



# Chat Rules

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Discourse is a cornerstone of community. It is a place where we can share our trials and triumphs, support each other and build ourselves, others, and the community as a whole, up. This is why we have created two Chat groups for these reasons: a PG chat and a Not Safe for Work (NSFW) chat. CAL-PaH is dedicated to providing safer, accountable spaces, and that includes online spaces. As such, we ask that you please be responsible and respectful of the others while participating within the chat room. Your conduct should involve common sense, be polite and courteous, and follow the guidelines below.

## General Chat Rules

Chat rules are strictly enforced and hold a zero-tolerance policy for violations of the rules outlined below. Once read please reach out to one of the @admins to be added to the Chats. General Chat rules apply to both the PG Awoo Alley chat and NSFW CAL-PaH After Bark chat.

1. All members must be at least 18 years of age upon joining the chat.
2. Discrimination is not welcome in this chat. This includes discrimination of biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, pronouns, race, ethnicity, physical ability, mental ability, relationships, relationship status, religion, fetishes, interests or sexuality/sexual orientation.
3. This chat is still a body positive place. There is to be no body or fat shaming in the chats.
4. Respect the opinions and practices of others in the room. Even if there is disagreement, one can still be polite.
5. We encourage healthy debate. To keep the debate healthy however, it needs to be done respectfully. If a debate has reached a destructive point, moderators will ask to move on from the topic, or to take the current topic into a private chat.
6. The use of rude or abusive language, hate speech, defamation, shaming, argumentum ad hominem, intolerant language, blatantly insensitive remarks, purposely annoying comments are not acceptable.
7. Likewise, trolling, the act of distracting and sowing discord by posting inflammatory, digressive, off-topic messages is strictly forbidden. This can lead to Flaming as well, which is also not allowed.
8. Flaming, posting a provocative or offensive content with the purpose of provoking a hostile response, is not allowed.
9. Doxing and/or outing of person(s) is also unacceptable. Posting private conversations, and/or personal information without the explicit consent of all those involved is strictly prohibited.
10. For personal safety reasons, it is advised against disclosing your real name (specifically your last name), home address, and telephone number. If this information has to be exchanged, we ask that it takes place in private message, and not in the group chat.
11. We ask that spamming is kept to a minimum, as it disrupts the flow of conversation. This applies to text, emoticons, stickers and GIFs.
12. There is some politeness when it comes to posting and discussion. Please do your best to engage in conversation, and not simply interrupt it. This includes posting pictures.



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## Awoo Alley Rules

Awoo Alley is a PG Chat. Awoo Alley follows all general rules, disciplinary action and safer spaces guidelines as mentioned. The following rules also apply but solely to the PG Awoo Alley chat.

1. The term PG was chosen for its connotation as mature in nature, but not overtly lewd. No nudity or overtly suggestive content is allowed. Material that is pet play in nature are allowed as long as they are not overtly sexual, and no private parts are showing. Shirtless pictures are considered PG, even if nipples are showing, providing they are not intentionally provocative. Please note that PG isn't necessarily Safe for Work and this should be taken into consideration when viewing this chat.
2. The above rule also applies to all forms of art: photography, video, drawing and otherwise.
3. Talk pertaining to gender identity, gear, LGBTQ\* matters and such is allowed as long as it doesn't become overtly sexual. We realize this is still fetish-based community, but the purpose of this chat is not a sexualizing one.

## CAL-PaH After Bark Rules

CAL-PaH After Bark is a Not Safe for Work Chat. CAL-PaH After Bark all general rules, disciplinary action and safer spaces guidelines as mentioned. The following rules also apply but solely to the NSFW CAL-PaH After Bark chat.

1. As a NSFW chat, nudity and suggestive content is allowed! This applies to all forms of art: photography, video, drawing, etc. However, some content is not allowed. This includes material of bestiality, pedophilia, Nazi, murder, racist material, sexualized or otherwise in nature.
2. We also realized some people are not all into the same things. As such, while things like blood play, piercing, scarification, diapers are allowed, it is polite to give a warning beforehand.
3. Even though discussions of a sexual nature are allowed in this chat, consent is still important. If someone wishes not to be hit on, sexualized or objectified, do not do so to them (though we do recognize some people enjoy humiliation and objectification). While we can only regulate what happens in our chats, we hope this nature of consent extends to interactions outside them as well. Likewise, pressuring someone in this nature is considered harassment. No means no.
4. There will be no kink shaming allowed. If content arises that is allowed, but you personally do not like or engage in, you can simply not engage with the material or the discussion and come back to the chat at a later time. There is no need for comments of displeasure like "eww", for this reason. Please also note General Chat Rule #12 when it comes to this as well.
5. Please note that pictures, photos or videos of bio-animals are not allowed in the NSFW chat (even ones that are cute, funny or motivational). This is to distance us from the incorrect assumption that pet play is associated with bestiality, which is also prohibited.



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## Discord Chat and Gaming Servers

CAL-PaH's Discord channel follows much of the same rules as those laid out above:

1. The Awoo Alley and CAL-PaH After Bark text channels follow the same rules as the chats they are named after.
2. Voice channels follow the same guidelines as text channels. All channels are to be considered Safe for Work unless otherwise stated; a few exceptions include Channels labeled NSFW and the Cards Against Humanity Channels.
3. In-game chat channels follows the SFW guidelines as well.
4. Game channels are for their respective game, and we ask that games are kept to their own game channels.
5. Please leave channels, in-game or otherwise, free for the people using them to game. Hijacking channels will be considered a form of harassment.
6. While swearing is not prohibited, please keep it to a minimum. In addition, no discriminatory slurs will be tolerated.
7. If you are frustrated with a game, please feel free to take a break and come back.
8. Some games are naturally competitive, but we ask that you keep your competitive behavior in check to prevent it from becoming toxic. This includes "Trash Talk".
9. Griefing, the deliberate act of irritating and/or harassing another player by using the game mechanics in unintended ways, is not allowed. Griefing can be something as simple as "tea-bagging", to claiming territory around another player to box them in. It is up to the admins to determine if something counts as griefing.
10. Spawn camping, positioning yourself at the spawn point of another player in order to kill them again immediately upon respawning, is strictly forbidden.
11. While there are some measures in place to prevent stealing loot from other players, it is worth nothing that this behavior is highly frowned upon.

## Creating a safer space

Emotions, even negative ones, are valid, and we do not wish to invalidate feelings. Part of building community is being there for one another. Community is listening to, supporting and helping each other when we are able. Safer space guidelines apply to both the SFW Awoo Alley chat, NSFW CAL-PaH After Bark chat and Discord/ Gaming servers (including in-game), both text and voice.

1. Self deprecation is normal, and in smaller quantities can be used as a way of dealing with stress. It can become unhealthy though. We ask that self-deprecating comments, if used, be kept light-hearted.
2. Hyperbole comments that are references to self harm or afflictions that people may have, will not be tolerated. Such comments include as "If A happens, I'll shoot myself" or "I'm triggered". This is because such comments, when used as a hyperbole, downplay the serious topics and conditions that they refer to.



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3. If you are in need and think you need help, please reach out to someone you trust. If you reach out to one of the board members, they will help within their capacity.

Please try and limit negative comments as these have a tendency not to help anyone's trading. Alternatively, try to put the comment in a positive light. The use of negative metaphors has a tendency to amplify negative emotions.

## Disciplinary Action

These are the methods in which chat admins will deal with infractions to the rules. Disciplinary actions apply to both the SFW Awoo Alley chat, NFSW CAL-PaH After Bark chat and Discord/ Gaming servers (including in-game), both text and voice.

1. Moderators reserve the right to remove anyone from the room for violating any of these guidelines or for any other behavior that is deemed to be inappropriate.
2. Violations of the above-mentioned rules will be met with disciplinary action at the discretion of the CAL-PaH board.
  - a. Violation of the above-mentioned rules can and will be met with:
    - i. X number of Hour(s) and/or day(s) banning. Length of ban will be determined based on a vote among board members of CAL-PaH.
    - ii. \*Any one that continues to exhibit any violations slated above could be met with permanent removal of any and/or all Chat rooms currently being ran by CAL-PaH.
    - iii. \*Membership(s) of the person(s) in violation may be suspended based on severity of violations.

All regulations and bylaws CAL-PaH apply to these rules. If there is a conflict between these rules and those of CAL-PaH bylaws, those of the CAL-PaH bylaws, as the case may be, prevail. These rules are subject to change.

*\*In the event of a permanent ban and/or removal of membership(s) CAL-PaH Chats and/or Events; no refunds for memberships will be issued.*