

California Mid-State Region

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

MEMBER

(R.C.M.)

ORIENTATION PACKET

This packet was created as an informational resource to help RCMs more effectively serve their Areas. It is not meant to be the final word or complete description of their duties but merely a suggested guide and should not override any group/area autonomy. We hope that this will be an inspiration to more effectively serve in the RCM position.

Regional Committee Members (RCMs)

Regional committee members are just that: They serve as the core of the regional service Committee bringing reports from their Area Service Committee (ASC), discussing matters brought up in our region, vote on motions, and bring back the information from the Regional Service Committee (RSC) to the ASC.

RCMs keep their areas in touch with the larger world of NA by providing information on activities in neighboring areas and important issues being discussed at various levels of service.

Both the region and its areas depend on RCMs to be well-versed in NA service practices and principles. RCMs should be closely acquainted with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, the fundamentals of service in our fellowship. Familiarity with all published service manuals and bulletins puts the resources of the whole fellowship at the RCM's fingertips.

RCMs should carefully study the reports from their own areas' groups, officers, and subcommittee chairs so that they can pass their areas' experience on to others at the regional meeting. RCMs will be more effective contacts between their areas and the regional committee if they take time to talk personally with

other participants in their area committees. That way, they can get a better idea of what needs and concerns the regional committee should address.

Regional committee members serve one to two year terms depending on their ASC. Most areas have an RCM and RCMA (alternate) serving at any one time.

RCM Orientation Sheet

What is a RCM ?

- A trusted servant of their Area.
- The voice of their Area at the Regional Service Committee. (RSC)
- The voice of Region at their Area.
- The financial link between their Area and the Regional Service Committee.
- The Area's main source of information about service, activities, and events.
- The Area's source of information on how to get involved in Regional service work.
- An important source of information for the Area about the traditions, area guidelines and the 12 concepts.

How do they do it?

- Attend their home group meeting regularly.
- Attend their entire ASC meeting monthly.
- Attend the entire RSC meeting monthly.
- Report to the RSC the Area status, events, donation, problems, and concerns.
- Bring issues from the RSC to the Area for an Area conscience and report back to the RSC.
- Learn about the subcommittees of the RSC.
- What types of subcommittees there are?
- What do these subcommittees do?
- When do they meet?
- Who may attend?
- Which subcommittees need support?
- Learn what the RSC, Zonal Forums (WSZF Western States Zonal Forum), WSC (World Service Conference), and WSLD (Western Service Learning Days).
- Study the Guide to Local Service and the RSC guidelines.

Qualifications for a RCM

- Is an addict.
- Attends the Area they represent.
- Has a willingness to serve.
- Meets the clean time requirement when applicable.
- Has knowledge of the service structure of NA or the willingness to learn it.
- Has an understanding of or the willingness to learn the duties of a RCM.

How does an Area take care of its business?

- By applying the Twelve Traditions to all its affairs.
- By holding an Area Service Committee (ASC) meeting monthly.
- By area conscience.
- By holding elections of trusted servant positions as needed with prior notice if possible.
- By sending their RCM or Alternate RCM to the RSC monthly.

Should a RCM hold more than one group office?

- It is suggested that members hold only one service position in their area.
- As many members as possible need to be involved in service, it is an important part of recovery!

How does an area communicate concerns to the RCM?

- The area or any member may bring concerns to the RCMs attention at the area meeting.

What about RCM reports? How often?

-Usually RCMs make one report to the area at the monthly ASC meeting.
They also make a report for the monthly RSC meeting.

What about ad-hoc committees?

-Sometimes ad-hoc committees are formed to take care of area or subcommittees special business. They meet outside of the regular meeting time, usually just before or after.

What is a area conscience?

- Groups enjoined to conform to our primary purpose.
- An informed vote taken by the area as a whole.
- An expression of God's will.
- Is best for the area as a whole.
- Is the practice of placing principles before personalities (Tradition 12)

How much notice should there be before a new RCM or Alternate RCM is elected?

-At least one month notice should be given before the planned election. Or what is applicable for their ASC.

How does the Regional donation get from the Area to the Region?

-The area decides at their regular monthly ASC meeting if and how much of a donation they can make to the RSC. A check or money is prepared and sent with the RCM or Alternate to the regular monthly RSC meeting.

What should an R.C.M. report include? (ASC)

- Number of Areas that attended the RSC.
- All open positions at the RSC.
- Information about RSC sub-committees.
- Time and place for the next RSC meeting.
- Regional events, i.e. Regional Assembly, Conventions, PI H&I presentations, Zonal Forums, CAR Workshop etc.
- When the Regional Elections are held.
- Contents of major/discussions concerns at the RSC.
- Any other information regarded as important by the R.C.M.s conscience.
- Events happening in other Areas.
- Events happening around the world. Usually found within the Regional Delegate report.
- Area events, i.e. Learning days, picnics, campouts, sporting events, conventions etc.
- Their donation (if any), problems and concerns.
- The announcements of the status of their area positions.
- Any new groups that have joined their Area.

NEW RCM'S:

Ask questions if you don't understand or nor familiar with RSC business. Simply raise your hand. RCM's have a vote at the RSC. Money matters cannot be done without a quorum – how many ASC's RCM's are in attendance and how many are not in attendance will have to meet the threshold. It's important that RCM's show up at the RSC meeting monthly to ensure voting on all RSC matters.

The administration body consists of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Regional Delegate, Regional Delegate Alternate (Delegate Team), Webservant, Webservant Alt, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, RIC (Regional Information Coordinator) and RICA (alternate). In attendance should be the Convention Chair and Vice Chair during convention cycles. The administrative body does not have a vote and should not influence yours from your Area. There will be times of deep discussion and disagreements but we always allow spiritual principles to intercede and work out problems.

