

Baton Rouge Area Gamblers Anonymous

Resources for Professionals

WHAT IS COMPULSIVE GAMBLING?

Compulsive gambling is an illness, progressive in nature, that can never be cured but can be arrested. Professionally defined as "Pathological Gambling," it affects people from all walks of life and all age groups.

ABOUT GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Gamblers Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others recover from a gambling problem.

GA follows a 12-step program. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop gambling. There are no fees, no dues, no insurance billing, and no intake paperwork. GA complements clinical treatment but does not replace it — the fellowship does not provide therapy, diagnosis, or medication.

WHY REFERRALS MATTER

Compulsive gambling is often called a "hidden illness." The compulsive gambler is frequently the last person to recognize the problem. Referrals from family, friends, employers, healthcare providers, counselors, and probation authorities are often what bring someone to their first meeting.

WHAT WE OFFER LOCALLY

- **9 weekly meetings** across Baton Rouge, Denham Springs, Gonzales, and Hammond
- **24/7 hotline** staffed by local members
- **Signed attendance verification** available at the end of every meeting — the chairing member will sign court or treatment-program documentation as part of their service responsibility
- **Strong long-term recovery** — 10+ local members with more than 20 years of continuous recovery, including one at 34 years
- **Open to anyone** with a desire to stop gambling, regardless of referral source

HOW TO REFER A CLIENT

1. Visit batonrougega.org/meetings for the current schedule
2. Call the 24/7 hotline at **888-502-5610** — a local member will answer
3. Walk into any meeting — no advance contact, no registration

Clients can also be directed to batonrougega.org/helpforgambling, written for people considering recovery.

FOR YOUR OFFICE

Free brochures and meeting cards available for waiting rooms, intake offices, court services, and healthcare facilities: batonrougega.org/request-brochures

CONTACT

Email: batonrougega@gmail.com (preferred for professional inquiries)

Phone: 888-502-5610 (24/7 hotline)

Web: batonrougega.org/forprofessionals

Are you concerned about your gambling?

You are not alone. Help is available in Baton Rouge.

TWENTY QUESTIONS

Most compulsive gamblers will answer yes to at least seven of these questions.

1. Did you ever lose time from work or school due to gambling?
2. Has gambling ever made your home life unhappy?
3. Did gambling affect your reputation?
4. Have you ever felt remorse after gambling?
5. Did you ever gamble to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
6. Did gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
7. After losing did you feel you must return as soon as possible and win back your losses?
8. After a win did you have a strong urge to return and win more?
9. Did you often gamble until all your money was gone?
10. Did you ever borrow to finance your gambling?
11. Have you ever sold anything to finance gambling?
12. Were you reluctant to use "gambling money" for normal expenditures?
13. Did gambling make you careless of the welfare of yourself or your family?
14. Did you ever gamble longer than you had planned?
15. Have you ever gambled to escape worry, trouble, boredom, loneliness, grief or loss?
16. Have you ever committed, or considered committing, an illegal act to finance gambling?
17. Did gambling cause you to have difficulty in sleeping?
18. Do arguments, disappointments or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?
19. Did you ever have an urge to celebrate any good fortune by a few hours of gambling?
20. Have you ever considered self destruction or suicide as a result of your gambling?

Reprinted from Gamblers Anonymous approved literature.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A MEETING

You don't have to talk. You don't have to share anything. You can just come and listen. Meetings are free and confidential. The only requirement is a desire to stop gambling.

FIND A MEETING

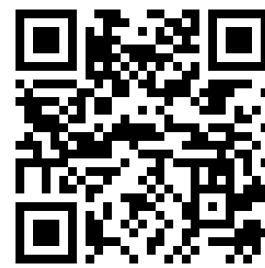
Baton Rouge · Denham Springs · Gonzales · Hammond

9 meetings each week

Web: batonrougega.org/meetings

Phone: 888-502-5610 (24/7)

Read more: batonrougega.org/helpforgambling



Scan for this week's meetings

FOR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES

Gam-Anon is a separate fellowship for the family and friends of compulsive gamblers. Learn more at batonrougega.org/gam-anon.