

# MINIPEPLEX

## NEWSLETTER



**Issue 70**  
**July 2021**

Recent Rule Changes, Guess The Location,  
Caption The Image, and more.

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Have any feedback? We'd love to hear it. Share with us on our [feedback form](#)!

# From the Editor

Happy July and thank you to everyone who submitted an application to the Newsletter program! Following a month of the team thoughtfully reviewing applications, every applicant will soon receive the results of their application in a message on the forums. There were many applications to consider and difficult decisions to discuss, but we are excited to announce and welcome the new members joining the team! Please be sure to congratulate them and keep an eye out for their work in upcoming editions! Again, we are deeply appreciative of everyone for taking the time to craft such personal and compelling applications and for expressing interest in the team.

For those whose applications were denied in this round, rest assured that this does not mean there will never be a place for you on the team. I invite all of you to apply again next time applications open, even if you were not accepted this time. In general, I would recommend everyone

to continue honing their skills as a writer and editor and keep up to date with the team and our publications in the meantime. Please feel free to get in touch with me if you want any guidance or advice specific to you and your application!

If you have any questions or comments about the team or this edition, you are welcome to message me via Discord or the forums if you'd like to speak privately. You may also post any thoughts directly on the July edition's thread or through our [official feedback form](#). If you have any specific suggestions for articles, I would encourage you to utilize our [Suggestion Box](#). Have a lovely July and enjoy this edition of the Mineplex Newsletter!

**- AGLThree, Newsletter Program Manager**

# Recent Rule Changes

By **WowCaleb**

No matter where one goes in life, there will always be rules laid out to provide a stable environment for communities, promote fairness, and above all, protect and keep everybody safe. Here at Mineplex, an experienced group of staff members are responsible for upholding these standards surrounding the rules. This group is none other than the Rules Committee (RC)! A fundamental part of their role is to keep the rules up to date and make changes when deemed appropriate.

In this edition of the Mineplex Newsletter, we will be taking a closer look at rule changes which have been made recently. To provide more perspective on these updates, we will hear from members of the Rules Committee, including the manager of the team.

Possibly one of the most notable rule decisions which occurred recently was the unblocking of the Lunar Client on May 25, 2021, after nearly six months of being blocked on the server. In November 2020, Lunar lost its original status as an approved modification due to irregularities caused by the client. These issues affected player behaviour

on Mineplex and the way they interacted with the server, negatively impacting the anti-cheat and other parts of the network.

After months of discussion between higher ups at Mineplex and Lunar developers, and a series of subsequent testings conducted by the Quality Assurance (QA) team, LunarClient was finally unblocked. However, it is worth noting the mod is now considered 'use at your own risk'. It is not specifically on the approved mods list, though players can freely play on the network using the client.

zchrris was an active Lunar Client user before it was blacklisted, and is especially relieved now that it has been unblocked. I decided to sit down with him to ask him a few questions about his experience while the mod was disallowed.

**What was your reaction like when Lunar Client was first banned?**

**zchrris:** "At first I was kind of upset because Lunar Client was pretty much the only thing I was using for almost 2 years, so it was weird getting used to

things such as Forge and BLC again. On top of that I was pretty shocked that they banned it because it has this really nice reputation and the fact that they are against cheating, as they used to have a client side anticheat.”

**How did you deal with not being able to use Lunar in the months afterward?**

**zchrris:** “I would occasionally use Forge and Badlion Client during the ban because there aren’t that many great alternatives to Lunar Client. I won’t lie, it kind of demotivated me during a time I was playing a lot, but I had to cope with it and it gave me opportunities to look back at old mods I used to use as well! I did help to inform the community about this ban as well by making 2 different videos on the matter. I personally think I did a good job of doing that as my 2 videos reached over 1K+ views.”

**How did you feel when Lunar was finally unblocked?**

**zchrris:** “I was really excited when I heard this, although I wasn’t in the discord at the time of it being unbanned. Nonetheless it made me excited that my game could run a lot better and especially during recordings. Also I have an emote and cape on

Lunar so I was finally able to show it off and emote in front of people! I am very glad that the issue was resolved because it made other people happy as well.”

Thanks to zchrris for taking the time to answer these questions!

On December 6, 2020, the word ‘transgender’ was unfiltered on the network after discussion within the RC team to better recognise and support transgender players on the network. As with other unfiltered terms that are used to identify a person, contextually using these words to insult someone falls under the Abusive Behaviour rule.

The largest rules update which occurred as of late took effect on May 4, 2021. As part of this update, the RC and Admin team thought it beneficial to better highlight account security for the community. This ensures all Mineplex users are safe and well-protected, and reduces the potential risk of a compromised account. The announcement especially emphasized that account safety is the owner’s responsibility.

I took the time to sit down with Toki, the current manager of RC, to ask her about advice for keeping one's account secure.

**Toki:** "We actually have a handy little guide in our public in-game rules page on the website located [here](#). Aside from that, make sure to never enter account information on any website that is not an official website for the account in question, make sure that your password is unique and not shared for any other accounts for anything you have, and make sure that your security questions are not information that you have given out anywhere on the internet before/aren't stuff people can guess easily."

**The rest of the rules update entailed the following changes:**

- Death Wishes has been bumped to Severity 3 for all offenses.
- Malicious Threats has been bumped to Severity 3 for a first offense and Severity 4 for all of the times it is done past the first.
- Inappropriate capes have been clarified to include cosmetics from mods as a whole, such as titles, capes, etc.
- On the third punishment of freezing your client to prevent falling into the

void, players will now be punished for Severity 3

- It is now required to enable hitboxes by using F3+B when recording evidence for the "Ruining Block Hunt" offense
- Clans Mod created by Reybot is now an approved mod

Some of these suggestions were implemented as a result of threads which were posted in the staff rule discussion forum, and others were decided upon by RC themselves.

FairestLordHarry is a current Senior Moderator, and one of the newest additions to the RC team! I asked him if he could provide any insight as to the reasoning behind the changes that were made to chat rules in this update.

**FairestLordHarry:** "It was originally suggested that the severity of Death Wishes be increased and with that we had to make a change to Malicious Threats (as threatening to do harm to someone is worse than telling someone to harm themselves). After a while of Death Wishes being severity 2 for the first offense, there were still plenty of Death Wishes mutes being given out and it didn't make a lot of

sense to give the same punishment for encouraging suicide as we would for someone bypassing the filter without any additional context, so we decided to make it severity 3 for any and all offenses and to ensure that mutes for Malicious Threats were more severe, we decided on bumping it to severity 4 for the second offense and beyond.”

RC are always open to ideas and suggestions from the community on rule changes. I asked Toki what she believes is the best way for community members to constructively bring their feedback to the attention of RC.

**Toki:** “Generally the forums. We may not always reply to every thread (most of RC aren’t really that into posting on forums much), but we do read them and discuss them internally. You can help us with this by making sure your thread is detailed, has suggestions for what change you want to see, and is overall constructive.”

As part of this article, community members were initially surveyed to gather some of their thoughts on the rules. However, due to a lack of specific feedback, a more general concept became increasingly discussed. That is the idea of relaxing the rules in general,

a heavily debated topic among the community in recent years more than ever. I sat down with FuzzyJunior, an experienced member of RC, to ask him where his opinion stands on the matter.

**FuzzyJunior:** “While I do understand why so many players desire more chat freedoms, unfortunately the RC team has no plans to do this now or in the future. The textbook response on why our rules come across as “strict” from most moderators is to state that Mineplex is aimed for children. Instead of spitting out a response you’ve heard a million times, consider this: Mineplex, surprisingly enough, wants to expand its playerbase and community. That being said, making sure our network is a welcoming one, one where any player could enjoy our games without harassment, is our priority. Being more lenient with our chat rules, unfortunately, won’t further our target environment and potentially deter players from joining our community.”

Thank you to FuzzyJunior for taking the liberty of answering this question!

To ask some more personal questions in relation to RC, I spoke again with Toki and FairestLordHarry. I asked Harry how his experience on the team has been so far, and if there is any advice he would give to those aiming to join RC in the future.

**FairestLordHarry:** “My experience on the team has been excellent! It’s been great working behind the scenes on potential rule changes and other RC-related duties. As for advice, I will say that it will take a lot of time and effort to join RC, so I’d suggest being patient and slowly working towards that goal.”

Lastly, I asked Toki what she believes is the most fulfilling part of being the RC Admin, and on the flip side, what the most difficult part is.

**Toki:** “The most fulfilling part is definitely trying my best to make the server fair and family friendly. I know I’m not a perfect person and I don’t always make the right decisions in everyone’s eyes, but I make the best decisions that I personally can for the betterment of the community. The most difficult / least enjoyable part is probably when I’m constantly told that I’m not listening / I don’t care about the community. It does sorta hurt when I go above and beyond

what I need to do for my job here just to be told that I don’t care about it. I do listen, and I do care, I just might not always agree that a suggestion / idea is the best thing to implement, we all have our own unique opinions.”

I would like to thank FairestLordHarry and Toki for taking the time to answer all the questions posed to them in this article!

For those looking to suggest a new rule or a possible change, the best method of doing so is by creating a thread on the forums, preferably in the Server Discussion section. As always, RC’s door is open for any questions, concerns, or as an alternative way for the community to relay feedback and criticisms. The Rules Committee are readily available to contact on Discord or on the forums. A list of team members can be found on the [mineplex.com/subteams](https://mineplex.com/subteams) page.



# Guess The Location

**By Marzie**

This monthly contest hasn't been done in years... yes, years! Last run in August 2019, Guess the Location was once a longstanding and rather popular contest. Though the circumstances behind its disappearance are murky, we are excited to restore it to the Newsletter whilst we gauge your interest in participating! As nearly two years have passed since its last appearance, here is a quick refresher on how to play and potentially win a prize:

Each month, we'll provide an image of a mystery location in the lobby. Based only on a few details, you'll have to figure out where exactly this picture was taken. If you think you know, submit your answer in the form linked below and feel free to send in multiple

guesses! Remember, coordinates are the bare minimum, so be sure to provide some descriptive explanation of the location as well. If you're stumped, jump in-game and take some time to search through the lobby! What's the prize for guessing the true location, you ask? We will use a randomizer to choose three people who gave correct answers to receive a special (and mystery) prize!

If you have questions about the contest or how to play, feel free to reach out to a member of the Newsletter Team or post directly on the official Mineplex Newsletter - July Edition thread! Without further ado, can you guess this month's location?

<https://forms.gle/7Kx5pX3BuS1bWNCt8>



# Caption the Image

By neotheater

July is here! We're all officially in the latter half of 2021 and boy, isn't that great. With countries to the likes of Spain, France, Italy, Ireland and the United Kingdom further minimising COVID-19 restrictions - things certainly seem to be looking up for us all! We're close to the light at the end of the tunnel but we must continue to push through. We'll all get through these dark days together!

**FUN FACT:** Did you know that July 17th is "World Emoji" day?

Gerald, a fun-loving castle guard, is enjoying a great day out at Rockbed Theme Park with his family. He is first in line to ride the 'Derby Racer' carousel

which is his all-time favourite ride there. He's never truly been one for extremely fast-paced rides because they make him feel incredibly motion sick, and he hates all of the dizziness afterward. Hence, the carousel is more his speed. Just as the ride operator announces it's time to board, masses of cheering can be heard erupting from a large crowd adjacent to where he was standing. Something brand new has just been uncovered there... what could it be that they're so excited about? Gerald has no idea.

Do you think you know what it is? Tell us here: <https://forms.gle/Cu3e2PAGKPGPwTL99>



Last month we showed you two innocent best friends being stopped by a police officer while taking a leisurely stroll in the park:

Here are our four favourite captions from last month:

**Paingwin:** “What it feels like when the hacker comes into your game”

**okNick:** “neotheater being neotheater after an awkward silence: “welp, did you want to help us capture some points?””

**Knazamn:** “Time to take this guy down, hype me up.”

**Bob16077777:** “This is what happens when you sleepwalk through a bank robbery.”

# June Staff Statistics

By AGLThree

This month, we wanted to issue a huge welcome to all the new staff members who joined us and say thank you to all of the staff members who have sadly resigned for all of their hard work for the network.

## Java Trainee

June 12: BaconAnEggs, Muf

## Bedrock Trainee

June 12: briemmasmith

## Java Moderator

June 6: Coyly, siee

## Bedrock Moderator

June 12: xstr4fiingx

June 26: Beelnc

## Resignations

June 6: Crazyay

June 12: Spoiler

June 17: Phamtastic

June 20: iPod5

June 26: BaconanEggs

June 30: Finova (Clans Management)

## 1 Year Milestones

June 6: Baloo, Eqsa, RavenPaw9

June 20: BadgerInASuit, BlondieBrook, Laylq

June 27: okRen

## 5 Year Milestones

June 17: Look\_Dan

June 24: Wanderer\_

# Meet the Team

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**AGLThree:** Hola! I'm AGLThree and I lead the Newsletter Program! I'm currently a Sr. Mod on Recruitment and an RP mentor. For those who were wondering, I did finally get Connect 4; it was the last gadget I needed!



**Tortelett:** From the dumpy potato to the succulent french fry, nothing satisfies hunger quite like food



**Arjun:** Hey there! I've been on Newsletter for 2 years now, and my primary roles on the staff team consist of being a Sr. Recruiter/manager on the Recruitment team and leading the Mod Reinstatement Program as well as being an RC member. Hope you enjoyed this month's issue of the Newsletter!



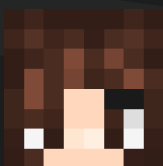
**Sophie\_OGrady:** Hi, I edit the newsletter.

# Meet the Team

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**jacvb:** Howdy, I'm Jacob! I'm a writer and an editor for the newsletter and a member of Community Management and Quality Assurance. Outside of Mineplex, you'll catch me listening to a lot of music and watching Netflix.



**Marzie:** I do waaay too much. Check my information tab on my profile via the forums to see everything I do! P.S.Oatmeal cookies are good when done right.



**EmmaLie:** Hiya! I'm Emily and I'm that one weirdo who loves lollipops and doing stuff for the community. I'm currently the admin of Community Management & the Event Squad, so you'll see me a lot in-game, especially in EVENT-1. Outside of Mineplex, a lot of my time goes toward family, friends, Netflix, and Overwatch.

# Meet the Team

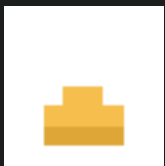
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**neotheater:** look at all of the new newsletter people i feel old. i am also ra again :D



**WowCaleb:** Wow, it's Caleb! Let's pretend I didn't say that and start over - I'm a Moderator and a Newsletter writer for over a year now. You'll most likely find me in my natural habitat playing Nano Games, or posting over on the forums. I also assist the Recruitment team with deciding the newest faces of the staff team. If I'm not on Mineplex, I'm probably hanging out with friends or kayaking down the local river. Be sure to stop by and say hi if you ever see me around!



**chhase:** Hi!! I'm Chase, a Senior Mod & Forum Manager here at Mineplex! I'm also a member of Discord Management, Reports Patrol Assistance, the Map Testing Team, the Content Creator Council, and an editor for the newsletter!!! When I'm not busy, my favorite things to do are watching movies, going hiking, and going on drives with the windows down. Also, I'm very bad at PVP so don't even.