

## How Much Does It Cost to be a Rotarian?

Further to the article in the District 9910 Newsletter – October 2021

There are five sections to the TOTAL cost of Rotary membership, including **fees** fixed at an international and a district level, club **fees** to cover operating costs, and other 'discretionary' costs where individual members choose the amount and frequency of payment.

### 1. Rotary International fee

Who sets this?	This is set at the Rotary International (RI) Board and are a condition of membership to the organisation.																				
Where does this money go?	This income from the worldwide membership goes towards the RI website, the Online Learning Centre, Rotary social media sites, Rotary videos and images; Governor training and support; etc. <a href="#">Article from March 2019 'Rotary' magazine on How does RI put your RI dues to work for you</a>																				
How is it invoiced?	RI invoices each Rotary club directly, in advance, on 1 July and 1 January of the Rotary year.																				
How is it calculated?	The per member fee is based on the number of active members and a pro-rata of any who have joined since the last invoice.																				
<p>Example:</p> <p>Club A's invoice on 1 July is for six months' worth of 30 active members.</p> <table> <tr> <td>1 July (for July-Dec period)</td> <td>30 active members</td> <td>6 months</td> <td><b>\$1,500.00</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Two people join in September and two more in December.</p> <p>Club A's invoice on 1 January is for six months' worth of 34 active members plus pro-rata of new</p> <table> <tr> <td>1 Jan (for Jan-July period)</td> <td>34 active members</td> <td>6 months</td> <td>\$1,750.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2 active members</td> <td>4 months (Sep-Dec)</td> <td>\$66.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2 active members</td> <td>1 month (Dec)</td> <td>\$16.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>\$1,833.34</b></td> </tr> </table>		1 July (for July-Dec period)	30 active members	6 months	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	1 Jan (for Jan-July period)	34 active members	6 months	\$1,750.00		2 active members	4 months (Sep-Dec)	\$66.67		2 active members	1 month (Dec)	\$16.67				<b>\$1,833.34</b>
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### 2. Magazine subscription

Subscription to an official Rotary magazine is a condition of Rotary membership within the RI club constitution. This can be either the international magazine (Rotary) or a regional magazine. For D9910 the regional magazine is Rotary Down Under (RDU) and there are options for our non-English speaking Rotarians in New Caledonia (Le Rotarien) or members of Rotary Auckland Korean (Rotary Korean).

Who sets this?	The cost is set by the magazine's management team								
Where does this money go?	This income is used to pay for the management, production and distribution of the magazine.								
How is it invoiced?	Members subscribed to 'Rotary' magazine are included in the invoice to clubs from RI. Members subscribed to the regional magazines are listed in an invoice sent directly to the clubs from the magazine, usually every six months, in advance on 1 July and 1 January.								
How is it calculated?	<p>The subscription per member is based on the names and choice of format (postal or digital) provided by the club to the magazine. Additions, changes and terminations should be advised to the following:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Rotary</td> <td><a href="mailto:data@rotary.org">data@rotary.org</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotary Down Under</td> <td><a href="mailto:enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au">enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Le Rotarien</td> <td><a href="mailto:christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org">christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotary Korean</td> <td><a href="mailto:roko@rotarykorea.org">roko@rotarykorea.org</a></td> </tr> </table>	Rotary	<a href="mailto:data@rotary.org">data@rotary.org</a>	Rotary Down Under	<a href="mailto:enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au">enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au</a>	Le Rotarien	<a href="mailto:christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org">christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org</a>	Rotary Korean	<a href="mailto:roko@rotarykorea.org">roko@rotarykorea.org</a>
Rotary	<a href="mailto:data@rotary.org">data@rotary.org</a>								
Rotary Down Under	<a href="mailto:enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au">enquiries@rotarydownunder.com.au</a>								
Le Rotarien	<a href="mailto:christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org">christophe.courjon@lerotarien.org</a>								
Rotary Korean	<a href="mailto:roko@rotarykorea.org">roko@rotarykorea.org</a>								
<p><i>Note: Two members residing at the same address can receive one copy of the magazine</i></p>									

### 3. District fees

These are divided into a Training Levy and a District Levy

Who sets this?	The <b>Training Levy</b> is determined by the Governor-Elect and the District Training Lead. The <b>District Levy</b> is determined by the Governor-Elect and District Finance team. The District Levy is discussed and approved by the incoming club Presidents in a budget-specific session at the Club Leaders Seminar.
Where does this money go?	The <b>Training Levy</b> covers resources, catering and venue costs for NZ-based Presidents-Elect and Club Officer development sessions. The <b>District Levy</b> covers district insurance; catering and venue for district management meetings; Governor partner travel and accommodation on official visits; district website platform; pro-rata administration costs of Rotary New Zealand Clubs Charitable Trust to enable sending money overseas; pro-rata costs for Rotary Oceania Operations; Governor-Elect and Governor-Nominee development; district public image material costs; archive storage; accounting software; conference levy; office supplies. Each club President received a copy of the district budget for their review – you can ask them for a copy.
How is it invoiced?	The <b>Training Levy</b> for the following Rotary year is invoiced directly to clubs by the District Treasurer in October or November. Example: The <b>Training Levy</b> which will be invoiced in November 2021 gathers income to fund the preparation of incoming Presidents and club officers for the 2022-23 Rotary year.  The <b>District Levy</b> is invoiced directly to clubs by the District Treasurer around August of the current Rotary year.
How is it calculated?	The training budget is zero-based each year and the per member <b>Training Levy</b> calculated according to the number of active members as at 1 July of the Rotary year in which it is invoiced. The district budget is zero-based each year and the per member <b>District Levy</b> calculated according to the number of active members as at 31 December of the Rotary year <u>prior</u> to which it is invoiced. For example: The <b>District Levy</b> for the 2021-22 Rotary year is based on the number of active members in the district on 31 December 2020.

### 4. Club fees

Who sets this?	These costs are usually set by the club board with information from the Club Treasurer and based on the club's plan for projects, events and expenses. Check with your club.
Where does this money go?	Determined by the club board but this income usually covers costs such as club operating expenses, for example, venue hire; website; accounting software; promotional material; new member material etc.
How is it invoiced?	Determined by the club board.
How is it calculated?	Determined by the club board.

### 5. Discretionary spend

These are the expenses which an individual chooses to spend on such as club events; district events such as changeover, conference and learning sessions; Rotary promotional clothing or items; fundraisers; donations, meals, drinks, raffles etc

## Membership Subscription

Clubs set their membership subscription to cover the invoices from Rotary International, the relevant magazines, the district invoices and its own operating expenses.

This is where clubs and members can influence the membership subscription by reviewing club operating expenses for cost reductions and efficiencies.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Can the meal cost be reduced?                                | Does the club meeting have to include a meal?    |
| Can the meal be optional for members?                        | Can the venue cost be re-negotiated?             |
| Does the club have to meet at that venue?                    | Does the club have to have a meeting every week? |
| Does every meeting have to be in person?                     | Does the club need a PO Box?                     |
| Is the club getting the best deal on new member name badges? |  |

There is more to the total membership cost than just fees but a straight fees comparison to a selection of other 'club' subscriptions around the district shows Rotary membership compares relatively favourably.

Pupuke Golf Club Millennial membership (aged 19-32)	\$433.50 – 1,405.50
Les Mills 12-month multi membership	\$1,537
Bay of Islands Golf Club, Kerikeri (Full Playing aged 26-35)	\$670
Henderson Squash Club	\$499
Milford Cruising Club (aged over 20)	\$225
Mairtown Tennis Club, Whangarei	\$180
Royal Oak Bowls (full member)	\$150

**Fundraising** should be separate and not part of a subscription.

The breakdown illustrated below uses figures for the 2021-2022 Rotary year as at 1 July 2021. Following the red lines – this is an example of the annual cost for an individual Rotary member in a NZ based club who chooses to receive the Rotary Down Under (RDU) regional magazine digitally.

The tilde symbol (~) means 'approximately'.

Fixed

Variable

Choice

**Rotary International (RI)**  
Per Member  
USD\$70

*For example:  
RI website; Online Learning Centre; project stories; videos; Governor training etc*

~NZD\$100

**Rotary Magazine**  
Subscription is a requirement of Rotary membership

*Management, compilation and distribution of magazine.*

Either 'Rotary' (international) or 'RDU' (regional)  
'Le Rotarien' for New Caledonia

C  
h  
o  
i  
c  
e

Rotary (posted)  
~NZD\$35

Rotary (digital)  
~NZD\$18

RDU (posted)  
\$44

RDU (digital)  
\$35

**District 9910 Levy**

*For example:  
Insurance; public image material; district meetings catering and venue; district website; accounting software; Zoom; office supplies etc*

\$79.35  
incl GST

**District 9910 Training Levy**  
(NZ clubs only)

*For example:  
Presidents-Elect and Club Officers learning sessions catering and venue; resources*

\$12.65  
incl GST

\$227

~\$4 per week  
~\$19 per month

**Club Fee**

*Set by Board to cover club operating expenses such as venue hire; website; promotional material; new member resources; etc*

\$??

**Final Sub**  
??

**Discretionary Costs**

*Club events; district events; Rotary promotional clothing; fundraisers; donations, meals etc*

\$??

**Total Cost**  
??