ROTARACT STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. The Rotaract program was created by and is an activity of Rotary International, and the authority for the establishment and enforcement of constitutional provisions, organizational requirements and standards of procedure, and for the preservation of the Rotaract name and emblem is retained by Rotary International.

2. A Rotaract club is a Rotary club-sponsored organization of young adults ages 18 to 30, whose purpose is to provide opportunity for them to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address the physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service, and whose goals are:
   a) To develop professional and leadership skills;
   b) To emphasize respect for the rights of others, and to promote ethical standards and the dignity of all useful occupations;
   c) To provide opportunities for young people to address the needs and concerns of the community and our world;
   d) To provide opportunities for working in cooperation with sponsor Rotary clubs;
   e) To motivate young people for eventual membership in Rotary.

3. Rotaract club programming shall consist of professional development, leadership development, and service program development as outlined in the "Standard Rotaract Club Constitution."

4. A Rotaract club is organized, sponsored, and counseled by a Rotary club or clubs and is established following the endorsement of the governor and upon certification and recognition by Rotary International; it can be created and sustained in no other way, and its existence depends upon the active sponsorship of its sponsor Rotary club and continued recognition by Rotary International.

5. Rotaract clubs are strongly encouraged to mention after their own names "sponsored by the Rotary Club of (name)."

6. Within the framework established by Rotary International, the sponsor Rotary club is responsible for organizing the Rotaract club and providing it with guidance and counsel thereafter.

7. Rotary clubs should appoint Rotarian mentors to the Rotaractors in the Rotaract clubs they sponsor.

8. Where the Rotaract club is university-based, control and counsel by the sponsor Rotary club shall be exercised in full cooperation with the university authorities, with the understanding that such clubs are subject to the same regulations and policies established by the university authorities for all student organizations and extracurricular activities of the university (or other institution of higher education.)

9. All Rotaract club activities, projects and programs shall be conducted in harmony with the policies of Rotary International; continued sponsorship of a Rotaract club by a Rotary club and recognition of it by RI are contingent thereon.

10. There shall be a "Standard Rotaract Club Constitution" prescribed by Rotary International and subject to amendment only by the Board of Directors of Rotary International. As a prerequisite of its organization and certification, each Rotaract club shall adopt the "Standard Rotaract Club Constitution" and shall automatically adopt all amendments thereto subsequently made.

11. Each Rotaract club shall adopt bylaws not inconsistent with the "Standard Rotaract Club Constitution" and with policy established by Rotary International. Such bylaws shall be subject to the approval of the sponsor Rotary club.

12. Rotaract clubs shall be sponsored only by Rotary clubs within the boundaries of the district in which they are located.

13. A Rotaract club may be organized and sponsored jointly by more than one Rotary club under the following conditions:
    a) The governor must approve, in writing that, in the governor's considered judgment, the best interests of the district, the Rotary clubs concerned and the Rotaract program would be served by the proposed joint sponsorship.
    b) The circumstances must be such that the organization of separate Rotaract clubs, each sponsored by a single Rotary club, would create an artificial division of what is essentially a single body of young adults within the community or university.
    c) A joint Rotaract committee must be created with effective representation from each of the sponsor Rotary clubs.

14. Each member of a Rotaract club, agrees to accept and to adhere to the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of his or her Rotaract club.

15. Rotaractors may make-up Rotaract club attendance at meetings of Rotary clubs at the discretion of the individual Rotary club. Rotary clubs that sponsor Rotaract clubs should invite Rotaractors to make up absences from their regularly scheduled Rotaract club meetings to their regularly scheduled Rotary club meetings.

16. On 30 June of the Rotaract year in which a member becomes 30 years old, his or her Rotaract membership will end.

17. Membership in a Rotaract club shall be evidenced by Rotaract membership identification cards that include the name of the sponsor Rotary club.

18. The Rotaract name and emblem are the property of Rotary International and shall be preserved for the exclusive use of those involved in the Rotaract program. When displayed by individual club members, the emblems may be used without further information. When the emblem is used to represent a club, the name of the club should appear with the emblem. Where a Rotary district exists, it may use the respective emblem but only in conjunction with reference to the district and its number.

19. Rotaract club members shall be entitled to use and display the Rotaract name and emblem in an appropriate and dignified manner during their period of membership in a Rotaract club and shall relinquish such entitlement upon termination of membership in a Rotaract club or upon the termination of the Rotaract club.

20. A Rotaract club may be terminated:
    a) By Rotary International, with or without the consent, approval or concurrence of the sponsor Rotary club, for failure to function in accordance with its constitution, or for other cause.
    b) By its sponsor Rotary club, after consultation with the governor and the district Rotaract representative, or
    c) By the Rotaract club itself upon its own determination.

21. Upon termination of a Rotaract club, all rights and privileges relating to the name and emblem shall be relinquished by the club and by its members individually and collectively. The Rotaract club shall relinquish all financial assets to the sponsor Rotary club.

22. As a matter of policy, the Board does not recognize the right of any individual or organization except RI to circularize Rotaract clubs for any commercial purpose, except in the case of Rotaractors who are responsible for organizing Rotaract club, district and multidistrict meetings and only within the districts directly involved.

23. Governors should appoint one joint district Rotaract committee composed of equal numbers of Rotarians and Rotaractors. The district Rotaract committee chair (a Rotarian) and the district Rotaract representative (a Rotaractor) should serve as co-chairs of this committee. Where feasible and practicable in the appointment of district Rotaract committees, there should be provision for continuity of membership by appointing one or more members for a second term. The district Rotaract committee should assist the governor in publicizing the Rotaract program, promoting the organization of new Rotaract clubs, and administering the program of Rotaract within the district.

24. Rotaract organization beyond the club level:
    a) A district with two or more Rotaract clubs must elect a district Rotaract representative from among their membership. The method of election shall be determined by the Rotaract membership and approved by the district Rotaract committee and district governor. The district Rotaract representative must have served as a Rotaract club president or as a member of the district Rotaract committee for one full term before taking office.
    b) In a district with one Rotaract club, the district Rotaract representative shall be the most recent, available past Rotaract club president.
    c) The district Rotaract representative will be guided and counseled by the Rotary governor and should work with the district Rotaract committee and other appropriate Rotary district committees.
    d) The district Rotaract representative in conjunction with other district leaders, should:
        1) Develop and distribute a district Rotaract newsletter;
        2) Plan, arrange, and hold a district Rotaract conference;
        3) Encourage attendance and participation by Rotaract club officers, directors, and committee chairs at the Rotary district conference and all relevant district level training meetings;

4) Conduct Rotaract promotion and extension activities throughout the district;
5) Plan and implement service activities (if approved by three-fourths of the Rotaract clubs in the district);
6) Provide advice and support to Rotaract clubs in implementing their projects;
7) Help coordinate joint Rotary-Rotaract activities in the district;
8) Coordinate public relations activities for Rotaract at the district level;
9) Plan and implement a training session for Rotaract club officers in the district.

e) All election disputes should be resolved locally in consultation with the district governor and district Rotaract chair. RI will not intervene.

25. Rotaract meetings beyond the club level:

a) The purpose of the district-wide meeting of Rotaract clubs is to promote community service projects, increase international understanding and enhance professional development in a context of friendship and camaraderie.

b) No meeting of members of Rotaract clubs beyond the club level shall have any legislative authority nor shall be so organized as to give the appearance of having such authority. Nevertheless, such a meeting may include ideas which might be of value as advisory observations to those involved at the district or other levels of Rotaract administration.

c) At a district Rotaract meeting, a three-fourths majority of the Rotaract clubs in a district may vote to undertake a district service project and to establish a district Rotaract service fund to raise funds for this project. Contributions to such a fund must be voluntary. Such a project and service fund must be approved by the governor, and specific plans and instructions for the administration of the district project and use of the fund must also have the approval of the governor and three-fourths of the Rotaract clubs in the district. The governor must appoint a district fund committee to be responsible for collecting and administering the district fund, such committee to be composed of at least one Rotaractor and one Rotarian from the district Rotaract committee. The district service fund must be kept in a bank account which clearly indicates that the fund is the property of the district Rotaract organization and not the personal property of any individual Rotaractor or Rotaract club.

d) All district Rotaract activities shall be financed by the Rotaract clubs in the district. No expenses of district Rotaract club meetings shall be paid by Rotary International. The cost of such meetings shall be minimal and within the financial means of those participating.

26. Rotaract activities beyond the district level

a) Rotaract Multidistrict Service Projects. Rotaract-sponsored service projects involving clubs in two or more districts may be implemented provided that such projects

1) are, in nature and scope, within the capability of the clubs and Rotaractors in the districts to undertake successfully without interfering with or detracting from the scope and effectiveness of club activities;
2) shall not be undertaken initially unless each district Rotaract representative concerned has agreed to such a joint project and then, only after approval of two-thirds of the clubs in each district;
3) shall be undertaken with the approval of the governors concerned;
4) shall be under the direct supervision of the district Rotaract representatives concerned; the custody of all funds contributed or collected for such projects shall be the responsibility of the district representatives concerned, through a committee of Rotaractors from within the districts involved, who may be appointed to assist in administering any such project and related funds;

5) shall be undertaken only after the district Rotaract representatives have jointly secured in advance the authorization of the general secretary, acting on behalf of the Board, to undertake the project;
6) shall involve the participation by Rotaract clubs and/or individual Rotaractors on a voluntary basis, clearly presented as such; the cost of participation by a club or individual Rotaractor, if any, should be kept to a minimum, and not be implicitly or directly made an obligation in the form of a per capita tax, or assessment or otherwise;

b) Rotaract Multidistrict Information Organizations. Districts may develop a multidistrict organization for the purpose of disseminating information and facilitating communication between Rotaract clubs in the districts concerned, provided that
1) there is no objection by the governors of each of the districts concerned;
2) authorization is secured from the general secretary, acting on behalf of the RI Board of Directors, to develop and maintain such an organization;
3) the organization complies with RI policy or is subject to termination of its status by the general secretary on behalf of the RI Board of Directors;
4) each member district is represented by its district Rotaract representative. Each district Rotaract representative may appoint a proxy from his/her district organization, as needed, to carry out the activities of the multidistrict organization;
5) funds needed to implement the organization's activities (i.e. production and distribution of regional club directories and newsletters, dissemination of Rotaract program information, general correspondence) shall be obtained on a voluntary basis only;
6) the organization has no decision making or legislative powers, except for decisions concerning the activities of the organization, for which each member district (as represented by its district Rotaract representative) shall have one vote.

c) Multidistrict Rotaract Meetings
1) Meetings of Rotaract club members from more than one district, particularly from districts in more than one country, are to be held under the guidance of the host governor and the district Rotaract committee, and in conjunction with the host district Rotaract representative. Such meetings are subject to the advance approval of the governors of the districts involved. Invitations to governors to hold multidistrict Rotaract meetings must be accompanied by:
a) information including the date, location, purpose, facilities, program and participants of the proposed meeting;
b) a copy of the anticipated meeting budget with assurance that the sponsors are in a position to and will assume complete responsibility for contractual and financial obligations inherent in the meeting;
c) assurance that the planning and implementation of the proposed meeting will be carried out under the direct supervision of Rotaractors and Rotarians;
2) The host club or district must maintain liability insurance for multidistrict Rotaract meetings with coverage and limits appropriate for the geographic location. Evidence of such coverage must be provided to RI or the governor of any participating district upon request.
3) The district Rotaract representative shall inform the RI director(s) for the zone(s).

27. Leadership Training
a) All incoming Rotaract club officers shall be provided with Rotaract club officers leadership training at the district level, such training to include a one to two-day leadership training

seminar facilitated by the district Rotaract committee chair and the district Rotaract representative for all incoming Rotaract club officers, directors, and committee chairs to be paid for by the sponsor Rotary clubs, or where circumstances dictate, by a mutually agreed-upon financial arrangement involving the sponsor Rotary clubs, Rotary district, and the Rotaract participants.

b) All incoming governors-elect are encouraged to provide adequate training to their incoming Rotaract club presidents and, where appropriate, include such training as part of the program of the Rotary district assembly.

28. Financing the cost of the Rotaract program:
    a) All sponsor Rotary clubs must pay a certification fee of US$50 for new Rotaract clubs.
    b) Individual Rotaractors shall pay annual membership fees to their Rotaract club to cover the cost of club administration.
    c) Any fees, dues or assessments on the membership of any Rotaract club shall be nominal and shall be only for the purpose of covering the cost of administering the club; funds for activities and projects undertaken by Rotaract clubs shall be raised by such clubs apart from such fees, dues or assessments and shall be placed into a separate account. A thorough audit by a qualified person shall be made once each year of all the club's financial transactions.
    d) It is the responsibility of the Rotaract club to raise the funds necessary to carry out the program of the club.
    e) Rotaract clubs should not make general solicitations for financial assistance from Rotary clubs or from other Rotaract clubs. Sponsor clubs may provide financial support when mutually agreed upon.
    f) Contributions to fund district Rotaract service projects must be voluntary and cannot be made enforceable upon the individual Rotaractor or Rotaract club.
    g) No part of the expenses of meetings of Rotaract clubs or groups of Rotaract clubs shall be paid by Rotary International, with the exception of the annual Rotaract Preconvention Meeting.
    h) Sponsor Rotary clubs shall strongly encourage and pay for the attendance of their Rotaract club officers, directors and committee chairs at all relevant and necessary district-level leadership training meetings (or, when circumstances dictate, these meetings shall be paid for through mutually agreed upon financial arrangements involving the sponsor Rotary clubs, the Rotary district and the Rotaract participants).
    i) Rotary districts shall pay for the attendance of their districts' Rotaract representatives at district-level or multidistrict leadership training meetings.
    j) Rotary clubs and Rotary district conferences inviting members or Rotaract clubs to participate in the programs of such clubs and conferences should subscribe to sufficient trip, accident and liability insurance to protect the Rotary club or district conference against any possible legal or moral obligation and liability.
    k) The district should make provisions to fund the administrative activities of the District Rotaract committee.

29. As a matter of principle, Rotaract clubs are not authorized to assume membership in or merge with other organizations regardless of the purpose of such organizations.

30. Rotaract club presidents shall submit updated membership lists to RI each year no later than 30 September and 31 March through Member Access. These lists shall include the names, e-mail addresses, and gender of each Rotaractor in the club. Rotaract clubs that do not submit updated contact lists to RI in a two-year period will be terminated.

The Board regularly reviews and amends, as necessary, the *Rotaract Statement of Policy*, *Standard Rotaract Club Constitution*, and *Standard Rotaract Club Bylaws*.

The Rotaract Statement of Policy is excerpted from Rotary Code of Policies, Article 41.020, and is subject to change by the RI Board of Directors. Please refer to the RI website for the most recent policy:
www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/code_ri_current.pdf

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