

As you are aware, two types of proposals are considered by the Council on Legislation. Firstly, proposed **enactments** are considered, these being proposals to change the constitution and bylaws of Rotary International or Rotary Clubs. Secondly, proposed **resolutions** which have the effect of requiring the Board of Rotary International to take specific action. This report will deal only with the former as these are decisions which will come into effect immediately and will change the way in which Rotary operates. They are dealt with in different sections which will be enumerated below. The proposed resolutions will be dealt with later.

Note that the reference number OC... is the order in which these items were considered by the Council.

Note also that I have only dealt with enactments that affect Club Meetings, Attendance, Club Administration and Membership. What I will do in my next mailing will be to deal with enactments concerning Programs, The Rotary Foundation, The Objects of Rotary, District matters and RI Finances and Per Capita Dues. I will not report at this stage on enactments concerning RI administration, RI meetings, Election of Officers and Technical Legislation as I do not believe that is of interest to members before the new MOP is printed.

CLUB MEETINGS

OC 07-7

This enactment alters Article 5 Section 1(c) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 238 in MOP) to provide for a club board to cancel a club meeting for **commonly recognized holidays**. The text reads as follows:

Article 5 Meetings

Section 1 *Regular meetings*

(c) *Cancellation*. The board may cancel a regular meeting if it falls on a legal holiday, **including a commonly recognized holiday**, Or in case of the death of a club member.....

ATTENDANCE

OC 07-11

This enactment alters Article 11 Section (a) (1) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 243 in MOP) to reduce the percentage attendance at regular club meetings to 50% per half year. The text reads as follows:

Article 11 Duration of Meetings

Section 4 *Termination – Non-attendance*.

(a) Attendance Percentages. A member must

- (1) attend or make up at least **50 percent** of club regular meetings in each half of the year;

OC 07-14 and OC 07-15

This enactment alters Article 8 Section 5 of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 241 in MOP) This enactment would change the provision so that absences of members who are excused by the club board based on good and sufficient reasons, would be included in the club's attendance records. This would return the provision to the way it was prior to the 2004 Council on Legislation. The text reads as follows:

Article 8 Attendance

Section 5 Attendance Records. Any member whose absences are excused under the provisions of **subsections 3 (b)** or **section 4** of this article shall not be included in the membership figure used to compute this club's attendance.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

O C 07-28

This enactment alters Article 5 of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 237 in MOP) to include the Four Avenues of Service. The text reads as follows:

Article 5 Four Avenues of Service.

Rotary's Four Avenues of Service are the philosophical and practical framework for the work of this Rotary Club.

- 1. Club Service, the first Avenue of Service involves action a member should take within this club to help it function successfully.**
- 2. Vocational Serviced, the second Avenue of Service, has the purpose of promoting high ethical standards in businesses and professions, recognizing the worthiness of all dignified occupations, and fostering the ideal of serice in the pursuit of all vocations. The role of members includes conducting themselves and their businesses in accordance with Rotary's principles.**
- 3. Community Service, the third Avenue of Service, comprises varied efforts that members make, sometimes in conjunction with others, to improve the quality of life of those who live within this club's locality or municipality.**
- 4. International Service, the fourth Avenue of Service comprises those activities that members do to advance international understanding goodwill and peace by fostering acquaintance with people of other countries, their cultures, customs, accomplishments, aspirations and problems, through reading and correspondence**

and through cooperation in all club activities and projects designed to help people in other lands.

O C 07-29

This enactment alters Article 4 of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 237 in MOP) to amend the Standard Rotary Club Constitution to state that the club is a nonprofit organization. The txt reads as follows:

Article 4 Object

This club is a nonprofit organization. The Object of Rotary is to.....etc.

OC 07-30

This enactment alters Article 18 Section (2) (1) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 246/7 in MOP) to require that any proposed amendment to a club's name or locality shall be forwarded to the governor for review prior to it being submitted to the RI Board for approval. The governor's opinions however, shall not be mandatory. The text read as follows:

Section 2 – Amending Article 2 and Article 3. Article 2 (Name) and Article 3 (Locality of the Club) of the constitution shall be amended at any regular meeting of this club, a quorum being present, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all voting members present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days before such meeting, and provided further, that such amendment shall be submitted to the board of directors of R I for its approval and shall become effective only when so approved. **The governor may offer an opinion to the R I board regarding the proposed amendment.**

OC 07-37

This enactment alters Article 3 by the addition of subsection 3.03.3 of the BYLAWS OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (page 177 in MOP) to authorize the RI Board to suspend or terminate a club that fails to investigate an allegation that a man member violated youth protection laws. The additional text reads as follows:

Article 3 Resignation or Termination of Membership in RI

3.030. Board Authority to Discipline or Terminate a Club.

3.03.3 Suspension or Termination for Failure to Comply with Youth Protection Laws.
The Board may suspend or terminate the membership of a club that fails to appropriately address any allegations made against one of its members in connection with Rotary related Youth projects for violation of applicable law regarding the protection of youth.

OC 07-41

This enactment alters Article 4 Section 4.100 of the BYLAWS OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (page 179 in MOP) to amend the provisions for visiting Rotarians. The additional text reads as follows:

Article 4 Membership in Clubs

4.100 Attendance at other clubsregular meeting of any other club **except for a club that previously terminated the membership of said person for good cause.**

OC 07-42

This enactment alters Article 10 of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 242 in MOP) to exempt recent Rotaractors from paying an admission fee. The text reads as follows:

Article 10 Admission fees and dues

Every member shall pay an admission fee and annual dues as prescribed in the bylaws, except that any transferring or former member of another club who is accepted into membership of this club pursuant to article 6, section 4 shall not be required to pay a second admission fee. **A Rotaractor who ceased to be a member of Rotaract within the preceding two years who is accepted into membership of this club shall not be required pay an admission fee.**

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OC 07-44

This enactment alters Article 9 Section (5) (b) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 242 in MOP) to clarify the terms of the president-nominee and president-elect.

Article 9 Directors and officers

Section 5 Election of officers

- (b) *Term of President* The president shall be elected as provided in the bylaws, not more than two (2) years but not less than eighteen (18) months prior to the day of taking office and shall serve as president-nominee upon election. The nominee shall take the title of president-elect on **1 July in year prior to taking office as president.** The president shall take office on 1 July and shall serve a period of one (1) year or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified.

OC 07-49

This enactment alters Article 9 Section (5) (c) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 242 in MOP) to provide that the president shall continue to serve until a successor who has attended the president-elect training seminar and district assembly has been elected. The text reads as follows:

Article 9 Directors and officers

Section 5 Election of officers

- (c) *Qualifications.* Each officer and director shall be a member in good standing of club. The president-elect shall attend the district president-elect training seminar and the district assembly unless excused by the governor-elect. If so excused the president-elect shall send a designated club representative who shall report back

to the president-elect. If the president-elect does not attend the presidents-elect training seminar and the district assembly and has not been caused by the governor-elect or, if so excused, does not send a designated club representative to such meetings, the president-elect shall not be able to serve as club president. **In such event the current president shall continue to serve as club president until a successor who has attended a president-elect training seminar and district assembly or training deemed sufficient by the governor elect, has been duly elected.**

OC 07-60 This is a watershed addition to the conditions of membership

This enactment alters Article 5 of the CONSTITUTION OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (page 168 in MOP) to amend the provisions for qualification for membership.

Article 5 Membership

Section 2 *Composition of Clubs*

Subsection (a) is altered to read: A club shall be composed of active members who are adult persons of good character and good business, professional **and/or** community reputation.

Subsection (a) with the addition of paragraph 4 as follows:

Being a community leader who has demonstrated through personal involvement in community affairs a commitment to service and the Object of Rotary.

Subsection (b) has the following addition Each club shall have a well-balanced membership in which no one business, profession **or type of community service predominates.** The club shall not elect a.....

Article 7 Classifications

Section 1 *General Provisions*

- (a) *Principal Activity* Each member shall be classified in accordance with the member's business or profession **or type of community service.** The classification shall be that which describes the principal and recognized activity of the firm, company or institution with which the member is connected or that which describes the member's principal and recognized business or professional activity **or that which describes the nature of the member's community service activity.**

OC 07-64

This enactment alters Article 5 and Article 7 of the CONSTITUTION OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (page 168 in MOP) To allow clubs to elect into active membership Rotary Foundation Alumni even if the classification of the alumnus is filled.

Article 5 Membership

Section 2-Composition of clubs

- (b) Each club shall..... classification of a transferring or former member or a club, **or a Rotary Foundation alumnus as defined by the board of Directors of RI,** shall not preclude.....

Article 7 Classification

Section 2 – Limitations. This club shall not elect..... The classification of a transferring or former member of a club, **or a Rotary Foundation alumnus as defined by the board of directors of RI,** shall not preclude.....

OC 07-65

This enactment alters Article 5 Section 2 of the CONSTITUTION OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (page 168 in MOP) to allow Rotary Foundation alumnuni to be active members.

Article 5 Membership

Section 2 – Composition of Clubs

Subsection (4) has been added and reads as follows:

- (4) **have the status of Rotary Foundation alumni as defined by the board**

OC 07-67

This enactment alters Article 11 Section (5) (c) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 243/4 in MOP) to amend the classification provision for termination of membership.

Article 11 Duration of Membership

Section 5 Termination – other causes

- (c) *Filling Classification.* The following sentence is added at the end of the paragraph: **However this provision shall not apply if, by election of a new member the number of active members under the said classification would remain within provided limitations even if the board’s decision regarding termination is reversed**

And OC 07-76 adds a further sentence at the end of the above which reads as follows: **The guiding principles for this meeting shall be article 6, section 1 and the Four-Way Test.**

OC 07-78

This enactment alters Article 11 Section (4)(a) subsection 2 of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 243 in MOP) to amend the provisions for termination for non-attendance

Article 11 Duration of membeship

Section 4 Termination – non attendance

(a) *Attendance percentages.* A member must

(2) attend at least 30 percent of this club’s regular meetings in each half of the year **(assistant governors’ as defined by the board of directors of RI. shall be excused from this requirement)**

OC 07 – 79

This enactment alters Article 11 Section (10) of the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION (page 244 in MOP). Allow clubs to temporarily suspend membership during termination proceedings.

Article 11 Duration of membership

Section 10 Temporary suspension.

Notwithstanding any provision of the standard club constitution, if in the opinion of the board

(a) credible accusations have been made that a member has refused or neglected to comply with the standard club constitution, or has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the club; and

(b) those accusations, if proved, constitute good cause for terminating the membership of the member; and

(c) it is desirable that no action should be taken in respect of the membership of the member pending the outcome of a matter or an event that the board considers should properly occur before such action is taken by the board; and

(d) that in the best interests of the club and without any vote being taken as to his or her membership, the member’s membership should be temporarily suspended and the member should be excluded from attendance at meetings and other activities of club and from any office or position the member holds within the club. For the purposes of this clause, the member shall be excused from fulfilling attendance responsibilities.

The board may, by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the board, temporarily suspend the member as aforesaid for such period and on such further conditions as the board determines, albeit for a period no longer than is reasonably necessary in all the circumstances.