

AANR-EAST INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION (I.A.) INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Introduction

It is understood that the primary function of AANR and its regions is to serve as the most powerful advocate for nude recreation and the credible voice of reason, education and support of social nudism in appropriate settings. It is the role of AANR-chartered clubs to provide members and guests with the enjoyable social family nudist experience in accordance with AANR's Principles and Standards.

All clubs are independent businesses. Club business models vary and AANR recognizes and values diversity. As independent businesses, each club is expected to have guidelines for appropriate behavior and specific procedures for disciplining violations of behavior.

The AANR-East IA Process is to be used in cases where an individual fails to comply with AANR's Principles and Standards or a club fails to discipline behavior that violates these Principles and Standards.

1. All AANR-East I.A. investigations are instituted only after a written and signed allegation of misconduct is submitted to the AANR-East Secretary. The Secretary will forward all requests for investigations to the I.A. Chair.
2. The I.A. Chair serves as the chairman of the I.A. Hearing Committee. The Committee is appointed by the AANR-East President. The Hearing Committee shall consist of at least two (2) members of the AANR-East Board of Directors, including the I.A. Chair, and at least one (1) AANR-East member who is not a member of the Board of Directors.
3. The Hearing Committee, at the direction of the I.A. Chair, has the responsibility of investigating any allegation of misconduct and reviewing all supporting evidence submitted with any such allegation. In addition to reviewing evidence submitted by a complainant, the Hearing Committee may conduct its own independent investigation, interview witnesses, and assemble additional evidence, as it deems necessary.
4. The Hearing Committee shall conclude its investigation within sixty (60) days of its receipt of a validly filed complaint. However, the Hearing Committee may request that the AANR-East President grant an additional thirty (30) days to permit the Hearing Committee to conclude its initial investigation if facts and circumstances that exist beyond the control of the Hearing Committee prevent the Committee from concluding its investigation within the initial sixty (60) day period.
5. At the conclusion of its initial investigation, the Hearing Committee shall make a recommendation as follows:
 - (A) Dismiss the complaint against the accused individual with no further action;

- (B) Make a determination that the accused individual's conduct was worthy of a private censure and issue such a private censure, but not refer the matter to the full AANR-East Board for further proceedings (accusations of a sexual nature may never be disposed of by the Hearing Committee at this stage and must be referred to the full AANR-East Board for disposition);
- (C) Refer the allegation to the full Board of Directors for a full hearing before a subcommittee of the Board appointed by the President to adjudicate the matter. No member of the Board of Directors that participated in the initial Hearing Committee proceeding may participate in adjudicating the allegations before the Board of Directors or a subcommittee of the Board of Directors. However, the I.A. Chair or his/her designee will have the responsibility of presenting the allegations and evidence to the Board of Directors or a subcommittee of the Board of Directors assembled to consider the allegations.

6. No action may be taken against an accused individual or club by the Hearing Committee except a private censure that is not disclosed to the public. Only the Board of Directors or a subcommittee of the Board may take any action against an AANR-East member or a member club. However, the Hearing Committee may make recommendations to the Board.

7. The AANR-East President, in his or her discretion, may have the matter heard before the full Board of Directors or a subcommittee of the Board consisting of at least three (3) members. The ruling of this panel shall be final and reportable only to the accused, the AANR-East President and Secretary, and, if necessary, the AANR Executive Director and AANR President.

8. If the Hearing Committee refers a matter to the Board, a certified letter will be mailed by the I.A. Chair to the individual or member club accused of misconduct. The individual or member club will have thirty (30) days from the date of the letter to respond and either admit or deny the allegations, and to present any written evidence, statements from witnesses, or other information helpful to his or her case to be considered by the Board. This thirty (30) day response period may be extended for good reason at the discretion of the AANR-East President or the chairperson of the subcommittee overseeing the proceeding.

9. Any individual accused of misconduct shall be accorded a full and fair hearing. This shall include the exclusion of hearsay evidence from any proceeding hereunder. Hearsay is generally defined as secondhand information that a witness only heard about from someone else and did not see or hear himself. Hearsay is not admitted in court because it's not trustworthy, as well as because of various constitutional principles such as the right to confront one's accusers. Testimony during a hearing is not hearsay unless the witness tries to repeat something someone else said or wrote. In addition, a statement introduced to prove something other than its truth is not hearsay. For example, testimony may be offered to show the speaker's state of mind.

Example: Dana and Bruce were fighting, and Dana shouted "Bruce, you are a lousy bastard." Marla heard the argument and was asked to testify at Dana and Bruce's

divorce trial. Marla was permitted to repeat the statement "Bruce, you are a lousy bastard," because it is not hearsay. It was not introduced at the trial to prove that Bruce has lice or is an illegitimate child, but rather to show that Dana was angry.

10. A written and signed AANR-East I.A. Investigation Request must be submitted. No action will be taken on anonymous complaints.

11. Individual members and/or member clubs of AANR-East shall be considered innocent until proven guilty.