

Overeaters Anonymous Silicon Valley Intergroup

Bylaws

Revised: March 1, 2011

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Overeaters Anonymous Silicon Valley Intergroup also known as OASVI.

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) with voice and vote includes the following:

- A) The intergroup (IG)board members, which includes officers and holders of designated service positions.
- B) Intergroup representatives (IRs), which consist of one 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:

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.) An OA group is defined as the following:

- 1) As a group, they meet together to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA.
- 2) All who have a 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 OA.

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 Representatives

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

ARTICLE IV – THE INTERGROUP BOARD***Section 1 – The Intergroup Board***

- A) The board consists of the following officers: Chairperson, Treasurer, and Public Information Coordinator.
- B) The intergroup board (IB) may also include other positions such as Secretary, designated service position holders, World Service Business Conference delegates, committee chairs or regional representatives (See note above about virtual service boards.)
- C) Meetings shall be chaired by the chairperson of the board. In the event the chairperson 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 chairperson.

Section 2 – Nominations to the Intergroup Board

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

Section 3 – Qualifications for the Intergroup Board

To qualify for election to the intergroup 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 three months of current abstinence except as follows (each person 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. OASVI suggests delegates have two years of current abstinence.
 - 2) Region representatives must comply with the abstinence and length of service specified in the region's bylaws.
 - 3) The Chairperson, Treasurer, Public Information Coordinator, and Newsletter Editor must have six months of current abstinence.
- 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 unless consensus is otherwise.

Section 5 – Term of Office

- A) The term of office for a board member is one year.
- B) Board members may serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same position. A member may serve again after a leave of one year in the position.
- C) Once elected, a board member may not serve as a group representative to the intergroup.

Section 6 – Responsibilities of the Intergroup Board Members

- A) Serve as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts with respect to the functions of the intergroup.
- B) Perform the duties of their offices in accordance with intergroup policies and procedures.
- C) Serve as guardian of intergroup 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 meeting more than three consecutive times without prior arrangement, 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 chairperson of the intergroup written notice.
- C) Any board member of this intergroup may be removed from office for due cause by a two-thirds vote of those with a voice and a vote 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 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 will meet monthly 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 December for the election of officers.

Section 3 – Special Meetings

A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the intergroup, or by petition of one-third of intergroup members, by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 4.

Section 4 – Method of Notification

The intergroup will provide at least seven days notice to each member group.

Section 5 – Quorum

Those voting members present at any meeting of this intergroup 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. Each committee is responsible to the IG board.

ARTICLE VII – PRUDENT RESERVE

The IG treasurer will maintain a prudent reserve of nine months to cover expected operational needs. Excess funds will be donated to OA service bodies as determined by the IG.

ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

All meetings of OASVI shall be conducted in accordance with the most current available edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS

- A) 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. Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by any member group, Intergroup Representative, or Intergroup Board member and must be submitted to the Chairperson of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which action is to be taken on the amendment. A copy of the proposed amendment by any member group, Intergroup Representative, officer or designated service position holder must be submitted to each member group in Santa Clara County at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which action is to be taken on the amendment. Submission to member groups shall be satisfied by 45 days publication on the Silicon Valley Intergroup website and telephone contact with the last phone number registered with the Silicon Valley Intergroup.

- B) 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 ceases operation under the laws of California 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.