

SESSION 1: MAKING CONNECTIONS

(45 minutes)



RELEVANCE: Networking allows the district team to improve collaboration and strengthen relationships for a more productive year.

SPEEDMEET



- Best for sharing ideas and networking
- Series of timed two-person conversations
- Room arranged in a U-shape, or with a line of tables and chairs on both sides

Learning objectives

At the end of this session, participants should be able to:

- Build relationships and foster collaboration with team members
- Identify team members' skills

Before the session

- Encourage participants to bring business cards to the session.
- Choose the speedmeet activity below that will work best for your participants.
- Make sure you have a worksheet with a nine-square topics grid for activity 1 and a bell for activity 2.

During the session

- Welcome participants and introduce yourself.
- Review learning objectives.
- Explain the logistics of the speedmeet activity.
- For activity 2 only, ring the bell every five minutes to signal when it is time to move to the next person.
- At the end of the session, review the learning objectives to make sure they've been achieved, and take questions.

Activities

Choose an activity:

1. Purpose: Network with others to develop new skills
 - Allow 35 minutes for this activity.
 - Give everyone a Skills Inventory worksheet.
 - Ask participants to move around the room to identify someone who has each skill. Have them write the person's name in the corresponding box.
 - Explain that the first participant to complete the worksheet should call out to let the group know. Consider giving a small prize to the winner.
 - Ask participants to circle the skills they would like to develop, and encourage them to connect with the team members who have those skills.

2. Purpose: Network while discussing new roles and ideas
 - Allow 35 minutes for this activity.
 - Set up the room with plenty of open space to allow participants to walk around.
 - Arrange the seating in two lines, so chairs are facing each other.
 - Have everyone choose a seat. Explain that the bell will ring every five minutes, at which point half the participants will move one seat to the left.
 - Each time the participants move, give them another question to discuss in pairs from the list below:
 - What concerns do you have regarding your role?
 - What could you use help with?
 - What excites you about your new role?
 - What ideas do you have that will benefit clubs?
 - How can you collaborate with the other district committees or assistant governors?
 - How would you improve collaboration within the district team?
 - Encourage participants to exchange business cards.

WORKSHEET: SKILLS INVENTORY



Talk to other participants to learn about their skills. When you find someone with one of the skills listed below, write that person's name in the box. Meet as many people as you can.

Bringing in new members	Coordinating youth activities	Fundraising	Connecting with alumni	Developing grants
Planning meetings and events	Managing financial documents	Planning awards ceremonies	Writing press releases	Foundation planning
Planning or conducting training	Creating an action plan	Cultivating new leadership	Strategic planning	Goal setting
Motivating others	Delegating tasks	Managing projects	Marketing and promotion	International service projects
Rotary Club Central	Problem solving	Public speaking	Group facilitation	Networking