

PCB Institutional Powers and Responsibilities Act (2024)

1. This act comes into effect on the day of ratification by a majority of the Staff Council and ratification by the Head Owner.
2. The short title of this act shall be “Mod Powers Act”

1 Head Owner

1. The Head Owner is the sole legitimate owner of all of Polcompball.
2. The Head Owner is the owner of the Official Polcompball Discord Server.
3. The Head Owner shall not be subject to election and shall have an unlimited term.
4. The Head Owner shall have the authority to make decrees on any matter relating to the Polcompball community.
 - a. Any proposal related to the Polcompball subreddit and its associated community must be approved by the Subreddit Owner
5. The Head Owner shall have the authority to appoint or remove people from positions at any time, for any reason, except in cases where legislation prohibits it.
6. The Head Owner shall have the authority to create new positions and to determine the powers of such a position.
 - a. The Head Owner cannot grant powers to a position which the Head Owner themselves does not possess.
7. The Head Owner shall have the power to abolish any position which is not explicitly defined in legislation.
8. The Head Owner shall have the authority to override legislation.
 - a. The Head Owner cannot override sections of legislation which place limits on their power.
9. The Head Owner shall have all other powers which are not explicitly written down.

2 Succession of the Head Owner

10. If the Head Owner resigns, dies, or the position otherwise becomes vacant, a new Head Owner must succeed the old one.
11. The Head Owner shall have the sole power to determine their own succession. This includes the power to:
 - a. Add a person to the line of succession,
 - b. Remove a person from the line of succession,
 - c. Change a person’s position in the line of succession,
 - d. Set up an alternate framework for choosing a successor, should none be found.

12. During times when the Head Owner is temporarily unable to execute the powers and duties of the office (henceforth referred to as a 'temporary absence'), they may appoint an 'Acting Head Owner' to carry out their duties in their absence.
 - a. Only Owners or Admins may be appointed Acting Head Owner.
 - b. Acting Head Owners are to be dismissed by the Head Owner the moment the Head Owner is able to return to their normal duties.
 - c. If the Discord account which the Head Owner uses is different from the account which holds the formal ownership of the Discord server, Acting Head Owners are to be given access to the latter.
 - i. This access must be taken away once the Head Owner returns to their regular duties.
13. If the Head Owner announces that their temporary absence will become permanent, the Head Owner position is declared vacant and the Acting Head Owner succeeds the new Head Owner.
14. If the Head Owner's temporary absence lasts more than three months, the Head Owner position is declared vacant and the Acting Head Owner succeeds the Head Owner.
15. If the Head Owner becomes totally inactive for more than one month and is unable to be contacted, the Head Owner position is declared vacant.
 - a. If there is an Acting Head Owner at the moment the position is declared vacant, the Acting Head Owner succeeds the head owner. Otherwise, the normal succession plan is carried out.

3 Ownership Council

16. There shall be an institution entitled the "Ownership Council".
17. The Ownership Council shall have a maximum of 10 members, referred to as 'Owners'.
18. The Ownership Council shall be led by the Head Owner.
19. The Head Owner, the owner of the Polcompball subreddit, and the owner of the Polcompball Wiki shall both be permanent members of the Ownership Council.
20. Permanent members cannot be removed by the Head Owner.
21. The Head Owner may nominate persons to join the Ownership Council as non-permanent members.
22. The Head Owner shall have the power to remove non-permanent members from the Ownership council at any time, for any reason.
 - a. The Head Owner shall be the only person with this power.
23. Owners shall not be subject to election.

4 Staff Council

24. There shall be an institution entitled the "Staff Council".
25. The Staff Council shall be the primary legislative and executive body of Polcompball.
26. The Staff Council shall comprise of the following three groups:
 - a. The Ownership Council,

- b. All Administrators, and
 - c. All Moderators
27. Moderators and Administrators shall be subject to election according to the terms of the [PCB Elections Act \(2024\)](#).
- a. The Head Owner may appoint or dismiss Moderators and Admins.
28. Any member of the Staff Council except for Moderators shall have the power to make proposals to the Staff Council.
29. Proposals may be anything that falls under the following categories:
- a. Changes to server rules,
 - b. Changes to the appearance or layout of parts of Polcompball,
 - c. New legislation,
 - d. Amendments to existing legislation,
 - e. Enforcement of rules,
 - f. Bans and unbans,
 - g. Changes to community policy,
 - h. Changes to procedures, and
 - i. Any other business which members feel the Staff Council should be consulted in.
30. The Staff Council may not pass any proposal which contravenes Discord Terms of Service.
31. Proposals shall be voted on the Staff Council.
- a. All Members may choose to vote 'yes', 'no', or 'abstain'.
 - b. If a member does not vote, it is considered an abstention.
 - c. Votes are considered to have passed if:
 - i. An absolute majority of members vote yes, or
 - ii. A plurality of members have voted yes after a 24 hour period.
 - d. The Head Owner may veto any decision made by the Staff Council.
32. For minor matters or matters that are urgent, informal consultation and consensus with part of the Staff Council shall be sufficient for members to take action.
- a. The Staff Council may retroactively vote whether to uphold these actions if significant opposition arises after the fact.
33. Anybody that resigns from the staff council automatically becomes a 'server pet'.
- a. Server pets are entitled to view the 'staff lounge' chat.
 - b. Server pets retain their title for the next two moderator elections after receiving it.

5 Moderator Powers

34. The Primary responsibility of Moderators is to enforce the rules in the Polcompball Discord Server.
35. Moderators shall have the power to punish violations of the rules by muting the user for a length of time which is proportional to the violation.
36. Moderators shall have the power to verify new users in accordance with the rules.
37. Moderators shall not have the power to ban users, but may initiate a vote to ban to the Staff Council.
- a. Such votes must be accompanied by evidence justifying the ban.

38. Moderators shall have the power to issue strikes for rule violations.
 - a. Users must be informed when they are issued with a strike.
 - b. Users may have up to two strikes at any given time.
 - c. Users with strikes shall receive more severe punishments than users without a strike.
 - d. The first strike shall be removed three days after being given, or three days after the removal of a second strike, whichever is later.
 - e. If a user with one strike violated the rules again, they shall receive a second strike alongside a proportionate punishment.
 - f. The second strike shall last seven days.
 - g. If a user with two strikes violated the rules again, they must either be muted for a minimum of one week and their strike timer reset, or be permanently banned.

6 Administrator Powers

39. The Primary duties Administrators shall be the administration of the Polcompball community and the management of its institutions
40. Administrators shall have all the same powers as Moderators.
41. Admins shall have the power to ban users without a vote, on the condition they provide evidence to justify the ban.
42. Administrators shall have the power to use the @everyone ping.
43. Administrators shall have the power to host events which they believe will contribute positively to community culture or activity.

7 Ownership Council Powers

44. Owners shall have all the same powers as Moderators and Admins.
45. Owners may demote Moderators if they believe the Moderator has committed a serious rule violation.
 - a. The demoted person in question has a right to appeal the decision to the Head Owner, unless the Head Owner was the one to initiate the demotion.
 - i. The Head Owner is obligated to make a fair and objective ruling in an appeal, and thus must not take into consideration the person's character or personality when making a decision.
46. The Head Owner may authorise an Owner to temporarily use additional special powers.
47. A majority of the ownership council acting together may use powers normally only accessible to the Head Owner, unless vetoed by the Head Owner.

8 Accountability Mechanisms

48. The Ownership Council shall be exempt from everything in this section.

49. If a member of the Staff Council violates the rules, they must be punished in the same manner as if they were a regular user.
50. If a user believes that a member of the Staff Council has violated the rules or has a seriously negative effect on the culture of the community, they may create a recall petition.
 - a. Recall petitions take the form of a ticket system in the discord server.
 - b. Users must provide an explanation as to why they believe the accused Staff Council member should be removed.
 - c. If at least five other users support the petition, not including the user who started the petition, then the Staff Council is required to hold a vote on whether to expel the accused member from the Staff Council.
 - d. If the vote fails, a recall petition cannot be started against that person until at least one month has passed.
51. Moderators and Admins can be punished for unjust enforcement of the rules.
 - a. Administrators have an automatic presumption of innocence. It is up to the accusing person to prove that a violation has taken place.
 - b. Moderators have an automatic presumption of guilt. It is up to the accused to prove that a violation has not taken place.
 - c. It is up to the judgement of the Owners to determine whether or not a punishment is warranted, and what punishment is necessary.
 - d. Admins that violate the rules are to be demoted to moderator, not to a regular user.
52. Any ban that is made without first providing evidence must be reversed, and the staff council member who carried out the ban must face punishment.
53. Decisions made by the Head Owner may be overturned by two thirds vote of the Staff Council or an absolute majority vote of the Ownership council vote.

9 Marked Users

54. A user may be marked if they meet one or more of the following conditions:
 - a. Is a current or former staff member for Free Polcompball
 - b. Is currently one of the top 50 most active users on the Free Polcompball discord server
 - c. Receives Strike Two twice or more in the period since the most recent election period, as defined by the PCB Elections Act (2024)
 - d. Was unbanned after the most recent election period.
55. A user which was marked in accordance with sections 54c and 54d shall have their mark removed after the next election period has concluded.