

Finger Lakes Area of Narcotic Anonymous Outreach

“CAPTURE THE FLAG”

PURPOSE: To reach out to groups and encourage an exchange of ideas and experiences between groups within our areas; to practice group unity through playing a friendly game with other groups. This is accomplished by encouraging each group to get its members together and make special trips to group meetings.

THE GUIDELINES FOR CAPTURING THE FLAG:

- 1) Only groups registered as being members of the Finger Lakes Area of Narcotics Anonymous may participate. Presence of the group’s meetings that are in need of support and indicated as such (with an asterisk(*)) in the Finger Lakes Area Meeting Schedules will be the determining factor of the flag placement. If the flag is in a multi-meeting group the planters of the flag must pick a single meeting for the flag to reside. The flag must not rotate between meetings within the group.
- 2) To find out which meeting currently has possession of the Flag, information is posted on the Finger Lakes Area of NA Website ([http://flana.net/ Capture-the-flag](http://flana.net/Capture-the-flag))
- 3) Points are awarded in the following ways:
 - a) One (1) point will be awarded for capturing the Flag. To Capture the flag at least 3 members of a Group carpools to the location of the Flag and captures it at the end of the meeting.
 - b) One (1) point will be awarded when (3) people from the group plants the Flag in a meeting that is asking for support at an Area Service Committee as indicated by an asterisk * next to their meeting in the area meeting schedule. To plant the flag at least 3 members of a Group must be present at the meeting and must show up 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.
 - c) One (1) point will be awarded to the capturing group for donating a Narcotics Anonymous book to the meeting or a newcomer in the meeting of which the capture is taking place.
 - d) One (1) point will be awarded to the planting group by donating a Narcotics Anonymous book to the meeting or to a newcomer in the meeting where the flag is being planted in.
Appropriate books to donate:
 - Basic Text

- It works How and Why
- Guiding Principles- The Spirit of Our Traditions
- Step Working Guide
- Just for Today
- Sponsorship Book
- Miracles Happen
- Living Clean

e) One (1) point will be awarded to a group that travels fifty or more miles (one way) to capture or plant the flag, with five or more people.

Please note: The capturing group must know where they intend on planting the flag and must report the meeting of where the flag will be along with the capture to the capture the flag coordinator. Also, a group may plant the flag in a meeting within their group however; points will not be awarded for the planting or a donation to a meeting within their own group.

- 4) The Flag cannot be captured until the meeting is over. It is recommended that the capture take place after the Circle Up. The planting of the flag must occur before the meeting starts. At no time should the capture or planting of the flag interrupt the primary purpose of Narcotics Anonymous meetings – to carry the message of recovery to other addicts. Please get to the meeting on time as not to disrupt the meeting with a large number of people. The Group that plants the flag may not also capture the flag at the same time.
- 5) If more than one Group attends the meeting and wants to capture the flag, the group with the most members in attendance earns the right to capture the flag. If an equal number of members from two or more groups are in attendance, the final determining factor will be the farthest distance traveled from their home group. If a group does not have enough people to capture the flag it can still receive a point by donating an approved book.
- 6) When a group captures, plants or donates a book the fact of the capture, plant or book donation should be included on the Finger Lakes Area Website (<http://flana.net/capture-the-flag/>), post of who captured the flag, where the flag is being planted, including address and time of the meeting. Once the flag is captured the capturing group has a maximum of 24 hours to post the planting information the Capture the Flag Coordinator 1-877-266-3660 Ext.818 or email at flascnaoutreach@gmail.com, and a maximum of seven (7) day to plant the flag. Failure to plant the flag within this time frame will result in a loss of points for their capture.
- 7) Once planted, the flag must be present, and displayed, at the meeting that it was planted in until it is captured by another group.
- 8) If the capturing group plants the flag at a meeting within their own group, and the flag is not displayed when another group attends the meeting to capture the flag, the points awarded for their capture will be taken away from their annual total. The current

capture will still take place. The situation must be reported to the capture the flag coordinator.

- 9) At no time should a capture be refused as long as the above-noted conditions are met. Every Flag Capture and Plant will be noted and recorded by the Capture the flag coordinator to count towards the group's annual capture totals.
- 10) If after the flag is planted and it is not been captured after two weeks, the flag can be recaptured by the planting group, or maybe moved and planted by the group that flag is planted in.
- 11) To travel with the Flag will be: a) a set of current Flag Guidelines, b) a large envelope to keep updated event flyers and meeting schedules, c) a Basic Journal that group members can sign and date, to not only record its travel but to capture some of the feelings and personal stories of its travels.
- 12) The Group that has possession of the Flag during the annual event, must send a member with the Flag to the event for display at the Main Speaker meeting. If no member from that group plans to attend the event, the Flag must be relinquished to the temporary custody of any Finger Lakes ASC Trusted Servant who will be attending.
- 13) At the end of the year, the group with the most recorded points for captures, plants and book donations will be recorded on the Flag and they will receive a certificate for their achievement.
- 14) The capture the flag game begins at the chosen meeting that is announced at the Finger Lakes Area of NA Outreach Capture the Flag event, and ends two weeks prior to the Finger Lakes Area of NA Outreach Capture the Flag the next year.