

## **Format for Wednesday Noon “Taste of Lifeline” meeting.**

To the Leader: The items listed in blue are meant for the leader only; they are not meant to be read aloud.

If several people have arrived before the meeting, then the leader may use that time to ask for volunteers to read the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, or any other reading the leader chooses. This information may be placed on chat. It saves time in the meeting.

Welcome to the Taste of Lifeline Wednesday Noon meeting of Overeaters Anonymous. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am a compulsive eater and your leader for this meeting.

Please silence your cell phone, electronic devices, and/or anything that rings/beeps.

**Read only if you see there are people new to zoom at the meeting:**

Here are a few tips for participating in a zoom meeting:

**The following information contains reminders, and may be read if leader feels necessary.**

1. Everyone please mute yourselves. Please only un-mute yourself when you are doing a reading or going to share. Then re-mute yourself. The host will mute you if you are un-muted at other times to eliminate disturbing background noise.

2. **Only if you see phone icons on the participant list do you need to read this:** If you are calling in on a phone, push \*6 to un-mute and push \*6 again to re-mute.

3. By clicking on the “participants” tab on your screen you will see a list of all the participants at this meeting. Please select your own name (it should be near the top of the list) and click on the 3 dots next to your name. Choose “rename” and change your name so only your first name appears.

4. If you are calling in by phone, the host will call on you based on the last 4 digits of your phone number.

**Do read this one:** 5. Video etiquette recommends that if you get up and move around during the meeting or if you need to eat during a meeting that you turn off your video feed. You will still be able to hear the meeting but your actions will not be distracting to others.

Today we will be reading from “**Taste of Lifeline**”. Please get your copy if you wish to read along when we get to that part of the meeting. If there are newcomers, we will read **Step One from the OA 12 & 12** instead.

Will those who wish, please join me in the Serenity Prayer:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.”

As we extend the heart and hand of the OA Fellowship to those who still suffer, let us be mindful of OA’s Unity with Diversity Policy, which respects our differences, yet unites us in the solution to our common problem. Whatever problem you may have with food, you are welcome at this meeting, regardless of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other trait.

- Is someone willing to give service as the timer? Please raise your hand on the participants list or wave frantically if you are willing to be the timer. Thank you\_\_\_\_\_ for being our timer. Please un-mute when timer goes off so we can all hear the ding!
- Please raise your hand if you are at an OA meeting for the first, second, or third time? [Welcome them to the meeting](#). Please give us your first name only so we can welcome you. We are glad you are here. Newcomers are invited to stay after the end of the meeting so we can answer your questions about OA.

### **IF THERE IS A NEWCOMER (Read the Preamble)**

The following is the OA Preamble:

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.”

**Note: On the 1st Wednesday each odd-numbered month (Jan, Mar, etc), we read ONLY the 12 Steps and then have a 10-minute business meeting.**

- [If someone volunteered to read the steps, call on that person now, otherwise, read:](#) Please raise your hand if you would like to give service by reading the 12 Steps of Overeaters Anonymous?
- [If someone volunteered to read the traditions, call on that person now, otherwise, read](#) Please raise your hand if you would like to give service by reading the 12 Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous

[Below are Optional readings – If there are newcomer\(s\), please read:](#)  
 THE DEFINITIONS OF “ABSTINENCE” AND “RECOVERY” IN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS:

Abstinence is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight. Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is the result of working and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program on a daily basis.

[\(Optional reading contd.\)](#) TOOLS: “The OA Tools of Recovery help us work the Steps and refrain from compulsive overeating. The nine Tools are: a plan of eating, sponsorship, meetings, telephone, writing, literature, an action plan, anonymity, and service. For more information, read The Tools of Recovery pamphlet.”

[End of Optional Readings](#)

**SPONSORS:** “Sponsorship is one of our keys to success. Sponsors are OA members committed to abstinence and to living the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions to the best of their ability. Sponsors share their program up to the level of their experience, and they strengthen their recovery through this service to others. To find a sponsor, look for someone who has what you want and ask how he or she is achieving it.

[If there are more than 20 participants:](#) Please raise your physical hand if you are an available sponsor.

[If there are less than 20 participants:](#) Please unmute when I call your name, introduce yourself and indicate if you are an available sponsor.

All who wish can leave their first name and contact info in the chat list so we can connect with each other between meetings. Chat is a function on your tool bar. Click on it to sign in on our virtual sign in book. Click on the 3 dots at the bottom of the chat box and choose save chat at the end of the meeting if you wish to retain the contact info.

Today’s reading is from “Taste of Lifeline”. (If there is a newcomer, read Step One from the OA 12 & 12 instead) We will do the reading now.

(After the reading:) We will share on the reading until the closing point in the meeting. Shares are limited to 3 minutes. Please raise your hand to share and I will call on you. Please lower your hand and re-mute when you are done.

**SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR SHARING:** “As you share your experience and strength in OA, please also share your hope. Please confine your sharing to your experience with the disease of compulsive eating, the solution offered by OA, and your own recovery from the disease, rather than just the events of the day or week. If you are having difficulties, share how you use the program to deal with them. If you need to talk more about your difficulties and seek solutions, we suggest you speak to your sponsor and other members after the meeting.”

“Feedback, cross talk, and advice-giving are discouraged here. I will call on folks as they raise their hands.”

The meeting is now open for shares. Raise your hand if you wish to share. I will call on you. Please un-mute to share.

**At about 5 minutes left in the meeting:**

I want to thank everyone who read or shared. Are there any REPORTS or announcements?

**SEVENTH TRADITION:** “According to our Seventh Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions. We send regular contributions to our intergroup or service board, our region and the World Service Office to help carry the message to other compulsive overeaters. Donations can be made online at [oa.org](http://oa.org), our Region 1 website [oaregion1.org](http://oaregion1.org) and at our Intergroup’s website: [Oregon-oa.org](http://Oregon-oa.org).

**CLOSING:** “By following the Twelve Steps, attending meetings regularly, and using the OA Tools, we are changing our lives. You will find hope and encouragement in Overeaters Anonymous.

To the newcomer, we suggest attending at least six different meetings to learn the many ways OA can help you.

“The opinions expressed here today are those of individual OA members and do not represent OA as a whole. Please remember our commitment to honor each other’s anonymity. Whom you see here, What you hear here, When you leave here, Let it stay here. Let us all reach out by phone or email to newcomers, returning members, and each other. Together we get better.

“Thank you for asking me to be your leader. Would someone like to give service by being our meeting leader next week??

Newcomers are invited to stay on the call if they have any questions. The host can help you.

After a moment of silence, I will say \_\_\_\_\_ aloud while those of you who wish to can join me silently. After I finish, everybody un- mute so that we may all share in saying "KEEPCOMING BACK!" in a big chorus!

Select one of the following suggested closings:

Serenity Prayer: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

The OA Promise: I put my hand in yours, and together we can do what we could never do alone. No longer is there a sense of hopelessness, no longer must we each depend upon our own unsteady willpower. We are all together now, reaching out our hands for power and strength greater than ours, and as we join hands, we find love and understanding beyond our wildest dreams.

3rd Step prayer: God, I offer myself to thee-to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always.

Seventh Step Prayer: My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to You and to my fellows. Grant me the strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding.