



The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement Facebook Networking Groups – Rules and Etiquette

Thank you for joining The Association on Facebook Members-ONLY networking groups. To ensure the best possible experience for all group members, we have established some rules and guidelines for participation. By joining and using these groups, you agree that you have read and will follow the rules and guidelines set for this peer discussion group. You also agree to reserve discussions for topics best suited to the medium.

Facebook groups provide a great platform in which to solicit the advice of your peers, benefit from their experience and participate in ongoing conversations. Groups are closed to members of The Association.

Please take a moment to acquaint yourself with these guidelines. In order to preserve a climate that encourages both civil and fruitful dialogue, The Association reserves the right to suspend or terminate membership on the Facebook groups for members who violate these rules. If you have questions, contact the moderator at admin@theaawa.org. General questions about The Association should be directed to admin@theaawa.org.

The Rules

- Please don't post promotional or commercial messages in the groups. If a group participant specifically requests information on a particular product or service, message that person directly if you believe it would help them.
- Fully disclose any conflict of interest you may have if making an endorsement of any commercial product. For more information about marketing a product or service to the entire membership of The Association, please email admin@theaawa.org.
- Please don't solicit financial contributions or support for any cause or project. If you have information about a cause or project that you believe will be of interest to the wider membership, please contact admin@theaawa.org for more information.
- Please don't challenge or attack others. The discussions in the groups are meant to stimulate conversation, not to create contention. Let others have their say, just as you may.

- All defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials are strictly prohibited. Do not post anything in a Facebook group discussion that you would not want the world to see or that you would not want anyone to know came from you.
- Please use caution when discussing products. Information posted in the group is available for all to see, and comments are subject to libel, slander and antitrust laws.
- Please note carefully all items listed in the disclaimer and legal rules below, particularly regarding the copyright ownership of information posted to the groups.
- Remember The Association and other group participants have the right to reproduce postings to Facebook groups.

Facebook Group Etiquette

- Include a signature tag on all messages. Include your name, title, affiliation, location, and email address.
- State concisely and clearly the topic of your discussion in the subject line that reads "Start a discussion or share something with the group..." Fill in the details of your discussion in the body. This allows members to respond more appropriately to your posting and makes it easier for members to search discussions by subject.
- Include only the relevant portions of the original message in your reply. Delete any header information, and put your response before the original posting.
- Only send a message to the entire group when it contains information from which everyone can benefit.
- Send messages such as "thanks for the information" or "me, too" to individuals--not to the entire group. Do this by clicking Members in the top navigation of the group and selecting or searching the member you wish to message.
- Warn other group members of lengthy messages either in the subject line or at the beginning of the message body with a line that says "Long Message."

The Legal Stuff

The Facebook groups are provided as a service of The Association. The Association is not responsible for the opinions and information posted on this site by others. The Association disclaims all warranties with regard to information posted on this site, whether posted by The Association or any third party; this disclaimer includes all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness. In no event shall The Association be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of any information posted on this site.

Do not post any defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials. Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner. By posting material, the posting party warrants and represents that he or she owns the copyright with respect to such material or has received permission from the copyright owner. In addition, the posting party grants The Association and users of the groups the nonexclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print, and use such information or other material.

Messages should not be posted if they encourage or facilitate members to arrive at any agreement that either expressly or impliedly leads to price fixing, a boycott of another's business, or other conduct intended to illegally restrict free trade. Messages that encourage or facilitate an agreement about the following subjects are inappropriate: prices, discounts, or terms or conditions of sale; salaries; profits, profit margins, or cost data; market shares, sales territories, or markets; allocation of customers or territories; or selection, rejection, or termination of customers or suppliers.

The Association does not actively monitor the site for inappropriate postings and does not on its own undertake editorial control of postings. However, in the event that any inappropriate posting is brought to our attention, we will take all appropriate action.

The Association reserves the right to terminate access to any user who does not abide by these guidelines.