

SCWS Area Alateen Event Plan History

May 21, 2016

The requirement to have an approved Event Plan for any Alateen event was implemented on June 1, 2013 after the May 2013 Assembly vote approving the revised Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements. An Alateen event is defined as “any Alateen activity other than a registered meeting.” Requirements for new AMIAS certification training and annual recertification for current AMIASs were also approved with that vote. This occurred during the Area’s previous panel (i.e., 2012-2014) and the Area Board requested that the Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator focus on developing and implementing the training requirements for both new and current AMIASs. Given the extensive and substantial time and effort required to develop and implement the new training requirements, there was less focus placed on Event Plans.

When the current panel (i.e., 2015-2017) began its work in January 2015, the Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator was asked to make Event Plans a top priority to ensure the Area was meeting its responsibility and commitment to providing a safe environment for Alateen events. The original Event Plan format was revised once during the previous 2012-2014 panel with the current Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator (2015-2017) worked on that revision with the then 2012-2014 Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator. For the first six months of the 2015-2017 panel, the Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator observed a pattern of issues and problems common to every completed Event Plan. This pattern was not the fault of anyone completing the Event Plan, but rather was attributable to the actual format of the plan. It became obvious that additional directions, explanations and instructions were required to address the common issues and problems.

Prior to the introduction of the new Alateen Event Plan format, a draft copy of the revised Event Plan was shared with the Executive Director and Director of Member Services at WSO in Virginia Beach. Additionally, the Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator, Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate participated in a conference call consultation with the Executive Director, Director of Member Services and three other WSO staff members to discuss the proposed revised Event Plan format. Further revisions were made to the format based on this consultation.

The revised Alateen Event Plan format was introduced on October 16, 2015. The Event Plan was revised to provide more information, guidance and explanation on how to effectively, accurately and fully answer each question. The revisions were not due to any change in policy or procedure. *The current version has more pages than the previous one, but the majority of the additional length is due to the additional information, guidance and explanations as well as additional, ample space to provide a complete answer.* The revised Event Plan did introduce a final Event Plan approval deadline established by the Area Alateen Resolution Committee. The final approval deadline was added to address a documented pattern of final Event Plans usually being submitted 1-5 days before the proposed event. The Event Plan final approval date is 15 days before the event date (30 days before an overnight/multi-day event date).

Alateen Event Plan History & Statistics January 2015 – May 2016:

1. **Event Plans for Alateen Stand-Alone Events** (i.e., not part of a Convention) - **100% approval**. Every Event Plan submitted since January 2015 as a stand-alone event has been approved.
2. **Event Plans for Alateen Participation at Conventions, Conferences, Round Up, et al.** There have been 17 Alateen Event Plans for Participation at a Convention submitted since January 2015. These have been placed in one of three categories: (a) Approved by SCWS Area; (b) Cancelled by the Alateen Committee or Convention; and (c) Not approved by the SCWS Area.
 - a) **Approved by SCWS Area – 70.6%** (i.e., 12 of 17).
 - b) **Cancelled by the Alateen Committee or Convention – 17.7%** (i.e., 3 of 17).
 - c) **Not approved by the SCWS Area – 11.8%** (i.e., 2 of 17).

List of Event Plans for Alateen Participation at Conventions, Conferences, Round Up, et al.:

- 1) San Fernando Valley – January 30-February 1, 2015: Approved
- 2) Antelope Valley – March 7, 2015: Approved
- 3) AFG – March 27-29, 2015: Approved. Original Event Plan was submitted one week before the convention. The Lead Sponsor stated it was unacceptable but let the Alateen Committee submit despite it being unacceptable. SCWS Area stepped in to re-write, organize and manage this Event Plan and the actual participation at the Convention so there could be Alateen participation.
- 4) San Diego Spring Round Up – April 3-4, 2015: Approved.
- 5) Ventura County – Serenity by the Sea – May 2, 2015: Approved.
- 6) SCAC – June 26-28, 2015: Approved.
- 7) Foothill Round Up – July 31 – August 1, 2015: Approved.
- 8) South Bay Round Up – August 27-30, 2015: Approved. The Event Plan was well-written and comprehensive, but was not implemented or followed during the convention.
- 9) Ventura County – September 11-13, 2015. Alateen only on September 12, 2015: Approved.
- 10) Harvest Moon Camp Out – September 25-27, 2015: Approved.
- 11) SoCal – October 2-4, 2015: Not approved. Detailed feedback on required revisions provided to Alateen Chair, Event Sponsors and Al-Anon Chair provided beginning August 19, 2015. The feedback included multiple and detailed written explanations and requests regarding safety concerns. These parties were repeatedly encouraged to contact the Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator with questions or if they needed additional help. The final Event Plan did not address the ongoing safety concerns. The Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator, Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate had multiple conversation with the Al-Anon Chair once the final Event Plan was submitted. All agreed that the Event Plan could not be approved.
- 12) Santa Clarita – October 16-18, 2015: Cancelled by the Lead Event Sponsor due to inability to obtain the required AMIAS supervision despite repeated attempts by Lead Sponsor.
- 13) Santa Barbara – October 24, 2015: Approved.
- 14) Inland Empire – November 7, 2015: Approved. This Event Plan was submitted on July 15, 2015. It was well written and required only two minor revisions. This Event Plan was formally approved three months before the convention.
- 15) San Fernando Valley – January 29-31, 2016: Not approved. Missed deadline to submit revised Event Plan. Efforts to assist by the SCWS Area were not used by Lead Event Sponsor who kept promising to submit the revised Event Plan every day during the first week of January 2016. Alateen Sponsor Coordinator required submission by January 8, 2016. When submitted, required changes were not addressed. Event Plan not approved with consent of SCWS Area Board.
- 16) San Diego Spring Round Up – March 25-26, 2016. Cancelled three hours before event to begin by the Lead Event Sponsor due to inability to obtain required AMIAS supervision.
- 17) AFG – April 2, 2016. The Alateen Chair decided to cancel participation in mid-January 2016. The end of February 2016 Alateen Chair decided to try for a Saturday only Day Program. Area Alateen Coordinator worked with Alateen Chair on requirements. Revised Event Plan submitted without Alateen Sponsors' required signatures. When requested to work with the Lead Event Sponsor to acquire the signatures, the Alateen Chair decided to cancel the Alateen participation at AFG.