

**2024 RYPEN CHALLENGE**  
**15 – 17 March 2024**  
**Borambola Sport & Recreation Centre**  
**via Wagga Wagga**



## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

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The **ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT (RYPEN)** is a challenging weekend designed for year 9 students who show a positive and caring attitude in everyday life. The principal aim is to communicate a series of ideas, discuss social issues and run a series of challenging team-building activities that will assist the participants in developing relationship and life skills.

At RYPEN you will make new friends, develop skills you didn't know you had and above all you will have a great time.

For more information and to view photos and videos from previous RYPEN camps visit the [Rotary District 9705 website](https://rotary9705.org.au/page/rypen) (<https://rotary9705.org.au/page/rypen>)

### Who runs RYPEN

RYPEN is run by members of the Rotary Club of Wollundry Wagga Wagga. The camp is run largely by the **RYPEN Youth Leadership Team**, a hand-picked group of ex-RYPEN students, who are also responsible for guiding and mentoring the RYPEN students.

### Youth Leadership Team (YLT)

A small team of amazing students that have attended RYPEN in the past have been selected as the Youth Leadership Team. After an intensive training weekend, they are very keen to meet the RYPEN students and spend the weekend with them at the camp. The YLT is open to any student that has previously attended RYPEN.

### Where is RYPEN

RYPEN is held at [Borambola Sport & Recreation Camp](https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sport-and-recreation-centres/borambola) (<https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sport-and-recreation-centres/borambola>) which is located 25kms east of Wagga Wagga on the Sturt Highway.

### Camp Dates

Starts: 5pm Friday 15 March

Ends: 1pm Sunday 17 March

### How much does RYPEN Cost

Your local Rotary Club is responsible for the selection of **RYPEN** participants and will discuss arrangements for the payment of the \$475 camp fee. The Rotary Club may provide partial or full sponsorship.

**All applications must be supported by a Rotary Club.**

### Transport To/From RYPEN

Buses have been arranged for travel from Griffith-Wagga, Bathurst-Wagga and Canberra-Wagga (and many towns in between) at no additional cost to RYPEN participants. Your sponsoring Rotary Club has the details. If you are unable to use the bus service, you must make your own travel arrangements or ask your local Rotary club for help.

### What Happens at RYPEN

At RYPEN you will meet new people and make new friends. You will hear from inspirational speakers covering a range of interesting topics and participate in a host of fun and exciting outdoor and team building activities. You will also learn a lot about yourself and how you can have a positive impact on others. And you will get to meet and chat with all the international Rotary Exchange students that are in Australia in the Rotary District. Check out the RYPEN program in the information package.

## **INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS (continued)**

### **What do I need to bring to RYPEN**

- Sleeping bag and a pillow
- Towel and toiletries
- Swimmers
- Casual clothes
- Sensible shoes (ensure that you have sports shoes)
- Writing material
- Junk food (if you cannot last one weekend)
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Your sense of adventure and a healthy sense of humor

### **Will I be in the same group as my friends?**

You will be assigned to accommodation and activity groups designed to give you the best opportunity to meet new people and develop new friendships and new skills. You probably won't be in a group with your old friends, but you are going to make lots of new friends!

### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones are to be handed in to the camp supervisor upon registration. They will be held in security and returned to you at the conclusion of the camp.

### **RYPEN Camp Rules**

Strict Rules are enforced at RYPEN to ensure the safety and well-being of each participant. Breaking camp rules may result in the parent/guardian being asked to remove their child from camp.

1. Students must always behave appropriately including obeying camp rules, respecting the wishes of the organizers and the rights of fellow students.
2. Smoking and alcohol use by students are not permitted.
3. Mobile phones are not permitted. Phones brought to the camp will be securely stored by the camp supervisor.
4. Participants can expect to be in accommodation groups and activity groups separated from friends.
5. Accommodation groups and activity groups will not be altered to group friends together.
6. The camp curfew is 12.00 midnight. Students are not to leave their dormitories after this time. If there is any medical reason to break this curfew, please indicate this on the application form.

### **To apply for RYPEN:**

- 1. Complete the Application Form and return to your sponsoring Rotary Club ASAP**
- 2. Speak to your Rotary Club about sponsorship for the \$475 camp fee**
- 3. Your parent/guardian must complete the Borambola online registration  
NO LATER THAN 4 WEEKS BEFORE THE CAMP (info in application form)**
- 4. Applications are assessed on a FIRST IN basis.**

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## APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information										PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY	
First name:					Last name:						
Gender:					Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy):						
Current address:						Home phone:					
Suburb:					State:			Postcode:			
Your email:								Your mobile:			
Parent/guardian name:						Parent/guardian email:					
Your school:										Year:	
Sports/hobbies/interests:											
T-Shirt size		Male fit		XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	Other:	
(please circle)		Female fit		8	10	12	14	16	18	Other:	
Sponsoring Rotary Club Information											
Club name:											
Contact name:						Position:					
Phone:						Email:					
How will you get to/from RYPEN?				RYPEN Bus <input type="checkbox"/>		I will arrange my transport <input type="checkbox"/>					
RYPEN Bus Transport (see schedules)		If travelling on a RYPEN bus, which town will you get on/off at?									
Emergency contact											
Name of person to contact in case of emergency:											
Relationship to you:											
Phone business hours:						Phone after hours/mobile:					
Parent/Guardian acceptance											
<p>This RYPEN Camp is conducted and supervised by Rotarians and their partners who live-in with participants. All carry a current Working with Children Check, under the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012. Strict Rules will be enforced to ensure the safety and well-being of each participant. Students that behave contrary to camp rules may be required to be removed from the camp by their parent/guardian.</p> <p>Please sign below to give your approval for your child to attend this RYPEN Camp at Borambola Sport &amp; Recreation Centre.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I give the RYPEN Committee permission to arrange Ambulance transport and medical attention for my son/daughter/ward if it is considered necessary. I expect to be notified as soon as practicable.</li> <li>I grant permission to use my child's image in print, video, and digital media. I agree that these images may be used by Rotary for a variety of purposes and that these images may be used without further notifying me.</li> </ol>											
Signature of Parent/Guardian:										Date:	
Student acceptance											
Please sign below to acknowledge that you have read, understand and agree to abide by the RYPEN camp rules and that whilst at the camp you will behave in the spirit of friendship and teamwork.											
Signature of Applicant:										Date:	
<b>Places are limited. Return this form to your sponsoring Rotary Club ASAP</b>											

NEED HELP? Contact your sponsoring Rotary club or RYPEN coordinator [rypen@wollundryrotary.org.au](mailto:rypen@wollundryrotary.org.au)

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## **BORAMBOLA ONLINE REGISTRATION**

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RYPEN is held at the Borambola Sport & Recreation camp near Wagga.

The Department of Sport and Recreation require each RYPEN participant to register for the camp via their online portal to provide medical, food allergy and other information.

This form must be completed online by a parent/guardian by clicking link below; or copy and paste the link into an internet browser on your computer (Google Chrome is preferred).

<https://officeofsport.ungerboeck.com/prod/emc00/register.aspx?eid=L3ZpbIRwT2xoNGNoTnJuUnE1cEVwUT090>

After clicking the link, you must set up an account and then complete the registration process by answering the questions.

## **ONLINE REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON 23 FEBRUARY**

**Missing this cut-off may mean you cannot attend the camp.**

**You cannot attend RYPEN unless you have completed the online registration**

**NUMBERS ARE LIMITED. APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BASED ON RECEIPT OF FORMS.  
GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN ASAP!!**

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## INFORMATION FOR ROTARY CLUBS

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The Rotary District 9705 RYPEN Committee is pleased to announce that applications are open for the 2024 RYPEN Challenge.

For those of you who are not familiar with the program, RYPEN is a youth program that has been running in our District for many years. It aims to give young people self confidence and self-esteem and to enhance a belief in their abilities and talents. It is not about rewarding the super confident or those who already have leadership skills. Equally, it is not for young people with behavior problems or other serious issues.

RYPEN targets students who are often overlooked for leadership or other programs which focus on personal development. We ask that you forward students currently in Year 9 that you think have potential but just don't know it themselves.

90% of the students in our schools are not top of the class or captain of a team, leaders of their school community or already achieving great things. They just need an opportunity to discover their untapped potential, boost their confidence and develop a belief in their own abilities. These are the young people who will gain so much from RYPEN.

Please arrange sponsorship for RYPEN participants through your club. Contact your local High Schools, advertise the Camp in your bulletin and encourage your members to assist in finding participants. Please send the **RYPEN School Information** and **RYPEN Application forms** to your local high schools to help promote the Camp.

You are responsible for the selection of potential students in your area and for arranging payment of the camp fee for each student. Some clubs choose to invite either schools or parents to share this cost. The Club must endorse each application.

Please interview the potential participants and do not rely upon the advice of the school staff. Please explain the camp rules (on the "information for applicants" page) to each student and their parents. Ensure the student application form and club sponsorship form are all completed and signed. If forms are incomplete or not signed they will be returned to the club and the application will be delayed. The Borambola online registration **MUST** be completed no later than **4 weeks before the camp**.

You are also responsible for arranging transport to and from the venue. The following return bus services will be provided and will assist many students with transport.

- Bus from Bathurst via Orange, Blayney, Cowra, Young and Cootamundra to Borambola.
- Bus from Griffith via Leeton and Narrandera to Borambola.
- Bus from Canberra to Borambola

Please nominate on the application forms if a RYPEN bus service will be used, or the alternate (private) transport method to be used by the applicant. Final bus schedules will be published a few weeks before the camp.

The RYPEN information/forms that are available are as follows:

- Student Application form - including RYPEN information, application form and Borambola registration instructions.
- Information for Clubs – including RYPEN information, Club Sponsorship Form and Bus Schedules.
- Information for Schools (send this to your local schools)
- RYPEN Camp program

- **Submit RYPEN application forms ASAP (at least 4 weeks before the camp)**
- **The Dept. Sport & Rec online registration is a separate step and must be completed no later than 4 weeks before the camp (details in application form)**
- **RYPEN Fee is \$475 per student - you will be invoiced by the District after application forms are submitted**

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## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ROTARY CLUBS**

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RYPEN is a District program and participants are nominated and sponsored by Rotary Clubs.

There is no additional selection process. We do offer some guidelines to assist in achieving successful outcomes from the program.

- ❖ RYPEN is **not a leadership camp**
- ❖ RYPEN is not for those students who are already high achievers, nor is it for students with behavioural issues.
- ❖ Please ensure that the students you are sponsoring can attend for the entire 3 days - students must attend for the duration of the camp
- ❖ We recommend no more than 4 students from any one school – part of the experience is to step out of their comfort zone
- ❖ We recommend that you make direct contact with the student and their parents - not leaving all the details to the school to organise. If students or parents have questions about the program that you cannot answer, contact the coordinator
- ❖ It is important that the Student knows that not only is the Rotary Club sponsoring their attendance but there is also someone to act as a point of contact and to offer support.
- ❖ It is a great idea to invite the participant to your Club meeting before they attend RYPEN and then again when they return to tell your members about their experience. There is generally a noticeable difference in them after the camp!
- ❖ Please ensure that all forms are completed and submitted ASAP:
  - Club Sponsorship Form
  - Application Form
  - Borambola online registration – must be completed by parent/guardian no later than 4 weeks before the camp
- ❖ The cost to your club is \$475 for the 3 day experience. You will be invoiced by the District Treasurer.
- ❖ If you have any questions please contact RYPEN Coordinator

### **RYPEN Application Steps for Clubs**

1. Send **Application Form** and **Information For Schools** to local schools and promote RYPEN in schools
2. Collect applications. Interview & select students
3. Complete **Club Sponsorship form**
4. Remind students to complete the **Borambola online registration at least 4 weeks before the camp**
5. Send **Application Forms** and **Club Sponsorship form** to RYPEN committee ASAP (at least 4 weeks before camp).
6. Your club will be invoiced by the District.
7. Assist in coordinating pickups/drop-offs for transport

**THE RYPEN COMMITTEE WILL NOT CONTACT STUDENTS. ALL CONTACT IS MANGED BY CLUBS**

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## CLUB SPONSORSHIP FORM & PAYMENT INFORMATION

### Instructions

Each applicant must complete the APPLICATION FORM and BORAMBOLA ONLINE REGISTRATION  
 Your club completes this nomination form, naming each applicant, then submit all forms to the RYEN Committee.  
 You will be invoiced by the District Treasurer - \$475 per student.

### Sponsoring Club Details

Rotary Club Name:

Contact Name:

Position:

Mobile Number:

Email Address:

Signed on behalf of the Club:

Date:

### Student Sponsorship Details

Members of our Rotary Club support the nomination of the persons named below to attend the RYPEN Challenge at Borambola Sport & Recreation Camp.  
 Application forms for all students named below are attached.

Nominated Student Name(s):


### Payment Information

**Participant fee is \$475 per person. Fees must be paid prior to event**

#### PAYMENT

After submitting application forms your club will be invoiced by the District office.

### Application Instructions

Camp application forms must be completed and signed and returned to the RYPEN committee for each nominated student **4 weeks before the camp.**

Remind students/parents to complete the Borambola online registration at least **4 weeks before the camp.**

Return forms by email to [rypen@wollundryrotary.org.au](mailto:rypen@wollundryrotary.org.au)

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## INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

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**Principals, School Counselors, Careers Advisors**

### **2024 RYPEN Challenge**

**Friday 15 to Sunday 17 March**  
**Borambola Sport & Recreation Camp**

RYPEN is a Rotary Youth program aimed at **year 9 students** who show some qualities of kindness, courage, persistence, sincerity and application in everyday life, and who are deserving of further development.

We need your help to find Students to participate in this extremely worthwhile program. The program accommodates around 60 students from across our Rotary District and we hope for an even mix of boys and girls.

RYPEN aims for the average student and not for the outstanding few. We are sure there are some kids at your School that are worthy of this opportunity? The attached information may help to identify those students you think would benefit from the program. If you need help with the guidelines for selecting students for RYPEN please contact your local Rotary Club.

For details about the camp please refer to the **Information for Applicants** form. All forms are available via the [Rotary District 9705 RYPEN web site](#), along with photos and videos from previous RYPEN camps.

Advertise the Camp in your staffroom and encourage your teachers to assist in finding participants to attend. Through sponsorship with your local Rotary Club there is (usually) no cost to the school or the Student.

Your local Rotary Club is responsible for the selection of RYPEN participants in their area and will discuss arrangements for the payment of the \$475 camp fee. The Club may provide partial or full sponsorship and all applications must be endorsed by a Rotary Club.

Please return your students' application form to the sponsoring Rotary Club early.

**Students/parents must also complete the Borambola online camp registration NO LATER than 4 weeks prior to the camp. This is a hard cutoff.**

If you do not have a Rotary Club contact and wish to know more, please contact the RYPEN co-coordinator.

To learn more about RYPEN visit [Rotary District 9705 RYPEN page](#)

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## DRAFT RYPEN BUS SCHEDULES

The bus services below are provided by the RYPEN committee at no cost to RYPEN participants. Buses are scheduled to arrive at Borambola at 5pm on the Friday of the camp.

Buses will pick up at the towns/locations indicated in the tables below. If additional pickups are required please notify the RYPEN committee.

If RYPEN participants do not wish to use these bus services they must arrange their own transport and indicate this on their application form. Participants must arrive at Borambola at 5pm on the Friday the camp starts.

<b>GRIFFITH – WAGGA Friday</b>		
		<b>DEPARTING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>
Griffith	Aeroplane on pole **	2:15 pm
Leeton	Council Chambers	
Narrandera	Train station	
Borambola	Arrive	4.45 pm

<b>WAGGA - GRIFFITH Sunday</b>		
		<b>ARRIVING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>
Borambola	depart	1:15 pm
Narrandera	Train station	
Leeton	Council Chambers	
Griffith	Aeroplane on pole **	4:30 pm

\*\*Cnr Banner Ave & Jondaryon Ave Griffith, near the Tourist Information Centre

<b>BATHURST – WAGGA Friday</b>		
		<b>DEPARTING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>
Bathurst	Courthouse	11:45 am
Blayney	Railway Station	12:20 pm
Cowra	McDonalds	1:15 pm
Young	Old Railway Station	2:10 pm
Temora	Paleface Park	3:20 pm
Olympic Hwy	Jail Break Inn	4:00 pm
Borambola	Arrive	4:45 pm

<b>WAGGA – BATHURST Sunday</b>		
		<b>ARRIVING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>
Borambola	Depart	1:10 pm
Olympic Hwy	Jail Break Inn	1:50 pm
Temora	Paleface Park	2:30 pm
Young	Old Railway Station	3:35 pm
Cowra	McDonalds	4:35 pm
Blayney	Railway Station	5:25 pm
Bathurst	Courthouse	6:00 pm

<b>CANBERRA – WAGGA Friday</b>		
		<b>DEPARTING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>

<b>WAGGA – CANBERRA Sunday</b>		
		<b>ARRIVING</b>
<b>Location</b>		<b>Time</b>