

Questions:

What does a GSR do?

A GSR is probably one of the most important commitments one can take on in the C. A. fellowship. You are entrusted to be the voice of your Group at District and/or Area meetings and you are the one who keeps your Group plugged in to what is going on in the Fellowship. You are the primary communication link that keeps your Group unified with the other Groups. You will be called upon at times to make your best assessment of what you think your Group would do when a matter arises for a vote at District/Area; you discuss the matter from the perspective of your Group and vote as you believe your Group would have you vote, (Concept 3 - "Right of Decision").

How to run a Group Conscience?

Many Groups choose to run a group conscience by using a simplified version of Robert's Rules of order for their business meeting.

Other groups choose to have each member speak their opinion on each subject until they come to a consensus on each matter believing that a Higher Power speaks through each opinion spoken during the process. The GSR listens to members keeping his or her opinion to themselves, then repeats back the decision to the members for their approval.

What's the 7th tradition about?

Our 7th tradition is how each of our groups covers expenses and takes care of their meeting place. When a member puts a dollar in the basket the money goes toward paying for Rent, Meeting Supplies and Literature. The excess is then forwarded on to the District/Area/World to help carry the message of C. A. on a larger scale. The 7th tradition is also about being responsible to the group and meeting place in which we reside.

Why use Robert's Rules?

We use Robert's Rules of Order to help facilitate the orderly operation of the District and Area while conducting business. These Rules can be confusing and frustrating. Your World Service Manual discusses the very basic elements of Robert's Rules of Order, as we tend to apply them in C. A. There are entire books on the subject and some people get into sophisticated use of the Rules during the World Service Conference. The Rules used locally at the District/Area level help to keep order (believe it or not) and help educate you as to how C. A. business is generally conducted. That way, if you wind up becoming a Delegate, you won't be completely aghast at the World Service Conference. Many of our members have said that learning Robert's Rules of Order and other aspects of our business meetings have made them more effective in the real world.

As a GSR what do I report at District/Area?

First a GSR should report on how well their group is carrying the message to the addicts who still suffer. Reporting the attendance of the meeting, if they can use support, and how effective they are. The main point is using the help and experience of the other groups to be more effective. Also, a GSR should bring any concerns or changes that their group may also like to see.

How do those elections work?

Various positions have different procedures for elections but, most of the elections in the C. A. of Colorado Area are conducted by a simple majority, 50% plus 1. Some votes are conducted by 2/3rds majority known as the Third Legacy which provides substantial unanimity. The diverse ways of voting for each position are in the Colorado Area Guidelines on the Service page.

Why do we have an Area?

One of the reasons we have an Area is to stay in contact with the C. A. World Service Office for the purposes of registering and updating its meeting information in the World Directory and communicating information regarding Area functions such as Service Conferences, Conventions, and other Special Events to promote and ensure Unity within the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. The Area also serves as a conduit for the local Districts and/or Groups for their needs, while fostering an environment of communication and Unity.

What is the definition of an Area?

An Area is a defined geographic division, which may include portions of more than one state. Normally there is one Area per state, except in locations which are heavily populated by C. A. groups or that have difficult geographic logistics. In those cases, there may be two or more Areas. As new Areas are created, or if an Area changes its geographical definition, the creation or change must be recognized by the WSC (World Service Conference). The Area serves the Fellowship by distributing chips and literature, handling financial contributions of the Fellowship for that Area, and communicating with the C.A. World Service Office. The primary function of the Area is to serve the common needs of its District Members and to facilitate unification.

What is the definition of an District?

A District is a geographical unit within an Area containing a number of groups within a close proximity, which find it necessary to unify. A District has the primary function of the unification of its groups by keeping in frequent contact with them, learning their problems and sharing ways to contribute to their growth and well-being. It is suggested that ten (10) or more groups comprise a District and that each ten (10) groups elect a District Service Representative to sit on the Area Service Committee. As the number of groups within a District increases, the District should either split into two Districts or elect more District Service Representatives from such groups to the Area Service Committee.