MEMORANDUM

TO: Conference Members
FROM: Executive Director
DATE: August 24, 2010
RE: Criteria for meeting schedules/delisting groups

The WSO was asked at the 2006 WSC to send a copy of questions it receives from Conference members and our responses to all Conference members so that they can share leadership by responding to recurring questions in their Areas. The WSO believes that the following question and our response might be one of those topics.

Question: Can an Area/AIS/district take a meeting off their local meeting list?

Answer: It is within the autonomy of a service arm to establish specific criteria for listing local groups on their meeting schedule, and to maintain the meeting schedule according to those criteria. For example, many districts/AISs don't list meetings on local meeting schedules until they have registered with WSO and with the Area.

Here are some important points for service arms in such situations:
- All groups must be treated equally and be subject to the same criteria
- Criteria must be related to activities and practices at the group meetings, not to the actions of individual members outside of the meetings
- If a group is determined not to meet the criteria, the service arm should let them know what steps the group needs to take to remain on the meeting schedule
- If a group is taken off the schedule, it remains an Al-Anon group; trusted servants from the group (GR, ISR, etc.) should be encouraged to attend and participate in service meetings
- The goal is to include all Al-Anon groups in the Al-Anon community, to encourage participation, and educate members on the Traditions and Al-Anon principles

The WSO is a resource to all members and groups, but not an arbiter or court system. In keeping with Concept Five, a minority appeal regarding delisting of a group would be made to the service arm that made the decision to delist it. The WSO's role in such matters is to continue to encourage the parties involved to communicate with one another until they reach a common solution. Please see **Concept Five** descriptive text in the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* for additional information.