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Subject: Re: FINAL STRAW!

Posted by [Nukelt15](#) on Mon, 12 Nov 2007 05:25:01 GMT

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Allow me to expose the root of the problem...

Quote:OKAY! RIGHT! HEAR THIS-->

I will remain Rational here for the moment assuming there might have been a cock up or some sort of stupid joke to amuse a Moderator!

BUT....WHY THE \*\*\*\* HAVE I BEEN BANNED FROM FNFALL'S MARATHON SERVER!? ALL I KNOW IS AFTER 2 DAYS I COME BACK TO GO ON RENEGADE AND HAVE A FEWW GAMES BUT UPON JOINING I GET THIS IN MY FACE "You where banned by "BigBoy@IRC" for:I love bigheads"

I MEAN FOR GOD SAKES! WHY THE FUCK HAVE I BEEN BANNED! I HAVE NEVER CHEATED OR HAXED IN MY WHOLE LIFE!

I MEAN EVEN "IF" I DID DO YOU REALLY ACTUALLY THINK THAT I WOULD GET MYSELF BANNED FROM MY MOST FAVOURITE SERVER THAT I HAVE BEEN PLAYING ON FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS!?

CAN SOMEONE PLEASE GIVE ME A EXPLANATION HERE!->?

This is bat's first post. We see a number of errors, omissions, and outright bad choices here. Let's review them one by one to find out where our purple-faced friend went wrong:

1. Ineffective title. A good title would expose the purpose of the thread; all this topic's title tells us is that the author is angry about something.

2. Obviously, the extensive use of capitalization. Caps are OK to use on occasion for emphasis (though italics, underlining, and boldface are much more effective), but typing every word out in capital letters is the internet equivalent of screaming. Screaming at people one doesn't know isn't the most effective way of soliciting their assistance, for reasons that really ought to be obvious.

3. Incorrect assumptions. In this post, bat has clearly assumed that there will be members on the RenForums capable of providing him with a reason for his ban as well as people capable of reversing it. Furthermore, he appears to assume that there is not a very good reason for the ban, which we've seen since is not true. I'm certainly not innocent of making assumptions based on inadequate or faulty information, but that doesn't mean our colorful new member is any less mistaken in assuming things about these here founs and the members who post here.

4. Rude language. All you really have to do to see this one is read the post over again. Add the use of language to the use of capitalization and the whole post comes across pretty much the same way your stereotypical asshole boss would if somebody left a few tacks on his chair and he wanted to know who in the office was responsible. To better illustrate this point, I'll paraphrase the post itself:

Quote:LISTEN UP! I JUST GOT BANNED, AND I WANT TO KNOW WHY! SOMEBODY IN HERE HAD BETTER COME UP WITH SOME ANSWERS RIGHT FUCKING NOW! ONE OF YOU KNOWS SOMETHING, AND YOU'D BETTER START TALKING RIGHT THIS DAMNED MINUTE BEFORE I GET REALLY PISSED OFF!

^ Not the most effective way to ask for help (at least not if you want to get it).

5. Omission of fact: cheating sibling. The omission of this little detail means that bat already knew the reason for the ban, and just didn't care to let anybody know about it right away. When bat finally mentioned this several posts later, the timing and the \*ahem\* colorful nature of his previous posts led many, including myself, to believe that "my brother cheated" was being used (as so often it has been before) as a cheap excuse. Detail is important; if you're having a problem it is vital to include as much detail as possible. Not mentioning the cheating brother (much less giving any evidence of his existence, which didn't show up until havoc posted it) causes people to proceed from the assumption that the ban in question was the result of something bat did- which means all subsequent accusations of foul play against him are effectively his own damn fault.

6. General lack of detail. This follows from #5; how is anyone to be of any assistance unless more information is provided? "I got banned and I want to know why" doesn't help. Chat logs, links to the FnFalls forums, screenshots clearing bat of wrongdoing- those things would have been helpful. Without any of that, it is a case of "relatively unknown player's word vs. well known server's admin's word," a scenario which almost never favors the player.

Let's go back and re-write bat's first post- starting with the title, and based on what we know now- and see if we can't make something out of it:

Quote:Title: Unjust ban, please help!

I tried to log on to the FnFalls Marathon Server after two days of not playing only to be greeted by an unexpected ban. The message I received was this: "You were banned by "BigBoy@IRC" for:I love bigheads"

I have never cheated, so the ban is not fair. I would like to ask if anyone could help me find out why I was banned, and perhaps also help me get the ban lifted so that I can play again.

I think that the ban may have been because of my brother- I know he has cheated before, and we use the same IP but play under different aliases. If he is the reason I am banned, I would like very much to know whether my ban could be lifted, as I do not deserve it, while his remains in place.

I know that this may not be the best place to post this particular problem, but I can't get IRC to work and I have already been banned from the FnFalls forums. I don't know where else to turn! I cannot play on my favorite server which I have been a regular of for three years now, and would really appreciate any help you could give me in sorting this out so that I can get back to playing again. Thanks!

Isn't that a lot better? It still doesn't have a whole lot of detail, but it is up front about the cheating brother and doesn't come across as an accusation of guilt directed at the entire forum. Posts like these tend to get calm, reasonable, helpful responses because the people who read them don't

immediately feel insulted. A few people might still have doubted bat's claims and accused him of cheating, but I dare say that his reception would have been quite a bit warmer and more pleasant. He still wouldn't have gotten what he wanted, but at least he'd have had a chance of becoming a member of the community who people actually want around, rather than a screaming little troll who gets laughed at, flamed, and generally hated by almost everyone who reads his posts.

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