

JUNE QUARTERLY PRESENTATION SLIDE NOTES:

SLIDE 1:

Hi Friends, my name is Drew and I am an alcoholic. It is my privilege to serve you as your Alternate Delegate and Literature Chair. For my presentation tonight, I am going to give a brief explanation of our Motion and Voting Procedures and then Rio will give a presentation explaining the Election procedures here in Area 79.

SLIDE 2:

Ok let's dive in.

Remember every area is autonomous. This simply means that all areas conduct their business in their own agreed upon way. The service manual has an entire chapter on the area committee starting on page 18. You can also find specific information on the responsibilities of your area committee in BC/Yukon in your GSR handbook on page 12.

SLIDE 3

As you may or may not be aware, our last event of Panel 73 is coming up in September. Does anyone know **WHEN** and **WHERE** our Voting and Election Assembly will be held? That's right, Victoria September 6-8 2024.

At this event we consider motions pertaining to Area matters as well as any matter that is to be considered by the Conference affecting A.A. as a whole.

SLIDE 4: Let's not forget the importance of our upside-down triangle where our groups hold the ultimate authority. We are encouraged to have as much time as possible for each member and group to participate in our collective conscience and decision making. Whenever possible, we are encouraged to reach all important decisions by discussion - leaving time to have each matter extensively debated.

If your group, district or committee is considering submitting a **motion**, please try to submit it to the Area Chair as early as possible. Remember that we are trying to find the collective conscience of **all** of the groups in our Area, so the sooner your **motion** is submitted, the better chance we have to fulfill our purpose

SLIDE 5: MOTION GUIDE – We have a few resources to help you along with this process. To understand how to write a motion, you can refer to our Motion Guide found on the login side of the website.

SLIDE 6 – ABOUT MOTIONS

- ▶ A motion, **the question**, brings business before the assembly.
- ▶ Good motions are simple and clear
- ▶ Needs to be answered with a “yes” or “no.”

Please do not hesitate to ask for assistance when drafting a motion. When I was a DCM, I sought help to draft a motion and met with my service sponsor to ensure the motion was clearly written. You can also have your Area Chairperson Monica review your motion before sending it out to the fellowship as a whole.

SLIDE 7 - MOTION FORM

You will see this motion form in your agenda package. You will need to use this form in order to submit a motion. All motions submitted by July 7 will be included in the Voting and election Assembly Agenda package and distributed to all of our Area 79 groups- providing them an opportunity to discuss the motions prior to the Assembly.

SLIDE 8 – MOTIONS FLOW CHART

We also have this awesome Motions Flow Chart. It is a nice way to have a visual of our process from start to finish. Remember, a good idea can come from anyone in A.A.!

SLIDE 9 – BOOK OF MOTIONS

In Area 79 we have a historical record of our motions dating back to 1980. This is a great way to see what we've talked about in the past and for us to look up when which motions were presented and discussed. We update this book every year after each voting assembly.

SLIDE 10 – FLOOR ACTIONS - SO WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU WRITE A MOTION AFTER THE JULY 7TH DEADLINE?

- If your motion is written and submitted AFTER the July 7th deadline then you may present your motion to the assembly body as a FLOOR ACTION
- The deadline for all motions to be submitted is **11 am on the Saturday, September 7th** of the Assembly and will be considered a floor action.
- The exception to this are motions regarding financial matters (other than budgets) in excess of \$2,000.00. These motions must be submitted no later than **July 7**, so they are included in the Voting and election Assembly Agenda package for distribution to all registered groups in Area 79.

SLIDE 11 -> Check out our nifty Floor Action Flow Chart to help you!

- Once a floor action is read, the assembly body votes on whether to consider the floor action. The chair calls on a vote to see if the body wants to hear the floor action. It requires 2/3rds substantial unanimity to be heard. If it carries, it becomes a motion on the floor for the assembly body to discuss and vote on.

SLIDE 12-13: VOTING PROCEDURES

An assembly makes its own rules. In Area 79 we have agreed upon a structure for our voting procedures. In your agenda package you will see our agreed upon Voting procedures.

SLIDE 14: Your Panel 71 ASC developed this cheat sheet to track where we are during each motion presentation and discussion. We call this the Area 79 1,2,3 Sheet. This motion tracking sheet is really handy, especially when we start to get into amendments.

SLIDE 15/16 A COUPLE OF POINTERS...WHEN VOTING YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER...

- When you are speaking at the voting assembly start off by letting us know if you are in favour of the motion or opposed. It is as simple as “I am in favour of....” Or “my group is opposed to this motion.” This assists everyone in getting a feel for the consensus.
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- **The minority opinion helps us to be better informed. For example:**
If you are in favour of a motion, and the majority of speakers are opposed, you have an opportunity to state your point of view to assist in the development of a truly informed group conscience. This is to ensure all voices are heard so we can consider all of the information.
- If you are lined up at the mic, and someone has already made the same point you were going to make, you may choose to take your seat and allow time for another member to share something new to add to the discussion.
- If someone does call the question, there is a vote just to call the question. If you feel it is too soon, you can vote against it. The question could always be called again after there has been more discussion.
It is strongly suggested that we need to avoid calling the question too soon. If there are still new ideas being brought forward, or if only a few people have had the chance to speak, this results not only in a less informed group conscience, but it also ends up taking much more time because the debate was not fully explored.
- Similarly, proposing an amendment too soon usually results in the amendment being amended, sometimes more than once. That is OK if it is bringing us closer to an informed group conscience. However, this can create confusion or frustration, and also ends up taking a lot of time with procedures that would be better used for discussing the idea that was put forward. Please do propose an amendment if you feel the motion could be improved to better reflect the wishes of the assembly. It is often better to listen to the discussion early on, then once you have an idea of what the wishes of the Assembly are, propose the amendment. **Amendments are where the 1,2,3 Sheet can help.**

- Another issue that comes up here is the idea that “I don’t know what my Group wants so I can’t do anything.” We are all trusted servants. With that comes the “Right of Decision” that allows us to fully participate in these situations. Our responsibility being that we must report back to those we serve what the outcome was. **This is Concept 3 in action!**

SLIDE 17 WHAT HAPPENS TO A MOTION THAT CARRIES?

Motions that are carried at our Voting Assembly for consideration for the Conference Agenda are submitted by our Delegate to the General Service Office (to the attention of the Conference Coordinator). Those motions that are carried concerning the Area are followed through by the Area Service Committee.

Thank you, that’s my time.