**Los Banos Rotary Club – Member Program**

* **Current By-Laws For New Members**
  + ***Article 13 Method of Electing Members***
    - Section 1 — The name of a prospective member, proposed by an active member of the club, shall be submitted to the board in writing, through the club secretary. A transferring or former member of another club may be proposed to active membership by the former club. The proposal shall be kept confidential except as otherwise provided in this procedure.
    - Section 2 — The board shall ensure that the proposal meets all the classification and membership requirements of the standard Rotary club constitution.
    - Section 3 — The board shall approve or disapprove the proposal within 30 days of its submission and shall notify the proposer, through the club secretary, of its decision.
    - Section 4 — If the decision of the board is favorable, the prospective member shall be informed of the purposes of Rotary and of the privileges and responsibilities of membership, following which the prospective member shall be requested to sign the membership proposal form and to permit his or her name and proposed classification to be published to the club.
    - Section 5 — If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the board from any member (other than honorary) of the club within seven (7) days following publication of information about the prospective member, that person, upon payment of the admission fee (if not honorary membership), as prescribed in these bylaws, shall be considered to be elected to membership.
    - If any such objection has been filed with the board, it shall vote on this matter at its next meeting. If approved despite the objection, the proposed member, upon payment of the admission fee (if not honorary membership), shall be considered to be elected to membership.
    - Section 6 — Following the election, the president shall arrange for the new member's induction, membership card, and new member Rotary literature. In addition, the president or secretary will report the new member information to RI and the president will assign a member to assist with the new member's assimilation to the club as well as assign the new member to a club project or function.
    - Section 7 — The club may elect, in accordance with the standard Rotary club constitution, honorary members proposed by the board.
* **Club Image**
  + Is it easy for a visitor to find basic information about your club, including your meetings and projects? Ask a friend or family member to try to locate the following information:
* What does your club do?
* How often does it meet?
* Where will the next meeting be, and how long will it last?
* Should a visitor contact someone in the club before visiting?
* Is there a cost to the visitor for attending?
* What will the meeting be like?
* What does your club do besides hold meetings?
* **How Do You Communicate the Benefits Of Joining The Club?**
  + In talking to prospective members, do you consider their interests and needs when you explain the benefits of Rotary membership? Here are some popular benefits that Rotary members worldwide have associated with being a part of a Rotary club:
* Making a positive impact in one’s community through service projects
* Establishing business connections, lasting friendships, and mentor relationships
* Developing professional skills, such as event planning, public speaking, and fundraising
* Including family members in service projects and events and getting children involved in youth programs in the community or abroad
* Creating a global network of friends, especially when traveling
* Getting discounts on a variety of services through the Rotary Global Rewards program
* **Ideas for attracting younger professionals** 
  + Waive or reduce fees for a period.
  + Create a satellite club that meets at a different time or has a format that’s more convenient for those with young families. Consider meeting on a weekend or online.
  + Reduce meal expenses or make meals optional. Consider bringing snacks to a meeting, organizing a potluck, or having everyone take turns bringing the food or beverages.
  + Create social and networking activities that are interesting and convenient for younger professionals.
  + Invite groups of younger people to join at the same time to make them feel more comfortable and invite Rotaractors to become dual members.
  + Relax your club’s attendance rules. Perfect attendance is typically not attainable for today’s professionals. This may require some changes to your club’s policies.
  + Highlight opportunities to get involved in local service.
  + Assign a veteran Rotarian to serve as a mentor to make a new young member feel welcome.
  + Get them involved. Young professionals are creative and eager to generate new ideas for solving persistent problems. Connect for Good presents several ways members can connect and get involved.
  + Offer variety. Talk about all the ways new members can participate in Rotary. Find out about their abilities and interests and find ways to put them to use in your club’s work.
* **ORIENTING NEW MEMBERS** **(mentoring)**
  + *The primary individual for mentoring is the new member sponsor, additionally the Membership Chair must ensure orientation is successful.*
    - Induct new members either with special ceremony or induct new members at a club meeting.
      * Acknowledge and celebrate their involvement in Rotary.
      * Invite the inductee’s family and encourage all club members to participate in welcoming this new member of your Rotary family.
      * Ensure they receive copies of Rotary Basics and Connect for Good (sold together in the New Member Welcome Kit through shop.rotary.org) and a member certificate (template available in the Brand Center).
      * Organize a formalized orientation program shortly after induction.
        + Give new members an understanding of the benefits of membership in your club and the opportunities for service, both in your community and internationally.
      * Provide an overview of your club’s recent accomplishments and upcoming projects and activities and ask how they would like to be involved.
* **NEW MEMBER INVOLVEMENT(mentoring)**
  + Service projects
  + Fellowship and Action Groups
    - Locally and around the world
  + Participation in club, district, and international events
* **CURRENT MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**
  + Understand your members’ backgrounds and interests.
  + Ask members which upcoming project or activity they are most looking forward to.
  + Feature a different member in your each of your newsletters.
  + Introduce and interview a different member at each meeting.
  + Involve families in meetings, social activities, and service projects.
  + Ask members to take turns sharing their Rotary moments at your weekly meetings.
  + Listen to your members.
    - Ensure every member has a positive club experience.
      * Take prompt action, if necessary, to address membership concerns.
* **MEMBERSHIP CHAIR AND COMMITTEE**(all current club members)
  + Set club membership goals for the coming year.
  + Check and manage membership leads.
    - Follow up with the interested candidates.
  + Lead new member orientation.
  + Inform members on the importance of attracting and engaging members.
  + Develop an action plan to improve member satisfaction.
    - Survey members
      * Respond to feedback by initiating changes where needed.
    - Conduct club assessments
      * Ensure membership development and retention efforts are successful
  + Work with board members to create an image of your club.
    - Attractive to prospective and current members.
    - Attractive to the community in general.
  + Sponsor newly organized clubs in the district, if applicable.