

Dealer Room Rules for Further Confusion 2010

California Gold Rush

Following is a list of the rules and guidelines that each Dealer will be required to sign in acknowledgment and return prior to selling any goods at Further Confusion.

Further Confusion is an Anthropomorphic Convention intending to assist in educating and strengthening the bonds within the Furry Community. This convention is open to all individuals and age groups. With this in mind the following rules have been compiled to make Further Confusion a friendly convention, now and for years to come. As circumstances or requirements of law change, we will place the latest, most up-to-date version of these rules on our website. The latest version will be presented to Dealers at the convention to read and sign when they claim their table. Please read it carefully. Changes made to this document since Further Confusion 2009 are in *italics*.

The convention reserves the right to refuse a Dealer table to anyone for any reason. The Dealer Room rules also apply to any area of the convention hotel(s) where attendees offer items or services for payment.

Please be aware, due to the requirements of the California State Board of Equalization, you **must** be at least 18 years of age to have a Dealer table.

Dealer Room Rules – Legal Responsibility

Further Confusion and Anthropomorphic Arts and Entertainment requires that its attendees adhere to all applicable laws, both state and federal. Although the duty of the Dealer to familiarize himself or herself with all such laws, Further Confusion would like to highlight in particular the following.

1. All Dealers must be selling under a current California State Sellers Permit with a valid Seller's Permit (also known as a Sales Tax ID) number. There will be absolutely **no** exceptions to this rule. You will be required to provide this prior to selling any merchandise, including personal commissions, at Further Confusion. If you don't have a permit, you will not be able to sell and there will be no refund of your Dealer Room costs. It is your responsibility to take care of this detail.

Information on obtaining a California State Sellers Permit can be found on the web at <http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/reg.htm> or may be requested by calling the California State Board of Equalization at 1-800-400-7115. At the time of writing, the form needed is form **BOE-400 SPA**. If you believe you are exempt from these rules, please review BOE Publication 61, available on the BOE website.

2. The PROTECT Act of 2003[1] and 18 USC 1466A[2] remain the law in California. This law prohibits producing, distributing, receiving, or possessing with intent to distribute, an obscene visual depiction of any kind of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct, including a drawing, cartoon, sculpture, or painting. Fiction is no defense; the law says, "It is not a required element of any offense under this section that the minor depicted actually exist."

As required by this law, no such art may be sold or promoted at Further Confusion. The board of AAE feels that to protect the organization and, more importantly, our attendees, we have no choice but to enforce this provision.

[1] <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c108:S.151>:

[2] http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode18/usc_sec_18_00001466---A000-.html

Merchandise Awareness

1. Keep all merchandise and displays (literature, art, fanzines, posters, electronic media, etc.) in compliance with the California State laws of viewing by minors. In simpler terms, all material in the Dealer Room must **not** be accessible to minors if they contain any content of an extremely violent and/or sexually explicit nature. Such material must be kept in a closed binder/folder marked as adult. Adult art in progress must be as concealed as possible from public view. Occasional sweeps of the Dealer Room will be made to assure compliance.

You must monitor any 'closed binder/folder marked as adult' material with great vigilance. Be aware of the persons behind the persons browsing your adult binders, and ensure that the contents are not being observed by possible minors.

If this level of vigilance is not feasible, then you must cover those parts of the pictures within the binder with some manner of censorship materials. This can be as simple as labels applied to the plastic coverings containing the art, or as complex as special 'censored editions' of the art meant for display rather than for direct sale.

If you are selling adult comic books, you must contain even display copies in sealed comic bags. If the cover is in any way explicit, you must obscure those parts that are considered to be for adult eyes only.

We suggest (but do not require) that work on adult commissions should be done in a more private space than the Dealer Room. If you **do** work on these in the Dealer Room, we strongly urge some form of 'screen' or similar contrivance. Such screens are often sold for use by 'game masters' running pen and paper role-playing games or can otherwise be cobbled together with a few good pieces of cardboard and some tape.

The Dealer Room staff will attempt to alert you if materials placed on display do not do enough to protect the sensibilities of the young (and their parents), but it is your responsibility to ensure you comply with the law. Any failure may result in the material being confiscated until the close of that day's sales for minor infractions, or in the offending Dealer being asked to leave the Dealer Room for the day, or possibly the remainder of the convention, for repeat or more serious infractions. Dealer Room staff must protect the convention from potential legal action.

Dealer Room Rules

1. The convention reserves the right to refuse a Dealer table to anyone for any reason.
2. Dealer tables may **not** be resold by you to another party. If you cannot attend the convention, please use the process explained in the Refund Policy section, and request a refund. We no longer offer roll-overs of dealer memberships or tables to a following year.
3. The selling of weaponry or potentially dangerous items is allowed within the guidelines of California state law. All responsibility for injury due to the handling of such items is the sole responsibility of the Dealer. All items of this nature **must** be wrapped in a protective manner at the time of sale. Said items must be removed directly from the Dealer Room and public areas to a private room, vehicle, or location outside the Fairmont San Jose property.
4. No pirated materials are allowed in the Dealer Room. **No exceptions.** Reproductions of commercial media such as Disney, Warner Brothers, or any other materials that violate copyright laws will not be tolerated. All materials must be either owned by the Dealer or approved for sale by the owner. Compilations of art must have the approval of the originating artists; publications where artists have previously approved their art are the exception (such as is common for most fanzines such as *Yarf!* and *Fur Visions*).
5. All Dealers must wear their registration badges at all times while in the Dealer Room. **Only** those persons with a Dealer badge or a Dealers Assistant Tag may be seated behind a Dealer's table. Each Dealer may request up to two (2) Dealers Assistant Tags per table. (Half table dealerships only get one (1) Dealers Assistant Tag.) Dealers Assistant Tags are **not** membership badges – they are only a sign of 'blessing' for the person to get in and out of the room during setup and tear-down and to be allowed to sit behind the table. Assistants are still required to have convention memberships.
6. No annoying or distracting displays or effects are allowed. Lighting in the Dealer Room should be sufficient for viewing of all materials. Please check with the Dealer Room manager if you are unsure. It is also wise to check with the Dealers seated around you. And if one of the Dealers near your table has something that you feel fits under this heading during the convention, please bring it to the attention of the Dealer Room manager. But first, try asking the offending party, politely, to discontinue use of the distracting display or effect.
7. Keep pathways clear. This means you may **not** sit on the 'front' or 'traffic' side of the table. **You must sit behind your table.** No one is allowed to sit in the pathways, not even a customer. No materials are allowed beyond the front edge of each table. FLARE will be on-site to assist in crowd control – please comply with any requests they may have.
8. The Dealer Room Manager and assistants reserve the right to deny service to anyone. If anyone is disruptive, flaunting the rules, harassing customers, Dealers, staff, or the general public, and is not amenable to correction, action will occur. Complaints will be taken seriously. Severe actions can result in expulsion. Please be on your best behavior.
9. California prohibits smoking inside or near entrances to all public facilities. If you need to smoke, please ask a staff member upon arrival for the approved outdoor smoking areas.
10. If you wish to collect donations, whether for charity or not, you must first gain the approval of the Dealer Room Manager.
11. Final authority for all decisions related to Dealer Room activities rests in the hands of the Dealer Room Manager. His decisions are final and subject to appeals only through the Business Director of the convention and the Convention Chair.

Behavior in the Dealer Room

1. Shared tables are allowed in the Further Confusion Dealer Room. However, legally speaking, the person that paid for and signed the paperwork for the table is responsible for all debts incurred at that table. So make sure to make arrangements with anyone you share your table with regarding collecting sales taxes and the like.
2. **Space behind the tables is limited!** Please use common sense and be considerate of your neighbors and the other dealers around you. Keep personal clutter to a minimum. If possible, store your stock **under** your table or **under** your chair. People must be able to move around behind the tables safely.

3. **Use the trash receptacles around the room**, and do not just toss your trash onto the floor! We do not want to have to start increasing the cost of tables to be able to pay for the carpet to be scrubbed.
4. Please maintain a state of professionalism, and dress accordingly. Profanity, explicit postures and mannerisms are unacceptable, as is horseplay and harassment of anybody. We will not tolerate fighting. Any physical altercations will result in the immediate expulsion from the convention of those involved with no refund, and the possible involvement of local authorities.

Refund Policy

1. If, for any reason, you know that you will not be able to attend Further Confusion, you must contact the Dealer Room staff by email to dealers@furtherconfusion.org or postal mail at Further Confusion, Attn: Dealer Room, 105 Serra Way #236, Milpitas CA 95035 and release the table back to us for resale. We will, in turn, refund you the full purchase price of your table and the primary membership that came with it, dependent on the convention receiving this notice a reasonable time before its start.
2. If such notice is received by the Dealer Room staff prior to seven (7) days before the opening of the convention, then we will send out a check to you by postal mail. This usually takes around ten (10) days to process and send out. If it will take longer, you will be notified directly by the Dealer Room staff.
3. Refunds requested less than seven (7) days before the opening of the convention will not automatically be given out, and will require the approval of a member of the convention's executive staff based on the reasons given by the Dealer. These refunds will usually have to wait until after the convention is over in order for the check to be cut, and may take up to 60 days to send.

No-Shows

1. If a table remains unclaimed four (4) hours after the Dealer Room first opens to the public, without the Dealer Room staff having been contacted and made aware that the Dealer will be late, the Dealer will be considered a no-show. The table will then be offered to those persons on the Waiting List. For this reason it is **very important that you contact the Dealer Room staff if you will be late arriving at the convention for any reason!** You can contact Dealer Room staff via dealers@furtherconfusion.org or by the phone number you will receive with your Dealer table confirmation.
2. When you release your table and request a refund, that table will be placed in the pool of tables offered out to the Waiting List, so the earlier you know that you will not make it to the convention, the better for the people waiting for a chance to be in the room.

Waiting List

1. When the Further Confusion Dealer Room is full, we maintain a Waiting List of those persons interested in a Dealer table should one become available. To get on this waiting list, go to the Further Confusion website at www.furtherconfusion.org and download the form in PDF format from the Dealer Room area. Print it, fill it out, and send it in to get on the list, **or** you can send in a self addressed, stamped envelope along with a note requesting a waiting list form, to Further Confusion, Attn: Dealer Room, 105 Serra Way #236, Milpitas CA 95035.
2. We generally start contacting people on the Waiting List around August, at the earliest. The most common time for people to cancel is from December up until two weeks prior to the convention. It never hurts to have a Waiting List form on file with us if the Dealer Room is sold out. Being on the waiting list does not obligate you to purchase a Dealer table, should you be offered one.
3. At the time we start making offers, if we have more people on the Waiting List than the number of available tables, we will *in a random drawing selection from all applicants at the time of the drawing*, until all tables are sold. Approval of the Business Director or higher is required to *override this random selection process*.
4. When we reach the first day of the convention, if there are unsold tables remaining in the Dealer Room, they will first be offered to vendors in the Furry Market Place for relocation, then if there are still open spaces, to neighboring dealers to expand their space. At the Dealer Room manager's option, unsold table may simply be removed from the room to provide more elbow space for everyone.

Thank you for your compliance. The latest version of this document will be available for your signature when you check in for your table at the convention. We hope you have a fun and profitable experience.

Karl Maurer – Dealer Room Manager for Further Confusion 2010

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Attn: Dealer Room
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Milpitas CA 95035

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