

CONSTITUTION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER HUNTSVILLE

The bylaws of Rotary International provide that each club admitted to membership in Rotary International shall adopt this prescribed standard club constitution.

Article I Definitions

As used in this constitution, unless the context otherwise clearly requires, the words in this article shall have the following meanings:

1. Board: The Board of Directors of this club.
2. Bylaws: The bylaws of this club.
3. Director: A member of this club's Board of Directors.
4. Member: A member, other than an honorary member, of this club.
5. RI: Rotary International.
6. Year: The twelve-month period which begins on 1 July.

Article II Name of Club

The name of this organization shall be the Rotary Club of Greater Huntsville, a member of Rotary International.

Article III Locality of the Club

The locality of this club is as follows:

The Greater Huntsville area, including Huntsville and Madison County, Alabama. All members must either live or work within the limits of Madison County, Alabama.

Article IV Object of Rotary

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

First. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

Fourth. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Section 6 — Honorary Membership.

(a) *Eligibility for Honorary Membership.* Persons who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals may be elected to honorary membership in this club. The term of such membership shall be as determined by the board. Persons may hold honorary membership in more than one club.

*** The 2001 Council on Legislation adopted an enactment which eliminated types of membership (senior active, past service and additional active) and revised the classification principle. However, no one who is a member of a Rotary club as of 1 July 2001 will lose membership by reason of the new provisions. All such persons will be considered active members.*

(b) *Rights and Privileges.* Honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of admission fees and dues, shall have no vote and shall not be eligible to hold any office in this club. Such members shall not hold classifications, but shall be entitled to attend all meetings and enjoy all the other privileges of this club. No honorary member of this club is entitled to any rights and privileges in any other club, except for the right to visit other clubs without being the guest of a Rotarian.

Section 7 — Holders of Public Office. Persons elected or appointed to public office for a specified time shall not be eligible to active membership in this club under the classification of such office. This restriction shall not apply to persons holding positions or offices in schools, colleges or other institutions of learning or to persons who are elected or appointed to the judiciary. Members who are elected or appointed to public office for a specified period may continue as such members in their existing classifications during the period in which they hold such office.

Section 8 — Rotary International Employment. This club may retain in its membership any member employed by RI.

Article VII Classifications

Section 1 — General Provisions.

(a) *Principal Activity.* Each member shall be classified in accordance with the member's business or profession. The classification shall be that which describes the principal and recognized activity of the firm, company or institution with which the member is connected or that which describes the member's principal and recognized business or professional activity.

(b) *Correction or Adjustment.* If the circumstances warrant, the board may correct or adjust the classification of any member. Notice of a proposed correction or adjustment shall be provided to the member and the member shall be allowed a hearing thereon.

Section 2 — Limitations. This club shall not elect a person to active membership from a classification if the club already has five or more members from that classification, unless the club has more than 50 members, in which case, the club may elect a person to active membership in a classification so long as it will not result in the classification making up more than 10% of the club's active membership. Members who are retired shall not be included in the total number of members from a classification. If a member changes classification, the club may

(b) *At the Time of the Meeting.* If, at the time of the meeting, the member is:

(1) traveling with reasonable directness to or from one of the meetings specified in sub-subsection (a) (3) of this section; or

(2) serving as an officer or member of a committee of RI, or a trustee of The Rotary Foundation; or

(3) serving as the special representative of the district governor in the formation of a new club; or

(4) on Rotary business in the employ of RI; or

(5) directly and actively engaged in a district-sponsored or a RI or Rotary Foundation- sponsored service project in a remote area where making up attendance is impossible; or

(6) engaged in Rotary business duly authorized by the board which precludes attendance at the meeting.

(c) *Extended Absence on Outposted Assignment.* If the member, while working within the member's own country of residence for an extended period on an outposted assignment and with the mutual agreement of the member's club and a designated club, attends meetings of the designated club.

Section 2 — Excused Absences. A member's absence shall be excused if:

(a) the absence complies with the conditions and under circumstances approved by the board. The board may excuse a member's absence for reasons which it considers to be good and sufficient.

(b) the aggregate of the member's years of age and years of membership in one or more clubs is 85 years or more and the member has notified the club secretary in writing of the member's desire to be excused from attendance and the board has approved.

Section 3 -- RI Officers' Absences. A member's absence shall be excused if the member is a current officer of RI.

Section 4 -- Attendance Records. Any member whose absences are excused under the provisions of subsection (b) of section 2 of this article shall not be included in the membership figure used to compute this club's attendance nor shall such absences or attendances be used for that purpose.

Article IX Directors and Officers

Section 1 — Governing Body. The governing body of this club shall be the board constituted as the bylaws may provide.

Section 2 — Authority. The board shall have general control over all officers and committees and, for good cause, may declare any office vacant.

Section 3 -- Board Action Final. The decision of the board in all club matters is final,

if the member is still active in the same classification and continues to meet all other conditions of club membership;

(2) the board may allow a member moving from the locality of this club or the surrounding area to retain membership if the member remains active in the same classification and continues to meet all other conditions of club membership; and

(3) a member whose classification is lost without default of the member may retain such classification and be granted a special leave of absence not to exceed one (1) year to enable the member to obtain new employment in the current or a new classification. Such member must continue to meet all other conditions of club membership. Termination of membership would take effect only at the end of the period of leave granted to the member.

(b) *How to Rejoin.* When the membership of a member has terminated as provided in subsection (a) of this section, such person may make new application for membership, under the same or another classification. A second admission fee shall not be required.

(c) *Termination of Honorary Membership.* Honorary membership shall automatically terminate at the end of the term for such membership as determined by the board. However, the board may extend an honorary membership for an additional period. The board may revoke an honorary membership at any time.

Section 3 — Termination — Non-Payment of Dues.

(a) *Process.* Any member failing to pay dues within thirty (30) days after the prescribed time shall be notified in writing by the secretary at the member's last known address. If the dues are not paid on or before ten (10) days of the date of notification, membership may terminate, subject to the discretion of the board.

(b) *Reinstatement.* The board may reinstate the former member to membership upon the former member's petition and payment of all indebtedness to this club. However, no former member may be reinstated to active membership if the former member's classification has been filled.

Section 4 — Termination — Non-Attendance.

(a) *Attendance Percentages.* A member must

(1) attend or make up at least 60% of club regular meetings in each half of the year;

(2) attend at least 30% of this club's regular meetings in each half of the year. If a member fails to attend as required, the member's membership shall be subject to termination unless the board consents to such non-attendance for good cause.

(b) *Consecutive Absences.* Unless otherwise excused by the board for good and sufficient reason or pursuant to article VIII, sections 2 or 3, each member who fails to attend or make up four consecutive regular meetings, shall be informed by the board that the member's non-attendance may be considered a request to terminate membership in this club. Thereafter, the board, by a majority vote, may terminate the member's membership.

Article XII Community, National and International Affairs

Section 1 — *Proper Subjects.* The merits of any public question involving the general welfare of the community, the nation and the world are of concern to the members of this club and shall be proper subjects of fair and informed study and discussion at a club meeting for the enlightenment of its members in forming their individual opinions. However, this club shall not express an opinion on any pending controversial public measure.

Section 2 — *No Endorsements.* This club shall not endorse or recommend any candidate for public office and shall not discuss at any club meeting the merits or demerits of any such candidate.

Section 3 — *Non-Political.*

(a) *Resolutions and Opinions.* This club shall neither adopt nor circulate resolutions or opinions, and shall not take action dealing with world affairs or international policies of a political nature.

(b) *Appeals.* This club shall not direct appeals to clubs, peoples or governments, or circulate letters, speeches, or proposed plans for the solution of specific international problems of a political nature.

Section 4 — *Recognizing Rotary's Beginning.*

The week of the anniversary of Rotary's founding (23 February) shall be known as World Understanding and Peace Week. During this week, this club will celebrate Rotary service, reflect upon past achievements and focus on programs of peace, understanding and goodwill in the community and throughout the world.

Article XIII Rotary Magazines

Section 1 — *Mandatory Subscription.* Unless, in accordance with the bylaws of RI, this club is excused by the board of directors of RI from complying with the provisions of this article, each member shall, for the duration of membership, subscribe to the official magazine or to the magazine approved and prescribed for this club by the board of directors of RI. The subscription shall be paid in six (6) month periods for the duration of membership in this club and to the end of any six (6) month period during which membership may terminate.

Section 2 — *Subscription Collection.* The subscription shall be collected by this club from each member semiannually in advance and remitted to the Secretariat of RI or to the office of such regional publications as may be determined by the board of directors of RI.

Article XIV Acceptance of Object and Compliance with Constitution and Bylaws

By payment of an admission fee and dues, a member accepts the principles of Rotary as expressed in its object and submits to and agrees to comply with and be bound by the constitution and bylaws of this club, and on these conditions alone is entitled to the privileges of this club. Each member shall be subject to the terms of the constitution and bylaws regardless of whether such member has received copies of them.