



Think outside the DVD Box!

Official Charter of the Network of Reading Otakus NORO

www.readingotaku.com

Est. 2009

Constitution created: January 15, 2009

Constitution amended May 18, 2009

***Note: This Charter is tentative and will be subject to change in the near future.*

Who we are

- The Network of Reading Otakus (NORO) is an organization based in and around the greater city of Reading in Berks County, Pennsylvania.
- This organization was established by a group of like-minded and motivated individuals with the desire to network the surrounding community with Japanese culture and media.
- The Kanji on the logo translates to “no-roii,” which is Japanese for “spell.” Anime and Japanese culture has cast a “spell” on many people here in the U.S., which is why such organizations like NORO have been established.

Goals

- The goals of NORO are:

- To expand awareness and appreciation of Japanese and Asian culture in the area.
- To bring together like-minded individuals with a passion for Japanese culture.

What we do

- NORO events are not limited to just Japanese anime. While we will have many various screenings of movies and episodes, other functions will include, but will not be limited to: manga, cosplaying, video gaming, presentations, learning Japanese, visiting anime conventions, attending Japanese-related festivals, and more.
- We “Think outside the DVD box!”

Advisory Council

- The Advisory council will consist of a President, Vice-President, Event Coordinator, Secretary, Web host and a Treasurer. Advisors will work together to organize meetings and screenings for members of NORO

Advisory Council Members and Roles

- President
 - The President is in charge of all of the NORO functions.
 - The President has a final say in all of the functions pertaining to NORO.
- Vice-President
 - The Vice-President will preside over meetings whenever the President is unable to attend.
 - Will also serve as a link of communication to the group and Advisory Council in the case that the President is otherwise occupied or unable.
- Events/Public Relations Coordinator
 - Responsible for setting up functions for NORO meetings.
 - Will also act as a public relation representative and maintain business relationships with venues and distributors.
- Secretary
 - Will be responsible for recording the minutes of meetings and relay them to members and the Advisory Council.

- Will also be responsible for collecting and organizing data from surveys, questions, comments and concerns from members and the Advisory Council.
- Treasurer
 - The Treasurer's duties will include:
 - Determining monthly budgets
 - Being in charge of the financial end of fundraising events
 - Keeping track of donations
 - Should additional funds become necessary, collecting and keeping track of member dues
- Advisory Council:
 - President: Jimmy Raxasena
 - Vice President: Betsy Moyer
 - Secretary – [Vacant]
 - Event Coordinator – [Vacant]
 - Public Relations - A.J. Cobian (Co-Founder)
 - Gaming Coordinators – Anthony Sarro, Ian Hettinger
 - The Enforcer – Kevin Yusko
 - Temporary Staff – Andrea Merrick, Lindsay Sessions

Membership information

- For unofficial meetings, there is no age limit. For official events, however, members must be 18 or over. This is for the sole purpose of legal reasons, age consent, etc.
- Members must be 13 years of age or older in order to sign on to the forums.

Where and when We Meet

• Informal meetings

- *The purpose of the informal meetings is to use this time as a recruitment event and to serve as a planning stage for the next official meeting (respectively) the next week.*
- *Members can voice their opinions, questions, comments and concerns*
- *Informal meetings are open to all ages.*
 - Meetings will be held at Borders on Woodland Rd. in Wyomissing (across from the Berkshire Mall) on the third Saturday of each month.

• Official Events

- *We will go over introductions, rules, and what the agenda for the meeting will be. Included will be screenings, presentations, socializing, and more for 5 hours!*
- *Members must be at least 18 years of age or older to attend Official meetings.*
 - *ID WILL be taken at the door*
 - Meetings will be held at the Goggleworks, 2nd and Washington Sts., Reading. On the first Saturday of each month.

• Advisory Council Meetings

- Advisory council meetings will be held once monthly.

N.O.R.O

Network of Reading Otaku's

General Rules and Code of Conduct

Informal Meeting

-If you are bringing equipment or media to any event or venue, you MUST sign a release form and submit it to the Secretary.

-During screenings, use of recording devices and flash photography are strictly prohibited.

- While meetings are being held please turn all cell phones to silent. If you must take the call, please excuse yourself from the area before answering.

-Use of laptops shall be restricted during meetings, unless otherwise given permission from one of the advisory council members. In addition, use of laptops may be allowed during periods of intermission and open floor.

-Use of personal electronics, such as iPods, gaming systems, etc. is prohibited during meetings.

- Please do not bring any outside food or drinks to informal meetings. If you decide to purchase food or drinks, please be considerate of others' belongings.

- We must be respectful of others sharing the space so volume should be kept to a reasonable/normal level.

- While we encourage socializing, we ask you to keep personal conversations to a minimum while the administrators are speaking.

- Everyone should be treated equally and with respect. We know that we all have different opinions and we encourage civil/constructive debates.

- The area and tables must be cleaned up and returned to its original condition before we conclude for the evening.

Official Events

-According to law, if the event group exceeds 25 viewers, the President cannot show the anime without permission from the company who licensed the anime. It is the duty of the President or any Advisory Council member present to contact the licensing company for screening permission.

-If you are bringing equipment or media to any event or venue, you MUST sign a release form and submit it to the Secretary.

-Fansubs or bootlegs of shows for which licenses have been officially announced for Region 1 (North American) DVD/Next-Gen or digital distribution will NOT be screened.

-During screenings, the use of recording devices and flash photography are strictly prohibited.

-Please follow the rules and guidelines of the venue which official meetings will be held.

- While meetings and screenings are being held please turn all cell phones to silent. If you must take the call please excuse yourself from the area before answering. Please refrain from texting during screenings.

- While we encourage socializing we ask you to keep personal conversations to a minimum during screenings.

- Use of laptops shall be restricted during meetings, unless otherwise given permission from one of the advisory council members. In addition, use of laptops may be allowed during periods of recess and open floor.

- Use of personal electronics, such as iPods, gaming systems, etc. is prohibited during meetings.

- If you know you have to leave a meeting/screening early, please sit towards the back or somewhere that won't disturb the other viewers.

- If you bring any food or drinks to the venue please make sure you are mindful of the equipment and please make sure you properly dispose of your trash before leaving the venue. There should be no defacing of any equipment, meeting areas, or the property around it.

- Alcoholic substances are **strictly prohibited** from all NORO events

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- Smoking is prohibited at NORO events.

- Everyone should be treated equally and with respect. We know that we all have different opinions and we encourage civil/constructive debates.

- **NORO will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, misplaced or damaged equipment.**

- While using another person's equipment please be careful not to damage or misuse them. There should be no drinks or liquid placed around electronics.

Venue Regulations:

Goggleworks

- No Open Flames permitted (Candles, oil Lamps, etc.)

- The sale of any food and beverages by an organization renting facilities is strictly prohibited, without prior approval through the Goggleworks office and provision of adequate product liability insurance.

- Smoking is not permitted in any area of the Goggleworks which includes all buildings, outdoor areas and parking lot. .

- Food and beverages must remain within the limitations of the rented room and cannot be carried by the guests through other parts of the Goggleworks.

- Glass and cans need to be placed in the appropriate recycling containers in each room.

- The rental area must be left in the same condition as it was prior to the event, otherwise our security deposit may be forfeited.

Safety and Security

The safety and security of our members and guests are of the utmost importance to the organization. While it is not required, these rules and regulations should be adhered to in order to ensure everyone's safety.

- When leaving the venue, it is recommended that members stay in groups of 2 or more.
- Advisory Council members will remain at the meeting until all other members have exited safely

If there are any issues or concerns regarding your safety, please bring it up to an Advisory Council member immediately.

Offenses

Zero Tolerance Offenses:

The following offenses will result in the immediate dismissal from the NORO and related events. These offenses include, but are not restricted to:

- Starting a physical dispute or assault during a meeting or event.
- Being under the influence of any alcoholic or illegal substance during a meeting or event.
- Theft and/or deliberate destruction of club and/or venue property.

Three Strike Offenses:

These are offenses which if committed will result in verbal warnings, followed by probation or dismissal. These offenses include, but are not restricted to:

- Harassing another member or Advisory Council member, this includes insulting, imitating, acting discourteously and expressing derogatory jokes or comments.
- Disrupting a meeting or event

Disciplinary Actions

Verbal Warnings:

- The offender shall be warned that their actions violate the NORO General Rules of Code of Conduct and charter.
- If his/her behavior continues, further disciplinary actions will occur at the discretion of the Advisory Council.
- The verbal warning will be recorded by the Secretary.

Suspension:

- The offender will be suspended from NORO meetings and events.
- The time period will be decided by members of the Advisory Council. The final say will be decided by the President.

-If the offender attempts to attend a meeting or event while suspended, then he/she will be suspended for a longer period of time or dismissed, and law enforcement may be notified.

-Information regarding suspensions will be documented by the Secretary.

Dismissal and Appeals:

-The Advisory Council will hold a meeting to discuss the dismissal of the offender.

-Upon a majority vote, the offender will be notified that he/she will be dismissed from NORO.

-The offender will have 14 days to file an appeal; otherwise the dismissal shall be final.

-If an appeal is filed, the offender will have an opportunity to speak with the Advisory Council. Afterwards, the Advisory Council will discuss and hold another vote.

-A majority vote in favor of dismissal will finalize the decision.

-A majority vote against the dismissal will reinstate the offender's membership following a probationary period determined by the President and Advisory Council.

-Appeal results will be handed to the offender.

-Law enforcement will be notified in the event a dismissed offender attempts to attend a meeting or event.

-The President will have the final say in regards to dismissals and appeals.

-Dismissal and appeal results will be recorded by the Secretary.

Thank You.

We appreciate your cooperation with our rules and guidelines and in helping to make N.O.R.O. enjoyable for everyone!!

We will continue updating this list as we add new venues to our agenda.

Welcome to N.O.R.O.!

I, _____, have read the charter, rules and regulations. I understand that any violation of these regulations will result in disciplinary action, suspension, and/or dismissal from the Network of Reading Otakus and their affiliates.

Signature

Date