



<b>Anonymity</b>	Policy # 1.7
	Effective Date: 7/19/2018
Approved By:	Revision: R Date:

**Purpose:** To articulate the Club’s position regarding anonymity.

**Policy:** The Washtenaw Alano Club is a non-profit organization separate from Alcoholics Anonymous. Our mission is to provide a facility and an environment conducive to spiritual growth for recovery from addictive behavior. Because this is our mission, the Washtenaw Alano Club adheres as closely as possible to the traditions and policies of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Alcoholics Anonymous promises personal anonymity to all who attend its meetings because of the fear of public exposure. Although the stigma has lessened, anonymity remains a key component in providing an atmosphere of trust and openness that is essential to successful recovery. Disclosure remains a personal decision and is each person’s choice.

Alcoholics Anonymous remains resolute, however, that lack of anonymity at the public level is detrimental to the recovery community and to the individual who seeks to publicize their status as a person in recovery. Anonymity places the emphasis on the community, rather than personal achievement. Bill W. wrote, “the word ‘anonymous’ has for us an immense spiritual significance. Subtly but powerfully, it reminds us that we are always to place principles before personalities, that we have renounced personal glorification in public; that our movement not only preaches but actually practices a true humility.”

The Washtenaw Alano Club wishes to honor and respect the tradition of anonymity.

**Procedures:**

1. The Club does not permit any photographs or other imaging of people attending meetings at the facility.
2. The Club only permits photographs or other imaging of people at social events held at the Club or on the Club’s property, and only when the photographer has sought permission from each person in the photo or image prior to taking the photograph or image.
3. Photographs or images without permission are not permitted under any circumstances.

4. In general, the Club only permits identification in photographs or images by a first name and last initial. There is an exception for the Board members, who have voluntarily waived their anonymity with respect to their work on the Board. Full names are included in the Board minutes as is required but no other member is identified by their full name in relation to the Board minutes.
  
5. While the Club may, from time to time, publicize its existence or promote the activities at the Club through the media, it is a promotion of the Club's facility -- not publicity for Alcoholics Anonymous. The Club wants to let people seeking recovery know they have a place to come for meetings and fellowship, but it does not promote or publicize Alcoholics Anonymous.

### **Revision log**

Rev.	Revision Description	Date	Author