

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

1.0) **Organization**

1.1) Purpose---The purpose of the Atlanta Intergroup (hereinafter referred to as the AIG) shall be to aid Sexaholic Anonymous (SA) groups in North Georgia with the purpose of carrying the SA message to the sexaholic who still suffers. The AIG shall be maintained, supervised, and supported by the SA groups in North Georgia and/or the individual SA members which carry out functions common to all groups and which are best handled by a centralized organization. The AIG shall maintain a telephone answering service, website and shall function as a clearinghouse for the circulation and exchange of information among all the SA groups in the North Georgia Area which fall under the jurisdiction of Sexaholics Anonymous Southeast Regional Association (hereinafter referred to as SASERA).

1.2) Constituents---The membership of the AIG shall consist of all present and future registered SA groups within the North Georgia area which choose to be affiliated. All affiliated groups are asked to elect a Group Service Representative (GSR), and an alternate to be represented on the AIG.

1.3) Representation Each SA group which wishes to be affiliated with the AIG will be asked to register their GSR with the Secretary for the forthcoming year by December 31st. New SA groups may register their GSR when elected with the AIG Secretary. It is recommended that GSRs have sobriety as listed in paragraph 5.

1.4) Meetings AIG stated meetings shall be held regularly throughout the year with attendance by Officers, Committee Chairs and GSRs. The Secretary will communicate a notice of the meeting one week in advance and issue an agenda two days before the meeting date.

1.5) Quorum The presence of at least four members consisting of at least two elected Intergroup Officers plus two voting members will be considered a quorum. If the Secretary is not available, the Chairman or Vice Chairman will appoint a member to transcribe the minutes. This by-law does not apply to amendments of these by-laws as stated in paragraph 12.

1.6) Voting Each elected GSR shall be entitled to one vote at Intergroup meetings. A GSR or its alternate may represent only one group, and only one representative can vote for only one group, at any meeting.

1.6.1) Each elected member, noted in paragraph 2, shall have one vote. No absentee nor proxy voting shall be allowed at any AIG meeting.

1.6.2) If a motion is passed with a simple majority and not a two thirds vote, a dissenting vote may make an appeal to the AIG chairman to reconsider the motion. A member can choose to abstain on any vote. An abstention is not given the weight of a vote. It is neither counted in the final tally, nor figured in the percentage for the purposes of determining substantial unanimity. No abstaining member is allowed to comment as part of the minority opinion. After discussion,

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

the Chairman will call for the AIG to vote again on the same motion. Abstentions will be barred from the second vote. A simple majority will be approval without further discussion.

1.7) **The financing** of the AIG shall be through:

- 1.7.1) Contributions of member SA groups,
- 1.7.2) Individual Sexaholics Anonymous members,
- 1.7.3) Income derived from such projects or activities as may be authorized from time-to-time by the AIG, e.g. Marathon, book sales, etc.

1.8) **Guiding Principles:**

- 1.9.1) The Twelve Traditions of Sexaholics Anonymous (Appendix "A") *, and,
- 1.9.2) SA Service Manual (WWW.SA.ORG) shall be the guiding principles.
- 1.9.3) The purpose of AIG is to seek both knowledge of God's will for the fellowship and the power to carry it out. AIG's one ultimate authority is a loving God as He may express Himself in its group conscience (Tradition Two). AIG may achieve goals that are too large or difficult for the home groups. AIG can achieve this by facilitating communication among existing home group meetings and provide a forum for group meetings to share ideas for strengthening recovery.

2.0) **Elections:**

- 2.1) Elections for Intergroup officers will be held at the December meeting of AIG. The AIG chairman shall appoint an ad hoc Nominating Committee to submit a slate of candidates at the November meeting. At the November meeting, the AIG will also accept additional nominations from voting members. Upon a motion and second to close nominations, the chairman will call for the vote. The secretary will then count and record the votes.
- 2.2) It is suggested that Officers not miss more than 3 meetings during their term. If an Officer is unable to attend a meeting, it is requested that they make the Secretary aware of their absence as well as send a replacement and/or report.
- 2.3) GSRs shall be elected by their local organization with notification to the AIG Secretary. Thereafter each GSR will become a voting member of the AIG. The GSR is the primary link between the home group and the SA Service Structure. The GSR connects the home group first to AIG and then through the SASERA representative to the regional group who in turn communicates with the General Delegate Assembly (GDA). The GSR represents the home group's conscience at AIG meetings and brings back information from AIG to the home group. This two way communication is essential to the formation of an informed group conscience. In SA's service structure, each meeting is represented at the AIG level with one GSR and each GSR gets one vote. However, if a home group meets several times a week at the same location

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

with many of the same members, that group may choose to elect one GSR to represent that group conscience.

- 2.4) The AIG shall elect the SASERA representative and alternate.
- 2.5) An individual may only chair a single standing committee for his/her elected term. He/she, however, may also chair an ad hoc committee while serving as chairperson of a standing committee but may cast only one vote at AIG (see paragraph **3.2**).
- 2.6) All positions are elected by all AIG members present. The nominating committee shall present a suggested slate of candidates at the November meeting. The AIG will then take nominations from the floor. A member will ask for nominations to be closed. After a second and ratification the Chairman will call for the vote which can be done with a hand vote or ballot. The Secretary will record the votes and announce the results in December.

3) Terms

- 3.1) The term of a trusted servant will be one year. Terms begin on January First.

Officers to serve for one year will be:

Chairperson,
Vice Chairperson,
Treasurer,
Secretary,

- 3.2) Committee chairs to serve for one year shall be:

Hospitals and Institutions Chair (H&I),
WEB I-T Chair,
Literature Chair
Phone Line Chair
Corrections Facilities Chair (CFC)
Meeting Support Chair
Newcomers Meeting Chair
Women in SA Chair
Quarterly Speaker Chair
Spanish Speaking Chair

- 3.3) Liaison to SASERA shall serve for two years. If a SASERA representative must resign during their term, a replacement will be appointed to fill the term.

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

- 3.4) No AIG officer or chairperson may act in addition to the position of GSR, i.e. an officer or chairperson who is also representing a GSR will have only one vote on a motion.
- 3.5) During the year officers may be replaced, pursuant to the rules set forth in paragraphs **6 and 7**.
- 3.6) GSRs may serve as long as their local group confirms them. A one year term is recommended.

4) Duties

4.1) Elected Officers' duties

Chairperson--Presides over and manages AIG meetings, keeps in close contact with AIG secretary, treasurer and other chairs to insure AIG initiatives are moving forward.

AIG Vice Chairperson—Assists AIG chair in running meetings as needed. Presides over and manages AIG meetings in the event that the AIG chairperson is unable to attend.

Treasurer—Keeps track of all AIG finances. Treasurer collects all incoming donations to the AIG from SA groups and promptly makes deposits to the AIG bank account. The Treasurer is also in charge of making payments as needed for, e.g. rent payments, AIG meetings, IT expenses, literature and supplies, etc. Treasurer is also responsible for maintaining the checking account for the AIG and interacting with the financial institution for adding and removing signatories. The treasurer will make a written report of the financial condition of AIG at each meeting. The Treasurer will make disbursements to SASERA and SAICO at the direction of the AIG. The Treasurer may be subject to an audit before turning over the books to his/her successor.

Secretary—Records the minutes at AIG meetings and disburses the minutes to the AIG in a timely manner. At the direction of the Chairman, he/she is responsible for putting together the agenda for scheduled AIG meetings and circulating them to AIG members at least two days before the meeting. Secretary maintains all records including minutes of previous meetings, by laws, standing instructions, corporate records, licenses, litigation, correspondence from SASERA, SAICO and any other pertinent documents relating to the legal status of the AIG. Secretary monitors the AIG email account, responding to inquiries and managing the GSR contact list and the drop box. Obtains monthly attendance record of each SA home group.

4.2) Committee Chairpersons' duties

Literature—Maintains a stock of literature and chips for SA groups. Keeps track of inventory, turns in receipts for supplies to the Treasurer. Supplies an inventory to the Treasurer and AIG, as requested. Is responsible for procuring SA and AA approved literature for the SA groups and special events, e.g. the Atlanta Marathon, the International Convention when held in Atlanta, and starter kits for new SA groups.

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

Hospitals and Institutions---Conducts outreach to Hospitals, Institutions, and licensed professionals e.g. Ridgeview, licenced CSATs (Certified Sex Addiction Therapist), etc. Insures that committed members are bringing the principles of SA to such facilities and professionals. Chair will monitor and manage all groups or individual members who reach out to all facilities, institutions and professionals for the purpose of awareness of SA groups in Georgia.

Corrections Facilities Committee Chair (CFC)---Carries the message to sexaholics who are incarcerated in correctional facilities as directed by SAICO. In coordination with the National, CFC chair initiates the sponsor by mail program. to the local sponsors and assists released inmates to find an SA group. Sends mail orders directly through qualified publishers to effect the step process with inmates. The AIG Treasurer, is authorized to reimburse the CFC up to \$300 for expenses incurred each year, or more, if approved by AIG.

Sexaholics Anonymous South East Regional Assembly (SASERA) Representative----Acts as liaison for the AIG to SASERA. Communicates issues and needs of each organization to the other. Attends SASERA meetings and reports its activity to AIG. The candidate must have performed prior service work at the Intergroup level, and have demonstrated a working knowledge of the SA Service manual. Each travel expense is reimbursable up to \$300.00 or higher, if approved by AIG.

Phone Line Chair---Phone lines are open 24-7. Chair answers all messages received on the phone line. Refers all callers to the nearest or most convenient SA meeting group. Explains to caller about SA program, meetings by phone and the “saatlanta.org” website.

Meeting Support Chair---Supports new or struggling groups to increase awareness and encourage participation through website listing, phone line, events and email. Helps establish leadership e.g. secretary, treasurer and GSR representative.

Quarterly Speaker Chair---Chair organizes the SA quarterly speaker events, including inviting a speaker, setting the time and place and promoting the event. The Treasurer will reimburse a guest speaker up to \$400 for travel or more, if approved by the AIG. The AIG may approve an honorarium for the speaker or give a monetary donation to a preferred organization designated by the speaker.

Spanish Speaking Meeting Chair---Carries the message to the Spanish speaking population in Georgia. Reaches out to newcomers, starts new meetings, helps order SA and AA literature in Spanish. Communicates with the SAICO International Committee Chair.

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

Newcomers Meeting Chair---Organizes the Newcomers orientation program which consists of four weekly meetings held each month at a location determined by the chair. The chair will pick qualified facilitators to lead the discussion and orientation. He/She will identify members as share partners to assist the newcomer.

IT (Internet Technology) Chair---Runs and maintains AIG website (www.saatlanta.org.) Updates pages as needed including posting all current meeting locations, meeting contact information, quarterly speakers, and all Marathon meetings.

Woman in SA Chair--is to encourage the growth of women members in SA. He/ she should attend, at least once a month, the weekly women's meeting. He/ she should contact women members, as needed. He/ she should organize actions which are identified to encourage the growth of women in SA Atlanta, e.g. meet with certified sex addiction therapists, psychologists and/or institutions which work with sex addicts.

4.3) **GSR**--Represents the conscience of his/her home group at AIG meetings. Attends AIG and home group meeting on a regular basis. Has a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions and their applications to group affairs. GSR should have the confidence of the home group and should keep an open mind regarding differing points of view. Gives reports to his/her home group of actions taken by AIG. Stays informed of issues that affect the home group.

5) "Continuous SA Sobriety" requirements:

Sobriety requirements are for the health and welfare of the group and its ability to recognize and conform its actions in accordance with that of the "Ultimate Authority" as described in SA's Second Tradition (see appendix). The following guidelines are suggested but may be reduced on a case by case basis at the judgement and discretion of the AIG.

5.1) Officers of AIG

Chairperson: Two years,
Vice Chairperson: Two years,
Treasurer: Two years,
Secretary: One year,

5.2) Committee Chairs

Literature Chair: One year;
SASERA Rep: Two years;
Hospitals and Institutions Chair (H&I), Six months;
Phone Line Chair: Six months;
Corrections Facilities Chair (CFC): One year;

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

Newcomers Meeting Chair: One year;

Meeting support chair: Six months;

5.2) **Committee Chairs**

Quarterly speaker: One year;

Spanish speaking: Six months;

Web IT Chair: One year;

Women in SA Chair: Six months.

5.3) **Group Service Representative (GSR)**

Elected group representatives: 3 months and/or sponsor's approval.

6) **Vacancy in an office:**

If an Officer or chairperson is unable to fulfill their term, for any reason, a replacement shall be elected at the next stated meeting. In the case of the Intergroup Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson will complete the Chairperson's term.

7) **Removal from office:**

An AIG elected Officer, or Committee Chairperson may be removed from the AIG and all other committees by a two thirds vote of the AIG.

7.1) The reason for the action must be a specific action or behavior on the part of the member in question which is deemed by AIG to be in conflict with AIG's primary purpose, or with the Twelve Traditions of S.A.*

7.2) There must be a written notice of the proposed action, stating the reason for the action, and where deemed appropriate by AIG, allow sufficient time for the member in question to change his/her behavior in lieu of the action being taken.

7.3) Any vacancy created by such an action herein will be elected at the next stated meeting,

8) **Ad Hoc committee**

The AIG or the Chairman may request the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to carry out the business for which it is appointed, e.g. special studies, nominations, investigation of inappropriate activity, conducting research or audits, etc. The committee shall consist of at least two members of the AIG and may engage the help and assistance of an outside professional specialist, e.g. CPA, Attorney at Law, CSAT, etc. The Ad Hoc committee will make its report directly to the AIG. Its term expires the earlier of the end of its mission or the end of the calendar year.

Confidentiality

9) All activities of the AIG are confidential and are not for public information as stated in SA traditions 10, 11 and 12. An officer or voting member found in violation of those traditions may be subject to

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

the actions stated in Paragraph 7. The exception to this by-law is that of child abuse as defined under the laws of the State of Georgia.

Governing Law

10) Nothing in these by-laws is intended to conflict with the twelve Traditions and Concepts of SA (see appendix) or the Laws of the State of Georgia or the Laws of the United States of America.

11) Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended at any time by:

- 11.1) A motion made and seconded by any voting member of AIG; with the motion tabled until the next duly announced meeting is held with notification in paragraph 1.4;
- 11.2) At the meeting following the meeting in which the motion was made, the motion must be approved by a two thirds majority subject to at least ten voting members of AIG present;
- 11.3) If there are less than ten voting members present, then the motion will remain tabled until a meeting where there are at least ten voting members.
- 11.4) After the motion passes, any objecting member may appeal the vote to the Chairman. The AIG will then listen to the opposition argument after which the chairman will call for a vote. A two thirds majority vote is again required for approval.

Adoption date: 15th November, 2015

Amendment date: _____

* The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous are adapted for SA use by permission of A-A World Services, Inc.

Appendix A

The Twelve Traditions of Sexaholics Anonymous*

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on SA 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 membership is a desire to stop lusting and become sexually sober.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or Sexaholics as a whole.

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

5. Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the sexaholic who still suffers.
6. An SA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the SA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, prosperity and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every SA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Sexaholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. SA, as such, ought never to be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Sexaholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the SA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films and television.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

The Twelve Steps of Sexaholics Anonymous*

1. We admitted we were powerless over lust; 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, and 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 knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to sexaholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The Twelve Concepts of Sexaholics Anonymous*

1. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for SA service should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The leadership of SA, as represented by the General Delegate Assembly (GDA) and the Board of Trustees (Trustees), has become for nearly every practical purpose the active voice and effective conscience of our whole society in its matters of service.

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

3. To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of SA's service structure, the GDA and trustees, its staff and committees with a traditional "Right of Decision."
4. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain the traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge at that level.
5. Throughout or structure a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that the minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances will receive careful consideration.
6. The GDA recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility for most service matters should be exercised by the Trustees.
7. The Bylaws of the Trustees are a legal instrument empowering the Trustees to manage and conduct service matters. The SA service structure documents are not legal documents. They rely on tradition and the SA purse for final effectiveness.
8. The Trustees are the principal; administrators of overall policy and finance.
9. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety.
10. Every Service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with scope of such authority well defined.
11. The Trustees should always have the assistance of the best possible committees, staffs and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.
12. The GDA and Trustees shall observe the spirit of the SA tradition,taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power, that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle, that it place one of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote and wherever possible by substantial unani; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an indictment to public controversy;that it never perform acts of government;m and that like the fellowship it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

SA,as such, would never have an organization in the same sense of a "government" that could issue directives by committee or Board to individuals or groups within the fellowship. Our committees and Board could only provide services and we have tried to organize them to function effectively, but SA has no government in the political sense.

Referring to paragraph 1.6.2, here are examples

of appeal protocol, assuming ten voting members---

<-----Motion -----> <-----Appeal by Nay voters----->

Yes	No	Abstain	May appeal	Revote
9	1	0	No	
2/3 majority				
8	1	1	No	
2/3 majority				

Atlanta Intergroup By Laws

8	2	0	No	
2/3 majority				
7	2	1	No	
2/3 majority				
7	1	2	No	
2/3 majority				
6	2	2	Yes	5-3 motion carries, 4-4 motion carries because dissenter has not created a majority defeat. Abstentions can't vote second time.
6	1	3	No	2/3 majority without abstentions
6	3	1	Yes	5-4 motion carries
5	4	1	Yes	5-4 motion carries
5	3	1	Yes	5-3 motion carries, 4-4 motion carries because dissenter has not created a majority defeat. Abstentions can't vote second time.
5	2	2	Yes	4-3 motion carries
5	1	3	No	2/3 majority without abstentions
4	4	2	Yes	5-3 motion carries, 4-4 fails because no majority
4	3	3	Yes	4-3 motion carries
4	2	4	No	2/3 majority without abstentions
4	1	5	No	2/3 majority without abstentions