

**CONSTITUTION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF
SCOTTS VALLEY**

Article I Definitions

1.1 Definitions. As used in this constitution, unless the context otherwise clearly requires, the words in this article shall have the following meanings:

Board:	The board of directors of this club.
Bylaws:	The bylaws of this club.
Director:	A member of this club's Board of Directors.
Member:	A member, other than an honorary member, of this club.
RI:	Rotary International.
Satellite club:	A potential club whose members shall also be members of this club.
Year:	The twelve-month period which begins on July 1 and ends On June 30.

Article 2 Name

2.1 Name. The name of this organization shall be the Rotary Club of Scotts Valley.

Article 3 Locality of the Club

3.1 Locality. The locality of this club is the City of Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County, California, and the surrounding area, including, but not limited to the San Lorenzo Valley.

Article 4 Object

- 4.1 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 of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- Third: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life.
- Fourth: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Article 5 Five Avenues of Service

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

5.1 Club Service. Club Service, the first Avenue of Service, involves action a member should take within this club to help it function successfully.

5.2 Vocational Service. 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 the principles of Rotary.

5.3 Community Service. 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.

5.4 International Service. 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.

5.5 Youth Service. 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 6 Committees

6.1 Committees. Until changed by the board, the Club will have the following committees:

Rotary Foundation
Youth Services
Membership/Membership Retention
Public Relations
International Services
Community Services
Fund Raising
Vocational
Club Service

The board may create such additional committees or delete committees as the board

determines is in the best interests of the Club. Any board action creating a committee may be modified by subsequent board action.

6.2 Chairpersons. The president will appoint the chairman of each committee. The chairman of a committee may be a director but a chairman is not required to be a director.

Article 7 Meetings

7.1 Regular Meetings

(a) Day and Time. This club shall hold a regular meeting once each week on the day and at the time provided in the bylaws.

(b) Change of Meeting. For good cause, the board may change a regular meeting to any day during the period commencing with the day following the preceding regular meeting and ending with the day preceding the next regular meeting, or to a different hour of the regular day, or to a different place.

(c) Cancellation. The board may cancel a regular meeting if it falls on a legal holiday, including a community recognized holiday, or in case of the death of a club member, or of an epidemic or of a disaster affecting the whole community, or of an armed conflict in the community which endangers the lives of the club members

7.2 Annual Meeting. An annual meeting will be held not later than December 31 as provided in the bylaws.

Article 8 Membership

8.1 General Qualifications. This club shall be composed of adult persons of good character and good business, professional and/or community reputation.

8.2 Kinds of Membership. This club shall have two kinds of membership, namely, active or regular member, and senior retired. The club may also have honorary

members.

(a) Regular Member. A person possessing the qualifications set forth in Article 5, Section 2, of the Rotary International Constitution may be elected to active membership in this club.

(b) Senior Retired. The senior retired membership category is for those members who are over the age of 70 years and have retired from Rotary, but still desire to attend meetings and be active in club activities. They are not required to pay dues or maintain attendance requirements. They are not allowed to serve as an officer or director of the club, and they are not reported to Rotary International as a current member.

8.3 Transferring or Former Rotarian

(a) Potential Members. A member may propose to active membership a transferring member or former member of a club. The transferring or former member of a club being proposed to active membership under this section may also be proposed by the former club. The classification of a transferring or former member of a club shall not preclude election to active membership even if the election results in club membership temporarily exceeding the classification limits. Potential members of this club who are current or former members of another club who have debts to the other club are ineligible for membership in this club.

(b) Current or Former Members. This club shall provide a statement whether money is owed to this club when requested by another club with respect to a current or former member of this club being considered for membership in the other club. If such a statement is not provided within 30 days of being requested, it shall be assured that the member does not owe any money to this club.

8.4 Satellite Club Membership. Members of a satellite club shall also be members of the sponsor club until such time as the satellite club shall be admitted into membership of RI as a Rotary club.

8.5 Dual Membership. No person shall simultaneously hold active membership in this and another club other than a satellite of this club. No person shall simultaneously be a member and an honorary member in this club. No person shall simultaneously hold active membership in this club and membership in a Rotaract club.

8.6 Honorary Membership

(a) Eligibility for Honorary Membership. Persons who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals and those persons considered friends of Rotary for their permanent support of Rotary's cause may be elected to honorary membership in this club. The term of such membership shall be as determined by the board. Persons may hold honorary membership in more than one club.

(b) Rights and Privileges. Honorary members 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. Such members shall not hold classifications, but shall be entitled to attend all meetings and enjoy all the other privileges of this club. No honorary member of this club is entitled to any rights and privileges in any other club, except for the right to visit other clubs without being the guest of a Rotarian.

8.7 Rotary International Employment. This club may retain in its membership any member employed by RI.

Article 9 Classifications

9.1 General Provisions

(a) Principal Activity. Each member shall be classified in accordance with the member's business, profession, or type of community service. The classification shall be that which describes the principal and recognized activity of the firm, company, or institution with which the member is connected or that which describes the member's principal and recognized business or professional activity or that which describes the nature of the member's community service activity.

(b) Correction or Adjustment. If the circumstances warrant, the board may correct or adjust the classification of any member. Notice of a proposed correction or adjustment shall be provided to the member and the member shall be allowed a hearing thereon.

9.2 Limitations. This club shall not elect a person to active membership from a classification if the club already has five or more members from that classification, unless the club has more than 50 members, in which case, the club may elect a person to active membership in a classification so long as it will not result in the classification making up more than 10 percent of the club's active membership. Members who are retired shall not be included in the total number of members in a classification. The classification of a transferring or former member of a club, or a Rotary Foundation alumnus as defined by the board of directors of RI, shall not preclude election to active membership even if the election results in club membership temporarily exceeding the above limitations. If a member changes classification, the club may continue the member's membership under the new classification notwithstanding these limitations.

Article 10 Attendance

10.1 General Provisions. Each member should attend this club's regular meetings, or satellite club's regular meetings if provided in the bylaws, and engage in

this club's service projects, other events and activities. A member shall be counted as attending a regular meeting if the member is present for at least 60 percent of the meeting, or is present and is called away unexpectedly, or makes up for an absence in a way determined satisfactory by the board.

10.2 Extended Absence on Outposted Assignment. If a member will be working on an outposted assignment for an extended period of time, attendance at the meetings of a designated club at the site of the assignment will replace attendance at the regular meetings of the member's club, provided there is a mutual agreement between the two clubs.

10.3 Excused Absences. A member's absence shall be excused if:

(a) The absence complies with the conditions and under circumstances approved by the board.

(b) The aggregate of the member's years of age and years of membership in one or more clubs is 75 years or more and the member has notified the club secretary in writing of the member's desire to be excused from attendance and the board has approved.

10.4 RI Officers' Absences. A member's absence shall be excused if the member is a current officer of RI or a Rotarian partner of a current officer of RI.

10.5 Attendance Records. When a member whose absences are excused under the provision of subsection 10.3 (a) of this article fails to attend a club meeting, the member and the member's absence shall not be included in the attendance records. In the event that a member whose absences are excused under the provisions of subsection 10.3(b) or Section 10.4 of this article attends a club meeting, the member and the member's attendance shall be included in the membership and attendance

figures used to compute this club's attendance.

Article 11 Directors and Officers

11.1 Officers and Directors. The Club will have such officers and directors as specified in the bylaws of this club.

Article 12 Admission Fees and Dues

12.1 Admission Fees and Dues. Every member shall pay an admission fee and annual dues as prescribed in the bylaws, except that any transferring or former member of another club who is accepted into membership of this club pursuant to 8.3 ("Transferring a Former Rotarian') or any former member of this club who rejoins this club, shall not be required to pay a second admission fee. A Rotaractor who ceased to be a member of Rotaract within the preceding two years, who is accepted into membership of this club, shall not be required to pay an admission fee.

Article 13 Duration of Membership

13.1 Period. Membership shall continue during the existence of this club unless terminated as hereinafter provided.

13.2 Automatic Termination

(a) Membership Qualifications. Membership shall automatically terminate when a member no longer meets the membership qualifications, except that

(1) the board may grant a member moving from the locality of this club or the surrounding area a special leave of absence not to exceed one (1) year to enable the member to visit and become known to a Rotary club in the new community if the member continues to meet all conditions of club membership;

(2) the board may allow a member moving from the locality of this club or the surrounding area to retain membership if the member continues to meet

all conditions of club membership.

(b) How to Rejoin. When the membership of a member has terminated as provided in subsection (a) of this section, such person, provided such person's membership was in good standing at the time of termination, may make new application for membership, under the same or another classification. A second admission fee shall not be required.

(c) Termination of Honorary Membership. Honorary membership shall automatically terminate at the end of the term for such membership as determined by the board. However, the board may extend an honorary membership for an additional period. The board may revoke an honorary membership at any time.

13.3 Termination – Non-payment of Dues.

(a) Process. Any member failing to pay dues within thirty (30) days after the prescribed time shall be notified in writing by the secretary at the member's last known address. If the dues are not paid on or before ten (10) days of the date of notification, membership may terminate, subject to the discretion of the board.

(b) Reinstatement. The board may reinstate the former member to membership upon the former member's petition and payment of all indebtedness to this club.

13.4 Termination – Non-attendance

(a) Attendance Percentages. A member should:

- (1) attend or make up at least 50 percent of club regular meetings or satellite club meetings, or engage in club projects, other events and activities for at least 12 hours in each half of the year, or a proportionate combination of both;

(2) attend at least 30 percent of this club's regular meetings or satellite club meetings, or engage in club projects, other events and activities in each half of the year (assistant governors, as defined by the board of directors of RI, shall be excused from this requirement).

If a member fails to attend as required, the member's membership may be subject to termination unless the board consents to such non-attendance.

13.5 Termination – Other Causes.

(a) Good Cause. The board may terminate the membership of any member who ceases to have the qualifications for membership in this club or for any good cause by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the board members present and voting, at a meeting called for that purpose. The guiding principles for this meeting shall be Article 8 ("Membership"), section 8.1 ("General Qualifications"); The Four-Way Test, and the high ethical standards that one should hold as a Rotary club member.

(b) Notice. Prior to taking any action under subsection (a) of this section, the member shall be given at least ten (10) day's written notice of such pending action and an opportunity to submit a written answer to the board. The member shall have the right to appear before the board to state the member's case. Notice shall be by personal delivery or by registered letter to the member's last known address.

13.6 Right to Appeal, Mediate or Arbitrate Termination

(a) Notice. Within seven (7) days after the date of the board's decision to terminate membership, the secretary shall give written notice of the decision to the member. Within fourteen (14) days after the date of the notice, the member may give written notice to the secretary of the intention to appeal to the club, request mediation, or to arbitrate as provided in Article 17 ("Arbitration and Mediation").

(b) Date for Hearing of Appeal. In the event of an appeal, the board shall set a date for the hearing of the appeal at a regular club meeting to be held within twenty-one (21) days after receipt of the notice of appeal. At least five (5) days' written notice of the meeting and its special business shall be given to every member. Only members shall be present when the appeal is heard.

(c) Mediation or Arbitration. The procedure utilized for mediation or arbitration shall be as provided in Article 17 ("Arbitration and Mediation").

(d) Appeal. If an appeal is taken, the action of the club shall be final and binding on all parties and shall not be subject to arbitration.

(e) Decision of Arbitrators or Umpire. If arbitration is requested, the decision reached by the arbitrators or, if they disagree, by the umpire shall be final and binding on all parties and shall not be subject to appeal.

(f) Unsuccessful Mediation. If mediation is requested but is unsuccessful, the member may appeal to the club or arbitrate as provided in subsection (a) of this section.

13.7 Board Action Final. Board action shall be final if no appeal to this club is taken and no arbitration is requested.

13.8 Resignation. The resignation of any member from this club shall be in writing, addressed to the president or secretary. The resignation shall be accepted by the board if the member has no indebtedness to this club.

13.9 Forfeiture of Property Interest. Any person whose club membership has been terminated in any manner shall forfeit all interest in any funds or other property belonging to this club if, under local laws, the member may have acquired any right to them upon joining the club.

13.10 Temporary Suspension. Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution, if in the opinion of the board:

(a) Credible accusations have been made that a member has refused or neglected to comply with this constitution, or has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the club; and

(b) those accusations, if proved, constitute good cause for terminating the membership if the member; and

(c) it is desirable that no action should be taken in respect of the membership of the member pending the outcome of a matter or an event that the board considers should properly occur before such action is taken by the board; and

(d) that in the best interests of the club and without any vote being taken as to his or her membership, the member's membership should be temporarily suspended and the member should be excluded from attendance at meetings and other activities of this club and from any office or position the member holds within the club. For the purposes of this clause, the member shall be excused from fulfilling attendance responsibilities; the board may, by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the board, temporarily suspend the member as aforesaid for such period and on such further conditions as the board determines. Albeit for a period no longer than is reasonably necessary in all the circumstances.

Article 14 Community, National, and International Affairs

14.1 Proper Subjects. The merits of any public question involving the general welfare of the community, the nation, and the world are of concern to the members of this club and shall be proper subjects of fair and informed study and discussion at a club meeting for the enlightenment of its members in forming their individual opinions.

However, this club shall not express an opinion on any pending controversial public measure.

14.2 No Endorsements. 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.

14.3 Non Political

(a) Resolutions and Opinions. This club shall neither adopt nor circulate resolutions or opinions, and shall not take action dealing with world affairs or international policies of a political nature.

(b) Appeals. 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.

14.4 Recognizing Rotary's Beginning. The week of the anniversary of Rotary's founding (23 February) shall be known as World Understanding and Peace Week. During this week, this club will celebrate rotary service, reflect upon past achievements, and focus on programs of peace, understanding, and goodwill in the community and throughout the world.

Article 15 Rotary Magazines

15.1 Mandatory Subscription. Unless, in accordance with the bylaws of RI, this club is excused by the board of directors of RI from complying with the provisions of this article, each member shall, for the duration of membership, subscribe to the official magazine or to the magazine approved and prescribed for this club by the board of directors of RI. Two Rotarians residing at the same address have the option to subscribe jointly to the official magazine. The subscription shall be paid in six (6) month

periods for the duration of membership in this club and to the end of any six (6) month period during which membership may terminate.

15.2 Subscription Collection. The subscription shall be collected by this club from each member semiannually in advance and remitted of the Secretariat of RI or to the office of such regional publications as may be determined by the board of directors of RI.

Article 16 Acceptance of Object and Compliance with Constitution and Bylaws

By payment of an admission fee and dues, a member 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 this club. Each member shall be subject to the terms of the constitution and bylaws regardless of whether such member has received copies of them.

Article 17 Arbitration and Mediation

17.1 Disputes. Should any dispute, other than as to a decision of the board, arise between any current or former member(s) and this club, any club officer or the board, on any account whatsoever which cannot be settled under the procedure already provided for such purpose, the dispute shall, upon a request to the secretary by any of the disputants, be resolved in accordance with procedures recommended by R I.

Article 18 Bylaws

This club shall adopt bylaws not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of RI, with the rules of procedure for an administrative territorial unit where established by RI, and with this constitution, embodying additional provisions for the government of this club. Such bylaws may be amended from time to time as therein provided.

Article 19 Interpretation

Throughout this constitution, the terminology “mail,” “mailing,” and “ballot-by-mail” will include utilization of electronic mail (e-mail) and internet technology to reduce costs and increase responsiveness.

Article 20 Amendments

_ This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of this club, a quorum being present, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all voting members present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been given to each member; or as required to comply with an amendment to the bylaws of RI.

Article 21 Compliance With Rotary Code of Policies

Rotary International and this club have a zero-tolerance policy toward abuse and harassment, and Rotary International and this club are guided by the following *Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth* set forth in the Rotary International Code of Policies:

“ Rotary International is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians’ spouses, partners, and other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact.” (*RCP 2.110.1*)