

Sat Nam

The Teacher Training Executive Committee (TTEC) is the KRI committee that has traditionally developed the materials and policies for the KRI Academy. In the spirit of inclusion that many members have expressed, we are holding our first Global Online TTEC meeting on September 20, 21, and 22. This is a unique opportunity for you to express yourself and vote to co-create the future of our Academy. This will be the time for all of us to make decisions (both temporary and permanent). Check out this welcome video here.

Steering Committee - Agenda for the Meetings

You might remember that an invitation to participate in this committee went out to all Academy members in a Trainer Update newsletter. This TTEC steering committee came together as global volunteers to plan the agenda and logistics for the three days of TTEC. Its members are Harpal Kaur (Sweden), Didar Kaur (Australia), Siri Sahib Singh (Brazil), Paramnam Kaur (Taiwan), Sukhdev Kaur (Estonia), Sada Anand Kaur (Russia), Guru Darshan Kaur (Mexico), Jai Gopal Kaur (Chile), and Gurudev Singh (Mexico). Manou of France is the event coordinator and Hari Charn Kaur and Amrit Singh have been working with the committee.

Temporary Authorized Changes

Considering the allegations and Olive Branch Report, KRI allowed for temporary exceptions to its regular policies earlier this year. These exceptions were designed to give us time to discuss, review and approve more permanent changes to our policies.

Temporary Policy Changes for Level One

- KRI allowed trainers and teachers to decide if they want to use either the trademarked phrase of Kundalini Yoga as taught by Yogi Bhajan or the phrase Kundalini Yoga.
- KRI allowed trainers likewise to choose between having Kundalini Yoga as taught by Yogi Bhajan® or simply Kundalini Yoga on their program certificates.
- KRI provided the choice for trainers to keep Yogi Bhajan's picture on The Aquarian Teacher™ Level One Textbook and Manual or a cover without his picture.
- An interim Level One Aquarian Teacher Textbook was made available as an automatic update in Vital Source.

Temporary Policy Changes for Level Two

- KRI authorized that watching Yogi Bhajan videos be optional and authorized Lead trainers to replace videos with other materials at their own discretion
- KRI authorized that Level Two courses can be held 100% online

Making Current and Future Changes as We Evolve as an Academy

Amrit Singh's video message of September 7th addressed the changes needed in our Academy. His message invites us to move forward at the right speed, not too slow and not too fast. At this time, we want to address what is urgent, but we are aware that other important discussions still need to take place over the coming months and years. In the upcoming TTEC meeting, we will vote on a few urgent proposals so that Level One Trainings can move forward and allow the Aquarian Trainer Academy to continue to evolve.

Proposals and voting process

Proposals to be voted on at these TTEC Meetings

Two Items have currently been put on the agenda for a vote by Amrit Singh and Hari Charn:

- Requirements for Level One Certification
- Online Level One Teacher Trainings.

How we will vote on these Proposals

- 1. Who votes All members of the academy, from interns to leads, can participate in the TTEC discussions, as well as members of the KRI staff who are trainers and representatives of the national associations. Associate, professional, and lead trainers will be able to vote. Voting members must be present at the time of the vote. This is the way that voting rights have been exercised in TTEC historically, but this is open to discussion for future TTEC meetings.
- 2. **Prior Discussions -** It is important that all those who plan to attend TTEC educate themselves about the proposals and KRI **before TTEC**. You can do it either by a) participating in one of the two Zoom meetings to be held on September 13/14th and/or b) reading the summary of the discussions in the Sutra threads.

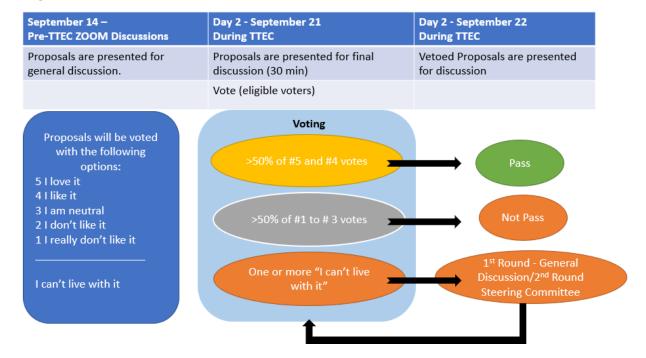
a. Pre-TTEC Discussion Zoom Meetings (<u>you must register in ZOOM in advance</u>):

- Discussion Call #1 Monday Sep 14, 2020 01:00 AM Amsterdam, September 14th 9 AM Sydney, 6 AM Bangkok, 7 AM Bali and China, Aug 13th 17:00 New Mexico, 16:00 California)
 Register in advance for this meeting here.
- Discussion Call #2 Tuesday Sept 14, 2020 05:00 PM Amsterdam, 08:00 California, 11:00 NY.
 Register in advance for this meeting here.

These meetings will be as long or short as the participants need. Each group will create a written report in their language to be posted in Sutra by the end of the meeting. The steering committee will review and possibly update the proposals based on the input from these calls by September 16th.

- 3. Monday September 21st (second day of TTEC meetings) will be the time when the proposals are presented. Participants will have 30 minutes for final comments (in their language).
- 4. After those final comments, voting will be carried out by Zoom polling in the large group. This will give all participants the opportunity to see real time results from their Track but know that we will combine the results from both meeting tracks before finalizing the results.

Rough Consensus



We are using a modification of a process called <u>Rough Consensus</u> for the voting with some minor alterations. First a proposal will be presented, and any clarifying questions addressed. Then final comments will be shared in language-specific break-out rooms. Then a first vote is taken with 6 choices: a 1-5 ranking scale:

- 1 I really don't like it
- 2 I don't like it
- 3 Neutral
- 4 I like it
- 5 I really like it

With a 6th option that is separated to make it clear that selecting this option is of a different magnitude than just an opinion. It is a 1st round veto that we call "I can't live with it".

A proposal that gets more than 50% supporting votes (meaning 4s and 5s), and no first round vetoes (I can't live with it), it will pass. A proposal that gets less than 50% will not pass.

If a proposal gets more than 50% supporting votes (meaning 4s and 5s), AND also gets one or more first-round vetoes, it will be referred for further discussion on Day 3 (and maybe beyond TTEC, if needed). This additional Day 3 session to really hear the issues being raised by the first-round vetoer(s). What happens after that will be up to the Steering Committee (who will play the role for this TTEC meeting of the chairperson in the Rough Consensus model).

Sometimes it is the voice of one trainer that will shine light on something that is especially important and that is being missed by the group. To honor our value of every voice being heard, the vote will be put on hold if even one person casts a first-round veto, to allow time for further discussion and negotiation.

It is NOT the intention of this decision-making process that one person can permanently block an otherwise widely accepted proposal. There may be instances of a 2nd vote in which some larger block of vetoes would be required to stop its passage. But there are too many possibilities and permutations to try to capture everything into a written procedure. Hence the reliance on the Rough Consensus model on practical, flexible solutions that still ensure that all veto-level concerns have a chance to be heard and adequately resolved.

Proposals to get a vote to Initiate working groups or not

In addition to the proposals that we will be working on to set new policies, there will be more proposals that will be presented at TTEC to approve of a direction for future work in critical areas. These will form working groups on Day 3:

- Simplifying the pathway of the Aquarian Trainer Academy
- The Level One curriculum changes and development
- Distributing the administration of the ATA

Working Groups on Day 3

Part of the final TTEC day will be working groups. Working groups will be formed around:

- Any proposals that someone "can't live with,"
- Any or all of the 3 important directional proposals mentioned above that are approved,
- And the following important topics as well:
 - Updating and making improvements to the Code of Ethics,
 - Establishing and maintaining a safe place to practice for all,
 - Improving our community culture,
 - What additional investigations or historical information about our organizations are still desired, and
 - Improving how a global TTEC can function in the future

Register Today to Attend TTEC

Soon a fairly detailed program of the Agenda will be Available. The three days have different intentions or themes.

September 20th - Day One Dialog Day

September 21st - Day Two - Collective Decisions

September 22nd- Day three - Working Groups

Hopefully you can attend all three days, but if not come for what you can attend. We hope that this has answered many of your questions.

Sincerely,

Amrit Singh Khalsa, CEO

Hari Charn Kaur Khalsa, Director of Outreach and Professional Development.

Sada Anand Kaur (Russia)

Sukhdev Kaur (Estonia)

Harpal Kaur (Sweden)

Gurudev Singh (Mexico)

Guru Darshan Kaur (Mexico)

Didar Kaur (Sweden)

Paran Nam Kaur (Taiwan)

Siri Sahib Singh (Brazil)