

Aequitas Charter

1. Purpose and Establishment

The Aequitas is hereby established as a standing committee of the Transformers: Trading Card Game community to provide ongoing rulings on official and unofficial products. Rulings on official products were previously provided by Wizards of the Coast.

The Aequitas shall have the mandate of the Transformers: Trading Card Game community for as long as the community wishes to retain and rely on its service.

2. Definitions

“Charter” means the Aequitas Charter.

“Foundational Rules” means the rules, and the intentions of the rules, as set out in the Expanded Rules 2.0;

“Main Community Facebook Page” means The Transformers Trading Card Game Facebook Group, created on July 10, 2018.

“Official product” means all Transformers: Trading Card Game products produced, published, sold, and distributed by Wizards of the Coast, including promotional cards, convention exclusives, boxed sets, the Energon Edition, and all cards released in Waves 1 to 5.

“TF:TCG” means Transformers: Trading Card Game created by Wizards of the Coast and launched on September 28, 2018.

“Unofficial product” means content created in homage to the Transformers: Trading Card Game, and which are not produced by Wizards of the Coast, not produced under license by Hasbro, but which were created to be compatible with the Transformers: Trading Card Game.

“WoTC” means Wizards of the Coast.

3. Ratification

3.1 This Charter must be ratified by members of the Main Community Facebook Page in order to take effect.

3.2 Ratification is conducted through official voting on the Main Community Facebook Page (See Section 7: Conduct of Community Voting).

3.3 The Charter is deemed to be in force immediately after ratification.

3.4 Changes to the Charter must be initiated by the community and not the Aequitas, and require ratification.

4. Composition and Membership

4.1 Voting members

The Aequitas shall consist of seven voting members. Members of the Aequitas will appoint one member as Chair, and another member as Vice-Chair, by majority vote.

Each voting member of the Aequitas is elected for 1 year.

A quorum of 50% (a minimum of four voting members) is required to conduct Aequitas meetings. Any decisions or voting conducted without quorum is considered to be null and void.

4.2 Non-Voting Members

The following two non-voting members may be appointed by the Aequitas on an as-needed basis only, but are not required to be filled:

- Advisor – a person appointed by the Aequitas to provide non-partisan and well-considered advice to the Aequitas. The Advisor is appointed by the Aequitas through a majority vote; and
- Administrative Support – a person appointed to provide record keeping of decisions and other administrative services, including publishing decisions to the Main Community Facebook Page on behalf of the Aequitas.

Non-voting members do not have term expirations, and are subject to removal or replacement by the Aequitas by majority vote.

4.3 Replacing a Voting Member

If a member of Aequitas resigns or is unwilling or unable to continue their duties, a replacement member must be voted in by the members of the Main Community Facebook Page within a reasonable timeframe. (See Section 7: Conduct of Community Voting)

If all members of the Aequitas resign or are unwilling or unable to continue their duties, it is the responsibility of the last Chair of the Aequitas (or the Administrative Support, if appointed) to notify the community through the Main Community Facebook Page on behalf of the Aequitas. A new round of elections will be held to elect new Aequitas members. (See Section 7: Conduct of Community Voting)

5. Duties and Powers

- 5.1 The Aequitas cannot alter any part of the Charter.
- 5.2 The Aequitas cannot alter the following, as previously established by WoTC:
 - a fundamental rule or its intentions;
 - pip function;
 - the meaning of keywords;
 - character traits, and factions; and
 - any other Foundational Rules previously established by WoTC for TF:TCG, unless errors or contradictions contrary to the original intentions of the rules are discovered and require correction.
- 5.3 The Aequitas will consider an issue requiring a ruling or rule clarification upon community request or petition. A request/petition for a ruling must have at least 20 supporters in order to trigger a review by the Aequitas.
- 5.4 The Aequitas has the same purview and authority as WoTC with regards to banned cards; however, it may only consider altering the list of banned cards upon community request or petition. A request/petition to alter the banned cards list must have at least 50 supporters in order to trigger a review by the Aequitas.
- 5.5 A ruling made by the Aequitas as the result of a community request or petition has the same effect as if the ruling had been made by WoTC, and applies to the general game state in normal play.
- 5.6 The Aequitas is not obligated to provide any rulings or rule clarifications for Unofficial Products; however, the Aequitas may provide such a ruling at the request of the creator of the Unofficial Product.

6. Procedures

- 6.1 A ruling for a specific topic can only be raised once every 6 months.
- 6.2 A member of the Aequitas (or the Administrative Support, if appointed), will confirm with the petitioners if the Aequitas will provide a ruling on the specific matter, and, if possible, the approximate date/time for when the ruling will take place.
- 6.3 A ruling can only be made by the Aequitas within a meeting conducted in accordance with the proceedings as set out in this section.
- 6.4 Prior to the meeting, members of the Aequitas will agree upon a meeting date/time. A meeting agenda (or at minimum, the topic of discussion) will be circulated to all members for their consideration prior to the meeting.
- 6.5 Members of the Aequitas may meet electronically, or via teleconference.

- 6.6 During the meeting, the Chair will keep a speaking list and maintain order at the meeting.
- 6.7 A ruling is made via majority vote. In the case of a tie vote (for instance, if only 4 or 6 members are in attendance), the meeting is adjourned, to be reconvened when a tie-breaking vote is able to participate.
- 6.8 The ruling must be documented in writing, and include the following information:
- The final vote tally;
 - The reasoning both for and against the majority decision;
 - The name of each Aequitas member voting for and against the decision.
- 6.9 The ruling must be posted to the Main Community Facebook Page.
- 6.10 Appeals or requests for reconsideration of decisions – see Section 6.2.

7. Conduct of Community Voting

This section applies to community voting for the purposes of:

- Electing members of the Aequitas;
 - Ratification of this Charter;
 - Ratification of any changes to this Charter; and
 - Any other matter which requires community voting.
- 7.1 Notices of voting must be posted to the Main Community Facebook Page, at least three days before the scheduled start of voting.
- 7.2 Notices of voting must include the following information:
- The subject of voting;
 - The start and end dates/times of voting;
 - Where voting will take place (i.e. the Main Community Facebook Page)
- 7.3 Voting is conducted as a Facebook poll on the Main Community Facebook Page.
- 7.4 While voting is active, the Facebook post containing the poll must be easily accessible at the top of the Main Community Facebook Page (as a pinned post, announcement, etc.), with comments for the poll turned off.