



NCPA's list serve rules of conduct:

The following Listserve rules are to be applied for all users of the NCPA listserves. These rules are adapted from the Pennsylvania Psychological Association's adaptation the American Psychological Association listserve rules. These are in effect for the NCPA listserves until the board adopts a permanent set of rules and membership is notified of these changes.

The term forum refers equally to the NCPA school psych, private practice or executive board listserves. Non-members will be unsubscribed. If you subscribed to this forum, and especially if you send messages to this forum, you are agreeing to a set of rules and standards. The rules are:

Rule 1: Do not use the forum for illegal purposes, including, but not limited to, defamation, violation of intellectual property laws, anti-trust or unfair competition laws or criminal laws.

Rule 2: Do not intentionally interfere with or disrupt other forum members, network services, or network equipment. Commercial use is prohibited, as is distribution of unsolicited advertising, chain letters, propagation of computer worms or viruses, and use of the network to make unauthorized entry into any other machine accessible via the Forum.

Rule 3: Similar to operation in the House and Senate, "personal reflections" upon other members, no matter how serious their differences over policy questions, is prohibited. Common courtesy and respect, which excludes personal attacks or criticism, must be observed.

Rule 4: Postings should pertain to psychologists and psychological issues, and not to the standards of other professions, such as counselors or psychiatrists, or issues unrelated to psychology. Messages exhorting Listserv members to advocate for issues that are

not on NCPA's or APA's agenda, such as the minimum wage, Amnesty International or other concerns, are not to be placed on NCPA's Listserv, no matter how worthy the cause.

Rule 5: Communications should be oriented towards increasing the knowledge base of psychologists. The Listserv is a forum for sharing information and community building. It is a place where differences of opinion can be aired, however, with courtesy and respect.

Rule 6: Do not use the Forum for commercial purposes.

"Commercial" as used for purposes of evaluating listserv messages means communications whose primary purpose is to advance the business or financial interests of any person or entity, or otherwise to promote a financial transaction for the benefit of the author directly or indirectly. Examples of prohibited communications include advertisements for products or services or direct solicitations of listserv members to purchase products or services. Advertisements for non-NCPA Continuing Education workshops and other non-NCPA events that charge a fee should be sent to the NCPA office <ncpa@optonline.net> who will post the advertisement if deemed appropriate for membership.

Offers to sell products to many members are not allowed. However, offers that have small financial gain and may involve a transaction with a single member (e.g. notices regarding rental of office space, notices regarding selling of a test kit) are exception to this rule. Members are prohibited from making frequent posting of notices that involve small financial gain.

Examples of messages that are not prohibited because they do not inure to the financial benefit of the author include news of job listings or position openings, or discussion of professionally-related products or services where the list serve member conveying the information is not in the business of selling the products or services. Announcements that provide useful professional information to List members but may also have some incidental commercial benefit to the sender (e.g. an author who is a list member merely advising the List of publication of a professional book) typically would not be "commercial" for purposes of this restriction.

In addition to these rules, various standards have emerged within the culture of electronic list forums. By following these rules and standards, you will contribute to a climate that encourages trust and collegiality, and friendly, informative, and spontaneous discourse.

Standard 1: Email messages should be sent to one of the following (assuming you are subscribed to the listed listserve): <ncpaprivatepractice@yahoogroups.com>, <NCPA-School-Psych@yahoogroups.com>, <ncpaeb@yahoogroups.com>

Standard 2: Try to keep your messages concise and to the point.

Standard 3: Please sign each of your messages, and include your email address, so that we can communicate a response to you. Most email software includes a signature option that automatically generates this information.

Standard 4: If you utilize your email software program that repeats the message to which you are responding, please do not repeat any part of the message that is not essential in order to save considerable space (bandwidth) for everyone who receives your message.

If you break the rules noted above you will be asked to unsubscribe to the Listserv by the NCPA Board, according to the following procedures:

1. A warning will be sent directly to the violator, with a reminder of the rules, and an explanation of the violation.
2. In the case of a second violation, the Chair of the Online Development Committee will inform the violator of the nature of the violation, and will indicate that a third violation will result in suspension from the List for six months.
3. In the case of a third violation, the person will be asked to voluntarily unsubscribe within ten days. If this action does not occur within the specified time, the Chair of the Online Development Committee will remove the violator from the List.

After a person has been suspended from the List for six months, the NCPA member will be eligible to re-subscribe. A reapplication for Listserv privileges will be made to the Chair of the Online Development Committee, who will confer with the NCPA Board. Reapplication does

not guarantee immediate reinstatement. If reinstated, the prior offenses will be disregarded, and the violation procedure will start again. If not reinstated, the rationale for the decision will be sent to the member.

We welcome you to these Forums and look forward to your introduction and participation. If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

Patrick Grehan PhD <support@nassaupsysh.org>
Chair of the Online Development Committee

11/04