

GREATER PITTSBURGH INTERGROUP BYLAWS

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Greater Pittsburgh Intergroup, hereinafter known as GPI. GPI is registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous as specified in OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Art. VI, Sec. 2a.

Article II – Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of Greater Pittsburgh Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous is to carry the message of recovery to those with the problem of eating compulsively, by fostering the practice of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service; and to serve and represent member groups and/or intergroups.

Section 2. This intergroup is organized exclusively for charitable, religious and scientific purposes, including for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Article III – Members

Section 1. Membership of GPI shall consist of the following with voice and vote:

- A. The Executive Board of GPI.
- B. Intergroup Representatives (IRs) which shall consist of one (1) member from each group, within the geographical area.
- C. Chairpersons of Standing Committees.
- D. Regional Representatives (RRs) and Alternates.
- E. World Service Delegates (WSDs) and Alternates.
- F. A member may hold more than one position, but may only have one vote.

Section 2. Qualifications or eligibility for membership in GPI

- A. Those groups within the geographic definition of GPI that have defined themselves as an OA group and have formally registered with the World Service Office (WSO) per the current version of OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Art. V, Section 1 and indicated their intention to belong to GPI may be considered members.
- B. 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 3. Intergroup Representatives (IRs)

- A. IRs shall be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent.
- B. An IR may only represent one group at a GPI meeting.
- C. The role of the IR is to represent the group at intergroup meetings and to serve as a contact to carry communications between the intergroup and the represented group.

Section 4. Membership with voice and no vote shall be:

- A. Any employee.
- B. Any member of the fellowship who does not hold an office; a visitor; a guest.

Article IV – Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. In addition, the immediate past Chairperson shall serve as an ex-officio member (voice but no vote) of the Executive Board for a period of one year.

Section 2. Roles of the Executive Board

Section 3. A nominating committee may be formed by the Executive Board. Written applications will be required and submitted to the nominating committee. Qualifications for and responsibilities of the Executive Board are located in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual Article III: Executive Board, Section B: Qualifications for Executive Board members

Section 4. Method of Election

- A. Elections shall be held annually to fill vacancies.
 - 1. Election for the Chairperson and Secretary shall be held in odd numbered years.
 - 2. Election for the Vice Chairperson and Treasurer shall be held in even numbered years.
- B. To be eligible for election, the nominee must confirm that they meet the qualifications and have an understanding of the responsibilities of the position.
- C. In order to be elected to the Executive Board the nominee must:
 - 1. Present his/her intent to vie for the position in writing to the Board.
 - 2. Be present at the election meeting if at all possible.
 - 3. Receive a simple majority vote of fifty (50) percent plus one of the voting members present at the meeting, following the voting procedure as described in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual Article II: Guidelines to the GPI Meeting, Section D: GPI Elections.

Section 5. Term of Office

- A. Board members shall be elected to serve for a period of two (2) years. Terms begin and end at the end of the conclusion of the October election meeting.
- B. Board members shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms at one position.
- C. After interval of one (1) year, they may be again eligible for election to the same position.
- D. Upon election to the Board, members shall cease to be a Chairperson of any Standing Committee or an IR and their group may elect a new IR.

Section 6. Vacancies and Resignations

- A. Any Board Member may resign at any time by notifying the Chairperson of GPI.
- B. Any Board Member of GPI may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the voting members at a special meeting announced for that purpose.
- C. Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal occur, all pertinent information and data will be turned over to the GPI chairperson.

Section 7. Filling of Vacancies

- A. Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote at a special meeting of the GPI. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve in the interim for the remainder of the unexpired term until the next regularly scheduled election.
- B. A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the Board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 3 and be aware of all responsibilities of that position as described and defined in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual.

Article V – Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

- A. GPI shall meet monthly at a time and place designated by a Majority of the voting members.
- B. The regular October meeting shall be for the election of Executive Board Officers, RRs, WSDs, Alternates, and Standing Committee Chairpersons. With the exception of emergency new business, all other standing agenda items will be eliminated at that meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings

- A. A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the Executive Board by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 3.

Section 3. Method of Notification

- A. Notification may be made by an e-mail sent to the GPI email list by placing an announcement in the *Voice of Recovery (VOR)*, at the prior GPI meeting, or on the website.

Section 4. Quorum

- A. Shall consist of not less than two (2) IRs, not less than one-half (1/2) of the filled Executive Board voting members, and not less than one-third (1/3) of the filled Committee Chair positions and a minimum of seven (7) voting members.

Article VI – Regional Representatives/World Service Delegates and Alternates

Section 1. GPI will

- A. Determine the number of RRs and Alternates by the current information from Region 7. (Region 7, Inc. Bylaws Article IV, A.)
- B. Determine the number of WSDs and Alternates by the current information from Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. (Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws Subpart B, Article X Section 3 (c) 2.)
- C. The number of RRs, WSDs, and Alternates who may attend Regional Assemblies or the WSBC will be dependent on the available funds. The Finance Committee will make a recommendation as to the availability of funds.

Section 2. The purpose of RRs and WSDs is to represent GPI at Region 7 Assemblies and World Service Business Conferences respectively and to carry communications between GPI and Region 7/World Service. Qualifications for and responsibilities of the RRs/Alts and WSDs/Alts are located in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual Article V and Article VI.

Section 3. Method of Election.

- A. The election shall be held annually.
- B. To be eligible for election, the nominee must confirm that they meet the qualifications and have an understanding of the responsibilities of the position. (See Policies and Procedures Manual.)
- C. In order to be elected to the position of RR/WSD the nominee must:
 1. Present his/her intent to vie for the position in writing to the Board.
 2. Be present at the election meeting **if at all possible**.
 3. Receive a simple majority vote of the voting members following the voting procedure as described in the GPI Policies and procedures Manual Article II: Guidelines to the GPI Meeting, Section D: GPI Elections

Section 4. Terms of Office

- A. Shall be elected to serve for a period of two (2) years. Term begins January 1 and ends at the completion of assigned committee work.
- B. Shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- C. After an interval of two (2) years, an individual will again be eligible for election, provided they have remained qualified as defined in Section 3.

Section 5. Vacancies and Resignations

- A. Any RR, WSD, or Alternate may resign at any time by notifying the Chairperson of GPI.
- B. Any RR, WSD, or Alternate may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the voting members at a special meeting announced for that purpose.
- C. Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal occur, all pertinent information and data will be turned over to the GPI Chairperson.

Section 6. Filling of Vacancies

- A. Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal occur, all pertinent information and data will be turned over to the GPI Chairperson.
- B. The Executive Board will then appoint an interim RR, WSD or Alternate to serve the remainder of the unexpired term until the next scheduled election.
- C. A person chosen to fill any RR, WSD, or Alternate vacancy shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article VI, Section 3 and be aware of all responsibilities of that position as described and defined in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual.

Article VII – Standing Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

- A. Standing Committees may be established as required for the welfare and operation of GPI in the most effective and efficient manner.
- B. Standing Committee chairs guide the Standing Committees and report to the Executive Board. Qualifications for and responsibilities of the Standing Committee chairs are located in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual Article VII: Standing Committees, Section 3: Qualifications and Article VII: Standing Committees, Section 5: Responsibilities of Individual Standing Committees.
- C. Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal occur, all pertinent information and data will be turned over to the GPI Chairperson.
- D. The Executive Board will then appoint an interim committee chair to serve the remainder of the unexpired term until the next scheduled election.
- E. A person appointed as an interim committee chair shall meet the qualifications as defined in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual (Article VII: Standing Committees Section 3: Qualifications) and be aware of all responsibilities of that position as described and defined in the GPI Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 2. Committee Procedures

- A. Each committee may prescribe its own rules for calling and holding meetings and its method of procedures, subject to the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous and these Bylaws.
- B. Past committee chairpersons may serve in an ex-officio capacity in their respective committees.

Section 3. Ad hoc Committees

- A. Committees appointed to perform a particular task. These committees are not ongoing, but will disband when the task is completed to the satisfaction of GPI. The GPI Executive Board may appoint Ad hoc Committee members and a chairperson for it.

Article VIII – Source of Funds

Section 1. Source of Funds

- A. Voluntary contributions of the member groups shall be the primary source of funds.
- B. Secondary source of income may be such projects or activities as may be authorized by GPI according to Tradition Six.
- C. GPI may accept donations from OA members in accordance with guidelines from WSO.
- D. The acceptance of bequests or donations from any outside source is prohibited.

- E. GPI shall not accept the responsibility for trusteeship over, or enter into, the distribution or allocation of funds set up outside of Overeaters Anonymous.
- F. There shall be no accumulation of funds beyond current necessities with retention of only a minimum prudent reserve of three (3) months expenses for contingencies.

Article IX – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern GPI in all cases to which these are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, or any special rules of order GPI may adopt.

Article X – Amendments to Bylaws

Section 1. The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, as found in OA Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Articles I, II, and III, cannot be amended by GPI or any meeting within GPI except as per OA Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Art. XIV, Sec. 1.

Section 2. These bylaws may be amended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting members present and voting at any regular or special meeting of GPI as long as there is a quorum. The proposed amendment must be communicated in writing to each member group at least the GPI meeting prior to the voting meeting.

Article XI – Dissolution

Section 1. In order to deregister, Greater Pittsburgh Intergroup must submit written notice to the World Service Office, Region 7 chair and trustee liaison, following current guidelines as found in OA Inc. Bylaws Article VI Section 4C.

Section 2. Disbursement of Remaining Funds

When this intergroup ceases operation and all debts have been paid, all remaining funds shall be distributed to other Overeaters Anonymous service bodies or the World Service Office in accordance with Tradition Six, Section 3 - US Non-Profit with 501c (3) Status.

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

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

Article XII – Major Policy Matters

Section 1. Matters which affect GPI and/or groups within its service shall be referred to the Board of GPI. Matters which relate to Overeaters Anonymous as a whole shall be referred to the OA Trustee assigned to GPI as an intergroup within Region 7.