

## Houston Oasis Facebook Group Rules

### I. Purpose

This private Facebook group serves as the online extension of Houston Oasis. It is intended for continuing the conversations from our weekly gatherings and for serving as an Oasis for people to discuss general topics of interest, and to have those topics presented and discussed in a positive way.

The Oasis Board and page Administrators strive to maintain this page as a refuge for freethought discourse for all those who attend, or have attended Oasis. The Facebook Group Rules are intended to promote positive interactions and define the expectations for participation in order to maintain a safe environment. We welcome all Oasis participants as long as they embrace our Core Values and abide by the Group Rules.

### II. Core Values

At Houston Oasis, we think:

People are more important than beliefs.  
Only human hands solve human problems.  
Reality is known through reason.  
Meaning comes from making a difference.  
Be accepting and be accepted.

### III. Scope

This policy applies to all participate in the Houston Oasis private Facebook group, including Administrators who maintain the group page and directors who oversee the organization's administration.

### IV. Participation

Because the private Facebook group is an online extension of the community, participation at a Houston Oasis live event is required to be eligible to join the private Facebook group. Participation within the private group is at the sole discretion of the Houston Oasis Board of Directors or their designated Administrators.

### V. Administration

The Houston Oasis private Facebook group is maintained by Admins appointed by the Board and have been designated to enforce this policy. The Admin team can be found in the menu under Members > All Members > Admins, and can be contacted as a group at [admins@houstonoasis.org](mailto:admins@houstonoasis.org).

## VI. Rules and Expectations

### A. Harassment

The Houston Oasis strives to maintain an ethical environment in the private Facebook group where people are treated with kindness and compassion. To protect the community and promote a positive online experience, Houston Oasis prohibits harassment, including, but not limited to, threats, bullying, name-calling, abusive language, personal attacks, sexual harassment, insinuation, innuendo, passive aggressive behavior, and bullying of any kind.

### B. Discrimination

Houston Oasis seeks to create a welcoming environment where diversity is valued. Therefore, Houston Oasis prohibits discrimination, including, but not limited to, race, national origin, citizenship, gender, gender identity, gender presentation, sexual orientation, body size, appearance, disability, age, pregnancy, or religion.

### C. Disruptive Behavior

It is important to Houston Oasis that its private Facebook group is safe and participants are comfortable. Any generally offensive, obscene, violent, or disruptive posts that cause concern, discomfort, or mental anguish to participants, or distract the organization from its activities is prohibited. This includes habitually derailing discussion threads with irrelevant comments or unrelated conversations.

### D. Privacy

Some participants prefer for their involvement with Houston Oasis to remain private, and we respect their wishes. Therefore, posting of another user's photograph, private information, comments, or personal communications anywhere outside of this private Facebook group without their consent is prohibited.

### E. Solicitation

Houston Oasis prohibits solicitation from participants without prior approval from the Board of Directors.

### F. Illegal Activity

Houston Oasis abides by all local, state, and federal laws and reserves the right to notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities of any potential violations of law. Encouraging illegal or violent behavior is strictly prohibited.

### G. Facebook Terms of Service

All participants in this forum are required to abide by Facebook terms of service.

### H. Any behavior deemed inappropriate or disruptive by at least two (2) or more Administrators can be prohibited. The Board of Directors reserve the right to prohibit any other behavior they deem inappropriate or disruptive.

## VII. Reporting Violations

If you have observed any violations of this policy, even if prohibited conduct is not directed at you, please notify an Admin immediately. An Admins can be reached by private message, or at [admins@houstonoasis.org](mailto:admins@houstonoasis.org).

## VIII. Determination of a Rules Violation

The determination of a rules violation will be at the sole discretion of the page Administrators or the Houston Oasis Board of Directors.

## IX. Adjudication

In order to foster a civil online environment that reflects the community of Houston Oasis, Administrators in this group may take one or more of the following possible actions in the event of improper behavior:

1. Warn user(s)
2. Delete comment(s)
3. Delete a thread
4. Suspend user(s)
5. Remove user(s)

Users will be notified by email or PM (private message) when a violation has occurred and the action being taken.

Where appropriate, an Admin may create a post explaining why an action was taken. If you wish to discuss the action taken, please Private Message any Admin. If necessary, an Admin may create a separate thread for public discussion of administrator actions.

The SUSPENSION or REMOVAL of a user will require the approval of two (2) unrelated Admins, one of which must be an Oasis Board member. The suspension or removal of a user need not be related to the same event.

Anyone that is inadvertently removed need only to contact an Oasis Board member or a current administrator to be reinstated.

Thank you for taking the time to review the Facebook Group Rules. It is important to Houston Oasis that participants have a safe and positive online experience. Defining these expectations and encouraging ethical conduct ensures that Houston Oasis will always be a healthy community of compassion and reason.