

## **NCMD POLICY STATEMENT ON THE RECORDING OF FINDS DATA WITH THIRD PARTIES**

The NCMD recognizes that landowners in England and Wales\* hold a greater legal title to all non-Treasure items found by metal detection or other means on their land. In doing so, NCMD members need to recognize that they have a duty of care to ensure that they uphold this at all times. This duty also includes an intent to ensure that before seeking to record any finds and find spots with third parties they have full permission from the landowner/tenant/occupier to do so and then only to an accuracy and detail to which all relevant parties feel comfortable. Issues surrounding the potential publication of find spots data, such as on the Internet and elsewhere as well as the possible wider use of such data by third party recipients should be considered in discussions with landowners. Where necessary, recording organisations such as the Portable Antiquities Scheme should be informed of any required restrictions on publication at the time of recording and should make provision for this information on recording forms and/or receipts.

Where a landowner/tenant/occupier has entered into an agri-environment Scheme agreement after 2008 it is conditional that all finds discovered whilst metal detecting are made available for recording by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Detectorists are reminded to follow at all times the terms and conditions laid down in the voluntary Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting when searching such land.

*\*The position in Scotland is different whereby all objects whose original owner or rightful heirs are unknown are the property of the Crown and can be claimed by the Crown. This means that neither finders nor landowners have any title to the material although the finder is normally eligible for a full market value “ex-gratia” reward if the Crown claims the object. The Treasure Trove Unit ([www.treasuretrovescotland.co.uk](http://www.treasuretrovescotland.co.uk)) will normally require findspot details, but there is no requirement for finders to obtain landowner’s permission to record this information. NCMD members have a duty of care to ensure that they comply with Scotland’s Treasure Trove Laws at all times.*

### **Appendix D to the NCMD Constitution**

AGM June 2012.