

**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 is 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 Steps²

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.

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

Section 3 - The Twelve Traditions²

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.

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

Section 4 - The Twelve Concepts³

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.aa.org

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1 - Membership

- A. Membership of 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 includes the following:
 1. The Parliamentarian (if so designated) who is not sitting at the table with Board Members
 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 2 - Qualifications of Eligibility for Membership to OANFI

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 two (2) votes through its elected IR or 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 3 - Intergroup Representatives (IR)

- A. Intergroup representatives shall be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent. Each IR shall be selected by any method deemed appropriate by their group.
- B. These IR's 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. OANFI recommends that IRs and 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 1.
- B. No member shall be elected or appointed to serve as representative or alternate for more than one group (registered with OA World Service)
- C. Each group shall be entitled to (2) two 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. Chairperson
 - 2. Vice Chairperson
 - 3. Treasurer
 - 4. Secretary
 - 5. World Service Business Conference (WSBC) Delegate
- C. The immediate past Chairperson may serve as an *ex-officio* member of the Board for one (1) term.
- D. Succession. All NFI business meetings will be chaired by the Chairperson. In the event the Chairperson is unable to chair a business meeting, the Vice Chairperson will chair the meeting. In the event the Vice Chairperson is not available, the Treasurer will chair the meeting. In the event that the Treasurer is not available, the Secretary will chair the meeting and appoint a temporary Secretary. In the event none of the Board members are available, the regularly scheduled meeting will be rescheduled to an agreed upon date.

Section 2 - Qualifications of the Intergroup Board

- A. To qualify for election to the Intergroup Board, an individual 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. Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Delegate shall have one (1) year of current abstinence as defined by OA World Service. Secretary will have 6 months of current abstinence as defined by OA World Service.
 - 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. 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.)

- C. 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).
- D. 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 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will be open at the regular October OANFI meeting and at the regular November OANFI meeting prior to election. Nominations will be closed at the close of the November OANFI meeting.
- B. Nomination for the WSBC Delegate will be open at the regular October OANFI meeting at which time an application for WSBC Delegate will be made available. Applicants for the position of WSBC Delegate will be given three minutes to address the Intergroup at the regular December OANFI meeting as outlined in parts H and I of this section.
- C. Nominations may be made by any member of OA present, in the form of an oral motion, seconded by another OA member after the motion is recognized by the Chairperson.
- D. Candidates for Board positions must meet all qualifications as defined in Article IV, Section 2 and understand responsibilities as defined in Article IV, Section 5.
- E. Candidates must be present at either the meeting he/she is nominated, or at the December OANFI meeting.
- F. Elections for the offices of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and WSBC Delegate will be held at the December OANFI meeting.
- G. Nominations for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer will be open at the May business meeting and remain open until the vote and election at the June OANFI meeting.
- H. Each candidate for office will be given three minutes to address Intergroup concerning his/her qualification for office. Voting OANFI members then will be allotted 10 minutes to ask the candidate questions concerning his/her qualifications for office.
- I. 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.
- J. A candidate must receive a majority vote for election to the OANFI Board.
- K. 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.
- L. Newly elected Board Members take office at the next OANFI meeting following their election.

Section 4 - Term of Office

- A. The term of office for a Board Member (except Delegate) is one (1) elected year.
- B. Board Members may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position.
- C. Once elected, a board member may not serve concurrently as an Intergroup Representative.
- D. Delegate position is a two (2) year term.

Section 5- Conditions of Office

- A. Any portion of an 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 any OANFI Board Position is expected to attend each intergroup meeting.
- D. If the board feels that any board member is not fulfilling his or her duties, after advising the Board member, the board may ask for group conscience to determine whether said board member should remain in office. (See ARTICLE IV, section 7.)
- E. If a board member breaks his or her current commitment to abstinence, as he or she defines his or her commitment to abstinence, he or she will make it know to the board, and relinquish his or her position. The chair shall appoint someone from volunteer to act in the interim. At the next intergroup meeting, nominations will be accepted to elect someone to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the term (amended March 2006).

Section 6 - Responsibilities of the Intergroup Board

Chairperson

- A. Shall preside at all regular meetings of this OANFI and OANFI Board.
- B. Shall provide a written agenda for the intergroup meetings.
- C. May cast the deciding vote to break a tie.
- D. May attend all standing committee meetings.
- E. May call special meetings with a minimum of 48 hours' notice.
- F. Shall be one of the signers on the NFI bank accounts.
- G. Shall ensure that the general account and/or special accounts of Intergroup be audited annually and following special events such as conventions or retreats. Auditors will work in conjunction with the event chair and/or NFI Treasurer. (Refer to definition in Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary: **audit** vt 1: to examine with intent to verify.)
- H. Shall ensure no OA members shall benefit materially or financially from an OA sponsored event.
- I. Shall attend Southeast OA Region 8 Business Assemblies and World Service Business Conferences as a second delegate, funds permitting.

- J. May appoint a parliamentarian with the approval of the Board to serve a one- year term.
 - 1. The parliamentarian shall advise Chairperson as to proper parliamentary procedures for conducting the business of the Intergroup meeting.
 - 2. The parliamentarian shall perform duties as agreed upon and assigned by the Intergroup Board.
 - 3. The parliamentarian shall remain neutral and not have a vote.
- K. Shall ensure that NFI has Liability Insurance that covers NFI and the member groups.

Vice Chairperson

- A. Shall serve in the absence of the Chairperson.
- 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 Intergroup funds.
- B. Shall be the one of the signers of all bank accounts.
- C. Shall submit written financial reports including status of prudent reserve each month at the OANFI meetings.
- D. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the OANFI Policy and Procedures Manual for job descriptions.
- E. Shall check the P. O. Box for incoming checks.

Secretary

- A. Shall see that the minutes are kept of all Intergroup and Intergroup Board meetings and that a copy of the minutes is printed and made available to each Board member and 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 Chairperson and maintain a file of outgoing correspondence.
- D. Shall distribute notices of all meetings of OANFI as described in Article V.
- 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 Business Assemblies (two per year).
- C. Shall report in writing, at the first IG 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 Chairperson 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 IRs at a regular Intergroup monthly meeting.

Section 8 - Filling the Vacancies

- A. Vacancies shall be filled by the Chairperson accepting nominations from qualified persons at that meeting in which the vacancy occurred and at the next meeting or special meeting of the Intergroup. Said nominees shall be given an opportunity to speak at the following OANFI meeting and the voting members of 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 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, Section 6.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1 - Regular Meetings

The Intergroup 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 Intergroup members by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 4.

Section 3 - Method of Notification

- A. Notification of all meetings shall consist of notices prepared by the Intergroup Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and distributed 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 proceedings of the OANFI. A simple majority of the meeting shall govern for voting purposes except for bylaw changes which require a 2/3 majority of that meeting.
- B. Either the Secretary or Parliamentarian may advise the meeting Chairperson 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 Intergroup in the most effective and efficient manner, may include, but not be limited to:

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

Section 2 - Special Committees

The Intergroup Board shall designate such special committees as are deemed necessary for the welfare and operation of the Intergroup.

Section 3 - Qualifications of Committee Chairpersons

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

Section 4 - Committee Appointments

- A. The OANFI Chairperson shall appoint a Committee Chairperson from those OA members present who meet Committee Chairperson qualifications.
- B. Any OA member presently serving as an IR and present at the meeting and meeting Committee Chairperson qualifications may be appointed to chair a standing or special committee.
- C. The Intergroup Chairperson 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.
- B. Each standing or special committee shall establish its method of procedures, subject to the approval of the Intergroup 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 a policy, sets a procedural plan for a special event, or expends funds in excess of the approved budget shall require approval by the Intergroup prior to implementation.
- B. Each standing Committee Chairperson shall submit a written report to the Intergroup Chairperson 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 included with the report.

Section 7 - Ex-officio Members

- A. Past committee chairperson may serve in an *ex-officio* capacity in their respective committees.
- B. The Intergroup Board Chairperson is an *ex-officio* member of all committees.

Section 8 - Vacancies

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

Section 9 - Removal of Committee Chairpersons

Any Committee Chairperson may be removed from office for due cause (*e.g.*, not practicing the Twelve Steps, non-attendance, *etc.*) by a majority vote of the OA members with a vote present at a regular OANFI monthly meeting.

Section 10 – Term of Committee Chairperson Position

- A. The term of position for a Committee Chairperson is one (1) appointed year.
- B. Committee Chairperson may serve no more than two (2) consecutive years in the same position.

ARTICLE VII - SOURCE OF FUNDS

Section 1 - Source of Funds

- A. Voluntary contributions of the member groups shall be the primary source of funds.
- B. Secondary sources of income may be such occasional projects or activities as may be authorized by the Intergroup according to Tradition Six. These may include, but are not limited to, fundraising events such as retreats, conventions, and workshops. (Refer to Article XII for qualifications.)
- C. 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 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 Chairperson shall announce a Budget planning meeting to be held in the month of September.
- G. In October, the committee planning the Budget shall present said Budget at the October OANFI meeting.
- H. In November, the Budget will be voted on at the November OANFI meeting.
- I. The OANFI Treasurer must be in attendance at the planning meeting in September and must present the 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 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 at any time by a majority vote of the OA members with a vote present at any regular or special meeting of Intergroup.
- B. A copy of the proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at a regular or special meeting of Intergroup 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 this 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, Section 1E

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 - Distribution of Funds

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

Section 2 - Net Earnings

No part of the net earnings of this association shall ever inure to or be used for the benefit of, or be distributed to its Members, Trustees, Officers, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be empowered to pay reimbursement expenses related to dissolution and to make payment and distribution in furtherance of the express purposes for which it is formed.

ARTICLE XII - Special Events of NFI

Section 1 - Abstinence Requirements

- A. 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.