

# **ROTARY FELLOWSHIP STANDARD BYLAWS (RECOMMENDED)**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

*Section 1.1.* The name of this Rotary Fellowship shall be \_\_\_\_\_ (Rotary Fellowship).

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

*Section 2.1.* The purpose of this Rotary Fellowship shall be...

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*This Rotary Fellowship shall operate in compliance with Rotary International's policies for Rotary Fellowships, but it shall not be an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.*

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 3.1.* Membership in the Rotary Fellowship shall be open to all active members of Rotary clubs (Rotarians) in good standing, spouses of Rotarians, and members of Rotaract clubs (Rotaractors).

*Section 3.2.* Membership shall be offered on an annual basis. Lifetime memberships may be offered at the discretion of the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Section 4.1.* The Rotary Fellowship shall be governed by a Board of Directors with no fewer than five members. The number of directors shall be self-determined by the Rotary Fellowship's Board. All directors shall be active Rotarians.

*Section 4.2.* Terms for directors may last from one to three years. Directors' terms are renewable for up to six years. After six consecutive years of service, directors are ineligible to serve until three years have passed. Terms shall commence on 1 July of the calendar year elected and end on 30 June of the terminal year.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS**

*Section 5.1.* The Rotary Fellowship shall be administered by at least three executive officers, one of whom shall be the Chair (administrative head). All officers shall be active Rotarians. The terms of officers shall be one year and shall coincide with the Rotary year, i.e. 1 July through 30 June.

*Section 5.2.* The officers shall perform the duties and functions usually attached to the title of their respective offices, together with such other duties as may be prescribed by the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

*Section 6.1.* An annual meeting of the members shall take place at the RI Convention each year, or elsewhere as determined by the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors. At this meeting the installation of incoming directors and officers and other business shall take place. The exact date, time, and location of the annual meeting of the members shall be set by the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors and announced to the members at least 60 days prior to the meeting.

*Section 6.2.* An annual meeting of the incoming Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors shall take place immediately subsequent to the annual meeting of the members.

## **ARTICLE VII - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

*Section 7.1.* A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors and so indicated in a notice to the members. Notice sent by mail or transmitted via email to the last known address of the members shall be considered good and sufficient notice. The Nominating Committee shall receive nominations for expiring Director positions until a specified deadline, whereupon nominations shall be closed. The Nominating Committee may also offer its own nominees for election. All nominees must indicate their willingness to serve by a specified deadline to be considered valid nominees for election.

*Section 7.2.* The names of the nominees for Director positions shall be distributed to the members, along with a voting ballot, at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting of the members. Ballots may be sent by mail or transmitted via email to the last known address of all members in good standing. Ballots shall indicate that they must be returned to the Nominating Committee at least seven days prior to the annual meeting.

*Section 7.3.* The Nominating Committee shall tally the votes cast and announce the newly elected incoming directors prior to the annual meeting of the members.

*Section 7.4.* At its annual meeting the incoming members of the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors shall meet and elect from its members the incoming officers of the Rotary Fellowship, who shall become officers-elect on the first day of July following their election and shall take office on the next 1 July.

*Section 7.5.* A vacancy in the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors, or any office, shall be filled by action of the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors.

*Section 7.6.* A director or officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors, or, by a two-thirds vote of the membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII - FISCAL MATTERS**

*Section 8.1.* The fiscal year of the Rotary Fellowship shall be the same as the Rotary year, i.e. 1 July through 30 June.

*Section 8.2.* The Rotary Fellowship's dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall be due on 1 July of each year. The Rotary Fellowship's dues shall be of a reasonable amount.

*Section 8.3.* Funds shall be deposited in a financial institution approved by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX - COMPLIANCE WITH RI POLICIES**

*Section 9.1.* The Rotary Fellowship shall comply with Rotary International's policies for Rotary Fellowships, as set forth in the Rotary Code of Policies. The Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors and executive officers shall familiarize themselves with these policies and any amendments to these policies as adopted by the RI Board of Directors from time to time.