



Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

Area Service Committee

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C V N N A
(Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous)

**GROUP
SERVICE
REPRESENTATIVE**

**Orientation
Packet**

November, 2018



A Vision for NA Service

**All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous
are inspired by the primary purpose of our groups.
Upon this common ground we stand committed.**

Our Vision is that one day:

- ⊗ **Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life;**
- ⊗ **Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfillment through service;**
- ⊗ **NA service bodies worldwide work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to support the groups in carrying our message of recovery;**
- ⊗ **Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery.**

**Honesty, trust, and goodwill are the foundation
of our service efforts, all of which rely upon
the guidance of a loving Higher Power.**

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**GROUP SERVICE
REPRESENTATIVE**

Orientation Packet

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What Is A General Service Representative?	2
The GSR Orientation Sheet (An Overview)	3
The Monthly Routine of GSR Activities	6
How Does a Group Take Care of Its Business?	8
Tools for the GSR	8
The NA Service Structure	9
CVNNA Service Structure	10
Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	12
Selected WSC Rules of Order	15
The Twelve Traditions	17
The Twelve Concepts of Service	18
Acknowledgements	19

What is a Group Service Representative?

(Adapted from A Guide to Local Services in NA Page 35)

Each group elects one Group Service Representative (GSR), and if the Group has enough members, a GSR Alternate. These GSRs and Alternates form the foundation of our service structure. GSRs provide constant, active influence over the discussions being carried on within the service structure at both Group and Area levels. They do this by participating in monthly Area Service Committee (ASC) meetings, attending annual or bi-annual forums and assemblies at both the Area and Regional levels, and sometimes joining in the work of an ASC sub-committee.

Group Service Representatives bear great responsibility. While GSRs are elected by and accountable to the Group, they are not mere Group messengers. They are selected by their Groups to serve as active members of the ASC. As such, they are responsible to act in the best interest of NA as a whole, not solely as advocates of their Groups' priorities.

As participants in the Area Service Committee, GSRs need to be as well informed as they can be concerning the affairs of the ASC. They study the reports of the Committee's officers and sub-committee chairpersons. They read the various handbooks published by the World Service Office (WSO) on each area of service. After carefully considering their own conscience and what they know about how their group members feel, they take active, critical parts in the discussions which form the group conscience of the entire ASC.

Group Service Representatives link their groups with the rest of the NA service structure, particularly through the information conveyed in their reports to and from the Area Committee. At group business meetings, the GSR report provides a summary of Area Committee activities, often sparking discussions among group members that provide the GSR with a feel for how the area can better serve the group's needs. In group recovery meetings, GSRs make available flyers announcing area and regional activities.

At Area Committee meetings, GSR reports provide perspectives on group growth vital to the Committee's work. If a Group is having problems, its GSR can share those problems with the Committee in his or her report. And if the Group hasn't found solutions to those problems, the Area chairperson will open a slot on the committee's "sharing session" [*Open Forum*] agenda so that the GSR can gather the experience others have had in similar situations. If any helpful solutions arise from the sharing session [*Open Forum*], the GSR can report those back to the group.

"These GSR's form the foundation of our service structure. GSR's provide constant, active influence over discussions being carried on within our service structure. They do this by participating in area service committee meetings, attending forums and assemblies at both the area and regional levels, and sometimes joining in the work of an ASC subcommittee."

Through their participation in the business of the Area, GSR's are also in a position to help the Group and its trusted servants to maintain their responsibilities to the group's members.

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

GSR Orientation Sheet (An Overview)

What is a GSR?

- A trusted servant of the Group.
- The voice of the Group at the Area Service Committee (ASC).
- The voice of the Area at the Group.
- The Group's main source of information about service, activities, and events throughout the Area.
- The Group's source of information about services provided by the ASC.
- Through participation at ASC, the Group's link with other Groups in the Area.
- Through participation at ASC, the Group's link with CalMidstate Region, and NA World.
- An important source of information on how the Group takes care of its business.
- The financial link between the Group and the ASC.

How Do They Do It?

- Attend the Group meeting regularly.
- Attend the ASC meeting monthly.
- Submit a written report to the ASC the Group's status, activities, and needs.
- Submit a written report to the Group covering the content of the ASC meeting.
- Bring unresolved issues from the ASC to the Group for a Group conscience and report back to the ASC.
- Learn about the sub-committees of the ASC, the services they provide, and the support they need.
- Learn how the Group and the ASC fit into the larger service structure of NA.
- Learn what the ASC, RSC, WSC, WSO, etc., are
- Study the Guide to Local Service and the our ASC Policy guidelines.

Qualification for a GSR

- Is an addict.
- Attends the Group they represent.
- Has a willingness and available time to serve.
- Has one year clean time.
- Has knowledge of the service structure of NA or the willingness to study it.
- Has no GSR commitment to another group.
(Note: A GSR *may* represent more than one Group, but can only *vote* for one Group at an ASC meeting.)

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

THE MONTHLY ROUTINE OF GSR ACTIVITIES

There is a monthly routine of activities and duties performed by the GSR. This cycle begins with the Group's monthly business meeting, collecting information and preparing for the ASC meeting, attending the ASC meeting to present the Group's report. The GSR then reverses the process, collecting information to be returned to the Group, and then presenting it at general membership as well as monthly business meetings.

THE GSR AT THE GROUP'S BUSINESS MEETING:

The GSR attends the monthly business meeting of the Group and collects the information required to complete the Group's report to the ASC. The GSR's report is based on the content of the business meeting.

- Issues and information the Group wants to bring to the ASC's attention.
- The literature order, if any, and the money to pay for it.
- The treasurer's report and contribution to the ASC, if any.

THE GROUP'S REPORT TO THE ASC:

From participation in the Group's monthly business meeting, the GSR completes the Group's report to the ASC. This report is to be written, and should include the following:

- Updated schedule and location information for Area meeting directories.
- Meeting Format (book study; speaker/discussion; open/closed; men/women; etc.)
- Problems and Concerns of the Group, especially the type of support needed (attendance, financial, trusted servants).
- Strengths
- News and Events (include flyers if they are available).
- Average Attendance
- Monthly Financial Summary, including income, expenses, literature contributions, prudent reserve and contribution to the ASC, if any.

UPON ARRIVAL AT THE ASC MEETING:

- Submit the Group's literature order and payment to the Literature Chair.
- Submit the Group's contribution and "deposit slip" to the Treasurer.
- Collect one copy each of the reports, flyers, and announcements.
- Collect one copy each of the minutes, agenda, and the GSR Note Taking Form
- Network, gossip, swap war stories, grab a seat, and settle in.

DURING THE ASC MEETING:

*This section is intended to follow the **Meeting Agenda** and the **GSR Note Taking Form**, and you can use it as a check list of sorts when trying to focus your attention at the meeting.*

At ASC meetings there are several points the GSR should be mindful of:

- The other **Groups** at the ASC:
 - Their support needs - membership, financial, trusted servants.
 - Their activities and events.
 - Changes in the meeting format, time, or location of any of the other Groups.
- **Unfinished Business**
 -
- **New Business**
 -
- **ASC Admin reports** - Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary.
 - Have they followed through on obligations from last month's ASC meeting?
- **RCM Regional Report:**
 - Activities, news, and events from neighboring Areas.
 - Issues from region which require ASC feedback in the form of a group conscience.
- **Sub-committee reports:** are they providing the services to the Groups that they are tasked with providing?

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

PRH&I:

- Current printed schedules in adequate quantities.
- A phone help line that is available to the community and operating smoothly.
- An H&I sub-committee which is successfully reaching out to the addict who is confined.
- Public Information outreach.

ACTIVITIES:

- Activities and events which bring the Area together in support of our collective recovery.
- A financial accounting of the subcommittee's event participation, income, and expenses.
- Information on upcoming events provided in a timely manner.

LITERATURE:

- Is there enough literature available at the ASC to meet the Groups' needs.

• Open Forum

- Issues

• Motions

- Made
- Results

• Last but not Least

- Is the **ASC** addressing important issues in its GSR orientation?
- Are the Area's trusted servants fulfilling their obligations to the Area?

BACK TO THE GROUP:

The GSR brings information back to the Group in three ways:

Verbally at meetings through announcements and passing around flyers.

- Announce Area/Regional Activities during the regular meetings.
- Announce open positions at Area, Region, and Subcommittees.
- Announce issues from **ASC** or Region in need of a Group Conscience.

Group notebook or clipboard (usually passed around at all meetings) containing:

- Flyers and announcements of events and activities
- A copy of the current month's GSR report.
- Copies of past GSR reports.

In writing at the Group's monthly business meeting. The written GSR report back to the Group should include:

- Open positions at Area and Region.
- Open positions within the sub-committees.
- The support needs of the other groups in the Area.
- Points of discussion made during the **ASC**.
- Activities and Goals of the sub-committees, and the support they need.
- Motions to be carried back to the Group for discussion and group conscience.
- Motions made and passed or failed at the **ASC**.
- The Treasurer's report on the financial status of the **ASC**.

*Although the written report is usually not distributed or read until the Group's monthly business meeting, this should be written soon after the **ASC** and included in the Group Notebook or Clipboard for general membership distribution, especially since business meetings are typically held the last week before **ASC** meets.*

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Learn about the sub-committees of the **ASC**, the services they provide, and the support they need.

- What do they do?"
- When and where do they meet?
- Which sub-committees need support?
- How to use the services provided by the subcommittees.

Become informed about the services the **ASC** provides to the Area's groups. Become familiar with and use the **WEBSITE**, **PHONELINE**, and **DIRECTORIES**. Help educate your membership in using with these services.

Educate your Group's membership on how the Group takes care of its business.

Generate interest in service.

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

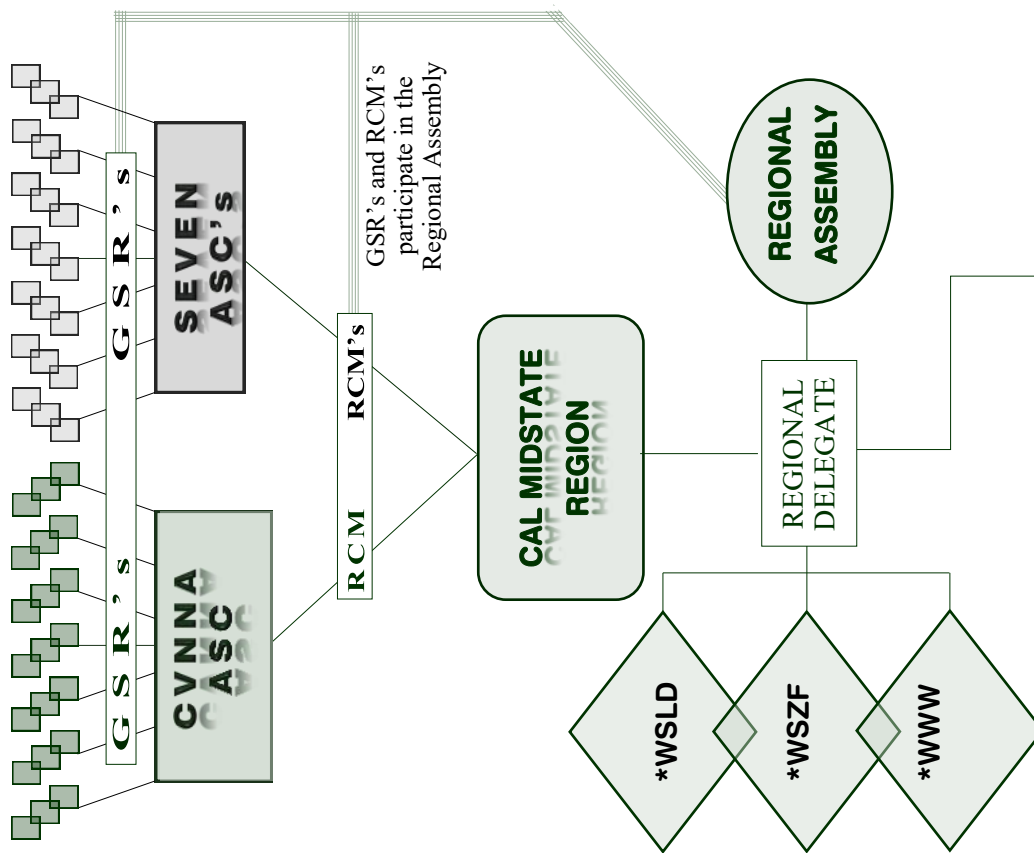
How does a Group take care of its business?

- By holding a monthly business meeting during which the Group votes on recommendations for literature purchases, Area contribution, rent, and other expenses. The Group's treasurer submits a monthly income and expense report. (It is suggested that the Group's business meeting be held the week before the Area meeting.)
- By establishing and maintaining Group guidelines.
- By holding elections of trusted servant positions as needed with prior notice wherever possible.
- By sending their GSR or any designated Group representative to the ASC monthly.
- By holding special business meetings when important issues surface, such as a literature review, Group conscience, or problems maintaining the Group's guidelines.

What is a Group conscience?

An informed vote taken by the group as a whole to resolve specific issues within the restrictions of the Group's guidelines. It is a determination of what's good for the Group as a whole, and places principles before personalities. A Group conscience should not be used as a tool to ignore the Group's guidelines.

Another source of information the group might tap is the experience of other groups in its area or region. If the group has a problem and can't come up with its own solution, it might want to ask its group service representative to share that problem at the next ASC meeting. Area committees set aside a portion of every meeting for exactly that purpose. **And while the area committee can't tell a group what to do, it does provide a forum in which groups can share with one another what's worked for them. Workshops conducted by the regional service committee provide the same kind of opportunity on a larger scale.**



THE REST OF NA

There are on the order of 125 Regions World-Wide

They are structured very much like ours

The GSR's connect their Groups to their Area

The RCM's connect their Areas to their Region

The Regional Delegates connect their Region to World

World reports to and serves the Regions

The Region reports to and serves their Areas

The Area reports to and serves their Groups

This is known as the

NA Service Structure

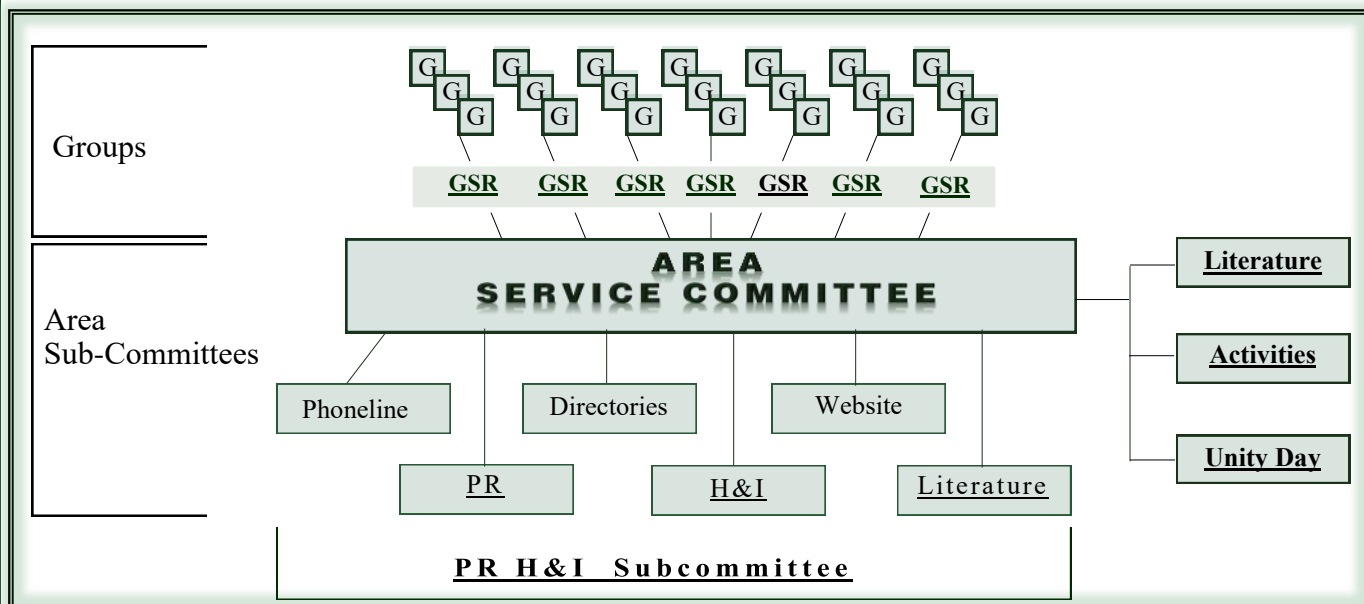
WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

These are annual or semi-annual Events.

- * Western States Learning Days
- * Western States Zonal Forum
- * World Wide Workshop

CVNNA Service Structure

The Area Service Committee (ASC)



ASC Sub-Committees

The ASC is responsible for developing and maintaining Sub-Committees in each field of service, and to coordinate the work of each of those sub-committees with the work of others. For these reasons, all Area committee participants (these include the GSRs) need to become as informed as possible about sub-committee activities. Area committees devote significant portions of their meetings to reports from sub-committee chairpersons and discussions of sub-committee activities.

PRH&I Sub-Committee:

The principle of service, critical to the application of our Eleventh Tradition, is not a passive principle. To be of maximum service to the still-suffering addict, we must energetically seek to carry our message throughout our cities, towns, and villages. ...We must take vigorous steps to make our program widely known. The better and broader our public relations, the better we will be able to serve.

- Tradition Eleven, It Works: How and Why

Public Relations

- Clarifies what services NA can and cannot provide to the community.
- Makes NA members more aware of their role in NA's public image.
- Strives for the public to recognize NA as a positive and reliable organization.
- Develops valuable relationships with professionals and the general public.

Hospitals and Institutions

The purpose of an H&I meeting is to carry the message of recovery to addicts who do not have full access to regular Narcotics Anonymous meetings. H&I meetings, except for those in long-term facilities, are intended to introduce those addicts in attendance to the basics of the NA program. H&I coordinates and conducts all H&I meetings in the Area.

Literature

Coordinates the purchasing of literature and its distribution to the H&I facilities served by the PRH&I Sub-Committee.

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

Phoneline

A call to an NA phoneline may be someone's first interaction with Narcotics Anonymous. These calls are vital; a phoneline call can make a major difference in whether or not an addict makes it to an NA meeting.

Directories/Meeting Schedules

Coordinates, updates, produces, and distributes meeting schedules to H&I facilities and to the general membership.

Website

Coordinates, updates, and maintains meeting schedules, CVNNA Events Calendars. Posts Events Flyers and ASC Announcements on-line. Maintains a free on-line library of NA Information Pamphlets. Provides links with other Areas in Cal-Midstate Region.

Ad Hoc Committees

These are formed and disbanded as needed to raise funds to be used purchasing literature for the H&I facilities served by the PRH&I Sub-Committee

Literature Sub-Committee:

The purpose of this Sub-Committee is to coordinate the purchase and distribution of literature to the Area's groups and for a monthly birthday celebration. This Sub-Committee also maintains a reserve of group starter packets, and provides specialty items for sale at Area events.

Activities Sub-Committee:

The purpose of this Sub-Committee is to further the unity of CVNNA through organizing and hosting Area Celebrations throughout the year.

Unity Day Sub-Committee:

The purpose of this Sub-Committee is to facilitate a biennial one-day event to promote unity between the different groups within the ASC.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ALPHABET SOUP

Making Sense of All Those Acronyms

ASC

The Area Service Committee is the committee that does most of the work of the fellowship in providing services to the Area's Groups.

CAR

The Conference Agenda Report is the document that outlines for the fellowship those issues to be discussed at the next World Service Conference (WSC). It is generally available in late November preceding the WSC.

"The report contains the proposals and motions that the fellowship is being asked to consider and form a fellowship wide group conscience on...[It] includes reports, proposals, and motions from the World Board and any proposals and motions submitted from regions" - **Guide to Local Service, pg. 11.**

CAT

The Conference Agenda Approval Track is the financial partner to the CAR.

CBCM

Consensus Based Decision Making is a spiritually based method of committees and service bodies to arrive at a decision. The theory is that decisions made in this manner will allow all participants to walk away feeling they can fully support those decisions.

CMSRCNA

The Cal Mid-State Regional Convention is the semi-annual celebration of our recovery. It was last hosted by CVNNA and took place in June, 2018 in Stockton.

CMSRNA

Cal Mid-State Region of Narcotics Anonymous - Our Region. There are 8 Areas in CMSRNA:

CCNA - Central California Area NA

CSNA - Central Sierra Area NA

CSSNA - Central Sierra South Area NA

CVNNA - Central Valley North Area NA

Foothill - Foothill Area NA

GCNA - Gold Country Area NA

Kings-Tulare - Kings Tulare Area Na

SVGNA - Stanislaus Valley Groups Area NA

CVNNA

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous - Our Area.

FIPT

The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust is the legal document that protects and preserves our fellowship's intellectual property (our literature and logos) in a manner that is recognized by legal entities throughout the world.

Anyone who has any questions about how NA literature is to be developed and approved, who "owns" it, how it may be changed, and who may change it, who may print it, and what is to be

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

done with the money resulting from its sale can easily refer to the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust. In this one comprehensive document appear the policies our entire fellowship has created to preserve the integrity of its published message and the accountability of its publishing services.” - <http://www.na.org/legal/fipt93b.htm>

GSR

General Service Representative is the representative who connects his/her Group to the Area and through Area to the various levels of our service structure.

GSRA

The Group Service Representative Alternate is the member who attends service meetings when the GSR is unavailable, and may attend with the GSR for purposes of training for the GSR position.

H&I - Hospitals and Institutions.

NAWS

Narcotics Anonymous World Services is the legal entity that allows our fellowship to do business with the public in general and provide services and support to the addicts of our fellowship worldwide. NAWS operates the World Service Office in all its locations worldwide, and publishes and distributes our literature.

PI - Public Information

PR - Public Relations

RD

The Regional Delegate is the representative of the Region who attends and is a full participant at the World Service Conference carrying their Region's conscience.

“The regional delegate serves as the primary contact between NA's world services and the local NA community. On one hand, the delegate provides information on current world projects to the regional committee. On the other, the delegate offers local perspective to the work of world services.” - **Guide to Local Service, pg. 89.**

RDA

The Regional Delegate Alternate may be looked at as our region's RD in training, and will participate in the World Service Conference when the RD is unable to attend or is not present on the floor of the WSC.

RSC

The Regional Service Committee is a service body to pool and develop local service responsibilities. Our RSC maintains the Behind The Walls sponsorship program, provides learning days, CAR Workshops, and bi-annual regional conventions and assemblies, and carries the liability insurance coverage for all its Areas. Our RSC also elects and funds the Regional Delegate team which represents our Region at Western States Learning Days, Western States Zonal Conference, the World Service Conference, and the World-Wide Workshop. Our RSC is the **CMSRSC**.

WB

The World Board is comprised of members of the fellowship elected at each World Service Conference to six-year terms. Their terms are staggered to provide continuity of the Board. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms on the World Board. Any region or Zonal Forum may nominate members for consideration by the conference. The Human Resources Panel also nominates members for consideration of the World Service Conference.

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

WCNA

The World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous is a celebration of our recovery that rotates around the world to allow addicts worldwide to attend.

“The primary purpose of the World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous (WCNA) is to provide a special celebration of our recovery, a reflection of our diversity, and a demonstration of our unity.” - **A Guide to World Services, pg. 34.**

WSC

The World Service Conference is an event held in even numbered years that brings the World Board and the Regional Delegates from every seated region in the world together to make decisions that affect the direction our fellowship will take over the next two years.

WSO

World Service Office is the place where the special workers employed by Narcotics Anonymous Worldwide Services actually carry out the duties of providing services to our worldwide fellowship.

WSZF

Western States Zonal Forum of NA is:

“...a service-oriented sharing session that joins the regions of the Western States Zone to collectively share our service challenges and share our solutions to challenges through annual meetings and ongoing communication. The Forum provides training opportunities to benefit zonal and local members, and their service bodies. The interaction and collaborative exchange with NAWS and the World Board serves our body and helps us prepare for the WSC and supports Fellowship development.” - **Mission Statement at www.wszf.org**

Selected WSC Rules of Order

Mutual trust and respect should be the basis for all decisions. In keeping with that spirit, the ASC strives to base its decisions on consensus. These rules of order should be utilized in concert with the basic principles of consensus-based decision making.

1. Each GSR has only one vote. GSR alternates are considered to be the same “member” as their respective GSR when acting as a participant.
2. A GSR may represent the group conscience of more than one group, but may only VOTE for one group at a meeting.
3. No member may speak on a motion more than once until others who wish to speak have had a chance to do so.
4. Every **main motion** must be presented in writing on a ASC Motion Form. Motions and their intents should be stated in a clear and concise manner. The names of the members proposing and seconding the motion must be listed on the form. Motions must be submitted before the member speaks to the motion. When the motion has been introduced and seconded, the motion belongs to the conference and must be disposed of in some manner.
5. Once a motion belongs to the meeting, debate follows only if necessary and if the motion is debatable. Other motions, as appropriate, may be applied to the main motion and must be disposed of in some manner. Members should speak to a motion only after being recognized by the facilitator.
6. The meeting may decide to **replace** or **amend** the **main motion** during the course of the debate following the presentation of that motion. If supported by a majority of the conference, the **replacement/amendment** will be accepted.
7. **Adoption of Motions**: A simple majority present and voting in the affirmative is required to pass a motion.

Motions Commonly Used by the WSC

The following is an alphabetized list of the most commonly used motions and some of their characteristics, along with an alphabetized chart of those motions further describing their use and characteristics. In order to allow Consensus Based Decision Making to be used as the basis for conference decisions, it is important to remember that these motions and rules are here only to help the body. The facilitator should be allowed to help the conference get through its business without the conference trying to use the following motions to complicate the proceedings.

- A. *Adjourn* - The motion to adjourn ends the conference immediately upon approval. The motion would only be appropriate when the body is ready to end the conference.
- B. *Amend* - This motion modifies the wording of a pending motion before that motion is acted upon. The motion to amend is not amendable and must be resolved before another amendment can be considered. In the spirit of consensus building, the facilitator may choose to allow other ideas to be discussed before the conference decides what they wish to act on.
- C. *Appeal the Facilitator* – A motion to appeal, when seconded, directs the conference to make a decision regarding a ruling made by the facilitator. When this motion is seconded, the facilitator explains the rationale of the ruling and the maker of the motion explains the reason for the appeal. No further discussion is allowed. The motion is then stated so those voting in the affirmative uphold the facilitator’s ruling and those voting in the negative uphold the appeal.
- D. *Commit or Refer to Committee* - The motion to refer to committee allows the conference to ask for further study of a motion in lieu of a decision. Such matters would be referred to the World Board unless otherwise directed. Any further instructions, such as a deadline date for reporting back to the conference, must be included in the motion to commit.
- E. *Division of Question* - Motions sometimes contain more than one part, and members may wish to vote separately on the various parts of a motion. A motion to divide the question should state how the original motion should be divided. If approved by majority vote, the various parts of the original motion are then acted upon individually.

Central Valley North Narcotics Anonymous

- F. *Limit or Extend Debate* - This motion means the conference can exercise special control over the total time of debate, the time each member will be allowed to speak, or the number of speakers allowed on any pending motion. This motion must indicate the manner in which debate is limited or extended.
- G. *Main Motion* - This motion brings new business before the conference. Main motions may only be introduced when no other motions are pending.
- H. *Parliamentary Inquiry* - This motion allows a member to ask the facilitator a question about parliamentary procedure or the rules of order. The facilitator's answer disposes of the motion.
- I. *Point of Information* - A member may ask the facilitator, or another member through the facilitator, for information about the business under consideration. The information sought should be unrelated to parliamentary procedure or rules of order, but should be necessary or helpful to reaching a decision regarding the topic under consideration.
- J. *Point of Order* - When a member believes the rules of the conference are being violated, a point of order can be raised. Normally, this is to call the facilitator's attention to an error that has occurred, usually inadvertently, and the matter is resolved by the facilitator's response. If the member disagrees with the facilitator's response, they may move to appeal the facilitator.
- K. *Postpone* - If a member wishes to delay the decision of a motion before the conference to a later time, they may offer this motion. Reasons may include, for example: The motion needs more study before a vote, the conference is tired after a long day, or many concerned members are currently absent. The motion should specify a time to take the motion up again.
- L. *Point of Privilege* - This motion is used to gain the facilitator's attention if, for example, a member cannot hear the speakers, or if the room is uncomfortably warm or cold, or for any other reason unrelated to the merits of the motion. The issue is usually resolved by a response from the facilitator. If not, members may move to appeal the facilitator.
- M. *Recess* - This motion allows for a short intermission in the conference's proceedings. This does not close the session. After the recess, business will be resumed where it was interrupted.
- N. *Reconsider* - Sometimes information becomes available after a motion has been decided and a member believes that the new information would have affected their vote. The motion to reconsider permits the reintroduction of a motion previously disposed of, but only under certain circumstances. The person making the motion must have voted on the prevailing side, any action indicated in the approved motion must not have been implemented, and the motion must be introduced on the same or the next day as the original vote. If the motion is approved by a two-thirds majority, the original motion comes before the conference in the same form as before the original vote and is handled as though the vote had never been taken.
- O. *Suspend the Rules* - When the conference wishes to do something during a meeting that would violate one or more of its own regular rules, it can adopt a motion to suspend the rules. The proposed action cannot be in conflict with any of NA's guiding principles. Any suspension of the rules requires a two-thirds vote for approval.

The Twelve Traditions of NA

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA 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 membership is a desire to stop using.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
6. An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA 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, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

The Twelve Concepts of NA Service

1. To fulfill our fellowship's primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in the decision making process.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communication,
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never government.

Acknowledgements

Fortunately, I didn't have to come up with this information all by myself. The website, na.org has an extensive list of resources available to anyone with the tenacity to read and sort through it all. I hope I have picked out the best of the information available, and made it all specific to our CVNNA Area. If you would like to learn more, here is a list of the resources I drew from.

- ◇ NA's Guide to Local Services.
- ◇ GSR Orientation Packet, Greater Providence Area Service Committee
- ◇ GSR Orientation Packet, Colorado Regional Assembly
- ◇ GSR Helpful Hints, San Jose Area Service Committee
- ◇ GSR's, Southern Area Service Committee, Aotearoa New Zealand Area
- ◇ GSR Orientation, Arizona Regional Service Committee
- ◇ Rough Guide to the Area Service Committee, NE London ASC
- ◇ GSR Toolkit, East End Area of Narcotics Anonymous

There are actually umpty-ump million other guides available, but I had to stop researching and start writing somewhere. This is obviously a topic which many areas have found important to explore and write about.

So,... Welcome to the World of the GSR. I truly hope you enjoy the journey as much as I have.

In Loving Service,

Your RCM at CVNNA