

SAN DIEGO PARENTS OF TWINS CLUB

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

The San Diego Parents of Twins Club (SDPTC) is a non-profit organization that supports and encourages the exchange of information, ideas and experiences relating to the birth, care and raising of multiples. We want this to be a safe and supportive community for all members. Supporting our members means being open to discussions about contentious topics on which we may not all agree. Parenting is rife with such topics. We strive to embrace the richness that a diversity of opinions and viewpoints offers, while treating one another with respect and understanding.

Please note: The San Diego Parents of Twins Club does not provide professional advice, diagnosis or treatment of any kind – medical, legal, professional or personal. The opinions you read on this site are those of members of the SDPTC community, not necessarily those of the San Diego Parents of Twins Club.

ONLINE GUIDELINES – BIGTENT AND FACEBOOK

An online forum is a fabulous resource and an imperfect medium. While many of our members have the opportunity to meet one another face-to-face, others meet only in this abstract online space. Online discussion forums provide connection, but can lack nuance, gesture, and expression. As such, we must take extra care to choose our words carefully, and to assume the best of each other.

The following guidelines shall govern the use of our online forums by the members of the San Diego Parents of Twins Club (SDPTC).

1. The subject matter does not need to be strictly limited to issues concerning twins or other multiples. Instead, members should look at BigTent and the Facebook group as a resource connecting similarly situated members and member families in the San Diego area.
2. The sales and advertising of a Club member's personal used baby equipment, child or household related items are permitted and encouraged, and should be restricted to the 'Classifieds' section of BigTent or posted as a "For Sale Item" in the Facebook group. Recalled, expired, or legally prohibited items may not be sold. SDPTC accepts no liability for items sold between club members. Members should limit "bumping" or commenting on their own for sale items for the sole purpose of bringing the post to the top of the newsfeed to no more than once a month. This restriction does not include the editing of the original for sale post to reflect a new price, which can happen without restriction.
3. The following types of forums/threads are strictly prohibited:
 - o Chain emails, off-topic jokes, email virus warnings, and other irrelevant forwards
 - o Spam: repeated copies of the same message or incessant irrelevant posts
 - o Political comments, political opinions or links to partisan electoral sites
 - o Religious or theological statements.
4. Unsolicited promotion of businesses is not allowed, except on designated Merchant Mondays, occurring on the first Monday of each month. Each member is allowed one post per Merchant Monday. "Bumping" or commenting for the sole purpose of bringing the post to the top of the newsfeed is prohibited, unless it is in lieu of creating a new post for a subsequent Merchant Monday. Requests for individual or business references is allowed and encouraged. Members can respond to these references by posting a 'comment,' or replying directly to the posting member. Members who wish to promote their own business, outside of Merchant Mondays, may contact the Communications Manager for more information on advertising and sponsorship rates.
5. Unsolicited promotion of a business or service, in which a member receives a referral fee or payment, are limited to designated Merchant Mondays and subject to the same rules.

6. Solicitations for donations or fundraising campaigns (i.e. Go Fund Me, Kickstarter) must be approved by the Communications Manager prior to posting. These campaigns will be approved in consultation with the Executive Board on a case by case basis.
7. Members should refrain from any personal attacks or use of profanity and should conduct themselves with courtesy and respect. Parenting discussions often include topics with widely divergent viewpoints and passionate advocates for various alternatives. We ask that members maintain a respectful tone in their discussions, even of “hot button” issues.
8. Use of the Club roster to send unsolicited email messages, including (but not limited to) unwanted advertising and informational announcements, is explicitly prohibited, whether or not the messages are business-related.
9. Reposting forum discussions outside of the group, without permission, is prohibited.
10. If a member is concerned about the nature or tone of a posting by another member, (including violations of these community guidelines, concerns about the appropriateness of a post or thread, or concerns about the member’s wellbeing or the wellbeing of any children), they are encouraged to contact the member directly to clarify the statements or express concerns.
11. If a member is uncomfortable making direct contact or if the situation remains unresolved, the member shall contact the Communications Manager, or another Administrator of the Facebook Group, to solicit guidance. Inquiries shall remain confidential. If a concern is evaluated by the Communications Manager or other Administrator and determined to merit intervention, the matter will be referred to the Executive Committee, who will take appropriate steps, including, but not limited to, reminding a specific member or all members about the community guidelines, closing comments or removing a discussion thread, placing a member on forum moderation, suspending an individual’s membership in the group, and contacting any outside entities in extreme cases.
12. The Community Manager or Executive Committee members will issue a written reminder to anyone who does not adhere to these guidelines. Members that fail to adhere to these guidelines may be subject to forum moderation. The Board reserves the right to remove an individual violating these guidelines from our online community.

* These Guidelines are extracted from the San Diego Parents of Twins Club Bylaws (approved February 21, 2017) for informational purposes.