

Fun Ideas for Whole Rotary Club Meetings or Meeting Themes

- 1 How to Use These Ideas..... 2
- 2 “Rotarians Got Talent” or “Rotary Idol” 2
- 3 Have spouses/ partners run the meeting 2
- 4 Have Members’ children run the meeting..... 2
- 5 Have a President from another club run the meeting..... 2
- 6 Rotaractors or Interactors run the meeting..... 3
- 7 Run the meeting backwards 3
- 8 Speed Networking—meet other Professional in your town—like “Speed Dating” for Professional contacts..... 3
- 9 Casino Night—Just for Fun..... 3
- 10 As a Rotarian, if you could do things differently at today’s meeting, how would you do them? 3
- 11 Invite a local winery to conduct a wine tasting at your club venue – or alternatively, transport your members by bus to a nearby winery and have your meeting there. 3
- 12 Reunion Meetings—bring back past Rotarians..... 3
- 13 Thank you Meetings—to thank people who have helped the club..... 4
- 14 Rotary Club Cook Off..... 4
- 15 Christmas Party 4
- 16 Barbeques or Picnics or BYO & Share meal at the home of a member or Picnic in the Park 4
- 17 Progressive Dinner or Mystery Dinner or Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner 4
- 18 Sports challenge nights with nearby or Group clubs e.g. bowls, ten pin bowls, mini golf, carpet bowls, boules, clay target shooting 5
- 19 Car Observation Cruise in the area (don’t call it a rally or race—see insurance exclusions) or a Four Wheel Drive trip..... 5
- 20 Sailing events, Ferry or River Boat Cruises..... 5
- 21 Easy Bush Walks with a Picnic At The End 5
- 22 DVD Movie watching night at a home or meeting area complete with Popcorn Etc. 5
- 23 Card night e.g. 500, Crib, Crazy Whist, Texas Poker using tokens instead of \$\$\$ 5
- 24 Theatre or Show or Trots or Dogs or Horse Racing Visit as a group 5
- 25 Valentine’s Day or any other Special Day Dinner 6

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 26 | New Year’s Eve, or Cup Eve, or Grand Final Party | 6 |
| 27 | Music Nights—sing-a-longs, and/or music trivia quiz for all ages, maybe Karaoke singing? | 6 |
| 28 | “Host a Murder” night | 6 |
| 29 | Cocktail Party at a member’s home..... | 6 |
| 30 | Fancy Dress nights—Using themes and Music and Decorations..... | 6 |
| 31 | New & Old Board Games nights e.g. Monopoly, Cluedo, Balderdash, Scattergories etc. | 6 |
| 32 | Dance Party through the ages and cultures..... | 6 |
| 33 | Trivia Nights | 7 |
| 34 | Morning coffee gatherings..... | 7 |

1 HOW TO USE THESE IDEAS

Each of these events could be ran in place of a standard meeting, or tried as combined event with some nearby Rotary Clubs. One of these events could be run each month, or once a quarter or whenever.

2 “ROTARIANS GOT TALENT” OR “ROTARY IDOL”

Use the diverse talents of your members to conduct an event of entertainment

3 HAVE SPOUSES/ PARTNERS RUN THE MEETING

Try a meeting where all the leadership roles are conducted by partners or spouses of current Rotarians e.g. one could go the Sergeant, one could go the Chair etc.

4 HAVE MEMBERS’ CHILDREN RUN THE MEETING

Use a group of capable older children (Grades 6 to 10) of members or grandchildren of members to conduct the meeting as a way of celebrating the “Family of Rotary”. The selected children should be invited to attend a few meetings beforehand to get an idea of what goes on, and they would need a little coaching, but many young people from the ages of 12 to 16 can satisfactorily conduct a meeting.

5 HAVE A PRESIDENT FROM ANOTHER CLUB RUN THE MEETING

Invite a president from another club to run the meeting using the rituals common to the visiting President’s club.

6 ROTARACTORS OR INTERACTERS RUN THE MEETING

Have members from nearby Rotaract or Interact clubs to run the meeting

7 RUN THE MEETING BACKWARDS

Start with the farewell, and work through the usual meeting procedure in reverse, and finish by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

8 SPEED NETWORKING—MEET OTHER PROFESSIONAL IN YOUR TOWN—LIKE “SPEED DATING” FOR PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS.

Set up a night where you invite professionals from your town to join your members in a “Speed-Networking” experience. All participants are given a sequence of numbers relating to table numbers and after each course of a multi course meal or after

9 CASINO NIGHT—JUST FOR FUN

Use the resources of members to set up a fun Casino in the meeting area. Have a variety of games e.g. Blackjack, Roulette, Big Spinning Wheel, Show Poker etc. and provide participants with a supply of chips they can use to participate in the games. The player with the most chips at the end of the night wins a prize. Alternatively, have an event playing just one type of game e.g. a poker tournament.

10 AS A ROTARIAN, IF YOU COULD DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY AT TODAY’S MEETING, HOW WOULD YOU DO THEM?

Members take it in turns to run a meeting the way they would like it to be run. They can introduce new segments and run things in their own order.

11 INVITE A LOCAL WINERY TO CONDUCT A WINE TASTING AT YOUR CLUB VENUE — OR ALTERNATIVELY, TRANSPORT YOUR MEMBERS BY BUS TO A NEARBY WINERY AND HAVE YOUR MEETING THERE.

12 REUNION MEETINGS—BRING BACK PAST ROTARIANS

Invite all past members of your club to come back and see how the club has changed (or not).

13 THANK YOU MEETINGS—TO THANK PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED THE CLUB

Invite all people who have helped the club to come to a “Thank You” dinner where you can show some photos and movies of their work and present them with a “Thank You” certificate.

14 ROTARY CLUB COOK OFF

Get 3 or 4 of your best club member “chefs” to cook up their favourite dishes and explain how they do it – everyone samples the results.

15 CHRISTMAS PARTY

*(From the Black Creek Lions Club) At the Christmas party (again with spouses), we asked each member / guest to bring a gift - \$5 value. Everyone attending selected a number from the hat. The President drew the first number. The person with that number (Eugene) selected any gift he wanted and opened it. The President drew another number. That person (John) could take the gift away from Eugene or select from the table. Another number was drawn and that person (Julie) could take the gift from Eugene or John or from the table. The process continues. People went home with a wide variety of gifts – nice, funny, naughty, and silly.

16 BARBEQUES OR PICNICS OR BYO & SHARE MEAL AT THE HOME OF A MEMBER OR PICNIC IN THE PARK

17 PROGRESSIVE DINNER OR MYSTERY DINNER OR GUESS WHO’S COMING TO DINNER

Conduct a dinner where the group moves from one venue to the next for each course. Or, load every member onto a bus and head off to a mystery restaurant for dinner. Or have a series of dinners where groups of 5 or 6 members and partners are invited to a location for dinner (or supper, or drinks) without them know who else will be at the event. Mix up people who don’t usually sit together at meetings etc.

18 SPORTS CHALLENGE NIGHTS WITH NEARBY OR GROUP CLUBS E.G. BOWLS, TEN PIN BOWLS, MINI GOLF, CARPET BOWLS, BOULES, CLAY TARGET SHOOTING

Have a fun night with a nearby club, (even from a different service organization) where members play sports in teams comprising members from different clubs.

19 CAR OBSERVATION CRUISE IN THE AREA (DON'T CALL IT A RALLY OR RACE— SEE INSURANCE EXCLUSIONS) OR A FOUR WHEEL DRIVE TRIP

Basically a fun drive with some fun requirements to be met along the way. Maybe have a secret “recommended safe time” to complete the journey and the winner is the vehicle closest to the recommended safe time.

20 SAILING EVENTS, FERRY OR RIVER BOAT CRUISES

21 EASY BUSH WALKS WITH A PICNIC AT THE END

22 DVD MOVIE WATCHING NIGHT AT A HOME OR MEETING AREA COMPLETE WITH POPCORN ETC.

23 CARD NIGHT E.G. 500, CRIB, CRAZY WHIST, TEXAS POKER USING TOKENS INSTEAD OF \$\$\$

24 THEATRE OR SHOW OR TROTS OR DOGS OR HORSE RACING VISIT AS A GROUP

25 VALENTINE'S DAY OR ANY OTHER SPECIAL DAY DINNER

26 NEW YEAR'S EVE, OR CUP EVE, OR GRAND FINAL PARTY

27 MUSIC NIGHTS—SING-A-LONGS, AND/OR MUSIC TRIVIA QUIZ FOR ALL AGES, MAYBE KARAOKE SINGING?

28 "HOST A MURDER" NIGHT

Use some of the commercial "Host a Murder" sets to have a dinner whilst playing one of the games.

29 COCKTAIL PARTY AT A MEMBER'S HOME

30 FANCY DRESS NIGHTS—USING THEMES AND MUSIC AND DECORATIONS

E.g. A Blue (or any other colour) night, Halloween night, Glitzy Night, Roaring 20's night, 60's or 70's Psychedelic night etc.

31 NEW & OLD BOARD GAMES NIGHTS E.G. MONOPOLY, CLUEDO, BALDERDASH, SCATTERGORIES ETC.

Have a range of board games available.

32 DANCE PARTY THROUGH THE AGES AND CULTURES

Play dance music from different countries and eras for all ages—maybe free lessons?

33 TRIVIA NIGHTS

Either purchase a Trivia set and run your own, or hire a group to run a Trivia night for your members and guests.

34 MORNING COFFEE GATHERINGS
