

SAA of New York City



Meeting Script

Richmond Hill Tuesday, 7:15 pm

**RICHMOND HILL SAA
CLOSED TUESDAY MEN'S MEETING**

ISO Group No. NENY0032

Area 11

Makeup: Men
(This meeting is for men only)

Access: Closed

Open only to those who have a desire to stop their addictive sexual behavior. "Closed" means the meeting location will be printed in the directory and given out by the ISO office to anyone who seeks help, whether by phone, postal mail, or e-mail.

In-Person Location:

Holy Child Jesus Church
Meeting Room A
112-06 86th Ave.
Richmond Hill, Queens, NY 11418
718-847-1860
<http://www.holychildjesuschurch.org/>

Online Location:

NYC-SAA Zoom
Other Locations Meeting
Meeting Access: 517 350 140
Passcode: 1212
Zoom Host Key: *****
Dial-In via Phone: (346) 248-7799,,,517350140

Updated: April 22, 2025

Not Conference-Approved

Adapted by group conscience from
the *Group Guide: Handbook for SAA Groups*, p 11-39

RICHMOND HILL TUESDAY MEN'S MEETING
Agenda and Readings

A NOTE TO THE MEETING CHAIR

This text is the framework for the meeting agenda, as developed through the group conscience.

Keep in mind that it is **ONLY** a framework. The meeting is a living process, and group conscience has given **YOU** the privilege of guiding it.

Before the meeting begins, please remember to **ask for volunteers to read two (2) out of the following three (3) readings:**

- *What is SAA?*,
- *How It Works*, and
- *The 12 Traditions*.

Improvise as needed, be flexible, and **HAVE FUN!**

NOTE TO MEETING CHAIR ABOUT HOSTING ON ZOOM

It is recommended to make another person, with Zoom hosting experience, co-host of the meeting by pointing at their name in the participants list and choosing "Make Co- host." This will allow the meeting to continue in the event that your internet connection drops, and you are knocked out of Zoom.

It is also recommended to assign readings to volunteers before beginning. This allows the meeting to flow more smoothly.

Sections you see in this color are not part of the original script and have been added to help chairs run the meetings on Zoom.

7:15 P.M. – MEETING INTRODUCTION

Good evening. My name is _____ and I am a (recovering) sex addict. I would like to welcome you all to the Richmond Hill Tuesday Men's Group of Sex Addicts Anonymous.

If you are using Zoom online, a chat feature is available for fellows to post information relevant to the meeting.

Please join me in opening the meeting with the serenity prayer. (Remain seated)

I'll say it one line at a time, and everyone can repeat after me.

*"God, grant us the serenity, (everyone repeats)
to accept the things we cannot change, (everyone repeats)
the courage to change the things we can, (everyone repeats)
and the wisdom to know the difference (everyone repeats)"*

If you are not speaking, please keep yourself muted. During the meeting, I will call your name when it is time to read or share and you can unmute yourself with the unmute button or with *6 on the phone.

MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

"This meeting is open only to those seeking freedom from sex addiction. Please, no students, spouses or press."

OUR SOLUTION (Pick 2 out of 3)

I've asked _____ to read *What is SAA?*

I've asked _____ to read *How It Works*

I've asked _____ to read *The 12 Traditions of SAA*

[If you are online the handouts can be found at

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dTbtpB8ih4cwoYpZN9vYDoJTLNQ5tQA/view?usp=sharing>. [Copy & Paste URL in Zoom Chat or Share Your Screen]

What is S.A.A.?

[From the booklet *Getting Started in Sex Addicts Anonymous*, page 3]

- Sex Addicts Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other so that they may find freedom from addictive sexual behavior and help others recover from sexual addiction.
- The Third Tradition of SAA states: Membership is open to all who share a desire to stop addictive sexual behavior. There is no other requirement.
- Our common goals are to become sexually healthy and to help other sex addicts achieve freedom from compulsive sexual behavior
- SAA is supported through voluntary contributions from members.
- We are not affiliated with any other twelve-step programs, nor are we a part of any other organization. We do not support, endorse, or oppose outside causes or issues.
- Sex Addicts Anonymous is a spiritual program based on the principles and traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are grateful to AA for this gift, which makes our recovery possible.
- Sex Addicts Anonymous recognizes that peoples' needs are different and thus individual recovery programs are different. SAA empowers individuals to choose and create a program that will lead to a self-affirming expression of sexuality. The core of our program is the Twelve Steps which come from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous...

How It Works

[From the booklet *Getting Started in Sex Addicts Anonymous*, page 3-5]

“Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with themselves. There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way. They are naturally incapable of grasping and developing a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty. Their chances are less than average.

“There are those, too, who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest.

“Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now. If you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it—then you are ready to take certain steps.

“At some of these we balked. We thought we could find an easier, softer way. But we could not. With all the earnestness at our command, we beg of you to be fearless and thorough from the very start. Some of us have tried to hold on to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go.

“Remember that we deal with sexual addiction—cunning, baffling, powerful! Without help it is too much for us. But there is One who has all power—that One is God. May you find God now!

“Half measures availed us nothing. We stood at the turning point. We asked His protection and care with complete abandon. **Here are the steps we took**, which are suggested as a program of recovery:

1. We admitted we were powerless over addictive sexual behavior—that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood God*.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

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10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood God, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other sex addicts and to practice these principles in our lives

"Many of us exclaimed, 'What an order! I can't go through with it.' Do not be discouraged. No one among us has been able to maintain anything like perfect adherence to these principles. We are not saints. The point is, that we are willing to grow along spiritual lines. The principles we have set down are guides to progress. We claim spiritual progress rather than spiritual perfection.

"Our personal adventures before and after make clear three pertinent ideas:

- (a) That we were sexually addicted and could not manage our own lives.
- (b) That probably no human power could have relieved our addiction.
- (c) That God could and would if God were sought."

The 12 Traditions of S.A.A.

[Adapted from Hope and Recovery, page 111 and Sex Addicts Anonymous, page 77]

“The Twelve Traditions provide us with valuable guidelines that keep us on the right course within the Twelve Step fellowship. The Traditions reflect the wisdom that was gained through experiences with group organization and group dynamics early in the life of the Program. If the addicts working the Program are to recover, the Program *itself* must be intact. Just as we used the Twelve Steps to guide our recovery as individuals, we used the Twelve Traditions to guide our groups in ways that are consistent with the principles of the Twelve Step fellowship...”

The tradition of the month is: [Read only the Tradition corresponding with the current month]

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon SAA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as expressed in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for SAA membership is a desire to stop addictive sexual behavior.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or SAA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the sex addict who still suffers.
6. An SAA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the SAA name to any related facility or outside enterprise lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every SAA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. SAA should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. SAA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. SAA has no opinion on outside issues; hence the SAA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, TV, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

NEWCOMER'S WELCOME

[Adapted from SAA Group Guide: Handbook for SAA Groups, page 37]

Is there anyone here who has been to fewer than six SAA meetings, or who has come to this SAA meeting for the first time? If so, please introduce yourself by first name only so that we may welcome you...

[READ FOLLOWING ONLY IF A NEWCOMER IS PRESENT]

"We would like to welcome you to our meeting. We know the courage it takes walking into these rooms for the first time. All of us in this room were in your shoes at one time.

"After we have finished our opening and beginning readings, we will open up the meeting for sharing. This is a time when you may share your [experience, strength and hope] on the topic, the reading, or whatever else is on your mind. We avoid crosstalk or interruptions when another person is sharing. We also do not offer advice or criticism. Stick around and talk to one of us after the meeting if you have any questions.

"We recommend that you come to at least six meetings before you decide whether SAA has anything to offer you. You will find that each meeting is a little bit different. It is our sincerest hope that you find what you are looking for."

NEWCOMER LIAISON

We all had questions about this meeting and 12 step meetings in general when we were new to the rooms. If you have any questions, we invite you to discuss them with our newcomer liaison _____, or with any of us after the meeting or at a future meeting.

[The newcomer liaison can offer their phone number at this time.]

TIMEKEEPER

Do we have a volunteer to be Timekeeper?

- Thank you _____.

When sharing, all members should pay close attention to the Timekeeper and refrain from going over the time limits.

Treasurer (7th Tradition)

According to our Seventh Tradition, *“Every SAA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”* When the open sharing starts, we will pass an envelope for the group's general expenses.

Please give what you can, but if you can't give, that's OK. Just keep coming back—We need you more than we need your money!

To donate online, go to nycsaa.org/donation and you can pay through PayPal, Venmo or credit card. The receipt will not say SAA.
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Phone List

This group maintains a voluntary contact list for group members. If you would like an updated copy of this list, or if you would like to add your contact information to the phone list, please do so when the list goes around the room, or ask one of us for a copy of the list after the meeting.

S-related Announcements

Does anyone have any other S-related announcements?

Business Meetings

This group conducts its business once every quarter on the 2nd Tuesday in January, April, July, and October. Our next business meeting will be held in _____ at the close of the meeting.

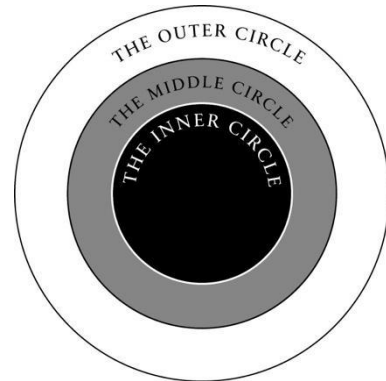
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THREE CIRCLES CHECK-IN

[From Sex Addicts Anonymous, page 16]

“To help define our sexual sobriety, many of us use a tool developed within SAA called The Three Circles. This is only a tool and not a requirement. Not every recovering sex addict uses this method. But many members have found that this tool helps establish a foundation for recovery.

“We draw three concentric circles, consisting of an inner, middle and outer circle. With the help of our sponsor or others in recovery, we write down various behaviors in each of the three circles. In the inner circle we put the sexual behaviors we want to abstain from, the ones we consider 'acting out.' In the middle circle we put behaviors that may lead to acting out, or that we are not sure about. In the outer circle we put healthy behaviors that enhance our life and our recovery.



This is an opportunity for members to share their Three Circles with the group, as well as length of sobriety. This will be done **by members raising their hand and being called on by the Chair**. Participation is voluntary.

Would someone like to begin?

If you are on the phone you can press *9 to raise your hand and if you are using zoom you can click on raise hand. As the chair I will call on you. If you are on the phone you will need to press *6 to unmute yourself.

[Remember to lower Zoom participants' hands once they have shared.]

MEETING FOCUS

This is a closed discussion meeting based on a rotating format:

- On the **first Tuesday** of the month, we will read the Step from one of the following approved books: (1) the S.A.A. "Green Book," (2) The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, or (3) The AA Big Book, according to the schedule given below. *
- On the **second Tuesday** of the month, we will read a story, or a section chosen by the meeting chair, from one of the following approved texts: (1) the S.A.A. "Green Book", (2) Drop the Rock, or (3) The AA Big Book, or from another S-program text.
- On the **third Tuesday**, we will read the Step from one of the following approved books: (1) the S.A.A. "Green Book," (2) The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, or (3) The AA Big Book, according to the schedule given below. *
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of the month, we will have a speaker meeting with a speaker invited from another meeting or a volunteer speaker from this meeting. If there is no speaker, then we will read a section from one of the following books: (1) the A.A. book Living Sober, (2) Drop the Rock, (3) The AA Big Book, or (4) The SAA Outer Circle
- If there is a **fifth Tuesday** of the month, we will read from the SAA Outer Circle.

Jan, Jul - Steps 1 & 2
Feb, Aug - Steps 3 & 4
Mar, Sept - Steps 5 & 6

* Apr, Oct - Steps 7 & 8
* May, Nov - Steps 9 & 10
* Jun, Dec - Steps 11 & 12

After the reading (or speaker), we will have open sharing until about 8:15 p.m.

Tonight, is the _____ Tuesday of the month...

(If a reading...)

We will now read from _____. I will read the first one or two paragraphs, and the reading will then proceed in **Popcorn format** until we finish the reading. Say "Pass" when you finish reading and the next reader will simply jump in, picking up where you left off.

(If a speaker...)

Please join me in welcoming _____ who will share his experience, strength and hope for 20 minutes.

(At the conclusion of the reading or the speaker's presentation...)

BOUNDARIES FOR DISCUSSION

We are committed to being respectful to each other in this meeting.

Please limit your sharing to [three] minutes. The Timekeeper will signal when you have one-minute remaining to share, and again when three minutes have passed.

Please refrain from **Crosstalk**, which means interrupting someone who is speaking or starting a one-on-one conversation. Also, please avoid **Feedback**, which means offering opinions or advice in response to anyone's share or presentation.

In addition, please refrain from using foul or abusive language, from topics that may cause distraction or dissension, sexually explicit descriptions, and references to specific acting-out locations or websites.

If someone feels that another member is being too explicit,

you may so signify by saying the word "explicit" to alert the chair.

This helps maintain a safe environment for open, honest sharing.

And please remember, the focus of our sharing is on the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions, honesty, recovery, and our experience, strength, and hope.

OPEN SHARING

I will now start the open sharing which will then proceed by participants raising their hand until called on by the Chair. Sharing will continue until no later than 8:15 p.m. (8:10 pm when there is a business meeting). Each person will have [three] minutes to share. However, all participation is voluntary.

For those online or on the phone, if you would like to share, please click on "Participants" and then "Raise Hand". If you are on the phone, press *9. When I call on you, please unmute yourself with the Unmute button or with *6 on the phone.

CHIPS DISTRIBUTION

(At the conclusion of the Open Sharing)

And now our chips distributor, _____, will give out sobriety chips.

[SAMPLE CHIPS PROTOCOL]

At SAA, we reward lengths of sobriety with poker chips to remind us that when we are acting out, we are gambling with our lives.

Is anyone celebrating 30 days? 60 days? 90 days?

6 months?

9 months?

1 year?

18 months?

Multiples of years?

We also give a white chip for those wishing to commit to 24 hours of sobriety. Would anyone like a white chip?

Let's have a round of applause for the most important day . . . TODAY!

[READ ONLY IF NEWCOMER PRESENT]

8:15 P.M. – FINAL SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEWCOMER

[Adapted from the booklet, Getting Started in Sex Addicts Anonymous, p. 9-10]

Thank you for coming to our meeting. Feel free to ask questions and please keep coming back. S.A.A has many resources available to aid you in your recovery. As you explore what S.A.A. has to offer you, please keep the following suggestions in mind:

- Attend as many meetings as you can
- Find a home group that you will attend regularly
- Become willing to help others as a way to get the focus off yourself
- Seek out and get support from a Sharing Partner
- Establish some limits or boundaries for your behavior
- Identify and stay away from environments, people and situations that have been part of your acting out behaviors
- Begin to practice The Twelve Steps of Recovery with the help of a Sponsor
- Find a Higher Power of your understanding
- Practice this program and take life one day at a time
- Start to use the phone to network with other recovering addicts
- Read S.A.A. and other recovery literature
- Familiarize yourself with some of the slogans
- Find meaning in your life through your recovery
- Remember that recovery occurs through relationships
- And no matter what, please keep coming back!

TEMPORARY SPONSORSHIP AND THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE

[Excerpted from the SAA booklet, Tools of Recovery, page 2-3]

“Sponsorship moves our recovery into action. A sponsor provides guidance and support as we experience withdrawal and as we work through The Steps... Sponsors are not professionals. They are sex addicts who have found a way to stay sober and want to help others... This is the time to reach out to others in the fellowship.”

Is there someone with at least 30 days of sexual sobriety who is available either to be a **Temporary Sponsor** or to be on the **Welcoming Committee** after the meeting to answer any questions newcomers may have about S.A.A? If so, please raise your hand and state your name.

Remember, if you have 30 days of sobriety, you can be of service to someone with one!

SAA NYC Intergroup can help any fellows who are looking for a sponsor or looking to sponsor. You can fill out a request form at nycsaa.org/sponsorship.

8:17 P.M. – CLOSING STATEMENT

The experiences and opinions shared tonight were strictly those of the people who shared them. Please remember that anonymity is a core tradition on which this program depends.

What you hear here and who you see here, let it stay here — *Here! Here!*

8:20 P.M. – CLOSING PRAYER

In closing, please help us move from shame to grace by joining us in **The Serenity Prayer**—*participation and holding hands is optional.*

I'll say it one line at a time and everyone can repeat after me.

"God, grant us the serenity, (everyone repeats)

to accept the things we cannot change, (everyone repeats)

the courage to change the things we can, (everyone repeats)

and the wisdom to know the difference (everyone repeats)"

Keep Coming Back!

It works if you work it,

So, work it—You're Worth It!

AND LIVE IT!