

Autograph Fair Trade Association Limited.

Working in conjunction with the Police and Trading Standards.

AFTAL is a not for profit association run by a group of like-minded autograph and memorabilia dealers. We work together to ensure that the Police, Trading Standards and HMRC are fully aware of these suppliers of fakes, and give them the help to pursue convictions. Our main aims are to improve the public's perception of memorabilia dealers, and increase their awareness of the fakes and forgeries that are being sold on the High Street and Internet. A full list of AFTAL dealers is always available to the public on the website at www.aftal.org.uk

We are now seeing some shopping centers insisting on only AFTAL membership for any autograph dealer selling stock within their centers, and are now confident that we will soon see all show organisers insisting on AFTAL membership for their shows. To become AFTAL approved you can fill in this form and send it to us here at the address below. All applications are dealt with at board level, and only those applications that are approved by the board will be awarded AFTAL membership. Those dealers that appear on the pending or probation list are not approved members, and cannot use the AFTAL name or logo until such time as their names appear on the approved list.

Once an approved member, you may use the AFTAL name and logo on your letterheads, etc, your full member details will be included on the AFTAL web pages including a link to your website if required. You will be given access to our own private signings, representation on the AFTAL trade stand at shows around the UK, leaflets and promotional literature, regular news on the autograph business, updates on eBay fraudsters and NPB's etc, and access to special offers via the AFTAL email network.

The main benefit of course is that you will be seen to be an approved dealer of a recognized association with links to both the police and Trading Standards, thereby proving to the buying public and other dealers that you are committed to dealing only in 100% authentic material.

Membership fees are £100 joining fee plus £50 per year. These fees are payable in advance. Should membership be declined an administration fee of £50 will be taken from your refunded amount.

Help put confidence back into the marketplace, and become an AFTAL approved dealer now.

Application to join AFTAL as an approved dealer.

Important. By applying for membership and signing this form you agree to abide by all the rules and ethics laid down by the Autograph Fair Trade Association Limited, but you may not use the AFTAL name or Logo until such time as your membership has been approved by the board. Failure to abide by the ethics code in any way may jeopardize your application for membership.

Dave Davies. Chairman of AFTAL.

Please give as much information as possible. If you should omit any important parts, or fail to give adequate information, it may mean that we will need to come back to you for more details, which could delay your application.

NOTE. It may take more than one board meeting for your application to be decided, so please be patient and await our response. As soon as you are approved or put onto the probation list, it will appear on the website.

Probation. Some applicants may be put onto the probation list, this means that we have not been able to make a decision at board level based on the information we have been given, and are therefore provisionally accepting the application but with the proviso that we are able to satisfy ourselves that membership should be fully approved during the probation period. It must again be noted, that those on probation, are not full members, and cannot advertise themselves in any way as such, or use the AFTAL logo.

We are now accepting applications from outside of the UK, however, due to the fact that we may not be able to check your stock and background in the same way as we might a UK dealer, the approval process may take longer, and unless we can see the kind of business you are running via a website or catalogue etc, then you may be turned down. If you are unsure, then please contact us first, and we can advise as to what the possible outcome may be.

Full name.

Date of Birth.

Full address that your business is run from, plus any retail outlet address that you operate from.

Home telephone number.

Office telephone number.

Mobile Telephone number.

Email address.

Website address.

Have you previously run, owned or been involved in any other memorabilia or associated business's. Please give full details of these, plus reasons why you may have left, sold or dissolved those business's.

All eBay auction ID's you use for selling.

All ID's you may use for forums.

Other ID's from any other auction sites.

Do you attend any shows and which ones?

Are you a member of any other autograph or memorabilia associations? Please give full details for both past and present memberships.

Do you supply any other dealers, and if so, please name some?

Do you produce a catalogue? Please include a recent copy.

If you are VAT registered, what is your number?

How long have you been in this business?

Is this a full or part time business?

How long have you been collecting autographs?

Please give a resume of your autograph collecting experiences?

Your specialist areas?

Please indicate how you obtain your autographs:
(please tick one or more of the boxes)

I / We attend various venues and events and obtain the autographs in person

I / We purchase from other collectors who were at the same event above having witnessed their attendance and then obtaining autographs

I / We employ individuals to attend various venues and events who obtain autographs on our behalf, We have a supervising system in place to ensure that this procedure is adhered to diligently.

I / We purchase from other collectors known to me/us having satisfied myself/ourselves that they are a genuine and trustworthy

I / We purchase from auction houses known to me/us having satisfied myself/ourselves that they are a genuine and trustworthy

Please give the names of three other dealers who you trade with, we may contact these dealers for references.

Briefly, please give us your reasons for wanting to join AFTAL.

Is there anything you would like to see AFTAL doing that might improve your business, or the reputation of the industry?

It is agreed that by signing this form you will without question remove any autograph for sale if the AFTAL board deem the item to be adverse while we investigate any question over the said items.

It is also agreed that should AFTAL need to ask any questions about your business, because of an investigation brought about by the complaints procedure, you will fully cooperate in any way that AFTAL may require.

It is also agreed that upon signing this form that you the seller, will take all responsibility for the items you offer for sale, and any blame partly or entirely, if an item was proved to be adverse, would not be passed to a third party.

This information will be kept absolutely confidential, and only brought to public attention if it was to defend an AFTAL approved dealer if his items were brought into disrepute, or used against a dealer if it was proved his items were other than that being represented.

Signed.

Date.

Please note that until your application has been passed, and your name is on the approved list on our website, you must not use either the AFTAL name or logo in any form of advertising.

AFTAL reserve the right to refuse any application that the board may consider does not achieve the required standards. No reason may be given for refusal, and your application may be added to our refused list

on the website, but the applicant may normally reapply after 12 months.

Please try and answer the above as honestly and as fully as you can. Your details will not be passed to any third party, or used on the website. We accept that not all applications will come from those who have an autograph background, and we welcome applications from those in other areas of the memorabilia business.

Please return this completed form with your cheque to.....

AFTAL. PO Box 354. Dartford. Kent. DA1 9GH

Please make cheques payable to AFTAL