



## **MENTORING NEW MEMBERS IN ROTARY**

Mentoring a new member in Rotary is a process by which an experienced Rotarian provides ongoing support and special fellowship to a new member and can be a very effective way to help a new member become acclimated to his or her club. The one-on-one connection with a mentor can provide guidance and assurance to a new member who might otherwise feel overwhelmed or isolated. The mentoring process should begin within one week following induction.

### **Qualities of a Rotary Mentor**

A mentor:

- Has a high level of knowledge and interest in his or her club and in Rotary
- Is willing and able to devote time and energy to help a new member, and
- Gives the gift of time and guidance to a new Rotarian.

### **Responsibilities of a Mentor**

A mentor will have many responsibilities but should include as a minimum:

- Being available to answer questions and provide guidance
- Ensuring the new member understand club policy & procedures, including rules and expectations
- Explaining the mandate and organization of club committees
- Acting as an informal host at club events by introducing the new member to other members
- And ensuring that the new member feels comfortable
- And monitoring attendance, comfort level and involvement in the club through periodic personal meetings.

**The key element of any mentoring program is the continuous support that the mentor provides to the new member. A strong mentoring program is an effective complement to any club's new member orientation program.**