

SECTION 5

**VOTED ON BUT NOT ADVISORY
ACTIONS**

CONFERENCE TOPICS 2018 VOTED ON, BUT NOT RESULTING IN ADVISORY ACTIONS (VOTING ON COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS)

CONFERENCE REPORT CHARTER & SERVICE MANUAL COMMITTEE

TOPIC 012/2018

Guest speakers during the dinner dance at National Conventions

Could we please abolish the practice of inviting AA members to speak during the dinner dance at National Conventions. Not all Conventions do it, but those that do usually get it horribly wrong. People have usually paid over \$100 for a ticket and are never notified prior to purchase that there will be a guest speaker or who that speaker will be. Dinner dances are social occasions, where you can catch up with old friends and meet new ones. There are plenty of opportunities to listen to AA members speaking during the convention. It is not necessary during a dinner dance and extremely discourteous and boring to spouses and partners who might be in attendance, especially if the speaker is narcissistic. Sharing ones AA story should be about carrying the message, not entertainment. Tradition 12 states that we are to place principles before personalities and to practice a genuine humility.

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Report Charter and Service Manual Committee's recommendation that this topic be rejected, in the spirit of our Tradition 4.

Voting: For: 25; Against: 3; Absentions: 1
Carried

CONFERENCE POLICIES & ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

TOPIC #006/2018

Resolve that urgent legal action be taken against "AA Vic" for breaches of our AA copyrights which they are violating, and a fund be established Australia-wide to ensure that these necessary actions be financed to preserve the copyrights from destruction.

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommendation that this topic be rejected as a resolution to past difficulties is possible.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0
Carried

TOPIC #007/2018

That the General Service Conference advise the General Service Board to take the following immediate action to resolve the following threat by the 'AA Reviver' to the Australian AA Fellowship.

1. Commence legal action to prohibit this company from using the copyrighted Trademark 'Alcoholics Anonymous' in any of its publications. A letter from the General Service Board's solicitor, sent in May 2017 was ignored, and it has been publically stated that there is no intention of compliance.
2. Commence legal action to prevent this company from importing, selling or publishing AA copyrighted material, including the Big Book. It has been publically

stated by a director of this company that there is no such thing as 'Conference approved, copyrighted literature'.

3. Take action to advise the Australian Charities & Not-For-Profits Commission (ACNC) that the status of this company, which has registered itself as a charity (see attachment), should be thoroughly investigated and that it has no legal connections to Alcoholics Anonymous. The company has applied for and been granted exemption from income and fringe benefits tax and GST.

4. Take action to ensure that all members and groups are aware that all members/groups are aware that purchasing literature from this company is harming their Fellowship.

5. Ensure that all convention/rally committees, particularly in New South Wales, are aware that this company is contravening the international legal licensing agreement between the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia and AA World Services Inc.

6. Advise that any groups purchasing and displaying this literature will be contacted and made aware of the ramifications of their actions. Should they continue to purchase illegally imported material, they will be removed from the National Website listing and their office bearers will no longer be eligible for public liability insurance coverage.

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation to Conference that this topic be rejected. The matter is now in the hands of AA World Services Inc. and their solicitors.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0
Carried

TOPIC #014/2018

Increase awareness of Delegates to Conference and the Fellowship as a whole of the total role the GSO plays in the functioning of AA in Australia and that these functions are essential to the survival of AA in Australia.

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation to Conference that this topic be rejected. It is the delegates' responsibility to educate themselves on the General Service Office and its functions, using the considerable amount of material available.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0
Carried

TOPIC #025/2018

The fellowship requests that the GSB

a) Seek legal counsel regarding the use of the letters "AA" and the words "Alcoholics Anonymous" by AA Reviver Inc (AARI)

b) Produce another "Cease and Desist " letter to AA Reviver Inc stating that the name of AA ought not to be brought into public controversy by the production of materials implying they are endorsed by AA as a whole

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation to Conference that this topic be rejected. The matter is now in the hands of AA World Services Inc. and their solicitors.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0
Carried

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

TOPIC #017/2018

That Topic # 017/2017 voted into Advisory Action be revoked.

THIS IS THE TOPIC WHICH WAS PASSED:

"That the Board recommends to Conference that discount on literature to Areas and Districts only be available for PI&CPC initiatives by Areas and Districts. When there is a local Central Service Office groups should purchase their literature from that office."

Conference resolved to support the Conference Finance Committee's that this topic be rejected.

Voting: For: 22; Against: 5; Abstentions: 1

Carried

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

TOPIC #003/2018

A separate section containing 10 of the original stories from the Big Book be added in the next Printing of the Australian Edition of the Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Literature Committee's recommendation that this topic be rejected. The stories exist in the volume "Experience Strength and Hope" and it would add 99 pages to the existing book.

Voting: For: 27; Against: 1; Abstentions: 1

Carried

CONFERENCE PUBLIC INFORMATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

The Committee recommends to Conference that the National Technology and Social Media Advisor (currently Lachlan Botticchio) attend this Committee's Conference meetings. If accepted, this can be included in the Composition description of the Committee.

Voting: Against by a show of hands

TOPIC #004/2018

Can we have on our National or local websites or meeting lists for a AA meeting to be a child friendly or non- child – friendly meeting ??

Conference resolved to support the Conference PI&CPC Committee's that this topic be rejected on the grounds that each group is autonomous.

Voting: For: 26; Against: 3; Abstentions: 0

Carried

TOPIC #011/2019

Currently A.A. Australia has a number of quite large, detailed publications on the nature, possible actions and value of Public Information, but we lack a simple, easy-to-read document that outlines PI basics at a grass roots, individual member level.

Conference resolved to support the Conference PI&CPC Committee's that this topic be rejected. It is considered that existing PI material works well in already achieving this purpose.

Voting: For: 20; Against: 9; Abstentions: 0

Carried

TOPIC #032/2018

Conference directs the General Service Board to investigate enhancing the Meeting Search Function on the National Website to include the Area and Region each listed meeting nominally falls under, based on the meetings geographical location.

Conference resolved to support the Conference PI&CPC Committee's that this topic be rejected. This information may be better placed at the Service website.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 1; Abstentions: 0
Carried