

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-16

To set age limits for Rotaractors

Proposer(s): District 3490, Taiwan

1 *To amend the **CONSTITUTION** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 5 Membership**

4

5 **Section 3** — *Composition of Rotaract Clubs.* Rotaract clubs shall be composed
6 of Rotaractors as ~~determined by the board~~ aged 18 to 40 years.

7

8 *And to amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

9

10 **Article 4 Membership in Clubs**

11

12 **4.060. Rotaract Club Membership.**

13 A Rotaract club shall be composed of young adults, ~~as determined by the board~~
14 aged 18 to 40 years.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

15 According to Article 4 of the Standard Rotaract Club Constitution —
16 Membership, eligible Rotaract club members “should be students and young
17 professionals of good character and leadership potential aged 18 and over.”

18

19 At present, there is no upper age limit for Rotaract clubs. This will hinder Rotary
20 clubs from recruiting new members, because of the overlap in member ages and
21 the huge gap in the RI annual fees. Without an age limit, potential members may
22 choose to join a Rotaract club instead of a standard Rotary club.

23

24 Today’s Rotaractors are some of the most dynamic young people of their
25 generation. Therefore, it stands to reason that they have the greatest potential to
26 make significant contributions to Rotary clubs, the original intent of creating
27 Rotaract clubs. However, the lack of an upper age limit for Rotaract membership
28 adversely impacts Rotary clubs. People have different goals, ideals, and outlooks
29 at different stages of their lives; membership and their purpose for being a
30 Rotarian. Setting the upper age limit for Rotaract club membership at 40 will
31 better separate the two demographics, in terms of maturity, financial capability,
32 and time allocation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 1 This enactment would have no substantial financial impact on RI. Currently,
- 2 there are very few Rotaract members that are above the age of 40.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-17

To set an age limit for Rotaractors

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Kanpur West, District 3110, India

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 4 Membership in Clubs**

4

5 **4.060. Rotaract Club Membership.**

6 A Rotaract club shall be composed of young adults, ~~as determined by the board~~
7 age 30 and below.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

8 As per the decision of the last Council on Legislation, Rotaractors are allowed
9 dual membership (i.e., simultaneous membership in both Rotary and Rotaract
10 clubs). At the same time, the upper age limit for Rotaractors was removed. As a
11 result, Rotaractors can remain members of Rotaract throughout their life.

12

13 Now, new problems are cropping up. Firstly, past Rotaractors who had become
14 Rotarians are now leaving Rotary and re-joining Rotaract in order to avoid
15 paying RI dues. Secondly, past Rotaractors in the age group of 40-50 years are re-
16 joining Rotaract clubs in order to occupy positions of leadership.

17

18 These issues have now made it necessary to limit Rotaractors from occupying
19 positions of leadership within a Rotaract club after a certain age, as well as to
20 require that they pay standard RI dues as a precondition for Rotary club
21 membership.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

22 This enactment could potentially result in a decrease in revenues for RI if there is
23 a decrease in membership or membership retention due to less flexibility for
24 current and future members. Currently, there is limited age data available on
25 Rotaractors.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-18

To state that Rotaractors may be members of RI committees

Proposer(s): Board of Directors of RI

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 17 Committees**

4

5 **17.080. Membership on Committees.**

6 Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, the president shall appoint the
7 members of the committees and any subcommittees after consulting the board.

8 Committees may include Rotaractors as members. The president shall designate
9 the chair of each committee and subcommittee and serve as an ex officio member
10 of all RI committees.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

11 With the elevation of Rotaract to a unique membership type in 2019, this
12 enactment allows Rotaractors to apply for and be eligible to serve on any RI
13 committee. At present, the RI Bylaws provide only for the appointment of
14 Rotarians to RI committees unless otherwise stated.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

15 This enactment would have no substantial financial impact on RI.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-38

To authorize the Board to suspend or terminate a club or Rotaract club for initiating litigation against a district

Proposer(s): District 4590, Brazil

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 3 Resignation, Suspension or Termination of Membership in**
4 **RI**

5

6 **3.020. Board Discipline, Suspension, or Termination of a Club or Rotaract**
7 **Club.**

8

9 **3.020.1. Suspension or Termination.**

10 The board may suspend or terminate a club or Rotaract club that:

11

12 (c) initiates or maintains, or retains a member or Rotaractor who initiates or
13 maintains, litigation against RI, ~~or TRF,~~ or the district, including their
14 directors, trustees, officers, agents, and employees, before exhausting all
15 remedies in the constitutional documents; or

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

16 The purpose of this proposal is to discourage the use of litigation against the
17 district as an incorporated entity. It would also complement the existing
18 provision of using mediation or arbitration to solve conflicts between individuals
19 and Rotary institutions, RI Bylaws section 24.010., in which the district is already
20 included as an admissible party in disputes that require mediation or arbitration.

21

22 It is indicated in subsection 3.020.1. that the RI Board may impose sanctions,
23 such as suspension or termination, upon clubs maintaining in their membership
24 a person who initiates legal claims against Rotary institutions. However, no
25 mention is made of the district as an incorporated entity, even though Rotary
26 officers, such as governors, are included.

27

28 The amendment aims to remedy this omission and reinforce the obligation to
29 resort to mediation and arbitration prior to the pursuit of legal action. By
30 preventing unnecessary litigation, we can reduce legal expenses, mitigate
31 interpersonal relationship issues, fulfill the premises of The Four-Way Test and,
32 above all, preserve Rotary's public image.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 1 This enactment would have no substantial financial impact on RI.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-49

To require that clubs and Rotaract clubs pay per capita dues for a minimum of 10 members

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Delhi Lutyens, District 3011, India
Rotary Club of Dharwad, District 3170, India

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 3 Resignation, Suspension or Termination of Membership in**
4 **RI**

5

6 **3.020. Board Discipline, Suspension, or Termination of a Club or Rotaract**
7 **Club.**

8

9 ~~3.020.4. Termination for Lack of Members.~~

10 ~~On the governor's request, the board may terminate a club if its membership falls~~
11 ~~below six members.~~

12

13 (Subsequent subsections will be renumbered as appropriate)

14

15 **Article 18 Fiscal Matters**

16

17 **18.030. Dues.**

18

19 18.030.3. Minimum Amount of Per Capita Dues

20 If a club or Rotaract club has fewer than ten members, it shall pay per capita dues
21 of an amount equal to the amount it would have paid if it had ten members.

(Subsequent subsections will be renumbered as appropriate)

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

22 While smaller clubs are able do good service, it is generally important for the
23 vitality of a club to maintain membership levels at 10 or above. This proposal
24 would require that clubs and Rotaract clubs pay dues for a minimum of 10
25 members, thus ensuring that RI can maintain these services and remain
26 financially viable. The proposed change will also help to stimulate membership
27 growth.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

1 This enactment could result in an increase in per capita dues revenue for RI.
2 Based on March 2021 data regarding club membership, there are approximately
3 2,300 clubs with fewer than 10 members. This proposed enactment would impact
4 clubs with nine members or fewer. If these clubs were charged for 10 members at
5 US\$35 per member semiannually, this would provide an annual increase of
6 approximately US\$494,000 in dues revenue for RI. However, it is possible that
7 clubs with nine or fewer members may merge with other clubs in their vicinity, or
8 dissolve entirely, instead of paying dues for 10 members.
9
10 In addition, there would be technology expenses to enhance database and billing
11 systems.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-63

To allow Rotaract clubs to propose legislation and resolutions, and to permit Rotaractors to serve as voting members of the Council

Proposer(s): Board of Directors of RI

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 7 Council on Legislation**

4

5 **7.020. Who May Propose Legislation.**

6 Enactments may be proposed by a club, a Rotaract club, a district conference, the
7 general council or conference of RIBI, the council on legislation, or the board.

8 Only the board may propose position statements. The board shall not propose
9 legislation related to TRF without prior agreement by the TRF trustees.

10

11 **7.030. District Endorsement of Club Legislation.**

12 ~~Club-proposed~~ Club and Rotaract club-proposed enactments must be endorsed
13 by ~~its~~ the district at a district conference, a district legislation meeting, or an RIBI
14 district council. Where time does not allow proposed enactments to be submitted
15 to the district conference, a district legislation meeting, or RIBI district council,
16 the proposed enactments may be submitted to the clubs of the district by a club
17 ballot conducted by the governor. Any club ballot shall follow the procedure in
18 section 12.050. as closely as possible. An enactment delivered to the general
19 secretary shall be certified by the governor that it has been endorsed. Districts
20 should not propose or endorse more than five enactments per council on
21 legislation.

22

23 **7.090. Extraordinary Meeting of the Council.**

24

25 **7.090.1. Notice.**

26 An extraordinary meeting of the council on legislation may be called by the board
27 in accordance with article 10, section 5 of the RI constitution. Notice of an
28 extraordinary meeting and the legislation it will consider shall be sent to
29 members and governors no later than 30 days before the meeting is scheduled to
30 convene. The governors shall notify the clubs and Rotaract clubs in their districts.

31

32 **7.090.3. Procedures.**

33 The procedures for the regular meeting of the council on legislation shall apply at
34 an extraordinary meeting with the following three exceptions:

35

36 **7.090.3.1. Method of Meeting.**

37 An extraordinary meeting may be convened in person or through electronic
38 communications.

1 7.090.3.2. *Report of Action.*

2 The report of action provided for in subsection 9.150.1. shall be transmitted to the
3 clubs and Rotaract clubs within seven days of the adjournment of the
4 extraordinary meeting.

5
6 **Article 8 Council on Resolutions**

7
8 **8.030. *Who May Propose Resolutions.***

9 Resolutions may be proposed by a club, a Rotaract club, a district conference, the
10 general council or conference of RIBI, and the board.

11
12 **8.040. *District Endorsement of Club Resolutions.***

13 ~~Club proposed~~ Club and Rotaract club-proposed resolutions must be endorsed by
14 the district at a district conference, a district legislation meeting, RIBI district
15 council, or through a club ballot conducted by the governor, following the
16 procedures in section 12.050. as closely as possible. A proposed resolution
17 delivered to the general secretary shall be certified by the governor that it has
18 been endorsed.

19
20 **Article 9 Composition and Procedures of the Councils**

21
22 **9.010. *Representatives and Rotaract Members.***

23 Representatives and Rotaract members are the voting members of the council on
24 legislation and council on resolutions. Each district elects one representative as
25 provided in sections 9.050., 9.060., and 9.070. Additionally, each zone elects one
26 Rotaractor to serve as a Rotaract member as provided in section 9.020.1. A non-
27 districted club shall select a district whose representative shall represent the club.
28

29 **9.020. *Qualifications of Representatives.***

30 Each representative shall

- 31 (a) be a member of a club in the district represented;
32 (b) have served a full term as an RI officer at the time of election. However, if
33 the governor certifies, and the RI president concurs, that no past officer is
34 available in the district, a Rotarian who served less than a full term as
35 governor or governor-elect may be elected; and
36 (c) understand and be qualified, willing, and able to perform the duties and
37 responsibilities of a representative.
38

39 **9.020.1. *Qualifications and Selection of Rotaract Members.***

40 The qualifications and selection method of Rotaract members shall be
41 determined by the board.

42
43 ~~9.020.1.~~ **9.020.2. *Not Eligible.***

44 Non-voting members of the councils and full-time, salaried employees of RI,
45 districts, ~~or clubs~~, or Rotaract clubs shall not serve as voting members of the
46 councils.

1 **9.030. Duties of Representatives and Rotaract Members.**

2 A representative shall:

- 3 (a) assist clubs and Rotaract clubs in preparing enactments and resolutions;
- 4 (b) discuss legislation and resolutions at district conferences and other district meetings;
- 5 (c) be knowledgeable about the attitudes of Rotarians and Rotaractors within the district;
- 6 (d) consider carefully all legislation and resolutions presented to the councils and effectively communicate their views to the councils;
- 7 (e) act as an objective legislator of RI;
- 8 (f) attend the meeting of the council on legislation for its full duration;
- 9 (g) participate in the council on resolutions; and
- 10 (h) report on council deliberations to the clubs and Rotaract clubs of the district.

11 **9.040. Terms of Representatives and Rotaract Members.**

12 The term of a representative or Rotaract member begins on 1 July in the year after the year of selection. Each representative or Rotaract member shall serve a term of three years or until a successor is selected and certified.

13 **9.080. Report and Publication of Representatives' and Rotaract Members' Names.**

14 **9.080.1. Report by Governor to General Secretary.**

15 The governor shall report the names of the representative and alternate to the general secretary immediately following their selection. Directors shall report the names of the Rotaract members for each of their zones.

16 **9.080.2. Publication of Representatives and Rotaract Member to Council Meetings.**

17 At least 30 days before a council convenes, the general secretary shall publish the names of all representatives and Rotaract members to each representative and Rotaract member ~~the names of all representatives.~~

18 **9.090. Representative or Alternate Representative, Alternate, or Rotaract Member Unable to Serve.**

19 If a representative is unable to serve, the alternate becomes the new representative. If the alternate is unable to serve or none was selected, the governor shall select a qualified member of a club in the district as the new representative. If the Rotaract member is unable to serve, the director shall select a qualified member of a Rotaract club in the zone as the new Rotaract member.

20 **9.100. Credentials.**

21 The general secretary shall certify the credentials of representatives and Rotaract members, subject to review by the council on legislation.

1 **9.150. *Post-Council Proceedings.***

2

3 **9.150.1. *Reports.***

4 Within ten days after a council adjourns, the chair shall send a report to the
5 general secretary about the council's actions. Within two months after a council
6 adjourns, the general secretary shall send a report to each club and Rotaract club
7 about all adopted legislation or resolutions. The report shall be accompanied by a
8 form where a club may record its opposition.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

9 The purpose of this enactment is to allow Rotaract clubs to submit legislation to
10 the Councils in acknowledgement of their status as a unique membership type of
11 RI. Additionally, 34 Rotaractors will serve as voting Rotaract members to
12 represent Rotaract membership at the Councils.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

13 This enactment would result in an increase in expenses for RI. The average cost
14 per person to attend the 2019 Council on Legislation was US\$3,400. The cost for
15 34 Rotaractors to attend the 2025 Council on Legislation as voting members
16 would be approximately US\$115,600.

PROPOSED ENACTMENT 22-84

To allow Rotaractors to attend Rotary club meetings

Proposer(s): District 1810, Germany

1 *To amend the **BYLAWS** of Rotary International as follows*

2

3 **Article 4 Membership in Clubs**

4

5 **4.090. Attendance at Other Clubs.**

6 ~~A Rotarian~~ Rotarians and Rotaractors may attend a regular meeting or satellite
7 club meeting of ~~another club~~ other Rotary clubs. However, a member terminated
8 for good cause may not attend a regular meeting or satellite club meeting of their
9 former club.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

10 All clubs should be interested in searching for younger members, as clubs are an
11 excellent source of new members. However, prior to the decision to accept new
12 members, the new member and club need to get to know each other. This is best
13 achieved by providing Rotaractors with a standing invitation to all Rotary club
14 meetings. Now that Rotaract clubs are full members of the Rotary organization,
15 all Rotaractors should be allowed to participate in Rotary club meetings as a
16 matter of course.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

17 This enactment would have no substantial financial impact on RI.

