

NEW BEGINNINGS GUIDELINE ON MEMBERSHIP

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PLEASE NOTE: This document is referenced in Article #4 of the by-laws and pertains to Article #5, which is policy regarding membership at New Beginnings Inc., in Runnemede, NJ.

SECTION #1 – QUALIFICATIONS

Membership in this organization shall be open to any person who is associated with any twelve-step group and has attained one month of continuous recovery.

SECTION #2 – PRIVILEGES

- Every member in good standing has the right to enter the premises whenever it is open and during regular business hours governed by established and posted rules.
- After thirty days of continuous sobriety, anyone using the facility is eligible to become a member.
- Only members whose dues are paid up to date are entitled to privileges. All others will be asked to leave until fifteen minutes before a scheduled meeting and then after fifteen minutes following a scheduled meeting.
- All officers are given the combination to the top lock. Any member with one year of continuous recovery and one year as a member in good standing may request the combination. At the business meeting following the request, the governing officers will vote on the request in private at the beginning of the meeting. A quorum of 3 officers must be present to vote, and the vote must be unanimous to pass.
- After three years of continuous recovery in any twelve step group and one year of continuous membership in this organization, a member shall then have the right to be elected as an Officer of this organization.
- Each member that is in good standing, trustees, and guests invited by the Chairperson shall have the right to be heard in any membership meeting.

SECTION #3 – PRIVILEGES

- Members and guests are expected to be housekeepers by using waste receptacles and cleaning up after themselves. All members are to assist officers or committee personnel if asked, in the housecleaning process.
- Every member has the responsibility to inform individuals about the House Rules where applicable and when appropriate.
- Any member bringing a guest is responsible for his or her behavior.
- Children of members are to be supervised at all times.
- Members of this organization are expected to work for the best interest of the organization and have respect for one another.
- Every member is expected to comply with the rules and regulations established by the governing officers and its members.
- Every member is expected to reflect respect upon the organization.
- Any member who possesses either the key or combination to the door is obligated upon opening to:
 - (a) Clean-up the club and meeting areas.
 - (b) Replenish the coffee supplies in the club and meeting area.
 - (c) Empty all trash cans that are full.
 - (d) Lock the facility if there is no key holder present upon leaving.

SECTION #4 – RESTRICTIONS

- No person(s) shall be permitted on the premises should they have upon them alcohol, drugs or anything producing the effect.
- No person shall be permitted on the premises after business hours unless they are conducting Chairperson approved club business. Sleeping on the premises is never allowed regardless of the time.
- Conduct other than generally accepted standards of common decency will not be tolerated.
- Use of profanity and abusive language is inappropriate and will not be tolerated.
- Any solicitation for personal gain or for any purpose unrelated to our organization and not in accordance with the traditions is prohibited.
- Malicious damaging of this facilities' property will cancel membership and privileges.
- Anyone in violation of this organization's by-laws or house rules will be subject to loss of membership and/or privileges.
- This organization is not responsible for lost or stolen items. We suggest that each individual safeguards their personal property and does not leave such items unattended.
- No member shall have the right to interfere with the business activities of the duly elected officers, board of directors or any committees thereby.
- **SECTION #4– RESTRICTIONS**

SECTION #5 – MONTHLY DUES

- All members pay a monthly fee of \$10.00. If a member pays the entire year's upcoming dues by January 15th, one month's dues are discounted, making the costs \$110.00.
- Any former member of this association may renew his or her membership after achieving one month of continuous recovery with a minimum payment of one month's dues.
- All dues are due on the first day of the month. Any member, whose dues are not paid by the tenth day of the month, is considered delinquent. A member whose dues are delinquent is not in good standing and shall lose voting privileges until their dues are current.
- Any member whose dues are delinquent ninety days can be reinstated but loses voting privileges for ninety days. Any new member must have ninety days of continuous membership in order to vote.
- Reasonable voluntary donation exceeding these dues amounts may be made.

SECTION #6 – DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS & GRIEVANCES

- Any member in violation of these rules may be subject to suspension or permanent ban as deemed judicious by the governing board.
- The beginning of the monthly business meeting will exclude the membership in cases involving disciplinary action.
- Any member facing disciplinary action has the right to be heard at the monthly business meeting. The only exception being in cases where the person cannot restrain themselves or act appropriately.
- Any grievances shall be presented in writing to the Chairperson. The grievance will then be presented to the Club Officers for consideration.

SECTION #7 – HOUSE RULES

PLEASE NOTE: These house rules will be posted in a conspicuous location and are to be followed. It is everyone's obligation to enforce these.

- Absolutely no gambling is allowed.
- Please watch your profanity.
- Violence or harassment will not be tolerated.
- We are not responsible for lost or stolen goods.
- Please clean-up after yourself.
- Anyone stealing or defacing property will be prosecuted.
- Anyone, without exception, with less than a year sober has to be in the meeting. Non-members must always be in the meeting and leave the premises following the meeting.

SECTION #8 – MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

The regular monthly business meeting shall be held on the first Sunday of the month at 7:00 pm. On occasions where a member is to be given aid, discipline or when a grievance letter is to be considered, the meeting will start without the membership. Any motion made by the general membership in excess of \$500.00 in value or an issue which directly affected the organization in general will be tabled until the officers review the motion, notifies all members in good standing by public notice, and submits any recommendation at the next monthly business meeting. A quorum of 80% of the officers must be present in order to hold the business meeting.

