

General Service Conference Submissions Solution (GSCSS) Ad Hoc Committee has met for 7 months, and we were considering solutions to allow Area 72 General Service Representatives to fully participate in the Conference process, contributing to the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Background:

See the attached document for information on the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) and the Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) submission form and why it caused the submission date to change.

Currently, GSRs attend 1 voting assembly annually, which is after the deadline of September 15th.

Area 72 has had 43 motions concerning General Service Conference action in our history, 21 of them were passed by GSRs for submission to the Conference.

Effective, actionable agenda items must be submitted by the September 15th cutoff date.

Summary:

We started by gathering all the ideas and solutions proposed by different sources, including past ad hoc committees, research findings, and input from past and present delegates. In our research, we reviewed past ad hoc committees' data going back to 1992 including having a 2nd Assembly. Due to that research, this committee did not feel it was a direction Area 72 wanted to go. We explored what other areas in the Pacific Region are doing in relation to the issues or challenges being addressed. This provided valuable benchmarking information and helped identify innovative approaches. We summarized information from the 73rd Annual Conference Final Report and data gathered from other regional Delegate Areas about their Assembly schedule. We engaged with past and current Delegates to gather their perspectives, insights, and experiences. Their input provided us with valuable context and helped ensure that our recommendation was informed by a diverse range of experiences and viewpoints.

Committee's Recommendation:

Through the committee's research, we reached a consensus about the following recommendation,

- **Shift Dates of Area Committee Meetings and Assembly.**
 - **January Quarterly: No change.**
 - **April Quarterly: Shifted to March (consideration to avoid conflict with PRAASA)**
 - **July Quarterly: Shifted to June (consideration to avoid conflict with PNC)**
 - **October Area Assembly: Shifted to September (consideration to avoid Labor Day Weekend)**

Ideas Explored:

- **2nd assembly (In person or virtual) This idea had been explored before, so this committee did not move forward with this idea.**

Pros	Cons
Another opportunity for GSRs to meet others in the area - elected, appointed, and past delegates	Logistics – another ad hoc committee found that many area members were not in favor
More people would attend	What if there were technical difficulties
Lower cost (virtual option)	In-person fellowship opportunities are not possible (virtual option)
Opportunity for districts that don't have the physical infrastructure to host (virtual option)	What about getting everyone's questions heard and answered (virtual option)

- **Switch assembly to July and have a Quarterly in October**

Pros	Cons
Wouldn't change the schedule (on current quarterly schedule)	Committed for several years to contracts/reservations
Would give more time at the last quarterly to discuss topics from the assembly that may come up	More people are traveling in the summer. Could affect attendance
More time to wind down from the years business	Hotels/facilities are more expensive during peak season
More time for rotating in chairs to take it all in before a lot of work started	Less time to prepare for the assembly after the GSC and Delegate report backs
Turn this into a report back for the delegate	Conflicts with Regional Forums, International Convention, and 4 th of July

- **Mini assembly – to talk and vote on GSC items.**

Pros	Cons
Could be a hybrid event which would be beneficial as far as cost (travel, hotel)	Would depend on timing
GSRs are more involved throughout the year	Could increase costs for GSRs to participate
	Additional workload for Area Committee Members

- **Use July Quarterly to vote on GSC items.**

Pros	Cons
We would get agenda items in on time	Many people take vacations in the summer
We wouldn't have to change the schedule for Area 72	Not as many GSRs come to quarterlies usually.
Won't add any extra expenses	It would add more time to the schedule that exists already for quarterly business.
	Since the conference structure explanation, this is not a great idea.
	GSR would not have a vote on the agenda item

- **Use the Pre-Assembly or Pre-Conference to vote on GSC items.**

Pros	Cons
We wouldn't have to change the schedule for Area 72	We have to be together in order to have an assembly vote. We can't have a vote if we're all separate
GSRs are already involved with these events	There's no unity if we're in 4 or more different places
	Too much information at once

- **Move Area 72 annual assembly to September.**

Pros	Cons
This option has the least impact on our overall calendar	Puts more pressure on Area Chair and DCMs for Pre-Assemblies
The cost to groups would be very similar as it's the same season	Burnout potential with pre-assemblies in August and then Assembly in September

Potential moving of contracts should be more manageable as it's in the same season and year	Barrier to service if basically summer months are taken for two years
The Area should have all the information from the previous GSC and two GSB reports to help inform a group conscience	

Members of the committee included:

Eddy M-M. – Area 72 Alt Chair

Maryland N. – Area 72 Archivist

Geene D. – Area 72 Panel 71 Past Delegate

Aimee B. – Area 72 DCM District 3

Frank M. – Area 72 DCM District 25

Dina M. - Area 72 DCM District 46

Lisa J. – Area 72 DCM District 24

Committee had support and assistance by:

Crystal S. – Area 72 Delegate

Lupita YM. – Area 72 Chair