance program.
8. That except in extreme emergencies, I will honor all of my signed contracts. By doing so I agree to: (a) Fulfill all items of the contract; (b) Prevent a hardship to the sponsoring group by cancelling my contract. I will provide sufficient and adequate notice of any contract cancellation that may be absolutely necessary. (c) Obtain approval from the contracting group before sending a replacement caller.
9. That I will conduct my financial affairs within the square dance activity in a responsible manner. This includes paying my debts on time, or making acceptable arrangements if unable to pay on time.
10. That I will only perform music which has been obtained in a manner that properly and completely compensates the artist(s) and producer(s) responsible for its creation. I will not enable others to use copies of my music while I still retain its ownership.

As a Member of CALLERLAB (The International Association of Square Dance Callers), I accept these obligations as a personal responsibility, and solemnly pledge to be consistent with the highest standard of professional services both in spirit and in fact. I shall discharge these obligations honorably and dedicate myself to that end.

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## I Acknowledge:

**1. That I have an obligation to the dancers. Therefore, I shall provide information, instruction and leadership to enable and encourage the dancer to develop to his/her full potential so that he/she may derive the maximum satisfaction and pleasure from the activity.**



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## I Acknowledge:

**2. That I have an obligation to the club organizations. Therefore, I shall participate in the development and maintenance of a sound and respected club organization, shall endeavor to discharge this obligation to the best of my ability, and advise them wisely and honestly.**



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## I Acknowledge:

3. That I have an obligation to the profession. Therefore, I shall respect the dignity of the leaders, teachers and callers as persons, and shall maintain an honorable reputation for personal integrity.



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## I Acknowledge:

4. That I have an obligation to the activity as a whole. Therefore, in my personal, business, and social contacts I shall be conscious of its heritage and its future and conduct myself accordingly.



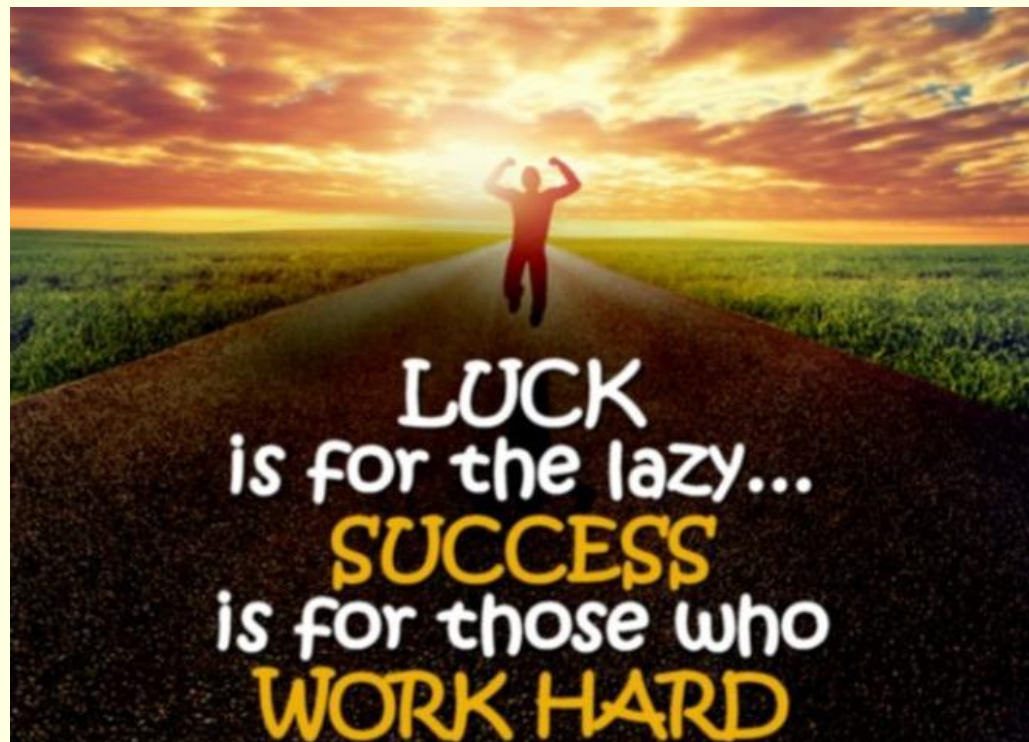
*" I know the difference between right and wrong, but it hasn't held me back. "*

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## I Acknowledge:

5. That I have an obligation to continue to work for professional growth; to adhere to uniform nomenclature; and to learn, to lead, and to contribute to the total square dance movement to the utmost extent of my ability.





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I Acknowledge:

6. That I have an obligation to all associations dealing with the activity. Therefore, I shall promote a spirit of cooperation between the various elements of the organization.



Miami Valley Dance Council

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## I Acknowledge:

7. That I will conduct myself at dances in a responsible manner that would not discredit other callers in the profession. This includes: (a) Making every reasonable effort to arrive at calling engagements early enough to ensure that the dance will begin on time; (b) Refraining from using language in poor taste or telling jokes that may be embarrassing to the dancers; (c) Not calling under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance; (d) Not deviating from the advertised dance program.



*Do what's  
right.....*

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## I Acknowledge:

8. That except in extreme emergencies, I will honor all of my signed contracts. By doing so I agree to: (a) Fulfill all items of the contract; (b) Prevent a hardship to the sponsoring group by cancelling my contract. I will provide sufficient and adequate notice of any contract cancellation that may be absolutely necessary. (c) Obtain approval from the contracting group before sending a replacement caller.



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## I Acknowledge:

**9. That I will conduct my financial affairs within the square dance activity in a responsible manner. This includes paying my debts on time, or making acceptable arrangements if unable to pay on time.**



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## I Acknowledge:

**10. That I will only perform music which has been obtained in a manner that properly and completely compensates the artist(s) and producer(s) responsible for its creation. I will not enable others to use copies of my music while I still retain its ownership.**



[www.guildofpride.org](http://www.guildofpride.org)

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## Summary



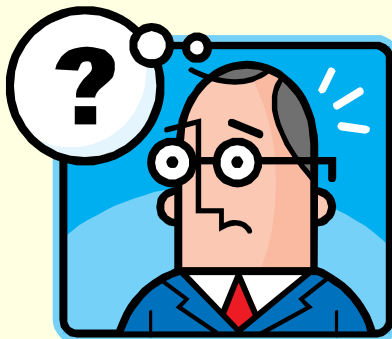
.....'nuff said

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# QUESTIONS



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# ANSWERS