Guidelines for Participating on the A.R.T.S. Conference Service and Support Committee (CSSC)

(approved by the CSSC on 10-26-2026)

A.R.T.S. exists because of the contributions of its members, including the contributions made by those who serve at all levels. For our safety and well-being, please be mindful of the following guidelines.

1. The primary purpose of our service is to ensure that the message of A.R.T.S. is carried to the artist who still suffers.

2. We accept and support the decisions and actions of this and other service entities, knowing that the personal recovery of all members depends on unity. Consensus may not always be possible.

3. We understand that this service entity has defined responsibilities and is made up of trusted servants. It has the right to make decisions, consistent with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service of A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

4. We use positive statements, taking positive actions for the progress of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. We use "I" statements to share our thoughts and feelings on a topic or issue. We accept that in open discussion we can change our minds. We do not argue, compete, judge, distract, punish, incite controversy, or compare. We are careful to listen and do our best to understand the points of view of others. We believe that a Loving Higher Power guides our purpose.

5. We accept that good leadership makes our actions and decisions effective. We respect the role of our service entity officers, and work to support their efforts. We accept the mistakes of ourselves and others and learn from them. We do not dominate, override or "shut down" others.

6. We always listen to minority opinions, and we always accept and support the ultimate majority decision.

7. We are mindful of potential conflicts of interest, and recuse ourselves from a meeting, discussion or decision when asked by the group.

8. With groups and individuals outside the committee, we report the actions and decisions of the service entity as a whole, and not the thoughts, feelings or opinions of its individual members. This frees us to express ourselves and come to the best outcome we can.

9. The Committee may consider at any time a motion to remove a member from the meeting or from service on the CSSC. This can be done at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called to consider the removal. The affected member must be invited to attend, but does not need to be present for the Committee to take action for removal.

Grounds for removal may include:

- A lack of attendance at Committee meetings
- A demonstrated inability to accept a decision or decisions of the group conscience.
- Creating an unsafe or unduly controversial or confrontational environment
- A lack of respect for the spirit of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. This can include not accepting the interpretation or understanding of the other members of the CSSC, as this causes disunity
- Conducting themselves in an undemocratic, punitive, negative, divisive or otherwise untenable manner