

Gauge O Guild Forum Rules June 2020

Welcome to the Gauge O Guild Forum. The Forum is provided for the benefit of our members to discuss modelling, show off our work, share experience and knowledge, ask questions and generally just chat. There are a number of different sections of the forum that hopefully reflects all the 'stuff' that interest us. We should think of it as an online version of an evening at the model railway club and as such we ought to behave the way we would if we were at our local club. All we ask is that people are polite and civil with each other and avoid the use of bad language. We should never say things that are libellous or malicious or deliberately provocative in the same way as we would not do those things at our local club. Treat your fellow modellers with courtesy and respect and they ought to do the same to you.

The moderators are here to help you so please if you're not sure please ask.

There are a seven **must notes** we need to know to about.

When using the forum ensure your posting is within these rules:

- 1) No material that may be seen as discriminatory, inflammatory, potentially libellous or malicious to any party.
- 2) No Harassment or bullying of any Guild member - (as defined in the Oxford English Dictionary).
- 3) No unsubstantiated or inaccurate criticism of any individual or organisation. Any criticism should be presented in a manner that would be appropriate for a face to face conversation.
- 4) No bad or inappropriate language or content, including but not limited to, obscene, racist, sexist or blasphemous material. Note: Politics, religion and sex are off-limits subjects.
- 5) No material which breaches the confidence or anonymity of any other member or party.
- 6) Material posted must not infringe copyright. It is the responsibility of the poster to seek reproduction permission before posting material originated by other people. You must state where you obtained the information from.
- 7) Not permitting your username to be used by any suspended member.
- 8) Trade Announcements category to only present factual information about commercially available goods and services. Traders may direct members to websites and other sources of information about pricing and other offers. Traders must not post material which includes pricing or special promotional offers. *(This rule is currently suspended as at March 2020)*
- 9) The Forum is only open to members of the Guild aged 16 upwards.

In addition, Forum users need to respect the following:

- 1) The Questions for Guild Management (QfGM) section is intended to enable Forum members to put questions to the Guild's management and (where possible) receive a response within 14 days. It may not be feasible to always give a full answer if

confidentiality or privacy issues are involved or the cost of doing so is considered excessive. Should that be the case an explanation will be given. No information considered confidential between the Gauge O Guild Ltd. its contractors or service providers will be give unless it is in the public domain. *It is not a section for discussion, comment or supplementary questions other than relevant ones from the originator of the question.*

- 2) Posting images of minors (under 18s) on the Forum. You must conform to the following requirements. Images are acceptable providing:
 - a. Only the minor's first name is used.
 - b. There is no way to identify where the minor lives.
 - c. You must get the parent or Guardian's permission before posting an image of a minor. You must state that you have secured that permission which must be stated in the post.
- 3) Any ban from the Guild Forum will also apply to the Guild Facebook site.

Notes to Forum Rules

- 1) Posts which contravene any of the above rules may be removed by the Forum moderators.
- 2) All decisions made by a Forum moderator are final and no correspondence will be entered into, either on the Forum or by other means. The Forum moderators will inform affected members of their moderating actions. They will not be expected to inform members who are not directly involved. Any complaints arising from the Forum Manager's decision should be taken up through the Guild's Disciplinary and Grievance policy.
- 3) Breaches of the above rules may lead to the placing of an informal or formal warning against the member's profile. Notice of warnings will be sent to the affected member, and the warning will be recorded by the Forum software.
- 4) See the Process of Actions that Moderators and the Forum Manager follow which is included with the Forum Rules for members.
- 5) Moderator interventions will not be discussed with third parties.