

BYLAWS OF THE LEXINGTON AND CENTRAL KENTUCKY (BLUEGRASS)
INTERGROUP OF OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

MARCH 3, 2018

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Bluegrass Intergroup of Lexington and Central Kentucky, USA. Hereto Bluegrass Intergroup may be referred to as "BGIG". Bluegrass Intergroup is a service body serving the membership of this defined area presently within the designated Region and World Service Organization of Overeaters Anonymous, hereto referred to as OA.

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. We are guided by the Twelve Principals and Twelve Concepts of OA Service serving member groups as well as representing BGIG at other intergroups, service bodies and Region and World Service levels of Overeaters anonymous.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1 - Membership

Membership in BGIG includes all active members of OA groups within the geographic area of Central Kentucky and members of virtual meetings that meet in real time available in this same area who have requested and are affiliated with BGIG. All members are allowed a voice. Members allowed a vote include the following:

- a. The BGIG elected officers.
- b. Meeting Intergroup representatives, (IR), which consist of 1 member from each group registered in the geographical area of Central Kentucky and any IR virtual members representing their affiliated meeting of OA in this intergroup area.
- c. World Service Business conference delegate(s).
- d. Region Representatives, (RR), with 1 representative for each 10 meetings registered with BGIG and WSO/meetings.
- e. Committee Chairs previously approved for voting, (note: a committee chair, like all other voting/board members of BGIG have only one vote even if also serving as another voting capacity).

Section 2 - Qualifications

- a. Qualification for group membership in BGIG is by registering at the World Service Office, (WSO) and having meeting information available through them, (www.oa.org/meetings). Virtual groups may affiliate without regard to geographic proximity, but must be available in real time to the geographic area of BGIG. BGIG has the autonomy to determine which groups may affiliate with it; that decision should always be guided by OA Traditions and Concepts.

b. BGIG endorses the definition of an 'OA Group' as accepted by the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, (www.oa.org/documents/bylaws).

c. The following points determine an Overeaters Anonymous Meeting Group:

As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous as guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service on a regular schedule.

All who have a desire to stop their own compulsive eating behaviors are welcome to attend these groups.

No member is required to practice any actions, make any monetary donations, or belong to any religious or spiritual group in order to have a voice, (share), at a meeting.

Each group can have no other affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous, including any organization or business offering meeting areas, including other 12 Step Groups.

Each group is affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the WSO, (www.oa.org/meetings) and will receive a group id number.

d. Virtual OA groups which replicate face to face meetings through use of electronic devices i.e. telephones, computers, lap tops, iPads, tablets etc., may request to 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

a. Intergroup representatives, (IR), will be selected by group conscience of the group they represent.

b. The duty of the IR is to represent their group at BGIG meetings and to serve as contact to carry communications between BGIG and their represented group.

c. Abstinence requirements to qualify for this position are to be decided by the group they represent.

d. Intergroup representatives will not be required to use email, but they will need to insure communications be made by and to those not using email and/or the BGIG google e-server.

ARTICLE IV - THE INTERGROUP BOARD (BGIG) MEMBERS INCLUDING DELEGATES

Section 1 - The Intergroup Board

a. The BGIG Board consists of the following voting officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Recording Officer, (Secretary), Financial Officer, (Treasurer), and Designated downloader, (DD).

b. The BGIG Board also includes other voting positions such as group, (meeting) representatives(s), (IR), Region Representative(s), (RR), World service Business Conference (WSBC) Delegate(s), and approved voting committee chairs.

c. Meetings shall be chaired by the Chair of the Board. In the event that the Chair is unable to attend, the Vice-Chair will lead the meeting. In the event that the Vice-Chair is also not in attendance, the Recording Officer will open the meeting and hold an election for the temporary chair for that meeting only.

d. Anyone serving in more than one voting position may have only one vote on any issue presented, including elections.

Section 2 - Nominations to BGIG Board

Nominations to the Board may be made from the floor at the time of elections. A nominating

committee may be formed at the discretion of the BGIG Board.

Section 3 - Qualifications for the Intergroup Board Positions.

To qualify for election to a BGIG Board position, an individual must:

- a. Be working the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service to the best of their ability.
- b. Be a regular member of an affiliated group of BGIG.
- c. Have a minimum of 6 months abstinence from compulsive food behaviors, as determined by the individual, at the time 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 or elected by group conscience as an 'acting officer'.
- d. WSBC delegates and Region Representatives must comply with all abstinence, length of service or any other requirements in the bylaws of the respective service group they are representing BGIG at.

Section 4 - Election of BGIG Board Members

- a. Nominations are to be made from the floor at the time of the election meeting.
- b. Nominees must be present at the election meeting, unless prior arrangements have been made, communicated and approved by a quorum majority.
- c. Voting will be by paper ballot and election results will be decided by a simple majority. any 'ties' will be decided by group conscience and/or a 'tie breaker' decision by the Chair, based primarily on time of service and BGIG past activity.

Section 5 - Terms of Office

- a. Terms of Office for Chair, Recording officer and Region 5 Representative(s), will be for 2 years starting on January 1st of even numbered years, (2020, 2022, etc.), following elections held the previous December of odd numbered years beginning with elections in 2019.
- b. Terms of Office for Vice-Chair, Financial Officer, Designated Downloader and WSBC Delegate(s) will be for 2 years starting on January 1st of odd numbered years, (2019, 2021, etc.), following elections held on the December of the even numbered years, beginning with December elections in 2018. (All officers elected for 1 year, under previous Bylaws will have the option to choose to continue their 2 year service positions they were elected to in December 2017, (for 2018) or decline and help nominate for the upcoming 2 year position starting in 2019).
- c. Board Members may serve no more than 2 consecutive terms in the same position. A member may serve in that position again, after an absence of 1 term, (2 years).
- d. Members elected or appointed during mid-term, may run for only one more term in addition to the term being temporarily filled unless the term has less than 6 months left.

Section 6 - responsibilities of the Intergroup Board Members;

- a. Serve as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve concepts of Service with respect to the functioning of BGIG and the groups they serve.
- b. Perform the duties of their respective offices in accordance with BGIG policies and procedures.
- c. Serve as guardian of BGIG funds, participate in all agreed upon financial disclosures.
- d. Provide a forum for the interchange of ideas and information among member groups.
- e. Offer mediation as requested for groups unable to come to consensus on issues of debate after

deliberate and prayerful group conscience attempts.

f. Provide support, as able financially, and/or service time in regards to group events, outreach, new meeting start ups and various other requests indicating needs in the BGIG area, as decided by group conscience.

Section 7 - Vacancies and Resignations

a. If a Board member is absent from a BGIG monthly scheduled Board Meeting more than 3 times, without prior notification, within a 1 year interval, he/she may be removed from that position by a simple majority vote either at a regular BGIG meeting or a meeting announced for that purpose.

b. A Board Member may resign at any time for any reason by giving the Chair and/or the BGIG written notice, (email acceptable).

c. Any Board member of this BGIG may be removed from office for due cause by a simple majority vote of paper ballots cast at a regular or special meeting announced a minimum of 30 days prior.

d. Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote at the next meeting or a special meeting of BGIG after such vacancy occurs. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

e. A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the BGIG Board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 3.

f. Board positions may be combined as needed with the consent of those involved and the BGIG Board.

Article V - Intergroup Board Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

a. The BGIG will meet monthly at a time and place designated by a simple majority of the voting members.

b. There will be a minimum of 10 meetings held during each year.

c. Meeting dates may be temporarily changed by a majority agreement at least 10 days in advance of the usual date of both the meeting being substituted as well as the date of the substituting meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings

a. A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the BGIG Board, or by a quorum of BGIG board members per phone/text or electronic email, provided a 30 day notice is made to the membership regarding meeting time/date and the purpose of the meeting.

b. Communication of special meetings will be made to the general membership by email including the e-server list. All IRs will be responsible for insuring the information is communicated to the meetings they represent and their usual members by whatever communication method works best for them.

Section 3. Quorum

The quorum for voting purposes shall be a minimum of 3 members including 2 elected Board Members and at least 1 IR.

Section 4. meeting Procedure

a. Whenever the meeting follows an OA meeting in which they've already been read, a clearly visible copy of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions will be posted in clear sight at each regular and special BGIG meetings.

b. Whenever the meeting is not following a meeting that involved such readings, then volunteers will be asked to read both the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous at the beginning

of the meeting.

c. The Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous will be read at the start of all regular and special meetings with the content of the corresponding Concept for that month being read in its entirety. (i.e. the 1st Concept will be read in its entirety at the beginning of the meeting held on the 1st month of the year).

d. BGIG meetings will use the "Group Conscience Guidelines/Suggested Group conscience meeting format" as suggested by WSBC and outlined at www.oa.org/documents.

Article VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1. BGIG Committees

a. The BGIG Board may establish committees as are needed for the welfare and operation of the intergroup, for as long as their mission is needed.

b. Each committee is responsible to the BGIG Board.

c. Chairs of permanent or long standing committees may be approved to be voting members of the BGIG, but allowed only 1 vote even if they also hold another voting position.

Article VII - INTERGROUP FINANCES

Section 1. Financial officer, (Treasurer), responsibilities

a. The BGIG financial officer will strive to maintain a prudent reserve of no less than \$500 to cover expected operational expenses.

b. Funds accumulated in excess of \$2250 will be donated to Region and/or WSO.

c. Normal intergroup expenses include BGIG group needs, special events, literature needs, appropriate gifts, (to guest speakers etc.), travel expenses for representatives and delegates to Region and WSO events, conferences and/or business assemblies. Amounts needed will be estimated and approved prior to expenditure of funds.

d. The BGIG checking account is required to have a minimum of 2, and preferably 3 signatures on the account at all times.

e. The BGIG Financial Officer will be expected to submit a detailed summary of all financial transactions for the previous year as well as a budget for the coming year each January. This report will be discussed and voted upon for acceptance by the BGIG Board and voting members.

f. As long as the BGIG financial situation remains uncomplicated, a monthly report of expenses and deposits will be presented for acceptance at the regular meeting on a monthly basis.

g. BGIG finances are based on meetings, event basket passing and individual donations from the intergroup area although specific funding for some projects, visitors, speakers and travel expenses may be accepted from both Regional and WSO offers. Limits on donations are in accordance with OA, INC., bylaws and rules.

Article VIII - AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended at any time by a 2/3 vote of the voting members present, (as long as a quorum is present) at any BGIG regular or special meeting. The proposed amendment must be communicated in writing to each member group at least 30 days prior to such a vote.

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.

Bylaws of BGIG are reviewed, necessary changes made and voted upon every two years, on even years, usually in January.

Article IX - DISSOLUTION

Section 1. De-registration

In order to de-register, an intergroup must submit a written request to the WSO, Region 5 Chair and Region 5 Trustee.

Section 2. Disbursement of remaining funds.

When BGIG 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 6.

Section 3. US Non-Profit with 501-c(3) status.

Upon dissolution of this association, after paying and 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 for 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.