

Bylaws of
Central Ohio Service Intergroup
Of
Overeaters Anonymous, Incorporated
Group # 09134

Preamble

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for O.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. O.A. is not allied with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive overeating and to carry this message of recovery to those who still suffer.

Purpose of the Bylaws

The purpose of the Bylaws is to provide guidance for the administrative and operational procedures of the Central Ohio Service Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc.

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Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be Central Ohio Service Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., carrying the World Service Registration number #09134 and hereinafter referred to as Intergroup.

Article II. Purpose

The primary purpose is to facilitate the work of Overeaters Anonymous (OA) in accordance with the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts. Intergroup shall aid those with the problem of compulsive eating and to serve and represent the OA groups from which the Intergroup is formed. This Intergroup is in compliance with and qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 1 - The Twelve Steps

- (A) The Twelve Steps¹ are suggested for recovery in the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous. The Twelve Steps are:
- (1) We admitted we were powerless over food, that our lives had become unmanageable.
 - (2) Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
 - (3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
 - (4) Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
 - (5) Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
 - (6) Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
 - (7) Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
 - (8) Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
 - (9) Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
 - (10) Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
 - (11) Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for the knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
 - (12) Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.
- (B) The Twelve Steps shall not be amended by the Intergroup.

Section 2 - The Twelve Traditions

- (A) The Twelve Traditions² are:
- (1) Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
 - (2) For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
 - (3) The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.
 - (4) Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
 - (5) Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
 - (6) An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

¹ Permission to use and adapt the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous granted by AA World Services, Inc.

² Permission to use and adapt the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous granted by AA World Service, Inc.

- (7) Every OA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
 - (8) Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but service centers may employ special workers.
 - (9) OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
 - (10) Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
 - (11) Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and other public media of communication.
 - (12) Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.
- (B) The Twelve Traditions shall not be amended by the Intergroup.

Section 3 - The Twelve Concepts

- (A) The Twelve Concepts of OA Service are:
- (1) The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA World services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
 - (2) The OA groups have delegated to the World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, the World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.
 - (3) The Right of Decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.
 - (4) The right of Participation ensures equality of opportunity for all of 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.
 - (6) The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.
 - (7) The Board of Trustees has the legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the Worlds Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws Subpart B.
 - (8) The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the OA World Service Office.
 - (9) Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.
 - (10) Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.
 - (11) Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staff and consultants.
 - (12) The spiritual foundation for OA ensures that:
 - a) no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power.
 - b) sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
 - c) no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
 - d) all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
 - e) no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
 - f) no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform acts of government, each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.
- (B) The Twelve Concepts shall not be amended by the Intergroup

Section 4 - Intergroup Responsibilities

An intergroup is defined as referenced in the World Service Business Conference Bylaws Subpart B, Article VI, Sections 1 and 2.

To this purpose, Intergroup will:

- (A) Maintain an information service within this Intergroup service area; specifically excluded is any activity prohibited by Tradition Six.
- (B) Stimulate, coordinate and assist its members to share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problems and help others to recover from the disease of compulsive eating.
- (C) Further the OA program in accordance with the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. These activities include, but are not limited to:
 - (1) Sponsoring delegates to Regional Assemblies and World Service Conferences;
 - (2) Offering assistance to new and existing OA groups;
 - (3) Encouraging members' attendance at OA conventions and other OA events;
 - (4) Maintaining OA listings with local resources;
 - (5) Processing inquiries;
 - (6) Assisting in arranging 12th Step work;
 - (7) Maintaining and making available current OA meeting lists;
 - (8) Disseminating news information from Intergroup, OA Region and World Service to the member groups; ;
 - (9) Answering public information requests from area news media and supply news releases;
 - (10) Arranging for OA members to serve as speakers for outside organizations;
 - (11) Cooperating with other organizations in health and related fields;
- (D) Employ the spirit of the 12 Concepts in all decision making and operations.
- (E) Provide support for meetings in using the 12 Traditions;
 - (1) Serves as a resource for groups and members with Tradition questions and concerns;
 - (2) Intergroup shall have the right to intervene only if any member group is in violation of the Twelve Traditions.
 - (3) The Intergroup Board (through the Secretary) shall contact the group secretary, informing the group – in writing – of the violation.
 - (4) Enlist Region Board resources as necessary and communicate issues requiring Region or World Service intervention.

Article III. Intergroup Members (Groups and Officers)

Section 1 - Membership

Membership of Intergroup shall consist of the following:

- (A) The Intergroup Board
- (B) Standing Committee Chairpersons or Committee Representative.
- (C) Intergroup Representatives (IRs) which shall consist of one representative or an alternate representative from each group within the geographic area as stated in Article III, Section 2, A, (Qualifications).
- (D) Visitors are welcome and are encouraged to participate in the discussion. Visitors are not allowed to vote.

Section 2 - Qualifications

Qualifications or eligibility for membership in Intergroup:

- (A) Those OA groups within the Central Ohio area that have formally registered with the World Service Office and indicated their intention to belong to Intergroup may be considered members.
An OA group is defined as the following:
 - (1) As a group, they meet to practice the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of OA, guided by the 12 Concepts of OA Service;
 - (2) The only requirement for membership to such a group is a desire to stop eating compulsively;
 - (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;
 - (5) A group may be formed by two (2) or more persons meeting together for the aforementioned purpose;
- (B) No group may be registered with any other Intergroup.
- (C) 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) Intergroup Representatives (IRs) shall be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent. Each IR shall be selected by any method deemed appropriate by their group. IRs shall serve for a period designated by their group, always subject to recall by the group they represent. An IR only represents one group.
- (B) The primary responsibility of the IR, or alternate, is to represent their group at all meetings of the Intergroup, to act as a liaison between Intergroup and their group, to see that all communications pertaining to Intergroup are made available and, where requested, read aloud to the group.
- (C) Any IR or alternate, elected as an officer of the Intergroup Board, must resign as IR. This will enable his/her OA group to elect a new representative, thus ensuring all OA groups equality of representation.

Article IV. Officers (or Intergroup Board)

Section 1 - Intergroup Board

- (A) The Intergroup Board shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, World Service Business Conference Delegate(s) and Region Representative(s).
- (B) The immediate past Chairperson may serve as an ex-officio member of the Intergroup Board for One Year.
- (C) The Intergroup Board shall serve as the Executive Board.

Section 2 - Qualifications for the Intergroup Board

- (A) All officers will actively promote the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts.
- (B) All officers will serve two (2) year terms except for the World Service Business Conference Delegate(s) who serves for two and a half (2 ½) years. (See Article VI for specific term date.)
- (C) If any officer misses two consecutive meetings without notifying the Intergroup Chairperson of the reason for such absences, she/he shall be automatically terminated and notified in writing of said termination. The Intergroup shall then appoint a representative to assume the responsibilities until next election.
- (D) Officers are limited to two consecutive terms in any one office. Officers shall remain out of that position for a period of one term at the end of the consecutive terms.
- (E) All those serving as officers should maintain abstinence and attend OA meetings regularly.
- (F) It is desirable and suggested that officers have one (1) year of practicing recovery on all three (3) levels: spiritual, emotional and physical.

Section 3 - Resignation

Any officer may resign at any time for any reason by giving the Chairperson of Central Ohio Service Intergroup written notice of resignation.

Section 4 - Removal from Office

Any Officer or Standing Committee Chairperson may be removed from office with two-thirds of the voting quorum present. Removal is based on return to compulsive eating, absenteeism, or unworthy conduct.

Upon the resignation or removal of any officer, all Intergroup property must be returned to an Intergroup Board member prior to the next Intergroup meeting.

Article V. Responsibilities of Officers

Section 1 - Chairperson

- (A) Shall preside at all regular and special meetings of this Intergroup and Intergroup Board.
- (B) Shall be responsible for establishing the agenda for all Intergroup meetings.
- (C) May not participate in a ballot or verbal vote except in the instance of a tie.
- (D) May attend all standing committee meetings.
- (E) In the case where the representative/alternative or delegate is unable to attend, the Chairperson may serve as a delegate to the Region Assembly or to the World Service Business Conference provided they meet the qualifications of those organizations..
- (F) May appoint another member of Intergroup to be a delegate to Region in the event that the Region Representative, Alternate or Chairperson are unable to attend according to the following order:
 - (1) Another Officer
 - (2) An Intergroup member-at-large. Any appointed member must meet requirements for a Region Representative.
- (G) Communicates with Region Board (Trustee, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, etc.) if there are questions about tradition breaks, etc.
- (H) Shall be open and available to talk with members about concerns or issues.
- (I) Shall serve on the Executive Board.
- (J) Shall serve for two years as Chairperson to be elected at December Intergroup on alternating years from the Vice Chairperson and to start serving January 1st. May serve for two (2) consecutive terms.
- (K) In case of emergency, the Chairperson may speak in the name of Intergroup.

Section 2 - Vice Chairperson

- (A) Shall assume the duties of the Chairperson when that officer is absent or incapacitated. When acting in the place of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall have all the duties, responsibilities, privileges, and voting guidelines of the Chairperson.
- (B) Can head a Standing Committee.
- (C) Shall Serve on the Executive Board.
- (D) Insures a current meeting list is maintained.
 - (1) Verifies meeting registration information at least quarterly.
 - (2) Updates as needed at the local, Regional and World Service levels.
 - (3) Provides meeting list to the Digital Media Committee Chairperson.
- (E) Shall orient new IR and Alternates about their duties.
- (F) Shall chair the Audit Committee.
- (G) Shall serve for two years as Vice Chairperson to be elected at the December Intergroup Meeting on alternating years from the Chairperson and to begin serving January 1st.
- (H) May serve for two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 3 - Secretary

- (A) Shall see that minutes are kept of all Intergroup and Intergroup Board meetings and that a copy of the Intergroup minutes be distributed to each IR, Group Secretary, Board member, Digital Media Committee Chairperson and to the Region Trustee.
- (B) Shall maintain a file of all Intergroup business of past meetings including approved minutes, reports and flyers. Submits records to archive annually.
- (C) Shall send out advanced notice to Intergroup Board members, IRs and Group Secretaries to remind them of the next Intergroup Meeting date, time, and place and upcoming events. Completes mailings to groups as required.
- (D) Maintains a record of election history and dates of service.
- (E) Shall perform all other duties as required.
- (F) Shall serve for two years as Secretary to be elected at the December Intergroup Meeting on alternating years from the Treasurer and to begin serving January 1st.
- (G) May serve for two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 4 - Treasurer

- (A) Shall receive and be entrusted to deposit all funds belonging to Central Ohio Service Intergroup according to Article XI, Section 4.
- (B) Maintains the Intergroup PO Box.
- (C) Shall pay by check, electronic check or debit card all receipted obligations as authorized by Intergroup.
- (D) Shall disburse funds to Region and WSO according to established policy and procedure in accordance with Article XI Section 2B.
- (E) Shall keep records of all disbursements and receipts.
- (F) Shall present a written report on all financial conditions of Intergroup at all regular meetings.
- (G) Shall be responsible for keeping a proper set of books of account.
- (H) Shall turn over to the new Treasurer all records pertinent to that office at the expiration of the Treasurer's term of office by the next Intergroup meeting.
- (I) Shall aid in the annual audit by submitting to the auditor(s) all pertinent materials.
- (J) Shall take over the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson.
- (K) Shall perform such other acts and duties as may be assigned to that office.
- (L) Shall serve for two years as Treasurer to be elected at the December Intergroup Meeting on alternating years from the Secretary and to begin serving January 1st.
- (M) May serve for two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 5 - Region V Representative

- (A) The regional representative shall meet qualifications and requirements as outlined and defined in the Region Bylaws, and as required for election to the Board by Article VII of our bylaws. (Such requirements include one (1) year of current abstinence.) Region representatives shall be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and faithful adherence to the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of OA. Intergroup may appoint two regional representatives.
- (B) It is desirable and suggested that Region Representatives (RR) have 6 months Intergroup experience.
- (C) Shall qualify for office according to Article IV, Section 2.
- (D) Shall Represent Intergroup at all Region Assemblies.
- (E) Shall submit a written report at the Intergroup meeting following each Assembly.
- (F) Shall serve for two (2) years to be elected at the December Intergroup and to begin serving January 1st.
- (G) May serve for two (2) consecutive terms.
- (H) Representatives must be elected on alternate years.
- (I) An elected Region Representative alternate may attend assembly in the event the elected representative is unable to attend.
- (J) Intergroup shall advance or reimburse pre-approved monies for the Assembly expenses, including but not limited to transportation, food and housing.
- (K) Shall present receipts of all expenses to the Treasurer by the next Intergroup meeting.

Section 6 - World Service Business Conference Delegate/Alternate

- (A) The Intergroup indorses the requirements for World Service Business Conference (WSBC) Delegate service as written in OA, Inc. Bylaws Subpart B, Article X, Section 3c 1.
- (B) The WSBC Delegate/Alternate shall have at least one (1) year of current abstinence and at least two (2) years of service above the group level and meet the requirements for election to the Intergroup Board by Article VII of our bylaws.
- (C) Shall submit a written report at the Intergroup meeting following the annual WSBC Conference.
- (D) Shall serve on a World Service Committee of their choice.
- (E) Intergroup shall advance or reimburse pre-approved monies for the Conference expenses, including but not limited to transportation, food and housing.
- (F) May serve for two (2) consecutive terms for a maximum of four and a half (4 1/2) years.
- (G) Shall present receipts of all expenses to the Treasurer by the next Intergroup meeting.
- (H) Shall serve for two (2 1/2) years to be elected at the October Intergroup and to begin serving December 1st.

Article VI. Tenure**Section 1 - Tenure for Officers:**

The secretary shall maintain the official record of elections and terms for all positions.

- (A) Chairperson, Secretary, Region Representative(s) shall be elected in December on alternating years from the Vice-Chairperson and Secretary.
- (B) Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer shall be elected in December on alternating years from the Chairperson and Secretary.
- (C) World Service Business Conference Delegate(s) shall be elected in November.
- (D) All officers will serve two (2) year terms except for the Region Representative(s) who serve for 1 year and World Service Business Conference Delegate(s) who serve for two and a half (2 ½) years.
 - (1) The Chairperson shall commence serving on January 1st on alternating years from the Vice-Chairperson.
 - (2) The Vice-Chairperson shall commence serving on January 1st on alternating years from the Chairperson.
 - (3) The Secretary shall commence serving on January 1st on alternating years from the Treasurer.
 - (4) The Treasurer shall commence serving on January 1st on alternating years from the Secretary.
 - (5) The Region Representative shall commence serving on January 1st of alternating years.
- (6) The World Service Delegate shall commence serving on December 1st and end 2 ½ years later after the WSBC in May.
- (E) Officers may serve for not more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position not including fulfilling completion of a partial term.

Article VII. Election of Officers

Section 1 - Nominations—

- (A) Two months prior to the election, nominees may be sought through communication to registered meetings and/or formation of a nominating committee.
- (B) One month prior to election, nominations may come from the nominating committee, IRs, standing committee chairpersons or Board members. A person nominated must be present to accept the nomination.
- (C) Applicants shall provide a brief overview of their OA history; share their qualifications and special skills related to the position they seek; share their hopes and visions for the Intergroup and OA and answer any questions which may serve to clarify their qualifications.
- (D) Nominees will be confirmed and the ballot shared with the registered meetings. It is suggested that IRs discuss the nominations at their group meetings therefore the vote will be truly representative of the local fellowship.

Section 2 - Voting

- (A) The voting quorum according to Article IX, Section 4 is necessary for elections.
- (B) Intergroup Board members and IRs, Standing Committee Chairpersons or their Alternates shall vote as set forth in Article IX Section 5.
- (C) Two persons shall be designated to count the ballots. Voting shall be by secret ballot.
- (D) Election shall be determined by a majority of the ballots cast.
- (E) When only one person is nominated for office, normal voting procedure shall be followed
- (F) Upon election to the Intergroup Board, an Intergroup Board member who has been up to this point an IR, must resign as an IR (Article III, Section 3B), enabling the group to elect a new IR and thus ensuring all OA groups equal representation.

Article VIII. Vacancies

Section 1 - As related to lack of representation and vacancies among the officers:

- (A) If an officer shall fail to be represented at two (2) consecutive Intergroup meetings without prior notification to the Chairperson, the office shall be declared vacant by a vote of the majority of the voting quorum present. (Article IX, Sections 4.)
- (B) Vacancies among the officers shall be filled by a majority vote at the next regular or special meeting of Intergroup. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Members chosen to fill such vacancies shall serve for the unexpired portion of the term and remain eligible for election to fulfill two full terms
- (C) A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the Intergroup Board shall meet eligibility requirements for the office as set forth in Article IV, Section 2, and be elected according to the basic procedure as set forth in Article VII, Sections 1-5.

Article IX. Meetings

Section 1 - Regular Meetings

Intergroup shall hold regular meetings at a time and place designated by a majority of the voting members.

Section 2 - Special Meetings

- (A) A special meeting of Intergroup may be called at any other time, other than regular meetings, by a majority vote of the Intergroup Board.
- (B) Notification of such a special meeting shall be made by the Secretary to all officers, Standing Committee Chairpersons, IRs and group secretaries one week before the special meeting.
- (C) A special meeting of the Intergroup Board may be called at any other time, other than regular meetings, by a majority vote of the Intergroup Board.

Section 3 - Method of Notification

The details for the regular meeting schedule shall be posted on the Intergroup webpage. Notification of changes to such schedule shall be provided to the IRs by the Secretary at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting via email.

Section 4 - Quorum

At an Intergroup meeting held upon proper notification three (3) Intergroup Board Members shall constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary to proceed to a vote although discussion can proceed.

Section 5 - Voting

- (A) A majority shall govern for voting purposes.
- (B) At Intergroup meetings, the following shall be given one vote if in attendance:
 - (1) Each Intergroup Representative.
 - (2) Each member of the Intergroup Board, with the exception of the Chairperson.
 - (3) Each Standing Committee Chairperson.
- (C) The Chairperson may have one vote only in the case of a tie.
- (D) Although visitors are welcome, no visitor shall be allowed a vote.

Article X. Committees

Section 1 - Formation of Standing Committees

- (A) The Intergroup Board shall form such committees as are deemed necessary for the welfare and operation of the Intergroup. Such committees may include but shall not be limited to Special Events; Digital Media; Public Information; Twelfth Step Within; Fund Raising; Bylaws; and Nominating.
- (B) Intergroup, through the group conscience, makes the final decision in accepting or rejecting any part of all the committees' proposals.

Section 2 - Guidelines for Standing Committees

- (A) Committee membership may be comprised of IRs and/or Alternates, the Intergroup membership-at-large, and/or the OA fellowship-at-large.
- (B) All committees shall have one (1) Committee Chairperson.
 - (1) Unless otherwise delegated, a Committee Chairperson shall serve for a term of one year and is eligible to serve not more than two (2) consecutive years.
 - (2) The Committee Chairperson or designee is expected to attend all Intergroup meetings.
- (C) A committee may prescribe its own rules for calling and holding meetings, and its methods of procedures, subject to the rules prescribed by the Intergroup.
- (D) All Standing Committees shall be subject at all times to the direction of the Intergroup and shall be bound by the Twelve Traditions.

Section 3 - Guidelines for Standing Committee Chairperson

- (A) The Standing Committee Chairperson shall submit the names of her/his committee members to the Intergroup.
- (B) Each Standing Committee Chairperson shall present a report at Intergroup.
- (C) If any monies are expended, a detailed and itemized report, including receipts, shall be included with the report.
- (D) The Standing Committee Chairperson must submit a budget for the committee to the Treasurer as part of the budgeting setting process defined in Article XI.
- (E) If a Standing Committee Chairperson fails to be represented at two consecutive Intergroup meetings, without prior notification to the Chairperson, the position shall be declared vacant by a majority vote of the voting quorum present. The vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote at the next regular or special meeting of Intergroup. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the unexpired portion of the term.
- (F) Should a vacancy, resignation or removal of a Committee Chairperson occur, all pertinent information shall be turned over to the Intergroup Chairperson and/or to the next Committee Chairperson prior to the next Intergroup meeting.
- (G) The Committee Chairperson is authorized to incur budget-approved expenses for the committee. In the instance where an expenditure is needed beyond what is included in the budget, such expense may be approved at the next Intergroup meeting or, if more timely approval required, by the Chairperson or Treasurer along with one other Board member.

Article XI. Financial Structure

Section 1 - Contributions

- (A) Voluntary contributions of members and member groups shall be the primary source of funds.
- (B) A secondary source of funds may be such projects or activities as may be authorized by Intergroup according to Tradition Six.
- (C) Intergroup may accept contributions from OA members, in accordance with World Service Guidelines:
 - (1) \$7,500 per year limit.
 - (2) Acceptance of bequests or contributions from any outside source is prohibited.

Section 2 - Prudent Reserve

- (A) There shall be a minimum retention of a 6-month Prudent Reserve in the Treasury. The funds for the Prudent Reserve will be maintained as a minimum balance in the Intergroup bank account and is intended to meet our obligations in the event that contributions to Intergroup dissipate.
- (B) The Prudent Reserve will be calculated as 50% of budgeted expenses. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to rent, post office box fees, website and other digital media costs, insurance, and supplies.
- (C) As part of the budget setting process, the Treasurer shall:
 - (1) Propose a Fiscal Year Budget reflecting an estimate for 12-months of operating expenses and contingencies as defined below.
 - a) Contingencies- defined as: provisions for future event/circumstance, an incidental expense. These Contingencies may include but are not limited to:
 - Special events
 - Public Outreach
 - New meeting support
 - b) Such Contingencies shall be voted on as part of the budget approval process..
 - c) Changes to the budget after approval to add a Contingency or to address an unforeseen expenditure may be adopted via an approved motion by the Intergroup.
 - (2) Propose a Prudent Reserve for the coming year in accordance with Section 2 above.
 - (3) Present Fiscal Year Budget and Prudent Reserve to the Intergroup.
 - (4) Disperse funds determined in excess of the Prudent Reserve to Region 5 and World Service.
- (C)
- (D) Report on prior month(s) disbursements and contributions, ending bank balance, including the amount of which represents the Prudent Reserve, at each regular Intergroup meeting.
- (E) The prudent reserve funds may only be used upon a majority vote of the Intergroup. .

Section 3 - Fiscal year

The fiscal year shall be January through December.

Section 4 - Banking

Funds must be deposited in an account designated "Central Ohio Service Intergroup". The Treasurer will be responsible for such funds and is responsible for keeping records.

- (B) The bank signature card will require two current signatures: 1) The current Treasurer's, and 2) one other current Intergroup Officer.
- (C) Regarding Auditing of the OA Treasury:

- (1) The OA Treasury shall be audited by a qualified committee consisting of the Vice-Chairperson and two (2) other members of Intergroup or designated OA member within one month of the end of the fiscal year. (See also Article V, Section 2F)
- (2) Results of the audit shall be submitted at the January Intergroup or the next regularly scheduled Intergroup meeting where a quorum is present according to Article IX, Section 4.

Article XII. Governing Rules / Parliamentary Authority

- (A) The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this Intergroup in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B or and special rules of order this Intergroup may adopt.
- (B) At every meeting of the Intergroup, a parliamentarian, if available, can be present to serve in the capacity for such meetings. The parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Intergroup as needed.
- (C) Intergroup can adopt special rules of order as needed to supplement the parliamentary authority.

Article XIII. Major Policy Matters

Matters which relate to major policy affecting groups shall be referred to the Intergroup. Matters which relate to Overeaters Anonymous as a whole shall be referred to Overeaters Anonymous World Service Board of Trustees.

Article XIV. Dissolution

Section 1 -

In order to deregister, an Intergroup must submit a written request to the World Service Office, Region Chairperson and Region Trustee.

Section 2 -

Upon the dissolution of this association, after paying or adequately providing for debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous, and/or to Region, or to a non-profit fund, association, foundation or corporation, which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, education or religious and/or scientific purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 3 -

No part of the net earnings of this association shall ever insure to or be used for the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the association shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payment and distribution in furtherance of the expressed purposes for which it is formed.

Article XV. Bylaws Amendments

- (A) Amendments may be submitted by groups, Intergroup Representatives, Officers, or a Committee.
- (B) A copy of the proposed amendment, accompanied by a statement of intent, must be filed with the Intergroup Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting at which the amendment shall be considered. Written notice shall be prepared and distributed by the Secretary to each group representative, group secretary, Committee Chairpersons and Intergroup officers and at least twenty-one (21) days prior to said meeting.
- (C) These bylaws may be amended at a regularly scheduled meeting by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at which a quorum is defined. "Voting members present" shall be defined as stated in Article IX, Sections 4 & 5.
- (D) A copy of any approved, amended Bylaws shall be sent to the World Service Office and the Region 5 Trustee.

Article XVI. Insurance Coverage

Central Ohio Service Intergroup shall carry insurance coverage as follows:

For liability and medical reimbursements for liabilities arising at Central Ohio Service Intergroup, Inc. -sponsored functions.

Article XVII. Effective Date

- (A) These Bylaws were adopted May 21, 1979.
- (B) These Bylaws were amended December 4, 1979.
- (C) These Bylaws were amended April 8, 1981.
- (D) These Bylaws were amended December 14, 2002. (rcr)
- (E) Amended Aug 04 – change WSBC delegate parameters. (rcr)
- (F) Amended Aug 04 – Remove reference to Literature position. (rcr)
- (G) Amended Oct 04 – Add WSBC delegate to Board. (rcr)
- (H) Amended 27 September 2005 – Remove references to WSO bylaws. (rcr)
- (I) Amended November 2011 – Bring into line with current practices (rcr)
- (J) Amended 18 May 2012 – Finalized Amended document – (rcr)
- (K) Amended 19 November 2012 – Brought into compliance with WSBC 2012 Directive – (rcr)
- (L) Amended 19 December 2015 – Adjusted board officer term lengths to align with Region 5 Bylaws
- (M) Amended 12 December 2016 – Adjusted Article II Section 4 to align with WSBC Bylaws Changes
- (N) Amended 21 May 2017 – Adjusted Article XI Section 2 to clarify prudent reserve and budget practices
- (O) Amended 23 November 2024 – Adjusted language for consistency and directions to match current technology and practices