

Board decisions

October 2019

The second 2019–20 RI Board of Directors meeting was held on 21–24 October 2019 at the Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At this meeting, the Board reviewed 14 committee reports and recorded 61 decisions.

Club and District

The Board received a report on membership trends that included, as of 1 July 2019, a membership total of 1,189,466 Rotarians (down 5,641 members from 2018) and a total of 35,890 clubs (up 209 clubs from 2018).

Programs and Awards

The Board

- approved a pilot partnership concept with the Global Partnership for Education, a global fund that aims to strengthen education systems in developing countries;
- agreed to a resource partnership with the Eleanor Crook Foundation that will involve a nutrition initiative with the Power of Nutrition in a sub Saharan Africa country;
- agreed to add Gavi The Vaccine Alliance as a partner to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative;
- approved the Rotary Fellowship: Rotary Peace Fellowship Alumni Association;
- in reviewing several recommendations from the **Elevate Rotaract Task Force**, agreed to
 - allow Rotaract clubs to organize without a sponsor
 - allow Rotaract clubs to organize with a Rotaract club sponsor
 - remove the upper age limit of Rotaract (but maintained that the program is for young adults)
 - strongly encourage Rotary districts to include Rotaractors in every district committee
 - further review establishing per capita dues for Rotaractors
 - eliminate the US\$50 chartering fee for new Rotaract clubs, beginning 1 July 2021 (provided that a Rotaract per capita dues structure is in place)
 - encourage future RI presidents to appoint Rotaractors as advisers to RI committees
 - explore developing a mobile app to better facilitate Rotary and Rotaract club management and communications
 - set the following goals pertaining to Rotaract:

- increase the number of reported Rotaractors by 100 percent by 2022
- increase the number of reported Rotaractors that join Rotary clubs by 20 percent by 2022
- increase the number of reported Rotaractors to one million by 2029.

Meetings

The Board

- accepted the proposal of the 12 Taiwanese districts to host the **2021 Rotary International Convention on 12–16 June 2021 in Taipei, Taiwan;**
- noted that 2026 will be the first year (of a seven-year cycle) Rotary will hold its convention in a city that does not meet all of Rotary's critical criteria to host a convention and agreed to solicit proposal from Durban, South Africa; Genoa, Italy; Krakow, Poland; Manila, Philippines; Rimini, Italy; Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt; and Trondheim, Norway.

Administration and Finances

The Board

- elected Hsiu Ming Lin, Geeta K. Manek, Aziz Memon, and Barry J. Rassin to be Rotary Foundation trustees, beginning 1 July 2020;
- received President-elect Knaack's committee structure for 2020–21, comprising the standing committees of: **Audit, Communications, Constitution and Bylaws, Conventions** (Taipei and Houston) Districting, Election Review, Finance, Membership, Operations Review, Rotaract, and Strategic Planning, and "Other" committees including the International Assembly, Joint Committee on Partnerships, Leadership Development and Training, Shaping Rotary's Future, Young Past Governors, and Risk Advisory;
- **strengthened its adult harassment policy and agreed that incoming and current club presidents, governors, regional leaders, and directors shall be provided annual training on Rotary's adult harassment policy, and further requested the Leadership Development and Training Committee to incorporate this training at all future President-elect Training Seminars and at the International Assembly;**
- the Board adopted the 2020–21 annual goals for Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation as follows:

GOALS FOR PRIORITY 1 – INCREASE OUR IMPACT

1. Eradicate polio and highlight Rotary's role.
2. Increase contributions to the Annual Fund and PolioPlus while building the Endowment Fund to \$2.025 billion by 2025.

3. Improve the measurable impact of district grants, global grants, PolioPlus and the Rotary Peace Centers.
4. Build new partnerships, including opportunities with government agencies, to enhance the global foot print of humanitarian projects.

GOALS FOR PRIORITY 2 – EXPAND OUR REACH

5. Increase and diversify participation by starting new and innovative clubs and participant engagement channels, and by attracting new members in our existing clubs.
6. Increase the number **of female members**, members under 40, and Rotaractors joining Rotary.
7. Build awareness of Rotary and Rotarians as **People of Action**.

GOALS FOR PRIORITY 3 – ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

8. Enhance the engagement among Interact, Rotaract and Rotary club members and other Rotary participants.
9. Increase collaboration between all participants, in particular between Rotary clubs and Rotaract clubs.
10. Build new partnerships to enhance the global foot print of our humanitarian projects.

GOALS FOR PRIORITY 4 – INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

11. Implement adjustment to our volunteer leadership structure.
12. Focus and potentially narrow our program efforts.