

Conference 2005 Rejected Questions

1.

What should be the appropriate rate for expenses for service work (other than 12th Step work)?

The background to this question is that, in the same Intergroup, 20p per mile and 40p per mile is being claimed.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Guideline No. 12 – Finance

2.

Could the attached pamphlet “Why Did I Drink” be considered for AA approval at Conference 2005.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Passed to Literature Sub Committee

3.

Given that only 14 out of 102 positions are filled*, would Conference consider the ongoing viability of the position of Intergroup Employment Liaison Officer and whether it should be formally amalgamated with the Public Information Officer’s role.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Local matter – refer to GSB Report 2004

4.

Would Conference consider if the Fellowship Archives ought to be made available at National Conventions?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Regional Archivists can do this

5.

The video “One Day at a Time” is now many years old and while its content is excellent, it appears dated to such an extent that it loses some of its impact. Would Conference consider remaking this video using a more contemporary setting?

Terms of Reference No. 7

2 new videos are being produced for Conference 2005

6.

- a. Should not the post of editor of *Share magazine* be a paid one?
- b. Should not the editorial meetings of *Share magazine* take place in places other than London as well as in London?

Terms of Reference No. 6

Passed to GSB

7.

Should not information about service be included in the 12th Step pack?

Terms of Reference No. 6/7

Down to sponsorship

8.

Should not all invitations by the General Service Board ("GSB") to members to join sub-committees of the GSB have an exact closing date for applications, and should the GSB not fill any vacancy until after the closing date when they have considered all applications received before that date?

Terms of Reference No.6/7

Passed on to GSB

9.

In light of the reported bad debt year ending 2002/2003 of almost £1000.00 for unreturned literature from Conventions, would Conference consider amending Guideline 15 making the Intergroup Officers responsible for order, receipt and return of AA literature from GSO stocks.

Terms of Reference No. 6/7

Responsibility of GSO

10.

Would Conference consider the value and potential benefits of providing directly to every registered AA group sufficient background material/information in support of the questions posed for each General Service Conference. No subsequent additional material or information arising after the Conference Questions and support material have been published would be eligible for consideration by Conference.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Sent to Intergroup & Regional Secretaries, statement in AA Service News

12.

a) Would Conference consider the need for Public Liability insurance cover?

If the answer to the above is YES then,

b) Would they consider and suggest the best way of providing this?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Covered in Winter AA News 2001

14.

Would Conference consider how the Fellowship can further help the disabled and housebound alcoholic who cannot attend meetings?

Terms of Reference No. 6

Insufficient background material – poss resubmit with full background material

15.

How can A.A improve communications to the individual member?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Discussed in 2004

16.

In view of the increasing need for members involved in prison sponsorship to co-operate with other agencies working with alcoholics in prisons, would Conference recommend ways in which we can avoid the appearance of endorsement or affiliation?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Preamble and Guideline No. 9

17.

Would Conference consider allowing the AA national web site to permit links to recognised trusted servants' web sites?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Refer to ECSC

18.

In action and in spirit, how can the collective conscience of Conference and our trusted servants on the General Service Board improve on the recommendations made by Conference 2004 in raising the profile of our Traditions throughout every aspect of Alcoholics Anonymous?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Campaign actioned by GSB after last Conference

19.

Due to the increasing cost of postage to the Fellowship, would Conference consider recommending that AA groups become responsible for their own postage costs when ordering literature?

Terms of Reference No. 6/7

Reflected in the pricing

20.

Would Conference 2005 please clarify the current recommendations regarding the production and publication of non approved AA literature for internal and external use?

Terms of Reference No. 6/7

Lack of clarity in background. Refer to Copyright/Logo Guideline

21.

Would Conference consider the evolving need for a common nationwide policy to be adopted with respect to Public Liability Insurance covering all registered meetings. Discuss the possibility of a single nationwide policy, financed by an annual premium met by the Board of A.A. Make recommendation.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Covered in Winter AA News 2001

22.

Given the unique nature of AA's legal status and its unique relationship with its groups as the primary source of decision making, would Conference consider giving guidance as to each groups/intergroups/regions responsibility to its members and visitors with regard to insurance.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Covered in Winter AA News 2001

25.

In the light of Conference 2004's endorsement of GSB plans to employ a public relations agency to help raise awareness of the Fellowship, would Conference consider the appointment of an AA member from within or without the current staff to a full-time post of Press Officer to consolidate and build on the work of this agency no later than October 2005?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Referred to GSB for consideration

26.

Would Conference consider removing Trustees (board members) from committees at future Conferences?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Warranties & Concepts

29.

Could Conference give guidance as to whether a Conference Delegate who is unable to attend one or more Conferences in his three year term is eligible to be an Alcoholic GSB Trustee?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Covered in AA Service Handbook

30.

Would Conference consider ways in which they might become more self-supporting through group contributions?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Covered in Guideline 12 and pamphlet "The Pot"

31.

Would Conference consider alternative business procedures to the current pricing and literature sales to make up the deficit between group contributions and operating costs?

Terms of Reference No. 6/7

Refer to GSB

32.

Should delegates be allowed to use laptop computers when putting forward their Region's views during committee discussions at Conference? Please make recommendations.

Terms of Reference No. 7

To be mentioned in the Delegates Briefing

33.

Would Conference consider what the implications are for the Fellowship when a Trustee remains on the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous in excess of the 4 year tenure and why the methodology of rotation is not being complied with?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Section 11-5 Service Handbook – refer to GSB

34.

How best can groups address the problem of non-alcoholic related sharing at meetings?

Terms of Reference No. 5/7

Primary Purpose Card also covered by Committee No. 2 Conference 2004

35.

Would Conference consider in light of the recent announcement that all U.S. military personal would be returning home from mainland Europe that region 15, Continental European Region (Intergroups mainly Germany) should be disbanded and/or to integrate themselves within the respective host countries structures?

Terms of Reference No. 6

Related question which has been accepted will go some way to addressing this issue

38.

There is a need for the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous to sponsor a section to Carry the Message specifically to those under 18 years of age who suffer with a drink problem. Will Conference please consider and make recommendations?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Discussion in hand – Young Persons Committee

39.

Some groups are growing steadily across all age ranges and Big Book sales are consistently high. They practice the principles of the Twelve Steps & Traditions and have strong sponsorship ethic. AA GB generally is not enjoying the same success. Would Conference explore ways of assisting groups seeking guidance? Please consider the following points as aids to progress.

(A) Suggest ways in which the Fellowship as a whole can assist groups to become more structured in their approach to carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

(B) Make suggestions to those groups who want to avoid the dilution of the Steps and Traditions.

Terms of Reference No. 5

Covered by Conference 2004

40.

Please discuss ways in which we can better achieve unity within our Fellowship, considering the following points,

(a) Accountability not mistrust.

(b) Responsibility and minority opinion.

Terms of Reference No. 5/7

Discussed at Conference 2004 – refer to 12 Concepts for World Service Illustrated

41.

We often hear things like "we can't get anybody to do service and that we are struggling financially". Some groups seem to be more effective in these areas. If we could in some way communicate experience, strength and hope between groups and Intergroups this situation could change. Would Conference discuss and recommend specific ways of doing this?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Discussed at Conference 2004 – refer to Guideline No. 3

43.

Would the GSB become more transparent if Minutes of Board Meetings be made available from GSO?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Referred to General Service Board

44.

Would Conference review the need for the General Secretary to sit on the Conference Steering Committee?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Conference Steering Committee remit – Conference Charter

45.

Can we please have clarification of what Conference 2004 Committee 4, Question 2, point 7 means when referring to future re-formations being referred to a committee of the GSB if appropriate?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Committee report self explanatory

46.

A home group plays a vital role in a newcomers sobriety, to ensure the home group follows the traditions our group has found it useful to have a checklist to see how the group is running. Would Conference consider publishing a checklist to help groups follow the traditions?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Discussed at Conference 2004

47.

Would Conference discuss and make recommendations as to the need for Guidelines intended for ratification at Conference being published to the fellowship as a whole so that Conference delegates can be fully informed.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Copies are sent to Region and Intergroup secretaries – it is the responsibility of the Fellowship to do this

49.

Our home group has encouraged group members into PI service, adhering to Tradition 5. We find a substantial wider lack of interest at our local PI Committee and intergroup meetings, despite committed efforts of elected service representatives. Can Conference suggest how we may better attract others to this valuable, rewarding and necessary work?

Terms of Reference No. 5

Fully covered Conference 2004 also discussed Conference 2003 and 2001

50.

When Guidelines are updated could they be distributed free to all groups? (Most groups get a set of Guidelines and never update them).

Terms of Reference No. 7

Group's responsibility

51.

How can the Fellowship make best use of the experience of General Service Board Trustees when they have completed their period of service on the GSB? Discuss and make recommendations.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Principle of rotation – former GSB Trustees are there to help if needed

53.

Would Conference 2005 consider submitting the proposed brochure 'A Message to Professionals' for consideration by a Committee at Conference 2006. This would allow the Fellowship to give its full input into this crucial public information material.

Terms of Reference 6/7

Literature Sub-Committee has done this and it will be available to all delegates

54.

The AA video 'One Day at a Time' was recommended by Conference 1983 and approved by Conference 1984. A new AA 'urban' video has recently been produced by the Fellowship without such approval. Would Conference consider the proposal that all new AA videos be submitted to Conference Committee to allow the Fellowship to give its full input into such important public information material? This will ensure that AA produces the best materials possible.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Videos are being presented at Conference 2005

55.

In light of Concept 3, would Conference consider recommending that the Board Trustee responsible in the relevant discipline and overseeing the preparation of a new or updated Guideline, be present and available for consultation at the Conference committee session convened to review that Guideline?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Trustees are available

56.

Would Conference consider and make recommendations regarding the creation of Accessibility Officer at Intergroup level? The creation of this post would allow one person in each Intergroup area to research premises and/or laws which relate to the provision of care for children, for meetings that may wish to start a crèche. Additionally, they could also work alongside the PI rep/committee with relation to the carrying of the AA message to more diverse communities.

Terms of Reference No. 7

Autonomy – Intergroup can decide to or not

58.

Would Conference please examine the relationship of PI and Electronic Communications?

Terms of Reference No. 7

Related question which has been accepted will go some way to addressing this issue