

THE TELEVISION CODE



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTERS
1771 N STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

THE FRONT COVER

Effective March 1, 1952, Television stations subscribing to this Code, and in good standing, may display the "Seal of Good Practice." The official, copyrighted reproduction appears on the Front Cover.

THE
TELEVISION
CODE

of

The National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 1952

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTERS

1771 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

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THE TELEVISION CODE

OF THE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTERS

Preamble

Television is seen and heard in every type of American home. These homes include children and adults of all ages, embrace all races and all varieties of religious faith, and reach those of every educational background. It is the responsibility of television to bear constantly in mind that the audience is primarily a home audience, and consequently that television's relationship to the viewers is that between guest and host.

The revenues from advertising support the free, competitive American system of telecasting, and make available to the eyes and ears of the American people the finest programs of information, education, culture and entertainment. By law the television broadcaster is responsible for the programming of his station. He, however, is obligated to bring his positive responsibility for excellence and good taste in programming to bear upon all who have a hand in the production of programs, including networks, sponsors, producers of film and of live programs, advertising agencies, and talent agencies.

The American businesses which utilize television for conveying their advertising messages to the home by pictures with sound, seen free-of-charge on the home screen, are reminded that their responsibilities are not limited to the sale of goods and the creation of a favorable attitude toward the sponsor by the presentation of entertainment. They include, as well, responsibility for utilizing television to bring the best programs, regardless of kind, into American homes.

Television, and all who participate in it are jointly accountable to the American public for respect for the special needs of children, for community responsibility, for the advancement of education and culture, for the acceptability of the program materials chosen, for decency and decorum in production, and for propriety in advertising. This responsibility cannot be discharged by any given group of programs, but can be discharged only through the highest standards of respect for the American home, applied to every moment of every program presented by television.

In order that television programming may best serve the public interest, viewers should be encouraged to make their criticisms and positive suggestions known to the television broadcasters. Parents in particular should be urged to see to it that out of the richness of television fare, the best programs are brought to the attention of their children.

Advancement of Education and Culture

1. Commercial television provides a valuable means of augmenting the educational and cultural influences of schools, institutions of higher learning, the home, the church, museums, foundations, and other institutions devoted to education and culture.
2. It is the responsibility of a television broadcaster to call upon such institutions for counsel and cooperation and to work with them on the best methods of presenting educational and cultural materials by television. It is further the responsibility of stations, networks, advertising agencies and sponsors consciously to seek opportunities for introducing into telecasts factual materials which will aid in the enlightenment of the American public.
3. Education via television may be taken to mean that process by which the individual is brought toward informed adjustment to his society. Television is also responsible for the presentation of overtly instructional and cultural programs, scheduled so as to reach the viewers who are naturally drawn to such programs, and produced so as to attract the largest possible audience.
4. In furthering this realization, the television broadcaster:
 - a) Should be thoroughly conversant with the educational and cultural needs and desires of the community served.
 - b) Should affirmatively seek out responsible and accountable educational and cultural institutions of the community with a view toward providing oppor-

tunities for the instruction and enlightenment of the viewers.

- c) Should provide for reasonable experimentation in the development of programs specifically directed to the advancement of the community's culture and education.

Acceptability of Program Material

Program materials should enlarge the horizons of the viewer, provide him with wholesome entertainment, afford helpful stimulation, and remind him of the responsibilities which the citizen has towards his society. Furthermore:

- a) (i) Profanity, obscenity, smut and vulgarity are forbidden, even when likely to be understood only by part of the audience. From time to time, words which have been acceptable, acquire undesirable meanings, and telecasters should be alert to eliminate such words.
- (ii) The Television Code Review Board (*see V, Section 3, page 9*) shall maintain and issue to subscribers, from time to time, a continuing list of specific words and phrases which should not be used in keeping with this subsection. This list, however, shall not be considered as all-inclusive.
- b) (i) Attacks on religion and religious faiths are not allowed.
- (ii) Reverence is to mark any mention of the name of God, His attributes and powers.
- (iii) When religious rites are included in other than religious programs, the rites are accurately presented, and the ministers, priests and rabbis portrayed in their callings are vested with the dignity of their office and under no circumstances are to be held up to ridicule.
- c) (i) Contests may not constitute a lottery.
- (ii) Any telecasting designed to "buy" the television audience by requiring it to listen and/or view in hope of reward, rather than for the quality of the program, should be avoided. (*see Contests, page 6.*)
- d) Respect is maintained for the sanctity of marriage and the value of the home. Divorce is not treated casually nor justified as a solution for marital problems.
- e) Illicit sex relations are not treated as commendable.

- f) Sex crimes and abnormalities are generally unacceptable as program material.
- g) Drunkenness and narcotic addiction are never presented as desirable or prevalent.
- h) The administration of illegal drugs will not be displayed.
- i) The use of liquor in program content shall be de-emphasized. The consumption of liquor in American life, when not required by the plot or for proper characterization, shall not be shown.
- j) The use of gambling devices or scenes necessary to the development of plot or as appropriate background is acceptable only when presented with discretion and in moderation, and in a manner which would not excite interest in, or foster, betting nor be instructional in nature. Telecasts of actual sport programs at which on-the-scene betting is permitted by law should be presented in a manner in keeping with Federal, state and local laws, and should concentrate on the subject as a public sporting event.
- k) In reference to physical or mental afflictions and deformities, special precautions must be taken to avoid ridiculing sufferers from similar ailments and offending them or members of their families.
- l) Exhibitions of fortune-telling, astrology, phrenology, palm-reading, and numerology are acceptable only when required by a plot or the theme of a program, and then the presentation should be developed in a manner designed not to foster superstition or excite interest or belief in these subjects.
- m) Televised drama shall not simulate news or special events in such a way as to mislead or alarm. (*see News, page 4.*)
- n) Legal, medical and other professional advice, diagnosis and treatment will be permitted only in conformity with law and recognized ethical and professional standards.
- o) The presentation of cruelty, greed and selfishness as worthy motivations is to be avoided.

- p) Unfair exploitation of others for personal gain shall not be presented as praiseworthy.
- q) Criminality shall be presented as undesirable and unsympathetic. The condoning of crime and the treatment of the commission of crime in a frivolous, cynical or callous manner is unacceptable.
- r) The presentation of techniques of crime in such detail as to invite imitation shall be avoided.
- s) The use of horror for its own sake will be eliminated; the use of visual or aural effects which would shock or alarm the viewer, and the detailed presentation of brutality or physical agony by sight or by sound are not permissible.
- t) Law enforcement shall be upheld, and the officers of the law are to be portrayed with respect and dignity.
- u) The presentation of murder or revenge as a motive for murder shall not be presented as justifiable.
- v) Suicide as an acceptable solution for human problems is prohibited.
- w) The exposition of sex crimes will be avoided.
- x) The appearances or dramatization of persons featured in actual crime news will be permitted only in such light as to aid law enforcement or to report the news event.

Responsibility Toward Children

1. The education of children involves giving them a sense of the world at large. Crime, violence and sex are a part of the world they will be called upon to meet, and a certain amount of proper presentation of such is helpful in orienting the child to his social surroundings. However, violence and illicit sex shall not be presented in an attractive manner, nor to an extent such as will lead a child to believe that they play a greater part in life than they do. They should not be presented without indications of the resultant retribution and punishment.
2. It is not enough that only those programs which are intended for viewing by children shall be suitable to the young and immature. (*Attention is called to the general items listed under Acceptability of Program Ma-*

terials, page 2.) Television is responsible for insuring that programs of all sorts which occur during the times of day when children may normally be expected to have the opportunity of viewing television shall exercise care in the following regards:

- a) In affording opportunities for cultural growth as well as for wholesome entertainment.
- b) In developing programs to foster and promote the commonly accepted moral, social and ethical ideals characteristic of American life.
- c) In reflecting respect for parents, for honorable behavior, and for the constituted authorities of the American community.
- d) In eliminating reference to kidnapping of children or threats of kidnapping.
- e) In avoiding material which is excessively violent or would create morbid suspense, or other undesirable reactions in children.
- f) In exercising particular restraint and care in crime or mystery episodes involving children or minors.

Decency and Decorum in Production

1. The costuming of all performers shall be within the bounds of propriety, and shall avoid such exposure or such emphasis on anatomical detail as would embarrass or offend home viewers.
2. The movements of dancers, actors, or other performers shall be kept within the bounds of decency, and lewdness and impropriety shall not be suggested in the positions assumed by performers.
3. Camera angles shall avoid such views of performers as to emphasize anatomical details indecently.
4. Racial or nationality types shall not be shown on television in such a manner as to ridicule the race or nationality.
5. The use of locations closely associated with sexual life or with sexual sin must be governed by good taste and delicacy.

Community Responsibility

A television broadcaster and his staff occupy a position of responsibility in the community and should conscientiously endeavor to be acquainted fully with its needs and characteristics in order better to serve the welfare of its citizens.

Treatment of News and Public Events

News

1. A television station's news schedule should be adequate and well-balanced.
2. News reporting should be factual, fair and without bias.
3. Commentary and analysis should be clearly identified as such.
4. Good taste should prevail in the selection and handling of news:
Morbid, sensational or alarming details not essential to the factual report, especially in connection with stories of crime or sex, should be avoided. News should be telecast in such a manner as to avoid panic and unnecessary alarm.
5. At all times, pictorial and verbal material for both news and comment should conform to other sections of these standards, wherever such sections are reasonably applicable.
6. Pictorial material should be chosen with care and not presented in a misleading manner.
7. A television broadcaster should exercise due care in his supervision of content, format, and presentation of newscasts originated by his station, and in his selection of newscasters, commentators, and analysts.
8. A television broadcaster should exercise particular discrimination in the acceptance, placement and presentation of advertising in news programs so that such advertising should be clearly distinguishable from the news content.
9. A television broadcaster should not present fictional events or other non-news material as authentic news telecasts or announcements nor should he permit dramatizations in any program which would give the false impression that the dramatized material constitutes news. Expletives, (presented aurally or pictorially) such as "flash" or "bulletin" and statements such as "we interrupt this program to bring you . . ." should be reserved specifically for news room use. However, a television broadcaster may properly exercise discretion in the use in non-news programs of words or phrases which do not necessarily imply that the material following is a news release.

Public Events

1. A television broadcaster has an affirmative responsibility at all times to be informed of public events, and to provide coverage con-

sonant with the ends of an informed and enlightened citizenry.

2. Because of the nature of events open to the public, the treatment of such events by a television broadcaster should be effected in a manner to provide for adequate and informed coverage as well as good taste in presentation.

Controversial Public Issues

1. Television provides a valuable forum for the expression of responsible views on public issues of a controversial nature. In keeping therewith the television broadcaster should seek out and develop with accountable individuals, groups and organizations, programs relating to controversial public issues of import to its fellow citizens; and to give fair representation to opposing sides of issues which materially affect the life or welfare of a substantial segment of the public.
2. The provision of time for this purpose should be guided by the following principles:
 - a) Requests by individuals, groups or organizations for time to discuss their views on controversial public issues, should be considered on the basis of their individual merits, and in the light of the contribution which the use requested would make to the public interest, and to a well-balanced program structure.
 - b) Programs devoted to the discussion of controversial public issues should be identified as such, and should not be presented in a manner which would mislead listeners or viewers to believe that the program is purely of an entertainment, news, or other character.

Political Telecasts

Political telecasts should be clearly identified as such, and should not be presented by a television broadcaster in a manner which would mislead listeners or viewers to believe that the program is of any other character.

Religious Programs

1. It is the responsibility of a television broadcaster to make available to the community as part of a well-balanced program schedule adequate opportunity for religious presentations.

2. The following principles should be followed in the treatment of such programs:
 - a) Telecasting which reaches men of all creeds simultaneously should avoid attacks upon religion.
 - b) Religious programs should be presented respectfully and accurately and without prejudice or ridicule.
 - c) Religious programs should be presented by responsible individuals, groups, and organizations.
 - d) Religious programs should place emphasis on broad religious truths, excluding the presentation of controversial or partisan views not directly or necessarily related to religion or morality.
3. In the allocation of time for telecasts of religious programs it is recommended that the television station use its best efforts to apportion such time fairly among the representative faith groups of its community.

Presentation of Advertising

1. Ever mindful of the role of television as a guest in the home, a television broadcaster should exercise unceasing care to supervise the form in which advertising material is presented over his facilities. Since television is a developing medium, involving methods and techniques distinct from those of radio, it may be desirable from time to time to review and revise the presently suggested practices:
 - a) Advertising messages should be presented with courtesy and good taste; disturbing or annoying material should be avoided; every effort should be made to keep the advertising message in harmony with the content and general tone of the program in which it appears.
 - b) A sponsor's advertising messages should be confined within the framework of the sponsor's program structure. A television broadcaster should seek to avoid the use of commercial announcements which are divorced from the program either by preceding the introduction of the program (as in the case of so-called "cow-catcher" announcements) or by following the apparent sign-off of the program (as in the case of so-called "trailer" announcements). To this end, the program itself

should be announced and clearly identified before the sponsor's advertising material is first used, and should be signed off after the sponsor's advertising material is last used.

- c) Advertising copy should contain no claims intended to disparage competitors, competing products, or other industries, professions or institutions.
- d) Since advertising by television is a dynamic technique, a television broadcaster should keep under surveillance new advertising devices so that the spirit and purpose of these standards are fulfilled.
- e) Television broadcasters should exercise the utmost care and discrimination with regard to advertising material, including content, placement and presentation, near or adjacent to programs designed for children. No considerations of expediency should be permitted to impinge upon the vital responsibility towards children and adolescents, which is inherent in television, and which must be recognized and accepted by all advertisers employing television.
- f) Television advertisers should be encouraged to devote portions of their allotted advertising messages and program time to the support of worthy causes in the public interest in keeping with the highest ideals of the free competitive system.
- g) A charge for television time to churches and religious bodies is not recommended.

Acceptability of Advertisers and Products—General

1. A commercial television broadcaster makes his facilities available for the advertising of products and services and accepts commercial presentations for such advertising. However, a television broadcaster should, in recognition of his responsibility to the public, refuse the facilities of his station to an advertiser where he has good reason to doubt the integrity of the advertiser, the truth of the advertising representations, or the compliance of the advertiser with the spirit and purpose of all applicable legal requirements. Moreover, in consideration of the laws and customs of the communities served, each television broadcaster should refuse his facilities to the advertisement of products and

services, or the use of advertising scripts, which the station has good reason to believe would be objectionable to a substantial and responsible segment of the community. The foregoing principles should be applied with judgment and flexibility, taking into consideration the characteristics of the medium and the form and content of the particular presentation. In general, because television broadcast is designed for the home and the family, including children, the following principles should govern the business classifications listed below:

- a) The advertising of hard liquor should not be accepted.
 - b) The advertising of beer and wines is acceptable only when presented in the best of good taste and discretion, and is acceptable subject to Federal and local laws.
 - c) Advertising by institutions or enterprises which in their offers of instruction imply promises of employment or make exaggerated claims for the opportunities awaiting those who enroll for courses is generally unacceptable.
 - d) The advertising of firearms and fireworks is acceptable only subject to Federal and local laws.
 - e) The advertising of fortune-telling, occultism, spiritualism, astrology, phrenology, palm-reading, numerology, mind-reading or character-reading is not acceptable.
 - f) Because all products of a personal nature create special problems, such products, when accepted, should be treated with especial emphasis on ethics and the canons of good taste; however, the advertising of intimately personal products which are generally regarded as unsuitable conversational topics in mixed social groups is not acceptable.
 - g) The advertising of tip sheets, race track publications, or organizations seeking to advertise for the purpose of giving odds or promoting betting or lotteries is unacceptable.
2. Diligence should be exercised to the end that advertising copy accepted for telecasting complies with pertinent Federal, state and local laws.
 3. An advertiser who markets more than one product should not be permitted to use advertising copy devoted to an acceptable prod-

uct for purposes of publicizing the brand name or other identification of a product which is not acceptable.

Advertising of Medical Products

1. The advertising of medical products presents considerations of intimate and far-reaching importance to the consumer, and the following principles and procedures should apply in the advertising thereof:
 - a) A television broadcaster should not accept advertising material which in his opinion offensively describes or dramatizes distress or morbid situations involving ailments, by spoken word, sound or visual effects.
 - b) Because of the personal nature of the advertising of medical products, claims that a product will effect a cure and the indiscriminate use of such words as "safe", "without risk", "harmless", or terms of similar meaning should not be accepted in the advertising of medical products on television stations.

Contests

1. Contests should offer the opportunity to all contestants to win on the basis of ability and skill, rather than chance.
2. All contest details, including rules, eligibility requirements, opening and termination dates should be clearly and completely announced and/or shown, or easily accessible to the viewing public, and the winners' names should be released and prizes awarded as soon as possible after the close of the contest.
3. When advertising is accepted which requests contestants to submit items of product identification or other evidence of purchase of product, reasonable facsimiles thereof should be made acceptable.
4. All copy pertaining to any contest (except that which is required by law) associated with the exploitation or sale of the sponsor's product or service, and all references to prizes or gifts offered in such connection should be considered a part of and included in the total time allowances as herein provided. (*see Time Standards for Advertising Copy, page 7.*)

Premiums and Offers

1. Full details of proposed offers should be required by the television broadcaster for

investigation and approval before the first announcement of the offer is made to the public.

2. A final date for the termination of an offer should be announced as far in advance as possible.
3. Before accepting for telecast offers involving a monetary consideration, a television broadcaster should satisfy himself as to the integrity of the advertiser and the advertiser's willingness to honor complaints indicating dissatisfaction with the premium by returning the monetary consideration.
4. There should be no misleading descriptions or visual representations of any premiums or gifts which would distort or enlarge their value in the minds of the listeners.
5. Assurances should be obtained from the advertiser that premiums offered are not harmful to person or property.
6. Premiums should not be approved which appeal to superstition on the basis of "luck-bearing" powers or otherwise.

Time Standards for Advertising Copy

1. As a guide to the determination of good telecast advertising practice, the time standards for advertising copy, presently suggested, are as follows:

Length of Program (minutes)	Length of Advertising Message (minutes and seconds)		
	Day and Night	Class "A" Time	All Other Programs
5	1:00	1:00	1:15
10	1:45	2:00	2:10
15	2:15	2:30	3:00
25		2:50	4:00
30		3:00	4:15
45		4:30	5:45
60		6:00	7:00

2. The time standards set forth above do not affect the established practice of reserving for station use the last 30 seconds of each program for station break and spot announcements.
3. Announcement programs are designed to accommodate a designated number of individual live or recorded announcements, generally one minute in length, which are carried within the body of the program and are available for sale to individual advertisers. Normally not more than 3 one-minute announcements (which should not exceed approximately 125 words if presented live)

should be scheduled within a 15-minute period and not more than six such announcements should be scheduled within a 30-minute period in local announcement programs; however, fewer announcements of greater individual length may be scheduled, provided that the aggregate length of the announcements approximates three minutes in a 15-minute program or six minutes in a 30-minute program. In announcement programs other than 15 minutes or 30 minutes in length, the proportion of one minute of announcement within every five minutes of programming is normally applied. The announcements must be presented within the framework of the program period designated for their use and kept in harmony with the content of the program in which they are placed.

4. Programs presenting women's services, features, shopping guides, market information, and similar material, provide a special service to the listening and viewing public in which advertising material is an informative and integral part of the program content. Because of these special characteristics the time standards set forth above may be waived to a reasonable extent. In the present state of experimentation in programming and advertising techniques in television programs of this type no definite limitations to these exceptions are set forth at this time.
5. Any casual reference in a program to another's product or service under any trade name or language sufficiently descriptive to identify it should, except for normal guest identifications, be condemned and discouraged.
6. Stationary backdrops or properties in television presentations showing the sponsor's name or product, the name of his product, his trade mark or slogan may be used only incidentally. They should not obtrude on program interest or entertainment. "On Camera" shots of such materials should be fleeting, not too frequent, and mindful of the need of maintaining a proper program balance.

Dramatized Appeals and Advertising

Appeals to help fictitious characters in television programs by purchasing the advertiser's product or service or sending for a premium should not be permitted, and such fictitious characters should not be introduced into the advertising message for such purposes. When dramatized advertising material involves statements by doctors, dentists,

nurses or other professional people, the material should be presented by members of such profession reciting actual experience or it should be made apparent from the presentation itself that the portrayal is dramatized.

Sponsor Identification

Identification of sponsorship must be made in all sponsored programs in accordance with the requirements of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

The following REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES shall obtain as an integral part of the Television Code of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters:

I

Name

The name of this Code shall be **The Television Code of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters.***

II

Purpose of the Code

The purpose of this Code is cooperatively to maintain a level of television programming which gives full consideration to the educational, informational, cultural, economic, moral and entertainment needs of the American public to the end that more and more people will be better served.

III

Subscribers

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY

Any individual, firm or corporation which is engaged in the operation of a television broadcast station or network, or which holds a construction permit for a television broadcast station within the United States or its dependencies, shall, subject to the approval of the Television Board of Directors as hereinafter provided, be eligible to subscribe to the Television Code of the NARTB

* "Television Board. The Television Board is hereby authorized:—(4) to enact, amend and promulgate standards of practice or codes for its Television members, and to establish such methods to secure observance thereof as it may deem advisable;—". By-Laws of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters, Article VII, section 2,B.(4).

to the extent of one subscription for each such station and/or network which it operates or for which it holds a construction permit; provided, that a non television member of NARTB shall not become eligible via code subscription to receive any of the member services or to exercise any of the voting privileges of a member.

Section 2. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSCRIPTION

Upon subscribing to the Code, subject to the approval of the Television Board of Directors, there shall be granted forthwith to each such subscribing station authority to use the "NARTB Television Seal of Good Practice," a copyrighted and registered seal to be provided in the form of a certificate, a slide and/or a film, signifying that the recipient thereof is a subscriber in good standing to the Television Code of the NARTB. The seal and its significance shall be appropriately publicized by the NARTB.

Section 3. DURATION OF SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription shall continue in full force and effect until thirty days after the first of the month following receipt of notice of written resignation. Subscription to the Code shall be effective from the date of application subject to the approval of the Television Board of Directors; provided, that the subscription of a television station going on the air for the first time shall, for the first six months of such subscription, be probationary, during which time its subscription can be summarily revoked by an affirmative two-thirds vote of the Television Board of Directors without the usual processes specified below.

Section 4. SUSPENSION OF SUBSCRIPTION

Any subscription, and/or the authority to utilize and show the above-noted seal, may be voided, revoked or temporarily suspended for television programming, including commercial copy, which, by theme, treatment or incident, in the judgment of the Television Board constitutes a continuing, willful or gross violation of any of the provisions of the Television Code, by an affirmative two-thirds vote of the Television Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting; provided, however, that the following conditions precedent shall apply: (1) The subscriber shall be advised in writing by Registered Mail of the charges preferred; (2) Such subscriber shall have a right to a hearing and may exercise same by filing an answer within 10 days of the date of such notification; (3) Failure to request a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of the subscriber's right thereto; (4) If hearing

is requested by the subscriber, it shall be designated as promptly as possible and at such time and place as the Television Board may specify. Oral and written evidence may be introduced by the subscriber and by the Television Code Review Board (hereinafter provided for). Oral argument may be had at the hearing and written memoranda or briefs may be submitted by the subscriber and by the Television Code Review Board. The Television Board of Directors may admit such evidence as it deems relevant, material, and competent and may determine the nature and length of the oral argument and the written argument or briefs to be submitted. The Television Board of Directors shall decide the case as expeditiously as possible and shall notify the subscriber and the Television Code Review Board in writing of the decision.

Section 5. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

The Television Board of Directors shall, from time to time, establish such additional rules of procedure as, in its opinion, may be necessary for the proper administration of the Code; provided, that special consideration shall be given to the procedures for receipt and processing of complaints and to necessary rules to be adopted from time to time, taking into account the source and nature of such complaints; such rules to include precautionary measures such as the posting of bonds to cover costs and expenses of processing same; and further provided, that the Board of Directors shall take the steps necessary to insure the confidential status of any proceedings before it.

Section 6. AMENDMENT AND REVIEW

Because of the new and dynamic aspects inherent in television broadcast, the Television Code, as a living, flexible and continuing document, may be amended from time to time by the Television Board of Directors; provided that said Board is specifically charged with review and reconsideration of the entire Code, its appendices and procedures, at least once each year.

Section 7. TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS

All subscribers on the air at the time of subscription to the Code shall be permitted that period prior to and including the earliest legal cancellation date to terminate any contracts, then outstanding, calling for program presentations which would not be in conformity with the Television Code, provided, however, that in no event shall such period be longer than fifty-two weeks.

IV

Rates

Each subscriber shall pay 'administrative' rates in accordance with such schedule, at such time, and under such conditions as may be determined from time to time by the Television Board (see Article VII, section 2,B. (3) and (4), By-Laws of the NARTB); provided, that appropriate credit shall be afforded to a television member of the NARTB against the regular dues which he or it pays to NARTB-TV.

V

The Television Code Review Board

Section 1. COMPOSITION

The Television Board of Directors shall establish a continuing committee entitled The Television Code Review Board, upon the promulgation of the Television Code. The Review Board shall be composed of five members, all of whom shall be from the Television membership of NARTB. Members of the Television Board of Directors shall not be eligible to serve on the above specified Review Board. Members of the Review Board shall be appointed by the President of the NARTB, subject to confirmation by the Television Board of Directors. Due consideration shall be given, in making such appointments, to factors of diversification of geographical location, company representation and network affiliation. Those members appointed, following promulgation of the Code, shall serve until immediately following the annual NARTB Convention of 1952. Thereafter a term shall be for one year.

A. *Limitation of Service*

A person shall not serve consecutively as a member of the Review Board for more than two years.

Section 2. QUORUM

A majority of the membership of the Television Code Review Board shall constitute a quorum for all purposes unless herein otherwise provided.

Section 3. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Television Code Review Board is authorized and directed:

(1) To maintain a continuing review of all television programming, especially that of subscribers to the Television Code of the NARTB; (2) to

receive, screen and clear complaints concerning television programming; (3) to define and interpret words and phrases in the Television Code; (4) to develop and maintain appropriate liaison with governmental agencies and with responsible and accountable organizations and institutions; (5) to inform, expeditiously and properly, a subscriber to the Television Code of complaints or commendations, as well as to advise all subscribers concerning the attitude and desires program-wise of accountable organizations and institutions, and of the American public in general; (6) to review and monitor, if necessary, any certain series of programs, daily programming, or any other program presentations of a subscriber, as well as to request recordings, aural or kinescope, or script and copy, with regard to any certain program presented by a subscriber; (7) to reach conclusions, and to make recommendations or prefer charges to the Television Board of Directors

concerning violations and breaches of the Television Code by a subscriber; (8) to recommend to the Television Board of Directors, amendments to the Television Code.

A. Delegation of Powers and Responsibilities

The Television Code Review Board may delegate, from time to time, such of its above-specified responsibilities, as it may deem necessary and desirable, to a Staff Group of the NARTB-TV.

B. Meetings

The Television Code Review Board shall meet regularly at least four times a year at a date to be determined by it in the months of January, March, June and September. The chairman of the Review Board may at any time on at least five days' written notice call a special meeting of the Board.



