

## Ask-It-Basket Questions Spring Assembly 2021

1. How does one go about having a hybrid meeting? Are there AI-Anon rules? Do we post it as hybrid?

**Answer:**

- Hybrid: The group is meeting face-to-face and brings a laptop or some other device into the meeting so the electronic meeting can join with the face-to-face meeting
- Concurrent: The group is meeting face-to-face and separately meeting at the same day and time in a temporary electronic meeting

At present there are no specific requirements from World Service Office other than that the temporary electronic meeting must be at the same time on the same day as the physical meeting. There is no set time frame to remove the temporary electronic meeting. The only recommendations are:

1. The District Rep is informed of how the group is meeting, regardless of whether or not that is listed on the website i.e. website lists the temporary electronic meeting, but the face-to-face is not listed on the website
2. The Alternate Delegate is informed of how the group wishes to have their meeting listed on the website.
3. The group has only one Group Rep, Treasurer and Secretary
4. The group needs to include everyone in their business meetings and group consciences. This may mean a hybrid meeting so that all can attend
5. As our groups move back to face-to-face meetings, we need to firstly keep in mind our Traditions and Concepts, and statements from our closing. In the case of “minorities”, these are the most vulnerable to COVID-19 amongst our members and newcomers: These include Tradition 1 and Tradition 4, Concepts 3, 4 and 5 and the wording in the Suggested AI-Anon Closing: “Talk to each other, reason things out with someone else, but let there be no gossip or criticism of one another. Instead, let the understanding, love, and peace of the program grow in you one day at a time.”
6. The temporary electronic meetings apply to the COVID situation. There is no option at present from World Service Office for a meeting to meet face-to-face in the summer, and then suspend face-to-face meeting and instead meet electronically in the winter.

In our area we list the meetings on our website as follows:

**Red indicates meetings temporarily physically suspended due to COVID-19**

**Green indicates meetings with temporary replacement electronic meeting**

**Blue indicates meetings physically open and with a temporary replacement electronic meeting**

**Black indicates meetings that are physically open with no temporary electronic meeting**

It is up to the group conscience how they want their meeting listed on the website.

2. A while ago, our Group made an inquiry to our District Rep. and to our Delegate with regards to the following: Our Group now consists of many Members whose lives have been affected by someone else's ADDICTION, not just alcohol, but drug addiction, as well. More and more of the people joining our Group are living with the problems arising from someone's *addiction*, both alcohol and drugs. We asked if this changing landscape had been acknowledged and / or discussed at the WSO, and if the idea of changing the words alcoholism to addiction had ever been discussed. The response indicated that the process would be lengthy, as it would require a certain number of requests, would have to include all AFG's and would require 75% approval. We recognize that this would indeed be a daunting task! Therefore, instead of amending our existing literature, we wondered if it might be possible for WSO to create a new pamphlet that would welcome and embrace those who are being affected by someone else's addiction. Eg." Al-Anon is for Families & Friends of Alcoholics Who are also Drug Addicted". What would be the protocol to accomplish this?

**Answer**

The request can be passed on to the Area Literature Coordinator, or submitted directly to the World Service Office

3. With the elimination of travel and accommodation costs, holding our Committee Meetings and Area Assemblies virtually has resulted in extensive cost savings as well as time savings. It seems to be an efficient and effective way to hold our meetings. However, it is no substitute for face-to-face Fellowship! Has Area considered holding the majority of our meetings on-line with perhaps one of two Assemblies being held in a physical location? Or continuing to hold all meetings on line and holding a separate Fellowship Convention once a year, in a physical location?

**Answer**

At present all Assemblies and the Fall Committee meeting are to be face-to-face where possible. The Spring Committee meeting is an electronic meeting. As COVID restrictions change, and the needs of the Area change, this would be discussed at the appropriate Committee meeting prior to the Assembly.