Better Late Than Never Group of Narcotics Anonymous

Meeting Format – Revised December 2020

Please read and understand the 'Chairperson's Responsibilities Guidelines'

Please do not read what is typed in Blue Italics

Chairperson may appoint a greeter to welcome people starting 15 mins before the meeting

Good [afternoon / evening] and welcome to the Better Late Than Never meeting of Narcotics Anonymous. My name is _____ and I am an addict. Let's begin this meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Moment of Silence

Serenity Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Open Meeting: This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous.

Closed Meeting: This is a closed meeting of Narcotics Anonymous. Closed meetings are only for those who have a desire to stop using. If there are non-addicts visiting, we thank you for your interest in Narcotics Anonymous. Please ask a member after the meeting for a schedule of open meetings in our area.

Please put away all electronic devices and refrain from all other disruptive and distracting behaviors. Cross talk is not permitted. We appreciate you sharing, and we ask that you please share the time with others. If there are more than 12 people in a meeting, Group Conscience supports the use of a timer to encourage everyone to keep their sharing time under 4 minutes.

Chairperson should appoint a timekeeper, if needed

If you have used today, please just listen and talk with someone after the meeting.

Following is the NA Clarity Statement: We are presented with a dilemma; when NA members identify themselves as addicts and alcoholics, or talk about living clean and sober, the clarity of the NA message is blurred. To speak in this manner suggests that there are two diseases, that one drug is somehow separate from the rest, requiring special recognition. Narcotics Anonymous makes no distinction between drugs. Our identification as addicts is all-inclusive, which allows us to concentrate on our similarities, not our differences.

Halfway through the meeting I will pass the basket in accordance with our 7th Tradition which states, 'Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions'. The money we collect pays for rent, literature, and helps us carry the message to addicts who cannot come to meetings. If you don't have cash, we accept 7th Tradition contributions through the Venmo app to username 'BLTN Group'. If you have a paper to be signed, please place it in the basket and pick it up after the meeting.

We will now read our introductory literature. Out of respect for the readings, we kindly ask that you refrain from chanting or commenting during these readings so that we can focus on the message they deliver. Will someone please read:

1. Who is an Addict
2. What is the Narcotics Anonymous Program
3. Why Are We Here
4. How It Works
5. The 12 Traditions
6. We Do Recover

Not to embarrass anyone but so that we may get to know you better, is anyone here for their very first NA meeting? Is anyone visiting from out of town, just out of treatment, or back from a relapse who would like to introduce themselves to the group?

If no response: Welcome to all.

For a newcomer: Welcome! You are the most important person here because we can only keep what we have by giving it away.

Would anyone like a white booklet with telephone numbers?

Does anyone have a recovery related topic or a burning desire they would like to discuss? A burning desire is a fear that you might use if you don't speak up.

The chairperson should provide a topic unless the meeting is designated as a literature study or another format. The noon meeting topic is usually the day's Just for Today.

Five minutes before the meeting is scheduled to close, please announce:

Does anyone have a burning desire to speak? *Wait for any response*

If you don't want to share now, please talk to one of us after the meeting. We have come to the close of our meeting. I would like to thank everyone for attending.

Key Tags: We recognize various lengths of clean time in recovery with these key tags. Is anyone celebrating:

Multiple Years of Recovery	Black
18 Months	Gray
1 Year	Glow in the Dark
9 Months	Yellow
6 Months	Blue
90 Days	Red
60 Days	Green
30 Days	Orange
Just for Today	White

Would anyone like a white key tag symbolizing a desire to stay clean and try our way of life just for today?

If you are clean for today, raise your hand.

If you are clean for a year or more, keep your hand raised to show us that NA works.

If you are working the NA program and are willing to sponsor, please raise your hand.

Thank you sponsors.

Years and multiple years are celebrated on the last Friday of every month. When you have a year or multiple of years put your name on the board and come celebrate with us.

Are there any NA related announcements?

I would like to remind everyone of our 12th Tradition which states, "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities". Who you see here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here.

Will someone please read Just for Today, after which we will join in a circle and close with the Third Step Prayer.