

GUIDELINE NO. GL- 38

AA GUIDELINE FOR SAFETY AT MEETINGS

Here are some helpful suggestions and reminders:

- Talk about issues of safety before they arise, have a procedure in place that has been agreed upon at group conscience.
- Safety is something each member attending an A.A. meeting can be mindful of in regards to the common welfare and unity of AA
- Communicate clearly what A.A. is and what it is not.
- Sponsorship plays an important role and sponsors can be helpful in pointing out warning signs or unhealthy situations to sponsees and newcomers.
- A.A. members who are concerned about the words or actions of a sponsor or another member, may find it helpful to speak to someone they trust, or bring it up at Group Conscience within their A.A. Home group
- Include “Safety and the A.A. Meeting Environment” as topics for a group inventory, Area Workshop or Regional Forum
- Consider developing group guidelines and procedures on safety, and if needed add to meeting format and read out when it is felt it is needed.
- IF NEEDED, Recommend that no one walk to a car alone but be accompanied by a trusted group member or leave the venue in the company of other members.
- In all discussions about any member’s personal safety, keep the focus on our primary purpose, our common welfare, and place principles before personalities.
- IF the discussion gets heated, postpone until another date.