

**NEW FREEDOM INTERGROUP OF
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS**

BYLAWS

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ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the “New Freedom Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous” It also may be referred to as “New Freedom Intergroup,” “Intergroup,” “OANFI,” or “NFI.”

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1 - Definition

- A. The primary purpose of this organization is to aid those with the problem of compulsive eating or other eating disorders through the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous, and to serve and represent the OA groups from which Intergroup is formed in accordance with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA service.
- B. Specifically excluded from the objectives of NFI are the operation of any club/clubhouse, and the endorsement of any public or private projects on compulsive eating as outlined in Tradition 6.

Section 2 - The Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous¹

The 12 Steps suggested for recovery in the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous are as follows:

1. We admitted we were powerless over food - that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for the knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all of our affairs.

¹ Permission to use and adapt the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous granted by AA World Services, Inc.

Section 3 - The Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous²

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
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.
3. The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6. An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every OA group ought to be full self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues, hence the OA name ought never be brought into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and other public media of communication.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

² Permission to use and adapt the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous granted by AA World Services, Inc.

Section 4 - The Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous³

1. The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA world services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.
3. The Right of Decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.
4. The Right of Participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.
5. Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.
6. The World Service Business conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.
7. The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by tradition and by OA Bylaws Subpart B.

8. The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the World Service Office.
9. Able trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.
10. Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore duplication of efforts is avoided.
11. Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.
12. The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that:
 - a. no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power,
 - b. sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
 - c. no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
 - d. all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
 - e. no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
 - f. no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.

³ Can be found at www.oa.org

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1 – Qualifications of Eligibility for Membership

Those groups within the geographic definitions (200-mile radius) of Jacksonville, FL that have formally registered with the World Service Office and indicated their intention to belong to OANFI may be considered members. An OA group is defined as follows:

- A. As a group they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
- B. All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
- C. No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice and share at a meeting.
- D. As a group, they have no affiliation other than OA.
- E. A group may be formed by two (2) or more persons meeting together as set forth in Article V, Section 1 of Overeaters Anonymous Inc., Bylaws Subpart B⁴.
- F. Each group shall be entitled to a maximum of two (2) votes through its elected Intergroup Representative or their alternate, when applicable.
- G. No group may be registered with another Intergroup.
- H. It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

⁴ Can be found at www.oa.org

Section 2 - Membership Participation

- A. Participating membership of the New Freedom Intergroup with a voice and a vote includes the following:
 - 1. Members of the Intergroup Board
 - 2. Intergroup Representatives (IRs), two from each NFI member group
- B. Membership of New Freedom Intergroup with a voice only (non-voting) includes the following:
 - 1. The Parliamentarian (if so designated) who is not sitting at the table with Board Members. Exception: If the Parliamentarian serves a dual role as an Intergroup Representative (IR), then they are allowed a voice and a vote.
 - 2. Any visiting member of a registered NFI member group
- C. To have a “voice” is to have the right to address OANFI during a Business Meeting.

Section 3 - Intergroup Representatives (IRs)

- A. Intergroup representatives shall be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent. IRs shall be selected by any method deemed appropriate by their group.
- B. These IRs shall serve for a period designated by their group, always subject to recall by the group they represent.
- C. Each group shall be free to designate an alternate IR when the necessity arises.
- D. IRs should be selected for willingness to serve and commitment to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA.
- E. The OANFI recommends that IRs and/or their alternates be abstinent as defined by OA.
- F. The primary responsibility of the IR or alternate is to represent their group at all meetings of OANFI, to act as a liaison between OANFI and their group, to see that all communications pertaining to OANFI are made available and, where requested, report back to their group.

Section 4 - Voting Members

- A. Voting members include those listed in Article 3, Section 2.
- B. No member shall be elected or appointed to serve as representative or alternate for more than one group that is registered with OA World Service.
- C. Each group shall be entitled to a maximum of two (2) votes in the Business Meeting of OANFI.

ARTICLE IV - THE INTERGROUP BOARD

Section 1 - Composition of the Intergroup Board

- A. The Intergroup Board, sometimes referred to as “The Board,” is the group of trusted servants tasked with leading OANFI in the carrying out of its duties. The Board does not govern; this Intergroup Board shall serve as the Executive Board.

- B. The Board consists of the following OANFI members:
1. Chair
 2. Vice-Chair
 3. Treasurer
 4. Secretary
 5. World Service Business Conference (WSBC) Delegate
- C. The immediate past NFI Chair may serve as an *ex-officio* member of the Board for **one** (1) term.
- D. Succession. All NFI Business and Special Meetings will be chaired by the NFI Chair. In the event the NFI Chair is unable to chair a Business Meeting, the NFI Vice-Chair will chair the meeting. In the event the NFI Vice-Chair is not available, the NFI Treasurer will chair the meeting. In the event that the NFI Treasurer is not available, the NFI Secretary will chair the meeting and appoint a temporary Secretary for the purpose of taking minutes at that specific NFI meeting. In the event none of the NFI Board members are available, the regularly scheduled NFI meeting will be rescheduled to an agreed upon date.

Section 2 - Qualifications of Candidates

- A. To qualify for election to the Intergroup Board, a candidate must:
1. Be working the OA Twelve Steps, the OA Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of OA Service to the best of their ability.
 2. Have the minimum amount of current continuous abstinence as defined by OA World Service as follows:
 - Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Delegate shall have one (1) year of current abstinence.
 - Secretary will have six (6) months of current abstinence.
 3. Have attended at least six (6) Intergroup meetings.
 4. Have given service above the group level for a minimum of one (1) year.
 5. Be a regular member of an affiliated OANFI member group.
- B. Additional Qualifications for WSBC Delegates.
1. Qualifications for selection of World Service Delegates/alternates shall be set by each intergroup, region (in case of region delegates), or service board provided that each delegate/alternate shall have at least one year of current abstinence and at least 2 years of service beyond the group level as stated in the requirement of OA Inc. Bylaws, Subpart Article X, Section 3c 1. (Permission for any exception in qualifications for valid reason, if deemed credible by the trustees, may be received by application to the World Service Office.)
 2. In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3c of the Bylaws, Subpart B, it is suggested the delegates shall be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and for faithful adherence to living within the concepts of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service Delegate be a current or past regional representative (WSBC 2014).

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3. As participants, Delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their service bodies, but should not vote against these wishes unless situations arise at the Business Conference making it necessary for the best interests of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole (WSBC 2014).

Section 3 - Election of Board Members

- A. Nominations for the OANFI Board positions will be opened at the regular OANFI Business Meeting in the month listed below, and will remain open until the vote and election at the OANFI regular OANFI Business Meeting in the month listed. Election of positions in alternate years will allow for some continuity on the Board.

Position	Nominations Open	Elections held
Chair	October (odd years)	December
Vice-Chair	October (even years)	December
Treasurer	October (odd years)	December
Secretary	October (even years)	December
WSBC Delegate	October (even years)	December

- B. Candidates for OANFI Board positions must be willing to accept the nomination and meet all qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 2 and understand the responsibilities of office as defined in Article IV, Sections 5-7.
- C. Nominations for the WSBC Delegate will be open at the regular October OANFI Business Meeting at which time a formal application for WSBC Delegate will be made available. This application must be submitted by the nominee no later than the December Business Meeting.
- D. Nominations may be made by any member of OANFI present, except the OANFI Chair, in the form of an oral motion, seconded by another OA member after the motion is recognized by the Chair. (Exception: The OANFI Chair cannot make or second a motion.)
- E. Candidates must be present at either the regular OANFI Business Meeting when they are nominated, or at the OANFI Business Meeting the month the election is held.
- F. At the regular OANFI Business Meeting held in the month of the election, each candidate for office will be given three minutes to address the regular Intergroup Business Meeting attendees concerning their qualification for office. Voting OANFI members then will be allotted 10 minutes to ask the candidate questions concerning their qualifications for office.
- G. Candidates who are not present for election may have an OANFI member with voice read a statement prepared by the candidate (no more than three minutes allowed). In this instance, no questions will be entertained by that candidate.
- H. Voting will be by written ballot to be counted by a designated individual and announced as soon as practicable. Written votes will be destroyed immediately after the count.
- I. A candidate must receive a majority of eligible votes (see Article III, Sections 1-4) for election to the OANFI Board.
- J. Newly elected OANFI Board Members shall take office at the next regular OANFI

Business Meeting following their election.

Section 4 - Term of Office

- A. The term of office for an OANFI Board Member as defined in Article IV, Section 1 is two (2) elected years.
- B. OANFI Board Members may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position (total of four consecutive years).
- C. Once elected, an OANFI Board Member may not serve concurrently as an Intergroup Representative.

Section 5- Conditions of Office

- A. Any portion of an OANFI Board member's unexpired term shall not constitute a full term.
- B. No Board Member shall chair any Standing Subcommittee while holding office on the Board.
- C. Any person filling an OANFI Board position is expected to attend all OANFI meetings.
- D. If it is the consensus of the OANFI Board that any OANFI Board Member is not fulfilling their duties (as defined by Article IV, Sections 2, 4-7), and after advising said OANFI Board Member in writing, the NFI Board may ask for a group conscience to determine whether said Board Member should remain in office.
- E. If an OANFI Board Member breaks their current commitment to abstinence, as they define their commitment to abstinence, they will make it known to the OANFI Board Chair in writing, and relinquish their position. The OANFI Chair shall, with the agreement of the other members of the NFI Board, request a qualified (see Article IV, Section 2A) volunteer or appoint a qualified OANFI attendee (except active Board Members) to serve in that position in the interim. At the next OANFI Meeting, nominations will be accepted to elect someone to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the term.

Section 6 - Responsibilities of the Intergroup Board

Chair

- A. Shall preside at all regular meetings of this OANFI and OANFI Board.
- B. Shall provide a written agenda for the regular OANFI Business and Special Meetings.
- C. Shall not initiate, second, or amend any motion from the floor. Rather, the OANFI Chair may entertain motions or amendments from voting attendees. Note: During this process, the OANFI Chair may only participate in the discussion phase of the motion or amendment.
- D. May cast the deciding vote to break a tie.
- E. May attend all OANFI Standing Committee Meetings.
- F. May call Special Meetings with a minimum of 48 hours' notice.
- G. Shall be one of the signers on all NFI bank accounts.
- H. Shall annually, or as necessary (*i.e.*, after special events such as conventions, workshops, or retreats; and two months prior to a change in the OANFI Treasurer), install an Audit

Committee Chair for the purpose of establishing unbiased objective oversight for all OANFI bank accounts. The Audit Committee will perform their task as much as possible independent of the Event Chair and the OANFI Treasurer to maintain objectivity. (Refer to definition in Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary: **audit** *vt* 1: to examine with intent to verify.)

- I. Shall ensure no OANFI member shall benefit materially or financially from an OANFI sponsored event.
- J. Shall attend Southeast OA Region 8 (SOAR 8) Business Assemblies and World Service Business Conferences as a second Delegate, funds permitting.
- K. May appoint a Parliamentarian with the approval of the Board to serve a one-year term.
 1. The Parliamentarian shall advise the NFI Chair as to proper Parliamentary Procedures as defined in Article VIII for conducting the business of the Intergroup meeting.
 2. The Parliamentarian shall perform duties as agreed upon and assigned by the OANFI Board.
 3. The Parliamentarian shall remain neutral and not have a vote, unless they are also an Intergroup Representative.
- L. Shall ensure that NFI has Liability Insurance that covers NFI and the member groups.
- M. Shall designate Standing or Special Committee Chairs (see Article VI, Sections 1 and 2) as deemed necessary for the welfare and operation of the OANFI.
- N. Shall, in the month of August, accept and/or appoint qualified OA members to form the Annual Budget Planning Committee. The meeting shall be held in the month of September. This Committee will be chaired by the OANFI Treasurer.
- O. Shall, in the month of October, call upon the OANFI Treasurer to present the Proposed Annual Budget for review and questions at the regular OANFI Business Meeting.
- P. Shall entertain a motion in the November regular OANFI Business Meeting to adopt the Proposed Annual Budget. The approval/adoption of the Annual Budget will be determined by a simple majority of qualified OANFI voters in attendance.

Vice-Chair

- A. Shall serve in the absence of the OANFI Chair.
- B. Shall serve as the coordinator of Intergroup Special Events.
- C. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual for job descriptions.
- D. Shall maintain the NFI events calendar.

Treasurer

- A. Shall maintain bank accounts as necessary for dispersal of New Freedom Intergroup funds.
- B. Shall be the one of the signers of all OANFI bank accounts.
- C. Shall submit written a financial report, including the status of prudent reserve, each month at the regular OANFI Business Meeting.
- D. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual for job descriptions.
- E. Shall collect incoming checks delivered to OANFI's post office box and will deposit them into the appropriate OANFI bank account.

- F. Shall provide assistance as requested during the annual audit; and during and after Special Events (*i.e.*, workshops, retreats and conventions).
- G. Shall chair the Annual Budget Planning Committee meeting and assist in the preparation and presentation of the proposed budget for approval (see Article VII, Section 1, F, G, H, and I).

Secretary

- A. Shall see that the minutes are kept of all regular OANFI Business and Special Meetings, and that a copy of the minutes is printed and made available to each Board member and each attending Intergroup Representative.
- B. Shall maintain a file of all minutes of past meetings for a minimum of two years.
- C. Shall direct correspondence to the appropriate Officer or Committee Chair and maintain a file of outgoing correspondence.
- D. Shall distribute notices of all meetings of OANFI as described in Article V, Section 7
- E. Shall keep WSO informed of all changes to OANFI information.
- F. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual for job descriptions.
- G. Maintain all electronic correspondence through oanfig@gmail.com.
- H. Maintain a database of current email addresses of members.
- I. Shall regularly communicate with group contacts or reps and We Care List committee to collect new or updated email addresses.
- J. Shall work with Newsletter Committee and Website Committee Chairs to communicate with members and groups electronically.

World Service Business Conference Delegate

- A. Shall attend the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
- B. Shall attend the Southeast OA Region 8 (SOAR 8) Business Assemblies (two per year).
- C. Shall report in writing, at the first OANFI regular Business Meeting occurring after the WSBC and Region 8 Assemblies, the actions of the Conference and/or Assembly.
- D. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual for job descriptions.

Section 7 - Vacancies and Resignations

- A. If a member of the OANFI Board fails to attend two consecutive meetings without prior notification, the office will be declared vacant.
- B. Any Board Member may resign at any time for any reason by giving the Chair of Intergroup written notice.
- C. Any Board Member of OANFI may be removed from office for due cause (*i.e.*, not practicing the Twelve Steps) by a majority vote of the eligible voting IRs and the Board members in attendance at the regular monthly OANFI Business Meeting or Special Meeting.
- D. The vacating NFI Board Member will be notified in writing (e.g., email letter, etc.) by the NFI Chair of the reason for removal and effective date of their removal.

Section 8 - Filling of Vacancies

- A. Vacancies shall be filled by the OANFI Chair after accepting nominations from qualified persons at that meeting in which the vacancy occurred and at the next monthly Business Meeting or special meeting of the New Freedom Intergroup. Said nominees shall be given an opportunity to speak at the following regular OANFI Business Meeting and the voting members of the Intergroup shall fill the vacancy by majority vote at that time. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- B. A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the OANFI Board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 2 and be aware of all responsibilities of that position as described and defined Article IV, Sections 5-7.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1 - Regular (Monthly) Business Meetings

The New Freedom Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous shall meet monthly at a time and place designated by a majority of the voting members.

Section 2 - Special Meetings

A Special Meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the Intergroup Board or by petition of at least ten OANFI eligible voting members (see Article III, Section 2) by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 3.

Section 3 - Method of Notification

- A. Notification of all meetings shall consist of notices prepared by the New Freedom Intergroup Chair or Vice-Chair and distributed by the OANFI Secretary to each group at least 72 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.
- B. Notification may also be made by placing an announcement in the Intergroup newsletter, if any, or by mail, email, and at the prior Intergroup meeting.

Section 4 - Quorum

- A. A minimum of two elected Intergroup Board Members and five Intergroup Representatives shall constitute a quorum for all monthly Business and Special Meetings of the OANFI. A simple majority of eligible OANFI voters attending the meeting shall dictate for voting purposes motion and amendment adoption, except for bylaw changes which require a 2/3 majority of voting eligible OANFI attendees for that meeting.
- B. Either the OANFI Secretary or Parliamentarian may advise the meeting Chair of the presence of a quorum.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees may be established as required to carry out the purpose of OANFI in the most effective and efficient manner. These may include, but not be limited to:

- Public Information/Professional Outreach
- Twelfth Step Within
- Website
- Newsletter ("*Inner Voice*")
- Ways and Means
- Bylaws and Electronic Documents
- Other committees deemed necessary to carry on OANFI work

Section 2 - Special Committees

The New Freedom Intergroup Board shall designate such Special Committees as are deemed necessary for the welfare and operation of OANFI. Examples of such committees may include budget, audit, workshop, convention committees, etc.

Section 3 - Qualifications of Committee Chairs

- A. Six (6) months current abstinence and actively working the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous to the best of their ability.
- B. Exercise good judgment, experience, stability and willingness.
- C. Familiarity with the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.

Section 4 - Committee Appointments

- A. The OANFI Chair shall appoint a Committee Chair from those OA members present who meet Committee Chair qualifications.
- B. Any OA member presently serving as an IR and present at the meeting and meeting Committee Chair qualifications may be appointed to chair a Standing or Special Committee.
- C. The OANFI Chair may call for approval of the members present.

Section 5 - Committee Procedures

- A. Each Standing or Special Committee shall be responsible for calling and holding meetings. The Committee may schedule and conduct meetings outside of the OANFI Board monthly Business Meeting.
- B. Each Standing or Special Committee shall establish its method of procedures, subject to the approval of the OANFI Board and the guidelines of the Twelve Traditions of OA.

Section 6 - Committee Responsibility

- A. Any committee decision and/or vote that establishes or changes an OANFI policy, sets a procedural plan for a special event, or expends funds in excess of the approved budget shall require approval by the NFI eligible voting members prior to implementation.
- B. Each Standing Committee Chair shall submit a written report to the NFI Chair at least one week prior to the next NFI meeting, and at the end of any specific event coordinated by that committee.
- C. If any monies are expended, a detailed and itemized report shall be expeditiously submitted to the NFI Treasurer with a copy included with the report to the NFI Chair.

Section 7 - Ex-officio Members

- A. Past Committee Chairs may serve in an *ex-officio* capacity in their respective committees.
- B. The OANFI Board Chair is an *ex-officio* member of all committees.

Section 8 - Vacancies

- A. Should a vacancy, resignation or removal of any Committee Chair occur, all pertinent information shall be turned over to the OANFI Chair.
- B. The NFI Chair shall then appoint a new Committee Chair to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 9 - Removal of Committee Chairs

Any OANFI Committee Chair may be removed from office for due cause (*e.g.*, not practicing the Twelve Steps, non-attendance, *etc.*) by a majority vote of the eligible OANFI voting members present at a regular Monthly Business or Special OANFI meeting.

Section 10 – Term of Committee Chair

- A. The term for an OANFI Committee Chair is two (2) appointed years.
- B. Each Committee Chair may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position (for a maximum of four consecutive years).

ARTICLE VII - SOURCES OF FUNDS

Section 1 - Sources of Funds

- A. Voluntary contributions of the New Freedom Intergroup member groups shall be the primary source of funds for the OANFI.

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- B. Secondary sources of income may be such occasional projects or activities as may be authorized by OANFI according to Tradition Six. These may include, but are not limited to, fundraising events such as retreats, conventions, and workshops.
- C. The Intergroup may accept donations from OA members, conforming to the general practices of OA.
- D. The acceptance of bequests or donations from any outside source other than OA is prohibited.
- E. Intergroup shall not accept the responsibility for trusteeship over, or enter into the distribution or allocation of funds set up outside of Overeaters Anonymous.
- F. In August, the OANFI Board will accept and appoint volunteers for an Annual Budget Planning Committee Meeting to be held in the month of September. This Committee will be chaired by the OANFI Treasurer.
- G. In October, the OANFI Treasurer shall present the Proposed Annual Budget at the regular monthly OANFI Business Meeting.
- H. In November, the Proposed Annual Budget will be voted on at the regular monthly OANFI Business Meeting. The approval of a simple majority of eligible OANFI voters attending the meeting is required to adopt the Budget.
- I. The OANFI Treasurer shall be in attendance at the planning meeting in September and shall present the Proposed Budget to the voting members in October.

Section 2 - Prudent Reserve

- A. There shall be no accumulation of funds beyond current necessities, with retention of only a prudent reserve for contingencies.
- B. Funds in excess will be donated to Southeast OA Region 8 and World Service Office on a regular basis as budgeted and directed by the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual.

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this Intergroup in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, the Twelve Traditions or any special rules of order this Intergroup may adopt.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS

- A. These bylaws, with the exception of Article II, Sections 2, 3, and 4, may be amended by motion in accordance with Article VIII at any time by a 2/3 vote of the OA NFI eligible voting members present at any regular Business or Special Meeting of the Intergroup.
- B. A copy of the proposed amendment must be submitted in writing for review at a regular OANFI Business or Special Meeting at least ten days prior to the meeting in which the action is to be taken on the amendment.

ARTICLE X - MAJOR POLICY MATTERS

- A. Matters which affect the New Freedom Intergroup and/or groups within its service area shall be referred to the Board of this Intergroup.
- B. Matters which relate to Overeaters Anonymous as a whole which affect Subpart A of the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., shall be referred to the WSO Board of Trustees.
- C. Matters which affect Subpart B of the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., or which relate to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, or the Twelve Concepts shall be referred to the World Service Business Conference.
- D. This Intergroup may not make amendments to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions except as per OA Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XIV, and Section 1E.

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 - Distribution of Funds

- A. Upon the dissolution of the New Freedom Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to Southeast OA Region 8, and/or the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous.
- B. To deregister or dissolve the New Freedom Intergroup, the NFI Board Chair will submit a written request to the World Service Office, the Southeast OA Region 8 Chair, and the Southeast OA Region 8 Trustee.

Section 2 - Net Earnings

No part of the net earnings of the New Freedom Intergroup shall ever be used for the benefit of, or be distributed to its Members, Trustees, Officers, or other private persons; except that the OANFI Treasurer, as directed by the OANFI Chair, shall disburse funds as defined by Article XI, Section 1 A.

ARTICLE XII - Special Events of NFI

Section 1 - Qualifications of Leaders

- A. The Chair and/or coordinator of NFI events shall have a minimum of twelve months current and continuous abstinence.
- B. Workshop Leaders and/or Speakers for any NFI events shall have a minimum of six months current and continuous abstinence.