

==WHY do we charge for Weekly Attendance and the DUES/Invoicing modules?

First, we are a professional software development company, and we can not compete with FREE services. However, the FREE services can not deliver the support and continued development that our company provides. As a matter of fact, RI has completely discontinued support of their RI-CAS (free) product because of the costs incurred for that software system. And, we need to generate a revenue stream to cover the continued development and support of these club level services, although we are trying to keep the costs to a minimum. It is very expensive to have a professional development and support staff, and to use the high-speed servers to quickly respond to the queries.

The club secretary has the administrative obligation to report to the RI database Membership changes, Club changes, and Monthly Attendance (as outlined in Section 8 of the RI Manual of Procedures). However, it does not say HOW the club secretary accomplishes those tasks. The District and Club database (**DaCdb**) is a tool that eliminates redundant entries, by forwarding all this information from a single source.

And, correctly programming the weekly and monthly attendance percentage calculations is a very COMPLEX algorithm. It took us a couple of weeks just for that portion alone, based on the RI MOP and the latest revisions and amendments by 2007 Council On Legislation. Even the RI-CAS attendance module does NOT calculate the "Rule of 85" members attendance correctly when they attend a meeting. This is just another of the reasons that RI has dropped support for the RI-CAS system.

We believe that \$3/week is a small cost for the amount of time saved (by a volunteer), to perform a rather complex and tedious task. So, if your TIME is worth LESS than the minimum hourly wage, and you can apply the complex algorithms for calculating the club's attendance correctly (and this is YOUR "service above self"), then God bless you. We are only providing an easy solution to save the club secretaries some TIME, with less STRESS each week.

The optional, premium modules are only invoiced charged to the clubs if they choose to use the function. And, it is payable directly **DaCdb**, to the developer of the software. One club secretary told us, HE would pay for it himself (if the club didn't) because of the simplicity and time-saving for him each week...and that was just for a club of 28 members.

And, the **Weekly Attendance** module was an OPTIONAL premium module for the club to evaluate and determine if they wanted to pay for this time-saving module for their club secretary. This premium module **only** became available on July 1, 2008, right after RI announced that they were dropping this support to the clubs. AND, the Monthly Attendance submission is **still available at NO Charge to the club.**

The **Weekly Attendance** module is a very complex set of algorithms, as defined by RI...and uses a lot of disk space, as there a multiple records maintained for each member for each week, over a multiple year period. However, we have simplified the administrative task for the recording and reporting of Weekly and Monthly Attendance just 3 basic functions (and just a couple of "clicks" each):

- 1) Add a meeting, it knows your next meeting date;
- 2) Just "click ON" the Members that attended (or read the badge's bar code);
- 3) Closes the meeting automatically when the Monthly Attendance is submitted.

The system then correctly calculates the weekly attendance for the club and records each member as present or absent. And it then aggregates that meeting into the month's summary for all the meetings in that month. MakeUps, Excused, and Rule of 85 members are automatically and properly accounted for in the weekly calculations, just by "checking them IN", as present for the meeting.

=== COST for BUNDLED SOFTWARE options

Below is our generic answer to the question about the 3 premium modules. Hope this helps.

If you choose to use the **Weekly Attendance** module (\$156/year), and the **DUES & Invoicing** module (\$156/year), THEN the third option, a **Club Web Site** function only costs the clubs an additional \$37 a year for the standard, hosted club web site. And, the bundled package saves all of club officers TIME (with less STRESS), whether it is performing Attendance, Dues, or Web Site functions...also we believe that the *less than \$1/per day* for all 3 premium modules is a small cost for the amount of time saved (by club officers), to perform these rather complex and tedious tasks.

So, if your TIME is worth LESS than the minimum hourly wage, and you can apply the complex algorithms for calculating the clubs attendance correctly, or entering reams of data into an Excel file, (and this is YOUR "service above self"), then God bless you. We are only providing an easy solution to save the club secretaries and treasurers some TIME, with less STRESS each week (and month) as they perform their necessary administrative duties.

So, each club decides if they want the *optional, premium modules*. The cost is \$3/week (annualized to \$156/year), or **all three for the bundled price** of \$349/year, plus a one-time \$197 for the web site setup.

And you can choose any one or combination of optional modules for your club, to save your club secretary and treasurer a lot of TIME performing their administrative functions.