



ROTARY CLUB OF ST. SIMONS ISLAND

MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURES

Membership in the St. Simons Rotary Club is a privilege with obligations that are assumed when one becomes a member. Membership carries with it the Rotary ideal of “Service Above Self” and other responsibilities which include attending meetings, participating in club activities, and paying financial obligations. These principles and obligations are made clear to the new member in the application and induction process.

It is the duty of the St. Simons Rotary Club Board of Directors (BOD) to preserve the quality of the St. Simons Club by enforcing those ideals that are considered part of good membership. The Board’s obligations begin with the selection of high quality candidates and the orientation of these applicants with the expectations of the Club for maintaining a good membership status. It is also the Board’s obligation to review and correct membership issues that exceed reasonable lower limits.

The purpose of these Procedures is to establish a process to review membership non-performance. Each category will have review level. In all contacts with members about these issues, extenuating circumstances will be made known and given consideration if appropriate.

ATTENDANCE

Weekly attendance will be gathered by the Secretary. The club Secretary takes attendance and uploads it into the Rotary database (DaCdb) to track attendance. Honorary Members, members on Leave of Absence (LOA) and Rule of 85 members are exempt from attendance reporting. The Secretary will summarize attendance and report to the District. Summaries will be updated with Make-ups and perfect club attendance will be recognized. Makeups can be accomplished for the previous 4 weeks by attending either monthly socials (First Tuesday), visiting another club, attending club or District activities, or by doing an online make-up. All these alternates qualify toward “Perfect Attendance” and must be submitted to the Club Secretary.

Members who attend less than 40% of the Club meetings should receive encouragement to be a better Rotarian by participating at a higher level. The member’s Club Sponsor or a sponsor appointed by the Membership Director will contact, and work with, the member. If a member attends less than 25% of the scheduled meetings the BOD will review the member for possible termination from club membership.

NEW MEMBER PROCESSING

Applications will be given to the Membership Director. Once the application is submitted, the new member will attend the Rotary orientation session which is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Applications will then be sent to the Board Members by e-mail prior to the Board Meeting, which is held on the second Tuesday of each month. Orientation and two visits are required before the Board votes on membership.

FINANCIAL

All members are required to pay quarterly dues. An optional donation, shown on the dues invoice, to the Rotary Foundation or other club supported activities may be included with your quarterly dues. Payment of quarterly dues is due on the first day of the quarter. All transactions must go through the Club Treasurer, or the Assistant Treasurer in his or her absence. A financial obligation that exceeds 60 days is considered delinquent. The Treasurer, or a member of the Financial Committee, will notify any delinquent members that

their membership is at a critical threshold. Members who have an outstanding balance that exceeds 90 days will be reviewed by the BOD for membership termination. The Club Treasurer will report on the finances of the Club, including all charity accounts, at each board meeting.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A leave of absence (LOA) is available for 6-month periods with Board approval. Members can complete the LOA Request form stating beginning and ending dates and the reason for the LOA. The Board will review and approve. Any member who expects to be away from the Club for a period of 3-months or longer may be excused from the meals portion of the dues. Forms may be obtained from the Membership Director.

MEMBER TERMINATION

Membership can be terminated for attendance, financial or Red Badge violations. The Board will review the Club's financial report, attendance and Red Badge records and take action as required. Members will receive a letter and deadline when the member is in danger of termination. If the member does not comply, they are subject to membership termination which will be voted on by the Board. The terminated member will be ineligible to join another club if the reason is nonpayment of dues.

RED BADGE PROGRAM

All new members are required to participate in the Red Badge Program unless they have significant past Rotary Membership experience. It is expected that new members will complete their requirements for a Blue Badge in 6 months or less. Anyone who hasn't completed the requirement in one year is subject to Board action. A Club Sponsor will be assigned by the Membership Director to assist the prospective member through the Red Badge process.

RULE OF 85

When the aggregate of a member's age and years of membership in one or more clubs is 85 years, provided membership has been at least 20 years, they can apply for a Rule of 85 attendance exception. If approved the members attendance is no longer reported to District 6920 or Rotary International.

July 1, 2021