

PROPOSED POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL AMENDMENTS

To be voted on at 8/3/2025 GPI Meeting

Key: ~~Text being removed~~ **Text being added** *Explanatory text, does not impact amendment*

1. Amendment 1: Address issue with Hybrid Meetings..... 1

1. Amendment 1: Address issue with Hybrid Meetings

FROM: Article I: Membership Qualifications for GPI, Section D: Groups and Tradition 4

Tradition 4 states that “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.” GPI does not involve itself with the operation of any individual group within GPI unless something which rises to the level of a tradition 4 violation is taking place.

1. Individual groups affiliated with GPI shall strive to adhere to the following in order to avoid negative impacts to OA as a whole:
 - a. Ensure that at least one person will be in attendance at each meeting so that newcomers do not arrive to an empty meeting
 - i. If this is not possible for one week or longer, notify the GPI Webmaster so that it can be posted on the GPI website, as well as the WSO website if appropriate
 - b. If meeting via Zoom, the group utilizes appropriate security features to protect group members from harassment
 - c. In the event that GPI learns of a group that is consistently not meeting the criteria in items (a) or (b), a member of GPI will:
 - i. If possible, attend the meeting as often as feasible and
 1. Point out the Strong Meeting Checklist at <https://oa.org/group-resources-list/strong-meeting-checklist/>
 2. Point out other meeting supports available to the group via oa.org
 3. If relevant, point out Zoom security training resources
 - ii. If attending the meeting is not possible, reach out to the contact person(s)
2. In the event that GPI learns of a group which has not been meeting for more than 30 days but still appears on the GPI or WSO meeting list, GPI will:
 - a. Contact the last known meeting contact(s) to find out the meeting’s status
 - i. If the meeting has dwindled down to one member, discuss options for either reviving or closing the meeting
 - ii. If it is unclear, explain that at least one person must attend the meeting each week if the meeting is to continue to appear on meeting lists
 1. If the contact person is temporarily unable to attend, the group can be listed as temporarily not meeting on both the GPI & WSO websites
 2. Once the contact person is again able to attend, the group is re-activated
 - iii. It is not acceptable for a contact person to only attend when a newcomer or someone else has reached out beforehand to indicate that they will attend
 1. Not everyone calls before attending a meeting
 2. Arriving to an empty room, telephone line or Zoom meeting is very discouraging for newcomers as well as returning members, and impacts OA as a whole
 - b. If after discussion no resolution has been reached - i.e. the meeting contact refuses to attend the meeting regularly, take any action to strengthen the meeting and attract other members, yet refuses to close the meeting - GPI will instruct the webmaster to remove it from the GPI meeting list and formally close it with WSO

TO: Article I: Membership Qualifications for GPI, Section D: Groups and Tradition 4

Tradition 4 states that “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.” GPI does not involve itself with the operation of any individual group within GPI unless something which rises to the level of a tradition 4 violation is taking place.

1. Individual groups affiliated with GPI shall strive to adhere to the following in order to avoid negative impacts to OA as a whole:
 - a. Ensure that at least one person will be in attendance at each meeting so that newcomers do not arrive at an empty meeting
 - i. ***In the case of a Hybrid meeting, that means that at least one person must be in attendance at both the Face to Face meeting, and someone must be at the Face to Face location with a device to connect with the Zoom or Telephone portion of the Hybrid meeting***
 - ii. If this is not possible for one week or longer, notify the GPI Webmaster so that it can be posted on the GPI website, as well as the WSO website if appropriate
 - b. If meeting via Zoom, the group utilizes appropriate security features ***a Zoomhost*** to protect group members from harassment
 - i. ***In the case of a Hybrid meeting, that means that at least one group member must be in attendance at the Zoom meeting as a Zoomhost***
 - c. In the event that GPI learns of a group that is consistently not meeting the criteria in items (a) or (b), a member of GPI will:
 - i. If possible, attend the meeting as often as feasible and
 1. Point out the Strong Meeting Checklist at <https://oa.org/group-resources-list/strong-meeting-checklist/>
 2. Point out other meeting supports available to the group via oa.org
 3. If relevant, point out Zoom security training resources
 4. ***In the case of a Hybrid meeting, point out that the group has the option of becoming a purely Face to Face meeting, purely Zoom, or purely Telephone, as per a group conscience decision.***
 - ii. If attending the meeting is not possible, reach out to the contact person(s)
2. In the event that GPI learns of a group which has not been meeting ***the criteria above in number 1a or 1b above*** for more than 30 days but still appears on the GPI or WSO meeting list, GPI will:
 - a. ***In the case of a group not meeting (1a)***, contact the last known meeting contact(s) to find out the meeting’s status
 - i. If the meeting has dwindled down to one member, discuss options for either reviving or closing the meeting
 - ii. If it is unclear, explain that at least one person must attend the meeting each week if the meeting is to continue to appear on meeting lists
 1. If the contact person is temporarily unable to attend, the group can be listed as temporarily not meeting on both the GPI & WSO websites
 2. Once the contact person is again able to attend, the group is re-activated
 - iii. It is not acceptable for a contact person to only attend when a newcomer or someone else has reached out beforehand to indicate that they will attend
 1. Not everyone calls before attending a meeting
 2. Arriving to an empty room, telephone line or Zoom meeting is very discouraging for newcomers as well as returning members, and impacts OA as a whole
 - iv. If after discussion no resolution has been reached - i.e. the meeting contact refuses to attend the meeting regularly, take any action to strengthen the meeting and attract other members, yet refuses to close the meeting – GPI will instruct the webmaster to remove it from the GPI meeting list and formally close it with WSO

1. *In the case of a Hybrid meeting, if after discussion no resolution has been reached - i.e. the meeting refuses to provide consistent access to either the Face to Face, Zoom or Telephone portion of the meeting, yet refuses to close the Hybrid portion of the meeting which they are not willing to consistently support - GPI will instruct the webmaster to remove the offending portion from the GPI meeting list, list the meeting as a purely Face to Face, purely Zoom, or purely Telephone meeting, and formally close the offending portion with WSO*
- b. *In the case of a meeting not using a Zoomhost (1b), contact someone from the meeting*
 - i. If it is unclear, explain that *a Zoomhost is required to protect members from harassment*
 1. *Again point out Zoom security training resources*
 - ii. *In the case of a Hybrid meeting, again point out that the group has the option of becoming a purely Face to Face meeting as per a group conscience decision*
 - iii. If after discussion no resolution has been reached - i.e. the meeting ~~contact~~ refuses to *utilize a Zoomhost* ~~attend the meeting regularly, take any action to strengthen the meeting and attract other members, yet refuses to close the meeting -~~ GPI will instruct the webmaster to remove it from the GPI meeting list and formally close *the Zoom meeting* with WSO
 1. *In the case of a Hybrid meeting, if after discussion no resolution has been reached - i.e. the meeting refuses to utilize a Zoomhost or become a purely Face to Face meeting - GPI will instruct the webmaster to remove the Zoom portion from the GPI meeting list, list the meeting as purely a Face to Face to meeting, and formally close the Zoom portion with WSO*

Rationale for change: To ensure that people who attend via Zoom or Telephone at Hybrid meetings have consistent and secure access to meetings just as they would for Face to Face meetings.
