

Performing Animals Welfare Standards International

Rona Brown & Peter Scott FRCVS

www.pawsi.org



Standards

- PAWSI developed its Standards from those worked on by the board of the government funded Animal Filming & Training Commission (AFTC) - Rona Brown, Peter Scott, Gerry Cott, John Baart and David Wilkins
- These were further developed with Chris Laurence MRCVS and Steve Cheetham MRCVS of the RSPCA Veterinary Dept into the current PAWSI structure



Rona Brown



- In the industry since 1961 working for Walt Disney
- Worked with all species
- Credits include:
 - Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
 - Dr. Doolittle (the original)
 - Gorillas in the Mist
 - Secret Garden
 - Greystoke
 - Anna and the King
 - Fly Boys



Peter Scott



- small animal practice then dealing with exotics of one sort or another
 - RCVS Specialist in Zoo & Wildlife Medicine
 - FRCVS in Psittacine medicine (parrots)
- Worked in TV and film since 1984
 - Fierce Creatures
 - 101 & 102 Dalmatians
 - Fly Boys
- Led the DETR team which revised the Secretary of States Standards for Modern Zoo Practice and developed the totally new inspection strategy
- CAWC Council member
- Responsible for companion animals (horses, dogs, cats, rabbits etc) on the DEFRA England Implementation Group



Animals in entertainment



- Television
- Films
- Stage
- Stills
- Dog 'acts' at shows
- Zoo 'presentations'



But there is no overall policing and the welfare groups are painfully aware of it



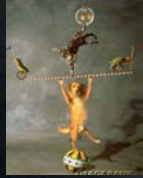
Alternative for registration

- Local Authority
- no money or experience so an LA scheme would end in the hands of the RSPCA
 - PAWSI worked very closely with the veterinary dept of the RSPCA to develop basic standards for the use of animals in the media. But RSPCA unfortunately felt that it needed editorial approval on script & content which would be totally unacceptable.
 - RSPCA website states 'Animals may often be subjected to forced training, performing to a timetable and performing acts which do not come naturally to them, as well as being exposed to ridicule and indignity.'





PAWSI Council



- multi-disciplinary
- industry - PACT, production Guild, Equity, BECTU etc
- vets
- suppliers & trainers - ACTA
- welfare - societies, independent
- Educators - Sparsholt, LANTRA
- legislators



PAWSI council

- split into working parties
- whole council to review direction & standards
- act through executive and its team of inspectors



Suppliers and trainers

- All animal suppliers & trainers responsible for public performances should be registered.
- This should include everything from musical heel work for dogs to circus elephants.
- There is no difference between the expectations of care for a person working dogs at Crufts to one doing what is usually a far less complex performance for TV or film.



PAWSI Registration

- uses the Zoo Licensing Act model developed by DEFRA
- standards based on welfare goals developed by the Zoos Forum (industry, welfare & legislators)
- inspections by experienced vets (and where appropriate other experienced persons)



3 levels in the industry

- Animal supply company
 - Trainers
- Production

The registration / inspection scheme is risk based



Animal Supply Company

- Company must register & its trainers
- Pre-inspection audit
- Inspection to demonstrate facilities, standard of records, data to support claimed 'expertise'

Inspected by an independent vet



Animal Supply company

- Audit form to demonstrate ability to supply
 - Extensive disclosure- based on the zoo inspection scheme model.
 - Keep appropriate records
 - Mode of working- records of work, demonstrate high standards of traceability, planning, training targets and records
 - Source of animals
 - Veterinary history
 - Compliance with legal requirements
 - Veterinary certification by own vet if own animals
 - frequency of contact
 - Standard of care and facilities where appropriate
 - References



**Inspected by an independent vet
frequency to be determined**



demonstrate planning



Trainers

- Currently the intention is that trainers working for animal suppliers would be registered based on documentation.
- This could change if PAWSI COUNCIL was requested to do so by government
- Holders of NVQ's could then be inspected at different frequency



Trainers

- Audit form to demonstrate ability to train and maintain care
 - Extensive disclosure- based on the zoo inspection scheme model.
 - Keep appropriate records
 - Source of animals
 - Veterinary history
 - Training history
 - Trainers experience & qualifications
 - S/NVQ in Animal training in Audio Visual Industries or Accredited Prior Learning
 - Compliance with legal requirements
 - Veterinary certification by own vet
 - frequency of contact
 - standard of care
 - References
 - Vet visit to inspect if train DWA's (extra costs)

Assessed/Inspected by an independent vet



Production

- All productions should only use animals from Registered Inspected Animal Suppliers who then would only send Registered trainers to do the job

the bottom line



PAWSI Production Accreditation

- This is fully optional
- Would allow use of the PAWSI logo in the credits and a form of words





PAWSI Production Accreditation

- Risk based, not a person camping on set
- Based on script & storyboards work with the Animal Consultant / Supplier and trainers to assess needs and high risk areas, visit to see training, visit to see how risk areas are dealt with, spot checks etc



PAWSI whistleblowing line

- PAWSI will welcome whistleblowers from industry alerting it to potential problems which it will investigate and if well grounded may:
 - suspend registration - NO WORK!
 - provide evidence for prosecution



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