**Meeting Opening**

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| ***Purpose*** | *To begin the meeting by providing information about the meeting format and guidelines* |
| ***Allotted Time*** | *2 to 3 minutes* |

**Suggested Script:**

“Gamblers Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others recover from a gambling problem. Welcome to the [weekday] closed meeting of Gamblers Anonymous. In a closed meeting, only those with a gambling problem, or those who think they may have a gambling problem, and a desire to stop gambling, may attend and participate. ”

“Is anyone attending G.A. for the first time?“

*[Confirm they have received a welcome packet]*

*[Ask them their first name and welcome them to the meeting]*

“I will now review the guidelines for participating in the meeting:

1. The only requirement to be a member of this fellowship is a desire to stop gambling.
2. Prior to reading or speaking, please introduce yourself by stating your first name.
3. ‘Cross-talking’ is discouraged; Cross-talk is interrupting, giving advice, or making comments directly to another member about their share. It is also talking to someone or making distracting noise during sharing time.
4. All comments should be related to the recovery of gambling addiction and should focus on our own experience.
5. Insensitive or offensive comments are not tolerated.
6. Be respectful of the time constraints of the meeting and limit sharing to 5 minutes or less depending on the number of members attending. Everyone should have an opportunity to share.”

“Just a reminder that Gamblers Anonymous is self-supporting through their own contributions if you would like to make a small donation.”

**Reading**

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| ***Purpose*** | *To read passages from the yellow Gamblers Anonymous combo book* |
| ***Allotted Time*** | *5 to 10 minutes, depending on size of group and length of meeting* |

**Suggested Script:**

“Before we begin the reading portion of our meeting, we will have a moment of silence for all those that could not be here, and those that are still out there suffering. Then we will read the ‘I Sought My Soul’ prayer on the inside cover of the yellow combo book.”

*[Hold a 15-20 second moment of silence, then start reading the prayer]*

*[Meeting Chairperson can choose which pages the group will read from the Combo Book. Suggested readings are:*

* *Pages 2 & 3 – Gamblers Anonymous Preamble*
* *Pages 4 through 7 – The 12 Steps & 12 Traditions*
* *Pages 15 & 16 – The 20 Questions*
* *Page 17 – How to Succeed in GA*
* *Page 14, Bottom – Definition of Gambling ]*

**Clean time / announcements**

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| ***Purpose*** | *To recognize clean time and provide local meeting information* |
| ***Allotted Time*** | *5 to 10 minutes, depending on number of anniversaries* |

**Suggested Script:**

“We will now recognize Clean Time Anniversaries. Your Anniversary Date is the date of your first meeting after your last bet. Clean Time is the number of days that you have not gambled from your Anniversary Date. Is anyone celebrating 30 days? 60 days? 90 days? 6 months? 9 months? 1 year? Multiple years?”

*[Provide the appropriate keychain to any member celebrating 30 days to 9 months of clean time. Members celebrating 1 year or multiple years should receive the corresponding coin.]*

*[Ask any member celebrating an anniversary if they would like to share their experience or learnings with the group.]*

“We will now move on to Announcements. Does anyone have any announcements to share with the group?”

*[Various members can provide announcements on social activities, intergroup meetings, ISO Conferences, etc.]*

**PRESSING ISSUES / THERAPY**

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| ***Purpose*** | *To allow members to share their experience, strength and hope with each other* |
| ***Allotted Time*** | *30 to 90 minutes, depending on overall length of meeting* |

**Suggested Script:**

“Before we begin discussing the planned topic, does anyone have a pressing issue they would like to share? Pressing issues can be any topic that a member is currently struggling with and would like to share with the group.”

*[Allow members to share their pressing issues and provide other members the opportunity to share their experience if they can relate to the pressing issue.]*

*[Deliver topic of discussion. Topics should be related to the recovery from gambling addiction and may use G.A. literature or non-G.A. documents. If using non-G.A. documents, you must notify the group that the literature is not produced or affiliated with Gamblers Anonymous.]*

*[The chairperson’s role in leading a meeting is to facilitate sharing among members and should not monopolize the sharing time.]*