

District Election Guidelines

(2016)

This document is intended for distribution by district governors to their Rotary clubs at the time of the official call for nominations.

A fundamental principle of Rotary is that the best qualified candidate should be selected for service in elective offices. The RI Bylaws prohibit any effort by a candidate, a candidate's supporter, or any Rotarian to influence the selection process in a positive or negative manner, including but not limited to, campaigning or canvassing. The RI Board developed these guidelines to assist Rotarians in better understanding election procedures:

For All Rotarians

- Review and comply with RI's election guidelines as explained in the following documents:
 - *RI Bylaws*: Articles 11, 13 and 14
 - *Rotary Code of Policies*: Sections 17.030.3(A), 17.040, 19.030, 26.070 and 26.080

(Note: You will find the above documents on www.Rotary.org at Learning & Reference → [Governance Documents](#).)

- Avoid any actions designed to gain visibility, publicize candidates' names and achievements, or give anyone an unfair advantage over someone else.

For Candidates

- Immediately express disapproval in writing of any campaigning activities undertaken on your behalf and ask for the actions to cease.
- Do not respond in a similar manner to another candidate's improper activities.
- Do not communicate with or visit clubs involved in the election, except to fulfill necessary functions. If there are any concerns that a current assignment or a new assignment may give an appearance of campaigning, consult with the district governor. Routine performance of assigned activities is not a violation of Rotary's election policies.