

# AusYPAA Group Conscience 31/01/2015

Present: Karl (WAYPAA), Matthew (chair), Cam (VicYPAA), Ryan (WAYPAA), Dave (VicYPAA), Jenny (QYPAA), Rochelle (ACTYPAA), Luke (QYPAA), Dean (Minutes)

1) Matthew introduced and around the room ID followed by a reading of the current constitution, as per the requirements of the constitution.

2) It was noted that NewYPAA were not represented and no members from NSW were available to attend. It was proposed that some outreach be done to NewYPAA to actively reconnect to them as founder members. It was also discussed that it should be the responsible of the host of AusYPAA to assertively outreach to other YPAAs each year.

Action: Someone need outreach NewYPAA. ACTYPAA to do this.

3) Several items had been discussed at previous group consciences regarding the constitution and it was agreed that the proposals would be finalised today. It was also recognised that the group conscience is just an hour or less per year, and that so far much of that time had been spent year on year discussing the constitution rather than on carrying the message.

It was proposed by Matthew and seconded that today's constitutional changes would be finalised and not discussed for a minimum of two years, in order to focus upon growing the YPAA movement in Australia. **PASSED**

Constitution Changes.

## **Original constitution:**

### **AUSYPAA CONSTITUTION**

*“AusYPAA exists to bring experience, strength, hope, and the message of recovery to all those who still suffer from alcoholism, and to celebrate and encourage unity and fellowship for all people young in recovery across Australia”*

1. *AusYPAA is a title to be used once per year that rotates across committees that currently host their own YPAA or similar convention, and the host committee is entitled to use the AusYPAA name in conjunction with the host name for that year.*
2. *AusYPAA itself is to have no assets financial or otherwise, and all costs and liabilities associated with an AusYPAA event are to be held in the name of the host YPAA committee.*
3. *The be eligible to join the AusYPAA rotation, a host committee must be registered with their local Area or District of AA, or with National Office, and have hosted their own YPAA or similar convention or event in the past 12 months.*
4. *Rotation shall be once per year, determined alphabetically by state name, and new groups joining or rejoining the rotation will need to wait until the current AusYPAA and the following year's AusYPAA before being eligible to host, in the instance a YPAA is unable to host AusYPAA in their rostered year, then, by agreement with all YPAAs. The order of hosting may be reversed or otherwise altered.*
5. *5.Each YPAA or equivalent group wishing to be part of the AusYPAA rotation should have a nominated AusYPAA liaison and provide contact details to the current AusYPAA host committee.*
6. *The group hosting AusYPAA is expected to abide by the 12 traditions, and consult with the other YPAA's regarding any decisions that will impact upon future AusYPAA's. An annual open group conscience should be held at each AusYPAA convention with 2 voting delegates appointed by each State and Territory's YPAA, with up to 2 delegates from any States not represented by a YPAA. At this session AusYPAA related business is to be discussed and the following 2 years host committee's to be confirmed.*
7. *The AusYPAA Constitution exist to protect the spiritual purpose of AusYPAA. Any motions to make changes to the Constitution itself must:*
  - a.i. *Be presented to all participating YPAA's for discussion a minimum of 2 months before the AusYPAA group conscience.*
  - a.ii. *Be passed by a minimum of 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the voting delegates at the group conscience.*

## **Proposed new Constitution**

Matthew consolidated the changes from previous group consciences. There was quite a lot of debate about the wording of the statement of purpose, recognising the importance that YPAAs focus upon young people without seeming to be exclusive of the older members who are central to the success of the conventions. The following updated version of the constitution was adopted.

### **AusYPAA Constitution**

#### **1) About AusYPAA.**

“AusYPAA’s primary purpose is to bring experience, strength, hope, and the message of recovery to all those who suffer from alcoholism, through an annual convention celebrating and encouraging unity and service for all people young in recovery or age throughout Australia.”

#### **2) Membership.**

To be eligible to host an AusYPAA convention, a YPAA committee must be registered with their local Area or District of AA, or with the National Office, and have hosted their own YPAA or similar convention or event in the past 12 months.

#### **3) Governing Principles.**

The host committee is entitled to use the AusYPAA name in conjunction with the host name for that year. They are expected to abide by the AusYPAA constitution, the 12 Traditions, the 12 Concepts and the Australian Service Manual and Guidelines. They should consult with the other YPAAs regarding any decisions that may impact upon future AusYPAAs.

#### **4) Communication.**

Each YPAA or equivalent group wishing to be part of the AusYPAA rotation should have a nominated AusYPAA liaison, and provide contact details to the current AusYPAA host committee. It is the responsibility of the host committee to encourage and coordinate communication between YPAAs.

#### **5) Property.**

AusYPAA is a name, not an organisation or a group, and therefore it is to have no assets financial or otherwise. All costs and liabilities associated with an AusYPAA event are to be held in the name of the host YPAA committee.

#### **6) Group Conscience.**

An open group conscience should be held at the AusYPAA convention, advertised in the convention program and chaired by a member experienced in AA service.

At this session AusYPAA-related business is to be discussed, the following year’s host committee is reconfirmed, and the host of AusYPAA two years hence is appointed, being the YPAA represented at the group conscience that has not hosted AusYPAA for the longest time.

Voting on general business is limited to 2 voting delegates appointed by each YPAA, with up to two members from any states or territory not represented by a YPAA, and will be governed by the principle of substantial unanimity (at least 2/3) of delegates present.

However, because the AusYPAA Constitution exists to protect the spiritual purpose of AusYPAA, any motions relating to the constitution must (i) be presented to all active YPAAs for discussion at least 2 months before the AusYPAA convention, and (ii) be passed by a minimum of 3/4 of the total of (i) all delegates plus (ii) any eligible (according to principle 2) YPAAs who are not present at the group conscience.

3) AusYPAA banner is to be rotated to the next AusYPAA host committee

4) ICYPAA- We need to form a committee to setup putting forward a bid for ICYPAA, we need to get them to change the ICYPAA constitution.

- A bid needs to be put forward to get them to change the constitution
- Luke will take this on but would like someone from each committee to assist and represent the bid.
- Discussion that there should be a central fund for AusYPAA to put the bid forward was not carried because AusYPAA's constitution prohibits it having any funds or assets. However, if a state YPAA wanted to lead a bid, the other YPAAs would be happy to join.

5) The suggestion was put forward to include in the prudent reserve of each YPAA money to send 2 reps to each AusYPAA, - Proposal was endorsed by the committee to be at the discretion of each YPAA committee.

Closed with Serenity Prayer.