

# BYLAWS OF THE LEXINGTON AND CENTRAL KENTUCKY (BLUEGRASS) INTERGROUP

APRIL 5, 2014

## ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Lexington and Central Kentucky (aka Bluegrass) Intergroup.

## ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the Bluegrass 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 the Twelve Concepts of OA Service; and to serve and represent member groups and/or intergroups.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERS

### *Section 1 - Membership*

Membership of the intergroup (IG) with voice and vote includes the following:

1. The IG officers.
2. Intergroup representatives (Irs), which consist of 1 member from each group.
3. World Service Business Conference delegate(s)
4. Region representative(s)
5. Committee Chairs (Note: A committee chair, like every other IG member, will have only one vote even if also serving as an IR.)

### *Section 2 – Qualifications*

1. Qualification for group membership in an intergroup: Groups registered at the World Service Office (WSO) that are within its region or geographic proximity may affiliate with an intergroup, except that virtual groups registered with the WSO may affiliate without regard to geographic proximity.

Each Intergroup has the autonomy to determine which groups may affiliate with it; that decision should always be guided by OA Traditions and Concepts.

2. The Bluegrass Intergroup endorses the definition of an OA group in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws.
3. These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:
  - As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
  - All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
  - No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
  - As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
  - It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.
4. Virtual groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) may be an Overeaters Anonymous group if they:
  - Otherwise meet the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups

- Are fully interactive
- Meet in real time

***Section 3 – Intergroup Representatives***

1. Intergroup representatives (IR) will be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent.
2. The duty of the IR is to represent the group at IG meetings and to serve as a contact to carry communications between the IG and the presented group.

**ARTICLE IV – THE INTERGROUP (IG) BOARD**

***Section 1 – The Intergroup Board***

1. The board consists of the following officers: chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer
2. The IG board may also include other positions such as World Service Business Conference delegates, committee chairs or regional representatives.
3. Meeting shall be chaired by the chair of the board. In the event the chair is unable to chair any meeting, the vice chair will lead the meeting. In the event the vice chair is not available, the secretary will open the meeting and hold an election for a temporary chair.

***Section 2 – Nominations to the Intergroup Board***

Nominations to the board may be made from the floor at the time of election. A nominating committee may be formed at the discretion of the IG board.

***Section 3 – Qualifications to the Intergroup Board***

To qualify for election to the IG board, an individual must:

1. Be working the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service to the best of their ability.
2. Be a regular member of an affiliated group.
3. Have 6 months of abstinence at the date of election. (In the event that no interested member meets the abstinence and/or attendance requirement for a specific office, a member may be appointed by group conscience as an acting officer.)
  - World Service Business Conference delegates must comply with the abstinence and length of service requirements in the OA, Inc. Bylaws (current requirements are 1 year current abstinence and at least 2 years of service beyond the group level.
  - Region representatives must comply with the abstinence and length of service specified by the regions bylaws.

***Section 4 – Election of Board Members***

1. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election.
2. Nominees must be present at the election meeting. For election, the candidate must receive a majority vote of ballots cast.
3. Voting will be by ballot

***Section 5 – Term of Office***

1. The term of office for a board member is 1 year starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Board members may serve no more than 3 consecutive terms in the same position. A member may serve again after a leave of 1 year from the position.

### ***Section 6 – Responsibilities of the Intergroup Board Members***

1. Serve as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts with respect to the function of the intergroup.
2. Perform the duties of their offices in accordance with IG policies and procedures.
3. Serve as guardian of IG funds, participate in an annual financial audit.
4. Provide a forum for the interchange of ideas and information among member groups.

### ***Section 7 – Vacancies and Resignations***

1. If a board member is absent from an IG meeting more than 3 or 4 times on a year, he/she may be removed from the position by a majority vote of the ballots cast either at a regular IG meeting or a meeting announced for that purpose.
2. Any board member may resign at any time for any reason by giving the chain or the IG written notice.
3. Any board member of this IG may be removed from office for due cause by a majority vote of the ballots cast at a regular or special meeting announced for that purpose.

### ***Section 8 – Filling of Vacancies***

1. Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote at the next meeting or special meeting of the IG after the vacancy occurs. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
2. A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 3.

## **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

### ***Section 1 – Regular Meetings***

The IG will meet monthly at a time and place designated by a majority of the voting members. There will be at least ten meetings per year.

### ***Section 2 – Annual Meetings***

1. Elections may be held either at a special annual meeting or at the regular meeting at the end of the year. Generally this will mean nominations in November and elections in December for the next year's board.
2. Region and WSBC delegates, if approved, shall be nominated and elected by IG and shall communicate region and WSBC information to and from the Intergroup.

### ***Section 3 – Special Meetings***

A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the IG board, or by a quorum of IG members, provided sufficient notice is provided to the membership.

### ***Section 4 – Method of Notification***

The IG will provide at least 7 days notice to each member group for any meeting outside the normal meeting day and time.

### ***Section 5 – Quorum***

The quorum for voting purposes shall be, at a minimum, 3 intergroup officers and at least 1 other voting member.

### ***Section 6 – Meeting Procedure***

The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts may be read at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

The board may establish committees as are needed for the welfare and operation of the Intergroup. Each committee is responsible to the IG board.

#### **ARTICLE VII – PRUDENT RESERVE**

The IG treasurer will maintain a prudent reserve of no less than \$250 to cover expected operational expenses. Excess funds (over \$1950) will be donated to OA service bodies as determined by the IG.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

The Bluegrass Intergroup will use Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised to conduct its meetings.

#### **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Intergroup. The proposed amendment must be communicated in writing to each member group at least 30 days prior to the voting meeting. Amendments to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA may only be made as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XIV, Section 1.

#### **ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION**

##### ***Section 1 – De-registration***

In order to deregister, an intergroup must submit a written request to the World Service Office, region chair and region trustee.

##### ***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 WSO 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 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 be make payment and distribution in furtherance of the expressed purpose for which it was formed.