

Telephone Conference Call Committee Report
Spring 2022 BOT Meeting

The Telephone Conference Call Committee and meeting administrators currently host 3 meetings a week: Sundays and Wednesdays at 9 PM Eastern and Friday at 3:00 PM Eastern. The phone number is 264-807-9601; the participant code is 9131957#

I would at this time like to thank the members of the committee for their unhesitating willingness in chairing and assisting at these weekly meetings.

We are seeing members who regularly attend our meetings beginning to celebrate a year of being free from gambling without ever having attended a physical meeting. This may be difficult for those of us who “grew up” in Gamblers Anonymous attending weekly physical meetings to understand, but this shows how receptive people who are suffering compulsive gamblers are to recovery.

Staffing for each meeting consists of a moderator, a timekeeper, a person who inputs caller information, and someone who is ready to open a newcomers room in the case of 3 or more newcomers being in attendance at the meeting. Members who serve as timekeepers without being trained moderators are covering these timekeeping positions each week.

The Wednesday night meeting is a comment meeting. Attendees who have 90 days or more of clean time are allowed to make up to three comments per meeting; those who give therapy are allowed to receive up to 3 comments.

Those who are new to the program and claim a desire to stop gambling are read the 20 Questions, either in the main room or in a newcomers room. Most of the meetings see at least one newcomer; it is not unusual to see 3-5 newcomers on any given evening. At the Friday afternoon meeting, held from 3:00-4:00 Eastern Time, newcomers are welcomed and read the 20 Questions following the meeting.. Members with 90 days or more of clean time are encouraged to make comments sharing their experience, strength, and hope to the newcomer.

Current attendance ranges between 30-65 callers per meeting. There is a significant number of attendees who have 90 days or less of clean time in our program. Other attendees range up to those who have 40 or more years of clean time.

While the meeting can't offer sponsorship as we currently understand it, attendees are urged to reach out to others using a list of volunteers who offer support.

In mid-March, freeconferencecall.com surprised and baffled the committee by changing the platform without warning. Their support staff were unable to help unravel the new system, as the unveiling of the changes had been implemented without consultation of their own support staff.

The new system is bulky and non-intuitive, at least to most members of our admin team. We have been learning how to navigate this system and are dealing with the changes as best we can. There have been some glitches along the way that have been disconcerting to our members, but most GA attendees have been extremely supportive of our efforts.

The US meetings use the same email address for all meetings: weeklycallhelp@gmail.com
We receive between 1 and 10 requests for assistance or information a day.

The US meetings are also always interested in training additional moderators. Again, please contact the Committee Chair.

The Canada-wide meeting continues to meet three times per week. Canadian meetings are held on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday.

Three regularly scheduled meetings per week originate from Madrid, Spain.

Moderators for these meetings have been trained by members of the Telephone Conference Call committee and their formats have been approved. These meetings are also included on the list found on the Trustee Website. (Meeting times are listed by the local time of the originating cities.)

Meetings from Mexico are no longer being held.

A full list of Telephone Conference Call meetings and contact information can be found on the Trustee website.

Respectfully Submitted.

Jeannie B. Telephone Conference Call Committee