

Discord Rules

(last updated 20 February AD 2017)

In order to ensure that the discord chat remains a nontoxic environment and ensures the wellbeing of its members, be it enacted that we forge these discord rules to govern the decorum of the ModelUSGov Discord Server.

Article I Discord Supremacy

1. By membership in this chat, you agree to abide by the rules outlined in this document.
2. These discord rules extend to and govern all ModelUSGov affiliated chats.
3. Violation of these rules may result in punishments on the main discord server and the subreddit.

Article II Levels of Decorum

As the line of canon communication and non canon communication have been blurred by the presence of, initially skype, discord; be it enacted that there shall exist levels of decorum to govern respective chats accessible to the general membership.

1. High Decorum

A. The following chats will fall into the realm of high decorum:

Senate, House, Cabinet, Scotus

B. Under high decorum, all chats under this category will be treated as extensions of their respective subreddit.

C. As such, all chats under this category will be subject to the rules of the discord chat and considered canon to the subreddit.

2. Decorum

A. The following chats will fall into the realm of decorum:

Modelusgov_chat, atlantic_commonwealth, chesapeake, dixie, jefferson, sacagawea, western_state

B. Under decorum, all chats under this category will be treated as distinct entities subject solely to the rules of discord.

C. As such, all chats under this category will not be considered canon to the subreddit.

3. Lax Decorum

A. The following chats will fall into the realm of lax decorum:

Spam, bot_chat

B. Under lax decorum, all chats under this category will be treated as distinct entities subject solely to the discretion of the clerk team and a lax interpretation of rules A and B outlined in Article 3 of

C. As such, all chats under this category will not be considered canon to the subreddit.

Article III Discord Offenses

Not all offenses on discord are of equivalent severity, as such categorization is necessary to develop guidelines of response. In order to ensure that all punishments are appropriate and justified to the particular response. Be in enacted that punishable offenses are divided into three categories based on the severity and the appropriateness of the moderator response.

1. Perma Bannable Offenses

- A. Based on the severity of these offenses to the health and wellbeing of members of the sim, the following offenses will be considered severe enough to warrant an indefinite ban from ModelUSGov and all affiliated subreddits;
 - a. Doxxing: search for and/or publish private or identifying information about (a particular individual) on the Internet, typically with malicious intent.
 - b. Death threats: the intentional or imminent threat of death against someone or groups.
 - c. Blackmailing: The threat of coercion in private messages
 - d. Duping: the usage of alternate accounts for political gain or impersonation.
 - e. Repeated instances of a Term Bannable Offense
- B. Based on the severity of these offenses to the health and wellbeing of members of the sim, no statute of limitations shall be placed on these violations. Though it is encouraged to report these offenses in a more timely manner to ensure a prompt response from the discord clerk team.

2. Term Bannable Offenses

- A. Based on the nature of these offenses to degrade the quality of the community and dissuade new members from engaging in the discord chat, the following offenses will be considered severe enough to warrant a ban no greater than 3 months or the end of the next State elections, whichever is the latter, from ModelUSGov and all affiliated subreddits;
 - a. Pornography, printed or visual material containing the explicit description or display of sexual organs or activity, intended to stimulate erotic or disgusting feelings rather than aesthetic or emotional feelings. (includes racy anime and erotica stories).
 - b. Harassment: directed or targeted toxicity of someone within the chat, or using the chat to harass someone on reddit or another medium of communication.
 - i. Harassment can include hunting down the posts of individuals outside of the simulation in order to humiliate or berate them, the constant picking on or dogging of a single individual (especially if by many), and many other things.
 - c. Selling or advertising products (like Vector nonsense, et cetera).
 - d. Hate speech, speech that threatens or discriminates groups, based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability. (including, but not limited to, slurs and Holocaust (or other well-established genocide) denial.
 - e. Repeated instances of a Manageable Offense.
- B. Based on the necessity of a prompt and timely response to ensure appropriate and fair rulings, a statute of limitations shall be put into place to facilitate this goal. All evidence must be submitted to a member of the discord clerk team within 7 days of the incident to ensure fair consideration. Any evidence submitted after this 7 day period will be evaluated on a case by case basis according to the severity and nature of the violation.

3. Manageable Offenses

- A. Based on the quality of these offenses to clutter and increase the difficulty of managing the community, the following offenses will be treated with an escalating series of moderator actions. Beginning with a warning, followed by muting, followed by a 24 hour ban, and capped at a 48 hour ban. The offenses qualifying as a manageable offense are as follows.
 - a. Brigading (excessive spam)
 - b. Being overly abrasive, toxic, flame baiting, or causing a hostile environment
 - i. Examples of toxic behavior include spamming KYS
 - ii. any language that excessively denigrates individuals or groups, directly and purposely inhibits productive discussion, or otherwise negatively impacts the atmosphere of the chat such that it comes to be the defining characteristic of the use and/or their presence.
 - iii. Constantly insulting other people in the chat
 - 1. An insult is something a reasonable person would take as insulting, not necessarily the individual who it was directed at.
 - a. Such things as profanity or slurs
- B. Based on the ephemeral nature of the behavior of these offense, violations of these rules must be reported within 1 day of their occurrence. Any reports given beyond that 1 day period will be disregarded to ensure moderator action is appropriate and fair.

4. Recording of Punishments

- A. In order to ensure that the moderators are able to facilitate their function as enforcers of the community rules, members of the community are forbidden to block moderators and will be removed from the chat until such time as their the block is removed.
- B. In order to ensure transparency in the application of moderator power, any time a ban is issued, the following steps will be taken.
- C. Moderators will have 24 hours to complete the steps listed below following the usage of bans.
- D. The discord clerk issuing the ban must inform the offender of the reason and duration of their ban.
- E. A record will be made on the punishment post in our Model subreddit located below.
 - a. https://www.reddit.com/r/ModelUSGov/comments/4f7tod/punishment_log/
- F. A record will be made outlining the nature of the banning in the punishment log located below.
 - a. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JvFSRWDLrN380krIkIbXTtlUH-P-a6CkmnqRIhWv6IE/edit?usp=sharing>

Article IV Appeals

As the moderators are human and humans are prone to error, be it guaranteed that all members of the community have a right to appeal a ban.

- A. All members of the community have the right to apply to appeal a ban against their person, once per each Congressional term.
 - a. Each member is guaranteed at least 2 appeals per start of the calendar year.
- B. Applications for an appeal can be denied by the moderators if deemed repealing the ban would prove detrimental to the community,

- C. Each appeals process will be administered by some combination of the triumvir team and the head mod.
- D. Members will have the opportunity to appeal their ban by providing evidence of why they were wrongfully banned, if they have changed their character, or if their rejoining the community will not have a negative impact.
- E. The administrators of the appeal process will then deliberate on the evidence provided and come to a decision to repeal, to shorten, or to uphold the ban in its entirety.

Discord Moderators

Punishment Log

- https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1S-yZ8xaiG8_dc3jF4K-T8Gr7ZDO2po8zWJm3KeV6Pmw/edit#gid=0

Use this space for punishment notation prior to spreadsheet entry