

Embarc Members

Community and Publication Guidelines

Context

Members often wonder if a type of post can be published and, if so, what conditions of publication govern. When posts are taken down, it often results in frustration for the author and sometimes for other members too. In order to be transparent and predictable in its administration of online spaces for members, the VCC is publishing the current guidelines.

Community and Publication Guidelines

The following guidelines apply to all VCC controlled online discussion groups:

1. Membership. Membership in the CIOG Facebook group and any other CIOG web site or forum *is a privilege, not a right*. These guidelines disclose the conditions under which this privilege can be enjoyed by members.
2. Control. The *CIOG Facebook Group* is not controlled by the VCC. It is controlled by two specific members currently acting as Administrators: Chantal Desjardins and Jonathan Mayer. They are also members of the VCC. Other online platforms such as the *CIOG Web Site* are controlled by the VCC except when otherwise noted.
3. Roles. Each Administrator may appoint and revoke *Moderators*. Administrators and moderators can delete posts that violate the current guidelines or move them to another location at their sole discretion in accordance with the current guidelines.
4. Posting Rules. The following content may be deleted or transferred by moderators and admins:
 - 4.1. Spam or self-promotion content
 - 4.2. Aggressive, offensive, racist, trolling and flaming content
 - 4.3. Content encouraging the commission of illegal acts
 - 4.4. POSTS OR COMMENTS IN ALL CAPS
 - 4.5. Offers to buy, sell, transfer or rent points, travel tips etc. that are not posted in the proper location (i.e.: when a file exists to aggregate such posts)
 - 4.6. Content by unauthorized persons (*e.g.* someone that was erroneously approved for membership)
 - 4.7. Private information (even if published unintentionally)
 - 4.8. Blatantly inaccurate information that may cause confusion to members
 - 4.9. Unauthorized posts “on behalf of the VCC”
 - 4.10. Unauthorized posts instructing or making requests to JRA members
 - 4.11. Protests that a post has been deleted

5. Explanation to Author. Any post deleted may or may not (at the moderators/admins discretion) result in a short message sent by the moderator or admin directly to the author.¹ This would be a courtesy, fyi message only and not meant to start a debate or conversation.
6. Grave and Repeated Infractions. Any single serious infraction or repeated infractions may result in a recommendation to an admin that the person be suspended or permanently banned from the online group or forum.
7. Recourse for suspension and banning. If someone feels that they were unfairly suspended or banned, they may communicate their justifications in writing in a private communication to any moderator or admin. Messages to VCC Members that are not admins or moderators may be ignored. The decision will automatically be reviewed by all admins and moderators and decided upon simple majority of that group.
8. Recourse for deleted content. There is no recourse for deleted content.
9. Becoming a Moderator. If you are interested in becoming a moderator, please communicate directly and privately with one of the admins.
10. Amendments. These guidelines may be amended with a simple majority of VCC Voting members provided the proposed changes are duly announced in advance as an item in accordance with guidelines 1.1 to 1.4 of the *VCC Meetings & Retreats Guidelines* (unless the changes are minor and grammatical).

VERSION 1.0 APPROVED AS OF 27 NOVEMBER 2017 IN RECORD OF DECISIONS

¹ Please allow for a reasonable timeframe for the receipt of the explanation (30-60 mins) if one is made. Do not forget to monitor the Messenger area for private messages from persons that are not "friends" in Facebook because this is where you will receive the message if the moderator / admin and you are not connected on Facebook.