

7.10 Policy: Membership Forums (technical and general) Required Protocol

1. Two information forums will be provided for the member's use. The Forums will allow members to discuss technical information and general information relating to the association or the operation of a home inspection business. To provide this service, OAH I requires that each member; Student, Applicant, Associate, RHI or Retired agrees to be bound by the rules and terms listed below.
2. The OAH I Membership Forums are a membership privilege (not a right) extended to every individual in the OAH I membership who is in good standing.
 - a) The purpose of the OAH I Membership Forum is strictly for the education of its participants ("Users") in the technical aspects of the home inspection profession along with the sharing of information and personal experiences directly related to inspection issues.
 - b) The purpose of the Forum shall be to foster communication among OAH I members regarding the home inspection profession and the Association business.
 - c) Opinions expressed on the Forums are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of OAH I or its Directors.
 - d) OAH I assumes no legal responsibility for the opinions or statements of the OAH I Forum Users.
 - e) OAH I does not officially respond to issues raised on the Forums. If you have an issue, concern or complaint regarding an OAH I member, policy, BOD or committee decision you should follow the proper procedures laid out in the OAH I bylaws.
 - f) All discussions will consist of appropriate language and shall not be slanderous, degrading or mean in spirit.
 - g) A select committee of volunteer OAH I members shall monitor the Forums. Disregard for the Forum rules will result in immediate suspension of the Forum privileges
 - h) BEWARE! OAH I does not promote the Forum to non members, but, as with any on line forum, your messages are potentially accessible by the public.
3. Access to the forums is limited to the OAH I MEMBERS in good standing who agree to abide by the following forum Rules for Users Agreement:
 - a) All subject matter is restricted to real estate inspections and related issues.
 - b) Respect other Users on the OAH I Membership Forum. You may express yourself, but not to injure harm or damage others. Users are expected to exercise professionalism, common sense and courtesy in the message transmitted over the OAH I Forums.
 - c) OAH I Membership Forums shall not be used to libel, slander, defame or disparage a member or candidate of OAH I or any other person, company or organization.
 - d) Anonymous posts are not permitted on the OAH I Membership Forums. All postings must include the member's name.
 - e) Posts advertising or promoting any product or service or inspector membership other than OAH I directly or indirectly, are not permitted on the OAH I Forums, and will be removed promptly. (CAHPI, ASHI discussions are excluded from this rule)
 - f) Use of the OAH I forum the distribution of unwanted email (spamming) is prohibited.
 - g) Use of the OAH I Forum for illegal activities is prohibited, including illegal drugs, gambling, pornography, prostitution, child pornography, robbery,

- spreading computer viruses, entering private computer discussion boards, soft wear infringement, trafficking in credit card codes, or other crimes.
- h) The OAHF Forum is not to be used to communicate with others about prices, terms of service or other competitive information as this is a violation of the anti-trust laws. The OAHF Membership Forums constitutes an ongoing “meeting” of participants. Such meeting may involve competitors. The same rules against illegal agreements in restraint of trade that apply at members meetings apply to OAHF Forum communications.
 - i) Forum communication may not be down loaded without the express consent of the Forum Administrator. Users should be both fully informed about antitrust law regarding communication and agreements among competitors, and act in strict conformity with those rules
 - j) The OAHF Membership Forums may not be used to violate and rules of membership in OAHF, the OAHF bylaws, or the OAHF code of conduct. The OAHF code of conduct rules apply to all Users of the Forum
 - k) Do not upload or distribute files subject to trademark or copyright, or other proprietary rights except with the expressed consent of the owners of the rights.
 - l) OAHF Membership Forums are a benefit for OAHF membership only. Non-members are not permitted on the OAHF Membership Forums unless special permission is granted by OAHF
 - m) OAHF reserves the right without prior notice to modify or change these rules as it determines from time to time in the best interests of OAHF.
 - n) Posted items may be published in the OAHF news letter or the CAHPI’s “The Canadian Home Inspector” if the topic is deemed to be of interest to the general membership. The name of the person posting the information will not be published without their permission.
 - o) In accordance with the OAHF “Code of Conduct”, an inspector shall make every effort to uphold, maintain, and improve the professional integrity, reputation and practice of the home inspection profession. He or she will report such relevant information, including violations of this code by other members to the Association for possible remedial action.
 - p) Information posted to the OAHF Membership Forum becomes the intellectual property of the OAHF therefore, copying, cutting and/or distribution of Forum content in any form is strictly prohibited.
 - q) Forwarding or providing access in any form to the OAHF Forum or a link which provides access to the forum or the OAHF member’s site is not permitted.

Any violation to the Café (Forum) rules, or posts that in the opinion of the Café Monitor are improper will result in the immediate suspension from the Café. First offence will be 30 days, second offence will be 90 days, and all subsequent offences will be 1 year.