



## STANDARD INTERACT CLUB CONSTITUTION

[Revised by the RI Board of Directors, Decision C-1, June 2017]

### Article 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Interact Club of

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This organization shall be sponsored by the Rotary Club(s) of

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### Article 2 – Purpose

The purposes of this club are for:

Rotary members to recognize the positive change implemented by youth and young adults as the fifth Avenue of Service, Youth Service, through an active and personal commitment to empower young people to take action through community and international service, develop leadership skills, and gain a global perspective that fosters world peace and cultural understanding; and for

Students and youth to take action through community and international service, discover new cultures and promote international understanding as global citizens, develop skills to become school and community leaders, make friends locally and globally, and have fun while recognizing the importance of *Service Above Self*.

### **Article 3 — Sponsorship**

1. The Rotary club sponsor(s) of this Interact club, through a committee of Rotarians, the number of which shall be determined by the Rotary club, shall exercise supervision and control over all activities, programs and policies of this Interact club. In the case of a club composed of a single gender, the committee shall also include one or more responsible adults of the same gender as ex officio members.
2. This club is not a part of, and neither this club nor its members have any rights or privileges with respect to, the sponsor Rotary club(s).
3. This club is a non-political, non-sectarian organization.
4. This Interact may be school-based or community-based. Where the Interact club is school-based, control and supervision by the sponsor Rotary club(s) shall be exercised in full cooperation with school authorities, with the understanding that such clubs are subject to the same regulations and policies established by the school authorities for all student organizations and extracurricular activities of the school.
5. To maintain active certified status from RI, this club shall provide the name and contact information of an adult adviser to the club to RI each year no later than 30 June. Failure to submit updated adult contact information to RI in a two-year period will result in termination.
6. This Interact club depends upon the continued active personal participation of the sponsor Rotary club(s). In the event that the sponsor Rotary club is terminated, the governor of the Rotary district must install another sponsor Rotary club; if one cannot be found and reported to RI within 180 days, the Interact club will be terminated.

### **Article 4 — Membership**

1. Eligible members should be youth of good character and leadership potential aged 12 to 18 years old or upon graduation, whichever is later.
2. The method of admitting new members to this club, as provided in the bylaws, shall be determined by this club with the approval of sponsor Rotary club(s). The method of admitting new members of school-based Interact clubs shall have the approval of the appropriate school authorities.

3. Membership shall automatically terminate (a) on 30 June of the Rotary year in which a member becomes 18 years old or upon graduation, whichever is later, without contradicting regulations and policies established by the school authorities for school-connected clubs; or (b) upon termination of the club; or (c) upon failure to meet attendance requirements unless excused by the board of directors of this club for good and sufficient reason.
4. Membership may be terminated for cause, as determined by this club by vote of not less than 2/3 of all the members in good standing.

### **Article 5 — Meetings**

1. The club shall meet, as provided in the bylaws, at a time and place suited to the convenience of the members, with due regard for their school obligations.
2. Attendance may be in person, through online meetings, or using online connections for members whose attendance otherwise would be precluded. All online activities, such as the club website and social media pages, shall be operated in accordance with applicable law and regulations; sponsor Rotary clubs shall obtain written consent of Interactors' parents or legal guardians in advance of Interact participation as necessary.
3. The board of directors shall meet as provided in the bylaws. No meeting of the club or of the board shall be deemed official unless a member of the sponsor Rotary club(s) is in attendance.
4. Meetings of the club and of the board of directors may be cancelled during holiday or vacation periods at the discretion of the board of directors, with the approval of the sponsor Rotary club(s).

### **Article 6 — Committees**

The president, with the approval of the board, may appoint standing or special committees as necessary or convenient for the administration of the club, citing their duties at the time of appointment. All special committees shall lapse upon the completion of their duties or upon discharge by the president.

## **Article 7 — Officers and Directors**

1. The officers of this club shall be a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and such additional officer(s) as provided in the bylaws.
2. The governing body of this club shall be a board of directors composed of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and additional directors whose number shall be determined by this club with the approval of the sponsor Rotary club(s), all to be elected from among the members in good standing. All decisions, policies and actions of the board and of the club shall be subject to the authority of the sponsor Rotary club(s), the provisions of this constitution, and policy established by Rotary International.

If school-based, this club shall be subject to the same regulations and policies established by the school authorities for all student organizations and extracurricular activities of the school.

The board of directors shall have general control over all officers and committees and may, for good cause, declare any office vacant. It shall constitute a board of appeals from the rulings of all officers and actions of all committees.

3. Elections of officers and directors shall be held annually by methods compatible with local customs and procedures, as provided in the bylaws, but in no case shall more than a simple majority of the members present and in good standing be required for election.

The term of office of all officers and directors shall be one year, unless a shorter term is provided in the bylaws.

## **Article 8 — Activities and Projects**

1. This club shall be responsible for planning, organizing, financing, and conducting its own activities and shall itself supply the money, labor, and creative imagination necessary thereto, except that in the case of joint projects or activities undertaken in cooperation with other organizations, such responsibility shall be shared with such other organization(s).
2. The club shall undertake among its activities at least two major projects annually, one designed to serve the school or community and the other to promote international understanding, and each shall involve all or most of the members of the club.
3. It is the responsibility of the club to raise the funds necessary to carry out its program. It should not solicit or accept more than occasional or incidental financial

assistance from its sponsor Rotary club(s), other Rotary clubs or other Interact clubs. All funds raised for service projects must be expended for that purpose.

### **Article 9 — Fees and Dues**

1. Fees, dues or assessments on the membership of the club may be levied for the purpose of meeting the administrative costs of the club. Funds for activities and projects undertaken by the club shall be raised apart from such fees, dues or assessments.
2. Sponsor Rotary clubs should establish financial guidelines for Interact clubs to ensure that all funds are managed in a responsible and transparent manner, including all monies collected to support service projects, consistent with laws and banking regulations in the country. This should include providing oversight for an adult signatory on all accounts, including plans for disbursement of funds should the Interact club disband or be terminated.

### **Article 10 — Acceptance of Constitution and Bylaws**

Every member of this club, by acceptance of membership, thereby accepts the principles of Interact as expressed in its purpose and agrees to comply with 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 a copy of them has not been received.

### **Article 11 — Bylaws**

This club shall adopt the “Recommended Interact Club Bylaws,” together with such amendments as are not inconsistent with this constitution and which may be deemed necessary or convenient for the governance of the club, provided that such amendments are adopted in accordance with the amendment procedure prescribed in the “Recommended Interact Club Bylaws.”

## **Article 12 — Name and logo**

The name and logo of Interact shall be used exclusively by Interact members. Each member of this club shall be entitled to wear or otherwise display the Interact name and logo in a dignified and appropriate manner during the period of membership. Such entitlement shall be relinquished upon termination of membership or termination of this club.

## **Article 13 — Duration**

This club shall exist so long as it continues to function in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and policy relating to Interact established by Rotary International, or until it is terminated:

- a) by Rotary International, with or without the consent, approval or concurrence of the sponsor Rotary club, for failure to function in accordance with this constitution or for other cause,
- b) by the sponsor Rotary club(s); or
- c) by the Interact club itself upon its own determination.

Upon termination of this club, all rights and privileges relating to the Interact name and logo shall be relinquished by the club and by its members individually and collectively.

## **Article 14 — Amendments**

This constitution shall be amended only by the Board of Directors of Rotary International, and all amendments to this prescribed “Standard Interact Club Constitution” shall be automatically adopted by each Interact club.

[END]