

The Telephone Conference Call Committee Report

November 2017

The Conference Call Committee has continued to facilitate and moderate the weekly Wednesday night Telephone Conference Call. The call usually sees about 60 individual callers per week. After general announcements and readings from GA literature, a topic is introduced. Meeting participants can share about the topic, the Day at a Time reading or anything that is concerning them, as long as it relates to gambling. Typically, about 15 people per meeting share. Up to three participants (with 90 days or more clean time) can give comments after each share; however, people who choose to comment are limited to 3 comments for the entire meeting. There are usually 10 plus people who offer comments.

The meeting demographics generally show about 50% of the attendees being women. 25% are under 90 days. The locations of the members covers the US and Canada, with occasional calls from other countries.

If there are more than 3 newcomers to GA in attendance, another room is opened in order to facilitate the asking of the 20 Questions and to give the newcomers the time and attention that is essential to anyone entering the program.

Attendees are strongly encouraged to attend physical GA meetings. It is stated that the Telephone Conference Call meeting is not meant to be a substitute for physical meetings.

Those who call from an unidentified phone line are not permitted to share/give therapy nor to comment on others' sharing. Currently, 2 to 4 callers per week call in on an anonymous phone line. There are also usually 2 to 3 callers who choose not to identify themselves even though they are calling from an identifiable number. These callers are also not permitted to share or comment.

The committee currently has 5 trained moderators, with at least 3 participating weekly on each call.

There was a technical glitch in November that resulted in callers being locked out of the room for a period of time on one of the calls. This problem was addressed by the moderator and has not recurred.

Jeannie B.

Telephone Conference Call Meeting Committee Chair