

# NEW MEMBER GUIDE

## Core Philosophy - “Service Above Self”

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Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and to promote peace and understanding throughout the world. Members of Rotary Clubs are part of a diverse group working to address various local community and international service needs. Rotary has a motto, “service above self” that is meant to act as a reminder of a way of living.

## Object of Rotary

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The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions: the recognition of worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life;
4. The advance of international understanding, good will and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

## The Four Way Test

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Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The purpose of the Four Way Test is to act as a guide when making decisions. By asking ourselves these questions and having a ‘yes’ to each, one may then proceed with the idea at hand knowing that it will be helpful to all.

## **Rotary is an International Organization**

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There are over 32,000 Rotary clubs around the world. Each one is an autonomous organization with its own officers and board of directors, goals, policies, and programs. Our club is organized as a corporation under the laws of Florida. In addition, it has its own non-profit corporation under 501(3) which is approved to accept tax deductible charitable donations.

The Rotary clubs, in turn, belong to an international organization named Rotary International, and operate under a charter from it. Our charter was received in 1961. Rotary International (RI) is governed by its own President and a Board of Directors elected from all over the world. It, too, sponsors its own 501(3) non-profit, called The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary International is divided into territories within which a group of clubs is associated. These territories are known as Rotary Districts. Annually, each District elects a District Governor. Many of Rotary International's policies and programs are administered by the district governor with the help of district committees.

There are approximately 530 districts in over 200 countries, with a total membership of over 1.2 million individual Rotarians. The Rotary Club of Wellington belongs to District 6930 covering a large portion of southeast Florida.

Paul P. Harris organized the first Rotary Club in Chicago on February 23, 1905 with Hiram Shorey (originally from Litchfield, Maine), Silvester Shiele, and Gus Loehr. This club met in rotation at the offices of the members—thus the name Rotary.

## **The Rotary Foundation**

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The Rotary Foundation is a nonprofit corporation supporting Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs. It is funded solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation.

The Foundation was created in 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment fund for Rotary "to do good in the world." It has grown from an initial contribution of \$26.50 to more than \$1billion. It has one of the largest and most prestigious international fellowship programs in the world and operates well-known health and humanitarian service projects.

Every Rotary club is asked that *every Rotarian* in the club contribute at least something *every year* (EREY). Individuals who have given \$1,000 become a Paul Harris Fellow or become a Paul Harris Sustaining Member with an annual gift to the foundation of \$100 for 10 years.

## Our Rotary District 6930

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For administrative purposes Rotary Clubs are placed in a District run by a District Governor (DG) supported by Assistant Area Governors and other District Officers and Committee Chairs [www.rotary6930.org](http://www.rotary6930.org)

Rotary District 6930 stretches along Florida's Gold, Treasure, and Space coasts from Titusville to Boca Raton. The district includes six counties: Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee, and Palm Beach.

## Club History

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**Chartered December 1980**

**Club Sponsor:** Rotary Club of Belle Glade

## Rotary Club of Wellington Foundation

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A separate entity established by the Club as a 501(c)3 not for profit as the platform for collecting and distributing funds used in our programs.

## We implement the Objectives of Rotary Through the Five Avenues of Service

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**Club Service:** Those duties that Rotarians do to help the successful running of the Club. This includes the following activities: publicity, speakers, membership, club bulletin, fellowship activities, chair duties as assigned.

**Community Service:** Every Rotarian is encouraged to participate in activities which make our community a better place to live. These include fundraisers and club social events and many community sponsored programs.

**Vocational Service:** The promoting of the idea of "service above self" throughout your business and professional world.

**International Service:** Encourage and foster the advancement of understanding and goodwill among peoples of the world. The Club has been involved in student exchanges, assisted with disaster relief, international assistance, Polio Plus Partners, AIDS clinics, Pure Water Programs and other activities.

**Youth Service:** Recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities as RYLA , Rotaract and Interact, service projects, and creating international understanding with Rotary Youth Exchange. We encourage members to attend international club meetings when they travel abroad.

## Important Club By-Laws

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- The purpose of Rotary is service. Active participation is the focal point of membership. How one serves is what s/he brings to the club.
- Existing members propose new members
- Proposed members must live or work within the service area or live in a town adjacent to our service area.

## Your Obligations in Rotary

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### **Participation:**

To be a Rotarian you must give of your time and talents:

- in community work
- in international work
- in social functions
- in club activities

### **Attendance:**

Developing meaningful social connections builds a stronger Club. 100% attendance is encouraged in Rotary, 60% attendance is the targeted minimum requirement.

Three consecutive meetings missed without communication with the President or make-ups are cause for concern. It is up to the President of the club and the board to decide how to handle consecutive absences.

## Your Privileges in Rotary

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1. The privilege of friendship with leaders in our community, neighboring communities, all over the country and world.
2. The privilege of giving service to your community
3. The privilege of developing international good will and understanding
4. The privilege of helping build higher ethical standards within your vocation

## Financial Considerations

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There are expenses that you should be aware of before joining the Club.

Monthly Dues \$100.00 (billed semi-annually)      \$100.00  
Quarterly Donation to Rotary Foundation (optional)      \$25.00

Each member is encouraged to make financial contributions at a level the member determines to be appropriate.

## Starting Out in the Club

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1. Discuss your membership with your Mentor.
2. Meet each member of the Club
3. Pay induction fee and dues
4. Attend a Board of Directors meeting within 6 months of induction.
5. Sign up to serve one of the five “Avenues of Service” Committees.
6. Give a 10 Minute “Classification Talk” on your background and profession within 12 months of induction (an agenda outline/guide will be provided).
7. Attend a District Function (Assembly, Conference or Leadership Seminar) within the first six months
8. Attend meeting of another club within the first six months

## Setting Up Your Account/Learn More About Rotary

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DACDB  
[dacdb.com](http://dacdb.com)

**This is where you maintain/update your personal information.**  
It further provides a club directory, details about the club and district. Information about other clubs and other resources

My Rotary  
[my.rotary.org](http://my.rotary.org)

Part of the Rotary International website [rotary.org](http://rotary.org). This is an incredible and comprehensive source about Rotary programs, templates for programs, packages for club/member operations and more.

Our Club also maintains a website, Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter account.

# How to Propose a New Member and How You Were Chosen a Member of Rotary

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1. A member of this Rotary Club sponsored your membership to the Board of Directors
2. Our Board verified your occupation and agreed that:
  - You hold an important position in your profession.
  - You are an outstanding leader in your vocation.
  - Your personal reputation both in your business and in the community is sound.
3. An Officer of the Club and your Sponsor notified you of the responsibilities of a Rotarian and confirm your commitment to attendance to meetings and active participation in the club, and satisfactorily answer any question you might have concerning Rotary (Fireside Chat)
4. Our Board of Directors approved your application for Rotary membership
5. Our entire membership also approved you as a new Rotarian and after payment of fees and dues and an induction ceremony, you were considered elected to membership and your name was reported to Rotary International.

## Presidency and How Our Board is Selected

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- President serves a one-year term starting July
- The Board is selected by the President and reviewed by a committee of past presidents
- The Board can include up to 15 members
- The successor is the President Elect selected by the predecessor and reviewed by the committee of past presidents
- The president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and 12, or less, directors are then elected at a regular meeting. The nominations are be presented by a nominating committee or by members from the floor.

## Rotary Club of Wellington Swag

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Order shirts, hats, mugs and other Wellington Rotary accessories

<https://isabellacoburn.com/collections/rotary>

Russell-Hampton for all official Rotary International items

<https://russellhampton.com>