

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT E-CLUBS

Rotary e-clubs are Rotary clubs whose members meet primarily online. Rotary has almost 300 e-clubs with 6,400 members around the world. E-clubs conduct their meetings in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish.

+ WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROTARY CLUBS AND ROTARY E-CLUBS?

The only difference is that Rotary e-clubs meet primarily online and other Rotary clubs meet in person. Rotary e-clubs can include members from different parts of the world. Like traditional Rotary clubs, e-clubs members discuss ideas and take action in their communities through service and in doing so, create lasting friendships. Whether a club meets online or in person, the goal is the same: community leaders discussing ideas to take action in their communities.

+ HOW DO E-CLUBS WORK?

E-club meetings are hosted on the club's website. The official meeting time can be considered at a specific date and time or when material is posted. Some e-clubs meet online at a set time using software like Google Hangouts, Go to Meeting, or other webinar software. Other e-clubs post a meeting activity and members go online to participate at a time convenient for them. There are other e-clubs that have both in-person and online meetings.

E-club members can conduct club business and have discussions through a chat room feature or via Skype. To respect the privacy of e-club members, some meeting content or member data is protected from public view. E-clubs conduct business online but also meet in person for service, social hours, meals, and other Rotary meetings like the Rotary Convention.

+ WHO PARTICIPATES IN E-CLUBS?

E-clubs are designed for busy business, professional, and community leaders who travel frequently or are unable to attend an in-person weekly meeting. Thirty-six percent of e-club members were former members of a Rotary club. E-clubs are a great way to meet other community and thought leaders, conduct service, and enjoy friendships. Rotarians who miss their regular Rotary club meeting may also make up a meeting by attending an e-club meeting online.

Membership in an e-club requires a basic Internet skills set, including the ability to navigate websites with ease.

It is critical that at least one club member is proficient in the design and maintenance of the club's website or can easily communicate with a paid webmaster.

+ HOW DO I JOIN AN EXISTING E-CLUB?

As with all Rotary clubs, membership is by invitation. You can also express your interest on Rotary.org or use our **Club Finder** to find an e-club on your own.

WHAT IS THE POLICY FOR E-CLUBS?

While each e-club is assigned to a district and a country/geographical area, members can come from any country or geographical area. As of 1 July 2015, 54 percent of e-club members reside in the district.

WHAT ARE THE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS?

A good e-club website includes the following:

- A private section for members only
- An online payment system to collect member dues, contributions, and other fees
- A URL that references the name of the club
- Content and formatting that matches Rotary's **voice and visual identity guidelines**
- Instructions for how members of other clubs can use the site for a makeup meeting
- E-clubs cover all costs associated with maintaining their URL and hosting the website. Check the **Quick Start Guide for Club Websites** for more information.

HOW DO WE CHARTER AN E-CLUB?

Contact your district governor first. The governor is responsible for organizing and establishing new clubs and will work with the new club adviser or the new club development committee. Applying for membership in Rotary as an e-club is the same process as applying as a Rotary club.

RESOURCES

-  Your Rotary **Club and District Support (CDS) team**
-  **New Rotary Clubs Quick Start Guide**
-  Check out **Club Finder** to see the most current list of current Rotary e-clubs.