

Booth Sitting Guidelines updated on 5-31-15

1. The booth must be staffed at all times.
2. No eating, smoking, or vaping in or around the booth.
3. Keep drinks under the table.
4. Only scheduled volunteers should be sitting at booth.
5. Engage people in conversation about Narcotics Anonymous (avoid personal opinion).
6. Keep literature racks filled with IPs and Public Relations Directories (those directories with only helpline numbers).
7. Provide Little White Booklets, IPs and Regional Directories for those who request them.
8. Keep booth neat and clean at all times.
9. No laptops, tablets or cell phones should be used while behind the booth.
10. No selling of any books or literature. Direct them to the NA Regional or World website to make purchases.
11. Stay inside the booth.
12. Only Narcotics Anonymous literature is allowed inside of the booth. In the spirit of cooperation hand out Nar-Anon directories to friends and families of addicts. Nar-Anon directories should be kept behind the rack or under the table and not with NA literature.

Thank you for your service.

Booth Sitting Dress Code

1. No shirts with messages or logos should be worn, including NA memorabilia.
2. No NA jewelry of any kind.
3. All shirts and blouses must cover shoulders (No tanks or halter tops).
4. Dress shorts only (No bicycle, cutt-offs or very short shorts).
5. For indoor events, closed-toed shoes are required. For outdoor events, sandals are allowed.
6. No sweat pants.
7. No hats or sunglasses with the exception of outdoor events (No hats with logos).
8. Clothes should be in good repair.
9. Undergarments must be worn.
10. Tattoos should be covered as much as possible.
11. Be well groomed (See grooming statement from H&I Handbook).

The reason for items 1 and 2 are to prevent controversy within the fellowship. Differences of opinion can be avoided when all agree not to wear NA memorabilia.

Please remember that as a booth sitting volunteer you are also members of the Public Relations Committee. Please adhere to the dress code, as our public image is important in maintaining our on-going relationship with the community.

Suggested General Do's and Dont's

Do:

Do have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions.

Do dress conservatively and neatly.

Do use only the language of the Narcotics Anonymous program. Using drug specific words (or slang) or terms used in other fellowships will confuse your audience.

Do use our literature. The IP "What is the NA Program?" is a great resource.

Do bring WSO literature order forms when possible.

Don't:

Don't argue. Don't take a stand on issues such as AIDS, religion, politics or legislation. Carry a clear and simple message: "we have no opinions on outside issues".

Don't express any personal opinion that the audience may assume is NA's opinion.

Don't use profanity at all. Apologize immediately if you slip on this.

Don't work alone. Clear your assignment with the Area PR Committee. If you're new, you must work with an experienced member.

Don't get in over your head. It's ok to say, "I don't know". Politely take their number and offer to have the PR Chairperson contact them with the requested information.

Don't attempt to answer questions that are inappropriate, such as: "How can I tell if my kid is using drugs?", "How long does marijuana stay in your system?" or "Is cocaine more dangerous than heroin?".

Don't allow anyone to photograph or videotape any members of Narcotics Anonymous. Your anonymity is at stake. We are carrying the message, not representing Narcotics Anonymous.

Information to Remember **when Speaking to the Public**

There are several important aspects of our fellowship.

History of NA:

The world wide fellowship of NA was founded in 1953 in Los Angeles, California.

NA was founded by a group of addicts, and not a single founder.

The Basic Text was published in 1983.

There is over 65,000 meetings around the world.

We have nearly 150 meetings in the Orange County Area, and close to 1,500 meetings a week in the Southern California Region.

The Traditions and NA Unity:

Our common welfare- unity of the fellowship.

One ultimate authority- a loving God as we understand God. There are no leaders, only trusted servants.

There is only one requirement- the desire to stop using.

It doesn't matter how much or how little we have.

There is a therapeutic value in one addict helping another, it is without parallel.

Our primary purpose- carrying the message to the addict who still suffers.

We do not endorse any other organization or philosophy,

NA is a non-profit fellowship- we are self-supporting through our own contributions. We are non-professional, but we do employ special workers.

NA ought never be organized and our fellowship is one of a service structure- an inverted triangle with the members at the top. Our committees are responsible only to the members they serve.

NA has no opinion on outside issues. There are no pledges to sign. We are under no surveillance. We are not connected with any other organizations.

Anonymity is our spiritual foundation. We practice spiritual principles before individual personalities.

The Steps:

We are powerless over our addiction, not only a particular drug.

We learn to trust in a Higher Power of our own understanding (this is without any catches).

We take personal inventory, address defects of character, and make amends.

We continue to carry the message and practice the principles of NA in our daily lives.

Other Things Worth Mention:

Sponsorship

NA does not provide interventions, or participation in prevention activities.

There is no cure for addiction, but there is recovery from it.

The disease of addiction crosses all barriers.