

# The 2016 COL Enactments

How clubs can take advantage of these to increase membership growth and retention



# Before we get started...



- We will record this webinar
- Everyone is muted to improve the sound quality
- You can choose to turn you webcam on or off
- We will take questions and comments at the end of the presentation
- If you have a question or comment, you can use the chat function. Select the recipient of your message; type your message in the box; hit "Enter" to send.
- We will end by 9:00. This will be repeated next Tuesday at 8:00 pm

# Our journey tonight...



- Review of recent COL enactments affecting clubs
- Implications for clubs
- What should clubs do now?
- Questions / comments

# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Attendance

**Ability to change rules.** Clubs may relax or tighten attendance requirements and termination policies for non-attendance. However, clubs are still expected to forward attendance reports to the governor. Any club that wishes to continue adhering to the traditional attendance requirements may do so. *(16-21)*

**Rule of 85.** Rotarians can be excused from attendance if the combined total of their years of membership in one or more clubs plus their age equals at least 85, with their years of membership totaling at least 20. *(16-35)*

# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Club Finances

**Admission fees.** New members can be admitted without paying admission fees. However, clubs may also choose to retain these fees, and they have the flexibility to add admission or other fees to their bylaws. *(16-07)*

**Club dues increased.** To address both financial challenges and the need to improve service to clubs, RI semiannual dues were increased by \$4 for each of the next three years — to US\$30.00 per half year in 2017-2018, US\$32.00 per half year in 2018-2019, and US\$34.00 per half year in 2019-2020. *(16-99)*

# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Club Meetings

**Ability to change meeting schedules.** Clubs can now vary their meeting days and times, and can cancel meetings, as long as they meet at least twice a month. However, any club that wishes to adhere to the traditional requirements regarding meetings and cancellations may do so. *(16-21)*

**Canceling a meeting.** Clubs can cancel a meeting if it falls during a week that includes a holiday. *(16-26)*

**In-person and online meeting participation.** Clubs can have in-person meetings, online meetings, allow online participation for an in-person meeting, or switch between any of these formats. *(16-30)*

# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Membership

**Rules and qualifications.** Clubs may determine their own rules or requirements for transferring members, dual membership, and honorary members. They're also free to continue following the traditional provisions for these members. The only mandatory qualifications for membership are that Rotarians must be adults who have demonstrated good character, integrity and leadership; have a good reputation in their business, profession and community; and are willing to serve in their community and around the world. *(16-36, 16-38)*

# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Membership - continued

**New membership types.** Clubs may offer associate, corporate, family, or other membership types. Clubs offering these additional types would report these members to Rotary as “active” for purposes of inclusion on the club invoice. Other financial obligations (club dues, meal costs, etc.), attendance requirements, and service expectations for these members are determined by the club. However, only active members may be considered for office and count in determining a club’s voting strength. (16-36)



# Key 2016 COL Enactments



## Membership - continued

**Dual membership in Rotary and Rotaract clubs.** Rotaractors can simultaneously hold separate membership in a Rotaract club and a Rotary club. (16-40)

**Transferring member statement.** Potential members who owe money to another club are ineligible for membership. Clubs must seek confirmation that a former Rotarian does not have any outstanding debt to their previous club. When a club requests a statement from the club of a member who wishes to transfer, or who was previously a member, as to whether that person owes money, the request must be responded to within 30 days. If no response is provided, it is assumed that the member doesn't owe anything. These changes are in the RI Bylaws but are no longer repeated in the *Standard Rotary Club Constitution*. (16-51)

# Key Implications for Clubs



- Meeting frequency & attendance requirements
  - What meets the needs of your current members as well as prospective members
  - Engagement vs. meeting attendance
    - Credit for participation in other activities?

# Key Implications for Clubs



- Meeting frequency & attendance requirements
  - What meets the needs of your current members as well as prospective members
  - Engagement vs. meeting attendance
- Alternative membership types
  - RI membership: Active or Honorary
  - Alternate types are defined by club
  - RI & District dues are required to be recognized by RI & District as a member of Rotary; club dues can vary; consider insurance coverage

# What should clubs do now?



- Develop process for discussing/deciding what changes, if any, club members want to make to:
  - Meeting frequency
  - Attendance policy
  - Membership types
  - Dues structure
  - Meal costs

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  - Meal costs
- Do club self-assessment?

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  - Attendance policy
  - Membership types
  - Dues structure
  - Meal costs
- Do club self-assessment?
- Amend club bylaws to reflect changes (if any)

