

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

**“Motions to Assembly Motion”**

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**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

Section 1

These Bylaws, representing our table of organisation, may be amended by a two thirds majority of the voting body at the annual Regional Assembly provided that representatives are present from at least five different countries within Region 9. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted, in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy-five days before the Region 9 Assembly.

Move to insert the underlined text in the Bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

Section 1

These Bylaws, representing our table of organisation, may be amended by a two thirds majority of the voting body at the annual Regional Assembly provided that representatives are present from at least five different countries within Region 9. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted, in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy-five days before the Region 9 Assembly.

Section 2

- (a) Any motions submitted to the Region 9 Chair and/or Region 9 Bylaws Committee ninety (90) days or more prior to the annual Assembly, can only be submitted by a Region 9 Service Body or a Region 9 Committee.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

**INTENT:**

The intent of the amendment is to make clear that all motions that are sent to the Chair and/or to the Bylaws Committee timeously before the Assembly are motions that are sent by OA Region 9 service bodies (groups, intergroups and national service boards) and not by individual fellows.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

This will only be implemented as of R9 Assembly 2019.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

This amendment intends to ensure that there has been an OA group conscience decision making process before motions are sent to the Region 9 Chair and/or the Region 9 Bylaws Committee, as is stated in the OA Tradition 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."

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

**“Removal of Finance and Budget Committee References Motion”**

**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE VII – COMPOSITION OF REGION 9 BOARD

Section 2 – Duties

Duties of members of the Region 9 Board shall include but not be limited to the following:

...

c. The Treasurer is responsible to chair the Budget and Finance Committee; and to see that the annual financial statements are mailed to all members Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards.

AND

ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES

Section 4 – Finance and Budget Committee Members

a. The Treasurer of Region 9 shall chair the Finance and Budget Committee.

Move to ~~delete~~ the struck-through text and to insert the underlined text in the Bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE VII – COMPOSITION OF REGION 9 BOARD

Section 1- Composition

The Region 9 Board shall consist of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and General Officer.

Section 2 – Duties

Duties of members of the Region 9 Board shall include but not be limited to the following:

...

c. The Treasurer is responsible ~~to chair for the B~~ to chair for the budget and finances of Region 9 ~~Committee~~; and to see that the annual financial statements are mailed to all members Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards.

AND

~~ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES~~

~~Section 4 – Finance and Budget Committee Members~~

~~a. The Treasurer of Region 9 shall chair the Finance and Budget of Region 9 Committee.~~

**SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

**INTENT:**

The Budget and Finance Committee of Region 9 was disbanded in 2017. The proposed motion is brought to update the Bylaws and bring them in line with the current Region 9 structure.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

There is no issue of implementation as the Budget and Finance Committee was already disbanded by virtue of the decision voted on at the Region 9 Assembly 2017.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

See intent (above).

Region 9 Bylaw Committee 2017/2018 Proposal Item: 3

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

**“Permanent Banker Motion”**

**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES

Section 4 – Finance and Budget Committee Members

b. If the Treasurer does not reside in United Kingdom, then the role of the Banker may be created. The Banker will automatically become a member of the Finance and Budget Committee.

Move to ~~delete~~ the struck-through text and to insert the underlined text in the Bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES

~~Section 4 – Finance and Budget Committee Members~~

~~b. If the Treasurer does not reside in United Kingdom, then the role of the Banker may be created. The Banker will automatically become a member of the Finance and Budget Committee.~~

Under ARTICLE X – FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

Section 2

a. The role of banker is a permanent service position within the Region 9 financial structure and a permanent feature of the financial management of Region 9, irrespective of whether the Treasurer does or does not reside in the United Kingdom.

b. The role of banker is designated exclusively to a fellow who is a United Kingdom resident, due to the requirements of the UK bank that is used for the primary Region 9 bank account.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

**INTENT:**

The intent behind this proposal is to ensure that there is a second person, besides the Treasurer, who is participating in the financial management of Region 9. The thinking is that this more formalised structure with having two people instead of one, would bring into action the spiritual principle embodied in OA Concept 8, that being the principle of delegation of responsibilities.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

There is no issue of implementation as at present there is a UK banker as well as a UK Treasurer.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

See intent (above).

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

**“Banker Motion”**

**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES

Section 6 – Election of Banker

If the Treasurer does not reside in the United Kingdom and the role of Banker is required to assist the Treasurer then the following process may be used:

- a. To be eligible for election of position of Banker, the person does not have to be present at the Assembly at which the election is taking place, see Region 9 Policies and Procedures for guidelines on election.
- b. To be elected as Banker, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.
- c. The position is elected for a two year term with elections in alternate years to that of the Treasurer’s position and these elections can be held in any year that the position is required.
- d. The Banker should serve for no more than four consecutive years.
- e. Nominations may be received from voting representatives present at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is taking place or from visitors to the Region 9 Assembly or a member of OA who is not in attendance. If the nominee is present they shall be called upon to present their qualifications briefly to the Assembly. If the nominee is not present they may submit an application which will be read out to the Assembly.  
Alternatively, should anyone standing for the position of Banker not be present at the assembly at which their nomination is taking place, it is preferable (if it can be arranged) if the nominee makes themselves available for a live communication (e.g. by Skype) with the Assembly at the time of the election. The R9 board will give instructions to all nominees for this position about the method and timing of this communication. If it is possible, then the Assembly delegates should be able to ask questions of (and hopefully “see”) the nominees to assist them in making their decisions as to who to elect to this vital position. The election process will continue as normal if this method is not possible.
- f. If no applications are received at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is required or if a vacancy occurs during the term of office between Assemblies then the position can be filled by a person appointed by a majority vote of the Region 9 Board.
- g. The bank will do a credit check on the elected candidate. Should the Banker fail the check a new banker must be found.

Move to move the entire Section 6 under Article IX to Article X – FINANCIAL STRUCTURE New Section 3, with the following deletions of text that are struck-through and with the following insertions that are underlined as follows:

## ARTICLE X- FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

### Section 3 – Election of Banker

~~If the Treasurer does not reside in the United Kingdom and the role of Banker is required to assist the Treasurer then~~ The following process may be used for the election of position of Banker:

- a. To be eligible for election of position of Banker, the person does not have to be present at the Assembly at which the election is taking place, see Region 9 Policies and Procedures for guidelines on election.
- b. To be elected as Banker, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.
- c. The position is elected for a two year term with elections in alternate years to that of the Treasurer’s position and these elections can be held in any year that the position is required.
- d. The Banker should serve for no more than four consecutive years.
- e. Nominations may be received from voting representatives present at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is taking place or from visitors to the Region 9 Assembly or a member of OA who is not in attendance. If the nominee is present they shall be called upon to present their qualifications briefly to the Assembly. If the nominee is not present they may submit an application which will be read out to the Assembly.  
Alternatively, should anyone standing for the position of Banker not be present at the assembly at which their nomination is taking place, it is preferable (if it can be arranged) if the nominee makes themselves available for a live communication (e.g. by Skype) with the Assembly at the time of the election. The R9 board will give instructions to all nominees for this position about the method and timing of this communication. If it is possible, then the Assembly delegates should be able to ask questions of (and hopefully “see”) the nominees to assist them in making their decisions as to who to elect to this vital position. The election process will continue as normal if this method is not possible.
- f. If no applications are received at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is required or if a vacancy occurs during the term of office between Assemblies then the position can be filled by a person appointed by a majority vote of the Region 9 Board.
- g. The bank will do a credit check on the elected candidate. Should the Banker fail the check a new banker must be found.

#### **SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

#### **INTENT:**

The intent behind this proposal is to assist with ensure that the finances of the Region’s are managed on a non-solo basis, and that having two people giving service will make each more accountable and thereby create additional security.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

At present the roles of Banker and Treasurer are separate service positions, with there presently being a UK banker as well as a UK Treasurer.



The Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM) states the following under Section 2.5(a):

The Region 9 Banker is not a Board position, but is a Region 9 member from Great Britain who is elected by the Region 9 Assembly if the Region 9 Treasurer is not from Great Britain. The banker serves for a two-year term in line with the Treasurer's term.

If this Motion is adopted, the PPM will be required to be updated / amended to fall in line with this new bylaw, with the following deletions of text that are struck-through and with the following insertions that are underlined as follows:

The Region 9 Banker is not a Board position, but is a Region 9 member from Great Britain who is elected by the Region 9 Assembly ~~if the Region 9 Treasurer is not from Great Britain~~. The banker serves for a two-year term ~~in line with~~ alternate to the Treasurer's term.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

See intent (above).

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

“OA Inc. Bylaw Amendment Motion”

**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

Section 1

These Bylaws, representing our table of organisation, may be amended by a two thirds majority of the voting body at the annual Regional Assembly provided that representatives are present from at least five different countries within Region 9. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted, in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy-five days before the Region 9 Assembly.

Move to insert the underlined text in the Bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

Section 1

(a) These Bylaws, representing our table of organisation, may be amended by a two thirds majority of the voting body at the annual Regional Assembly provided that representatives are present from at least five different countries within Region 9. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted, in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy-five days before the Region 9 Assembly.

(b) Upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference, the Region 9 Board will evaluate the Region 9 Bylaws. In the event that the Board unanimously agrees that an amendment and update to the Region 9 Bylaws is necessary to ensure the Region 9 Bylaws are not in conflict with the OA Inc. Bylaws, then such updates are to be made by the Board itself and submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII, Section 4a. Notification of such updates is to be made to all Region 9 Service Bodies within one month of the update being made. In the event that there is no unanimous agreement by the Board concerning the amendment and update of the Region 9 Bylaws pursuant to amendments of the OA Inc Bylaws, then the update is to be brought before the Region 9 Assembly for their consideration and vote.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

**INTENT:**

The intent behind this proposal is that when World Service Business Conference adopts new amendments to the OA Inc. Bylaws, then all the straightforward updates that the Region 9 Board agree to, will be attended to by the Board itself, without the amendment having to come to the Region 9 Assembly for the Assembly's consideration and vote.

This proposal is in line with the OA Concept 3, which Concept states that: "The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible."

In addition, the intent here is that where there is no unanimity amongst the Region 9 Board concerning the updating and amendment of the Region 9 Bylaws as a result of any new amendments to the OA Inc Bylaws adopted by World Service Business Conference, then this matter would be required to be brought before the Region 9 Assembly for the Assembly's consideration and vote.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

The implication is that the Board will be called on to review all amendments that are adopted at each of the annual World Service Business Conferences within a reasonable time after each conference. The Board will then be called on to discuss and decide on the manner of incorporating those amendments in such a way as to prevent any conflict between the Region 9 Bylaws and the OA Inc. Bylaws.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

See intent (above).

Region 9 Bylaw Committee 2017/2018 Proposal Item: 6

Region 9 Assembly 2018  
New Business Motions

**“Standard Costs Motion”**

**MOTION:**

Current wording of the Bylaws:

ARTICLE X- FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

Section 1

h. Where funds permit, Region 9 should have a prudent reserve equal to (1) years standard costs. The standard costs to be determined by the assembly and updated annually.

Move to ~~delete~~ the struck-through text and to insert the underlined text in the Bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE X- FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

Section 1

h. Where funds permit, Region 9 should have a prudent reserve equal to (1) years standard costs. The standard costs are to be determined by the assembly and updated annually by the Treasurer together with all other Board members. The determination of the standard costs is to be reviewed by the Assembly every four years.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

The Region 9 Bylaws Committee 2017/2018

**INTENT:**

The intent behind this proposal is to free up precious time during Assembly. It is unnecessary to allocate time each year to deciding matters – namely the determination of the standard costs of the Region - that the Board is fully capable of attending to.

This proposal is in line with the OA Concept 3, which Concept states that: “The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.”. This proposal would accord to the Board, which is entrusted with the work of Region 9 between Assemblies, with the authority to determine standard costs, on the understanding that this determination will be reviewed every four years instead of every year.

These determinations have been made each and every year at Assembly. The Board is able to reference these past determinations to assist it in making its annual determination of standard costs of the Region.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

The implication is that the Board will be called on to conduct an annual assessment and make an annual determination of the standard costs of the Region, on the understanding that every fourth year, the Assembly will review the determinations of standard cost made by the Board.

This will involve an additional item having to be attended to by the Board.

**COST:**

None.

**RATIONALE:**

See intent (above).

## FORMAT FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED OA BYLAW AMENDMENTS

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**TO AMEND:** Article VII – REGIONS, Section 2 – Composition, by adding the following.

<u>CURRENT WORDING</u>	<u>PROPOSED WORDING</u>
Article VII - REGIONS Section 2 - Composition	Article VII - REGIONS Section 2 - Composition  <u>d) Virtual Intergroups may also participate in the activities (including voting) of another region with that region's permission.</u>

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Region 9, #09909

[Contact Name:][Phone #: and (Country)] [Email Address:]

**INTENT:**

In the same spirit of adopted Bylaw Amendment Proposal #2 from WSBC 2018, relating to Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition, allowing groups to participate (including voting) in more than one service board (or Intergroup), the intent here is to allow Virtual Intergroups the same freedom to participate in more than one Region.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

Individual regions may need to update their Bylaws and procedures to grant permission to the Virtual Intergroups.

WSO may consider noting that a particular Virtual Intergroups participate in more than one region.

**COST:**

None

**PRIMARY PURPOSE:**

By allowing Virtual Intergroups to interact freely and fully with existing regions, we are helping the meetings and members this motion affects to carry the OA message of recovery and encouraging an exchange of fellowship between the virtual world and the face-to-face world, opening up recovery, service, and fellowship opportunities, that would run in both directions. Some groups will be better

served to carry the message of recovery across regional boundaries and, in keeping with tradition 1 - Unity, we would like to include everyone in our conversations and activities (Twelve Traditions Pocket Guide).

**RATIONALE:**

Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition, allowing groups to participate (including voting) in more than one service board was adopted at WSBC 2018. The proposal above makes sense to all those Virtual Intergroups who feel they have close ties with a particular land-based region.

**Mail to:**

Overeaters Anonymous, Inc.

Attn: Board of Trustees Chair, C/O Sandy Zimmerman

PO Box 44020, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174-4020, USA

Phone (505) 891-2664 Fax (505) 891-4230

Proposal Item:  
Order of Debate Number:

**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**  
**EMERGENCY NEW BUSINESS MOTION**

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**MOTION:**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**INTENT:**

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

**COST:**

**RATIONALE:**

**Why this is urgent:**



To: Region 9 Assembly  
From: Group Conscience Committee (GCC) for R9 WhatsApp meetings  
Re: Request for voice and vote at Region 9 Assembly 2018

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The first Region 9 WhatsApp meeting was established in June 2017, with a second meeting opening soon afterwards in July 2017. By August we had created an Intergroup to serve as both the Group Conscience of the WhatsApp meetings, and as their Intergroup. Today (June 2018), there are currently 4 member meetings of the GCC, with the possibility of two more joining in the coming months.

From the outset, these meetings were designed as a Region 9 initiative, and the GCC policies have ensured that member meetings must have a majority of members who reside in Region 9 to be eligible to become a member of the GCC.

At the present time, the GCC has NOT registered as an official Intergroup with WSO, although the member meetings are all registered and listed on the OA website in the meeting lists.

The reason that the GCC has not registered as a virtual service board YET, is because until now, the OA Bylaws and service structure does not allow for a virtual service board to affiliate with a face-to-face region, nor to participate in another region's activities (including voting), other than their default region.

Progress was made at WSBC 2018 to allow virtual groups to participate (including voting), in more than one service board, provided that permission is granted by the service board (see the amended section from OA Bylaws below). As registered virtual groups, the GCC WhatsApp meetings are asking the Region 9 service board for permission to take part in all aspects of the Region 9 Assembly in 2018.

We hope that the R9 Assembly will accept us, and together we can work towards spreading the message of recovery through the OA 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service, throughout Region 9, and beyond.

Alexis A, GCC Representative to Region 9

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**OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition,** was amended at WSBC 2018 to read:

Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups Section 2 – Composition

a) A group may be formed, as set forth in Article V, Section 1, by two or more persons meeting together, either

- 1) in the same physical location (land-based);
- 2) through some form of electronic device (virtual); or
- 3) both.

b) Groups compose the intergroups and service boards set forth in Articles VI and VIII hereof. c) A group may affiliate with only one intergroup or service board. However, groups may also participate in the activities (including voting) of another service body (intergroup, national service board, language service board, region) with their permission.