

DELEGATES

Each district elects two Delegates and an alternate(s) whose primary responsibility is to represent the conscience of the district's groups to MA World Services. The Third Legacy Procedure (Chapter 20) should be used to elect Delegates. Delegates should be elected at least 90 days prior to the Conference to allow them sufficient time to become familiar with the Conference Agenda. Outgoing Delegates may serve as "service sponsors" to the incoming Delegates. The Delegate's primary responsibility is to attend the MAWS Conference and vote on all matters that are to be decided according to the conscience of the district's groups. The Delegate votes on policies affecting MA as a whole, and participates in the selection of Trustees and Service Committee chairs. The Delegate also serves as a voting member in the nonprofit corporation, MAWS, Inc., and as such must meet all legal requirements as stated in the Bylaws of MAWS, Inc., including the sobriety requirements stated in Article V (Chapter 28, p 82). The Delegate thus participates in decisions that are necessary for carrying out the business and legal affairs of MA.

The Delegate has an important responsibility to report the conscience of the groups for which he or she speaks. An essential part of the service of the Delegate is to attend the MAWS World Conference. The Delegate should be prepared to work in a cooperative and helpful manner over long hours and sometimes trying circumstances.

The Delegate should forever strive to place principles before personalities. He or she ought to listen carefully and respectfully to differing opinions and tolerate fairness of debate. The Delegate should seek to streamline and further the fair decision-making process, and seek to avoid unnecessary disruption of the process of debate and decision. The debate and decision process involving scores of Delegates meeting in a short period of time can be confusing and difficult. MA has adopted an abbreviated and modified set of rules based on Robert's Rules of Order (Chapter 16). The Delegate should read and understand these rules and be prepared to follow them.

Delegates should strive to avoid issues of personality and prestige. Our Third Legacy (Chapter 20) procedure is designed to remove issues of politics and prestige from the process of selecting persons to serve in service positions such as Trustee or Delegate. The Delegate should seek to avoid engaging in a campaign or political process, and should seek to avoid ego and disappointment concerning the Delegate's own role in the MA service structure. After the Conference, the Delegate returns home to report on the Conference. This is an important step in preserving the unity of MA as a whole. At least one Delegate should attend each DSC Meeting to assure that all members have an opportunity to know what is being done at the MAWS level to further the purposes of MA. The Delegate should provide a copy of the final Conference report to the district and the district should make this report available to all members. Regular communication with the groups' GSRs helps assure that the Delegate is speaking for the groups. When the Delegate casts a vote at the Conference, he or she should have in mind that this decision must soon be explained back home. This is an essential part of the democratic process. During the year, the Delegate's responsibilities include ensuring that their District provides an updated meeting schedule to the Office Manager of MAWS on a quarterly basis and serving as the Convention liaison between their district and the host district(s). Also, Delegates may need to be polled between MAWS Conferences in accordance with Article 9 of the Conference Charter (Chapter 26). The Delegate should provide Trustee call minutes and MAWS financial reports to the District Service

Committee on a regular basis. The Delegate's term of office is one year. A Delegate may serve no more than two consecutive terms. The suggested clean and sober time to serve as a Delegate is one year. "Clean and sober" is defined as abstinence from marijuana and all mind altering substances including alcohol.

CONFERENCE DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Report the group's and district's conscience to MAWS in setting the Conference agenda by a date that is 90 days prior to the Conference and at the Conference.
2. Voting member at MAWS Conference.
3. Present report on status of their district and meetings at the Conference.
4. Report Conference information to meetings and district at DSC meetings.
5. Report minutes from quarterly trustee meetings at DSC meetings.
6. Report quarterly MAWS financial statement at DSC meetings.
7. Liaison for district to annual Convention.
8. Inform MAWS Office Manager of meeting changes.
9. Find persons in districts to answer #800 line when it is their district's turn.
10. Be available to be polled during the year.
11. Be service sponsor to next year's delegates informing them of their duties and what to expect at the conference.
12. Be liaison between MAWS Treasurer and District Treasurer