



BYLAWS

Version 2.1

Last Updated 12/6/2023

I. What is Smite Club

Smite Club is a social group of hobbyists and gamers, based in Phoenix, AZ, who enjoy tabletop wargaming, and especially Warhammer 40,000.

II. Purpose of the Club

The purpose of Smite Club is to create a community for hobbyists and players who share a passion for tabletop wargaming, particularly Warhammer 40,000. We strive to:

Foster Community

Cultivate friendships, collaboration, and camaraderie among members, creating a sense of belonging and shared purpose.

Promote Organized Play

Encourage and support organized play events, tournaments, and casual games locally, throughout the Southwestern United States and beyond.

Enhance the Hobby

Support the growth, diversity, and enrichment of the tabletop wargaming hobby through workshops, education, and mentorship.

Embrace Values

Uphold and model values of respect, sportsmanship, integrity, and inclusiveness, creating a welcoming environment for all.

Engage with the Broader Community

Build connections and partnerships with other clubs, organizations, and the general public to promote and positively impact of the hobby.

III. Expectations for Members

Smite Club seeks to create a positive and engaging community for all members. While there are no formal requirements to participate in organized play events (e.g., tournaments), local or otherwise, members are encouraged to take part as organized events contribute to the club's spirit and goals.

Conduct and Sportsmanship

- Members are expected to embody the principles of good sportsmanship and conduct themselves according to the following guidelines:

- Friendliness: Foster an environment of camaraderie and support.
- Courtesy: Respect others' time, opinions, and property.
- Integrity: Maintain honesty during gameplay, including admitting mistakes and abiding by game rules.
- Openness to Teach and Learn: Encourage the sharing of knowledge, techniques, and constructive feedback.

Participation in Organized Events

- Participation in organized events is encouraged but not mandatory.
- Members choosing to take part should be aware that:
 - There is no expectation or pressure related to win/loss records.
 - Participation is viewed as a chance to enjoy the game, connect with others, and promote the hobby.

Safety

- All members of Smite Club are expected to adhere to common safety standards while engaging in club activities. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Complying with all local and venue-specific safety regulations.
 - Utilizing proper handling and care of gaming materials, tools, and equipment.
 - Ensuring that physical play environments are free from hazards.
 - Reporting any unsafe conditions or behaviors to the Co-Captains or other authorities as necessary.
 - Avoiding any activities or conduct that may endanger oneself or others.

Inclusion

- Smite Club is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, or any other legally protected status. This commitment includes, but is not limited to:
 - Treating all members with dignity and respect.
 - Promoting a culture that is free from harassment, discrimination, and bullying.
 - Ensuring that club activities, events, and opportunities are accessible to all members.

Compliance with Club Spirit and Intent

- At all times, members must align their behavior with the club's spirit and intent. Non-compliance with these expectations may lead to actions as outlined in Section VII.

IV. Establishment of Co-Captains

Role and Authority

- The club will have two equal Co-Captains responsible for leading and representing the club.
- It is the purpose of the Co-Captains to exercise their responsibilities as best they are able to further the purpose of the club as outlined in Section II.

Responsibilities

- Responsibilities of the Co-Captains are outlined in Section V.

Appointment and Term

- Co-Captains are appointed by the current Co-Captains for an indefinite term.
- In the event that both Co-Captains resign or are incapable of performing their duties, new Co-Captains will be elected by a majority vote of club members.
- Details of the election will be determined by the members, with input from any existing leadership, and shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the spirit and purpose of the club.

Current Co-Captains

- At the time of publication, the Co-Captains are Henry Gridley and Matt Baugh.

Resignation or Replacement

- Should either Co-Captain resign or become otherwise incapable of performing their duties, the remaining Co-Captain shall appoint a new Co-Captain.
- In the event that there are no Co-Captains to make an appointment, new Co-Captains will be elected by a majority vote of club members.

V. Responsibilities of the Co-Captains

The Co-Captains share the following responsibilities:

Membership Management

- Maintaining an up-to-date registry of member names.
- Ratifying new members. See section VI.
- Ratifying removal of existing members. See section VII.

Communication

- Making official statements on behalf of the club.
- Facilitating communication among members, including through newsletters, social media, or meetings.
- Serving as the primary contacts for external inquiries related to the club.

Event Coordination

- Organizing, promoting, and overseeing club events, including tournaments and social gatherings.
- Coordinating with other clubs, organizations, or vendors as needed for joint events or sponsorships.

Promotion of Club Values

- Actively promoting the values, safety standards, and inclusion practices outlined in Sections III, IV, and V.
- Ensuring that club activities and member behavior align with these principles.

Collaboration with Members

- Soliciting feedback and ideas from members to ensure that club activities and policies reflect the interests and needs of the community.
- Encouraging active participation and leadership from members in various club initiatives.

Conflict Resolution

- Addressing disputes or conflicts among members in a fair and timely manner, following any established guidelines or involving mediation if necessary.

VI. Adding New Members

Eligibility for Membership

- Any individual with an interest in tabletop wargaming and in alignment with the club's values and expectations (see Section III) may be considered for membership.

Nomination Process

- An existing club member (not one of the Co-Captains) nominates the individual for membership.
- The nominating member must provide a written statement explaining why the nominee would be a good fit for the club, including any relevant experiences or contributions to the hobby.

Review and Ratification

- Upon nomination, the nominee's information and the nominating statement will be reviewed by at least one of the Co-Captains.
- The Co-Captains may choose to meet with the nominee or seek additional information from other members or sources.
- The individual is ratified as a club member upon the approval of at least one of the Co-Captains.

VII. Removal of Existing Members

Grounds for Removal

Existing members may be removed from the club for acts not in keeping with the spirit of the club and expectations for club members (see Section III). Such acts include, but are not limited to:

- Intentionally cheating during a game.
- Repeatedly, over many games, unintentionally cheating during games.
- Falsifying tournament results.
- Colluding to unethically influence tournament results.
- Fighting while representing the club.
- Egregious or abusive conduct towards an opponent or another member of the club.
- Violation of the Frontline Gaming ITC Code of Conduct that endangers the ability of Smite Club and its members to participate in ITC events.

Investigation

- Upon receiving a complaint or noticing a violation, the Co-Captains will conduct a fair and impartial investigation.
- The member in question will be informed of the complaint and given an opportunity to present their case.

Decision Making

- A decision to remove a member must be ratified by both Co-Captains, or by one Captain and a 2/3 vote of club members.
- The member will be notified in writing of the decision and the reasons for removal.

Reapplication for Membership

- A removed member may be eligible to reapply for membership subject to the discretion of the Co-Captains.

Confidentiality

- All matters related to the removal of a member will be handled with confidentiality and respect for the privacy of all parties involved.

VIII. Amendment of Bylaws

Proposal of Amendments

- Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by any club member, including the Co-Captains.
- Proposals must be submitted in writing to the Co-Captains, along with a rationale for the suggested changes.

Review and Discussion

- The Co-Captains will review the proposed amendments and may consult with other members or seek external advice if necessary.

Approval Process

- For an amendment to be adopted, it must be approved by both Co-Captains

Notification and Implementation

- Once an amendment is approved, all club members will be notified of the changes.
- The amended bylaws will become effective immediately upon approval or on a date specified in the amendment.

Record Keeping

- A record of all amendments, including the date of approval will be kept with the official copy of the bylaws.
- The official copy of the bylaws, including all amendments, will be made available to all members.

Limitations

- No amendment shall be made that conflicts with the fundamental purpose and spirit of the club, as outlined in Section II.

IX. Disclaimer and Use

Intent and Interpretation

- These bylaws are intended to govern the structure, operation, and conduct of Smite Club in a manner that aligns with its purpose (see Section II).
- They should be interpreted in good faith and in a manner that promotes inclusivity, integrity, and the welfare of the club and its members.
- Any ambiguities or uncertainties in interpretation should be resolved in accordance with the spirit and principles of the club.

Prohibition of Misuse

- No part of these bylaws shall be used in an exclusionary, discriminatory, or opportunistic manner.
- Any actions or decisions contrary to the purpose, values, or principles of the club, as outlined in these bylaws, shall be deemed improper and may be subject to review and correction.

Guidance and Amendment

- These bylaws should be viewed as a living document, providing guidance, managing expectations, and serving as a framework for the responsible conduct of club activities.
- Amendments or revisions to these bylaws may be made in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section VIII.

Responsibility

- All members, including leadership, are responsible for adhering to these bylaws and promoting a culture that embodies the values and principles contained herein.

Ratification of the Bylaws of Smite Club

The undersigned, being the Co-Captains of Smite Club, hereby certify that the foregoing bylaws were duly adopted by the club on the date specified below, and that they constitute a complete copy of the bylaws of the club as so adopted.

Ratified 4/5/2022

Matt Baugh

Co-Captain, Smite Club

Henry Gridley

Co-Captain, Smite Club

Amendments

Amendment I: Revisions to the Section III: Expectations for Members vis-à-vis inclusion/treatment of legally protected classes. 8/15/2023

Amendment II: Misc. revisions to wording/structure throughout. No substantial changes. 8/15/2023

Amendment III: Replaced Co-Captain Eric Cacace with Henry Gridley. No substantial changes. 12/6/2023