

Proposal Item: A  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move that the World Service Business Conference 2018 direct the Board of Trustees of Overeaters Anonymous to establish an ad hoc committee to research and delineate the best means and cost of improving, upgrading, and expanding the electronic “front door” of OA for the purpose of defining a budgetary amount for a “Welcome to OA” capital campaign. OA’s “front door” includes the oa.org website, data systems, and the development of a geo locator and real time Find-a-Meeting app for smart phones.

Submitted By

Oregon OA IG, Region One  
Alice W.

*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.*

Intent

To determine specific products, and the cost to produce them, that will expand and upgrade the digital public access points for OA, such as the website. The intent is to make these more functional and user friendly.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. The BOT will charge an ad hoc committee with the job of researching and seeking proposals for such projects as software development of an app, refining the website, and upgrading support of WSO data functions. Once the desired products are determined, the WSBC 2019 can consider a capital campaign to pursue these specific enhancements.

Cost

None. The ad hoc committee will determine the cost of the upgrade.

Primary Purpose

Improving our digital footprint can only help our outreach efforts and help us carry the message most effectively. It’s time for OA to embrace the digital age.

Rationale

A least 40 percent of all new members to OA are finding out about OA on the web. For young people, who are the future of OA, the percentage is even greater. To effectively carry the message, we must have the most accessible, easily navigated, easily searched, and welcoming website and corollary services possible. A recent upgrade to the OA website made a tremendous leap three years ago, but more needs to be done to stay up with the times. Most notably, a geolocator and a means of finding a meeting in real time are feasible for apps on smart phones and the website. Data systems must support the locator and facilitate communication among the membership worldwide. While it is the job of the Board of Trustees, as trusted

servants, to pull the information together, it is the responsibility of every OA member to support all means for carrying the message which are practical and achievable. Together we can make OA easy to find. We can say to the still-suffering compulsive eater day or night anywhere in the world, "Welcome to OA! Welcome home!"

---

### History

No history in the past five years.

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

Should donors choose to support a capital campaign instead of the general fund, our general operating expenses may not be covered, while our bank account may appear to be ample. In both 2016 and 2017, Overeaters Anonymous had to dip into reserve funds to cover our operating expenses for the year. Funds designated for a specific purpose may not be used for any other purpose.

Proposal Item: B  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

---

Motion

Move to adopt the following policy statement:

Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on bariatric (weight-loss) surgery. In the spirit of Tradition Three, we welcome into the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous those who have had the surgery or are considering it.

Submitted By

Central Jersey IG, Region Seven  
Christina H.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To clearly state that although Overeaters Anonymous neither endorses nor opposes weight-loss surgery, we welcome without judgment those who have had it or are contemplating having the surgery in the spirit of Tradition Three and in support of our Unity with Diversity policy.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

This motion helps encourage an atmosphere of unity among all members in welcoming each other to the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous.

Rationale

It has saddened members of our intergroup over the years that OA members and prospective members that have had or are considering the surgery are reluctant to share in fear of being judged by other members. A few years ago, one of our members was attending an employee health fair representing our intergroup. A visitor to our table quietly admitted she had weight-loss surgery and was now struggling. Our member encouraged her to come to a meeting and she responded, "I hear Overeaters Anonymous is not too friendly to us." We have a strong sense she is not the only one who feels this way. Recently, the chair of the Board of Trustees sent a note to fellow OA members entitled, "The Sponsor/Sponsee Relationship." We would like to quote one of the lines that we feel supports this policy statement. "Members and sponsors encourage—not judge—others on the path of recovery."

---

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: C  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

Status:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2004b by striking, inserting, and renumbering the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2004b

Appeals process for service bodies denied credentials at WSBC because they do not meet the requirements of OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3c – Qualifications/Selection.

- 1) The World Service Office shall notify the service body of any challenges to delegate credentials within seven days of receipt of delegate information by the World Service Office.
- 2) Each region will provide, at the time they submit their delegate information, a list of up to five individuals willing to serve on an Appeals Committee.
- 3) The Appeals Review Committee shall be composed of two members of the Board of Trustees, two region chairs, and two representatives of the region bringing the appeal.
- 4) Service body notifies the World Service Office of its wishes to appeal denial of delegate credentials.
- 5) The Appeals Review Committee, via electronic and/or written communications, will consider relevant information and collectively decide the final disposition of each appeal with a deadline of one month prior to the first session of the upcoming WSBC.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 2004b

Appeals process for service bodies denied credentials at WSBC because they do not meet the requirements of OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3c – Qualifications/Selection.

- 1) The World Service Office shall notify the service body of any challenges to delegate credentials within seven days of receipt of delegate information by the World Service Office.
- 2) ~~Each region will provide, at the time they submit their delegate information, a list of up to five individuals willing to serve on an Appeals Committee.~~ The service body shall notify the World Service Office if it wishes to appeal denial of delegate credentials within fourteen days of this notification.
- 3) The Appeals Review Committee shall be composed of two members of the Board of Trustees (the BOT chair and one other trustee), two region chairs, and two representatives of the region bringing the appeal. It will be chaired by the BOT chair.
- 4) ~~Service body notifies the World Service Office of its wishes to appeal denial of delegate credentials.~~

Current Wording

- 5) At the expense of the service body, a telephone conference call may be scheduled to review the findings of the committee within two weeks of notification of the Appeals Review Committee's disposition.

Proposed Wording

- ~~5) 4) The Appeals Review Committee, via electronic ~~and/or written~~ communications, will ~~consider relevant information~~ ~~and~~ collectively decide the final disposition of each appeal with a deadline of one month prior to the first session of the upcoming WSBC.~~
- ~~6) At the expense of the service body, a telephone conference call may be scheduled to review the findings of the committee within two weeks of notification of the Appeals Review Committee's disposition.~~

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To set an appeals process to address the possibility that service bodies may be denied credentials at WSBC because they do not meet the requirements of OA, Inc. Bylaws on the qualifications and selection of delegates. The amendment seeks to streamline the policy with clear and orderly instructions appropriate to current practices.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

To provide a policy in the spirit of the Concepts of OA Service.

- 4) The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.
- 5) Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.

This policy can help ensure the Third Concept of OA Service. The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.

Rationale

There have been no instances calling for use of the policy since it was approved in 2004, but it was considered that it remains essential to have such a policy on record. The WSO reports that there was low compliance with the original part 2. This amendment calls for selection of committee members from the region take place only if actually needed. This amendment also strikes written and telephone conference

call specifics because in current practice, electronic communications and free or low-cost conference calls are common. This amendment specifies that the chair of the Board of Trustees chairs the Appeals Review Committee to honor the responsibility inherent to their task.

---

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: D  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010e by striking the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2010e

It was adopted to:

Require all groups and service bodies wishing to register electronically with the WSO to provide at least one email address and name when submitting their registration request. The required email address is for use within the OA organization and will not be published.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 2010e

It was adopted to:

Require all groups and service bodies wishing to register ~~electronically~~ with the WSO to provide at least one email address and name when submitting their registration request. The required email address is for use within the OA organization and will not be published.

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To clarify the requirement that all groups and service bodies wishing to register with the WSO need to provide an email and name.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

To ensure clear and consistent requirements providing good, orderly direction.



Rationale

Concept Two states, “OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services.” Groups’ and service bodies’ registration information is maintained electronically, and is used in communicating information pertinent to carrying the message of recovery.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: E  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2009d.

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2009d

Proposed Wording

~~WSBC Policy 2009d~~

It was adopted to:

Create a Web/Technology Conference Committee starting at WSBC 2010.

~~It was adopted to:~~

~~Create a Web/Technology Conference Committee starting at WSBC 2010.~~

Submitted By

Board of Trustees

Joanne M.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To continue to support the restructuring of the WSBC with an aim toward reduction of duplication of effort (in accordance with spiritual Principle contained in Concept Ten).

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. The committee will disband by the end of the 2018-2019 committee year once they have determined how the current members will liaise with other Conference committees (see Rationale for more information).

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

This motion, if adopted, would be the beginning of the Intent described above and that is to reduce duplication of effort within the WSBC structure. Administrative streamlining will help achieve prudent use of OA funds by lowering overhead to produce the WSBC. One benefit of the streamlining would be to require fewer committee rooms, thus affording the WSO a wider range of potential venues to host our annual business meeting. Creating more competition to procure hotel locations will help lower costs involved in the WSBC. Eliminating any potential duplication of effort among the committees will help us carry the message more efficiently.

### Rationale

The Board of Trustees has reviewed approaches to restructure the WSBC. One of the items reviewed was the number of Conference committees and their statements of purpose. The Web/Technology Committee's statement of purpose is to assess technology and make general recommendations available to service bodies about efficient uses of technology to carry the message in accordance with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA. This committee serves as a hub for the exchange of technology information within OA.

The committee has struggled with a clear understanding of their mission; goals have not been met. The committee started with ten members for the 2016-2017 year and only had one active member by August 2016. For the 2017-2018 year, the committee started with nine members and only has three active members as of November 2017. Delegate cochairs resigned in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

It is suggested that each Conference committee have technical liaisons in an effort to share information and help avoid duplication of effort. The Web/Technology Committee trustee cochair, in an effort to not lose these motivated committee members, met with them regarding the suggestion. These individuals are amenable to helping to perform and possibly organize the liaisons.

---

### History

No history in the past five years.

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: F  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2009a.

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2009a

It was adopted that:

The World Service Office provides website templates for optional use by OA service bodies and groups in creating or revising their websites.

Proposed Wording

~~WSBC Policy 2009a~~

~~It was adopted that:~~

~~The World Service Office provides website templates for optional use by OA service bodies and groups in creating or revising their websites.~~

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To remove a policy that is not needed and does not reflect current OA practice.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

OA service bodies have taken responsibility for developing their own websites as a means to carry the OA message of recovery. They can reach out to other service bodies to gain from others' experiences. The WSO can thus focus on other areas that help carry OA's message.

Rationale

To lighten the extensive load of services we direct the WSO to provide of something that service bodies have been doing on their own.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: G  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2004a.

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2004a

It was adopted that:

The WSO have proposal forms available on the OA website with detailed online instructions for submitting the proposals. The forms are to include an email address for the maker of the proposal.

Proposed Wording

~~WSBC Policy 2004a~~

~~It was adopted that:~~

~~The WSO have proposal forms available on the OA website with detailed online instructions for submitting the proposals. The forms are to include an email address for the maker of the proposal.~~

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To unburden the Business Conference Policy Manual of a policy directive that is unneeded, as the directive has gone on to become ordinary and routine practice.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

By cleaning house, we keep it simple.

Rationale

Since the time of WSBC Policy 2004a, the WSO has fully adopted using the OA website to disseminate materials, such as proposal forms of this policy. Therefore, WSBC Policy 2004a is unneeded, stating the obvious.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: H  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1991c by inserting the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1991c

It was adopted that:

The terms “compulsive overeater, compulsive eater,” and “compulsive eating, compulsive overeating” be used interchangeably in OA literature, as determined to be appropriate by the Literature Committee during the regular literature writing, editing, and approval process.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 1991c

It was adopted that:

The terms “compulsive overeater, compulsive eater,” and “compulsive eating, compulsive overeating” be used interchangeably in OA literature, as determined to be appropriate to the topic and context by the Literature Committee during the regular literature writing, editing, and approval process.

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To clarify the intent of the policy.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

One of our key tools is literature. Literature that addresses each aspect of compulsive overeating with wording appropriate to the context communicates more clearly and aids in recovery.



Rationale

Clearly written and well-articulated literature is an important tool in the OA recovery process.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: I  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 1987b.

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1987b

It was adopted that:

One leave of absence for up to sixty days from all Board of Trustees activities and responsibilities may be claimed by any member of the Board of Trustees during each of her/his elected terms of office for any reason.

Proposed Wording

~~WSBC Policy 1987b~~

~~It was adopted that:~~

~~One leave of absence for up to sixty days from all Board of Trustees activities and responsibilities may be claimed by any member of the Board of Trustees during each of her/his elected terms of office for any reason.~~

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To eliminate redundancy as the wording appears in OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart A, Section 7e.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

Keeping order in our policies and bylaws models and fosters the clarity we seek in recovery.

Rationale

Keeping this directive in one place, rather than two, keeps it simple.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: J  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

Status:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1986a by inserting the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1986a

It was adopted that:

Overeaters Anonymous celebrate an annual worldwide Unity Day on the last Saturday in February at 11:30 a.m. pacific standard time.

To designate the third Saturday of January as the annual celebration of the January 19, 1960 founding of Overeaters Anonymous.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 1986a

It was adopted that:

Overeaters Anonymous celebrate an annual worldwide Unity Day on the last Saturday in February in even years and the last Sunday in February in odd years at 11:30 a.m. pacific standard time.

To designate the third Saturday of January in odd years and the third Sunday in January in even years as the annual celebration of the January 19, 1960 founding of Overeaters Anonymous.

Submitted By

Baltimore Area IG, Region Seven  
Sue B.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To allow OA members of various faiths and Sabbath observances access to annual celebrations.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. The method of implementation is inherent within the proposed wording.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

If celebrations are held on alternate Sabbath days each year, all members and potential members of OA will receive a message of acceptance, tolerance, and inclusivity according to the long form of Tradition Ten (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 565) which states that "our groups oppose no one." As written, these motions are counterproductive to carrying the message to a large segment of OA's membership.

### Rationale

As written, the Continuing Effects Motions regarding OA annual celebrations exclude Jewish Sabbath observant members from participation. Because the Twelve Steps of OA help us to become patient, kind, tolerant, and accepting of others, exclusion of any kind would be counterproductive to promoting recovery from compulsive eating and compulsive food behavior. If the motions were changed to observe all annual celebrations on Sundays to allow Jewish members to participate, members from other religions might be precluded. These amendments, therefore, present a solution that will promote inclusion at alternating celebrations on alternating years, giving everyone an equal opportunity to participate and share in OA's message of hope.

---

### History

2016 – WSBC Policy 1986a (paraphrased)

*Move Unity Day to last Saturday in June. (Failed)*

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: K  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1992b by adding the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1992b

It was adopted that:

The World Service Business Conference establish an International Day Experiencing Abstinence (IDEA) to be held annually on the third Saturday in November.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 1992b

It was adopted that:

The World Service Business Conference establish an International Day Experiencing Abstinence (IDEA) to be held annually on the third Saturday in November in even years and the third Sunday in November in odd years.

Submitted By

Baltimore Area IG, Region Seven

Sue B.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To allow OA members of various faiths and Sabbath observances access to annual celebrations.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. The method of implementation is inherent within the proposed wording.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

If celebrations are held on alternate Sabbath days each year, all members and potential members of OA will receive a message of acceptance, tolerance, and inclusivity according to the long form of Tradition Ten (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 565) which states that "our groups oppose no one." As written, these motions are counterproductive to carrying the message to a large segment of OA's membership.

### Rationale

As written, the Continuing Effects Motions regarding OA annual celebrations exclude Jewish Sabbath observant members from participation. Because the Twelve Steps of OA help us to become patient, kind, tolerant, and accepting of others, exclusion of any kind would be counterproductive to promoting recovery from compulsive eating and compulsive food behavior. If the motions were changed to observe all annual celebrations on Sundays to allow Jewish members to participate, members from other religions might be precluded. These amendments, therefore, present a solution that will promote inclusion at alternating celebrations on alternating years, giving everyone an equal opportunity to participate and share in OA's message of hope.

---

### History

No history in the past five years.

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: L  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2017c by adding the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2017c

It was adopted that:

The World Service Business Conference 2017 create a Sponsorship Day to be held annually on the third Saturday in August.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 2017c

It was adopted that:

The World Service Business Conference 2017 create a Sponsorship Day to be held annually on the third Saturday in August in odd years and third Sunday in August in even years.

Submitted By

Baltimore Area IG, Region Seven  
Sue B.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To allow OA members of various faiths and Sabbath observances access to annual celebrations.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. The method of implementation is inherent within the proposed wording.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

If celebrations are held on alternate Sabbath days each year, all members and potential members of OA will receive a message of acceptance, tolerance, and inclusivity according to the long form of Tradition Ten (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 565) which states that "our groups oppose no one." As written, these motions are counterproductive to carrying the message to a large segment of OA's membership.



### Rationale

As written, the Continuing Effects Motions regarding OA annual celebrations exclude Jewish Sabbath observant members from participation. Because the Twelve Steps of OA help us to become patient, kind, tolerant, and accepting of others, exclusion of any kind would be counterproductive to promoting recovery from compulsive eating and compulsive food behavior. If the motions were changed to observe all annual celebrations on Sundays to allow Jewish members to participate, members from other religions might be precluded. These amendments, therefore, present a solution that will promote inclusion at alternating celebrations on alternating years, giving everyone an equal opportunity to participate and share in OA's message of hope.

---

### History

No history in the past five years.

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: M  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2012a by striking and adding the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 2012a

The following policy statement was adopted:

**Statement on Creating Service Centers**

Service bodies may form service centers to assist them in communicating with the groups and to help carry the message, providing that they adhere to the Traditions, as guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service, and do not alter or print any OA board- or Conference-approved literature unless approved by the World Service Office.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 2012a

The following policy statement was adopted:

**Statement on Creating Service Centers**

Service bodies may form service centers to assist them in communicating with the groups and to help carry the message, providing that they adhere to the Traditions, as guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service, and ~~do not alter or print any OA board- or Conference-approved literature unless approved by the World Service Office~~ adhere to Overeaters Anonymous policies for the use of OA-approved literature and print material.

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair  
*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair  
*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To amend a policy with correct and current instruction for the use of OA-approved literature and print material.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

This clarifies a policy that service bodies may use to assist them when carrying the message of OA recovery using OA-approved literature and print material.

Rationale

Tradition Nine states, “OA, as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.” Tradition Eight states, “Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.” The amended policy provides instructions on creating/forming service centers which support our service bodies.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: N  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

Status:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988a by striking and inserting the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1988a

It was adopted that:

These matters should be considered, but are not binding upon service bodies:

- 1) Functioning  
Service bodies may join together in order to help carry the message, providing they adhere to the Traditions and do not alter, print, or electronically transmit any OA-approved literature unless approved in writing by the World Service Office.
- 2) Business Conference Delegates
  - a) In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3c) of the Bylaws, Subpart B, it is suggested the delegates should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness, and for faithful adherence to living within the concepts of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service delegate be a current or past regional representative.
  - b) As participants, delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their service bodies, but should not vote against these wishes unless situations arise at the Business Conference that make it necessary for the best interests of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 1988a

It was adopted that:

~~These matters should be considered, but are not binding upon service bodies:~~

- 1) Functioning  
Service bodies may join together in order to help carry the message of OA recovery, providing they adhere to the Traditions and ~~do not alter, print, or electronically transmit any OA-approved literature unless approved in writing by the World Service Office~~ the Overeaters Anonymous policies for the use of OA-approved literature and print material.
- 2) Business Conference Delegates
  - a) In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3c) of the Bylaws, Subpart B, it is suggested the delegates should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness, and for faithful adherence to living within the concepts of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service delegate be a current or past regional representative.
  - b) As participants, delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their service bodies, but should not vote against these wishes unless situations arise at the Business Conference that make it necessary for the best interests of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.

Submitted By

WSBC Bylaws Committee

Karin H., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Faye D., Bylaws Committee Delegate Cochair

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To remove the introductory sentence about binding because in fact some of the matters contained within this policy are binding upon service bodies. For example, service bodies are expected to follow the Traditions and adhere to OA policies for the use of OA-approved literature.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

Adhering to the Traditions guides our service bodies in carrying the message of OA recovery. Adhering to OA policies for use of OA literature and print material protects the use of the Tool of literature.

Rationale

Striking the first line makes the policy a directive, stronger than a nonbinding consideration. The proposed change for the last line of Part 1 directs to Overeaters Anonymous policies for the use of OA literature and print materials, and strikes the details because they are not in accordance with OA policy. For example, OA print material currently on the OA website (downloadable PDF files and text) can be reprinted and translated without written permission.

---

History

2014 – WSBC Policy 1988a (paraphrased)

*Revise policy intergroups, delegates, region reps, BOT, and meetings of delegates (housekeeping). (Adopted)*

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: O  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1982c by adding the following:

Current Wording

WSBC Policy 1982c

A definition of open and closed groups was adopted:

Open group is a group which is open to anyone.

Closed group is a group that is open to anyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively, or anyone who thinks they may have a problem with compulsive overeating.

Proposed Wording

WSBC Policy 1982c

A definition of open and closed groups was adopted:

Open group is a group which is open to anyone.

Closed group is a group that is open to anyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively, or anyone who thinks they may have a problem with compulsive overeating. This includes newcomers.

Submitted By

Central Ontario IG, Region Six

Chuck F.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To clarify that closed meetings are open to newcomers. The intent is to ensure that new members, the most important person in our Fellowship, feel comfortable in attending closed meetings.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. This change would be carried out on our meeting lists, but most importantly, on our website where it must be clear that closed meetings are open to anyone who might have a problem with food.

Cost

Unknown. Minimal web development work.

Primary Purpose

This change will attract newcomers as newcomers feel excluded from closed meetings. If we explain what a closed and open meeting is, they will be more likely to attend their first meeting. In that meeting, they can hear the message of recovery.

Rationale

The rationale for this is clear. Approximately 20 percent of newcomers asking questions about OA are asking about open and closed meetings. This is based on the last six months of emails received by Central Ontario Intergroup.

---

History

No history in the past five years.

WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

None.

Proposal Item: P  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to add Meditation as an official Tool of the Overeaters Anonymous program.

Submitted By

712 VSB of Overeaters Anonymous  
Jim A.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To add meditation to the list of OA's official Tools.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. OA's literature that mentions the Tools would be updated through the usual literature review and update processes.

Cost

Minor expenses to review and update OA literature.

Primary Purpose

Including meditation as an official and separate Tool will help to emphasize to newcomers and old timers the essential nature of this spiritual practice in recovering from compulsive eating.

Rationale

The Tools of recovery are the actions we take in order to live by the spiritual Principles of OA's Twelve Steps. They are not apart from the Steps; they are how we live the Steps.

First, we plan to live in accordance with the Steps so we have a plan of action. Having a plan of eating helps us to abstain from compulsive eating and maintain the mental clarity we need in order to live the Steps. We use literature as a means of learning more about and reinforcing the OA way of living through the Twelve Steps. We make telephone calls, do service, go to OA meetings, and use sponsorship as a means of carrying the message to other compulsive overeaters. Writing assists us in taking inventories in accordance with Steps Four and Ten. And finally, anonymity is the fundamental spiritual Principle behind our Steps and Traditions.

Step Eleven refers to "prayer and meditation," not prayer or meditation. Meditation is distinctly different from prayer. As the old saying goes, "Prayer is when you talk to God and meditation is when you listen." Meditation helps to reduce stress and anxiety. It helps us to concentrate and feel closer to our Higher Power.



Including meditation as an official, separate Tool will remind everyone, new and old, of the importance of this practice and its importance in recovering from compulsive overeating.

Of course, there is no reason to wait until Step Eleven to start praying or meditating. Many newcomers are unfamiliar with meditation and need guidance on how to start. Including such an introduction in the *Tools of Recovery* pamphlet will help newcomers get off to a faster and better start on the Steps.

---

### History

2017 – WSBC Policy

*Create a Tool on mindfulness. (Failed)*

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

The addition of a new Tool does have costs associated with the implementation once the Tool is adopted and written. The process of writing the explanation of the Tool and getting Conference approval would take up to two years.

The Tools are mentioned or listed in at least five books and five pamphlets, which will need inserts added to explain the updated number of Tools and name of the new Tool. Then another insert that includes the text of the new Tool would need to be placed in these publications once it is created. Otherwise it is confusing when the information changes from one publication to another. This process would take several years as the existing pamphlets and books are reprinted and reviewed.

The costs would include:

- Printing of inserts
- Staff time ensuring the inserts are provided
- Staff time to update pages of oa.org

Proposal Item: Q  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to add Physical Activity as an official Tool of the Overeaters Anonymous program.

Submitted By

712 VSB of Overeaters Anonymous  
Jim A.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To add physical activity to the list of OA's official Tools.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. OA's literature that mentions the Tools would be updated through the usual literature review and update processes.

Cost

Minor expenses to review and update OA literature.

Primary Purpose

By including physical activity in the Tools of recovery, we help to give newcomers and old timers an additional Tool that will help to prevent the cravings from hitting and help them to stay out of the food when the cravings hit.

Rationale

The Tools of recovery are the actions we take in order to live by the spiritual Principles of OA's Twelve Steps. They are not apart from the Steps; they are how we live the Steps.

Almost any physical activity helps to improve our mood. This helps to prevent the cravings from hitting. Moving our bodies in almost any manner gets the blood and oxygen circulating through our bodies and helps to lift the mental fog that inactivity imposes on our bodies. This, along with abstinence, gives us the clarity we need to deal with life on life's terms and stay out of the food. Most religious and spiritual traditions teach that taking proper care of the body—the temple of the soul—is an important part of spiritual development. Physical activity is part of that proper care.

Note that the wording of this proposal does not include "exercise." Proposals have been made in the past to make exercise an official Tool. The word exercise has many negative connotations, including the pain and humiliation inflicted on many of us in school exercise classes when we were obese. Many of us tried exercise plans in futile attempts to manage our eating disorders. Physical activity includes not only

intentional beneficial exercise, but also much gentler activities as simple as taking a walk or standing while talking on the phone.

Furthermore, adding physical activity along with prayer and meditation as official Tools brings the number of Tools up to twelve, in parallel with our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

---

### History

2017 – WSBC Policy

*Create a Tool on mindfulness. (Failed)*

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

The addition of a new Tool does have costs associated with the implementation once the Tool is adopted and written. The process of writing the explanation of the Tool and getting Conference approval would take up to two years.

The Tools are mentioned or listed in at least five books and five pamphlets, which will need inserts added to explain the updated number of Tools and name of the new Tool. Then another insert that includes the text of the new Tool would need to be placed in these publications once it is created. Otherwise it is confusing when the information changes from one publication to another. This process would take several years as the existing pamphlets and books are reprinted and reviewed.

The costs would include:

- Printing of inserts
- Staff time ensuring the inserts are provided
- Staff time to update pages of oa.org

Proposal Item: R  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

Motion

Move to add Prayer as an official Tool of the Overeaters Anonymous program.

Submitted By

712 VSB of Overeaters Anonymous  
Jim A.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To add prayer to the list of OA's official Tools.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. OA's literature that mentions the Tools would be updated through the usual literature review and update processes.

Cost

Minor expenses to review and update OA literature.

Primary Purpose

Including prayer in the official Tools of recovery and related literature will help to explain to newcomers the spiritual basis of the program.

Rationale

The Tools of recovery are the actions we take in order to live by the spiritual Principles of OA's Twelve Steps. They are not apart from the Steps; they are how we live the Steps.

First, we plan to live in accordance with the Steps so we have a plan of action. Having a plan of eating helps us to abstain from compulsive eating and maintain the mental clarity we need in order to live the Steps. We use literature as a means of learning more about and reinforcing the OA way of living through the Twelve Steps. We make telephone calls, do service, go to OA meetings, and use sponsorship as a means of carrying the message to other compulsive overeaters. Writing assists us in taking inventories in accordance with Steps Four and Ten. And finally, anonymity is the fundamental spiritual Principle behind our Steps as well as our Traditions.

Curiously missing from our list of Tools is prayer, even though it is an essential part of our program. The Steps explicitly refer to prayer in Step Eleven. Prayer is also an essential part of Steps Three and Seven. It helps us not only to start and end our days with prayer, but also at meal times. Prayer helps to keep us out

of the food and other stressful times when the cravings hit. We should not leave this important part of our program out of the Tools that we provide to newcomers and old timers.

---

---

### History

2017 – WSBC Policy

*Create a Tool on mindfulness. (Failed)*

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

The addition of a new Tool does have costs associated with the implementation once the Tool is adopted and written. The process of writing the explanation of the Tool and getting Conference approval would take up to two years.

The Tools are mentioned or listed in at least five books and five pamphlets, which will need inserts added to explain the updated number of Tools and name of the new Tool. Then another insert that includes the text of the new Tool would need to be placed in these publications once it is created. Otherwise it is confusing when the information changes from one publication to another. This process would take several years as the existing pamphlets and books are reprinted and reviewed.

The costs would include:

- Printing of inserts
- Staff time ensuring the inserts are provided
- Staff time to update pages of oa.org

Proposal Item: S  
Total Percentage:  
Total Voting:

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Committee

World Service Business Conference (WSBC) 2018  
New Business Motion

---

---

Motion

Move to eliminate the restrictions to share parts of the book, *For Today*, between members of Overeaters Anonymous.

Submitted By

Junta NSB De Espana, Region Nine  
Jose M.

*Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*

Intent

To be able to share legally and freely the aforementioned material which has been published for more than thirty years now. We ask for permission to share the copyrighted material of *For Today* through virtual media and eliminate the restrictions to share parts of the book, *For Today*, between members of Overeaters Anonymous.

Implementation

Update the Business Conference Policy Manual. Approve the authorization for the members of Overeaters Anonymous to freely share the content of the book, *For Today*. Approval is requested so this motion can be taken to the corresponding service body in the World Service Office.

Cost

None.

Primary Purpose

When we share the reading of the day by WhatsApp, or any group texting application, it is much easier to access it wherever we are through our cell phone or computer, and contact between members is encouraged when someone comments on the feelings and thoughts that the reading awakes in them. Connection with other OAers in our day-to-day lives encourages maintained abstinence.

Rationale

For some members of OA, it is very enriching to be able to share daily the daily reflections contained in the approved literature, as well as to share the impressions provoked by their reading. It provides a sense of unity.

---

---

History

No history in the past five years.

### WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments

It is not reasonable to expect parity between all types of meetings. Each has their challenges and their benefits. Face-to-face meetings may read the daily meditation; however, they only meet weekly. A member would want to own the book in order to have access to the meditations daily. For a phone meeting, even if they meet daily, the words are spoken and once they are said, they are gone. But, a social media meeting has its data out there somewhat permanently, unless someone takes a real effort to ensure it is not shared and removes it as the meeting ends.

Sales of literature currently account for 46 percent of our annual income. The potential loss of sales of one of our most popular books by allowing open source via social media could impact our ability to provide services to the Fellowship.