

# **DELEGATE AREA 42**

## **GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY**

### **GUIDELINES**

(Reformatted September 2005)  
(Revised September 2006)  
(Revised September 2008)  
(Revised September 2009)  
(Revised September 2010)  
(Revised March 2014)

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## **PREAMBLE**

Ever mindful that the reason for the General Service Structure is to be of service to the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, this body shall always observe the spirit of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts for World Service. In the absence of specific indications in these guidelines or of direct assembly action, the latest edition of the AA Service Manual may be relied upon.

## **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Area 42 purpose is to help carry out the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous, thus insuring growth and harmony in the A. A. Fellowship. The Area carries the voices of its individuals and groups through the G.S.R.s and D. C.M.s to the Delegate and on to the General Service Conference." The Delegate brings back information from the General Service Conference to the G.S.R.s and D.C.M.s and on to the groups and individual members. The Area conducts its business through its service committees and is a service body only, never a government for Alcoholics Anonymous.

## **1.0 AREA ASSEMBLY**

### **1.1 Membership:**

The following shall be members of the Area Assembly:

- A. The General Service Representative (GSR) from each registered group. (Alternate GSR or group appointed representative if the current GSR is unable to attend).
- B. The District Committee Member (DCM), DCM Chairperson, or alternate DCM from each district. The DCMs will confirm the eligible voting General Service Representatives for the groups of their districts (rev. 1/00)
- C. Liaisons, **NAGSC/SAGSC** Committee Chairs, Area Newsletter Editor, and any other NAGSC/SAGSC officer not already an Area Assembly/ Committee member.
- D. Area 42 officers, which include Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Archivist, Treasurer, Registrar, and their alternates.
- E. Each member of Area Assembly will have only one vote.

### **1.2 Meetings:**

- A. The Area Assembly shall meet semi-annually, in the spring and fall. The time and place of each meeting will be selected by the Chair and confirmed, by the Area Assembly, far enough in advance to guarantee the scheduling of the appropriate facility. (rev. 9/99)
- B. A quorum shall be the number of voting members present.

### **1.3 Officers:**

The officers of the assembly shall be:

- A. Chairperson
- B. Alternate Chairperson
- C. Delegate
- D. Alternate Delegate
- E. Secretary
- F. Alternate Secretary

- G. Archivist
- H. Alternate Archivist
- I. Treasurer
- J. Alternate Treasurer
- K. Registrar
- L. Alternate Registrar

#### **1.4 Area Officer Duties:**

A. Duties of the Chairperson:

- 1) Conduct all Area Assembly meetings.
- 2) Conduct Area Committee meetings.
- 3) Appoint "ad hoc" committees as directed by the assembly.
- 4) Prepare and have published a meeting agenda.
- 5) Make all logistical arrangements necessary to hold each assembly.
- 6) Act as the administrative officer of the assembly.
- 7) Appoint an Area Newsletter Editor.
- 8) Appoint a suitable person to conduct the biannual elections.

B. Duties of the Alternate Chairperson:

- 1) Assume the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence.
- 2) Assist and support the Chairperson in carrying out the duties as needed.
- 3) Serve as the Chairperson of the General Service committee in the section of the area (Northern or Southern) in which he/she resides. If he/she has already served a two-year term as Chairperson of this body, the NAGSC/SAGSC may elect a chairperson from among its membership.
- 4) The local Special Needs Committee Chairperson shall notify the Alternate Chair, Treasurer, and Special Needs Service Committee Coordinator as soon as the assistance is requested so that any necessary arrangements can be made.
- 5) The local Special Needs Committee Chairperson, in coordination with the Special Needs Service Committee Coordinator, shall obtain from the interpreter(s), in writing, a quote for the hourly fee for services to be provided, or for a set fee for the Assembly or meeting.
- 6) Appoint a Grapevine Representative from NAGSC or SAGSC as appropriate.

C. Duties of the Delegate:

- 1) Defined in the current edition of the AA Service Manual.
- 2) As suggested by the Area Assembly.
- 3) To appoint a Webmaster.

D. Duties of the Alternate Delegate:

- 1) Serve as the Chairperson of the General Service Committee in the section of the area (Northern or Southern) in which he/she resides. If he/she has already served a two-year term as Chairperson of this body, the NAGSC/SAGSC may elect a chairperson from among its membership.
- 2) Appoint a Grapevine Representative from NAGSC or SAGSC as appropriate.
- 3) As suggested by the Area Assembly.
- 4) Coordinate all agenda item preparations and arrangements necessary for the NAGSC/SAGSC and Area 42 assembly pre-conference roundtables.

E. Duties of the Secretary:

- 1) Keep minutes of the Area Assembly meetings as well as a record of all motions, including subject, date and outcome.
- 2) Publish and mail to all Area Officers, DCMs and DCMCs the minutes of the previous meeting within 90 days after the Area Assembly. (rev. 9/99)
- 3) Publish the Area 42 assembly agenda as prepared by the chairperson. Distribute it to all area officers, DCMs and DCMCs no later than thirty days prior to the assembly.
- 4) Have custody of all current records of the Area Assembly.
- 5) Provide the Newsletter Editor revised Area 42 Guidelines for the following assembly after accepting. (rev. 09/13)
- i. 6) Assist the webmaster in the production and maintenance of the Area 42 website through cooperation and suggestion with the webmaster. (rev. 9/04)
- 7) Assemble, print, prepare and compile all documents necessary for the registration packets for the registrar at the assembly.

F. Duties of the alternate secretary:

- 1) To serve as secretary of their respective general service committee (North or South).

2) Provide a literature display at the Area 42 assembly.

3) To assist and coordinate with the area secretary.

G. Duties of the Archivist:

1) Catalog and maintain all archival material for Area 42.

2) Provide displays of archival material at Area functions.

H. Duties of the Alternate Archivist:

1) To serve as the Archivist of their respective General Service Committee (North or South)

2) To coordinate with the Archivist for maintaining the archival material for Area 42.

I. For duties of the Treasurer please refer to financial guidelines.

J. Duties of the Registrar:

1) Maintain a current mailing list and phone numbers of all members of Area Assembly.

2) Coordinate with GSO, the Area 42 Delegate, and DCMs to maintain current information of all groups in Area 42.

3) Coordinate efforts at Area Assembly and Committee meetings to accomplish responsibilities of Area Registrar.

4) Provide a current mailing list for the Area Newsletter editor. (rev. 9/00)

i. 5) To have registration packets as well as necessary materials for registration at the area assembly, including bringing area's laptop.

K. Duties of the Alternate Registrar:

1) To serve as the Registrar of their respective General Service Committee (North or South).

2) Assist the registrar at registration table for each area assembly.

3) To coordinate with the Registrar for maintaining proper information on all groups in Area 42.

L. Duties of the Newsletter Editor:

- 1) Publish with the assistance of the Area Chairperson and Area Secretary the Area Newsletter. Provide in that document the agenda and minutes of Area meetings at appropriate times, contacting the Delegate for information for the Newsletter, and by contacting North and South Area Chairperson for Newsletter items. The publication dates will be February 23, April 30, August 10, and October 31. Include the revised Area 42 guidelines in the October 31 issue of the Area 42 newsletter. (rev. 9/10)

- 2) The Newsletter Editor may serve up to 4 years.

M. Duties of the Area 42 Webmaster:

- 1) To maintain the website.
- 2) To keep the website updated monthly.
- 3) May serve up to 4 years.

## **2.0 AREA COMMITTEE**

### **2.1 Membership:**

The following shall be members of the Area 42 General Service Committee:

- A. Area 42 officers which include: Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Archivist, Treasurer, Registrar, and their alternates.
- B. The DCM, DCM Chairperson, or alternate DCM from each district.
- C. Elected NAGSC/SAGSC officer(s) position. (rev 9/99)
- D. Each member of Area Committee will have only one vote.
- E. Appointed positions of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster.

### **2.2 Area Committee Meetings:**

- A. The Area Committee shall meet at least twice a year (normally the Friday evening before each Area Assembly).
- B. The Area Committee cannot bind the Area Assembly to any decision but shall make recommendations for action by the Assembly.

## **3.0 AREA ELECTIONS**

### **3.1 Area Officer Elections:**

- A. At the Fall Area Assembly meeting of each even year, the Area will hold elections for Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and Alternate Registrar. The term of service shall be for two years beginning January 1 of the next odd year. The only exception to this procedure is for the positions of Archivist and Alternate Archivist whose terms of service shall be for four years with the first Archivist beginning in 1993. Individuals who are eligible and desire to serve can submit a resume of their AA service history. (rev. 9/99)
- B. The appointed election person will record the names, of all those present and eligible to stand for the Area offices. Those who wish to withdraw their names for any of these offices may do so.
- C. Nominations from the floor will not be accepted for Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson unless there are fewer than two names remaining after all those eligible and present have been announced and those wishing to do so have withdrawn.
- D. Nominations may be accepted from the floor for Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Archivist, Alternate Archivist, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and Alternate Registrar.
- E. The voting body should have a choice of at least two names for each office, whenever possible.
- F. All members of the Area Assembly PRESENT shall have voting privileges. Absentee Ballots or proxies shall NOT be valid.
- G. Election of all Area officers shall be in accordance with Third Legacy procedures. Someone shall be asked to read that portion of the Service Manual before balloting.

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR AREA OFFICE:**

- 1) All duly elected DCMs, DCMCs, and Area Officers, past or present who have served a full term are eligible.
- 2) The Delegate shall have only one term (2 years) and shall never again be a candidate for this office.
- 3) Should the Delegate not be able to complete the term, the Alternate Delegate shall assume the duties. The Alternate Delegate may then stand for election to Delegate if he/she has represented the Area at the General Service Conference only once.
- H. Election of the Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson shall be from all duly elected DCMs and DCMCs, and Area Officers, past or present who have served a full term and are eligible.



- I. Election of the Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Archivist, Alternate Archivist, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and Alternate Registrar shall be by Third Legacy procedures. All members of the Area Assembly past or present, who have served a full term and are in attendance, shall be eligible.

The Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Alternate Delegate, Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and Alternate Registrar shall have only one two-year term of office and not be a candidate again for the same office.

- J. The Area Assembly may remove the Delegate or any Area Officer or Alternate for just cause. Such removal shall be by secret ballot and shall require 2/3 majority.
- K. If there is no candidate from NAGSC/SAGSC for the appropriate office, then nominations can be made from the floor without regard to their location. This will not affect the next geographic rotation.

### **3.2 Area Officer Rotation:**

- A. To allow for maximum service opportunities and even rotation, the Delegate, Area Chairperson, Secretary, Archivist, Treasurer and Registrar shall be elected from different sections of the area (Northern or Southern) on a rotating basis.
- B. The Delegate, Treasurer, and Registrar will be elected from one section of the area and the Chairperson and Secretary from the other.
- C. Alternates will be elected from the opposite section from the officer.

### **3.3 Replacement of Area Officers:**

- A. In the event an officer vacates his/her position for any reason, the alternate will assume the duties of the officer for the remainder of the term.
- B. The Area Committee will select a replacement for any vacant alternate's position until the next regularly scheduled Area Assembly, at which time the assembly will affirm the replacement or will elect a new alternate.
- C. Replacement of an officer by an alternate will in no way effect the rotation (Northern and Southern) at the next election.

## **4.0 ~~AREA FUNDING~~—SEE FINANCIAL GUIDELINES**

## **5.0 AREA DISTRICTS**

### **5.1 District Membership**

Each district or Zone should have a membership of:

- A. One DCM and Alternate DCM.
- B. One District Secretary and/or Treasurer.
- C. The elected GSR from each group in the district, one of whom may also serve as Alternate DCM, Secretary and/or Treasurer of his/her district.
- D. DCMC (see sections 5.7 and 5.8).

### **5.2 District Meetings**

- A. Each district should meet at least four times a year. Monthly meetings are preferable.
- B. Each district shall meet at a time and place of its own selection.

### **5.3 District Elections** (qualifications and election procedure per Service Manual)

- A. Each group in the district should elect a GSR and an Alternate GSR for a term of two years or until January 1 of the next odd year. These elections should be held in the fall of each year with the term of service to begin on January 1 of the next odd year.
- B. The outgoing DCM and DCMC shall notify in writing the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Area Secretary, and Area Registrar of the name, address, and phone number of their replacements and the alternates.
- C. The DCM shall notify, in writing, the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Area Secretary, and Area Registrar of the name, address, phone number, and group of each GSR at least once a year and as changes occur.

### **5.4 District Funding**

- A. It is the responsibility of the District to fund the DCM and the DCMC to the Area Assembly and to Area Committee meetings.
- B. Any District wishing to send its DCM and/or DCMC to PRAASA and/or the Regional Forum has the responsibility to provide funding.

### **5.5 District Numbers**

Districts in Northern Area 42 are even numbered and districts in Southern Area 42 are odd numbered.

### **5.6 Linguistic District(s) for Southern and Northern Area 42 (District 21(S), 22(N)).** (rev 1/00)

- A. The Linguistic District(s) will not be bound by geographic boundaries, but will be recognized as Districts(s) of Linguistic-speaking groups. (rev 9/99)
- B. A Linguistic District may be formed when the number of registered Linguistic-speaking groups reaches 5 or more.
- C. Each Linguistic group must be a registered group and have an elected GSR. The GSR's will elect a DCM.
- D. Each Linguistic group will vote whether to join the Linguistic district or not.

## **5.7 Zones**

When a District reaches 15 groups it may be split into two zones, with the approval of the district's GSRs. Each zone would elect a District Committee Member for its zone.

## **5.8 District Committee Member Chairperson (DCMC)**

If a District has 5 to 10 zones, each with a DCM, then a District Committee Member Chairperson (DCMC) would be elected by the GSRs and DCMs in that District. If the number of zones within a District reaches 15 or more, these zones may be split and a DCMC elected for each zone.

# **6.0 NORTHERN AREA 42 AND SOUTHERN AREA 42**

## **6.1 Meetings**

The Chairpersons of the Northern Area 42 and Southern Area 42 General Service Committee (see section 1.4.B and 1.4.D) assume the responsibility for calling Northern Area 42 or Southern Area 42 General Service meetings, at least three times a year or as needed, in their respective sections of the Area. (rev. 9/99)

## **6.2 Meeting Composition**

These local Northern and Southern Area 42 General Service meetings shall be comprised of all districts in either the North or South including the DCMs, DCMCs, and GSRs of each district.

# **7.0 GUIDELINE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES**

## **7.1 Submission of Proposed Amendments**

Any proposed amendment to these guidelines shall be submitted in writing to the Area Chairperson, with a copy to the Delegate, Area Secretary and the Area Newsletter Editor by January 31 for the February 23 Newsletter and July 15 for the August 10, Newsletter. The Chairperson shall include the current guidelines and the proposed updated guidelines in the agenda and registration packet for the next area assembly. The effective date of the amendment shall be included in the amendment once it has been passed.

## **7.2 Notification**

The proposed guideline amendment will be presented as a first reading at one assembly with discussion for clarification only, and a second reading and open discussion and vote at the next assembly.

## **7.3 Presentation / Assembly Agenda**

The Chairperson shall include the proposed guideline amendment on the agenda of the next two assemblies.

## **7.4 Adoption**

A 2/3-approval (or substantial unanimity) of the voting members of the Area Assembly present shall constitute adoption of the amendment.

# **8.0 NON-GUIDELINE CHANGE PROPOSALS OF ESTABLISHED AREA PRACTICES**

## **8.1 Presentation to Assembly**

A proposal to change an established practice may be presented at an Assembly in two ways:

- A. Verbally by any voting member. The proposal shall be available in writing at the next Assembly.
- B. In written form by any voting member.
- C. The presenter reads the proposal aloud giving any background information necessary to explain its necessity
- D. Questions and comments on the proposal may be accepted from the floor with sufficient time to gather a sense of the Assembly
- E. Changes to the proposal may be made in the form of amendments.

## **8.2 VOTING**

- A. A proposal will be adopted with substantial unanimity:
1. On the first reading if the assembly has reached an informed group conscience. This can be on the First Reading, if the Assembly so wishes.
  2. If the assembly desires more time to consider the proposal it can ask that the proposal be presented for a second reading at the next Assembly.
  3. If the proposal is presented a second time all members of that Assembly shall have a written copy at the time the proposal is read for the second time.

## **9.0 TAX-EXEMPT STATUS**

### **9.1 Purpose of Organization**

This organization is organized exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

### **9.2 Compliance**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Structure and Guidelines, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by any organization exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by any organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

### **9.3 Dissolution**

Upon the winding up and dissolution of Area 42 General Service Assembly, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a the non-profit fund of the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.