

Connecticut and W. Massachusetts Gamblers Anonymous Intergroup

What is Intergroup?

Intergroup represents the GA meetings (rooms) in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, also known as GA Area 17. Intergroup consists of GA members from each of the rooms in Area 17 and elects officers: *Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary/Treasurer*, and two *Trustees*. The Trustees represent our Intergroup at the International Service Office (ISO) level.

Additionally, there are elected positions for the *Website, Phone Service, Public Relations, Pressure Relief and Sponsorship Committees*. Ideally, each room in Area 17 should have an Intergroup Representative and Alternate, and members involved in each of the committees.

Intergroup supports GA's primary purpose of carrying the GA message to compulsive gamblers by coordinating phone service volunteers, performing pressure relief meetings, answering inquiries for information about GA, providing speakers for schools, distributing literature, sharing information on room events (such as Open Meetings) and communicating rooms' concerns. Intergroup also provides fellowship and support for each of the rooms in our area.

Rooms within Area 17 support Intergroup by sending a Representative from their room to the monthly Intergroup meeting in Middletown, CT. ***(At this time we are meeting on line, info below.)*** Each GA room in Area 17 makes a monthly dues donation to Intergroup. The amount of the dues is set by each individual room in December for the upcoming year, based on what the room can afford. Intergroup relies on financial support from each room in order to perform its duties.

The two Trustees represent Area 17 at the Board of Trustee's (BOT) Meeting twice a year. They communicate to the BOT on issues concerning Area 17, vote on all issues brought to the BOT for consideration and attend the International Conference following the BOT meeting. The Trustees also visit the rooms in Area 17 to answer questions and communicate room's concerns to Intergroup and the BOT. If voting is needed on certain items, each room may vote; send that vote via that room's Representative; and the Trustees present that decision at the BOT meeting

Some additional functions performed by Intergroup are:

- *Holds sponsorship and pressure relief workshops*
- *Develops and hosts a mini-conference and possible social events (mini golf, picnic)*
- *Helps rooms with issues and problems at the group level*
- *Passes along good and welfare (fellowship) - notifies rooms of members who have medical issues/problems through their room Representative*

Committee Descriptions

Website Committee – Responsible for developing and maintaining the Connecticut and Western Massachusetts website: <ctwmaga.org> and handles our email: ctwmaga@yahoo.com. The website contains a listing of all meetings in Area 17 with driving directions, GA FAQs, the 20 questions, member's anniversaries, connections to related websites and information on upcoming events in the area. The Website Committee ensures all content meets GA guidelines for website operation.

Phone Service Committee – Maintains a list of all GA members willing to take calls from people looking for help, information requests, and meeting information. The committee collects statistics on calls, and interfaces with the company providing the phone service. The Phone Service is meant to be available 24 hours/day.

Public Relations Committee – Provides information and GA speakers for schools, radio shows and civic organizations to explain what GA is and how it works based on their own experience. Also, the committee meets to discuss various ways to attract new members to GA.

Pressure Relief Committee – Conducts Pressure Relief meetings for individual GA members and possibly a spouse, family member or friend, and provides training to GA members on how to conduct a Pressure Relief meeting. Hosts an annual workshop on Pressure Relief.

Sponsorship Committee – Provides information to GA members and GA rooms on how Sponsorship works in the GA program. Hosts an annual workshop on Sponsorship.

Your help is needed!

Intergroup works best when all groups in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts participate in the meetings. Meetings are currently held on Zoom – you can log in to the meeting on zoom or simply call in on your phone.

Intergroup is seeking new GA members to participate in our monthly meetings. Meetings are currently held on Monday night at 7:00 PM on the first Monday of each month.

The information to call in or connect online is shown below.

Zoom

To use Zoom enter the Conferencing Link: <https://sunlife.zoom.us/j/1233041287>

Meeting ID: 123 304 1287

By phone

To call in, dial: 1-646-931-3826

When prompted, enter the number: 123 304 1287, and hit the “#” symbol