

## Answers to Common Questions about Satellite Clubs

1. Although a satellite meets at a different time, all members are Rotarians who belong to your club. You are one club that meets at two different times.
2. For prospective new members, having two meeting options is a big advantage.
3. Most *After Work* satellites meet from 5:30 to 6:30. This allows those who get off work at 5:00 to come to Rotary and still be home for dinner and evening activities.
4. Clubs that meet at 5:30 do not usually serve a meal. Often, beer & wine are available for purchase.
5. Some satellite clubs meet weekly, however most meet twice a month; for example 1st & 3rd Thursday @ 5:30.
6. Spouses of current members often join a satellite to get more involved in Rotary. They are frequently among the first to join.
7. For parents of school-aged children, *After Work* clubs are quickly becoming a preferred Rotary meeting time. This is especially true of working mothers because it fits their busy lifestyle.
8. *After Work* clubs are also popular among young professional couples who frequently attend together. For teachers and those in healthcare, this is a meeting time that often works best.
9. Satellite members pay the same dues as other members; however total membership cost is usually less if no meal is served.
10. Fears of members switching from sponsor club to satellite because of lower cost are unfounded. Members select their preferred meeting time based on establish friendships, work schedule and current family demands.
11. It's not unusual for some members to attend both meetings. Having a satellite option can also help current members stay in your club if they experience a change in their work or family responsibilities.
12. For service projects and fundraisers, most work together on larger projects and have others they work on independently.
13. Finding a few members from the sponsor club to attend satellite meetings during the first year is important. Often, these members are motivated to help because their own work or family responsibilities have changed.
14. Originally, satellites had the same name as the sponsor club plus a "satellite" qualifier like *Rotary Satellite Club of Ashland*. This caused confusion. Now, most adopt club names that help prospective members know when and where they meet, like Ashland After Work Rotary, Ashland PM Rotary, Ashland After Hours Rotary, Ashland Sunset Rotary or Ashland Evening Rotary.
15. Many clubs amend their current bylaws to incorporate the satellite once it is fully established; some allow satellites to develop their own bylaws that then must be approved by the sponsor club.
16. Once a satellite is fully established, many sponsor clubs continue to maintain one board with satellite representation guaranteed.
17. Rotary International recognizes one President per club. The leader of the satellite is often referred to as the Chair.
18. The decision to start a satellite does not require RI approval because no new charter is involved.
19. In earlier days, satellites aspired to charter. Many no longer see an advantage to doing so.
20. Every Rotary club is different. Don't try to create a carbon-copy of your club. Let satellite members decide what kind of club they want to be.