

Re: Does sci.logic have a faq?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.logic/2005-06/msg00225.html>

- *From:* Jim Spriggs <jim.spriggs@xx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 14 Jun 2005 02:59:34 +0000 (UTC)
-

Ken Pledger wrote:

>
> In article <42AE2FE0.2875940F@xx>,
> Jim Spriggs <jim.spriggs@xx> wrote:
>
>> Ken Quirici wrote:
>>>
>>> Jim Spriggs wrote:
>>>>
>>>> Well, some newsgroups have an official (one might almost say) faq. For
>>>> example sci.math does.
>>>>
>>>> I didn't realize that. That would be interesting to look at. How
>>>> do you access it?
>>>>
>>>> Googlization yields this
>>>>
>>>> <http://www.faqs.org/faqs/sci-math-faq/>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> Yes, but sci.math actually has _two_ faq sites, the other one
>>>>
>>>> <http://db.uwaterloo.ca/~alopez-o/math-faq/math-faq.html>
>>>>
>>>> being perhaps more useful.
>>>>
>>>> Ken Pledger.

What is needed is a "Guide to posters" (maybe it's not a faq that's called for). Such a guide would point out that problems like

Prove $((p \ \& \ q) \rightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r))$

are silly unless the poster indicates what methods of proof are available to him.

Every time I see such a question, I point out that the readers do not know what tools the writer may use. It seems to make no difference—a few days later another problem expressed in the same way appears. (Why

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should it make a difference? The posters haven't read any earlier posts, a fortiori they haven't read my earlier posts.) It's driving me mad.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to rant.

This serious question is raised: what kind of understanding of logic do these people have if they do not realize that

(1) proofs are proofs within some system; and

(2) there are many possible systems (even if they only study one)?

• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: Does sci.logic have a faq?**
◇ From: Ken Quirici

• **References:**

- ◆ **Does sci.logic have a faq?**
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