Policy and Guideline for MyOdisa Moderators

Introduction

Moderators are also human, so they may commit mistakes; hence we need to have a policy in place to protect the forum for a greater cause. As we are growing bigger in numbers day by day, it is necessary to put moderation in place and define the role of moderators clearly to protect the forum. We recognize two roles for the sake of conflict resolution and decision making: Permanent Moderator/Adviser and Moderators. We will have total 8 moderators.

Permanent Moderator/Adviser

We will have 4 positions for this and all of these moderators will have veto power. They will not be involved in a day to day moderator activity, but in sensitive situation they could overwrite moderator's decision by applying veto.

All the current moderators automatically become Permanent Moderator/Adviser unless they volunteer not to take the responsibility. Permanent Moderator/Adviser may cast binding votes

Moderator

We will have 4 moderators that are responsible for managing the myodisa forum and are interested to spend some time to keep this forum a nice place for all the oDiA around the world. They responsibility may include the following:

- Attending to requests for new membership
- Assisting users with membership trivia (unsubscribe, changing to digest mode etc)
- Be available to answer questions/clarification for technical/non technical issues.

Moderator may cast binding votes.

Voting and Decision Making

Any Moderators may cast a vote on any issue. The only binding votes are those cast by moderators.

The act of voting carries certain obligations. Voting members are not only stating their opinion, they are agreeing to help do the work in question. It is therefore unlikely that the entire group membership will vote on every issue. To account for this, all voting decisions are based on a minimum quorum.

Each vote can take on one of three values:

- +1: Yes, the proposed action should be performed and the person casting the vote volunteers to help with executing the action as needed.
- +/-0: An abstention. Occasionally Committers may choose to an express a non-binding opinion by voting +0 or -0, often indicating "I agree, but can't help" or "I disagree, but won't stand in the way". These opinions are welcome, and these votes are still considered abstentions.
- -1: No, the proposed action should not be performed. On issues where consensus is required, this vote is considered a veto. Moderators are strongly encouraged to describe the nature of or reason for their opposition along with the vote.

Types of Approval

We identify three types of approval, determined by voting. The next section describes which actions require which kinds of approval.

- Unanimous: A unanimous decision requires explicit approval (+1 votes) from all moderators.
- Consensus: A consensus decision requires "lazy" approval from everyone, and "active" approval from at least three Committers. A consensus vote passes if and only if no binding -1 votes have been cast, and at least three binding +1 votes have been cast.
- Lazy Consensus: A lazy consensus decision is considered to have passed until at least one binding -1 vote has been cast.
- Majority: A majority decision is considered to have passed if and only if at least three binding +1 votes have been cast, and more binding +1 votes have been casts than binding -1 votes.

Note: In case the voting is public, any myodisa members can vote but will not be considered as binding, but non binding votes could influence moderatos who hold binding vote and they can change their vote before deadline.

Types of Action

- Accepting a new Moderator: Accepting a new Moderator requires consensus approval from current Moderator. Moderator's tenure will be for no more than a year, in case no new volunteers are available to fill the position old moderators tenure may be extended for one more year.
- Accepting a Permanent Moderator: If for some reason the permanent seat is open, then there may be selection/election to fill the position, any member who served at least 6 months as a myodisa moderator will be eligible; require majority approval.
- Revoking Moderator Status: Moderator status can be revoked by unanimous approval from other Moderator. The vote of the Moderator in question is not binding in this circumstance.
- Changes to these Guidelines: Changes to these guidelines require majority approval from the Moderators.
- Revoking Member Status/ Removing Member: Member can be removed or posting status can be changed by majority approval from other Moderator.
- All Other Decisions: All other decisions, including require lazy consensus approval from the Moderators.

The Mechanics of Voting: Any Moderator can call for a vote using yahoo group poll page, all members will be notified. Votes are cast ad directed in the email. Votes called by non-moderators are not binding. Moderators may choose to create private voting.

Modifications

Moderators may modify these Terms of Use any time and such modifications will be binding on you when published on our web site.