

## **BY-LAWS**

### **NORTHERN ILLINOIS AREA DISTRICT 10 OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

#### **ARTICLE I**

##### **NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Northern Illinois Area District 10 of Alcoholics Anonymous. The area covered by this organization shall consist of that portion of the northern section of the state of Illinois currently designated as "NIA District 10" by the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

#### **ARTICLE II**

##### **PURPOSE**

The general purposes and objectives of this organization are to help and support the Alcoholics Anonymous community in the Northern Illinois Area. keeping in mind the sole purpose of AA to maintain sobriety and help the still suffering alcoholic and their families. Toward this end, District 10 shall be guided by the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

#### **ARTICLE III**

##### **INDEPENDENCE OF MEMBER GROUPS**

District 10 shall have no control over the internal affairs, management or conduct of any member group. The intent of these suggested Bylaws is to gain strength and unity necessary to meet problems where group coordination is desired. The Unity Council, at all times, acknowledges the complete independence of each individual group.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

##### **GROUP REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERSHIP**

##### **(GSR)**

Membership of the District shall be those GSR's Committee Chairs and their Alternates as elected by District 10 groups. It is recommended each group have one representative and one alternate. These representatives and alternates should represent only one group in the wishes and directions of their group. Per Service Manual guidance in the spirit of rotation, it is suggested the length of service for these representatives be limited two years. Groups may define length of service as they so choose.

#### **ARTICLE V**

##### **TRADITIONS AND GUIDELINES**

The Twelve Traditions of AA and the guidelines in the Service Manual from the General Service Office (GSO) shall be a part of these Bylaws by reference as though fully incorporated therein.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **DISTRICT OFFICERS**

The officers that are elected to district 10 are: District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate DCM, Secretary and Treasurer.

These officers are elected by the representatives of the groups. They are limited to a two year term.

If no person is willing to stand for a vacated position, the District could consider a term continuum until a candidate is found to fill the officer position. The person taking the term would do so for the remainder of the term as if it had been vacated in the normal frequency of regular elections. If no candidate is found, the position will be “vacant” until a replacement may be found. When a mid-term vacancy occurs the DCM should call for nominations to fill the vacancy. The newly elected Officer shall complete the term that was vacated.

#### Section A: DUTIES

- A. **DCM**-shall preside at all meetings of the unity council. The DCM shall make direct contact with groups in the district and present reports from Area Assemblies.
- B. **ADCM** -shall perform the duties of the DCM in the absence of the DCM or assume the DCM position in the event the DCM resigns or vacates prior to the end of their term.
- C. **Secretary**-shall record all pertinent discussion and attendance of all the District meetings. Meeting minutes should be available to District members and groups via printed hard-copy, website posting or any other convenient media.
- D. **Treasurer**-is considered a fiduciary and shall keep safe all monies of the Unity Council. The Treasure shall be responsible for keeping accurate financial records, including receipts and disbursements of all funds. The Treasurer position shall have at least (2) oversight signature levels on banking accounts. Reports shall be made by the Treasurer at each District meeting.
- E. The four elected officers shall constitute an Executive Committee authorized to transact the routine business of NIA District 10 during the intervals between the regular meetings.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

The District should maintain standing committees as suggested (but not limited to) the following areas:

Public Information	Directory
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Website
Corrections	GSR Contact
Grapevine	Accessibilities
Newsletter	Archives
Answering Service	Bridging the Gap
Events	Literature
Treatment	Technology Equipment

Duties of these committees shall be guided by the Area Service Manual. Chairs and their alternates shall be decided with vote at a regular district meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

A vote of "No Confidence" shall be taken at a regular meeting to remove a District officer or committee chair/alternate for the following:

- A. Absenteeism - missing three consecutive meetings WITHOUT prior notification to an officer.
- B. Non-performance of duties (as outlined in Section A: DUTIES)
- C. Inappropriate behavior of an Officer.

A "No Confidence" vote must be preceded by an announcement at the prior meeting and a two thirds majority of eligible voting members be present is required for removal. That decision is final. The removed officer shall surrender all materials, monies, information and other items either belonging to the Unity Council or District 20.

## ARTICLE IV

### Meetings

The monthly District Meeting shall be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month at St. Gilbert's Church in Grayslake, IL. Annual meeting total shall be 11 with the November and December meetings being combined in to one (1) meeting. Attendance at these meetings shall be open to all members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Any issues brought to a vote at such meetings shall be voted upon by persons described in ARTICLE V.

The District Committee and various sub-committees shall meet as often as they determine to be necessary. Any sub-committees shall report the results of their meetings to the District committee and the monthly District Meeting.

## ARTICLE V

### Elections and Voting Rights

All elections and voting on issues shall take place as described in the "Third Legacy Procedure" in the Alcoholics Anonymous Service Manual. The following persons shall be entitled to vote at elections and on issues requiring membership approval:

- (a) The District Committee Member and Alternate District Committee Member (D.C.M's),
- (b) The District Treasurer,
- (c) The District Secretary,
- (d) All current Group Service Representatives (G.S.R.s),
- (e) All District Standing Committee Chairpersons
- (f) The Alternates of the above persons, if the principal is absent.

## ARTICLE VI

### Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended from time to time by vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voters in attendance at any assembly or any other meeting specifically called for the purpose of so amending the By-Laws.