

11 January 2018

Updating our Constitutional Documents

- The current Constitution and Bylaws of the Rotary Club of Caloundra dates back to 1998.
- Rotary's *Standard Rotary Club Constitution* and the *Recommended Rotary Club Bylaws* were adopted by the Council on Legislation in 2016
- *The 2016 Council on Legislation may well be remembered as one of the most progressive in Rotary history. Read more at www.rotary.org/en/news-media/council-grants-clubs-greater-flexibility-meeting-membership*
- One of the progressive elements of the 2016 constitutional documents was the insertion of Article 7 to enable clubs to override certain of the Constitution's provisions. It reads:
 - *The bylaws may include rules or requirements not in accordance with article 8, section 1 (Regular Meetings); article 12 (Attendance); and article 15, section 4 (Termination for Non-attendance), of this constitution. Such rules or requirements shall supersede the rules or requirements of these sections of this constitution; a club, however, must meet at least twice per month.*
- The club's Board considered these and other aspects at its December meeting. The following summarises the decisions taken for the purposes of inclusion in the drafting process.
- The decisions are circulated in order to inform members and receive any comments for further consideration ahead of submitting the new Constitution and Bylaws for approval by members in due course.

Regular Meetings

- Weekly meetings at 7am on Tuesday confirmed
- The location, business, and form of the regular meeting to be determined by the Board including:
 - In person or through an online meeting, or using an online connection for members whose attendance otherwise would be precluded, or
 - By posting an interactive activity on the club's website.
- Maximum of three consecutive meetings may be cancelled; a total of four meetings may be cancelled in a year (public holidays are excepted)

Board & Other Meetings

- Board to determine 'Any Other Business' for an AGM
- Board meetings to allow use of any technology that allows a member to hear and take part

Attendance

Each member is asked to:

- Attend two regular meetings each month
- Attend all Annual & General meetings
- Participate in operations via Board and Committees
- Participate in one service project conducted by club each quarter year

Termination for Non-Attendance

- Failure to attend a minimum of 10 regular meetings & one service activity per half-year
 - Member asked to show cause in writing to the Board (Board may consent to non-required attendance with reason)
- Failure to attend or make-up six consecutive meetings
 - Board may terminate, then advise the former member

Excused absences - the Rule of 85

- The rule of 85 presently excuses a member from attendance if age plus years of membership is 85 or more, membership is greater than 20 years, and the member notifies, and the Board approves.
- 13 members are currently eligible to apply
- We are not aware which members have applied/been approved under this rule
- The club is at liberty to amend or delete this Rule but it is not proposed to do so

OTHER CHANGES CONSIDERED FOR THE BYLAWS:

Dues

- Annual dues decided by members on the advice of the Board
 - Payable annually in advance by 1 July or semi-annually in advance by 1 July and 1 January

Types of Membership

- Active
- Corporate (max 15%) (up to 3 individuals per corporate)
 - Individuals can convert to active
- Honorary (max 10%, or existing plus one if higher)
- Honorary - Associate (max 15%)
 - Club dues only; non-voting but can convert; two year maximum term, then automatically convert to active
- Honorary - Family (max 3 per member)
 - Club dues only; non-voting but can convert

Electing Members

RI's Recommended Rotary Club Bylaws suggests the following method of electing members in Article 10:

Section 1 – A member proposes a candidate for membership to the board, or another club proposes one of its transferring or former members.

Section 2 – The board approves or rejects the candidate’s membership within 30 days and notifies the proposing member of its decision.

Section 3 – If the board approves the candidate’s membership, the prospective member is invited to join the club.

A process to address objections raised by current members may also be included here.

It is therefore optional to give notice to existing members and to allow for objections from current members. The period in which to object in our current Bylaws is 7 days after the notice. An objection means that the Board re-considers the decision at its next meeting, or – subject to clarification – it may be that the club votes on the matter at its next meeting.

Board of Directors

- President
- Immediate Past President
- President Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Six (6) other directors to Chair a Standing Committee
- The Chair of a Satellite Club when applicable

Committees

- Board approves each year a Committee Plan that enables the club to be active in all 5 Avenues of Service and generally comply with the Constitution
- The Plan identifies the (5) Standing Committees by name and describes scope
- Plan reviewed in April each year by President Elect, President & Immediate Past President and submitted to Board

Sergeant at Arms

- One or more Sergeants at Arms to be appointed by incoming Board one month prior to taking office