



South Pacific and Philippines Office



Quarterly Regional Bulletin November 2023

Congratulations to the Zone 8 District Governor class of 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 who came to Sydney to attend their Training Seminars. While your Philippine counterparts have yet to attend theirs in December in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, we would like to take this opportunity to offer our services as you implement Rotary's Action Plan in your districts. As Benjamin Franklin once said "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail." We cannot stress enough how we, in your Regional Office are here to see you succeed.

Past RI Director Jessie in her opening speech to the Zone 8 Governors wisely pointed out that as governors, your roles are as Champions, Connectors and Problems Solvers. She encouraged the attendees to approach the week with a strategic and problem-solving mindset. After her 21-day trek of the Camino Portugues, the insight that she honed in on was to focus on what is there and not on what is missing.

This message was particularly appropriate for the future leaders of this Zone. The Regionalisation pilot is giving the leaders of Zone 8 to rethink a leadership and governance structure that will allow for a meaningful club and member-centric experience. In this time of trialing different things, I reflect on one of the keynote sessions in the recently concluded CPA Congress. The topic was on Rethinking Trust: How to Create a Trustworthy Culture. [Rachel Botsman](#) spoke about the topic. The About section of her [YouTube channel](#) describes her as "a leading trust expert, author, and a lecturer at Oxford University. She is passionate about teaching people how to think differently about trust and humility in the modern world." This [video](#) might entice you to look her up.

The gist of her session is that Trust is not about knowing the outcome with certainty. Trust is not about being comfortable. Trust is a confident mindset or approach to the unknown. It is the social glue of relationships – the force that allows for the feeling of safety while expressing conflicting thoughts and convictions, causing positive friction to ultimately arrive at an innovative outcome.

It is a very engaging talk. I reflect upon the great amount of trust necessary in leadership roles and in the teams and organisations that they lead – in times of crisis, or in times of change which is happening in all aspects of our lives at a very rapid pace. I loved the question posed: "What do I continually evidence and do in order to earn trust day to day?" There's a great and progressive amount of responsibility involved in this. Leaders do make mistakes though as everyone else does. Those are the defining moments where trust is necessary, further earned or when it wobbles.

It is that time of the year where we exchange Christmas greetings, look back at the year that has been, recharge and come back ready for the coming one. We hope you all will be surrounded by friends and family, sharing big and micro moments that the Christmas season brings.

Best Regards,

Grace

Grace Ramirez
Manager, International Office and Financial Services

FINANCE

Club Invoices for July-December 2023

We are winding down the collection period for Club Invoices for the semester. Please ensure that your clubs have paid their balances by mid-November to ensure that they do not get terminated for non-payment of dues.

Please see the following guidelines for paying RI Dues.

[Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Island clubs](#)
[Philippine clubs](#)

RI EXCHANGE RATES

November 2023	USD
AUD	1.57
NZD	1.71
PHP	57.00

Communication on the monthly RI Exchange Rates now being directed to District Finance Chairs and District Rotary Foundation Chairs. Please ensure that this information is circulated through your normal communication channels.

THE ROTARY MAGAZINE

To cope with high inflation and unprecedented rising magazine production cost, the Rotary magazine will be increasing its subscription price from USD24 to USD36 per year. The cost of the digital subscription is USD18. These prices will be effective 1 January 2024.

Please see below:

➤ **International magazine, *Rotary Magazine* pricing from 1 January 2024:**

	FOR AUSTRALIAN CLUBS ONLY		
	Price US\$	GST US\$	Total with GST US\$
Paper (per subscription for six months)	18.00	1.80	19.60
Digital (per subscription for six months)	9.00	0.90	9.90

PAYMENT INFORMATION FOR DONATIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

We strongly encourage you to cut and paste the appropriate information provided on the text box below into communications and publications going out to your clubs and members. Widely circulating this information allows greater efficiency in accounting for and reporting your donations on our database.

DONATIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Below are some helpful links on the various ways to support The Rotary Foundation:

Australian Clubs & Rotarians:

[Australian Bank Transfer Instructions \(also posted on Rotary Foundation Australia's My Foundation Page\)](#)

If the donor is a Member, Individual or Business (or Clubs that need a tax-deductible receipt including Clubs donating on behalf of their club members so they get their own tax deductible receipts), transfers need to be made to the following account:

Acct Name: The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 663499001

If the donor is the Club or District, transfer to:

Acct Name: The Rotary Foundation
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 523370001

IMPORTANT: Please always email risppo.finance@rotary.org the contribution form or donation instructions including the bank receipt/OSKO receipt BEFORE or ON THE DAY of the bank transfer.

NZ Clubs & Rotarians:

Please deposit funds to ANZ Bank Account Number: 06-0193-0905286-30. Please provide a reference of either Surname or Member ID for individuals or Club Name or Rotary Club ID for clubs. Kindly email nzrcct@rotaryoceania.zone the details of the remittance.

Philippine Clubs & Rotarians:

Please provide your clubs with the following link: [BPI Payment Guidelines for The Rotary Foundation](#). This will enable us to process your contributions promptly. There is a huge amount of emails coming through to Catherine Bedona, Financial Accountant for the Philippines. Please DO NOT send duplicate emails or follow ups. This causes more delays in getting through tasks at hand. Rest assured that these will be processed in due course.

For Rotary and Rotaract clubs, your multiple donor contributions are best deposited in one transaction. Once deposited, kindly email the deposit slips and use our [excel template](#) to allocate the breakdown of contributions appropriately.

FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING US\$2.2 MILLION RAISED AT RECOGNITION DINNERS, WITH GUEST OF HONOUR ROTARY FOUNDATION CHAIR, BARRY RASSIN

Article by PDG Jennie Herring (Endowment\Major Gifts Advisor) and Anke Timm (Philanthropy Supervisor, RISPPO).

November is Foundation Month and what better moment to celebrate our newest Major Donors and Bequest Society members! The dinners, held in early November at Christchurch, Auckland, Sydney and Brisbane, raised USD 2.2million in Major Gifts and Bequests for the Rotary Foundation.

Trustee Chair Barry Rassin joined us in Christchurch for the first stop on his week-long visit to New Zealand and Australia and the first of four Celebration Dinners in recognition of our most recent donors to the Rotary Foundation. In 2010, Barry led the Rotary rebuilding effort in the immediate aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, to provide emergency humanitarian aid to the affected people, including the coordination of 105 individual projects. He was therefore particularly interested in how the Christchurch community came together after the 2011 major earthquake, supported by Rotary members and clubs. Barry visited Quake City Museum and Garden City at Westlake Reserve, before joining 40 Rotarians at Commodore Hotel for a heart-warming and joyful dinner. District 9999 was presented with the prestigious New Zealand Rotary Foundation Shield for total giving in 2022-2023.

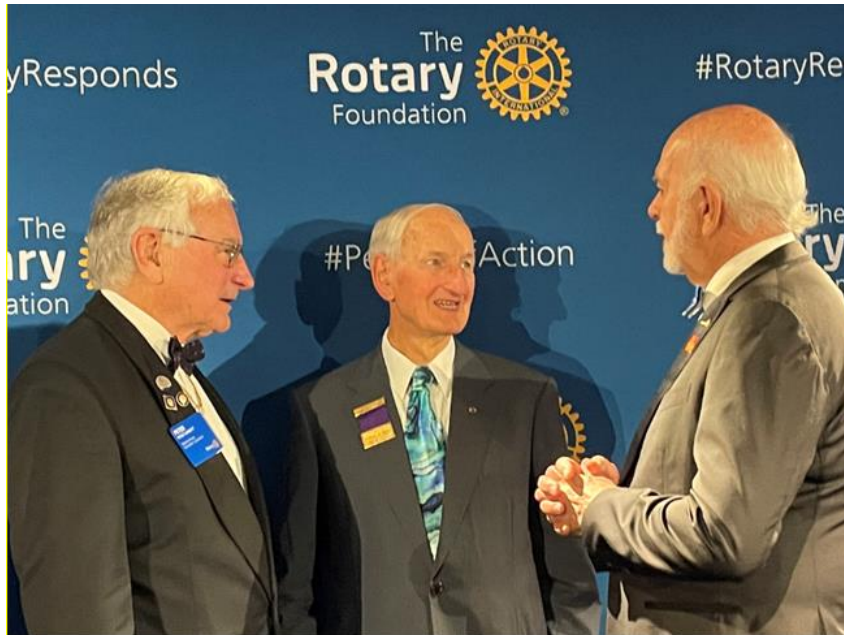


Christchurch: PDG Jennie Herring, PDGs Nick and Liz Courtney with TRF Chair Barry Rassin

The second stop in New Zealand, Auckland, welcomed Barry to the North Island with a sunny and crisp morning cruise on the sparkling harbour on the Mona Rose, leading into the donor meeting with our newest Arch-Klumph-Society member as well as our Legacy member in District 9920. A glamorous night at the Cordis Hotel with 122 guests from Districts 9910, 9920, 9930 and 9940 followed, where Barry passionately shared stories of impact, lasting memories and insights into the Rotary Foundation's goals and ambitions. 23 presentations were made to donors from the three districts, and District 9910 was presented with the New Zealand Rotary Foundation Cup for annual giving per capita for 2022-2023. PDG Lindsay Ford from District 9910 was presented with the Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding service for the foundation. One of the highlights of the evening was a spectacular operatic performance by DGE Michael Lapina of District 9800.



On board Mona Rose. Barry Rassin, PDG Steve Chaney District 9920 DRFC and host Rotarian John Boscawen



Auckland: PDG Peter Garnett, RRFC and RI Past President Bill Boyd converse with Barry Rassin



Members of District 9910, PDGs Peter Garnett and Elaine Mead, Sarah and PDG Grant Smith, GE Jenn Wong, President of Rotary Norfolk Island PDG Ian Kiernan and PRIP Barry Rassin celebrate the Distinguished Service Award presented to PDG Lindsay and Alison Ford

Across the Tasman Sea, Sydney provided an opportunity for Barry to visit the global headquarters of the Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP), Rotary's major partner in establishing the six Rotary Peace Centres around the world. A meeting with UNICEF Australia also added to the meaningful exchanges with local Rotary Foundation partners, strengthening relationships at the highest level of leadership. That night, 140 of Sydney's Rotarians took the opportunity to meet Barry in person and applaud the generosity of a long list of fellow Rotarians at the Epping Club.

Our final stop in Brisbane enabled Barry to visit the University of Queensland's Rotary Peace Centre and meet Directors and current students, culminating in a touching tree-planting ceremony in the university's Peace Park. Barry joined 11 other Rotary International Directors who had previously added a tree to the serene surroundings. 105 Brisbane Rotarians did not disappoint at the Recognition Dinner at Tattersall's that night, showcasing the best of their passion for the Rotary Foundation in "Bris-Vegas"-style!



The audience at the Brisbane event listening to Barry Rassin

A heartfelt and warm THANK YOU to all our generous and fabulous donors who, across the four events, contributed US\$2.2million in Major Gifts and Bequests for The Rotary Foundation!



PDG Jennie Herring



Anke Timm

CLUB AND DISTRICT SUPPORT

ZONE 8 GETS & GNTS

Congratulations, and thank you for your participation in the 2023 training event held in Sydney. It was great to meet so many of the DGNs and welcome back the DGEs.

The action items from each session are now in your hands to complete. For the DGEs, please work towards having your district officers entered into MyRotary prior to IA24. We also ask that you complete your DG Intermediate training on the Learning Centre.

For the DGNs, please continue working on your DG Basic course.

ZONE 10A GETS & GNTS

Mary Jayne is excited to greet you all in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, on 6 December. As above, please work on your learning modules in the Learning Centre in preparation for the training week.

DGE TRAVEL ESTIMATES

Thank you for your help in providing your travel estimates to us in a timely and accurate manner. We are now reviewing the amounts. Notification of your approved amounts will occur in February, following the January 2024 RI Board meeting.

ROTARACT CONSTITUTIONS AND BYLAWS

We are pleased to report that the updated Rotaract Club Constitution and Bylaws are now available in all languages. Please work with your Rotaract Clubs to support them in updating their documents. These revisions align more closely with Rotary Club Constitutions and offer provisions for dispute process, membership requirements and officer roles.

[Rotaract Governance Documents Now Available on My Rotary.msg](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

ROTARY POSITIVE PEACE ACTIVATOR OCEANIA PROGRAM – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Launched in 2017, the [Rotary-IEP Partnership](#) is one of Rotary's three strategic partnerships. The core focus of the Partnership is **IEP peace education for Rotary stakeholders**, to help them shift attitudes and approaches to peacebuilding and to create meaningful change in their communities by applying the framework of Positive Peace to their interventions.

Created in 2020, [the Positive Peace Activator Program](#) is the most comprehensive training and educational program hosted jointly by Rotary International and its strategic partner the Institute for Economics & Peace. The Activator Training Program includes a competitive application process and a multi-day intensive training that is curated for each region. After the training, Activators agree to a two-year service commitment, providing presentations, leading trainings, and supporting projects with Rotary clubs, districts and other stakeholders. Activators are considered representatives of the Rotary-IEP Partnership.

Since 2020, 197 Activators from six regions and more than 70 countries have been trained. To date, trained Positive Peace Activators have delivered 847 educational actions, equaling 10,679 hours of service – via trainings, presentations, radio interviews, writing, and project work – reaching more than 12 million people.

The Rotary Positive Peace Activator Oceania Program is open to Rotary and IEP stakeholders doing significant work (living, working, or studying) in the Oceania region. Eligible countries include: Australia, American Samoa, Cook Islands, East Timor, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

[Click here for the link to the Positive Peace Activator Oceania application form](#)

Timeline:

- Applications open October 10, 2023 and will be accepted until **November 24, 2023 (extended deadline)**.
- Selected applicants will be notified by December 18, 2023.
- The Oceania Positive Peace Activator training will take place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia May 17, 18, 19, 2024.

Before applying, please review all detailed information that follows on the program, logistics, qualifications, and expectations in the application link. Please also see our [Frequently Asked Questions \(linked here\)](#) for further information and visit the [Positive Peace Activator webpage](#) and the [Rotary-IEP Partnership webpage](#).

For other questions, contact the Rotary - IEP Partnership at peace.partners@rotary.org.

YOUTH/CLIMATE INITIATIVES (TONGA, VANUATU, FIJI, SAMOA)

Do you know Rotary or Rotaractors in Tonga, Vanuatu, Fiji, and Samoa who might be interested in climate/youth projects?

The document [attached](#) outlines the Rotary International service partner Peace Corps' [Blue Pacific Youth Initiative](#) working with/for youth on climate in the Pacific. The project includes climate literacy, training youth to assess climate realities, bolstering community adaptation, youth empowerment through networking and leadership development. USAID is an implementing partner.

They are looking for local partners who could elevate any of the activities below:

- **Curricular development and other knowledge resource creation**
 - Partners could contribute to the library of educational and technical resources that undergird the BPYI.
- **Regional exchanges and summit support**
 - Partners could help organize and facilitate large youth exchange, learning, and networking events.
- **Financial contributions**
 - Partner funds could support many relevant activities, including regional program coordination, youth exchanges and summits, grants for local partners, and grants for youth-led activities.
- **Side-by-side service**
 - Partners' volunteers could work directly with and alongside BPYI youth participants.

Thanks for sharing names or passing this along to Rotary/Rotaract members you think may be interested! For further information please contact Carrie Golden, Partnerships Manager at carrie.golden@rotary.org

MEDIA COVERAGE

Please see below links or image grabs of recent coverage covering World Polio Day and mental Health initiatives.

<https://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/opinion/cate-levine-empowering-the-next-generation-preventative-mental-health-promotion-in-primary-schools/>

<https://www.cairnslocalnews.com.au/vaccinate-against-polio-2023-10-21>



broadcast clip

Station :	2GB	Program :	08:30 News
Location :	Sydney	Producer :	The Newsdesk - 2GB
Aired On :	24/10/2023 8:33:08 AM	Duration :	0 mins 34 secs
Compere :	Newsreader	Summary ID :	R00102841412
Demographics :	Male 16+ 62000	Female 16+ 74000	

News

A father and son are riding across Sydney's train network to help raise \$1 million to end polio. Australia has been free from the disease since 2000, but it's still present in few countries overseas. Father Mark Anderson says they'll be visiting more than 189 stations in just 18 hours. Rotary Clubs will raise money and come to the stations and present us with their fund raising. And if everything goes well, we will raise over \$100,000 today. And that will add to the \$550,000 that we've already raised.

Vaccinate against polio

Paralytic disease still dangerous for all throughout the world

● CAIRNS NORTH

**| Isabella
Guzman Gonzalez**

LOCAL polio survivor Susanne Rea is encouraging the local community to keep vaccinating their children and raising awareness about polio in the battle for eradication of the disease prior to World Polio Day on October 24.

Born in England, Ms Rea was diagnosed with polio at four-years-old years before the release of the polio vaccine. After one year in hospital, she survived the illness and eventually overcame her paralysis, but she said it was a traumatic experience for a child.

"I woke up one morning and couldn't get out of bed and I was diagnosed with polio, which was going around at the time. These were days pre-vaccine," the

Cairns North resident said. "I ended up at Birmingham Hospital for a year, just laying down because I was paralysed from the waist down. We weren't allowed to see our parents, all I remember is seeing my parents peering at me through a porthole-type window."

Although eventually the paralysis subsided, Ms Rea had to undergo a series of operations and therapy to be able to walk again, and as she reached her 50s, she started experiencing post-polio syndrome which now requires her to use a wheelchair.

"Polio hits you twice. There's hundreds of thousands of Australians now living with post-polio syndrome because there was no vaccine when they were children, so I can't stress enough that it's really important for people to get

vaccinated and put an end to polio once and for all," she said.

On World Polio Day, Ms Rea who has been a fierce Rotary advocate for polio eradication, advised parents to always vaccinate their children.

"There are only two countries left where polio is endemic which are Afghanistan and Pakistan but there were recent cases in New York and London," she said.

"My message on this World Polio Day is to keep your vaccination schedule up, including anti polio immunisation. All parents need to ensure their children are vaccinated for every childhood disease.

"Just because we don't have polio in Australia right now, it doesn't mean it can't come back, people travel so much, we need to take the lessons from COVID."



Cairns North resident and polio survivor Susanne Rea is encouraging all families to keep vaccinating their kids against polio. Picture: Supplied

MEMBERSHIP

UPDATED RESOURCE: *CLUB EXPERIENCE CONCIERGE*

Recent Rotary surveys confirm that the most important factor in membership satisfaction is the experience within the club. This is why Rotary International will soon be inviting club leaders to use the updated, interactive online resource now called the [Club Experience Concierge](#).

The tool allows clubs to explore how to improve the five aspects of the club experience that matter most to members. It will allow clubs to identify which elements of the club experience is most important and they will instantly receive practical tips and resources to make the club experience irresistible.

It shouldn't take more than 5 minutes!

The 5 aspects that make up a great club experience are:

- 1) A welcoming and comfortable environment
- 2) Enjoyable meetings
- 3) Effective leadership
- 4) Making a difference
- 5) Meaningful relationships

Recommendations given at the end of the survey are categorized as easy (1-5 hours), moderate (several club meetings) and ambitious (could take several months or need a dedicated project team). Clubs are encouraged to choose a few (no more than 3) to add to their strategic goals.

WELCOME TO ROTARY WEBINAR



Photo: Yellow background with blue writing that says 'Welcome to Rotary! Join us to learn about the evolution of Rotary, understand our mission, vision, and values, discover many ways you can get involved, and hear stories from current members to inspire your journey.'

Rotary International will be offering a *Welcome to Rotary* webinar to encourage new members to learn more about our organisation, connect with others and discover ways to get involved.

Register now for the 45-minute session to:

- Learn about the evolution of Rotary

- Understand our mission, vision and values
- Discover many ways you can get involved
- Hear stories from current members to inspire your journey

Wednesday 15 November:

NZDT (New Zealand): 1.00 pm
 AEDT (Sydney, Melbourne): 11.00 am
 ACDT (Adelaide): 10.30 am
 AEST (Brisbane): 10.00 am
 AWST (Perth): 8.00 am
 PHST (Philippines): 8.00 am

[REGISTER HERE](#)

THE CLUB EXPERIENCE MATTERS: UNDERSTANDING THE DATA WEBINAR RECORDING



“Made me think!!! Is our club experience what it should be??”

“We just started a new club in our town. Most members are from the existing club. The reason for starting the second club was due to many of the issues brought up in the webinar”

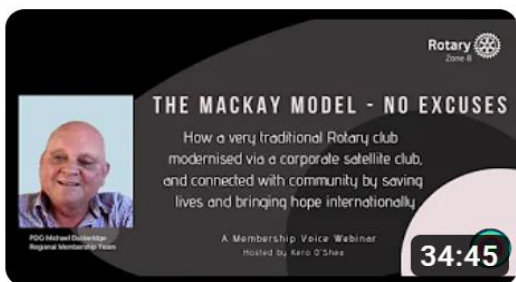
“The 5 ways to enhance the club experience are not 'new' but they are important, and we need to be reminded so that we continue to work on each of those 'pillars' to retain & attract”

These were just some of the comments that members made after attending a recent Rotary International membership webinar. During the 45-minute webinar, we reviewed the:

- current state of our worldwide membership as of 1 July 2023
- discussed the research findings from the 2022 all-member survey
- shared ideas about how club and district leaders are improving the club experience for members.

Speakers include the co-chairs of the worldwide Rotary International Membership Committee: Kamal Sanghvi and Jeris Gaston (volunteers) and two Regional Membership Officers (staff).

[WATCH THE RECORDING HERE](#)



Check out the latest episode of [Membership Voice](#). This month we hear the inspiring story of how a traditional Rotary club modernised via a corporate satellite club.

[The Mackay Model – No Excuses!](#) with New Club Development Specialist PDG Michael Buckeridge

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP PROGRESS TO GOAL REPORT

Here are a few highlights from the 31 October 2023 District Membership Progress to Goal report.

Click here to view the full reports for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#).

ZONE 8

- Highest % net growth: D9910 (3.38%)
- Highest % of female members: D9640 (38.19%)
- Highest % of members under 40: D9910 (8.28%)
- Highest % for retention: D9820 (98.86%)

ZONE 10A

- Highest % net growth: D3870 (18.34%)
- Highest % of female members: D3870 (47.11%)
- Highest % of members under 40: 3820 (23.21%)
- Highest % for retention: D3860 (98.72%)

NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

Sustainable membership growth is the sweet spot between attracting new members, retaining current members, and developing new clubs. So far this Rotary year we have chartered or officially recognised the following number of clubs:

	ZONE 8	ZONE 10A
Rotary	3	5
Rotaract	0	10
Satellite	2	0

Access the 1 July to 5 November 2023 new club development progress report for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#).

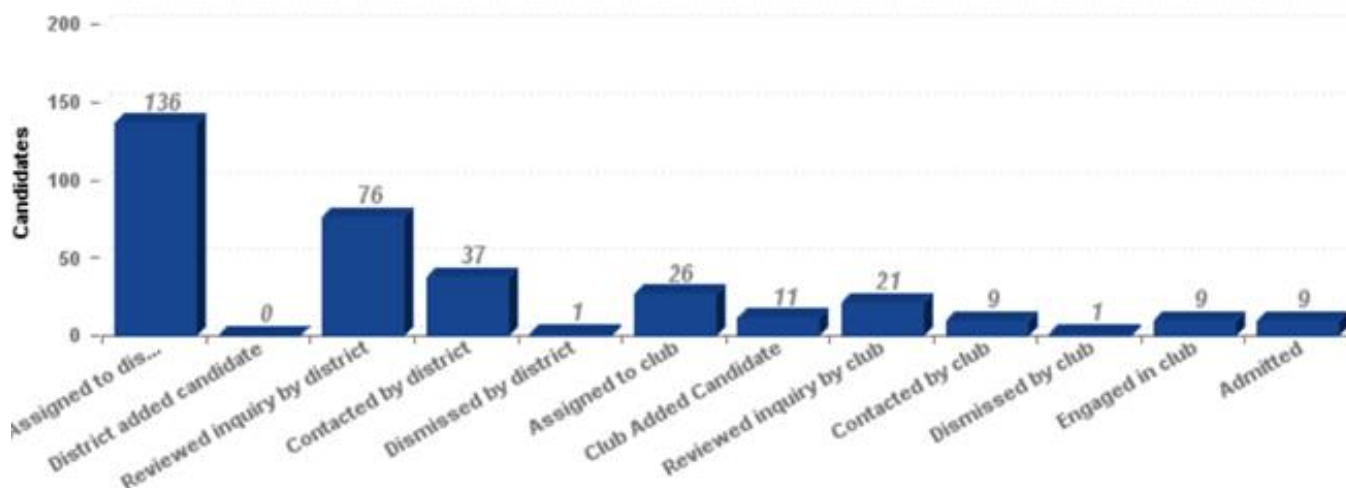
MEMBERSHIP LEADS

Every year more than 25,000 people express an interest in Rotary at rotary.org/get-involved and rotary.org/join. This is a convenient, secure way for them to take the first step toward membership and building a lasting connection with Rotary

In the Prospective Member Progress Analysis report for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#), you can view data on how your district is managing membership leads. You can view up to date information on what percentage of prospective members have or have not been followed up on, what percentage of leads are no longer interested in membership and the number of members that have been admitted to a club. Here are a few notable highlights from 1 July 2022 to 5 November 2023:

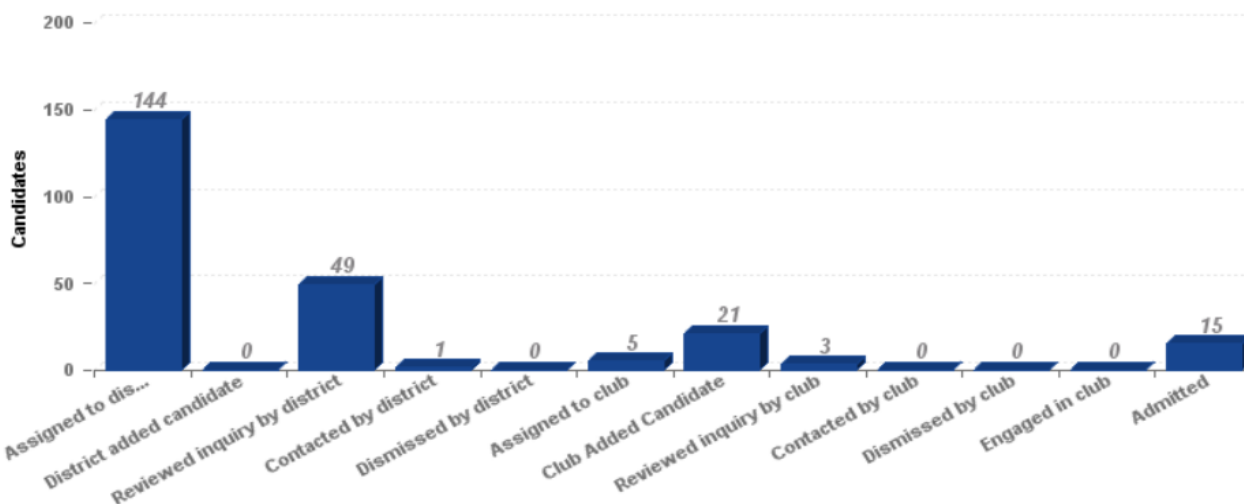
ZONE 8 – 1 July to 5 November 2023

Zone 8



ZONE 10A – 1 July to 5 November 2023

Philippines



ZONE 8

Leads assigned to districts: 136
 Leads reviewed by districts: 38 (55.8%)
 Leads assigned to clubs: 26 (16.9%)
 Leads review by clubs: 21 (15.4%)
 Leads admitted to Rotary: 9 (6.6%)
 Highest leads admitted: D9910 (5)

ZONE 10A

Leads assigned to districts: 144
 Leads reviewed by districts: 49 (34.0%)
 Leads assigned to clubs: 5 (3.5%)
 Leads reviewed by clubs: 3 (2.1%)
 Leads admitted to Rotary: 15 (10.4%)
 Highest leads admitted: D3780, D3860 (4) each