

Bylaws of the Barrow Area Rotary Club

Article 1 Definitions

1. Board: The Board of Directors of this club.
2. Director: A Director on this club's Board.
3. Member: An Active Member of this club. This does not include Honorary Members.
4. Quorum: The minimum number of participants who must be present when a vote is taken: one-third of the club's Members for club decisions and a majority of the Directors for club Board decisions.
5. RI: Rotary International.
6. Year: The 12-month period beginning 1 July.

Article 2 Board

The governing body of this club is its Board of Directors, consisting of, at a minimum, the President, Immediate Past President, President-elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Any three Board Members can meet as the Board if one of the three is the President, President-elect, President Nominee, or Immediate Past President.

Article 3 Elections and Terms of Office

Section 1 — One month before elections, Members nominate candidates for President and any open Director positions. The nominations may be presented by a nominating committee, by Members from the floor, or both.

Section 2 — The candidate who receives a majority of the votes for each office is declared elected to that office.

Section 3 — If any Officer vacates a position, the remaining Members of the Board will appoint a replacement as soon as is reasonable.

Section 4 — If any Board Member vacates a position, the remaining Members of the Board may appoint a replacement.

Section 5 — If any Officer-elect or Member of the Board-elect vacates a position, the remaining Members of the Board will appoint a replacement.

Section 6 — The terms of office for each Officer are:

- President – one year
- President-elect – one year
- Treasurer – appointed
- Secretary – appointed

Article 4 Duties of the Officers

Section 1 — The President presides at club and Board meetings.

Section 2 — The Immediate Past President serves as a Director on the club Board.

Section 3 — The President-elect prepares for his or her year in office and serves as a Director.

Section 4 — The Immediate Past President or the President-elect presides at club and Board meetings when the President is absent.

Section 5 — A Director attends club and Board meetings.

Section 6 — The Secretary keeps membership and attendance records.

Section 7 — The Treasurer oversees all funds and provides an accounting of them.

Section 8 — The Sergeant-at-arms maintains order in club meetings.

Article 5 Meetings

Section 1 — An annual meeting of this club is held no later than 31 December to elect the Officers and Directors who will serve for the next Rotary year.

Section 2 — This club meets as follows: first and third Wednesdays of the month at noon. Reasonable notice of any change or cancellation of the regular meeting will be given to all club Members.

Section 3 — Board meetings are held each month. Special meetings of the Board are called with reasonable notice by the President or upon the request of two Directors.

Article 6 Dues

Annual club dues for Active Members are \$600. They are paid as follows: \$150 per quarter. Annual club dues for Active - Corporate Members are \$800. They are paid as follows: \$200 per quarter. Annual club dues include RI per capita dues, subscriptions to an official magazine, district per capita dues, club fees, and any other Rotary or district per capita assessment.

Article 7 Method of Voting

The business of this club is conducted by voice vote, a show of hands, ballot, or electronic means such as email.

Article 8 Finances

Section 1 — Before each fiscal year starts, the Board prepares an annual budget of estimated income and expenditures.

Section 2 — The Treasurer deposits club funds in a financial institution or institutions designated by the Board. Deposits in any one institution will not exceed the FDIC insured limit.

Section 3 — Bills are paid by the Treasurer or another authorized officer upon approval of the Board. The Treasurer and President will be authorized to sign checks and make electronic payments for the club. If desired, the Board may appoint one additional Board Member as an authorized signer on the bank account(s).

Section 4 — A qualified person who is not a signer under Article 8, Section 3 conducts a thorough annual review of all financial transactions.

Section 5 — Club Members may receive financial statements of the club upon request.

Section 6 — The fiscal year is from 1 July to 30 June.

Article 9 Method of Electing Members

Section 1 — A Member of this club or another club proposes a candidate for membership to the Board.

Section 2 — The Board announces the prospective member to the membership, usually via email. If there are no objections within one week, the Board approves the candidate's membership within 30 days and notifies the proposed Member and sponsor of its decision.

Article 10 Active - Corporate Membership

Section 1 – Approval. A corporate entity or organization can become eligible for Active – Corporate membership of the Barrow Area Rotary Club through the existing Member approval process.

Section 2 – RI Registration. One corporate designee will be listed as the official Member of the Barrow Area Rotary Club and will be noted in the club roster as the primary designee of the named Active – Corporate Member.

Section 3 – Attendance and Meals. Up to three representatives of an Active – Corporate Member may attend a regularly scheduled meeting with no additional meal charge. If more than three representatives attend a meeting, there may be a per meal charge for the additional attendees.

Section 4 – Votes and Quorum. For general meetings and club matters, voting by the Active - Corporate Member will be as an official Member of the Barrow Area Rotary Club (one vote per Active - Corporate Member will be recognized). Membership would apply toward RI election voting (only one vote per Active – Corporate Member).

Section 5 – Financial Obligations. The financial obligations of an Active – Corporate Member will be as follows: Dues are \$800 annually, to be paid \$200 quarterly.

Section 6 – Corporate Plus Membership. A corporate entity or organization may add Active-Associate Members. The financial obligation of an Active-Associate Member is \$200 annually, to be paid \$50 quarterly. An Active-Associate Member is an official member of the Barrow Area Rotary Club. See also Section 4.

Article 11 Membership of Political Candidates

Objective: To maintain the non-partisan and community-focused nature of the Barrow Area Rotary Club. This Bylaws Article is designed to prevent the Barrow Area Rotary Club from being used as a political tool and to ensure that members join with the intent of long-term community service, rather than for short-term political gains.

Section 1: Restriction Period: Individuals who are declared candidates for public office shall not be admitted as members during the active campaign season. The campaign season is defined as the period beginning with the official announcement of candidacy or filing for election (whichever comes first) and ending on the day of the election.

Section 2: Disclosure Requirement: Prospective members must disclose if they are currently a declared candidate for public office or have plans to become one **within the next six months.**

Section 3: Reassessment Post-Election: Individuals who were prohibited from membership due to their candidate status may be considered for membership after the election period, regardless of the election outcome.

Section 4: Exception for Current Members: Current members who decide to run for public office may retain their membership but should refrain from using the Rotary Club as a platform for political campaigning.

Article 12 Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular club meeting. Changing the club Bylaws requires sending written notice to each Member 21 days before the meeting, having a quorum present for the vote, and having two-thirds of the votes cast in support of the change. Changes to these Bylaws must be consistent with the Standard Rotary Club Constitution, the RI Constitution and Bylaws, and the Rotary Code of Policies.