

# **Rotary E-Club of District 7255**

**Membership Committee** 

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Membership Committee is a very important Committee. The vitality of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 depends on active members who understand their responsibilities. New members are important and equally important is the retention of existing club members. Recruiting and keeping good members is the number one priority of the Membership Committee.

# Value the Club Membership Recruit and Retain

- 1. Engage a committee of at least five Rotary members in our club. Ideally the Membership Committee should be equal to 10% of our club membership.
- 2. Meet with our Club President to find out the goal for new membership for the year. Work with the Club President and the Club Executives to plan for the year using Membership as the base point. Members are needed for every single committee that our Rotary E-Club has. Members are needed to contribute to the Rotary Foundation to allow Rotary to continue to make a difference around the world. Members are needed to complete the valuable community, vocational and international projects we undertake. Members are the BASE of our Rotary E-Club.
- 3. With the E-Club President and Club Executives determine what tools the club will use to evaluate the club from the standpoint of current members. What will it take to have good retention numbers? How will we KEEP the Good Rotarians we have? Consider using a Satisfaction Questionnaire.
- 4. Develop a Membership Plan that includes at least two groups of Membership Development committees competing for which group brings in the most new members.
- 5. Determine the recruitment techniques our Rotary E-Club should use. Organize a regular E-Club in which a group of potential members participate in our regular meeting or Skype meeting, or other blogs. This concept creates a bond among new members. Use the "Window of Opportunity" approach where potential members get to visit the club for several months before being proposed for membership.
- 6. Continue to encourage members to invite new members. Keep in mind the President's goal for new membership and the goal for retention. Advertise these goals for the Rotary E-Club and keep all members updated.
- 7. Follow the procedures for proposing new members as they are outlined in the Rotary E-Club web site <a href="https://www.RotaryEClubLOngIslandOne.org">www.RotaryEClubLOngIslandOne.org</a>
- 8. Do an Annual Review of Classifications in the club.
- 9. Plan events for new Members. Include the Club President, mentors and other club members to help educate and welcome the new members.
- 10. Work with the Rotary E-Club Attendance Committee and the Club Secretary to ensure that the club members are meeting the 50% attendance requirement. Encourage all our Rotary E-Club members to feel involved and be committed to the E-Club and to enjoy the fellowship of Rotary. When members are not attending our meetings we need to remind them that their presence is missed. Assign a member of the committee to phone or send a note to a club member who has missed two or more meetings in a row. Retaining the existing members needs to be a high priority of the Membership Committee.
- 11. Measure more than attendance. Track how "ENGAGED" the members of the club are by the number of club functions or committees they actively participate in. If members are

not engaged then the Rotary E-Club will have a retention problem.

- 12. When a club member is ill or has suffered the loss of a family member take the steps to show the club cares.
- 13. Hold a Rotary Information Meeting for new members are well as longtime members. "Knowledge" is a powerful tool. When club members know the Rotary functions then they feel empowered. Informed members are better equipped to take on leadership roles and to help mentor new members.
- 14. Constantly keep the club aware of how the Membership Plan is progressing. Let the members know how well things are going in meeting the goals of the plan. Let the membership know what needs to be done to help.
- 15. Work with the Club President to hold Fireside chats over Skype Group Video Conferences, or the like, to encourage open "Question and Answer" times where all members can learn more about Rotary and offer suggestions to improve the E-club.
- 16. Establish the format for educating existing members, i.e., Rotary Information sessions.

#### **New Member Initiation & Induction**

Adopt the Rotary "Red Badge Program" to help new members join in the activities of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255. The program lists action items that will help each new member learn about our Rotary E-Club, explore the opportunities of Rotary and help new members find their niche in our organization. New members should report the completion of each item to the assigned mentor as quickly as possible.

Activities	Date Completed
<ol> <li>Complete the new member "Rotary Information Session"</li> <li>Find and view at least six Rotary videos on the World Wide Web</li> <li>Visit two physical Rotary Clubs</li> <li>Display the "Objects of Rotary" &amp; "The Four-Way Test" in your office</li> <li>Participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors</li> <li>Bring a guest to three of our on-line weekly meetings</li> <li>Participate in one of our club projects</li> <li>Maintain perfect attendance</li> <li>Secure a committee assignment</li> </ol>	
10. Participate in the committee meetings	

The Rotary Information Meeting presents a clear and accurate message about what makes Rotary unique. It explains the international focus of Rotary's service and fellowship as well as our high standards for integrity in profession and business. The benefits and responsibilities of Rotary membership are stressed. It is of paramount importance that each new member understands the financial and time commitments. Joining committees and taking on leadership roles is/are essential. This is the opportunity for a new member to pick the area of service they wish to be involved in. It is also the opportunity to have them pick the committee for the club's

Major Fundraiser they wish to help with.

# **Induction Ceremony**

The Induction ceremony should be meaningful and dignified so new members feel accepted and committed. All Rotarians should welcome new members to the Rotary E-Club of D7255.

- A New Member package will be mailed to new members complete with a Rotary pin, a copy of the Four-Way Test, a member's roster, a membership certificate, and a club information guide
- Do not unreasonably delay the induction ceremony
- Give the new member a committee assignment if this did not take place at the Rotary Information session
- Ask the new member provide a portrait photo of the new member and publish it on the Rotary E-Club's and District 7255 web site.
- Arrange a Skype Group Video Conference with the new member for the purpose of holding the induction ceremony.
- Coordinate the induction with the President to ensure the session runs smoothly. If possible ask the District Governor to participate in the session.
- Call on the nominator or mentor to say some welcoming words of introduction about the new member.

### **NEW MEMBER INDUCTION SCRIPTS**

[Name of new member] , you have been selected by the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 to become one of us.

Membership in Rotary is an honor and a privilege and, with all things worth doing in life, it comes with duties and responsibilities. You will be expected to participate in club activities and to attend club meetings on a regular basis. When you are unable to attend you will be expected to seek out another Rotary club meeting to make up your attendance. Making up this club meeting is not a problem in the World of Rotary because with more than 34,400 clubs around the world there will always be a Rotary club waiting to meet you. [Name of new member]

Please repeat after me: I <u>[state your name]</u>, do solemnly swear that as a new member of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255, I will uphold and abide by the Constitution and B-Laws of the Rotary E-Club, District 7255 and Rotary International, as well as, the Constitution and laws of the State of New York and the United States of America. So help me God.

Today you became a member of our Rotary E-Club and thus have the opportunity to participate and lead in it ideals. Soon the world will now judge Rotary by your conduct as well as the other Rotarians worldwide. We trust you will be inspired and stimulated by the friendship you find here and throughout the Rotary world.

Fellow Rotarians, please welcome <a>[Name of new member]</a>, at this moment the world's newest Rotarian.

# **Alternate Induction Ceremony Script**

[Name of new member] , you have been elected to the membership of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 because your fellow members believe you to be a worthy representative and you possess qualities that will permit you to exemplify the true spirit of Rotary in your public, business, social and private life.

Please repeat after me: I <u>[state your name]</u>, do solemnly swear that as a new member of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255, I will uphold and abide by the Constitution and B-Laws of the Rotary E-Club, District 7255 and Rotary International, as well as, the Constitution and laws of the State of New York and the United States of America. So help me God.

We wish to impress upon you that you have been admitted not only to the Rotary E-Club of District 7255, but also to a worldwide association; and by virtue of your membership in this club, you will be welcomed into the fellowship of any Rotary club in the world.

The honor and privilege of Rotary membership carries with it duties and obligations. You will be expected to attend the club's meeting one hundred percent, to perform your share of club service and to place your knowledge and talents at the disposal of the club in its task of carrying the principals of Rotary into the daily life of the community.

Fellow Rotarians, please welcome <a>[Name of new member]</a>, at this moment the world's newest Rotarian.

#### FORMER ROTARIAN INDUCTION SCRIPT

Thank you, [Name of new member] , for accepting the invitation of membership in the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 to rejoin the worldwide fellowship and service work of Rotary. This invitation is extended to you because we believe that your leadership qualities prepare you to interpret and impart the message of Rotary.

We look forward with confidence to your participation in the contribution to the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 programs, projects and activities. Much is expected of you in help and inspiration to enable us to better serve your community. I congratulate you and offer you the right hand of Rotary in fellowship.

Fellow Rotarians, join me extending a warm welcome to our new member.

## **Mentors**

When the members of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255 will be looking for a mentor for the new member consider first the Rotarian who proposed the new member. If that Rotarian is willing and meets the requirements of a good mentor, they are the best choice. At the same time consider if the sponsor is the best choice. If we have members of our club who are excellent at recruiting new members it is best not to burden them with all the detail work of mentoring a new member. There will be members of our club who are excellent at making people feel welcome and engaged. These are the club members to enlist as mentors.

Also, ensure the mentor is familiar with the Rotary Information package and the Red Badge Program.

Meet with the new member. Explain that the new member has a mentor and outline the expectations of both the mentor and the new Rotarian in the months to come. Indicate to the new member where the Rotary Information package is located on our Rotary E-Club of District 7255 web site.

Invite the new member to become involved in the programs, activities and fundraising projects of the Rotary E-Club of District 7255.