

aaHG GROUP CONSCIENCE MOTION

Motion to Enable Zoom Chat Etiquette Tool for All AA Homegroup Meetings

Motion

I move that AA Homegroup enable Zoom's Chat Etiquette Tool for the in-meeting chat feature for all AA Homegroup meetings.

Further, I move that:

- 1 The Chat Etiquette Tool be configured to **Block the message** whenever it contains words or phrases identified in AA Homegroup's Chat Etiquette policies.
- 2 The list of blocked words and phrases be developed, maintained, and periodically reviewed by the AA Homegroup Safety Team based on patterns of Zoom bombing and disruptive behavior experienced by the group.
- 3 The AA Homegroup Safety Team be authorized to update the keyword list as needed to respond to emerging abuse without requiring additional group approval for each individual word.

Rationale

The in-meeting Zoom chat has become an important part of recovery for many alcoholics. Members use it to welcome newcomers, exchange phone numbers, share meeting information, encourage one another, post recovery resources, and connect with other alcoholics after meetings. For many members, particularly those who are homebound, traveling, or without strong local AA communities, the chat is an important extension of fellowship.

Unfortunately, our meetings have also experienced repeated Zoom bombing through the chat. Offensive, hateful, and intentionally disruptive messages distract from our primary purpose, interrupt meetings, and can create an unwelcoming environment for newcomers seeking help.

Rather than disabling chat entirely, the Zoom Chat Etiquette Tool allows AA Homegroup to preserve the benefits of chat while automatically blocking messages containing words or phrases commonly used by Zoom bombers before they ever appear in the meeting.

Alignment with the Traditions

Tradition One: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

Protecting the meeting from disruptive chat messages helps preserve a safe and unified environment where alcoholics can focus on recovery.

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose: to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Minimizing chat disruptions helps keep the meeting focused on carrying AA's message rather than responding to abusive interruptions.

Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

This policy applies equally to everyone. It is not directed at any individual member but instead establishes a consistent, objective safeguard that supports the welfare of the entire group.

Benefits

- Preserves the meeting chat, which many alcoholics rely on for fellowship and recovery.
- Automatically blocks many disruptive messages before they become visible.
- Reduces the impact of Zoom bombers without requiring immediate intervention from moderators.
- Creates a safer and more welcoming environment for newcomers.
- Allows the AA Homegroup Safety Team to maintain and improve the keyword list as new patterns of abuse emerge.

This motion seeks to preserve one of AA Homegroup's most valuable tools for fellowship while using technology already available through Zoom to better protect our meetings and support our primary purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.