



## GUIDELINES FOR PROGRAM HOSTS

1. Being a Program Host is an important responsibility because the program is the center piece of our weekly meetings. Additionally, inviting guests to quality programs can be an effective way to recruit new members and create a positive image of Rotary in the community.
2. Program Host responsibilities are assigned to Club members in alphabetical order thus each member will be responsible for a program about every 65 to 70 weeks.
3. The list of Program Hosts is created in advance of the upcoming fiscal year. It is posted on the Club website ([www.LFLBRotary.org](http://www.LFLBRotary.org)) which displays the next 6 months. The list is available by scrolling down on the home page past the Club photo and the list is on the left under *UPCOMING SPEAKERS > View entire list*. The most recent assignment schedule is also posted on the Club website home page.
4. As the Program Host you are accountable for:
  - Knowing when your program is scheduled.
  - Arranging a program on your assigned date.
5. If you will not be present on your assigned date you have two options:
  - Arrange your program and have another member host and introduce your speaker.
  - Swap program dates with another member.
6. If you are considering swapping dates it is up to you to arrange the swap. The Upcoming Speaker list on the website lists members with upcoming programs that might be willing to swap dates. Member contact information is available on the Club website by logging into the Member Area (click on the *Member Area* tab in the upper right of the home page) and then navigating to *Membership > Member Lists*. Let the Program Chair know if you swapped program dates.
7. When considering a program:
  - Choose a speaker with a topic of informational, educational, motivational or entertainment value that will be of general interest to all Club members.
  - Look for an organization or speaker we have not heard before with a fresh and interesting topic.
  - Keep the Four-Way Test in mind when considering speakers and topics.
  - Many people and organizations, especially 501(c)(3)'s will request the opportunity to speak at Rotary. Consider whether these requests merit placement.
  - If your speaker represents a charitable organization make certain they understand that the invitation to speak does not imply that the Club will be providing financial support.
  - As a not-for-profit organization we do not pay speakers.
  - No political candidates within 120 days of an election.
  - Presentations should not promote a specific business or its products or services. Directly soliciting purchases or donations is not acceptable.
  - Be certain that your speaker understands that presenting to our Club does not constitute an endorsement by the Club or Rotary International, nor should an endorsement be implied in any communication about their presentation.
  - Club members as speakers are encouraged as long as the topic meets the above criteria.
  - Advise prospective speakers that they have a total of 30 minutes which should include at least 5 minutes for questions.

8. Contact the Program Chair if you need ideas, or are uncertain about a particular speaker or organization, or if you have a last-minute cancellation.
9. You are welcome to invite speakers that cannot physically attend the meeting (e.g., they are in Beirut, Lebanon) and we can arrange for them to present via video conferencing. Contact the Program Chair if this is of interest.
10. Identify your program at least 4 weeks in advance.
11. Provide your speaker with the “Guidelines for Rotary Speakers” document.
12. As soon as you have identified your program email the following information to the Program Chair. This information will be posted to the Club website and Weekly Bulletin to give members the opportunity to invite interested guests. It may also be used to generate a press release.
  - Speaker’s name (required)
  - Speaker’s title or position (if appropriate)
  - Topic or title of the program (required)
  - Summary of the program (required)
  - Information on the speaker’s organization (if appropriate)
  - Speaker biography (recommended)
  - Photograph (recommended)
13. There is no requirement for your speaker to use PowerPoint or to show images or videos during their presentation but if they do, they **must** be on a USB thumb drive (either type-A or C) that will be used in the Club’s laptop. Connecting another laptop to the monitor is often problematic and can delay the program.
14. On the day of your program:
  - Your speaker should arrive no later than 7AM and you as their host should be present to greet them, provide the Greeter with the speaker’s name, have a name tag prepared, if they have brought a presentation on a USB thumb drive confirm that it is accessible and displays correctly on the Club laptop, distribute any handout materials to the tables, etc. This should be completed by 7:15 when breakfast is served.
  - You and the speaker will typically sit with the Club President for breakfast.
  - When it is time for the program, the Club President will introduce you as the Program Host and you will then briefly introduce your speaker.
  - After the program, ends stand with your speaker if they are interacting with Club members.
  - Assist your speaker in gathering material from the tables, etc.
  - After the presentation, communicate the Club’s gratitude to the speaker for their program.
15. If you are aware of speakers or programs that would be of interest to the Club but you do not have an upcoming program, let the Program Chair know and they may be able to: schedule you as a host into a vacancy or add your recommendation to the list of prospective speakers.

Thank you for performing this important responsibility.

This document is also available at [www.LFLBRotary.org](http://www.LFLBRotary.org)