

COMITY AGREEMENT
from the *PCA Digest, 1973-1993*

COMITY AGREEMENT (GOLDEN RULE)

1985, P. 98, 13-44, III, 9. That we affirm the following courteous code of behavior to guide our church planting ministries in North America:

- A. We will be sensitive to the presence of existing churches and missions ministries of other NAPARC churches and will take great care in receiving members of these existing ministries.
- B. We will communicate with the equivalent or appropriate agency (denominational missions committee or board, Presbytery missions or church extension committee, or session) before initiating church planting activities in a neighborhood where NAPARC churches or missions ministries exist.
- C. We will provide information on at least an annual basis describing progress in our ministries and future plans.
- D. We will encourage our regional home missions leadership to develop good working relationships.

(Grounds: The above is the “Golden Rule” Comity Agreement of NAPARC as slightly amended.)

1987, p. 165, 15-80, III, 6. That the General Assembly accept the explanation made by NAPARC and adopt its “Golden Rule Comity Agreement.”

- a. NAPARC defined “enlisting” as “actively recruiting” and felt that the paragraph regarding communicating is sufficiently clear without further refinement or definition.
- b. The “Golden Rule Comity Agreement” as adopted by all the NAPARC churches but the PCA reads as follows:
 “That we affirm the following courteous code of behavior to guide our church planting ministries in North America:
 - 1) We will be sensitive to the presence of existing churches and missions ministries of other NAPARC churches, and will refrain from enlisting members and take great care in receiving members of these existing ministries.
 - 2) We will communicate with the equivalent or appropriate agency (denominational missions committee or board, Presbytery missions or church extension committee, or session) before initiating church planting activities in a community where NAPARC churches or missions ministries exist.
 - 3) We will provide information on at least an annual basis describing progress in our ministries and future plans.
 - 4) We will encourage our regional home missions leadership to develop good working relationships.

1989, p. 152, 17-82, III, 10. That amendments to the *BCO* are unnecessary to enable Session and Presbyteries to be guided by the NAPARC AGREEMENT, and that the Assembly *communicate* the NAPARC AGREEMENT to Sessions and Presbyteries for their guidance.

Note: The PCA Version has no geographical limitation.