

**FALL INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
OCTOBER 29 AND 30, 2022  
CANCUN, MEXICO**

**A) Welcome –Pete K. Chair, Board of Trustees**

Pete called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The members at the front table were introduced. There were a few housekeeping items brought up. We were reminded to get up to the microphone if we had something to say. Pete reminded us that we follow Robert’s Rules of Order, our Rules and Procedures, and the Guidance Code for the meetings and went over Point of Order and Point of Information.

Pete reminded us of our primary purpose, which is to help the compulsive gambler who still suffers.

There were forty-three (43) absentee ballots sent in.

Area 2	Beth Z.	Area 3F	Julian F.	Area 14	Maury C.	Area 18A	Mark C.
Area 2	Jared H.	Area 6B	Joel G.	Area 14	Stuart B.	Area 18B	Dot R.
Area 2	Ray J.	Area 6C	Tom K.	Area 15	James G.	Area 18B	Philomena V.
Area 2	Tita M.	Area 7	Iris D.	Area 15	Jesse C.	Area 19	Elena D.
Area 2G	Chris M.	Area 8	Dianna R.	Area 15	Joe B.	Area 19	Horacio P.
Area 2H	Doris S.	Area 9	Beth C.	Area 15	Mark D.	Area 19	Jorge C.
Area 2H	Terry D.	Area 9A	Patricia D.	Area 15	Mildred N.	Area 19	Julia A.
Area 2J	Patricia D.	Area 10A	Jeffrey H.	Area 15	Stanley C.	Area 21	Francisco AM
Area 3A	Regina M.	Area 10A	Loreane S.	Area 16A	Daniel L.	Area 21	Pedro T.
Area 3B	Paul G.	Area 12	Walter G.	Area 17	Robert A.	Area 33	William S.
Area 3D	Marc L.	Area 13B	Andy G.	Area 17	Ronald W.		

**B) Remembrance of our departed members**

Jack R., Area 1, gave us the names of our members who have passed away since our last Board of Trustees meeting.

Area 1	Marty G.	Area 8	Chris P
Area 2K	David A.	Area 8	Jeff T.
Area 3C	Kathy K.	Area 8	Pat F.
Area 3D	Chris P.	Area 8	Tony P.
Area 3D	John M.	Area 10B	Tony S.
Area 3D (AZ)	Mike M.	Area 11	Brendan B.
Area 3D (NM)	Mike M.	Area 12	Phil G.
Area 3D	Patrick M.	Area 12	Stuart R.
Area 4	Ken W.	Area 18A	Kevin P.
Area 5B	Ted H.	Area 19	Daniel A.
Area 6	Bill B.	Area 19	Iris P.
Area 6A	Tony P.	Area 28	Luis C.
Area 8	Brian B.	Area 28	Pepe F.

A moment of silence was held in honor of our departed members.

**C) Reading from “A Day at a Time Book”**

Alan A., Area 6A, read the day’s reading for October 29 to begin the first session of the day.

Steve L., Area 2K, read the day’s reading for October 30 to begin the first session of the day.

**D) Reading of the “12 Steps of Unity”**

Aldo I., Area 4, read the Unity Steps for day one, October 29 to start the first session of the day.

Paul N., Area 2A, read the Unity Steps for day two, October 30 to start the first session of the day.

**E) Roll Call – KC B., International Executive Secretary**

KC did roll call. There were 48 people for the first session, not including the front table.

**F) Approval of Minutes from Cherry Hill, May 2022**

There was a correction on this agenda item – the agenda showed we’d be approving the minutes from Orlando, when in fact it should read Cherry Hill. The minutes from the Board of Trustees in Cherry Hill, New Jersey were approved as submitted.

**G) Trustee Meeting Report – KC B.**

For the Cherry Hill BOT meeting, there were 60 people registered. 55 of those being trustees and the other five being the front table. There was a total of \$2950 collected in registrations and \$866 collected from all sessions.

**H) ISO/Lifeline – KC B.**

KC gave a 12-month statistics report. There is a chart on one side with more detail on the back. Overall, we are down 15.99% in giving from Lifeliners. We had two months in the positive that were more than the previous month 12 months ago. There was a total of \$18,661.85 down from our previous 12-month comparison.

**I) Report from the Board of Regents – Valerie D., Chair of the BOR**

Valerie D. gave a report regarding the financial status of the International Service Office. Valerie also explained a little bit of her history of being on the Board of Regents and a Trustee for her area. We currently have four paid employees that are all dedicated to the work they perform on a daily basis. We meet monthly on the third Saturday of every month. The minutes are available in several areas online and in the bulletin monthly. There are nine of us on the board and we rely on each other.

We currently have a Finance Committee, because there were a lot of concerns on how we can increase our income and decrease our expenses. The committee meets regularly, once or twice a month, and currently, literature pricing is being evaluated. This is because of the cost of ink, paper, and there are a lot of things that are changing. Productivity is affected by all the changes and increases in pricing.

Val let us know that her goal is to be an avenue for change and progress and to make a difference in G.A. internationally and to make sure everybody feels included. Please don't hesitate to reach out and if she doesn't have the answer today, she can get back to you with that answer.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Committees with Harold A. as Co-Chair Liaison.**

#### **Conference Oversight and Assistance Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Wendy B. - Area 1A**

**Co-Chair – Jack R. – Area 1A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To oversee all processes dealing with International Conferences and to encourage and provide assistance to Areas seeking to host an International Conference as well as to provide advice and assistance after a Conference has been awarded.**

Wendy B. gave the report that was also submitted online. There was some discussion on the flier for the Chicagoland International Conference in November of 2023.

#### **Digital Meeting Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Reba L. – Area 8**

**Co-Chair – Butch G. – Area 3**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement Pending**

Reba gave this report and immediately corrected the confusion for the name as committee chair. It was listed as Patrick G., however, this is a different committee than the one Patrick chairs. Reba let us know the name of the committee is actually Digital Strategy Committee, as decided at Cherry Hill. This committee is open to new members. The following list of names was presented to the I.E.S.:

Diane W., Area 3D

Renee G., Area 8A

Alyssa C., Area 1

#### **Group Handbook Revision Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Jack R. - Area 1A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To undertake a comprehensive revision of the Group Handbook.**

There was no report from this committee. There is an item for second vote on the agenda. It has been officially disbanded.

#### **Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Bruce W. - Area 1**

**Co-Chair – Alvin F. - Area 1**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To provide leadership and support throughout Gamblers Anonymous by coordinating, educating, training and clarifying the Pressure Relief Group Process that**

**will aid in fostering an atmosphere of continuity, cohesiveness and unity as well as understanding within our Fellowship which will bring about an alleviation of pressures for our members and thus strengthen and empower Members, Groups and Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.**

This report was submitted online. Alan J. has stepped down from this committee. Bruce W., Area 1, stood up to take the chair position. Bruce reminded us all to have our groups remember to use the pressure relief pamphlet that is available through the ISO. Other volunteers for this committee included Gary B., Area 10B and Alvin F., Area 1, as co-chair. Martha asked if Bruce would be willing to train some of our international areas on pressure relief. Bruce said he would take phone calls from anyone with any questions.

**Prison Committee – Canada – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Jean-Marc - Area 5B**

**Co-Chair – Aldo I. - Area 4**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To provide telephone, email, and an in-person resource (as feasible) to the Trustees or their designees for the purpose of assisting when a prisoner or institutional staff member is requesting to start an "inside" meeting, or an Intergroup and its committee are outreaching to prisons, jails, etc. Also, to compile in the ISO office an unpublished JIP meeting directory as a much-needed resource for federal, state, and local judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and clinicians.**

There was no report submitted for this committee. Adrien reported that this committee IS active and there was a lot being done. Since Jean-Marc is not a current trustee, Aldo I. volunteered for the Co-Chair position.

**Prison Committee, US – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Ed G. – Area 10**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To provide telephone, email, "snail mail", and an in-person resource (as feasible) to the trustees or their designees for the purpose of assisting when a prisoner or institutional staff member is requesting to start an "inside" meeting, or an Intergroup and its committee are outreaching to prisons, jails, etc. Also, to compile in the ISO office an unpublished JIP meeting directory as a much-needed resource for federal, state, and local judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and clinicians.**

Ed G. presented this report that was also submitted online. This committee has been very busy and is open to new members.

**Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Cindi M. - Area 8**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: We will strive to continue to develop and encourage the use of as many public relations tools as necessary to fulfill our Fellowship's primary purpose, always looking for guidance from the Recovery and Unity Steps, the Guidance Code, and our higher power(s).**

Cindi M. presented this report that was also submitted online. This committee has been very busy and is open to new members. Anthony K. from Area 10 volunteered to assist when calls come in for on-line gambling information.

### **Virtual Meeting Committee**

**Chair of the Committee: Patrick G. – Area 9**

**Co-Chair of the Committee: Butch G. – Area 3A**

**Committee Chair Liaison: Harold A.**

**To develop guidelines for regularly scheduled video online G.A. meetings, including but not limited to how to start a meeting, technical requirements, and suggested meeting formats.**

This report was submitted online. Harold let us know we need more members for this committee. There were no volunteers at that time. Butch was open to questions on the report that was submitted.

### **Committees with Pete K. as Co-Chair Liaison**

#### **Blue Book Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Arlene R. – Area 8A**

**Co-Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: To undertake a comprehensive review of SHARING RECOVERY THROUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 'BLUE BOOK'. Acting in concert with the wishes and input of the fellowship, we will recommend the adoption of all revisions, updates, and deletions consistent with the findings of our review.**

Report submitted online, their work is done. If second vote passes on new version of blue book, the committee is disbanded.

#### **Fourth Step Inventory Review:**

**Committee Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A**

**Co-Chair – Debra B. – Area 2E**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: Review, revise, and rewrite the Gamblers Anonymous publication “A Guide to Fourth Step Inventory” to create a more robust and effective tool of recovery for the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous that addresses both moral and financial inventories.**

Report submitted online. Renee G. reported that the committee meets every other week. This committee is accepting new members. This committee does need a co-chair – Debra B., Area 2E, stepped up as co-chair.

#### **Guidance Code Audit Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Anita R. – Area 1B**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: To review and verify the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code for compliance with the Unity and Recovery Programs and on a practical level for the sustainability of Gamblers Anonymous.**

This report was submitted online.

**GA Restructuring Committee:**

**Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12**

**Committee Co-Chair – Wendy B. – Area 1B**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement Pending**

Jack R. gave the report that was also submitted online. This committee is not open to new members.

**Telephone Conference Call Committee:**

**Chair of the Committee: Jeanne B. – Area 8A**

**Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: 1) To administrate the creation, implementation, and oversight of all conference call meetings from the Gamblers Anonymous website. These meetings will be sanctioned by Gamblers Anonymous but will not carry the distinction of being classified as a group, as per the Guidance Code.**

**2) To formulate, implement and maintain rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval.**

**3) To be responsible for coordinating the Gamblers Anonymous members who will administrate the individual telephone conference call meetings.**

**4) To actively seek out any known phone meetings and try to assist in making them compliant with current rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings. Make changes to such procedures whenever necessary, with Board of Trustee approval.**

**5) Look at other platforms being used and make changes to the rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval.**

This report was submitted online.

**Trustee Website Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Ed G. – Area 10**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement:**

**– To oversee the Trustee website.**

**– To periodically review all websites that infer or imply membership or representation of the Fellowship or Corporation of Gamblers Anonymous and evaluate the websites for compliance with approved Local Area Website Guidelines. Trustees and area trusted servants will be made aware of any deficiencies that need to be corrected. Websites from outside entities are not included.**

**– To review new designs, features, enhancements and any other changes that would be demonstrated to the Board of Trustees for approval and deployment to any website approved by the Board of Trustees.**

This report was submitted online. Pete thanked the committee for all their hard work.

**Trustee Removal Merit Panel – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – John B. – Area 13**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: This is a standing panel with a 2-year term coinciding with the new term of Trustees. It will become active when an official action is presented to the Chair of the**

**Board of Trustees to request the official removal of a current Trustee due to acts thought to be detrimental to GA as a whole, as provided for by the Guidance Code under Article VIII, Section 4. There is a specific document entitled 'Trustee Removal Procedures' available to all members for reference. The panel will consist of 5 GA members, selected from 5 geographical regions, along with 1 backup Trustee for each area.**

This report was submitted online. This committee has five members. This committee needs members in all regions. There is a main member and then a backup member – and they all need to be a current trustee. The only time this committee would meet is if an area submits a request to the Board of Trustees to remove a trustee from their area. They can't just vote a trustee out, they have to get permission from the Board of Trustees. Asking for volunteers to participate on this committee.

East: John B., primary, and Marla J. as backup, both from Area 13. John B. will be the committee chair.

Canada – Paul N., Area 2A, as primary, and Adrien R., Area 5B, as back up.

Midwest – Carol K., Area 9, primary, and Gary B., Area 10B, as back up.

South – Mike A., area 6C and Steve C., Area 6, as back up.

West – James B., Area 2B, and Diane W., Area 3D, as back up.

### **Committees with Martha G. as Co-Chair Liaison**

#### **Hotline Implementation Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Andy G.- Area 13B**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Martha G.**

#### **Mission Statement:**

- 1) To provide assistance in implementing a Gamblers Anonymous Hotline and oversee the operations.**
- 2) Give support and help when needed to local areas using the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline provider.**
- 3) Assist local areas in developing guidelines for hotline volunteers.**
- 4) Follow up on voicemails on the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline for areas that do not have a hotline.**
- 5) Maintain the routing information for all areas using the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline.**
- 6) Review areas that use another hotline system.**
- 7) Review the data usage on the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline and report at each Board of Trustee meeting.**
- 8) Maintain communication with the Executive Secretary of the I.S.O. regarding usage and payments to the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline provider.**
- 9) Maintain information on the Trustee Website for the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline.**

John B. presented this report that was also submitted online. Some discussion had on the company used for the hotline and finding out if there is a contact who can train our members on how to handle things.

#### **International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Ara H. – Area 1**

**Co-Chair – Igor K. – Area 3**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Martha G.**

**Mission Statement: Assist the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous with International matters and help create a worldwide united Gamblers Anonymous.**

Igor gave this report that was also submitted online. Igor K. is now the Co-Chair, replacing Zeny K.

**Literature Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Nan V., Area 13A**

**Co-Chair – Debra B., Area 2E**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Martha G.**

**Mission Statement: To encourage the creation of new Gamblers Anonymous literature as needed and to revise, edit and or update existing Gamblers Anonymous literature.**

No report was submitted. Martha said there had not been any work done at the moment. Debra B. is now the co-chair of the committee.

**Meeting Removal Merit Panel Exploration Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Debra B. – Area 2E**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Martha G.**

**Mission Statement: To guide groups and Intergroups on how to address the issue of non-adherence to the Guidance Code and/or other Trustee decisions per Article VII, Section 1 and Article VIII, Section 1A of the Guidance Code.**

There was no report submitted. There is an item up for second vote.

**Spanish Literature Committee**

**Committee Chair - Julian F. - Area 3F**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Martha G.**

**Mission Statement: To unify the literature translation efforts with all the Spanish speaking areas in our G.A. fellowship that are authorized to translate and print G.A. approved literature such that all areas that use the same language will coordinate a revision of existing translated literature that meets all area requirements.**

Luis O. gave this report that was also submitted online. There are approximately 10-13 members, and they are working with changes to literature currently.

**Rules and Procedures**

**1.) Rules and Procedures**

**Add new rules and procedures. Add to Section 7 – Committees Recording of Zoom and/or Phone Conference meetings for BOT Committee Meetings**

**Current Version: None**

**Proposed Version: Recording of Zoom and/or Phone Conference Calls at all BOT Committee meetings should not be allowed.**

**Jo K – Area 8D - Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois Including Springfield and Quincy**

Motion as written and seconded.

Item failed.

This item chaired by Pete K.



## Tabled from Cherry Hill

- 2.) **New Literature – Appropriate Literature**  
**Common Welfare & Safety Card. Attachment # 107**  
**Tom R. – Area 5 – Montreal**  
Item withdrawn  
This item chaired by Pete K.

## Items up for second vote

- 3.) **Cherry Hill agenda item #7**  
**Current Literature – Towards 90 Days**  
**Change Page 13, Change the word “was” to “is”**  
**Current Version: If you feel resentful, think about all the people who have forgiven you and be thankful that you were picked to be part of the miracle that was the Gamblers Anonymous recovery program – go on, enjoy it**  
**Proposed Version: If you feel resentful, think about all the people who have forgiven you and be thankful that you were picked to be part of the miracle that is the Gamblers Anonymous recovery program – go on. enjoy it.**  
**Paul N. – Area 2A - British Columbia Canada**  
Item passes. 2nd Vote  
This item chaired by Pete K.
- 4.) **Cherry Hill agenda item #8**  
**Current Literature – “THERE IS HELP” – Brochure**  
**On the bottom of the third page remove “Call or write” and Gamblers Anonymous and change to Visit us at: [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org). Remove all names and phone numbers of meetings listed. Put in the TWENTY QUESTIONS including “Most compulsive gamblers will answer yes to at least seven of these questions.**  
**Current Version: Bottom of third page says “Call or write: GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS On the last two folds it gives a list with phone numbers of meetings in the United States and Canada.**  
**Proposed Version: On the third fold put in Visit us at: [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) On the last two folds put in the TWENTY QUESTIONS including “Most compulsive gamblers will answer yes to at least seven of these questions.**  
**Paul N. – Area 2A - British Columbia Canada**  
Val D., Chair of the Board of Regents, let us know that this item has not been updated or sold in years at the ISO.  
Item ruled out of order.  
This item chaired by Pete K.
- 5.) **Cherry Hill agenda item #52 Committee Related**  
**Vote to approve the attachment, “ Group Removal Guidelines and Procedures Manual” as the approved document that will give direction and support to all parties on how to address the issue of non-adherence to the Guidance Code and/or other Trustee decisions per Article VII, Section 1**

**and Article VIII, Section 1A of the Guidance Code.**

**Cheryl R – Area 2E - Manitoba Canada**

Debra B. presented this item.

Item passes.

2nd Vote

This item chaired by Pete K.

**6) Cherry Hill agenda item #53 Committee Related  
Group Handbook Revision See Attachment**

**Jack R – Area 1A - Orange County, California**

Motion as written in memory of Mike M.

Item passes.

2nd Vote

This item chaired by Pete K.

**7) Cherry Hill agenda item #57 Committee Related**

**Hotline Committee – Hotline Volunteer Guidelines to be added on the Trustee Website, section Hotline Implementation Committee as appropriate literature. Submitted this item at the Orlando Fall 2021 BOT meeting for approval and received a Motion to amend it. Hotline Committee made recommended changes and is resubmitting for approval.**

**John B. - Area 13 – Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware**

Item passes

2nd Vote

This item chaired by Harold A.

**8) Cherry Hill agenda item #58 Committee Related  
Blue Book Revision Committee**

**Approve new literature from a committee**

**Sharing Recovery Through Gamblers Anonymous**

**Jeannie B – Area 8A Minnesota**

Item passes.

2nd Vote

This item chaired by Harold A.

**9.) Cherry Hill agenda item #70 Guidance Code Article VII, Section 4 – Page 6 (Occurs toward the end of the first sentence.) To add the words: presentation of medallions  
Current Version:**

**Abstinance from gambling and regular attendance of at least thirty-nine (39) Gamblers Anonymous meetings (exceptions can be made, via group conscience decisions, for medical reasons, or active military duty) in the prior 12 months, by the member’s own admission, is required for pinnings and for all successive anniversaries. Date of abstinance starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Proposed Version:**

**Abstinance from gambling and regular attendance of at least thirty-nine (39) Gamblers Anonymous meetings (exceptions can be made, via group conscience decisions, for medical reasons, or active military duty) in the prior 12 months, by the member’s own admission, is required for pinnings, presentation of medallions, and for all successive anniversaries. Date of abstinance starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Alvin F. – for Ed E. – Area 1 - Central California, Los Angeles area and Hawaii**

58 For 8 Against 6 Abstain

Item passes.

2nd Vote.

This item chaired by Harold A.

**10) Cherry Hill agenda item #78 Current Literature Page 17, Number 5.**

**“Get involved and be of service” is in regular print today. I would like to have this sentence be capitalized and Made Bold.**

**Current Version: Get involved and be of service.**

**Proposed Version: GET INVOLVED AND BE OF SERVICE. (Made bold)**

**Tom K – Area 6C - North Carolina**

Mike A. presented this item for Tom K.

Roll Call Vote called for.

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Alvin F.	No	4	Aldo I.	Yes	13	Marla J.	No
1	Alyssa C.	No	4	Debbi R.	No	13	Mike M.	No
1	Bruce W.	Yes	5	Frank P.	No	13A	Rick L.	No
1A	Jack R.	No	5B	Adrien R.	No	13B	Andy G.*	Yes
1B	Wendy B.	No	5B	Lyne T.	No	14	Ira C.	Yes
2	Beth Z.*	Yes	6	JoAnne B.	No	14	Maury C.*	Yes
2	Jared H.*	Abst.	6	Neal G.	No	14	Mitch M.	Yes
2	Ray J.*	Yes	6	Steven C.	Yes	14	Stuart B.*	Yes
2	Tita M.*	Yes	6A	Alan A.	No	15	James G.*	Abst.
2A	Paul N.	No	6B	Joel G.*	No	15	Jesse C.*	Yes
2B	Charlene L.	No	6C	Tom K.*	Yes	15	Joe B.*	Yes
2B	James B.	Yes	6C	Mike A.	Yes	15	Mark D.*	Yes
2E	Debra B.	No	7	Iris D.*	No	15	Mildren N.*	Abst.
2G	Chris M.*	Yes	7A	Deborah S.	No	15	Stanley C.*	Yes
2G	Dave M.	No	7C	Jim G.	Abst.	16	Wayne C.	No
2H	Doris S.*	Yes	8	Cindi M.	No	16A	Dan L.*	Yes
2H	Terry D.*	Yes	8	Dianna R.*	No	17	Robert A.*	Yes
2J	Patricia D.*	Yes	8	Donna M.	No	17	Ron W.*	Yes
2K	Steve L.	Yes	8	Mary W.	No	18A	Mark C.*	Yes
3	Igor K.	No	9	Beth C.*	No	18B	Dot R.*	Yes
3	Mark S.	No	9	Carol K.	Yes	18B	Philomena*	Yes
3	Rob P.	No	9A	Patricia D.*	Yes	19	Elena D.*	Yes
3	Steve D.	No	10	Ed G.	No	19	Horacio P*	Yes
3A	Butch G.	No	10	Anthony K.	No	19	Jorge C.*	Yes
3A	Regina M.*	Yes	10A	Jeff H.*	Yes	19	Julia A.*	Yes
3B	Paul G.*	Yes	10A	Loreane S.*	Yes	21	Francisco M*	Abst.
3B	Ron G.	No	10B	Gary B.	Yes	21	Pedro M.*	Yes
3C	Terry D.	No	11	Billy C.	Yes	28	Hector T.	No
3D	Diane W.	No	11	Jodi P.	No	28	Luis O.	No
3D	Marc L.*	Yes	12	Walter G.*	No	28	Marymar V.	No
3F	Julian F.*	Yes	13	John B.	No	33	William S.*	Yes

Item passes.

For 45 Against 43 5 Abstain

2nd Vote

\*Absentee Ballot received.

This item chaired by Harold A.

11.) **Cherry Hill agenda item #83**

**Other Existing Literature Hosting an International Conference.**

**Page 12 8) Finances Committee. This would be a policy change as well as wording change. Currently, seed money for an International Conference is \$1,000. Costs have increased significantly and a hotel commitment of \$35,000 is a probability. If the conference is more than a year out, collecting monies for registration isn't likely immediately.**

**Current Version: Handling cash flow/seed money is sometimes needed by the hosting area and up to \$1,000.00 is available from ISO.**

**Proposed Version: Handling cash flow/seed money is sometimes needed by the hosting area and up to \$3,000.00 is available from ISO.**

**Cindi M – Area 8 - Chicago, Illinois**

Item passes.

2nd Vote

This item chaired by Harold A.

**CONFERENCE BIDS**

12) **Spring 2024 Conference**

The Spring 2024 Conference is open for bids.

There were no bids – areas will have one more chance at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

This item chaired by Pete K.

13) **Fall 2024 Conference**

The Fall 2024 Conference is open for bids.

There were no bids – areas will have a few more chances.

This item chaired by Pete K.

14) **Spring 2025 Conference**

The Spring 2025 Conference is open for bids.

There were no bids.

This item chaired by Pete K.

The next Board of Trustees only meeting will be in Cleveland, Ohio on Sunday, May 7 and Monday, May 8, 2023. More information coming soon. This will be the week before Mother's Day, so it won't conflict with that.

The Fall 2023 International Conference will be hosted by Chicagoland Intergroup in Oak Brook, Illinois November 16 through 19, 2023. More information coming soon.

## NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 15) GENERAL DISCUSSION

A new trustee for Area 3D, which covers Arizona and New Mexico, who started at the beginning of the new term for Trustees, was recently contacted by ISO for information about a meeting in Lake Havasu. A new member was trying to find the meeting. The problem is that there is no information about this meeting and the Trustee is over three hours away.

They started looking into all the meetings, as trustees are responsible for in 3D and there is no contact information anywhere. I have looked on AA, NA, SA, and OA websites. Each meeting has contact information that includes the name, number, and sometimes email, except GA. I believe this needs to be changed.

How can we help a newcomer if they can't find us? How can I as a trustee reach the meetings without this information? How do we take a meeting off the ISO website if we don't know if it is going or not? I am not sure why it is set up this way but I would hope we can change it going forward. It is my belief that we have to be accessible to a newcomer wherever they live.

**Diane W. – Area 3D - Arizona, and New Mexico**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Martha G.

### 16) GENERAL DISCUSSION

**Is our current Help Line provider providing the desired service? Should finding a new provider be considered?**

**Ed G. – Area 10 - Ohio, United States**

Discussion only on the use of our current provider.

This item chaired by Martha G.

### 17) GENERAL DISCUSSION

**How do Intergroups communicate and or monitor information with outside political groups that are funded and directed to help with “problem gamblers”? How is this done without endorsing or opposing any cause?**

**Butch G. – Area 3A - San Diego, California**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Martha G.

### 18) GENERAL DISCUSSION

**On November 4, 2020, Andy R., Chair of the Board of Trustees at that time, called for a Quick Response Meeting and the item that was voted on was Temporary Guidelines for Video Meetings, which would deem said meetings as sanctioned Gamblers Anonymous Meetings and count just like in-person meetings. The guidelines submitted and presented by a now disbanded Video Meeting Committee were overwhelmingly approved. Those Temporary Guidelines are available to read in an attachment but in brief summary, they dealt with Protocols for Attendance and**

**Announcements that should be read before each meeting. In view of the fact these were Temporary Guidelines, additional discussion is called for to make the guidelines Permanent in another vote.**

**Harold A. – 1st Co-Chair – Board of Trustees**

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K. He let us know that the new committee, that is Patrick's committee will use these temporary guidelines as a starting point for his committee's work.

**19) GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**In Area 20 (Uruguay), we have some doubts regarding the application of the Unity Program, therefore we decided to ask for help to solve a problem that keeps several brothers in controversy.**

**The facts:**

**Years ago, the dissemination of our lifeline number was carried out in the following way: The National Lottery and Quinielas Bank of Uruguay, which has access to more than 1,700 collection and bet collection locations throughout Uruguay, financed in together with Gamblers Anonymous of Uruguay the stickers that carry our logo and telephone number.**

**They were paid with a contribution from Gamblers Anonymous of Uruguay and with money from the National Bank of Lotteries and Pools. In turn, it was the National Lotteries and Quinielas Bank that assumed the logistics of distribution and placement in all the places where bets are placed.**

**It was the National Lotteries and Pools Bank that assumed most of the cost. Delivering the surplus of leftover stickers, to Gamblers Anonymous of Uruguay for their use at no cost.**

**Due to this joint action, some members of the community understand that it is a clear violation of the Unity Program.**

**In our opinion, the following were violated:**

**Steps 4, 6 and 7 of Unity.**

**4- Each group must govern itself, except in matters that affect other groups or GA as a whole.**

**6- GA should never support, finance or lend the name to any related institution or outside company, so that problems of money, property and prestige will not divert us from our main purpose.**

**7- Each group of Gamblers Anonymous must be completely self-financing, refusing donations from outside the group.**

**Because?**

**Step 4 was violated, and the mere fact of receiving external contributions to fulfill our purpose, whether in money or otherwise, means a loss of the autonomy that Step 4 of unity confers on us to freely exercise our primary purpose.**

**Step 6 was violated since having stickers with our logo and lifeline telephone number financed together with an outside company confuses our identity, as well as it could generate money, property or prestige problems for our brotherhood.**

**Step 7 was violated since we receive external contributions in money and others.**

**For us, it is of vital importance to have a clear interpretation of the Unity Program so that these types of actions (if they violate the Unity Program, do not happen again).**

**Without another particular, and thanks for your service, brothers from Area 20 of Uruguay greet you. We understand that the survival of our community and message depends on the uncompromising adherence to the Unity Program.**

**Edison Vera – Area 20 - Montevideo, Uruguay**

Martha G. presented.

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**20) GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**Some compulsive gamblers in the United Kingdom have asked me to have our Board of Trustees define in writing exactly what the United Kingdom compulsive gamblers need to do to become part of the Gamblers Anonymous International Fellowship again. In order to do this, our Board of Trustees needs to form a committee that would come up with the exact wording of what would be required of the United Kingdom compulsive gamblers. If as a result of this discussion a committee is formed and comes up with the requirements, then a vote could be taken at the spring 2023 Board of Trustees meeting to accept the requirements proposed by the committee, and if passed from there that document would be presented to the United Kingdom compulsive gamblers for a vote on whether to ask to join the Gamblers Anonymous International Fellowship or not.**

**Harold A., 1st Co-Chair Board of Trustees**

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**21) GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**There are some in this program who are under the impression that during the COVID pandemic that the “39 Meeting” rule from the Guidance Code has been temporarily suspended. What is the current position of the board regarding the status of “temporary” measures (i.e. Zoom meetings). Are other members of the BOT experiencing the same confusion over these “temporary” changes?**

**Bob C. – Area 3A - San Diego, California**

Motion to table.

Passed.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**22) GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**When approval for changing something to bold and capitalized is given to change a word or a sentence in our literature, does it really have an impact on the recovery of our members? We really need to analyze and think about all the consequences that are implied with those changes. If the change is approved it must be reflected in all our literary works, including those in other languages that were granted approval for translation. Who keeps a record of these changes, and when are these updates actually reflected on our literature?**

**Martha G., 2nd Co-Chair Board of Trustees**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Pete K.

23) **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**Process of adding new literature.**

**Currently, when literature is changed, the effect is immediate on that literature, however, sometimes the change creates a conflict between the new literature and an existing piece of literature. For example, several changes to the Combo Book have had an immediate effect, but created a conflict with the red book, blue book, etc. When a change to literature has been approved a review should be made to change every piece of literature to remove possible conflicts. Does a committee need to be formed or does this fall under the guidance of an existing committee?**

**Butch G. – Area 3A - San Diego, California**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Pete K.

24) **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**Handling of individuals and financial matters**

**How do you handle a member that borrows money from another member?**

**Particularly if they borrow from their sponsee.**

**Ira C. – Area 14 - Long Island, New York**

Discussion only.

It was brought up that this topic is addressed in the new Group Handbook.

This item chaired by Martha G.

Before moving on, Martha had Debra B. come back to the microphone to make a motion regarding Item Number 5 of the agenda.

**Debra B. made a motion to rename the Meeting Removal Merit Panel Exploration Committee to “Group Removal Merit Panel” in order to accurately reflect the wording in the document, Group Removal Guidelines and Procedures manual.**

Motion as written.

Item passes.

This item chaired by Martha G.

Martha then asked Reba to come up to the microphone and read the mission statement regarding the Digital Strategy Committee.

**The Mission Statement for this committee: The purpose of this committee is to give guidance and suggestions to the Board of Trustees on the most efficient use of digital media in order to share our message with the compulsive gamblers who use such media.**

Motion to accept statement made by Butch G.

Motion passes.

This item chaired by Martha G. and Pete K.



## **NEW BUSINESS – STEP CHANGES**

### **25) RECOVERY STEP CHANGE**

**Change the word tried to try in Recovery Step 12**

**Current Version: Having made an effort to practice these principles in all our affairs, we tried to carry this message to other compulsive gamblers.**

**Proposed Version: Having made an effort to practice these principles in all our affairs, we try to carry this message to other compulsive gamblers.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A - San Diego, California**

Motion to table.

Passed

This item chaired by Pete K.

### **26) UNITY STEP CHANGE**

**Change the word “Group” to “meeting” in the 7th step of the Unity Program.**

**Current Version: 7.) Every Gamblers Anonymous Group ought to be fully self-supporting declining outside contributions.**

**Proposed Version: 7.) Every Gamblers Anonymous meeting ought to be fully self-supporting declining outside contributions.**

**Jack R. – Area 1A – for Jimmy D. - Orange County, California**

Motion to table.

Passed

This item chaired by Pete K.

### **27) UNITY STEP CHANGE**

**In Unity Step 4, change “group” to “meeting” and “groups” to “meetings”**

**Current Version: Unity Step 4: Each group should be self-governing except in matters affecting other groups or Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.**

**Proposed Version: Unity Step 4: Each meeting should be self-governing except in matters affecting other meetings or Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.**

**Jack R. – Area 1A – for Jimmy D. - Orange County, California**

Motion to table.

Passed

This item chaired by Pete K.

## **NEW BUSINESS – COMBO BOOK**

### **28) CURRENT LITERATURE - Combo Book**

**Change page 15 Twenty Questions, Question One – add the word “retirement”.**

**Current Version: Did you ever lose time from work or school due to gambling?**

**Proposed Version: Did you ever lose time from work, school, or retirement due to gambling?**

**JoAnn B for Bill B, Area 6 - Southern Florida**

Motion as written.

Motion to amend to change last sentence to read, “...retirement plans due to gambling?”

Amendment fails.

Original motion fails.  
This item chaired by Harold A.

29) **CURRENT LITERATURE - Combo Book**

Page 17, Item 8. Embolden and place in all caps the word “will” in the phrase “you will experience continued recovery.

**Current Version: BE PATIENT! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling, and follow the guidelines on this page, you will experience continued recovery.**

**Proposed Version: BE PATIENT! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling, and follow the guidelines on this page, you WILL (bold typeface) experience continued recovery.**

**Jack R. – for Dean W. – Area 1A Orange County, California**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

This item chaired by Harold A.

30) **CURRENT LITERATURE - Combo Book**

Move the top paragraph on page 3 to the bottom of page 2.

Then insert the Proposed version on page 3 behind the last paragraph on page 3.

**Current Version: GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS**

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop gambling. There are no dues or fees for Gamblers Anonymous membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. Gamblers Anonymous is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any cause. Our primary purpose is to stop gambling and to help other compulsive gamblers do the same. Most of us have been unwilling to admit we were real problem gamblers. No one likes to think they are different from their fellows. Therefore, it is not surprising that our gambling careers have been characterized by countless vain attempts to prove we could gamble like other people. The idea that somehow, someday, we will control our gambling is the great obsession of every compulsive gambler. The persistence of this illusion is astonishing. Many pursue it into the gates of prison, insanity or death.**

**-2-**

**We learned we had to concede fully to our innermost selves that we are compulsive gamblers. This is the first step in our recovery. With reference to gambling, the delusion that we are like other people, or presently may be, has to be smashed. We have lost the ability to control our gambling. We know that no real compulsive gambler ever regains control. All of us felt at times we were regaining control, but such intervals – usually brief – were inevitably followed by still less control, which led in time to pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization. We are convinced that gamblers of our type are in the grip of a progressive illness. Over any considerable period of time we get worse, never better. Therefore, in order to lead normal happy**

lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs.

**Proposed Version: GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS**

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop gambling. There are no dues or fees for Gamblers Anonymous membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. Gamblers Anonymous is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any cause. Our primary purpose is to stop gambling and to help other compulsive gamblers do the same. Most of us have been unwilling to admit we were real problem gamblers. No one likes to think they are different from their fellows. Therefore, it is not surprising that our gambling careers have been characterized by countless vain attempts to prove we could gamble like other people. The idea that somehow, someday, we will control our gambling is the great obsession of every compulsive gambler. The persistence of this illusion is astonishing. Many pursue it into the gates of prison, insanity or death. We learned we had to concede fully to our innermost selves that we are compulsive gamblers. This is the first step in our recovery. With reference to gambling, the delusion that we are like other people, or presently may be, has to be smashed.**

**-2-**

**We have lost the ability to control our gambling. We know that no real compulsive gambler ever regains control. All of us felt at times we were regaining control, but such intervals – usually brief – were inevitably followed by still less control, which led in time to pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization. We are convinced that gamblers of our type are in the grip of a progressive illness. Over any considerable period of time we get worse, never better. Therefore, in order to lead normal happy lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs. Gamblers Anonymous gave us a new life, a path and a purpose. Honesty is the cornerstone for recovery. Hope grows when you seek a higher power. Surrender to a higher power and have faith. It takes courage to examine financial troubles and take a moral inventory. Sharing that inventory restores integrity. At the crossroads of recovery, it takes willingness to rid defects of character, let go of shortcomings, crush your ego and gain humility. Perseverance is the mortar for making amends that seals the keystone for the arch of recovery. It takes discipline to take a daily inventory and admit when you are wrong. Spiritual awareness will fill your heart. Service is a responsibility and an act of gratitude.**

**Kevin K. – Area 3D Arizona and New Mexico**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

This item chaired by Harold A.

## **NEW BUSINESS – INTERNATIONAL**

### **31) CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Literature Translation – Iran would like to get permission to translate the following approved GA literature into Farsi**

**Toward 90 Days**

**Beyond 90 Days**

**Red Book (A New Beginning)**

**Blue Book (Sharing Recovery)**

**Working the Steps Pamphlet GA writing the steps**

**Ara H, Area 1 - Los Angeles – California**

Alvin F. presented this item.

Motion as written.

Item passes.

This item chaired by Harold A.

### **32) CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Other Existing Literature**

**India would like to translate all Gamblers Anonymous literature into Hindi at their own cost.**

**Walter G – Submitted for Sanjay G – Area 12 - New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania**

Wendy B. presented this item.

Motion as written.

Item passes.

This item chaired by Harold A. and Pete K.

### **33) BOT DECISION - NOT COVERED BY ANY OTHER CATEGORY**

**Request that Iran is designated as a distinct area within the fellowship and that they are allocated two Trustees.**

**Jack R. – for Hamid K. – Area 1A Orange County, California**

Motion as written.

Item passes – Iran will be Area 37 with two trustees assigned.

This item chaired by Pete K.

### **34) TRUSTEE ALLOCATION**

**Board of Trustees Allocation -Trustee Allocation Area 23A – requests from the Gamblers Anonymous Board of Trustees the approval to be reinstated for 1 (one) Trustee position to be aligned to Clécio Santos.**

**Valdir R. - Former Trustee – São Paulo, Brazil**

Motion as written.

Item passes – Area 23A will have one trustee allocated.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**35) TRUSTEE ALLOCATION**

**Board of Trustees Allocation -Trustee Allocation Area 23 – requests from the Gamblers Anonymous Board of Trustees the approval to be reinstated for 1 (one) Trustee position.**

**João Carlos - Former Trustee – São Paulo, Brazil**

Motion as written.

Item passes – Area 23 will have one trustee position.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**36) BOT DECISION - NOT COVERED BY ANY OTHER CATEGORY**

**Area 33 Colombia requests from the Gamblers Anonymous Board of Trustees the approval to establish a Regional Services Office according to the Article XI, Section 1 to 8 of the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code. (see attachment)**

**Martha G – Submitted for William S – Area 33 Bogota, Colombia**

Motion as written.

Item passes.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**NEW BUSINESS – GUIDANCE CODE**

**37) CURRENT LITERATURE - Guidance Code Article VII, Section 4**

**Change phrase in parenthesis immediately following the word “meetings” to read “Exceptions can be made through group conscience decisions for medical reasons or active military duty”**

**Current Version: Abstinance from gambling and regular attendance of at least thirty-nine (39) Gamblers Anonymous meetings (exceptions can be made, via group conscience decisions, for medical reasons, or active military duty) in the prior 12 months, by the member’s own admission, is required for pinnings and for all successive anniversaries Date of abstinance starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Proposed Version: Abstinance from gambling and regular attendance of at least thirty-nine (39) Gamblers Anonymous meetings (exceptions can be made through group conscience decisions for medical reasons or active military duty) in the prior 12 months, by the member’s own admission, is required for pinnings and for all successive anniversaries. Date of abstinance starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Jack R, Area 1A - Orange County – California**

Motion as written.

Motion to amend to include changes from item #9.

Amendment passes

For 30 Against 5

Item passes.

This item chaired by Pete K.

1st Vote

- 38) **COMMITTEE RELATED - Guidance Code – Vote of Confidence**  
**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on: Article III – Objects, Section 1 – Separating Section 1: into 2 subparagraphs Section 1 &1A. Add Section 1: 1. To stop gambling. 2. To help other gamblers do the same. Section: 1A remove “contact” and replace with: be available to**  
**Current Version: Section 1: The specific and primary purpose for which this fellowship is formed are as follows: 1. To contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem.**  
**Proposed Version: Section 1: The specific and primary purpose for which this fellowship is formed are as follows: 1. To stop gambling. 2. To help others gamblers do the same.**  
**Section 1A: To be available to compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem.**  
**Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs and San Bernardino**  
Item withdrawn.  
This item chaired by Pete K.
- 39) **COMMITTEE RELATED - Guidance Code – Vote of Confidence**  
**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on Article IV – Declaration Section: 1 first sentence after strengthen us, change – but will win to but will “gain “**  
**Current version: but will win the confidence, respect and help of people everywhere,**  
**Proposed Version: but will gain the confidence, respect, and help of people everywhere,**  
**Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs and San Bernardino**  
Item withdrawn.  
This item chaired by Pete K.
- 40) **COMMITTEE RELATED - Guidance Code – Vote of Confidence**  
**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on: Article XIII – Board of Regents Section 4: last sentence remove the word “physical”, Section 6: remove the second sentence completely. Section 7: First sentence add a “s” on record to “record’s. Section 8: Last sentence change Board of Trustees to the Board of Regents, and then the Board of Regents to the Board of Trustees.**  
**Current Version: Removal will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote for expulsion by the Board of Trustees at the next physical meeting. Section 6: Only a written proxy shall be counted in determining the number present for the purpose of a quorum. Section 7: It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Regents to annually employ a certified public accountant who is not a member of Gamblers Anonymous to examine the books and record of our ISO. Section 8: The Board of Trustees time to notify the Board of Regents regarding the Budget is sixty (60) days.**  
**Proposed Version: Section 4: Removal will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote for the expulsion by the Board of Trustees the next meeting. Section 6: Five (5) members of the Board of Regents shall constitute a quorum. Section 7: It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Regents to annually employ a certified public accountant who is not a member of Gamblers Anonymous to examine the books and records of our ISO.**

**Section 8: The Board of Regents time to notify the Board of Trustees regarding the Budget is sixty (60) days.**

**Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs and San Bernardino**

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**41) COMMITTEE RELATED - Guidance Code – Vote of Confidence**

**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on Article V – Summary of Operations Section 1: 1. Members – remove article number ( V ) “IV, V, VI” and replace it with the article ( III ) “III, IV, VI”. Also, remove page numbers, they do not coincide with the Categories.**

**Current Version: Article V – Summary of Operations Section 1. 1. Members – Article “IV, V, VI”**

**Proposed Version: Article V – Summary of Operations Section 1. 1. Members – Article “III, IV, VI”**

**Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs, and San Bernardino**

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**42) COMMITTEE RELATED - Guidance Code – Vote of Confidence**

**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on:**

**Guidance Code, Article VII, Groups Sections 1, 1A, 2, 3, 6, 8. Section 1 – First sentence remove the word “only”, also after the word use, add as a guide. Section 2: Remove entire section, Section 1A renamed to Section 2. Section 3 – First sentence remove the word “is” and replace with “should be” self-governing, then add “using the the unity steps as their guidelines and refer to the group handbook”. Remove “only if a new room”. Section 6: Add at the end of sentence “who desires to stop gambling”. Section 8:- Last sentence remove “must” and add “may”.**

**Current Version: Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together on a regular, weekly scheduled basic to discuss their gambling problems, they will be known as a group, only if they commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code and limit their use, display and distribution to only approved and appropriate Gamblers Anonymous literature. Section 1A: – Meetings may be classified as special interest meetings; such as “Women Preferred,” “Gay/Lesbian preferred,” “Men Preferred,” etc, but no meeting can exclude other Gamblers Anonymous members who wish to attend who don’t match the room preference. Section 2: – No new group will be qualified to vote on any issues affecting Gamblers Anonymous as a whole until they have conducted regular meetings for a three (3) month period. Section 3: – Each group is self-governing however, by tradition each group should elect a Secretary-Treasure (can be the same person, only if a new room) Pressure Relief Group Chairman, Group Representative, Public Relations Representative, Section 6: – Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may be trusted servants of groups or intergroup. Section 8: Other appropriate material must be designated as such by the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed Version: Section 1: Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet on a regular, weekly scheduled basic to discuss gambling problems,**

they will be known as a group if they commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code and limit their use as a guide, Section 2: Meetings may be classified as special interest meetings; such as “Women Preferred” etc. but no meeting can exclude other Gamblers Anonymous members who wish to attend who don’t match the room preference. Section 3: Each group should be self-governing using the unity steps as their guidelines and refer to the group handbook, however, by tradition each group should elect a SECRETARY- TREASURER, PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP CHAIRMAN, GROUP REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE. Section 6: Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may be trusted servants of groups or inter groups who desire to stop gambling. Section 8: Other appropriate material may be designated as such by the Board of Trustees.

Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs, and San Bernardino

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K.

43) **COMMITTEE RELATED**

**Guidance Code Audit**

**Request a Vote of Confidence.**

**Explanation of what the committee would like a vote of confidence on:**

**Article XI – Regional Service Office ( R.S.O.) Section 3. The first sentence removes “an” and replaces it with “a”.**

**Current Versions: Each group that belongs to an RSO is self-governing,**

**Proposed Versions: Section 3. Each group that belongs to an RSO is self-governing,**

Anita R. – Area 1B - Inland Empire, Palm Springs, and San Bernardino

Item withdrawn.

This item chaired by Pete K.

44) **COMMITTEE RELATED**

**Guidance Code – Board of Trustees – Items relating to changes to the 12 Steps of Recovery, Unity, and the 20 Questions.**

**The current format for changes to the 12 Steps of Recovery, The Unity Program, and the 20 Questions are not working for the program now. This program needs to be flexible enough to change when needed and restrictive enough not to have changed every meeting.**

**The guidance code has to be uniform so that changes can be made efficiently. The proposed will be required to make changes to these areas, and 2/3 of the trustees will be required to be physically present to vote on the proposed change. No absentee ballots will be counted toward the vote. The changes will have an immediate effect if passed. (If 100 Trustees are eligible, 67 would need to be present. Of the 67 45 would have to vote positive to be in effect.)**

**The following Articles presented are in their current form:**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees**

**Section 6: 50% plus 1 of the elected Trustees of the Board of Trustees, must be present at any meeting to constitute a quorum. Absentee Ballots shall be included to determine the number present at any meeting for the purpose of a quorum.**



**Section 9: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the physical presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings.**

**Section 11: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM and the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any Gamblers Anonymous literature by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without the approval of the Board of Trustees. Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings of the Board of Trustees. Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

**Article IX – Officers of the Board of Trustees**

**Section 5: Board of Trustees meetings may be conducted by mail, fax or email, or electronically through a platform approved by the Board of Trustees. However a majority of current Trustees are needed for a quorum. A majority vote of the quorum shall carry any measure voted upon except as provided for in Section 2 of Article VIII and Article XX.**

**Article XX – Amendments**

**Section 1: The Guidance Code may be amended by the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds (2/3) majority at two (2) consecutive Board of Trustees meetings with at least a quorum present at each voting. Within thirty (30) days after an amendment is adopted, the International Executive Secretary shall notify each member of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Regents and each group of such change.**

**Proposed form:**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees**

**Section 6: No Change**

**Section 9: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) physical presence of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees. Of these members, it will require a 2/3 passage to be in effect.**

**Section 11: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, and the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any Gamblers Anonymous literature by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without the approval of the Board of Trustees. Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees a physical meeting of the Board of Trustees. Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

**Article IX – Officers of the Board of Trustees**

**Section 5: Board of Trustees meetings may be conducted by mail, fax, or email, or electronically through a platform approved by the Board of Trustees. However, a majority of current Trustees are needed for a quorum. A majority vote of the quorum**

shall carry any measure voted upon except as provided for in Section 2 of Article VIII and Article XX, except if voted approval by 100% of eligible trustees.

**Article XX – Amendments**

**Section 1: The Guidance Code may be amended by the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds (2/3) majority meeting with at least a quorum present. Within thirty (30) days after an amendment is adopted, the International Executive Secretary shall notify each member of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Regents and each group of such change.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A - San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

For 13 Against 51

Item failed.

This item chaired by Harold A.

**NEW BUSINESS – COMMITTEE RELATED**

**45) COMMITTEE RELATED**

**Request to form a new committee.**

**There was a Chronological History Committee, but it has been disbanded. I would like to re- activate the committee. I have a strong interest in the history of our fellowship and feel it has been ignored. Time has caught up with too many of our early members and continues to do so. So much will be lost if we do not act quickly.**

**Andy D. – Area 18 - New South Wales, Australia**

This committee existed before, and no work was done so we disbanded it. The Chair reformed this committee. Andy D., of Australia, will be the chair with Martha G. as the Co-Chair Liaison.

A point of order was brought up on whether we needed to vote for this committee.

We do not need a vote for the Chair to form a committee.

This item chaired by Harold A.

**46) COMMITTEE RELATED**

**GA Restructuring Committee – Change a committee mission statement**

**Current Version: None**

**Proposed Version: Review the current structure of the corporation and fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous to research and recommend a possible plan to restructure all related entities.**

**Peter K – Submitted for David M. – Area 13B - South New Jersey, United States**

Wendy B. presented this item for approval. The mission statement for this committee reads:

*“Review the current structure of the corporation and fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous to research and recommend a possible plan to restructure all related entities.”*

Motion as written to accept the mission statement.

Item passes.

This item chaired by Harold A.

- 47) **COMMITTEE RELATED**  
**GA Restructuring Committee**  
**Committee Discussion item – the progress and procedures being considered for the completion of the task for which the committee was charged.**  
**Peter K – Submitted for David M. – Area 13B South New Jersey, United States**  
Wendy B. presented this item again. This discussion is the same as the committee report. The committee has met three times so far and has taken a look at other 12-step programs and their organizational charts.  
This item chaired by Harold A.
- 48) **COMMITTEE RELATED**  
**Public Relations – Change a committee mission statement**  
**Current Version: We will strive to continue to develop and encourage the use of as many public relations tools as necessary to fulfill our fellowship’s primary purpose, always looking for guidance from the recovery and Unity Steps, the Guidance Code, and our higher powers.**  
**Proposed Version: Communicate information relating to the existence of Gamblers Anonymous meetings to outsiders. Spread the awareness of the Gamblers Anonymous Program with others when requested.**  
**Cindi M. – Area 8 - Chicago, Illinois**  
Motion as written.  
Item passes.  
This item chaired by Martha G.

## **NEW BUSINESS – CURRENT LITERATURE**

- 49) **CURRENT LITERATURE**  
**Other Current Literature Gamblers Anonymous Hosting an International Meeting**  
**Page 7 Paragraph (b) 3rd Sentence Insert the following sentence immediately after current sentence two: “Copies of unsigned contracts for Force Majeure insurance in the event of an Act of God or natural disaster, like hurricane, earthquake, terrorism, etc., liability insurance and communicable disease insurance (if available), must be in the contract. Signed contracts for the types of insurance purchased must be forwarded to the Conference Oversight Committee no later than 60 days after the bid was awarded. This will protect the Hosting Area and G.A.I.S.O from major losses.”**  
**Current Version: All proposed contracts should include an attrition clause on the number of room nights and food commitments. Most contracts will already have this clause in place. A Force Majeure clause in the event of an Act of God or natural disaster, like a hurricane, earthquake, terrorism, etc., is also important in the contract. It has been a past experience that a hotel was sold after the bid was awarded or during the planning phase of the conference. It is important to bring this possible situation up with your hotel to make sure that all guarantees will still be honored if the hotel changes ownership.**  
**Proposed Version: All proposed contracts should include an attrition clause on the number of room nights and food commitments. Most contracts will already have this clause in place. Copies of unsigned contracts for Force Majeure insurance in the event**

of Act of God or natural disaster, like hurricane, earthquake, terrorism, etc., liability insurance and communicable disease insurance (if available), must be in the contract. Signed contracts for the types of insurance purchased must be forwarded to the Conference Oversight Committee no later than 60 days after bid was awarded. This will protect the Hosting Area and G.A.I.S.O from major losses. It has been a past experience that a hotel was sold after the bid was awarded or during the planning phase of the conference. It is important to bring this possible situation up with your hotel to make sure that all guarantees will still be honored if the hotel changes ownership.

**Jack R. – for John C. – Area 1A Orange County – California**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

This item chaired by Martha G.

**50) CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Other Existing Literature: Towards 90 Days on cd.**

**The Board of Regents is requesting to stop purchasing and stocking this item after the current inventory has been depleted.**

**The Board of Regents would like to remove this item from its inventory.**

**Valerie D. – Area 1A Orange County, California**

Motion as written by Wendy B.

Item passes 1st vote.

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**51) CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Other Existing Literature: Even up the Odds DVD.**

**The Board of Regents is requesting to stop purchasing and stocking this item after the current inventory has been depleted.**

**The Board of Regents would like to remove this item from its inventory.**

**Valerie D. – Area 1A Orange County, California**

Motion as written by Wendy B.

Item passes 1st vote.

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**52) CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Other Literature: add new rules and procedures for ordering literature from the International Service Office.**

**Current Version: None**

**Proposed Version: See Attached**

**Ara H. – Area 1 - Los Angeles, California**

Item withdrawn.

This item was chaired by Pete K.

**NEW BUSINESS – NEW LITERATURE**

**53) NEW LITERATURE**

**New Literature – Appropriate Literature**

**To allow the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book to be Appropriate Gamblers Anonymous Literature**

**Stuart B. for Ira C. – Area 14 - Long Island, New York**

Mitch M. presented this item.

Motion as written.

Item ruled out of order.

This item was chaired by Pete K.

**NEW BUSINESS – BOARD OF TRUSTEE DECISION NOT COVERED BY ANY OTHER CATEGORY**

**54) BOT DECISION - NOT COVERED BY ANY OTHER CATEGORY**

**I propose we add contact information such as names and phone number next to each meeting on the website.**

**Diane K. – Area 3D - Arizona and New Mexico, United States**

Item ruled out of order.

This item was chaired by Pete K.

**NEW BUSINESS – ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGENDA**

**55) Discuss the possibility of creating an app or a pamphlet specific to online gambling.**

**Pete K. - Area 13B - South New Jersey**

Discussion on creating a committee. We were reminded that this was something the Digital Committee can look into. Suggestion of making a publication on online gambling, similar to our stock market flier.

This item chaired by Pete K.

**56) The BOR is asking permission to stop purchasing and restocking Beyond 90 Days on CD once the current inventory has been depleted.**

**Valerie D. – Area 1A - Orange County, California**

Motion as written by Wendy B.

Item passes 1st vote.

1st Vote.

This item was chaired by Pete K.

**57) The Board of Regents would like to remove the Big Steve DVD from its inventory.**

**Valerie D. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Motion as written by Wendy B.

Item passes 1st Vote

1st Vote

This item was chaired by Pete K.

At the end of the agenda, Pete let us know that a member of the Trustee Website committee would like to say a few words. Renee G. mentioned that she has been helping with the Trustee Line

portion of the website. Its under utilized at the moment and she wanted to make sure that new trustees were even aware of it existing. Renee brought up possibly doing a weekly digest. She would send out emails to people who actually showed interest in this, and she was looking for feedback on this. There was some discussion of the trustee line. It was suggested that the committee send out an email to all current and past trustees to ask the question if anyone would be interested in a weekly digest/notification of posts to the Trustee Line.

The meeting was closed at 10:36 am local time. As mentioned before, the next Board of Trustees meeting will be in Cleveland, Ohio on Sunday May 7 and Monday May 8, 2023.

The serenity prayer closed the meeting at 10:37 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

*KCB.*

KC B.,  
International Executive Secretary

***ROLL CALL***

Area	Trustee	Sessions	Area	Trustee	Sessions
1	Alvin F.	3	8	Mary W.	3
1	Alyssa C.	3	9	Beth C.	Absent*
1	Bruce W.	3	9	Carol K.	3
1A	Jack R.	3	9A	Patricia D.	Absent*
1B	Anita R.	Absent	10	Anthony K.	3
1B	Wendy B.	3	10	Ed G.	3
2	Beth Z	Absent*	10A	Jeff H.	Absent*
2	Jared H.	Absent*	10A	Loreane S.	Absent*
2	Ray J.	Absent*	10B	Gary B.	3
2	Tita M.	Absent*	10B	Matt S.	Absent
2A	Paul N.	3	11	Billy C.	3
2B	Charlene L.	3	11	Jodi P.	3
2B	James B.	3	12	Walter G.	Absent*
2E	Debra B.	3	13	John B.	3
2G	Chris M.	Absent*	13	Marla J.	3
2G	Dave M.	3	13	Mike M.	3
2H	Doris S.	Absent*	13A	Alan K.	Absent
2H	Terry D.	Absent*	13A	Rick L.	3
2J	Patricia D.	Absent*	13B	Andy G.	Absent*
2K	Steve L.	3	14	Ira C.	2
3	Igor K.	3	14	Maury C.	Absent*

3	Kirk L.	Absent	14	Mitch M.	3
3	Mark S.	3	14	Stuart B.	Absent*
3	Rob P.	2	15	James G.	Absent*
3	Steve D.	2	15	Jesse C.	Absent*
3A	Bob C.	Absent	15	Joe B	Absent*
3A	Butch G.	3	15	Mark C.	Absent*
3A	Regina M.	Absent*	15	Mildred N.	Absent*
3B	Paul G.	Absent*	15	Stanley C.	Absent*
3B	Ron G.	3	16	Carl D.	Absent
3C	Terry D.	3	16	Wayne C.	3
3D	Diane W.	3	16A	Dan L.	Absent*
3D	Marc L.	Absent*	17	Robert A.	Absent*
3F	Julian F.	Absent*	17	Ron W.	Absent*
4	Aldo I.	3	18	Andy D.	Absent
4	Debbi R.	3	18	Louie C.	Absent
5	Frank P.	3	18	Mark H.	Absent
5B	Adrien R.	3	18	Tyrone C.	Absent
5B	Lyne T.	3	18A	Mark C.	3*
6	Jo Anne B.	3	18A	Yvonne R.	Absent
6	Neal G.	3	18B	Dot R.	3*
6	Steve C.	3	18B	Philomena V.	3*
6A	Robin Z.	Absent	19	Elena D.	3*
6A	Alan A.	3	19	Horacio P.	3*
6B	Joel G.	Absent*	19	Jorge C.	3*
6B	Tom C.	Absent	19	Julia A.	3*
6C	Mike A.	3	21	Pedro M.	3*
6C	Tom K.	Absent*	21	Francisco M.	3*
7	Iris D.	Absent*	22	Andrew B.	Absent
7	Leanne W.	Absent	28	Hector T.	3
7A	Deborah S.	3	28	Luis O.	3
7A	Sean E.	2	28	Marymar V.	3
7C	Jim G.	Absent	29	Konstantin U.	Absent
8	Cindi M.	3	29A	Oleg I.	Absent
8	Dianna R.	Absent*	29B	Eduard U.	Absent
8	Donna M.	3	33	William S.	3*

\*Absentee ballot received

Chair B.O.T. – Pete K. 3  
1st Co-Chair BOT – Harold A. 3  
2nd Co-Chair BOT – Martha G. 3  
Chair B.O.R. – Valerie D. 3  
I.E.S. – KC B. 3