

SECTION 6

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT

CONFERENCE REPORT CHARTER AND SERVICE MANUAL COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, Brighton Le Sands
Thursday 5th November 2015 4.30pm – 6.00pm

ROLL CALL

Lachlan (Chairperson)	Delegate, Area E, Eastern Region
Ann A (Alt. Chairperson)	Delegate, Area B, Western Region
Paul M	Delegate, Area B, North Eastern Region
Mandy G	Delegate, Area H, Eastern Region
Paul B	Chairperson, Trustees' Literature Committee
Vanda R	Trustee Emeritus
Tony C	Co-ordinator

APOLOGIES

Mandy G

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

Composition:

- “The National Office Manager” changed to “A General Office Staff Member”

Procedure:

d) Words “for its amendment or disapproval” deleted.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

NOTES:

The Committee notes that progress on Advisory Action 022/2014 (folder pg 112) is dependent on text revision of Guideline GL-22 by the Trustees Correctional Facilities Committee.

004/2013: The Committee notes that the document of all past Conference Advisory Actions does not yet appear at the service website, although this project is in progress.

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NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 011/2015

That the Literature Committee review AA Guideline 22 for grammatical and other errors. There is reference in this Guideline to the AI Anon anonymity statement: *“What you hear here...”*

AA has its own anonymity statement for AA meetings (available from GSO)
Conference should only allow AA Statements within Conference approved literature.

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual recommends to Conference that the topic be accepted and that grammatical and other errors, including the reference to the AI-Anon anonymity statement, be corrected.

TOPIC 028/2015

We are suggesting Additional wording in the guidelines for conventions to read “as a suggestion a table be made available, if possible, for Flyers for Rallies, roundups and tag-a longs.

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual recommends to Conference that the topic be accepted, bearing in mind that only material relating to AA events be available.

TOPIC 035 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the attached Guideline for the Remote Communities Co-ordinator Role be adopted.

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual recommends to Conference that the topic be accepted. The Committee notes that this

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recommendation may need review, subject to a Remote Communities Committee recommendation for Topic 037/2015, at this Conference. (pg 198)

TOPIC 038 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the National Treatment & Correctional Facilities Forum incorporate sessions for people with special needs into their programme.

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual recommends to Conference that the topic be accepted and that the appropriate section of Guideline GL-30 be updated.

TOPIC 041/2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the following paragraph be added to the Area Delegate section of the Service Manual:

“Two hats

In AA it seems there are always more service positions than people to fill them. And if we do manage to fill them, we create still more. As a result, some members may feel pressure to shoulder more than one service role at a time. On the surface this may appear to be expedient. After all ‘someone has to do it’. However, the following issues need to be considered by any member contemplating donning two hats;

- Holding two service positions simultaneously deprives other members of the opportunity to serve.
- Sometimes it’s better to leave a position vacant for a while. Someone will decide to step up, or be encouraged to volunteer, if they understand the need.
- When a member wears two hats, there is a real danger of a conflict of interest and an inclination to undue influence.

When it comes to general service, experience shows it’s usually better to do one job well than two jobs poorly.”

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted with the further recommendation that the text be included in Section 2 “The AA Group”, of the Australian Service Manual, rather than Section 6, “The Area Delegate”.

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REPORT ON CHANGES TO CORE DOCUMENTS DURING THE YEAR (DIG REPORT)

The Conference Report Charter & Service Manual reports to Conference that there were no changes to Core Documents during the last year.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Paul M was elected Chairperson.

No eligible candidate was present to elect an Alternate Chairperson.

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CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel Brighton le Sands, NSW
Thursday 5th November 2015 4.30pm – 6.00pm

ROLL CALL

Chairperson:	Seija L, Delegate, Area A, Central Region
Alternate Chairperson	Phil G, Delegate, Area C Eastern Region
	Natalie G, Delegate, Area A, Western Region
	Pat L, Delegate, Area B, Eastern Region
	Georgie J, Delegate, Area A Eastern Region
	Sharon R (Chair, Trustees' International Committee)
	Tony V (World Service Delegate)
	Valerie M (Co-ordinator)

APOLOGIES

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and no changes were made.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

Re Advisory Action #029/2013 which recommended that an Asia/Oceania convention be held in place of National Conventions on a five year rotational basis, to assist us as part of our responsibility to carry the message to developing countries and to encourage the development of service structures.

As there has been some criticism of this Advisory Action, with some feeling there has been no consultation with members, it is recommended to Conference that the Conference International Committee formulates a topic based on Advisory Action #029/2013 and submits it to the Conference Agenda Committee by the 2016 Conference Topic deadline date.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 033 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the sum of \$2000 be contributed to the AOSM Secretariat. Contributions to the AOSM Secretariat are used to pay for the travel and accommodation expenses for the AOSM Secretary and Chairman to attend the AOSM, website expenses and any shortfall there may be at the AOSM. These funds are not used to financially sponsor another country to attend. That responsibility lies with the secretary putting out the call for

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Country to Country sponsorship. It is recommended that no contributions be made until the current AOSM Financial Report has been received.

The Conference International Committee recommends to Conference that \$2000 be donated to the Asia/Oceania Service Meeting Secretariat to assist with the running costs of the Secretariat, subject to the receipt of a Budget and Profit & Loss Account from the Secretariat. A letter to that effect to be written to the AOSM Policies, Admissions & Finance Committee, the AOSM Secretary, Treasurer and Chairperson. The General Service Office Management Group is requested to provide templates for these accounts by February 2016.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Georgie J was elected Chairperson

Pat L was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at:

Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street, Brighton Le Sands,
NSW

Friday 6th November 2014 8.00pm – 9.00pm

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Melinda M, Delegate, Area B, Southern Region
 Andy P, Delegate, Area B, Central Region
 John O'L, Alt. Delegate, Area C, North Eastern Region
 Nik R, Delegate, Area G Eastern Region
 Greg H, Delegate, Area F, Eastern Region
 Robyn N (Chairperson, Trustees' Treatment Facilities Committee)
 Tony C (Co-ordinator)

APOLOGIES: Nil

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

COMPOSITION: "The General Service Office Manager" be replaced by "A General Service Office staff member".

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and no changes made.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 006/2015

To have a register of treatment facilities (including local medical centres and alcohol and drug treatment centres) submitted on the National website under the area in which they exist. It should be made clear that this website is to encourage districts to continually undertake the responsibility of delivering literature to same.

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CONFERENCE TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at:

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NSW

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The Conference Treatment Facilities Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected, primarily on the basis that the creation and maintenance of such a register takes away a vital service responsibility of Areas and Districts.

Other reasons include but are not limited to:

- * The National website is not the medium for such a register.
- * Posting such a list at an AA website may imply affiliation.
- * Over time, treatment facilities may have varying attitudes to AA as an option to offer clients.
- * Sincere doubts about ability to ensure acceptable accuracy and currency of Nation wide data.

TOPIC 036/2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the Conference Treatment Facilities Committee be renamed the Treatment & Special Needs Committee. All non-remote areas now listed under the scope of the Conference Remote Communities Committee to be transferred to the Treatment & Special Needs Committee. The General Service Board has implemented this change to the Trustees' Treatment Facilities Committee.

The Conference Treatment Facilities Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected. There is no definition for "Special Needs" offered in the topic. Furthermore, the deletion of the word "Facilities" from the Committee title is considered unacceptable.

The committee noted that the creation of a separate Committee to address matters relating to "Special Needs" itself may be worth consideration.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Andy P was elected Chairperson

Nik R was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at:

Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street, Brighton Le Sands,
NSW

Friday 6th November 2014 8.00pm – 9.00pm

COMBINED MEETING OF CONFERENCE TREATMENT & CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEES

TOPIC 010/2015

Clarify, determine, define and update the Guidelines for nomination and appointment of all Co-ordinators. This is currently covered by Guideline 30 – *PI & CPC and T & CF Co-ordinators and Forums*

The combined Conference Treatment & Correctional Facilities Committees recommend to Conference that this topic be accepted.

REPORT

CONFERENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at:

Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street, Brighton Le Sands,
NSW

Friday 6th November 2015 8.00pm – 9.00pm

ROLL CALL

Chairperson: Lachlan B, Delegate, Area E, Eastern Region
Alt. Chairperson: Mark S, Delegate, Area D Eastern Region
Peter O'D, Delegate, Area D, Southern Region
Ray M, Delegate, Area E, Southern Region
Pat L, Delegate, Area B, Eastern Region
Rodger Bull, Chairperson, Trustees' Correctional Facilities
Committee
Chris S (Co-ordinator)

APOLOGIES

OBSERVER Katharine T

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

The voting members of the committee will ideally be made up of:

- Six delegates from all regions with a balance of first, second and third year delegates, where possible.
- The Chairperson of the Trustees' Correctional Facilities Committee.
- The General Service Office Manager
- A World Service Meeting Delegate.

Observers and the Trustee Emeritus will be non-voting members of the committee.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The document was reviewed and updated.

#005/2012 completed, Roger Bull to write a cover letter template

NEW BUSINESS

**REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO
CONFERENCE**

REPORT

CONFERENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at:

Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street, Brighton Le Sands,
NSW

Friday 6th November 2015 8.00pm – 9.00pm

No topics were allocated to the Conference Correctional Facilities Committee

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Mark S was elected Chairperson

Pat L was elected Alternate Chairperson

COMBINED MEETING OF CONFERENCE TREATMENT & CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEES

TOPIC 010/2015

Clarify, determine, define and update the Guidelines for nomination and appointment of all Co-ordinators. This is currently covered by Guideline 30 – PI & CPC and T & CF Co-ordinators and Forums

WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND OR REASON FOR THE TOPIC?

At the 2014 T & CF Forum nominations were sought by the outgoing co-ordinator for the position of Corrections Facilities Co-ordinator. The view was expressed that this was not in accordance with the Guidelines even though Guideline 30 clearly states that “*Nominations for the position are invited at the Forum.....*”

In addition, the Fellowship was not advised of the successful nomination of Corrections Facilities Co-ordinator until March 2015 which means that the appointment will not be assessed by Conference until November 2015.

DO YOU HAVE A SUGGESTED SOLUTION?

That the section of the Guidelines entitled The Co-ordinators-Appointment and Terms be amended as follows: (a) that the term of office be four years; (b) that the timeframe and process for the issuance of the invitation for nominations and subsequent consideration of nominations received ensure that the appointment is finalised in the year nominations are sought. The proposed amended section to read as follows,

The term of office is four years, taking effect on January 1st of the year following the most recent Forum (on the basis that Forums are to be held by early October, every two years, i.e. in the month before Conference.

The new Co-ordinator is chosen by the Chairman of the respective Trustees’ Committee, in consultation with the Board at its meeting prior to Conference so that the chosen nomination is ratified by Conference in that year

Nominations for the position are invited at the Forum as well as by prior response to notices on AA and Service websites and in AA Around Australia news sheets

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Nomination forms are available from General Service Office or from the Co-ordinators

HOW WILL THE ALCOHOLIC WHO STILL SUFFERS OR THE FELLOWSHIP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS BENEFIT FROM THIS SUGGESTION?

It provides more clarity for the process of nominations.

WHAT ARE THE ESTIMATED COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SUGGESTION?

Nil

HAVE YOU ASKED YOUR GROUP, DISTRICT OR AREA TO MAKE A DECISION ABOUT THIS TOPIC AND, IF SO, WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

Yes. Area discussed the topic at Assembly and determined to submit it.

NOTE: REFER TO SECTION 5 TREATMENT FACILITIES PAGES 129-136 FOR GUIDELINE GL-30

ANY RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE MADE DURING THE TREATMENT FACILITIES REPORT TO CONFERENCE

REPORT

CONFERENCE POLICIES AND ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2014 8.40am – 10.30am

ROLL CALL

Chairperson: Melinda M, Delegate, Area B Southern Region
Alt. Chairperson: Andy P, Delegate, Area B Central Region
Lachlan B, Delegate, Area E Eastern Region
Peter O'D, Delegate, Area D Southern Region
Nik R, Delegate, Area G, Eastern Region
Seija L, Delegate, Area A, Central Region
Pat L, Delegate, Area B Eastern Region
Maurice Smith, Class A Trustee
Paul B, Eastern Regional Trustee
Sharon R (World Service Delegate)
Vanda Rounsefell (Trustee Emeritus)
Valerie M (Co-ordinator)

APOLOGIES

Nil

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

Procedure

As it is no longer relevant, remove point (g) The Committee Chairperson arrange a suitable time (breakfast or morning/afternoon tea) to meet, prior to Conference Committee Meeting. This will enable them to familiarise themselves with the material to be discussed and to ensure that the relevant material is available.

Under Suggested Criteria for submission to the Australian General Service Conference for observers: point (d) – change National Office to General Service Office.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

NEW BUSINESS

As the delegate for Area H, Eastern Region, Mandy G, was unable to attend Conference, the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee considered a request to send Mark W to Conference. Mark had been appointed as Alternate Delegate earlier that day by the Area H Committee. The request to admit Mark was declined based on the guidelines in the Service Manual. Mark had previously

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served a two year term as Alternate Delegate and attended Conference for two years as the Area H Delegate. At the time, it had been the decision of Area H that their Alternate Delegates and Delegates would serve a two year term. It was therefore agreed that he had served his full term in both positions and was not eligible to be seated at Conference as an Alternate Delegate.

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC #003/2015

That Conference considers that at all Conventions the Tea/Coffee be part of the registration cost IE: Tea and Coffee would be available at no charge and made available to all attending (includes visitors/observers).

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that the suggestion that tea and coffee be available free of charge to all attending Conventions be rejected. This is not a Conference matter and would interfere with the autonomy of Host Planning Committees.

TOPIC 008/2015

That the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia takes its Inventory on how our AA Structure works in AA Australia.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that a committee consisting of 6 Delegates (a balance of 1st, 2nd and 3rd year) and 3 Trustees be formed to investigate information contained in the background of this topic and to formulate a plan of how to conduct an inventory of the Australian AA Structure. The plan to be brought back to Conference next year.

TOPIC020/2015

That Advisory Action #46/2014 which states
“Conference resolved that, in future, the Chairperson of the General Service Board should open the Conference with an Acknowledgment of Country statement.” be revoked.

This advisory action is against the Traditions of the AA fellowship.

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CONFERENCE POLICIES AND ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

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The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that Advisory Action #46/2014 which states “Conference resolved that, in future, the Chairperson of the General Service Board should open the Conference with an Acknowledgment of Country statement.” be revoked, as this advisory action is against the Traditions of the AA fellowship.

TOPIC 012/2015

Will Conference give guidance to Areas regarding action to take when a delegate is not carrying out his/her duties? For example, a delegate not attending Area Assemblies, not communicating with groups, not make an attempt to consult with groups for their views on Conference topics, not providing a delegate report to Conference, etc. We realise that in many cases, it would be an Area responsibility to set procedures. However, as delegates also hold a position at the General Service Conference, we believe Conference has a responsibility to clearly state the expected standard for the delegate position.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted in principle and that the Conference Report Charter & Service Manual Committee be asked to review the Area Delegate section of the Service Manual, taking into consideration the points made in this topic, and that the reviewed section be brought back to Conference next year.

TOPIC 013/2015

That when an inaccurate/false/defamatory statement about the General Service Board, General Service Office or General Service Conference is published by an individual member or AA entity, this misinformation be immediately corrected by a statement from the General Service Board. Lack of reaction, with back up accurate information, is causing unnecessary confusion and mistrust in the Fellowship and damaging the individuals who are being targeted by malicious mischief makers.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that when an inaccurate/false/defamatory statement about the General Service Board, General Service Office or General Service Conference is published by an individual member or AA entity, this misinformation be immediately corrected by a statement from the General Service Board.

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CONFERENCE POLICIES AND ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

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TOPIC 025 /2015

Regions and States are not part of our Fellowship's service structure. Using either expression in relation to Areas is confusing. It has diminished the importance of the Areas so that, being fixed in States or Regions, we have never properly developed Areas as they should be.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be added to the plan for conducting an inventory of the Australian AA Structure – refer recommendation re Topic 008.

TOPIC 027 /2015

National Conventions not to be held over Easter or any weekend where a Public Holiday is involved

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that the suggestion that National Conventions not be held over Easter or any weekend where a Public Holiday is involved be rejected, as it interferes with the autonomy of Host Planning Committees.

TOPIC 032 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that when an Area bids at Conference to host a National event, such as the National PI&CPC Forum or the National T&CF Forum, an undertaking be given that it understood that the relevant National Co-ordinator is an ex officio member of the committee and, as such, will be contacted to be involved in the planning of the event and the production of the event programme.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that when an Area bids at Conference to host a National event, such as the National PI&CPC Forum or the National T&CF Forum, an undertaking be given that it understood that the relevant National Co-ordinator is an ex officio member of the committee and, as such, will be contacted to be involved in the planning of the event and the production of the event programme.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee also recommends that Guideline 30 should be updated.

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CONFERENCE POLICIES AND ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

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TOPIC 040 /2015

The Fellowship is asked to provide feedback to the General Service Conference 2015 on whether non Area Delegate Conference Members (Trustees, World Service Delegates, GSO Manager) should have a vote at Conference Committee level.

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be added to the plan for conducting an inventory of the Australian AA Structure – refer recommendation re Topic 008, and that Concept IV Right of Participation should be considered.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Andy P was elected Chairperson
Peter O'D was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

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

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 8.40am – 10.30am

ROLL CALL

Chairperson
Mark S, Delegate, Area D Eastern Region
Ann A, Delegate, Area B Western Region
John O'L, Alt. Delegate, Area C North Eastern Region
Phil G, Delegate, Area C Eastern Region
Katharine T, Delegate, Area A Northern Region
Ray M, Delegate, Area E Southern Region
Brett F (Chairman Trustees' PI&CPC Committee)
Tony V (World Service Delegate)
Tony C (Co-ordinator)

Non voting observers:
Rodger Bull (Class A Trustee)
Robyn N (Central Regional Trustee)
Kerry S (Western Regional Trustee)

APOLOGIES

Brett F

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

COMPOSITION:

- Insert word "Ideally" at start of Composition.
- Replace "The National Office Manager" with "A General Service Office staff member."

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 005/2015

Could the ID meeting label please be given the same priority as all the other meetings in the GSO data base and be allowed to be added into the GSO data base under the heading Type.

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

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The Conference PI&CPC Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted.

TOPIC 014/2015

When AA exhibits at a professional event, as it does regularly, the AA co-ordinator must ensure that a list of contacts is obtained, so that the National PI&CPC Co-ordinator can follow up after the event. The AA co-ordinator should also provide a report to the National PI&CPC Co-ordinator, including information such as number who attended the event, amount of literature distributed, what professionals were/were not interested in, etc. The National PI&CPC Co-ordinator should provide the AA co-ordinator with a contacts list to be completed, and a template for producing a report.

The Conference PI&CPC Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected. Such prescriptive needs take away initiative and responsibility from local PI committees, Districts or Groups.

TOPIC 016/2015

I think it would be beneficial to have an overlap in the National PI & CPC Co-ordinators Position, even 6 months would be helpful

The Conference PI&CPC Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected.

It is considered that the customary rotation and responsible handover of projects and processes will suffice and that an overlap period is not necessary.

TOPIC 022 /2015

That a National Technology and Social Media Coordinator position be created to assist the fellowship with the challenges we are facing in the new digital age.

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

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The Conference PI&CPC Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected. The committee considers that creation of such a position resembles a “top down” approach, and in any case is not necessary at this time. There are few, if any, equivalent positions at district and Area levels of our service structure that would justify, currently, having a National Co-ordinator.

TOPIC 026 /2015

Conference suggests that for Public Information purposes a copy of the 2nd Australian edition of the Big Book be donated to every council library and branch thereof within their area within the next 12 months

The Conference PI&CPC Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected. The responsibility to carry out such work lies with Groups and Districts.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed.
#35/2014 The Committee noted that GS Board Committee Chairs monthly reports on Advisory Actions to the Corresponding Conference Committee Chair were not being received.

REVIEW NATIONAL WEBSITE

The Conference PI&CPC Committee reviewed the National Website. The Committee accepted the Report from the web manger (attached). The the new design of the website, recently launched, was well received.

REVIEW SERVICE WEBSITE

The Conference PI&CPC Committee reviewed the Service Website. The committee agreed that the Service website needed significant review; and to be updated and upgraded in function and appearance.

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

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ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

John O'L was elected Chairperson

Ray M was elected Alternate Chairperson

AGENDA

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 8.40am – 10.30am

ROLL CALL

Chairperson:	Natalie Gillespie, Delegate, Area A, Western Region
Paul Moon	Delegate, Area B, North Eastern Region
Greg Hopkins	Delegate, Area F, Eastern Region
Ian Payne	Delegate, Area A, North Eastern Region
Georgie Jeston	Delegate, Area A, Eastern Region
Mike Eastaway	Chairman, Trustees' Finance Committee
Chris Surplice	Co-ordinator

Non –voting observers:

Bruce Macaulay	General Service Trustee
Mick Coolahan	Southern Regional Trustee

APOLOGIES

Mandy Galbraith

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

The voting members of the committee will ideally be made up of:

- Six delegates from all regions with a balance of first, second and third year delegates, where possible.
- The Chairperson of the Trustees' Finance Committee.
- The General Service Office Manager
- A World Service Meeting Delegate.

Observers and the Trustee Emeritus will be non-voting members of the committee.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

#012/2014 All committee members to contribute ideas and send to Mike Eastaway for collating.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC: 001/2015

That the General Service Office. Introduce a standard pricing schedule for the freighting of literature to ALL CSOs in Australia.

AGENDA

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
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The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that the topic be rejected. Freight charges are already set by Australia Post. Making larger orders less frequently reduces freight costs compared to small orders frequently.

TOPIC 019/2015

AA Australia sets up a Virtual Online bookstore that members can order literature from and have it sent to them.

The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected, CSO's are autonomous and can set up an online bookstore if they want.

TOPIC 029 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that two General Service Office staff members be listed as signatories of last resort to any group bank accounts set up with Bendigo bank. This is suggested so that groups can gain access to their bank account in the event that one or more group signatories cannot be located. The release of funds using the signatories of last resort would only be instituted at the written request of the group.

The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted.

TOPIC 030/2015

The General Service Board requests that the General Service Conference increase the annual current limits for bequests and donations by individuals to the General Service Board, as follows:

Donations: Increase from \$6,050 to \$15,000

Bequests: Increase from \$14,850 to \$25,000.

AGENDA

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 8.40am – 10.30am**

The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted.

REVIEW AUDITED ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that the audited accounts for year ended 30 June 2015 be accepted.

REVIEW BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

The Conference Finance Committee recommends to Conference that the budget for year ended 30 June 2016 be accepted.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Greg Hopkins was elected Chairperson
Georgie Jeston was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE REMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel Brighton le Sands, NSW
Friday 7th November 2014 11.00am – 1.00pm

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Katharine T, Delegate, Area A, Northern Region
Alt. Chairperson Ray M, Delegate, Area E, Southern Region
Phil G, Delegate, Area C, Eastern Region
Seija L, Delegate, Area A, Central Region
Melinda M, Delegate, Area B, Southern Region
Ian P, Delegate, Area A North Eastern Region
Ann A, Delegate, Area B, Western Region
Kerry S, (Chairperson, Trustees' Remote Communities
Committee)
Tony C (Co-ordinator)

Non-voting observers:
Brett F (North Eastern Regional Trustee)
Mike E (General Service Trustee)
Robyn N (Central Regional Trustee)

APOLOGIES

Ian P (Chair at another Committee)

REVIEW/ ACCEPT COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

COMPOSITION:

The word "Ideally" to be inserted as the first word in the Composition statement.

REVIEW ACTION LIST

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

The Committee raised questions about Advisory Action 026/2012 – relating to the Remote Communities Fund.

Specifically, the committee seeks documentation to be available to fully explain :

- * Why the fund was set up
- * What amount is currently in the Fund and
- * For what initiatives funds have been used to date.

The committee further asked for documentation to be provided which specifies the process for application for funding and full details of the administration of the fund, including funding approval guidelines.

REPORT

CONFERENCE REMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel Brighton le Sands, NSW
Friday 7th November 2014 11.00am – 1.00pm

039/2014

Re Co-ordinator Appointments.

The Committee seeks to have clarification of the processes for appointing and reporting for these positions and description of their linkage between their roles and Areas in the Service Structure.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 037 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the Conference Remote Communities change their Composition, Scope & Procedure Document to reflect that this committee will focus only on carrying the message to people living in geographically remote communities in Australia.

The Conference Remote Communities Committee recommends to Conference that be accepted.

REVIEW SERVICE WEBSITE REMOTE COMMUNITIES PAGE

The Remote Communities page on the Service Website was reviewed. There has been material posted there but few recent additions.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Seija L was elected Chairperson

Melinda M was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

ROLL CALL

(Chairperson) Mark S, Delegate, Area D, Eastern Region
(Alt. Chairperson) Greg H, Delegate, Area F, Eastern Region
John O'L, Alt. Delegate Area C, North Eastern Region
Georgie J, Delegate, Area A, Eastern Region
Pat L, Delegate, Area B, Eastern Region
Paul B (Chairperson, Trustees' Literature Committee)
Tony V (World Service Delegate)
Chris S (Co-ordinator)

Non-voting observers:

Mick C (Southern Regional Trustee)
Bruce M (General Service Trustee)

APOLOGIES

Mandy G, Delegate, Area H Eastern Region

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

The voting members of the committee will ideally be made up of:

- A minimum of six delegates from all regions with a balance of first, second and third year delegates, where possible.
- The Chairperson of the Trustees' Literature Committee.
- The General Service Office Manager
- A World Service Meeting Delegate.

Observers and the Trustee Emeritus will be non-voting members of the committee.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The document was reviewed and updated.

#58/2011 Conference resolved that General Service Board Committee Chairmen should send reports on Advisory Actions to the relevant Conference Committee Chairmen by email after each Board meeting, and that the Conference Committee Chairmen should communicate this information to their other committee members.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORT

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC #002/2015

A national publication for the Australian Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, along the lines of the AA Grapevine in North America and in line with established AA fellowships worldwide.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that the topic be accepted with the following amendments, initial funding capped at \$12000 with an interim report to be presented for the 2016 Conference where a review will be conducted

TOPIC 015/2015

Category 3. To reproduce cartoon You tube English conference approved. video based on a message to teenagers brochure using Australian voices and contact information.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted.

TOPIC 021 /2015

That conference creates a new piece of literature on the topic of sponsoring into service. A book of suggestions and guidelines to help with the role of being a service sponsor.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that topic be amended to having a section on Service Sponsorship in the AA Group Handbook

REPORT

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

TOPIC 023 /2015

Consider developing a new pamphlet for new women coming into AA.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be rejected. The subject is already well covered in existing AA literature including titles such as Young People in AA, Too Young, Making a start in AA and It happened to Alice.

TOPIC 024 /2015

Category 3.

The production of 2 new Public Information posters aimed at attracting young people with drinking problems into recovery in AA.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted

TOPIC 031 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the attached 'Self Support' card be printed and made available to groups as a Category 3 literature item.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted

TOPIC 034 /2015

The General Service Board recommends to the General Service Conference that a calendar of events be published on the service and national websites.

The Conference Literature Committee recommends to Conference that this topic be accepted

REPORT

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Greg H was elected Chairperson
Pat L was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

ROLL CALL

(Chairperson) Ian P, Delegate, Area A, North Eastern Region
(Alt. Chairperson) Paul M, Delegate, Area B, North Eastern Region
Peter O'D, Delegate, Area D, Southern Region
Nik R, Delegate, Area G, Eastern Region
Andy P, Delegate, Area B, Central Region
Natalie G, Delegate, Area A Western Region
Lachlan B, Delegate, Area E, Eastern Region
Maurice Smith (Chairman, Trustees' Nominating Committee)
Sharon R (World Service Delegate)
Valerie M (Co-ordinator)

Non-voting observers:

Vanda Rounsefell (Trustee Emeritus)
Rodger Bull (Class A Trustee)

APOLOGIES

Nil

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and the following changes were made:

Composition

First paragraph to now read:

The voting members of the committee will *ideally* be made up of:

- Six delegates from all regions with a balance of first, second and third year delegates, where possible.
- The Chairperson of the Trustees' Nominating Committee.
- The General Service Office Manager
- A World Service Meeting Delegate.

Observers and the Trustee Emeritus *would* be non-voting members of the committee.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

The Conference Committee on Trustees recommends that Advisory Action #058/2011, requiring General Service Board Committee Chairmen to send monthly reports to the relevant Conference Committee Chairmen be rescinded and that reports are only required following each Board Meeting.

REPORT

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

No topics were allocated to this committee

REVIEW TRUSTEE AND WORLD SERVICE DELEGATE NOMINATIONS AND RECOMMEND QUALIFIED CANDIDATES TO CONFERENCE FOR RATIFICATION OR SELECTION

Recommendation re World Service Delegate candidates for election by Conference

The Conference Committee on Trustees reviewed the applications of the following candidates:

Maureen B
Michael (Kell) C
Andrea C
David E
Paul J
Andrew T

After robust discussion the committee recommends David E and Andrea C as being the most suitable candidates for the position of World Service Delegate.

The committee rejected Andrew T's application as he is ineligible as the required one year period has not elapsed since his term as Area Delegate expired.

The committee recommends that this requirement be shown on the World Service Delegate application form.

REPORT

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW
Friday 6th November 2015 11.00am – 1.00pm

Recommendation re ratification of election of Robyn N as Central Regional Trustee

The Conference Committee on Trustees recommends to Conference that the General Service Board appointment of Robyn N as Central Regional Trustee for a 4 year period, which commenced on 11 July 2015 be ratified by Conference.

Recommendation re ratification of election of Bill H as Northern Regional Trustee

The Conference Committee on Trustees recommends to Conference that the General Service Board elect Bill H as Northern Regional Trustee for a 4 year period, commencing 1st January 2016.

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Nik R was elected Chairperson
Peter O'D was elected Alternate Chairperson

REPORT

CONFERENCE AGENDA COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW.

Friday 6th November 2015 2.00pm – 3.15pm

ROLL CALL

(Chairperson) Ann A, Delegate, Area B, Western Region
(Alt. Chairperson) Andy P, Delegate, Area B, Central Region
Nik R, Delegate, Area G, Eastern Region
Ian P, Delegate, Area A, North Eastern Region
Katharine T, Delegate, Area A, Northern Region
Melinda M, Delegate, Area B, Southern Region
Bruce M (Chairperson, Trustees' General Service Conference
Committee)
Valerie M (Co-ordinator)

APOLOGIES

Nil

REVIEW COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENT

The document was reviewed and no changes were made.

REVIEW ACTION LIST (ADVISORY ACTIONS 2010-2014)

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW 2015 CONFERENCE TOPICS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

TOPIC 039/2015

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that from 2016, the Conference Agenda be changed as per the attached suggestion. An analysis of topic categories over the last ten years has also been attached.

The Conference Agenda Committee made no recommendation regarding this topic and referred it back to the Conference floor. Prior to discussion, Bruce M, Chairman of the Trustees' General Service Conference Committee will outline the proposed Conference procedure suggested by the Board.

REPORT

CONFERENCE AGENDA COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Novotel Hotel, cnr. Grand Parade & Princess Street,
Brighton Le Sands, NSW.
Friday 6th November 2015 2.00pm – 3.15pm

DATE AND VENUE – CONFERENCE 2016

The Conference Agenda Committee recommends to Conference that the 2016 General Service Conference be held from Thursday 3rd – Sunday 6th November at the Novotel Hotel, Brighton Le Sands, NSW.

DATES FOR AGENDA COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2011 & DEADLINE FOR CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

The Conference Agenda Committee recommends to Conference that the Conference Agenda Committee meets by teleconference on Saturday 18th June 2016 at 11.30am EST to formulate the Conference agenda.

The Conference Agenda Committee recommends to Conference that the Conference Agenda Committee meets by teleconference on Saturday 13th August 2016 at 11.30am EST to allocate topics to Conference.

The Conference Agenda Committee recommends to Conference that the deadline for receipt of topics for the 2016 General Service Conference be 4pm Friday 24th June.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THEME OF GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2016

The Conference Agenda Committee recommends to Conference that a theme for the 2016 General Service Conference be selected from the following suggestions:

1	Primary Purpose
2	Small part of a great whole
3	Love and Tolerance of others is our code
4	AA must continue to live or most of us will surely die
5	Our common welfare is paramount (Tradition 4)
6	A Design for Living
7	50 Shades of AA

ELECTION CHAIRPERSON & ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Nik R was elected Chairperson
Melinda M was elected Alternate Chairperson