

# **NEBRASKA AREA 33 AFG BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME:**

The name of the corporation shall be Nebraska Area 33 AFG Inc.

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the area assembly is to serve, not govern, Nebraska Area 33 Al-Anon and Alateen groups as a means of establishing and utilizing contacts with all groups and with the Al-Anon World Service Office and to help the families and friends of alcoholics.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP:**

The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend.

## **ARTICLE IV – AREA STRUCTURE:**

The area assembly is composed of one Group Representative (GR) for each Al-Anon or Alateen group from the Area, one District Representative (DR) from each district, an Area Chairman, Area Secretary, Area Treasurer, Area Delegate, Area Alternate Delegate, Al-Anon Information Service Office Liaison, Area Coordinators and other interested members of the fellowship. Only Group Representatives (or their designated alternates) have a vote at area assemblies. Each group is entitled to only one vote. The number of Group Representatives present at the Area Assembly meeting shall be considered a quorum of Voting Members.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS:**

The officers of Nebraska Area 33 AFG, Inc. shall be the Area Chairperson; Area Secretary; Area Treasurer; Area Delegate and the Alternate Area Delegate.

## **ARTICLE VI - AREA COORDINATORS:**

The Area World Service Committee elects the following Area Coordinators every 3 years: The Area Alateen Coordinator; Area Literature Coordinator; Area Public Outreach Coordinator; Area Reunion Coordinator; Area Website Coordinator and the Area Newsletter (Nebraskanon) Coordinator.

## **ARTICLE VII - AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE**

The Area World Service Committee (AWSC) is composed of the Area Chairperson, Area Secretary, Area Treasurer, Area Delegate, Alternate Area Delegate, Al-Anon Information Service Office Liaison, Area Coordinators, District Representatives and Past Delegates. The purpose of the AWSC is to consider area matters and make recommendations to the Area Assembly with the purpose of informing and unifying the groups in the area. The Area World Service Committee shall act as the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS:**

The area assembly normally meets three times a year; a special assembly may be called if necessary. Voting on all policies, By-Laws changes, elections and procedural issues takes place at the Area Assemblies.

## **ARTICLE IX – ELECTIONS:**

These procedures shall be followed for the election of Area Officer Positions, see Article V.

### Procedures for an Election Assembly

1. With the exception of coordinators, all candidates for positions should have completed a full three-year term as District Representative. (An out-going DR qualifies.) In the event no eligible individual is willing to stand for election, an exception can be made and nominations can be accepted from the floor.
2. Only a group representative (or designated alternate) will be allowed to vote.
3. A 2/3 majority is required to carry a vote. If no one has the required 2/3 majority after four (4) ballots have been taken and if two (2) candidates each have 40% or more of the total vote, the chairman may ask if anyone wishes to withdraw his name from the ballot.
4. Whether or not any names are withdrawn, another ballot is taken. If still no election occurs, the chairman asks for a motion to close the balloting and allow the choice to be made by lot between the two top candidates. The first candidate drawn is elected.

### Vacancies

If an area officer resigns, or for any other reason is unable to serve, a District Representative may be appointed by the chairman to replace the officer until another can be elected to complete the term. This District Representative remains eligible to be elected for a full three-year term in the position.

## **ARTICLE X – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:**

Area 33 Assembly Meetings and Area World Service Committee Meetings shall generally follow Roberts Rules of Order except as follows. Voting shall be based on the “Knowledge Based Decision Making” process as used at the World Service Conference. Members shall be recognized by the Chairperson wishing to “Open Discussion on a topic”. At the end of discussion the Chair shall ask “Does anyone wish to make a motion?” A motion would require a second, if no second is made, the motion dies. All motions must be made in writing and submitted to the Area Secretary. Friendly amendments may be suggested. Both the person that made the original motion and the person that seconded the motion would need to agree to the amendment. If they do not both agree to the amendment, the vote is taken on the original motion.

## **ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS:**

These By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3 majority of voting members (Group Representatives) present at the Area Assembly Meeting. The Area 33 By-Laws shall be maintained and revised as necessary by the Area By-Laws/Guidelines Committee, comprised of the Area Alternate Delegate, Area Secretary, Area Alateen Coordinator, and the Area Reunion Coordinator. The Area Alternate Delegate serves as the chairperson of the Area Guidelines Committee.