

Rotary



Rotary Club of Willmar

P.O. Box 294

Willmar, MN 56201

Rotary Club of Willmar-Honorary Member Policy

1 Preamble

This policy is not intended to be applied in general to any member that chooses not to meet attendance goals. Members who cannot or choose not to meet attendance goals, should request a leave of absence, and upon return, be subject to attendance goals.

This Policy is consistent with, and extracted from, "Bylaws of Rotary International":

Article 1: Definitions

5. Member: A member, other than an honorary member, of a Rotary club.

Article 4: Membership in Clubs

4.050. Honorary Membership.

4.050.1. Eligibility for Honorary Membership.

Persons who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals may be elected to honorary membership in more than one club. The term of such membership shall be as determined by the board of the club in which they hold membership.

4.050.2. Rights and Privileges.

Honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of dues, shall have no vote and shall not be eligible to hold any office in the club. Such members shall not hold classifications, but shall be entitled to attend all meetings and enjoy all the other privileges of the club in which they hold such membership. No honorary member of a club is entitled to any rights or privileges in any other club, except for the right to visit other clubs without being the guest of a Rotarian.

2 Purpose:

This policy has two goals:

1. To recognize members of the Rotary Club of Willmar for their substantial and long-time contributions to the Club.
2. To provide an opportunity to long-time members who no longer can or wish to meet Rotary International and Rotary Club of Willmar attendance goals.

3 Criteria:

The following guidelines/rules will normally be used to nominate Members for Honorary Membership:

1. The Member must be in good standing with the Rotary Club of Willmar at time of nomination.
2. The Member should meet the "85" rule, i.e. the sum of the Member's age and years of membership in Rotary be at least 85. The period of membership need not be continuous.
3. The Member has distinguished her/himself by meritorious service to the furtherance of Rotary through significant and ongoing participation in the Club's activities and responsibilities.
4. At the discretion of the Board, relaxation of the above criteria may be afforded to Members who have an ongoing medical condition or similar hardship and who desire to maintain a connection with the Club.
5. Is the spouse of a deceased member who had distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals.

4 Constraints and Responsibilities of an Honorary Member:

Honorary Rotarians:

1. Are recognized as full Rotarians of Rotary Club of Willmar only, subject to the *Rights and Privileges* of 4.050.2 above.
2. Are not recognized by Rotary International.
3. Do not pay Club, District nor RI dues.
4. Do pay for attendance at Club functions to the same extent as Members, e.g. lunches.
5. Will not receive a pro rata refund for any dues and the like paid should her/his status change during the Rotary year, i.e. not on June 30.

5 Process:

1. A candidate applies, or a Member nominates a candidate, for Honorary Member, by completing the Application Form prepared as part of this Policy, having received the permission of the candidate, if nominated. Only one Nominator is required and more than one is encouraged.

2. The completed form is submitted through the Club Membership Chair for inclusion on the Agenda of the next Club Board Meeting or as soon as practical thereafter.
3. The Board considers the merits of the Application and delivers its decision, which will be a vote of the majority of Board Members present at the meeting. All Club Members do not have to endorse the decision of the Board.
4. The change of Status is effective immediately.
5. Existing Honorary Members are covered by this Policy.
6. An Honorary Membership is valid for one (1) calendar year and may be renewed each subsequent year through steps 1-4 above.

6 Termination:

Honorary Memberships may be revoked by vote of the Board based on presentation of sufficient evidence that the member no longer meets the selection criteria. Honorary members may resign their membership at any time upon written notification to the Board.