

San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of  
Overeaters Anonymous, Inc.  
(Intergroup #09013)

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# Bylaws

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## **PREAMBLE**

### **GENERAL WARRANTIES**

In all its proceedings, the San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. (“SJVI” or “Intergroup”), shall oversee the spirit of the tradition of Overeaters Anonymous (“OA”), taking care that the Intergroup never becomes the seat of wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the members of its Executive Board (“SJVI Board”) shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no committee action ever be personally punitive, or intentionally incite public controversy; that, though the SJVI Board may act for the service of OA groups in the San Joaquin Valley and obey and comply with all applicable federal and California laws, it shall never perform any acts of government in contravention of the Twelve Traditions, and that, like the society of Overeaters Anonymous, the SJVI Board itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

*(This Preamble is adopted from the Third Legacy Manual of AA World Services and AA Co-Founder Bill W’s Twelve Concepts for World Service, as adopted by the AA General Service Conference on April 26, 1962. This adaptation of copyrighted AA material has been approved by the General Service Board of AA.)*

### **ARTICLE I – NAME OF CORPORATION**

The name of this corporation shall be San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. It is incorporated in the State of California as a non-profit public benefit corporation under California Corporations Code Section 5210 et seq.

### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE OF CORPORATION**

The primary purpose of San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, to be aware of and serve the needs of member meetings who form in our area, and to carry the message of Overeaters Anonymous to the compulsive eater who still suffers, by:

- A. Fostering the practice of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, as guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.

#### **The Twelve Steps**

1. We admitted we were powerless over food – that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

### **The Twelve Traditions**

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6. An OA group must never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprises, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every OA group must be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and other public media of communication.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

### **The Twelve Concepts of Service**

1. The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA world services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.
3. The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.
4. The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.
5. Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.
6. The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.
7. The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws, Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws, Subpart B.
8. The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the OA World Service Office.
9. Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.
10. Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of

efforts is avoided.

11. Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.
12. The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that:
  - a. no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power;
  - b. sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
  - c. no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
  - d. all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
  - e. no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
  - f. no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government, and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.

*(Permission to use the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous for adaptation granted by AA World Services, Inc.)*

- B. Management and/or administration of revenues associated with the continuing function of San Joaquin Valley Intergroup, including fund-raisers deemed necessary to finance said functions.
- C. To serve as a point of communication and unity for meetings that occur in our designated area.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERS**

### **Section 1 – Membership**

Membership of the Intergroup with voice and vote includes the following:

- A. The SJVI Board.
- B. Intergroup representatives (IRs), which consist of one (1) member from each group that is registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous, affiliated with this Intergroup, and has a geographical connection to the counties of Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tulare and Tuolumne of California. Visitors are welcome and are encouraged to participate in the discussion.
- C. World Service Business Conference delegates.
- D. Region 2 representatives.
- E. Committee chairs. (NOTE: A committee chair, like every other Intergroup member, will have only one (1) vote even if also serving as an IR.)

### **Section 2 – Qualifications**

- A. Qualifications for group membership in an intergroup: Groups registered with the World Service Office (WSO) that are within its region or geographic proximity may affiliate with an intergroup, except that virtual groups registered with the WSO may affiliate without regard to geographic proximity. Each intergroup has the autonomy to determine which groups may affiliate with it; that decision should always be guided by OA Traditions and Concepts.
- B. The intergroup SJVI endorses the definition of an OA group in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V, Section 1, as written and as it may be amended by a future World Service Business Conference.
  - a. These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:

- i. As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
  - ii. All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
  - iii. No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
  - iv. As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
  - v. It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.
- C. A group may be formed, as set forth in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 1, by two or more persons meeting together, either:
  - a. in the same physical location (face-to-face);
  - b. through some form of electronic device (virtually); or
  - c. both

### **Section 3 – Intergroup Representatives**

- A. Intergroup representatives (IRs) will be selected by the group conscience of the group they represent. Each IR shall be selected by any method deemed appropriate by their group. These IRs shall serve for a period designated by their group, always subject to recall by the group they represent. Each group shall be free to designate an alternate delegate when the necessity arises.
- B. The duty of the IR is to represent the group at SJVI meetings and to serve as a contact to carry communications between the SJVI and the represented group. If an IR does not have an email address, it is their responsibility to contact the SJVI secretary to coordinate the procurement of all printed communications such as minutes.
- C. Failure of an IR to attend two consecutive meetings of the SJVI may cause their position to be declared vacant. Action shall be at the discretion of the representative group.

### **ARTICLE IV – VOTING RIGHTS**

- A. Those voting members present at any meeting of the SJVI shall constitute a quorum for all proceedings of the SJVI. A simple majority shall govern for voting purposes unless otherwise specified in these bylaws.
- B. Voting shall be by a show of hands and/or voice vote unless otherwise specified by the chair, a judgment of group conscience, or another article of these bylaws.
- C. Each IR shall have a voice and one (1) vote.
- D. The SJVI vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, World Service Business Conference delegate(s), Region 2 representative(s), and committee chairs shall each have a voice and one (1) vote. No individual or group may have more than one (1) vote.
- E. The SJVI chair may vote only to make or break a tie or in case of a secret ballot.
- F. Any other member of the fellowship attending a meeting of SJVI shall have a voice but no vote.
- G. If an attendee is a SJVI Board member or committee chair, they may only have one (1) vote regardless if they are acting as an IR for their meeting. The one vote rule applies no matter how many positions an individual serves at SJVI.
- H. Votes held electronically via phone, computer, or other device will count as valid votes as long as all parties can hear the conversation.
- I. Any employee of SJVI shall have a voice but no vote.

### **ARTICLE V – REPRESENTATIVES' MEETINGS**

### **Section 1 – Regular Meetings**

The Intergroup will meet once monthly at a time and place designated by a majority of the voting members. If in accordance with group conscience, meetings may be rescheduled or cancelled due to holiday or other unforeseen circumstances. Notice of such meetings shall be given as is required by law.

### **Section 2 – Annual Meetings**

An annual meeting shall be held in the month of December for the election of officers. Consideration shall be given to select a month and day that is at least 70 days prior to the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) allowing adequate time for election of the WSBC delegate(s).

### **Section 3 – Special Meetings**

A special meeting may be called at any time by a majority vote of the SJVI Board, or by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Intergroup Representatives by giving notice as prescribed in Article V, Section 5.

### **Section 4 – Meetings by Virtual Conference**

Members of the Intergroup may participate in a meeting through use of electronic means, so long as all members participating in such meeting can hear one another and have a way to participate in any voting. Materials presented during the meeting shall be made available to those participating virtually. Participation by Intergroup members in a meeting in the manner provided in this Section constitutes presence in person at such meeting.

### **Section 5 – Method of Notification**

The Intergroup will provide at least 10 days notice to each member group.

### **Section 6 – Quorum**

Those voting members present physically or via electronic media at any SJVI meeting held upon proper notification shall constitute a quorum for all proceedings of the SJVI and a simple majority shall govern for voting purposes.

### **Section 7 – Meeting Procedure**

A minimum of that month's corresponding Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts shall be read at the beginning of each meeting (i.e. May will read the 5th Step, Tradition & Concept).

## **ARTICLE VI – SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY INTERGROUP BOARD**

### **Section 1 – The San Joaquin Valley Intergroup Board**

Subject to the limitations of the Articles of Incorporation, these bylaws and the laws of the State of California, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of this corporation shall be controlled by, the Executive Board, which shall be known as the San Joaquin Valley Intergroup Board ("SJVI Board"). These board members shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws.

- A. The SJVI Board shall consist of a chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, World Service Business Conference delegate(s), and Region 2 representative(s).
- B. The immediate past chair shall serve as an ex officio member of the SJVI Board for one year. Their duties shall be set by policy adopted by the SJVI and contained in the SJVI Board job descriptions. The regular term of office for a board position shall be two years.
- C. The SJVI Board shall serve as the Executive Board. Meetings of the SJVI Board shall be chaired by the chair of the board. In the event the chair of the board should be unable to attend any meeting of the Board, the vice chair will lead the meeting. In the event the vice chair is not available, the secretary will



open the meeting and hold an election for a temporary chair.

## **Section 2 – Nominations to the SJVI Board**

Nominations to the SJVI Board may be made from the floor at the time of election. Self-nomination is permitted. No second is required. A nominating committee may be formed at the discretion of the SJVI Board.

## **Section 3 – Qualifications for the SJVI Board**

- A. To qualify for election to the SJVI Board, a person must, at the time of his/her election, satisfy the following requirements:
  - a. Be practicing the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service to the best of his/her ability.
  - b. Have an active commitment to their current abstinence except as follows (each person shall be the sole judge of his/her abstinence):
    - i. World Service Business Conference delegates must comply with the abstinence and length of service requirements in the OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3(c)(1).
    - ii. Region representatives must comply with the abstinence and length of service requirements as required by Region 2 Bylaws, Article VI, B.
  - c. Be a regular member of an affiliated group.
- B. Persons elected are expected to attend monthly SJVI meetings as well as serve on committees.
- C. During his or her term as director, each board member of SJVI shall make a commitment of adherence to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts throughout the entire term of his or her office.

## **Section 4 – Election of SJVI Board Members**

- A. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election, usually held at the annual meeting specified for this purpose.
- B. To be eligible for election to the SJVI Board, nominees must:
  - a. Meet all qualifications as defined in Article VI, Section 3; and
  - b. Understand responsibilities of the position as defined in Article VI, Section 6, and as defined in the SJVI Board job descriptions.
- C. Nominees must be present at the election meeting either in person or via electronic media, and must receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.
- D. Voting will be by ballot unless a judgment of group conscience allows for a voice vote.

## **Section 5 – Term of Office**

- A. The term of office for a board member is two (2) years. Newly elected officers shall begin service at the SJVI meeting following their election.
- B. Board members may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position.
- C. A member may serve again after a leave of one (1) year from the previous position.
- D. Once elected, a board member may not serve concurrently as group representative at the Intergroup. The affected group shall elect a new Intergroup Representative.
- E. Should a vacancy occur on the SJVI Board, appropriate notice shall be given of a special election and such election shall be held at the first Intergroup meeting after notification of the vacancy and special election has been given. A special Intergroup meeting may be called for the purpose of holding a special election to fill a vacancy on the board.
  - a. If a vacancy occurs in the office of vice-chair, secretary, or treasurer, the chair may appoint an interim officer to fill such vacancy until the first opportunity for an election.

- b. If a vacancy occurs in the office of chair, the vice-chair shall act as chair until the first opportunity for an election.
- c. If needed, the SJVI Board may solicit individuals known to them or seek volunteers from the fellowship to become Region 2 representatives or World Service Business Conference delegates, provided that they meet the requirements, so that these positions are filled.

### **Section 6 – Responsibilities of the SJVI Board Members**

- A. Serve as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts with respect to the functions of the Intergroup. The officers specified in these bylaws shall have the following duties, although their duties shall not be limited to those enumerated herein:
  - a. Chair:
    - i. Shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the SJVI.
    - ii. Shall be a signatory on all SJVI accounts at financial institutions.
    - iii. Shall participate in generating an annual budget.
    - iv. Shall be responsible for establishing the agenda for all SJVI meetings.
    - v. May cast the deciding vote to make or break a tie.
    - vi. May participate in a ballot vote.
    - vii. Shall be an ex officio member on all standing committees.
    - viii. Shall not be designated to vote on behalf of a member group in accordance with Article IV, Item D, of these bylaws during their term as chair.
    - ix. Shall ensure that the general account of the SJVI be audited annually.
    - x. Shall submit SJVI bylaws to the Region 2 Trustee for approval and recognition that they are in agreement with the most current World Service Business Conference bylaws, thus allowing a World Service delegate to attend the WSBC.
    - xi. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in SJVI policies and procedures.
  - b. Vice Chair:
    - i. Shall serve and assume the duties of the chair in the absence of the chair.
    - ii. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the SJVI policies and procedures.
    - iii. May be a signatory on all SJVI accounts at financial institutions.
  - c. Secretary:
    - i. Shall see that accurate minutes and records, electronic where possible, are kept of all SJVI meetings and that a copy of the SJVI minutes is emailed to each Intergroup representative (or printed for those with no email access as per Article III, Section 3, Item B). As a cooperative gesture, an emailed copy of the minutes may be sent to the regional trustee.
    - ii. Shall maintain a file, electronic where possible, of all minutes of past meetings.
    - iii. Shall direct correspondence to the appropriate officer or committee chair and maintain a file, electronic where possible, of outgoing correspondence.
    - iv. Shall maintain or oversee the maintenance of the membership registry.
    - v. Shall distribute notices of all meetings of the SJVI as described in Article V, Section 5.
    - vi. May attend all standing committee meetings.
    - vii. Shall perform all other duties as prescribed in the SJVI policies and procedures.
  - d. Treasurer:
    - i. Shall be the custodian of all funds received and disbursed by SJVI.
    - ii. Shall be a signatory on all SJVI accounts at financial institutions.
    - iii. Shall participate in generating an annual budget.
    - iv. Shall make monthly financial reports at the SJVI meetings.
    - v. Shall verify the validity of all bills charged to SJVI and arrange for their payment.

- vi. Shall inform the delegates of member groups of SJVI's financial status when and if appropriate to do so.
- vii. Shall be responsible for all fiscal and income tax related matters and filings required by the State of California and Internal Revenue Service.
- viii. Shall serve as guardian of SJVI funds.
- ix. Shall participate in an annual financial audit.
- e. World Service Business Conference (WSBC) Delegate(s)
  - i. Shall attend the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
  - ii. Shall meet all qualifications and requirements as outlined and defined in the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3C.
  - iii. Shall serve Overeaters Anonymous and the World Service Business Conference until the following Conference.
  - iv. Shall serve no more than four (4) consecutive years.
  - v. Shall submit written report of the actions of the WSBC to SJVI and its member groups to foster awareness of World Service information.
  - vi. May attend all standing committee meetings.
  - vii. May be removed after two (2) consecutive and unexcused absences from the meetings of the SJVI.
- f. Region 2 Representative(s) (RR)
  - i. Shall attend all Region 2 Assembly meetings.
  - ii. Shall meet all qualifications and requirements as outlined in the Region 2 Bylaws.
  - iii. Shall have a strong commitment to abstinence and to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
  - iv. Shall serve Overeaters Anonymous and Region 2 for the full term as designated by the Region 2 Bylaws.
  - v. Shall serve no more than four (4) consecutive years.
  - vi. Shall submit written report of the actions of the Region 2 Assembly to SJVI and its member groups to foster awareness of regional information.
  - vii. May attend all standing committee meetings.
  - viii. May be removed after two (2) consecutive and unexcused absences from the meetings of the SJVI.
  - ix. May be removed due to the inability to attend the Region 2 Assembly as prepared. An alternate may be chosen at that time so as to have a liaison of communication between SJVI and Region 2 Assembly.
- B. The SJVI Board shall provide a means of conducting SJVI business in the case of emergencies and/or between meetings of the SJVI.

**Section 7 – Vacancies and Resignations**

- A. If the SJVI Board determines with just cause that an absent board member cannot continue, their board membership will be forfeited and special election will be held. This provision of the bylaws constitutes appropriate notice of this provision and no other notice need be given. The SJVI Board, by resolution, may adopt guidelines as to what constitutes just cause for the purposes of this Article. In the absence of any board resolution, just cause shall be determined according to applicable guidelines under state law.
- B. Any board member may resign at any time for any reason by giving the chair of the Intergroup written notice.
- C. Any board member may be removed from office for due cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the ballot cast at a regular or special meeting announced for that purpose.

- D. Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal of a member of the SJVI Board occur, all pertinent information shall be turned over to the SJVI chair.

### **Section 8 – Filling of Vacancies**

- A. Vacancies shall be filled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the next meeting or special meeting of the SJVI after the vacancy occurs. Such persons chosen to fill said vacancies shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- B. A person chosen to fill any vacancy on the SJVI Board shall meet the qualifications as defined in Article VI, Section 3, and be aware of all responsibilities of that position as described and defined in Article VI.

## **ARTICLE VII –COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1 – Standing Committees**

- A. Standing committees may be established as required to carry out the purposes of SJVI in the most effective and efficient manner. These may include but not be limited to:
  - a. Budget
  - b. Bylaws
  - c. Day in OA
  - d. Lending Library
  - e. Literature
  - f. Newsletter
  - g. Professional Outreach
  - h. Public Information
  - i. Retreat
  - j. Twelfth Step Within
  - k. Website
  - l. Other standing committees deemed necessary to carry on special SJVI work-

### **Section 2 – Special Committees**

The SJVI Board shall designate such special committees as are deemed necessary for the welfare and operation of the SJVI.

### **Section 3 – Committee Appointments**

The SJVI chair shall appoint committee chairs. Committees, with the exception of the budget committee, may be chaired by an IR, board member, or any OA member from a local group who desires to serve with approval of the majority of the members present and voting. The budget committee must be chaired by the SJVI chair or treasurer.

### **Section 4 – Committee Procedures**

Each standing or special committee shall be responsible for calling and holding meetings, and establishing its method of procedures, subject to the approval of the SJVI Board and the practice of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.

### **Section 5 – Committee Responsibility**

Any committee decision and/or vote which establishes or changes a policy, sets a procedural plan for a special event, or expends funds in excess of the approved budget, shall require approval by the SJVI prior to implementation. The literature committee chair shall submit an oral report to the SJVI monthly. Remaining

committee chairs shall submit an oral report to the SJVI, preferably monthly but at least quarterly and at the end of any specific event coordinated by that committee. If any monies are expended from an approved budget, a detailed, itemized, and written report shall be included with the committee report.

#### **Section 6 – Ex Officio Members**

- A. Past committee chair may serve in an ex officio capacity in their respective committees.
- B. The SJVI chair is an ex officio member of all committees.

#### **Section 7 – Committee Bank Account**

If it is deemed necessary by the SJVI Board that a committee shall open a bank account, the following procedure shall be followed:

- A. The committee chair and the treasurer of the SJVI shall be cosigners on the account. Two signatures shall be required on all checks.
- B. The committee chair shall keep all financial records and shall present a detailed, itemized report of transactions to the SJVI no later than one (1) month following any event for which monies were expended or received.
- C. The committee chair shall arrange for an audit of the committee account during the final month of each year. The audit shall take place at the same time as the audit for the general account of the SJVI.

#### **Section 8 – Vacancies**

Should a vacancy, resignation, or removal of a committee chair occur, all pertinent information shall be turned over to the SJVI chair. The SJVI chair shall then appoint a new committee chair to serve the remainder of the term.

#### **Section 9 – Removal of Committee Chair**

A committee chair may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the SJVI Board. Removal will be based on unworthy conduct or non-attendance.

### **ARTICLE VIII – FINANCIAL STRUCTURE**

The activities of the San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., shall be financed primarily by the contributions of individuals affiliated with its member groups.

- A. The San Joaquin Valley Intergroup may accept donations from OA members conforming with the general practice of Overeaters Anonymous.
- B. Secondary source of income may be such occasional projects or activities as may be authorized by the SJVI according to Tradition Six.
- C. The maximum allowable bequest to the SJVI by OA members is to be limited to \$5,000.00.
- D. The acceptance of bequests or donations from any outside source is not allowed insofar as it conflicts with Tradition 7.
- E. SJVI shall not accept the responsibility of trusteeship or enter into the distribution or allocations of funds outside of its duties with respect to the San Joaquin Valley Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc.
- F. The SJVI treasurer will maintain a prudent reserve of six (6) months of expenses to cover expected operational needs. Excess funds will be donated to OA service bodies as determined by the SJVI.

### **ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

All SJVI meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except when in conflict with these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the member groups represented at any regular or special delegates' meeting provided that a copy of the proposed Amendment(s) has/have been submitted to each member by mail, e-mail, fax, or by hand at least twenty-one (21) days before the delegates' meeting at which action is to be taken on the proposed Amendment(s). Amendments to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA may only be made as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XIV, Section 1.

## **ARTICLE XI – MAJOR POLICY MATTERS**

The policies of the Overeaters Anonymous World Service Business Conference and Board of Trustees are adopted as the policies of Region 2 and the SJVI. Matters not so covered which relate to major policy affecting OA as a whole shall be referred to the Overeaters Anonymous World Service Board of Trustees. Matters which relate to policy affecting affiliated member groups shall be referred to the Intergroup at a regular or special meeting.

## **ARTICLE XII – BENEFITS AND DISSOLUTION**

### **Section 1 – Deregistration**

In order to deregister, an intergroup must submit a written notice to the World Service Office, region chair, and region trustee.

### **Section 2 – Disbursement of Remaining Funds**

When this Intergroup ceases operation and all debts have been paid, all remaining funds shall be distributed to other Overeaters Anonymous service bodies or the WSO in accordance with Tradition Six.

### **Section 3 – U.S. Non-profit with 501c (3) status**

- A) Upon the winding up and dissolution of this California non-profit public benefit corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous or to a non-profit fund, association, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or religious and/or scientific purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In accordance with Overeaters Anonymous Traditions, such non-profit fund, association, foundation or corporation should be either the OA World Service Office or another OA service body.
- B) No part of the net earnings of this association shall ever inure to be or be used for benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private person, except that the association shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payment and distribution in furtherance of the expressed purpose for which it was formed.