

**CONSTITUTION OF
THE ROTARY CLUB OF
DES MOINES, IOWA
Amended May 17, 2018**

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Rotary Club of Des Moines, Iowa (Member of Rotary International).

ARTICLE II

LOCALITY OF THE CLUB

The locality of this Club is as follows: the greater metropolitan area of Des Moines, Iowa, USA

ARTICLE III

OBJECT

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by all Rotarians of their occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. The application of the ideal of service by all Rotarians to their personal, business and community life;

Fourth. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

ARTICLE IV

FIVE AVENUES OF SERVICE

Rotary's Five Avenues of Service are the philosophical and practical framework for the work of this Rotary Club.

1. Club Service, the first Avenue of Service, involves action a member should take within this Club to help it function successfully.
2. Vocational Service, the second Avenue of Service, has the purpose of promoting high ethical standards in businesses and professions, recognizing the worthiness of all dignified occupations, and fostering the ideal of service in the pursuit of all vocations. The role of members includes conducting themselves and their businesses in accordance with Rotary's principles and lending their vocational skills to Club-developed projects in order to address the issues and needs of society.
3. Community Service, the third Avenue of Service, comprises varied efforts that members make, sometimes in conjunction with others, to improve the quality of life of those who live within this Club's locality or municipality.
4. International Service, the fourth Avenue of Service, comprises those activities that members do to advance international understanding, goodwill, and peace by fostering acquaintance with people of other countries, their cultures, customs, accomplishments, aspirations, and problems, through reading and correspondence and through cooperation in all Club activities and projects designed to help people in other lands.
5. Youth Service, the fifth Avenue of Service, recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1. This Club shall hold a regular meeting on the day and at the time provided in its bylaws.

Section 2. An annual meeting for the election of officers of this Club shall be held not later than the thirty-first day of December in each year as provided by the bylaws of this Club.

ARTICLE VI

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. General Qualifications. This Club shall be composed of adult persons of good character, integrity, and leadership; possess good reputation within their business, profession, and/or community; and are willing to serve in their community and/or around the world.

Section 2. Kinds. This Rotary Club shall have two kinds of membership, namely: active and honorary.

A. Active Membership. A person possessing the qualifications set forth in the Rotary International constitution may be elected to active membership in the Club.

B. Honorary Membership. Persons, who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals, may be elected to honorary membership in this Club.

Honorary membership shall be exempt from the payment of admission fees and dues shall have no vote and shall not be eligible to hold any office in this Club; but shall be entitled to attend all meetings and enjoy all the other privileges of the Club. No honorary member of this Club is entitled to any rights or privileges in any other Club.

Section 3. Dual Membership. No person shall simultaneously hold active membership and honorary membership in this Club.

Section 4. Admission fees and dues. Every active member of this Club shall pay as an admission fee and as annual dues such sums as may be prescribed in the bylaws of this Club.

Section 5. Period. Membership shall continue during the existence of the Club unless terminated as hereinafter provided.

Section 6. Termination.

A. Membership shall automatically terminate when a member ceases to have the necessary qualifications for membership.

B. Honorary membership shall automatically terminate on the thirtieth day of June next after the date of election. However, the Board in its discretion may, by resolution, from year to year continue such honorary membership for the ensuing year.

Section 7. Termination - Non-payment of Dues. Any member failing to pay dues within thirty (30) days after the prescribed time shall be notified in writing by the Secretary-Treasurer at his or her last known address. If the dues are not paid on or before ten (10) days from the date of notification, said membership shall be subject to termination. Such former member, at the discretion of the Board, may be reinstated to membership upon petition, and upon the payment of all indebtedness to the Club.

Section 8. Termination for Other Causes.

A. The membership of any member who shall cease to have the qualifications for membership in this Club may be terminated by the Board by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the members thereof, at a meeting called for that purpose.

B. The membership of any member may be terminated by the Board, for a reason, which the Board may deem to be sufficient, by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the members thereof, at a meeting called for that purpose.

C. In either case A. or B. the member shall be given at least ten (10) days' notice in writing of such pending action and an opportunity to submit to the Board a written answer. The member shall also have the privilege of appearing before the Board to state the case. Service of such notice shall be made by personal delivery or by registered letter to the member's last known address.

D. In case of a decision to terminate membership the Secretary shall, within seven (7) days after the date of the Board's decision, notify the member in writing of the decision of the Board. Such member may, within fourteen (14) days after the date of such notice, give written notice to the Secretary of the member's intention either to appeal to the Club or to arbitrate as provided in Article XIV of this constitution. In the event the member appeals, the Board shall set a date for the hearing of the appeal at a regular meeting of the Club, to be held within twenty-one (21) days after the receipt of such written notice of appeal. At least five (5) days' notice of such Club meeting and its special business shall be given in writing to every member of the Club, and only members of the Club shall be permitted to be present when such appeal is considered at such meeting.

E. The action of the Board shall be final if no appeal to the Club is taken and no arbitration is requested. If an appeal is taken, the action of the Club shall be final.

Section 9. Resignation. The resignation of any member from the Club shall be in writing (addressed to the President or Secretary) and shall be accepted by the Board, provided that all indebtedness of said member to the Club has been paid.

ARTICLE VII

ATTENDANCE

Section 1. Every member of this Club should attend its regular meetings. Attendance is defined at a regular meeting of this Club if the member is present for at least 60% of the time devoted for the regular meeting or makes up for absences in any of the following ways:

A. If at any time within fourteen (14) days before or after the usual time for that meeting, such member

- (i) attends at least 60% of the time devoted for the regular meeting of another club or a provisional club, or
- (ii) by direction of this Club, the member attends a regular meeting of a Rotaract or Interact, or
- (iii) attends a Convention of Rotary International, a Council on Legislation, an International Assembly, a Rotary Institute, a Rotary International committee meeting, a Rotary district conference, a Rotary district assembly, any district meeting held by direction of the Board of Directors of Rotary International, any district committee meeting held by direction of the district governor, or a regularly announced intercity meeting of Rotary clubs, or
- (iv) appears at the usual time and place of a regular meeting of another club for the purpose of attending such meeting, and that club is not meeting at that time and place; or
- (v) attends and participates in a Club service project or a Club sponsored community event or meeting authorized by the Board of this Club; or
- (vi) attends a Board of Directors' meeting of this Club or, a meeting of a Rotary service committee.

B. If, at the time of such meeting the member is

- (i) traveling with reasonable directness to or from one of the meetings mentioned in paragraph (A)(iii) of this section, or
- (ii) on Rotary business serving as an officer or committeeman of Rotary International, or
- (iii) on Rotary business serving as the special representative of the member's District Governor in the formation of a new club, or
- (iv) on Rotary business in the employ of Rotary International, or
- (v) directly and actively engaged in a district-sponsored or a Rotary International or Rotary Foundation sponsored service project in a remote area where the opportunity for making up attendance is completely impossible.

Section 2. Notice of make-up. Notice may be given by the member personally or by the secretary of the club visited.

ARTICLE VIII

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. The governing body of this Club shall be a Board of Directors to be constituted as the bylaws of the Club may provide.

Section 2. Except as herein otherwise specifically provided the decision of the Board in all Club matters shall be final, subject only to an appeal to the Club. The Board shall have general control over all officers and committees and may, for good cause, declare any office vacant. It shall constitute a board of appeal from the rulings of all officers and actions of all committees. Appeal may be taken from any decision of the Board to the Club. On such appeal the decision appealed from shall be reversed only by two-thirds vote of the members present, at a regular meeting specified by the Board, a quorum being present, notice of such appeal having been given by the Secretary to all members of the Club at least five (5) days previous to such meeting.

Section 3. The officers of this Club shall be a President, a President-Elect, one or more Vice Presidents, all of whom shall be members of the Board, and a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Sergeant at Arms, any or all of whom may or may not be members of the Board as the bylaws of the Club shall provide.

Section 4. Each officer shall be elected as provided in the bylaws of the Club and, except as may otherwise be provided in relation to the President, shall take office on the first day of July immediately following the election and shall serve for the period of said election or until the successor shall have been elected and qualified.

The President shall be elected, as the bylaws of the Club may provide, within the period of not more than two years but not less than eighteen months prior to the day on which the member shall take office as President. The incoming President shall be a director of the Board and shall serve as President-Elect for the year immediately preceding the year in which the member will be serving as President. The President shall take office on the first day of July in the Rotary year for which elected to serve as President and shall serve for the period of election or until the successor shall have been elected and qualified. Each officer and each director shall be an active member in good standing of this Club.

For a better understanding of the duties and responsibilities of Club President, the President-Elect should attend the district presidents-elect training seminar and the large club conference and other sessions as determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

COMMUNITY, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Section 1. The general welfare of the community, the nation, and the world is a concern to the members of this Club, and the merits of any public question involving such welfare shall be proper subjects of fair and intelligent study and discussion before a Club meeting for the enlightenment of its members in forming their individual opinion. However, this Club shall not express an opinion on any pending controversial public measure.

Section 2. This Club shall not endorse or recommend any candidate for public office and shall not discuss at any Club meeting the merits or demerits of any such candidate.

Section 3. This Club shall neither adopt nor circulate resolutions or views, nor take corporate action, dealing with world affairs or international policies of a political nature.

Section 4. This Club shall not direct appeals to clubs, peoples or governments, or circulate letters, speeches, or proposed plans for the solution of specific international problems of a political nature.

ARTICLE X

ACCEPTANCE OF OBJECT AND COMPLIANCE WITH CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

A member, by payment of the admission fee and dues, thereby accepts the principles of Rotary as expressed in its Object and submits to and agrees to comply with and be bound by the constitution and bylaws of this Club, and on these conditions alone is entitled to the privileges of the Club. No member shall be absolved from the observance of the constitution and bylaws on the plea that the member has not received a copy of them.

ARTICLE XI

BYLAWS

This Club shall adopt bylaws not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of Rotary International (and the rules of procedure for an area administration where established) and with this constitution, embodying additional provisions for the governance of this Club. Such bylaws may be amended from time to time as therein provided.

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club, a quorum being present, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that notice of such proposed amendment has been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days before the meeting. Any such amendment so voted and approved shall be effective upon registered or certified mail to the International Secretary of Rotary International, said notification to be mailed to the International Secretary within two weeks after passage of any such amendment.