

**BYLAWS OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ INTERGROUP/SERVICE BOARD OF  
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS**

*Date Adopted or Revised*

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the \_\_\_\_\_ Intergroup/Service Board also known as Intergroup/Service Board \_\_\_\_\_ (or the initials you have chosen).

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of this intergroup/service board is to carry the Overeaters Anonymous message of recovery through the service to member groups and to foster the practice of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts as stated in OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Articles I, II and III.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERS**

***Section 1 – Membership***

Membership of the intergroup (IG)/service board (SB) with voice and vote includes the following:

- A) The intergroup (IG)/service board (SB) board members or officers.
- B) Intergroup/service board representatives (IRs/SBRs), which consist of \_\_\_\_\_ member(s) from each group.
- C) World Service Business Conference delegates and region representatives. (NOTE: Per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII, Section 1a), virtual service boards are not included in the regional structure, and therefore may not have region representatives.)

***Section 2 – Qualifications***

Qualifications for membership in the intergroup/service board:

- A) Groups registered with the World Service Office (WSO) that are within its region or geographic proximity may affiliate with an intergroup, except that virtual groups registered with the WSO may affiliate without regard to geographic proximity. (For service boards, see OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII, Section 2.) These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:
  - 1) As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
  - 2) All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
  - 3) No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
  - 4) As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
  - 5) It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

***Section 2 – Qualifications (continued)***

- B) Virtual groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) may be an Overeaters Anonymous group if they:
  - 1) Otherwise meet the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups;
  - 2) Are fully interactive; and
  - 3) Meet in real time.

***Section 3 – Intergroup/Service Board Representatives***

- A) An intergroup/service board representative (IR/SBR) will be selected from the group conscience of the group they represent.
- B) The duty of the IR/SBR is to represent the group at IG/SB meetings and to serve as a contact to carry communications between the IG/SB and the home meeting.

**ARTICLE IV – THE INTERGROUP (IG)/SERVICE BOARD (SB) BOARD**

***Section 1 – The Intergroup (IG)/Service Board (SB) Board***

- A) The board consists of the following officers: **[insert position titles]** (e.g. a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, etc.).
- B) The intergroup (IG)/service board (SB) board may also include other positions such as World Service Business Conference delegates, committee chairs or regional representatives. (See note above about virtual service boards.)
- C) Meetings shall be chaired by the chairman of the board. In the event the chairman is unable to chair any meeting, the vice chair will lead the meeting. In the event the vice chair is not available, the secretary will open the meeting and hold an election for a temporary chairman.

***Section 2 – Nominations to the Intergroup (IG)/Service Board (SB) Board***

Nominations to the board may be made from the floor at the time of election. A nominating committee may be formed at the discretion of the intergroup/service board.

***Section 3 – Qualifications for the Intergroup (IG)/Service Board (SB) Board***

To qualify for election to the intergroup (IG)/service board (SB) board, an individual must:

- A) Be working the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service to the best of their ability.
- B) Have **[specify length of time]** of current abstinence except as follows (each personal shall be the sole judge of his or her abstinence):
  - 1) World Service Business Conference delegates must comply with the abstinence and length of service requirements in the OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3c 1). Current requirements are one year current abstinence and at least two years of service beyond the group level.
  - 2) Region representatives must comply with the abstinence and length of service specified in the region's bylaws **[include specific region bylaws requirements]**.
- C) Be a regular member of an affiliated group.

**Section 4 – Election of Board Members**

- A) Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election.
- B) Nominees must be present at the election meeting. The candidate must receive a majority vote for election.
- C) Voting will be by ballot.

**Section 5 – Term of Office**

- A) The term of office for a board member is \_\_\_\_\_.
- B) Board members may serve no more than [specify amount] consecutive terms in the same position. A member may serve again after a leave of \_\_\_\_\_ in the position.
- C) Once elected, a board member may not serve as a group representative to the intergroup/service board.

**Section 6 – Responsibilities of the Intergroup (IG)/Service Board (SB) Board Members**

- A) Serve as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts with respect to the functions of the intergroup/service board.
- B) Perform the duties of their offices in accordance with intergroup/service board policies and procedures.
- C) Serve as guardian of intergroup/service board funds; participate in annual financial audit.
- D) Provide a forum for the interchange of ideas and information between member groups.

**Section 7 – Vacancies and Resignations**

- A) If a board member is absent from an IG/SB meeting more than \_\_\_\_\_ times in [specify the amount of times], he/she may be removed from the position by a majority vote of the members.
- B) Any board member may resign at any time for any reason by giving the chairman of the intergroup/ service board written notice.
- C) Any board member of this intergroup/service board may be removed from office for due cause by a [specify amount] (e.g. more than a majority, 2/3, 3/4) vote of the IRs/SBRs at a special meeting announced for that purpose.

**Section 8 – Filling of Vacancies**

- A) Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote at the next meeting or special meeting of the intergroup/ service board after the vacancy occurs. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- B) A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 3.

**ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

**Section 1 – Regular Meetings**

The intergroup/service board will meet [specify frequency] at a time and place designated by a majority of the voting members.

**Section 2 – Annual Meetings**

An annual meeting shall be held in the month of [specify month] for the election of officers.

NOTE: [Select a month and day that is at least 120 days prior to the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) allowing adequate time for election of the WSBC delegate(s).]

**Section 3 – Special Meetings**

A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the intergroup (IG)/service board (SB) board, or by petition of [insert specific percentage] intergroup/service board members, by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 4.

**Section 4 – Method of Notification**

The intergroup/service board will provide at least [recommended 7] days notice to each member group.

**Section 5 – Quorum**

Those voting members present at any meeting of this intergroup/service board constitute a quorum.

**Section 6 – Meeting Procedure**

The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts shall be read at the beginning of each meeting.

**ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

The board may establish committees as are needed for the welfare and operation of the intergroup/service board. Each committee is responsible to the IG/SB board.

**ARTICLE VII – PRUDENT RESERVE**

The IG/SB treasurer will maintain a prudent reserve of [amount or months expenses] to cover expected operational needs. Excess funds will be donated to OA service bodies as determined by the IG/SB.

**ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

NOTE: Intergroups/service boards may conduct the business of their groups by any method they choose. Once chosen, however, the method should be adopted in the bylaws so that members may be confident that the rules will not be changed as circumstances change to benefit some at the expense of others. The parliamentary authority common in use throughout Overeaters Anonymous is the most current available edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

**ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the intergroup/service board. The proposed amendment must be communicated in writing to each member group at least [recommended 30] days prior to the voting meeting. Amendments to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA may only be made as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XIV, Section 1e.

## **ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION**

When this intergroup/service board ceases operation and all debts have been paid, all remaining funds shall be distributed to other Overeaters Anonymous service bodies or the WSO in accordance with Tradition Six.