



Rotary International
District 9700 - Australia
YOUTH EXCHANGE COMMITTEE



DISTRICT 9700 RULES OF ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

DRIVING

The student may not drive any type of motorised vehicle. This includes cars, motorcycles, scooters and farming vehicles. The student may not ride pillion or be a passenger in any way on a motorcycle or scooter. The student may not travel in a vehicle with an unlicensed driver or learner driver at the wheel. THE STUDENT MAY NOT TRAVEL IN A VEHICLE WITH A "P" PLATE DRIVER UNLESS THE CLUB PRESIDENT &/OR COUNSELLOR HAVE APPROVED OF THAT DRIVER.

ROMANTIC INVOLVEMENT

While the student is not expected to avoid contact with the opposite sex, serious and long romantic attachments are **forbidden** in the program and if the student feels a situation is getting out of hand the matter should immediately be brought to the counsellor who will assist the student.

DRUGS

Possession of or taking of drugs is a criminal offence in Australia and is expressly forbidden in the program. Breaking of this rule is the quickest way to an immediate return ticket home.

SMOKING

Smoking of cigarettes is **strongly** discouraged. The student must respect the wishes of the host parents and school authorities in this respect. Smoking by the student at Rotary functions or at school is forbidden. Smoking whilst wearing your school uniform or Rotary blazer is forbidden. Smoking in public situations is also forbidden.

ALCOHOL

The rules of the program do not forbid the consumption of wine or beer provided the student is above the legal drinking age, but here again the wishes of the host parents must be respected. Spirits such as brandy, vodka and gin are forbidden. The student may enjoy alcohol in the host family situation but may not consume alcohol in any public situation.

AIR FLIGHTS

The student may not travel on any plane other than a scheduled flight of a recognised airline. If the student wishes to travel in a light aircraft, permission in writing must be obtained from the student's natural parents.

HOST PARENTS

The student shall make every effort to adapt to the host parents' way of life and household. The obligation is always on the student to adapt and not the host parents. The student should remember that the host family owes them nothing. The student however owes the host family an enormous debt of gratitude for the considerable personal and financial sacrifices they are making in hosting the student.

SCHOOL

The student shall attend a Secondary School on a regular basis. No concession will be allowed for a student to attend any form of tertiary establishment. The student shall participate in school, extra curricula activities, projects and homework. The decision on whether the student sits for the official examinations or internal examinations rests with the particular school authority.

When you are enrolled in the school, discuss with the Principal what subjects you should take and where possible take the opportunity to study subjects not previously available to you, particularly if you have completed High School.

It is recommended that all trips and tours are undertaken in the school holidays. If travel is during School time, but not in excess of 30 days over the year, the Principal and the host parents must give permission for this. The student shall comply with the rules of the school in all aspects and with particular reference to dress, make-up, and hair regulations.

DRESS

The student shall wear a suitable style of clothing to all Rotary functions. Jeans and T-shirts are not acceptable at Rotary functions.

TRAVEL

Hitch-hiking is expressly forbidden. If a student wishes to make a trip during school terms the following procedure must be adopted.

1. The permission of the Principal or relevant teacher must be obtained in writing by the Counsellor.
2. The permission of the Youth and/or International Director of the Rotary Club must be obtained.
3. The permission of the Counsellor must be obtained.
4. The permission of the host parents must be obtained.
5. The Host District Country Co-ordinator and Chairman shall be supplied with the contact telephone numbers and addresses on a daily basis, to cover the event of an emergency.

If the student wishes to make a trip during school holidays the same procedure applies except that the Principal's permission is not necessary. In addition, all trips outside the Rotary District boundaries must have permission of the District Youth Exchange Country Co-ordinator and Chairman. Generally separate trips arranged by the students are forbidden. Certain official tours organised by the District Committee and Rotary Clubs have been arranged to provide the student with an opportunity of seeing the country.

The student may not phone another Rotary Club directly to ask for hosting on a trip.

The student may not return home by any other route than a direct route or a route arranged by the sponsor District Committee.

The student should not stay in Australia for longer than 365 days, but early departure is also strongly discouraged as it is felt that the student owes it to his or her host parents to spend a full year with them.

VISITS

Visits by natural parents during your year are not recommended or encouraged. This has proven to be disruptive to both the students and the host parents. This District does not officially offer accommodation or transport in the event of natural parents visiting.

ROTARY MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS

The student shall try and attend as many meetings of their Rotary Club as possible. The Rotary Club will tell the student the time and number of meetings they are expected to attend. Whenever Rotary functions coincide with the student's personal arrangements, the student must give preference to the Rotary function.

INSURANCE

The student must have complied with our local insurance requirements, and those of Rotary International.

COSTS

The Rotary Club is responsible for pocket money as recommended by the District Committee, cost of school fees and books and District Conference expenses for the student. The student is responsible for providing \$A400 emergency fund.

LAWS

The student must obey the laws of the host country.

TALKS

The student must agree to talk to Rotary Clubs, Interact and Rotaract when requested.

LANGUAGE

If you cannot speak English it is expected that you will learn to do so.

ORIENTATIONS

The student shall attend all inbound orientations and outbound orientations when requested by the District Committee. The only excuse that will be accepted is illness.

RETURN TRIP

The student must return home on a direct route and may not indulge in a tour of any country on the way home, unless previously arranged with the knowledge and consent of the sponsoring District.

EMPLOYMENT

The student shall not obtain casual or permanent employment while under the program.

MOBILE TELEPHONE, TELEPHONE CALLS & EMAIL USE

The student may not use the host parents' telephone for local or international calls or the computer for emailing without permission and only at an agreed time AND for an agreed period of time. The student must negotiate with the host parents the times when mobile calls are not to be accepted and the mobile phone is TURNED OFF. The student is responsible for the costs of all calls.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

The host parents are under no obligation to transport the student at the student's request and use should be made of public transport where possible.

LAST PERIOD

In the past many students who have excelled for 11 months ruin their whole image by bad behaviour in the final month. Remember you are representing your family and country and you will be remembered by your performance over a full 364 days.

EARLY RETURN

The student will be sent home if, in the opinion of the District Youth Exchange Chairman in the host country, continuation of the exchange period will be detrimental to the program, the District, the host club or the student. Any cost incurred as a result of early return of the student will be reimbursed by the student's natural parents

I.....agree to abide by the rules of the District 9700 Youth Exchange Program. I understand that if I break any of the rules I may be returned home immediately.

Student's signature

Date

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Father's signature

Mother's signature

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