

Codex

Game Masters Foundational Codex

May we cherish eternally the right for our voices to be heard.

Codex GameMasters as of

7th, October 2025

The Spirit

The position of game master is meant to exist outside of the general day-to-day roleplaying of the subreddit. Its ultimate purpose is to ensure game longevity through the careful moderation of behavior by both good and bad actors towards the same goal; long enjoyable game time.

In the United States, the Federal Reserve has a dual mandate, price stability and maximum employment. In economics these two objectives can be a difficult balance - especially given the unnatural tools for this at the disposal of the fed. As envisioned, I believe game masters must also have a dual mandate and a limited set of tools.

Our Dual-Goal then is as follows;

1. Enforce the spirit and the letter of reddiquette, TOS, and general rules.
2. Ensure maximum engagement and enjoyability for users.

GameMaster Qualifications;

1. A responsible adult
 - a. Must be 18 years or older
 - b. Must have a track record of good behavior
 - c. Must be of clear mind and not quick to anger
 - d. Must be willing to tolerate children being stupid
 - e. Must be willing to engage with dumb people in good faith and with a caring demeanor
 - f. Must not be easily swayed
2. Literate in English
 - a. This includes understanding meaning not just reading
 - b. A moderator can speak 10 languages, but one of them must be English
3. Available for around an hour or so a day on average
 - a. Even on weekends

- b. And able to give their opinions or be willing to accept without public argument decisions made in their absence.
- 4. Able to understand that Tribunal Discussions are internal
 - a. We have an obligation to the people involved to understand the sensitivity of the matters brought to us
 - b. We have an obligation to not throw the sub into disarray over disagreements. When in doubt, vote and wait. Temp ban a user and tell them that it may be lifted after all GMs have a chance to review an incident. Remove a post and agree to discuss with the user why and state that our decision will be explained to them.

Selection of New GMs

When a GM retires they shall provide notice, and if they wish they may nominate a replacement, however the process for selection shall remain the same. The GMs shall open up applications for a period not exceeding 48 hours. They shall then review the applicants for the position and unanimously choose a new GM.

Limitations

In general it must be said that the most important aspect of our order is our need to refrain. Refrain from interference in the most general sense with the general going-ons of the game. While certain players' actions may become unpopular, popularity is not in itself a binding part of the game, and indeed we must acknowledge that players getting the opportunity to lambast the town fool is as much entertainment as it is politics.

Sovereignty

It is imperative that the government of the subreddit find the authority of GMs legitimate. In that sense it is important for GMs to work with officials, even if those officials have been critical. It is also however important for GMs to understand that they are sovereign. Ultimately decisions about the TOS, Election security, bans, etc - are under the GameMaster's purview. It may be occasionally necessary to politely, but firmly tell the government no.

This extends to a prevention of suit. GMs cannot be sued and further harassment of the GMs is barred. However valid critiques may be given and GMs are obligated to respond to controversial decisions, they are people and thus the rules of the sub apply to them. Hounding a GM or telling others to is in fact a bannable offense. This includes posting excessively about impeachments or otherwise due to an unpopular decision. Legitimate critique may or may not be left up at GM

discretion. Ultimately the GMs may prefer to utilize quieter channels to communicate valuable information with the government regarding alleged wrong doings.

Elimination of a GameMaster

When a GMs decorum is unbefitting of the position they have so been endowed with. It may be necessary to eliminate them from the roster. This can only be brought about in the most egregious cases of obvious abuse, there should be evidence to substantiate this. GMs are entitled to hear the evidence against them and respond. GMs are also entitled to discuss their removal with the internal tribunal team. This process requires the unanimous consent of all GMs or:

- The President and the head GM, or two supporting GMs.
- The Parliament with a 2/3rds majority, and a supporting GM.
- A joint agreement by all three branches of government with a 2/3rds majority of parliament.
- The court with the support of one other branch and one other GM.

Tools of the GameMasters

Bannishment

The easiest and simplest tool for dealing with users is bans. Bans should only be used as a necessity, but also as a precaution against future issues. It is up to GMs to follow the guiding line of:

1. Does the behavior exhibited warrant an immediate end?
2. Is the behavior likely to continue?
3. Would allowing this person back into the community be good for the game?
4. Would allowing this person to stay in the game be good for the game and the community?
5. Is this individual likely to use methods yet unknown to harm the game in the future?
6. Is this individual, if let back in, likely to hold such great anger that they will utilize whatever powers capable to harm the game?

Post Removal

As a matter of general behavior, GMs remove posts. We remove lots of posts and while some posts are removed for TOS violations, GMs should be able to remove posts under a sort of easy guideline when the subject matter is difficult or in question; here is the general principle:

1. Is the post a shit-post? (That is, is the post of poor quality or intent?)
2. Is this post rabble rousing? As in, is it just rage bait, designed purely for drama? (some drama is ok, but infinite constant drama is bad)
3. Is the person just drama mongering against the GMs for pragmatic reasons or is there some legitimate criticism that YOU the GM should be willing to hear.
4. Is this post harassment of someone specifically? (Even if the poster doesn't think so, constant posts about another person is harmful and makes people quit the game)
5. Is the post a violation of some rule?
6. Is the post basically spam? (That is the post itself is intentionally done such that it conforms within the ruleset but the intent is spam)
7. Is this post harming the community or making management more difficult?

Voting

GMs are a removed body and therefore capable of hosting, running, and publishing election results. GMs further have a responsibility to manage voter registration as they are **obligated** to ensure the transition of power is done through proper means.

1. GMs ought to then be very sure of the methodology they intend to use for the calibrating of elections, and those methods must be conveyed to both voters and the government.
2. As the only legitimate third party during any election it is the obligation of GMs to remain completely impartial. This may be difficult as rule breaking is not spread evenly among all people and certain parties may be more likely to commit crimes than others; however, evaluating whether a vote is legitimate depends not on the person voted for but the voter itself. Evaluating whether someone can vote should be separate from gauging the outcomes of an election.

Powers

GMs are entrusted with delivering the awesome powers of the state to duly elected officials. In that sense it is imperative for the government to specifically tell us what they want and why. It is also important for GMs to understand that handing 20+ people ban power is unwise and unusual and that powers should be given out to officials as they need it for their position and not simply to anyone who asks. We have an obligation to ensure the game cannot be destroyed by the poor utilization of proper powers and so;

1. Modmail: can be given out fairly to many people - but should be supervised. The court, speaker, and president should be able to view this.

2. Flairs management: can be given to anyone with authority and desire to manage the requests.
3. Bans: Chief Justice, President, and GMs only
4. Post Removal: Court and GMs only though maybe also executive depending on the behavior of those officials. Trustworthy and proven members of government should be trusted as much as they can with things like this.
5. Post Approval: Really anyone, but I think this power is rolled into the prior
6. Muteing someone in ModMail: GMs only to ensure that appeals are heard
7. Sub control: ideally a president should have a good degree of mod powers, but in practice these powers should be handed out to speaker and president while sub ownership should be reserved for the mod least likely to crashout. Thus in practice top ownership cannot lie with a president or any official, even if other mod powers are given.
8. When in doubt ask the official why they want x, y, z moderator powers and consider how realistic it is for them to utilize it properly. And compromise where it makes sense. Players deserve control over the game they play to a degree.

Discretion

Bans and moderation can become a sensitive topic, particular in a mixed space with some users being young. It is imperative for GMs to make the discretionary choices to NOT divulge certain information that they receive but to specify why:

1. Sexual harassment incidents should be evaluated directly by a GM and should not be shared with the person who is banned.
2. Sexual imagery should never be allowed and if an image is removed, clarify with the government that the image was sexual or graphic in nature - but do not show them the image.
3. Do not give out confidential or identifying user information to others. Occasionally users are unwise and send screenshots that show their name or email. Never share this information.

Prior Decisions and Precedent

Collaborative Spam

The subject discussed came about when two users who both understood the spam laws to be the following; 3 posts in 24 hours per user. Both users posted together about the same topic back to back. Creating the question: **is this Spam?**

Decision:

1. Yes this constitutes spam, and can be removed.
2. Collaboratively posting together does not mean that two or more users can't have the same opinion, but if they are working together it is spam.
3. Even if two users aren't collaborating, GMs have an obligation to safeguard against spamming the same topic repeatedly, but clarifying or redirecting users to existing posts

Fascist Logos

The subject discussed came about when a user who was interested in creating an in RP fascist styled party, that did not have any minority or hate group relations chose a logo that could be related to a neo-nazi organization: **is this allowed?**

Decision:

1. Logos can be banned without banning the individual.
2. The individual received a temp ban instead of a permanent ban **AT THE TIME** due to his own attestation that he was unaware that it was a neo-nazi logo.
3. Fascist parties must clarify an inordinately large amount of their details, logos, and so on compared to other parties due to the frank reality that many of the logos made up for this quadrant are used by hate groups.
4. While not outright banned, this quadrant has to be heavily monitored and regulated. When in doubt, remove and reprimand.

GM Harassment

The subject discussed came about when a user explicitly called a GM out by name and encouraged other users to make posts, send them DMs, and so on telling them to resign and that they were a bad person. In the individuals own words: this is a smear campaign: **is this allowed?**

Decision:

1. While users have the right to express dissatisfaction, demanding specific GMs receive specific social punishments is actually the precipice of harassment.
2. That user is permanently banned (for harassing many other users as well)
3. In the future, a single post may be made regarding decisions made by the team. It may not be a campaign of hate against a specific member or members.

4. Appeals and arguments should be contained to modmail. Picture evidence should be provided via DMs.
5. Harassment is bad for the game, and allowing GMs to be bullied until they quit is actually a political strategy for individuals who want sub control. Banning them is good for the game, censoring their posts is valid management.

Sexual Harassment

The subject discussed came about when a user explicitly demanded to see the private and confidential 18+ content of another user: **is this sexual harassment and is it a bannable offense?**

Decision:

1. Yes, this constitutes sexual harassment.
2. Utilizing the courts to harass users transcends the court and puts the matter in GM hands.
3. Yes it is a permanent ban offense.

Overreach Adjustments - 10/14/2025

The subject discussed came about when a moderator level government official overran their permissions to ban a user for 7 days for spam: **is this a GM level issue?**

Decision:

1. Yes, it is an overreach of permissions
2. 7 days is too long for a minor first time infraction with no warning
3. Chief Justice may perform bans, but only after a warning and a cease and desist has been issued and GMs notified.
4. Moderator lost access to ban powers.
5. Non-chief justice level court officials may not issue bans.
6. RP posts that are related to ongoing in universe events are not necessarily spam and must be a case by case evaluation.
7. Conflict of interest bans (candidate for election being banned by incumbent) is considerable overreach without informing other mods.
8. Currently, Ban permissions are reserved for: President, Chief Justice, and GMs. This may be adjusted in the future.

Electoral College - 10/15/2025

The subject discussed came about when the supreme court questioned the validity of GM run elections: **are these elections legitimate?**

Decision:

1. There is not a present reason to assume that they would not be valid if no other election is run by an actual electoral college holder.
2. The government may choose to perform its own election. However GMs shall retain the right to handle voter registration due to privacy.
3. Ongoing plan is to work with the court and legislature to ensure that GM run elections are legitimate and held as official.

