



**WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE 2008
RELEVANT BYLAWS AND POLICIES**

OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B

Bylaw Article	Bylaw Amendment
Article VI – Intergroups Section 3 – Functioning Part b)	An intergroup must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)
Article VII – Regions Section 4 – Functioning Part b)	A region must be duly registered along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates specified in Article X, Section 3a (5) to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications of delegates.)
Article VIII – National/ Language Service Boards Section 4 – Functioning Part b)	A national/language/general service board must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)
Article IX – Board of Trustees Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees Part a) – Regional Trustees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) At least one-hundred twenty days prior to the scheduled opening of the annual Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, all groups within a region eligible to submit trustee nominees shall be notified by the regional officers of the forthcoming Conference, with a request to all qualified members of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous from the region to submit nominations to the region. 2) At least ninety days prior to the annual Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, the regional representatives of each region shall choose from the nominees submitted to it no more than three qualified nominees from that region. Resumes of these nominees must be sent to the Board of Trustees within one week of their selection. Copies of these resumes must be sent to all delegates at least forty-five days prior to its annual meeting. (See exception, Section 7.) 3) The (no more than three) nominees for regional trustees chosen by the regional assembly or affirmed by the currently registered region representatives shall be submitted to the Conference for election.
Article IX – Board of Trustees Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees Part c) – General Service Trustees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All applicants for open position(s) of general service trustee must submit their resume to the Board of Trustees ninety days prior to the annual Conference. Such resumes must be affirmed by a majority vote of the nominee’s intergroup or the region in which the nominee has recently served, or a majority vote of the Board of Trustees if the nominee is an incumbent. Copies of the applicants’ resumes for the open position(s) must be sent to all Conference delegates at least forty-five days prior to the annual Conference.

Bylaw Article	Bylaw Amendment
<p>Article IX – Board of Trustees Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees Part c) – General Service Trustees</p>	<p>2) The Board of Trustees, acting as a nominating committee, shall submit a list of nominees at least forty-five days prior to the Conference.</p>
<p>Article X – Meetings of Delegates Section 3 – Delegates Part c) – Qualifications/ Selection</p>	<p>1) Qualifications for the selection of World Service delegates/ alternates shall be set by each intergroup, region (in the case of region delegates) or national/language service board provided that each delegate/alternate shall have at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service above the group level. (Permission for any exception for any exception in qualifications for valid reasons, if deemed credible by the trustees, may be received by application to the World Service Office.)</p> <p>2) Each intergroup or national/language service board shall be entitled to have one qualified delegate for up to the first fifteen groups it represents and one for each additional fifteen groups or any fraction thereof, except that the national/language service board shall not represent the same groups as intergroups represent. A group shall be recognized as registered and represented by an intergroup or national/language service board within its region or within its geographical proximity.</p> <p>3) Countries without intergroups which seek representation at the annual Conference shall have at least one delegate. Larger representation shall be determined by the Board of Trustees, with delegate approval in accordance with the number of groups in that country.</p> <p>4) Delegates and alternates should be selected at least one-hundred twenty days before the annual Conference, and the names forwarded immediately upon selection to the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous.</p> <p>5) If a region, intergroup or national/language service board does not select its delegate(s) and alternate(s) or fails to inform the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous before the annual meeting, such delegate(s) and alternate(s) may appear at the Conference with evidence of their due selection deemed credible by the trustees, and such delegate(s) shall be seated.</p>

Bylaw Article	Bylaw Amendment
<p>Article X – Meetings of Delegates Section 8 – Business Agenda</p>	<p>a) The chairman shall provide that the agenda for the annual Conference includes written reports of the treasurer, managing director, board and conference committee chairmen.</p> <p>b) Notwithstanding any action of the chairman or mandate of Section 7 above, questions of policy shall take precedence over proposed bylaw amendments at all Conference meetings, except for such bylaw amendments as may be required to conform with or be mandated by any action of state or federal statute, code or law. The agenda of the Conference shall specifically provide for consideration of policy questions before consideration of bylaw amendments.</p> <p>c) New business to be placed on the agenda prior to Conference shall follow the same procedure for submission as for bylaw amendments and shall be approved by thirty percent of all intergroups responding to an agenda questionnaire by sixty days prior to the Conference. Other new business of an urgent nature must receive a majority vote of the Reference Subcommittee in order to be brought to the Conference floor.</p>
<p>Article XIV – Bylaw Amendments Section 1 – Procedure</p>	<p>a) Amendments of Subpart B of these bylaws may be proposed by any registered intergroup or national/language service board, board, region, trustee, Region Chairs Committee or the Conference Bylaws Committee and shall be submitted to the chairman of the Board of Trustees, postmarked or be date and time stamped through electronic transmission by December 10 before the annual meeting of the Conference. The Board of Trustees may also submit amendments to the bylaws.</p> <p>b) The chairman of the board shall cause a copy of the proposed amendments to be communicated to each delegate whose name appears in the office of the secretary of the corporation and to each registered intergroup, region and trustee by January 10 prior to the annual Conference.</p> <p>c) In order for an amendment proposed to be submitted to the World Service Business Conference, these proposals will need to be approved by forty percent of all intergroups responding. The agenda questionnaire must be returned to the WSO by sixty days prior to the Conference.</p> <p>d) Except as otherwise specified by these bylaws, proposed amendments to Subpart B may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting provided a quorum is present.</p> <p>e) Amendments to Article I (Twelve Steps) and Article II (Twelve Traditions) of Subpart B of these bylaws may only be adopted if, in addition to d) above, they are ratified by three-fourths of the registered Overeaters Anonymous groups responding within six months of notification, provided at least fifty-five percent of the registered groups have responded.</p>

Policy Number	Policy
Article XIV – Bylaw Amendments Section 1 – Procedure (cont’d)	f) The parliamentarian may suggest editorial changes which do not alter the meaning of any bylaws but clarify the wording or bring the bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation into conformity. g) Amendments to Subpart B of these bylaws shall be effective at the close of the Conference except as otherwise specified.

Continuing Effect Motions

Policy Number	Policy
1979c Amended 1989	It was adopted that: The treasurer’s report be prepared and sent out to delegates prior to the Business Conference to allow each person time to study, assimilate and prepare any questions they might have for the Board of Trustees.
1979e Amended 1989 and 2001	It was adopted to: Include names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of delegates in the Final World Service Business Conference Report. “For Use Within OA Only” should appear at the top of this list.
1980d	It was adopted that: A Conference committee member can petition the Board of Trustees to consider by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees to remove a nonfunctioning chairman of a specific Conference committee. The vice chairman will then assume the chairmanship.
1982f	It was adopted that: Future Business Conferences begin proposed bylaw amendments directly following the last completely debated article of the previous year. (Note: The intent is to apply this recommendation only in a year following a Business Conference that was unable to debate and vote on all proposed bylaw amendments due to a lack of time.)
1984c	It was adopted that: Business Conference committees not raise or maintain funds.
1984d	The following procedure for Business Conference presentations/discussions was adopted: 1) Items for presentations/discussions to appear on the Business Conference agenda questionnaire will be proposed to the board by the board Internal Information Committee or the Conference Agenda Committee. Topics are selected by the board. Selections for topics are made from recurring problems, topics of major interest and topics requested by the Fellowship. 2) Intergroups or regions who propose presentation/discussion topics will be sent a letter stating how topics are chosen and that their recommendation has been referred to the appropriate committee for consideration. 3) Topics requiring a motion to be brought to the floor will appear on the Business Conference agenda questionnaire for voting by the intergroups with a brief paragraph stating what the topic will be about.

Policy Number	Policy
1984d (cont'd)	<p>4) Format for the presentation/discussion: Specific time will be allowed on the agenda. From one to three presenters will give their views. The presentation will be timed, but the time may vary based on topic and number of presenters. The presentation will be written out and included in the Final Conference Report. The remainder of the time will be for discussion from the floor.</p> <p>5) <u>Format for discussion from the floor:</u> Speakers will speak from the podium microphone. Speakers will be timed and limited to three minutes.</p> <p>6) If a committee is to be formed, the chairman will appoint a trustee to chair the committee. The committee members will be chosen with one representative from each region.</p>
1986b	<p>It was adopted that: The annual World Service Business Conference delegate binders include a copy of the current fiscal year budget as adopted by the Board of Trustees.</p>
<p>1988a Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001 and 2002 Section 3 – Business Conference Delegates</p>	<p>It was adopted that:</p> <p>a) Each delegate maybe elected for a term of two years, and in addition to attending the annual Business Conference, should serve Overeaters Anonymous World Service Business Conference for such term.</p> <p>b) A delegate should not serve for more than four consecutive years, except for reasons to be decided by the local intergroup with respect to its own delegate.</p> <p>c) In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3 c) 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, the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service delegate be a current or past regional representative.</p> <p>d) Delegates may be instructed as to the desires of the intergroups they represent.</p> <p>e) As participants, delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their intergroups, 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.</p> <p>f) Communications concerning the Business Conference from the trustees and the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous to the intergroups shall be through the delegates, and each individual intergroup and regional office shall receive duplicate communications.</p>
<p>1988a Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001 and 2002 Board of Trustees</p>	<p>Minutes The Board of Trustees shall submit written minutes to all World Service Business Conference delegates and service boards referenced in Bylaws, Subpart B.</p>

Policy Number	Policy
<p>1988a Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001 and 2002 Meetings of Delegates</p>	<p>Annual Business Conference</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Oral committee and workshop reports shall be made on the final day of the Business Conference. Written reports are due in the World Service Office two weeks following the close of the Business Conference. b) Special meetings of delegates or committees of delegates during the Business Conference for any purpose or purposes may be called at any time by the chairman or by a majority of the trustees and/or delegates.
<p>1991a Amended 2003</p>	<p>It was adopted that: The following Conference and board committees be restructured as follows, to begin with the 1992 WSBC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Conference committees listed in Subpart B, Article XI of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws be combined with the corresponding board committees (except where special provisions for membership exist in the bylaws). 2) Committee membership will be limited to a delegate cochairman, a trustee cochairman and two or more delegates from each region, up to thirty members at WSBC. Additionally, a combination of up to six former trustees, current trustees, and non-delegate members may be appointed to participate in the work of the committee during the year. 3) Cochairmen consisting of a Conference delegate (elected by committee members at WSBC) and a trustee (appointed by the chairman of the BOT) will coordinate the efforts of the committee. The Conference delegate cochairman will preside over the committee meetings at WSBC. The trustee cochairman will act as liaison between the committee and the BOT and will report to the Board of Trustees regarding committee activities. The cochairmen will select the committee members from the delegates that have indicated interest on the committee preference form with input from the appropriate regional trustee based on involvement and experience in same/similar committee at local, regional and past world service levels. 4) Committee members not responding to two consecutive mailings of the committee which require answers will not receive future mailings unless the member has notified one of the cochairmen of a reason for a temporary absence from committee work. 5) The committee meetings at WSBC will be open; however, only committee members will have a voice and vote. The BOT may plan other Conference-related activities during the committee meetings at WSBC for delegates not serving on committees.

Policy Number	Policy
<p>1991a (cont'd) Amended 2003</p>	<p>6) Delegates should be registered by March 1 and have submitted a committee preference form by April 1 in order to be considered for committee membership. Delegates will be notified at or prior to WSBC if they were selected to serve on a committee. The committee preference form will be updated to advise delegates that serving on a committee is optional.</p>
<p>1992e</p>	<p>It was adopted that: The World Service Board of Trustees incorporates the job description of the general service trustee on the trustee application form.</p>
<p>1993c Amended 1994, 2001 and 2002</p>	<p>It was adopted that: World Service Business Conference 2002 adopt a policy that the World Service Office shall mail an annual letter to all regions, national/language service boards, and intergroups requesting donations to help fund delegates to attend World Service Business Conferences. Delegates selected to receive this fund will be those from intergroups and national/language service boards (in all regions). Priority will be given to those intergroups and national/ language service boards that have not previously sent delegates to Conference.</p>
<p>2001</p>	<p>It was adopted that: There will continue to be a delegate registration fee (\$65 for WSBC 2000) adjusted as deemed necessary by the BOT. A portion of this fee is nonrefundable based on cost.</p>
<p>2004</p>	<p>It was adopted that: Intergroups registered with the WSO prior to May 2001 must submit a current intergroup registration form and bylaws or statement of purpose in conformance with OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, along with complete information on each of its affiliated groups to the WSO. Region trustees will review and approve these bylaws in accordance with existing procedures.</p> <p>Intergroups whose bylaws require revisions to attain conformity must submit them by January 1, 2005 in order to satisfy OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 2 and may be denied delegate credentials at future WSBCs by failing to do so.</p> <p>The following appeals process will be utilized to provide affected intergroups a means by which their grievance may be heard in time to seat delegates at the WSBC in question, should they prevail upon appeal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Board of Trustees will notify the intergroup or national/ language service board of any challenges to delegate credentials within thirty days of receipt of delegate information by the WSO.

Policy Number	Policy
2004 (cont'd)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="565 268 1458 478">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 in the event of denial of delegate credentials. The Appeals Review Committee shall be composed of two members of the Board of Trustees, two region chairmen, and two representatives of the region bringing the appeal.<li data-bbox="565 485 1458 653">3) 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.