

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING
APRIL 28 & 29, 1994
MARRIOTT HOTEL – FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT

A) Welcome and opening statement – Dan M.

Dan M. gave an opening statement explaining the procedures of the meeting. He stated that we would attempt to follow Roberts Rules of Order. New members were asked to stand and introduce themselves.

B) Roll Call – Changes – Karen H.

Karen H. took roll and simultaneously corrections were made to the Trustee Listing.

C) Approval of Minutes from Anaheim meeting

The minutes of the Anaheim meeting were approved as submitted.

Approved: 30 Against: 1

D) Committee Reports

1. Connecticut Conference Update – Jo Ann S.

Jo Ann S. gave a report on Connecticut stating that 400 to 450 people are expected. Everyone is looking forward to a great weekend.

2. Tampa/St. Pete Conference Update – Dick D.

Dick D. gave a report on Tampa/St. Petersburg (October 21-23, 1994). Everything is coming along nicely. The entertainment is scheduled. There will be 18 to 20 workshops. The Hotel will accommodate 1,150 people and the extra night room rate before and after the convention is \$110.00 including tax.

Marc L. gave a report on having a Walk-A-Thon during the Tampa Conference. The donations will go to the I.S.O.

Motion to approve Walk-A-Thon.

Approved: 24 Against: 1 Passed

3. Minneapolis Conference Update – Jo Ann S.

Jo Ann S. gave a report on Minneapolis (May 5-7, 1995). She stated everything is in order and to come prepared for snow.

4. Scottsdale Conference Update – Dan M.

Dan M. gave a report on Scottsdale (October 20-22, 1995). After a few concerns from the Arizona groups regarding this Conference, everything was straightened out and the Executive Committee is in place and is proceeding nicely.

5. ISO/Lifeline Report – Karen H.

Karen H. gave a report and handed out a chart that showed the past two years activity from Lifeliners.

E) Old Business

1. “A newcomer asks...” (Literature Committee)

Approved: 19 Against: 8 Passed 2nd vote

2. Review & discuss status of Spanish translation. Tabled from Anaheim, Pittsburgh, Houston & Montreal. (Board of Regents)

Discussion was held. Translation of Red Book was turned over to the I.S.O. for editing and publication

3. **Booklet on history of GA – “From Seed to Plant”.** Tabled from Anaheim, Pittsburgh, Houston, Montreal, San Diego & Livonia.
(Eddie L., N.J. & Bill B., N.Y.)
Discussion was held. Committee will continue.
4. **Guidance Code, page 5, Article VII, Section 4: “Date of abstinence starts from first Gamblers Anonymous meeting”.** (Literature Committee)
Approved: 26 Against: 7 Passed 2nd vote
5. **A “GA Coin” as approved GA literature.** (Philadelphia)
Approved: 30 Against: 2 Passed 2nd vote

F) New Business

1. **Limit Trustee meetings to one per year. (No. California)**

Motion to limit physical meetings to one per year.

Approved: 4 Against: 28 Failed

2. **Realignment & Census of Trustee areas (Guidance Code)**

Area	Trustees	Groups	Members	Requested changes
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1	3	55	650	
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2	2	29	301	Yes
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Motion made to move So. Lake Tahoe into Area 2.

Approved: 22 Against: 0 Passed

2a	1	81	1,000	Yes
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Motion made for Area 2A to have two additional Trustees and two Alternates

Approved: 31 Against: 0 Passed

3	1	63	500	Yes
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Motion made to have Nevada split into Northern and Southern Nevada creating new Area 3C for Northern Nevada; adding one new trustee and one new Alternate.

Approved: 28 Against: 1 Passed

3a	1	25	210	
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3b	1	18	214	
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4	1	18	155	
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5	1	40	450	Yes
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Motion made for new Area in Quebec.

Approved: 2 Against: 24 Failed

5a	1	No report		
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6	1	16	248	
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6a	1	54	438	Yes
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Motion made for new Area 6B to encompass the West Coast of Florida, removing it from Area 6A, adding one new Trustee and one new Alternate.

Approved: 25 Against: 0 Passed

Motion made for new Area 6C to encompass Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, removing them from Area 6A and 13B, adding one new Trustee and one new Alternate.

Approved: 30 Against: 0 Passed

7	1	47	600-700	Yes
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Motion made for Alabama to have their own Area and Trustee

Approved: 4 Against: 18 Failed

7a	1	17	125	
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8	2	48	540	
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8a	1	72	625	
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8b	1	18	200	
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9	1	20	150	
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10	1	56	410	
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10a	1	16	152	
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11	1	28	360	
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12	3	43	750	
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13	1	28	410	
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13a	1	19	200
14	2	30	360
15	5	59	1,300
16	1	28	270
17	1	14	220
18	1	No Report	
18a	1	No report	

Motion to add new Area 19 for Argentina and Uruguay adding one Trustee and one Alternate
 Approved: 31 Against: 0 Passed

3. **Combo Book, page 14, last paragraph: Delete “for the compulsive gambler” and insert “for most compulsive gamblers”. Include this change anywhere else the definition of gambling appears. (Long Island)**

Motion made – Combo Book, page 14, last paragraph to delete for the compulsive gambler and insert for most compulsive gamblers and add “additional definitions may, of course, be found in other dictionaries” to the end of the paragraph.

Approved: 0 Against: 29 Failed

4. **Who is entitled to receive the Trustee Listing of names, addresses and phone numbers of Trustees and Alternates? (Multiple requests)**

Motion made that any member of Gamblers Anonymous may request a copy of the Trustee Listing from I.S.O.

Approved: 0 Against: 31 Failed

Motion made that only current members of the Board of Trustees and Alternates can request a list of Trustees and Alternates.

Amendment #1 to include the Officers of the Board of Trustees.

Approved: 29 Against: 2 Passed

Amendment #2 to include the Chairman of the Board of Regents and the International Executive Secretary.

Approved: 32 Against: 0 Passed

On the motion.

Approved: 18 Against: 14 Passed

5. **Is it proper for a room to say a member must accept comments, whether the member wants them or not? (Long Island)**

Discussion was held. A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that it is not proper for a room to say a member must accept comments.

6. **Put on the back cover of the Combo Book the following:**

**“I am responsible
 Always to extend the hand and heart of
 G.A. to all who share my compulsion;
 For this I am responsible”**

(Long Island)

Motion made to accept above.

Motion to table.

Approved: 7 Against: 23 Failed

On the motion.

Approved: 3 Against: 22 Failed

Motion to put “Toward 90 Days” saying on back cover of the Combo book.

Approved: 12 Against: 20 Failed

7. **Combo book, page 8, 3rd paragraph, last sentence; remove the word squarely and replace with honesty. (Wheeling)**
 Motion to accept above.
 Approved: 1 Against: 26 Failed

8. **Since all groups are self governing; Would it be proper for an Intergroup to pay the rent for a group or groups? (Long Island)**
 Discussion was held. During the discussion, a member asked that this item be ruled out of order due to the fact that it is a violation of Step 7 of the Unity Program. The Chair did not feel it was out of order. The Chair was then challenged and a vote was taken as to this item being out of order. The challenge was not upheld and the discussion continued.
 A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that it is not proper for an Intergroup to pay the rent for a group or groups.

9. **Have the Combo book, Red book and Towards 90 Days placed on audio tape – to aid members who are visually impaired. (Las Vegas)**
 Discussion only.

10. **“Filling the Void (enclosed) as official GA literature and placed in the Information Packet. (Las Vegas)**
 Motion to accept above
 Motion to table to Tampa and Literature Committee.
 Approved: 21 Against: 8 Passed

11. **Several months ago a member celebrated seven years clean in the Program. He currently sponsors several new members, serves as the secretary for his home group and is an Intergroup representative and serves on Intergroup committees. He now admits that approximately four years ago he gambled at a casino and at a race track. He has bought and sold stocks. He continued stock trading until one year ago. He has not gambled, in any way, for the past year. What is the Board’s feeling as to his date of abstinence and as to the various positions he currently holds? (New Jersey)**
 Discussion only.

12. **Guidance Code, page 4, Article VII, Section 1, line 4: Delete “and limit their use to only approved Gamblers Anonymous Literature.” And replace with page 5, Article VII, Section 6: “Only Gamblers Anonymous merchandise will be used and/or sold and/or displayed and/or otherwise made available by a group.” This section will not preclude the group from disseminating lists, flyers, announcements and related material on behalf of a group, Intergroup, Board of Trustees or the International Service Office. (New Jersey)**
 Motion to accept above
 Approved: 1 Against: 27 Failed

13. **“If God spoke to GA, He might have said...” (enclosed) as approved GA literature and included in the Information Packet. (Las Vegas)**
 Motion to approve above as written

 Motion to table to Tampa and Literature Committee to check out Copyright.
 Approved: 20 Against: 10 Passed

14. **Guidance Code, page 5, Article VII, Section 6: Add: “It is acceptable for members to vote at group conscience meetings of more than one group if they are members of the group AND the issue is solely a group issue. Members do not have more than one vote on issues affecting other groups or Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.” (Australia)**

Motion to accept above as written but add “s” to the word group.

Approved: 11 Against: 22 Failed

A straw vote was taken and it is the unanimous consensus of this Board that it is acceptable for members to vote at group conscience meetings of more than one group if they are members of the group and the issue is solely a group issue.

15. **Reverse the Boards decision to allow the Lord’s Prayer to be used to close a meeting (letter enclosed). (Las Vegas)**

Motion to accept above

Approved: 9 Against: 23 Failed

16. **“Have you quit the Fellowship of GA?” (enclosed) as approved literature and placed in the Information Packet. (Las Vegas)**

Motion to accept above

Motion to table to Tampa and Literature Committee.

Approved: 21 Against: 4 Passed

17. **Little blue booklet titled “Compulsive Gambling”, page 1: Change the definition of gambling to match that in the Combo book. (Maryland)**

Motion to table to Tampa.

Approved: 13 Against: 18 Failed

Motion to delete the first sentence (page 1) of the little Blue Book and replace it with the definition of compulsive gambling on the bottom paragraph on page 14 in the Combo Book.

Approved: 10 Against: 21 Failed

18. **Propose that no more than two members can be elected to the Board of Regents who reside more than 200 miles from the ISO. (Board of Regents)**

An advisory vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that there will be no restrictions as to the number of Board of Regents members who reside more than 200 miles from the I.S.O.

19. **Re-design of the Step Meeting Pamphlet (presentation to be made). (Los Angeles)**

Motion to print and sell the “Step” booklet that was presented.

Approved: 22 Against: 2 Passed

20. **Combo book, page 17, #1:... at least one meeting per week – Change to stronger language or take it out. (Maryland)**

Motion to change #1 on page 17 to read “attend as many meetings as possible”.

Amendment #1 to attend as many meetings “per week” as possible

Approved: 23 Against: 2 Passed

Amendment #2 to add the word “full”.

Approved: 22 Against: 4 Passed

On the motion

Approved: 5 Against: 24 Failed

21. **Combo book, page 13, last paragraph; Delete the word risking and replace with experiencing. (Maryland)**
Discussion only.
22. **Policy concerns regarding area phone systems (letter enclosed). (Orlando)**
This issue was resolved before this Trustee meeting.
23. **Combo book, page 1 various changes (enclosed). (Australia)**
Motion to accept above as written.
Approved: 0 Against: 28 Failed
24. **Combo book, page 2, 1st two paragraphs; Various changes (enclosed). (Australia)**
Motion to accept above as written.
Approved: 1 Against: 26 Failed
25. **Combo book, page 11, what is the dream world... Various changes (enclosed). (Australia)**
Motion to accept above as written.
Approved: 3 Against: 24 Failed
26. **Combo book, pages 2 & 3; various changes (enclosed). (Australia)**
Motion to accept above as written.
Approved: 0 Against: 26 Failed
27. **Compile a booklet on the differing formats used by various areas in conducting Mini Conferences. (This can be used as an aid to those areas hosting a Mini Conference for the first time). (No. California)**
Chair will form a committee. Dan M. to Chair with Steve R., Marc L., Dan R. and John D.
28. **Site Selection – 1996 Eastern Conference**
Presenting bids: Long Island and Philadelphia
Bids will be presented in alphabetical order. Each area will have 10 minutes to present their bid and answer questions. Voting will be by secret ballot.
Bids were presented by the above Groups. After two fine presentations a vote was taken and Long Island was awarded the Eastern Conference to be held April 26-28, 1996 in the Catskills.

G) Anything omitted from Agenda

H) Good and Welfare

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at 12:00 Noon. The Collection for the three (3) sessions was \$600.00

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held October 20 & 21, 1994 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Respectfully submitted
Karen H.
International Executive Secretary