

Convention/Area Relationship Task Force

Questions asked when researching what other Areas do:

Financial:

1. Regarding financial aspects, is your Area Convention part of your Area or does it operate separately/independently of the area?
2. Do you have a budget? Prudent Reserve?
3. How are excesses or liabilities handled?

Operational:

1. What is the purpose of your Area Convention?
2. How often is your Area Convention held?
3. How is your Convention Committee brought together – Election? Volunteer? Appointment? By whom? How long is the term?
4. Regarding Convention location, is it the same each year? Who chooses? When is it decided?
5. How often does your Convention Committee report to AWSC? What is in the report?
6. What works well? What are your challenges?

Accountability/Oversight:

1. Do you have a Go/No Go mechanism in place, conditions that need to be met at certain intervals to continue the planning of the Convention?
2. Who makes decisions about the Convention?
3. Are Convention Committee reports to AWSC approved or commented on?
4. How does your AWSC and/or Convention decision making work when there are conflicts?

- Can you share with us your written guidelines?
- Do you have any information you think would be helpful to us?

What key elements have we learned from researching what other Areas do?

- A mission statement offers purpose and direction.
- The size of the volunteer pool matters.
- Planning ahead using a 2-year cycle is very useful.
- There are different ways to handle finances but all Areas seem to have a clear path to how decisions are made and monies handled.
- Consistent communication, written and verbal, between the Convention and the Area is vital to success.
- Written guidelines keep responsibilities clear and avoid confusion.