
Subject: Re: A sniff of democracy (aka ACK vote)
Posted by [m1a1_abrams](#) on Thu, 05 Oct 2006 13:16:20 GMT
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In my opinion, this is why Blazer's common sense approach to moderating doesn't work. If there aren't any rules of conduct laid down and you just rely on moderators' common sense to decide when people have gone too far, you'll always have a feeling of injustice. By it's own definition, common sense can't be strictly defined, so will mean different things to different people. One person will think that someone has done enough to be banned or to take a vote on it, whereas another will not. Ultimately the decision hinges on the personal taste and whimsy of the moderator. If that's the way you choose to run the forums, then you have the right to do so, but you can't really call it a fair system.

I get the feeling that it matters to the admins here to be seen as fair, in which case you need to be seen to apply the same rules to everyone. A good start would be having a visible set of rules pertaining to conduct. Don't get me wrong though, I think the admins try hard to treat everyone the same, but it's tough to see this in practice, when the rules effectively exist only inside your head. The rules could be as strict or lenient as you like, as long as there is a reason listed somewhere for why Aircraftkiller or anyone else is doing something wrong. As it stands, as much as I disagree with the stuff he's done in the past, I can't see a reason why he should be banned. The only reason would be on moral grounds, I guess, but again, you don't enforce rules of conduct... so what rule is he breaking? I guess you could say that because it's been put up for a vote, he should be banned simply because people might want him to be... but then it's an arbitrary decision on the part of Crimson to open the poll in the first place. Will it now be a rule that anyone can open a poll to get someone else banned, and then have the will of the people enforced, or can only a moderator do it... in which case we return to the beginning because there are no clear-cut guidelines for what kind of conduct requires a poll opened.

I'm not gonna vote on this. I say draw up some definite example of what people can and cannot do, before punishing them for anything. This is not a personal attack on the admins, by the way. I realise it can be difficult to tell who's gunning for you and who isn't, in a situation like this, with that giant thread running.
