

CONNECTING WITH YOUR CLUB



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Outline

- Where your club fits in the Rotary World
- President's role - Leadership and Motivation
- President's Role – Running efficient meetings
- President's Role – Good communication
- President's role – Overcoming the barriers
- Personal discipline and skills development



Where the District fits in Global Rotary

RI President – appointed for an annual term

RI Board - Two year term – selected by Zone selection committees – represent their Zones

Zones – 34 administrative geographical groupings – approximately equal numbers of Rotarians – Australia is Zone 8

One director for Zones 7 and 8 (Zone 7 is Philippines and New Zealand)



Where the District fits in Global Rotary

Districts – 530 globally – 21 in Zone 8 (Australia)

A geographical area in which Rotary Clubs are combined for administrative purposes

District 9685 – 77 clubs – Sydney's north extending to Northlakes Toukley to the North, Blackheath to the West, with the southern border being Sydney Harbour and a line running approximately West to the Blue Mountains



District Zones

District Zones are groups of 4 to 6 clubs

Formed to allow for effective communication and leadership

Geographical / local body area groupings

Governor represented by an Assistant Governor for each Zone

16 Zones in District 9685

Potential for combined club activities – service projects, membership development, public relations



President's Role - Leadership

- Ideas, Vision – the big picture for the club
- Communicate your ideas
- Lead the board and members
- Need to sell ideas at every level to get them accepted and acted upon – you need to show knowledge, dedication, understanding and persistence
- Persuade members to welcome change and not be fearful of it
- Include modernisation in your vision



President's Role - Motivation

- Conductor of the orchestra – leading everyone in the same direction and working together
- Communicate your ideas
- Delegate the “doing” as much as possible, but be prepared to step in when necessary.
- Follow up on the completing of tasks with assistance, not criticism
- Keep close to all club members – greet them at the door each meeting, ring them up when absent, visit them when sick.
- Listen and serve – modesty and humility are essential traits of good leadership



President's Role – Running efficient meetings

- Applies to Club and Board meetings
- Prepare in advance
- Ensure the program includes top speakers
- Ensure there is adequate time for fun and fellowship (NOT necessarily a fines session)
- Keep meeting strictly to time (good time management is the hallmark of a productive and efficient leader)
- Involve as many members as possible in the proceedings
- Ensure the big issues are covered and trivia is dropped off



President's Role – Communication

- Essential to communicate openly and frequently with board and members
- Only communicate important material, not trivia (avoid overload)
- Ensure communications are very clear and understood – it's a two way street deliverer and receiver
- Treat all members with respect, regardless of perceived deficiencies.
- Distribute board minutes to all members – or at least a summary of main points and agreements and board actions. Minutes should be to board within 48 hours



President's Role – Work to overcome the barriers to success

- Resistance to change among members
- Poor club culture
 - – inward looking and “comfortable”
 - - culture of non- involvement – leaving it to others – no buy-in to club projects
- Poor meetings and poor or few guest speakers
- Disorganised meetings and evidence of lack of vision, direction and planning.
- Lack of respect for board and president



President's Role – Personal Development

- Presidential position a huge opportunity for personal development
- Develop your skills in time management, public speaking, running meetings, Rotary knowledge
- Use the support around you – AG, training courses, District Team, RI and District websites
- Attend RLI and encourage all your leadership team to do so too. (One large club requires all incoming board members to attend)
- Ensure ALL your team attend District Assembly



Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)

- AKA Rotary Learning and Information
- To develop leadership skills and enhance Rotary knowledge
- For new Rotarians up to very experienced Rotarians
- Facilitated learning process – great networking
- Subjects include leadership skills and strategies, communication, team building, Rotary structure, the Foundation, projects, ethics and vocational service, strategic planning, attracting and retaining members, public image, international service, Rotary opportunities, making a difference



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