

What is Meetup.com?

Meetup is an online social networking website/mobile app that facilitates offline group meetings around the world. Meetup groups are usually themed: there are running groups, career-growth focused groups, book clubs, etc. A group will post a real world event, like plans to meet at a coffee shop to play cards, and anyone in the group can RSVP and attend.

How will the Gold Coast Intergroup use Meetup.com?

Starting in January, we will create a Gold Coast Intergroup OA Meetup group. We plan to keep this Meetup group as uncomplicated as possible. We intend to have it serve as a digital bulletin board announcing the time and location of already established local OA meetings in our Intergroup.

How will this impact my local meeting?

Hopefully, using Meetup.com to announce local OA meetings will mean an influx of newcomers to your meetings! Newcomers help our fellowship grow! That's why we are asking meetings to be prepared. Meetings should make sure they have enough newcomer's packets and have people ready to do service in welcoming these newcomers into the rooms.

What about Anonymity?

We are addressing this in two ways: First, anyone who joins the Meetup group will get EXTENSIVE notice that OA is an anonymous program and all efforts are made to keep their membership within the Meetup group anonymous. We would NOT require a photo or for people to share their real names. Secondly, we will NOT permit anyone to actually RSVP to or comment on the events in the group. People will be able to see the meeting times and place, but that's about it. We won't put any more information on meetup.com than what is already available on OABroward.org and OA.org. This plan has been approved by the OA World Service Office. If in doubt, please note OA's social media policy: Members of Overeaters Anonymous are anonymous. The Fellowship is not. Members of Overeaters Anonymous using social media are responsible for maintaining their own personal anonymity and respecting the anonymity of other OA members. (WSBC Policy 2011a, amended 2016)

I have lots of questions! Who should I contact?

We have informational packets available explaining the Meetup.com plan. If you'd like a copy to share at your meeting, please email Maureen H., the Public Info and Professional Outreach Chair, at goldcoastoa+pipo@gmail.com.