PGP Web Forum & Email List Rules of Conduct

The PGP strongly endorses and will defend your rights to free expression, per the 1st Amendments of both the federal and Oregon constitutions. However, non-members are guests and so are provided no such guarantee. In addition, all participants must abide by the following Rules of Conduct:

1) **Courteous and Respect:** Be courteous to every member, including those whose beliefs you think are false, objectionable or even downright evil. When debating, express your opinion about a person’s ideas, not about them personally.
   a) No **slander:** this includes stating facts that are untrue about another person with the intent to malign their perceived character. If you do this unintentionally, a public apology is warranted and expected.
   b) No derogatory **name-calling** of participants, including calling a person evil, Nazi, anti-Semitic, or other inflammatory terms.
   c) No references to a person’s age, disability, gender, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, etc. with seeming intent to aggravate the person.
   d) There is a grey area with **humor** – but a warning means it is time to quit being a joker for a while; in other words, “I was kidding” is allowed once.

2) **Disruptive behavior:** Basic freedoms do not include the right to disrupt other’s basic rights to those freedoms.
   a) This includes creating a highly disproportionate number of posts, off-topic posts in a forum otherwise designated, or repeating identical or near identical posts.

3) **Solicitation:** No general solicitations on behalf of commercial, religious, charitable or other organizations, nor for causes, products or services not approved by the PGP.
   a) If in doubt about whether your organization or cause is green, check the PGP website for links, or ask a moderator or two other members on your forum.

4) **Violence:** Explicit or veiled threats or general calls to violence towards groups or individuals will not be tolerated.

5) **Illegal activities:** No promoting illegal activity or discussing illegal activities with the intent to commit them.

6) **Impersonation:** No impersonating other members; all posts must be signed; pseudonyms are permitted, but you must note any other identities you use.

7) **Contact information:** Failure to maintain a single verifiably valid e-mail address in your forum registration is grounds for immediate removal.

**Complaints:** It is the responsibility of the whole community to report violations of these Rules of Conduct; please e-mail a moderator directly or flag the message in question on the forums – **Please, do not respond on the email list or forum with your complaint!**