

# By-laws of the Rotary Club of Richmond, California

## Article I Election of Directors and Officers

### Article I - Alternate Plan

SECTION 1 At a regular meeting *one* month prior *to* the meeting for election *of* officers, the presiding officer shall ask for nominations by members *of* the club *for* president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and three members *of* the board *of* directors.

SECTION 2 (a) The nomination for the President and Vice President shall be made by a Nominating Committee composed *of* Past Presidents who hold membership in the Club. Not less than two weeks prior *to* the date set for the nominations this Committee shall at the call *of* the Junior Past President who shall serve as Chairman of the Committee, provided, that should He or She be un able *to* serve for any reason, the President shall appoint a Past President *to* serve in this place. Other nominations may be made from the floor, provided the individual so nominated meets the qualifications for a Club President or Vice President.

SECTION 2 (b) The qualifications for a Club President and Vice President shall be:

(A) He or She must be an Active or Senior Active, Additional Active, or Past Service member in good standing of this Club.

(B) He or She must have been a member of this or some other Rotary Club *for* a period *of* five or more years.

(C) He or She must have served as a Director of this Club.

(D) He or She must be willing and able, physically and otherwise, *to* fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of President or Vice President.

(E) The President, upon election, must agree *to* attend the President's Executive Training Seminar, or the District Workshop, if held, and the District Assembly, *for* the necessary instruction *to* serve as Club President before assuming that office.

SECTION 3 (a) The nominations *for* Secretary, Treasurer and Directors shall be made at the same time set *for* nominations of the President by a Nominating Committee composed *of* the seven members appointed by the President. This Committee shall meet at the call of the Club President not less than two weeks prior *to* the date set for making the nominations. The Committee shall select its own Chairman. The Committee shall place in nomination not less than twice the number *of* vacancies *for* Directors *to* be elected. Other nominations may be made *from* the floor, provided the individual so nominated meets the qualifications *for* a Director.

SECTION 3 (b) The qualifications for a Director shall be:

(A) He or She must be an Active, Senior Active, Additional Active, or Past Service member in good standing of this Club.

(B) Her or She must have been a member of this Club for two years.

(C) He or She must have held the Chairmanship of one or more active Club Committees.

(D) He or She must agree to serve in the capacity of a Director to the best of his or her ability and attend Board meetings and Club Assemblies if at all possible to do so.

SECTION 4 The nominations duly made shall be placed on a ballot in alphabetical order under each office to be cited in at the Annual Meeting in December. The candidates for President, Secretary and Treasurer receiving the majority of the votes shall be declared elected to the respective offices. The three candidates for Director receiving the plurality of the votes shall be declared elected as Directors.

SECTION 5 A vacancy in the board of directors or any office shall be filled by action of the remaining members of the board.

SECTION 6 A vacancy in the position of any officer-elect or director-elect shall be filled by action of the remaining members of the board of directors-elect.

SECTION 7 The newly elected Officers and Directors shall assume their duties in the next July 1 following and shall hold office for the term elected, or until their successors are elected. The Officers so elected shall hold office for a term of one year and the Directors for a term of two years.

## **Article II Board of Directors**

### **Article II - Alternative Plan**

SECTION 1 The governing body of this club shall be the board of directors consisting of 11 members of this club, namely, 6 directors elected in accordance with Article I, Section 1, of these by-laws, the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and the immediate past president. '

## **Article III Duties of Officers**

SECTION 1 *President*. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at meetings of the club and board and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to his or her office.

SECTION 2 *President-Elect*. It shall be the duty of the president-elect to serve as a member of the board of directors of the club and to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the president of the board.

SECTION 3 *Vice-President*. It shall be the duty of the vice-president to preside at meetings of the club and board in the absence of the president and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to his or her office.

SECTION 4 *Secretary*. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the records of membership, record the attendance at meetings, send out notices of meetings of the club, board and committees, record and preserve the minutes of such meetings, make the required reports to Rotary International, including the semiannual reports of membership, which shall be made to the General Secretary of Rotary International on January 1st and July 1st of each year, and including prorated reports to the general secretary on 1 October and 1 April of each active, senior active and past service member who has been elected to membership in the club since the start of the July or January semiannual reporting period, the report of changes in membership, which shall be made to the General Secretary of Rotary International, the monthly report of attendance at the club meetings which shall be made to the district governor immediately following the last meeting of the month, collect and remit to Rotary International subscriptions to *The Rotarian*, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to his or her office.

SECTION 5 *Treasurer*. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to have custody of all funds, accounting for same to the club annually and at any other time upon demand by the board and to perform such other duties as pertain to his or her office. Upon his or her retirement from office He or She shall turn over to his or her successor or to the president all funds, books of accounts or any other club property in his or her possession.

SECTION 6 *Sergeant-at-Arms*. The duties of the sergeant-at-arms shall be such as are usually prescribed for his or her office and such other duties as may be prescribed by the president or the board.

## **Article IV Meetings**

### **Article IV - Alternative Plan**

SECTION 1 *Annual meeting*.<sup>1</sup> *An annual meeting of this club shall be held on First Friday in December in each year at which time the election of officers and directors to serve for the ensuing year shall take place.*

SECTION 2 The regular weekly meetings of this club shall be held on Friday at 12:15 P.M.

Due to notice of any changes in or canceling of the regular meeting shall be given to all members of the club.

All members excepting an honorary member (or member excused by the board of directors of this club, pursuant to Article VII, Section 3 of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution) in good standing in this club, on the day of the regular meeting, must be counted as present or absent, and attendance must be evidenced by the member's being present for at least sixty (60) percent of the time devoted to the regular meeting, either at this club or at any other Rotary club.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: Art. IV, Sec. 2 of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution provides that "*An annual meeting for the election of officers of this club shall be held not later than the thirty-first day of December in each year as provided in the by-laws of this club*

SECTION 3 One-third of the membership shall constitute a quorum at the annual and regular meetings of this club.

SECTION 4 Regular meetings of the board shall be held on the third Thursday of each month. Special meetings of the board shall be called by the president, whenever deemed necessary, or upon the request of two (2) members of the board, due notice having been given.

SECTION 5 A majority of the board members shall constitute a quorum of the board.

#### **Article V Fees and Dues**

SECTION 1 The admission fee shall be \$50.00 to be paid before the applicant can qualify as a member.

SECTION 2 The membership dues be \$150.00, payable semiannually on the first day of July and of January with the understanding that ten dollars (\$10.00) of the total subscription go to The Rotarian magazine.

SECTION 3 A sum from the annual membership dues shall be set aside each year in a fund to be used exclusively for the purpose of sending the President-elect to the Rotary International Convention. The money advanced for this purpose is to cover; (1) the round trip economy air fare to the Convention, (2) the registration fee and (3) the cost of the hotel room for five nights during the convention.

#### **Article VI Method of Voting**

The business of this club shall be transacted by *viva voce* vote except the election of officers and directors, which shall be ballot.

#### **Article VII Committees**

SECTION 1 (a) The president shall, subject to the approval of the board, appoint the following standing committees:

Club Service committee  
Vocational Service committee  
Community Service committee  
International Service committee

(b) The president shall, subject to the approval of the board, also appoint such committees on particular phases of Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, and International Service as he or she may deem necessary.

(c) The Club Service committee, Vocational Service committee, Community Service committee, and International Service committee shall each consist of a chairman, who shall be

named by the president from the membership of the board, and not less than two (2) other members.

(d) The president shall be ex officio a member of all committees and, as such shall have all the privileges of membership thereon.

(e) Each committee shall transact such business as is delegated to it in the by-laws and such additional business as may be referred to it by the president or the board. Except where special authority is given by the board, such committees shall not take action until a report has been made to the board and approved by the board.

(f) Should the president deem it necessary, He or She may appoint one or more committees dealing with various aspects of youth activities, which, depending on their respective responsibilities, may be under any, or all, of the Vocational Service, Community Service, or International Service committees. Where feasible and practicable in the appointment of such committees, there should be provision for continuity of membership, either by appointing one or more members for a second term or by appointing one or more members to a two-year term.

#### SECTION 2 *Club Service Committee.*

(a) The chairman of the Club Service committee shall be responsible for all Club Service activities and shall supervise and coordinate the work of all committees appointed on particular phases of Club Service.

(b) The Club Service committee shall consist of the chairman of the Club Service committee and the chairmen of all committees appointed on particular phases of Club Service.

(c) The president shall, subject to the approval of the board, appoint the following committees on particular phases of Club Service:

Attendance committee  
Club bulletin committee  
Fellowship committee  
Magazine committee;  
Membership committee  
Membership development committee  
Program committee  
Public relations committee

Appoint one member each year to the following committees:

Classifications committee  
Rotary Information committee

(d) Where feasible and practicable **in** the appointment of club committees, there should be provision for continuity of membership, either by appointing one or more members for a second term or by appointing one or more members to a two-year term.

(e) The classification and Rotary information committees shall each consist of three (3)

members, one member of each committee to be appointed each year for a term of three (3) years. The first appointments made under this provision shall be as follows: one member for a term of one year; one member for a term of two (2) years; one member for a term of three (3) years.

(f) The magazine committee shall, wherever feasible, include the editor of the club publication and a local newspaper or advertising member of the club.

## **Article VIII Duties of Committees**

SECTION 1 *Club Service Committee*. This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans, which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in matters relating to Club Service. The chairman of the Club Service committee shall be responsible for regular meetings of the committee and shall report to the board on all Club Service activities.

(a) *Attendance Committee*. This committee shall devise means for encouraging attendance at all Rotary meetings--including attendance at district conferences, intercity meetings, regional conferences, and International Conventions by all club members. This committee shall especially encourage attendance at regular meetings of this club and attendance at regular meetings of other clubs when unable to attend meetings of this club; keep all members informed on attendance requirements; promote better incentives for good attendance; and seek to ascertain and remove the conditions that contribute to unsatisfactory attendance.

(b) *Classifications Committee*. This committee shall as early as possible, but no later than 31 August of each year make a classification survey of the community; shall compile from the survey a roster of filled and unfilled classifications, using the guide to classifications; shall review, where necessary, existing classifications represented in the club; and shall counsel with the board of all classification problems.

(c) *Club Bulletin Committee*. This committee shall endeavor, through the publishing of a weekly club bulletin, to stimulate interest and improve attendance, announce the program of the forthcoming meeting, relate highlights of the previous meeting, promote fellowship, contribute to the Rotary education of all members, and report news of the club, of its members and of the worldwide Rotary program.

(d) *Fellowship Activities Committee*. This committee shall promote acquaintance and friendship among the members, promote participation by members in organized Rotary recreational and social activities, and do such work in pursuance of the general object of the club as may be assigned by the president of the board.

(e) *Magazine Committee*. This committee shall stimulate reader interest in *The Rotarian* and/or *Revista Rotaria*; sponsor a magazine month; arrange for brief monthly reviews of the magazine on regular club programs; encourage the use of the magazine in the induction of new members; provide a copy of the magazine for non-Rotarian speakers; secure International Service and other special subscriptions for libraries, hospitals, schools and other reading rooms; send news items and photographs to the editor of the magazine and in other ways make the magazine of service to the club members and non-Rotarians.

(f) *Membership Committee.* This committee shall consider all proposals for membership from the personal side and shall thoroughly investigate the character, business, social and community standing, and general eligibility of all persons proposed for membership and shall report their decisions on all applications to the board.

(g) *Membership Development Committee.* This committee shall review continually the club roster of filled and unfilled classifications and shall take positive action to initiate and present to the board the names of suitable persons to fill unfilled classifications.

(h) *Program Committee.* This committee shall prepare and arrange the programs for the regular and special meetings of the club.

(i) *Public Relations Committee.* This committee shall devise and carry into effect, plans (1) to give the public general information about Rotary, its history, object, and scope; and (2) to secure proper publicity for the club.

G) *Rotary Information Committee.* This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans (1) to give prospective members information about the privileges and responsibilities of membership in a Rotary club, (2) to give the members, especially the new members, adequate understanding of the privileges and responsibilities of members, (3) to give the members information about Rotary, its history, scope, activities, and (4) to give the members information as to developments in the administrative operation of Rotary International.

SECTION 2 *Vocational Service Committee.* This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in their vocational relationships and in improving the general standards of practice in their respective vocations. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the Vocational Service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phases of Vocational Service.

SECTION 3 *Community Service Committee.* This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in this community relationships. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the Community Service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committee that may be appointed on particular phases of Community Service.

SECTION 4 *International Service Committee.* This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in matters relating to International Service. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the International Service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phases of International Service.

## **Article IX**

### **Leave of Absence**

Upon written application to the board, setting forth good and sufficient cause, leave of absence may be granted excusing a member from attending the meetings of the club for a specified length of time.

*(Note: Such leave of absence does operate to prevent a forfeiture of membership; it does not operate to give the club credit for member's attendance. Unless He or She attends a regular meeting of some other club, the excused member must be recorded as absent except that absence authorized under the provision of Art. VII, Sec. 3 of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution is not computed in the attendance record of the club. )*

## **Article X Finances**

SECTION 1 The treasurer shall deposit all funds of the club in some bank to be named by the board.

SECTION 2 All bills shall be paid only by checks signed by any two officers. A thorough audit by a certified public accountant or other qualified person shall be made once each year of all the club's financial transactions.

SECTION 3 Officers having charge or control of funds shall give bond as may be required by the board for the safe custody of the funds of the club, cost of bond to be borne by the club.

SECTION 4 The fiscal year of this club shall extend from July 1st to June 30th, and for the collection of members' dues shall be divided into two (2) semiannual periods extending from July 1st to December 31st, and from January 1st to June 30th. The payment of per capita dues and magazine subscriptions to Rotary International shall be made on July 1st and January 1st of each year on the basis of the membership of the club on those dates.

*Note: Magazine subscriptions for members joining during a semiannual period are payable upon invoice from the Secretariat.)*

SECTION 5 At the beginning of each fiscal year the board shall prepare or cause to be prepared a budget of estimated income and estimated expenditures for the year, which, having been agreed to by the board, shall stand as the limit of expenditures for the respective purposes unless otherwise ordered by action of the board.

## **Article XI Method of Electing Members**

SECTION 1 *Active members (including additional active members).*

(1) The name of a prospective member, proposed by an active, senior active, or past service member of the club or by the membership development committee, shall be submitted to the board in writing, through the club secretary. The proposal for the time being shall be kept confidential except as otherwise provided in this procedure.

(2) The board shall request the classifications committee to consider and report to the board on the eligibility of the proposed member from the standpoint of classification, and shall request the membership committee to investigate and report to the board on the eligibility of the proposed member from the standpoint of character, business and social standing, and general



eligibility.

(3) The board shall consider and approve or disapprove the recommendations of the classifications and membership committees and shall then notify the proposer, through the club secretary, of its decision.

(4) If the decision of the board is favorable, the proposer, together with one or more members of the Rotary information committee, shall inform the prospective member of the purposes of Rotary and of the privileges and responsibilities of membership in the club, following which the prospective member shall be requested to complete and submit an application for membership and to give his or her permission for his or her name and proposed classification to be published to the club.

(5) If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the board from any member of the club within ten (1) days following publication of the name of the prospective members, the prospective members, upon payment of his or her admission fee, as prescribed in Article V of these by-laws, shall be considered to be elected to membership.

If any objection has been filed with the board, it shall consider the same at any regular or special meeting of the board and shall ballot on the proposed member. If not to exceed 2 negative votes are cast by the members of the board in attendance at such regular or special meeting, the proposed member, upon payment of the prescribed admission fee, shall be considered to be elected to membership.

Following the member's election to membership as herein provided, the club secretary shall issue a membership card to the member and shall report his or her name to the General Secretary of Rotary International.

(6) The member shall be formally introduced as a new member at a regular meeting of the club.

**SECTION 2 *Senior Active, Past Service, and Honorary Members.*** The name of a proposed candidate for anyone of these three kinds of membership shall be submitted to the board of directors in writing and the election shall be in the same form and manner as prescribed for the election of an active member provided, however, that such proposal may be considered at any regular or special meeting of the board and that the board may at its discretion waive any of the steps as set forth in Section 1 of this Article and proceed to ballot on the proposed member. If not to exceed 2 negative votes are cast by the members of the board in attendance at the regular or special meeting, the proposed member shall be considered duly elected, provided, however, that any active member or past service member of this club who qualifies for senior active membership as set forth in the constitution of this club shall automatically become a senior active member of this club, no application for or election to such senior active membership being required.

*(Note: In lieu of this by-law providing for election of membership by a final ballot by the board, a club may adopt a by-law which will provide for election of applicants for active, senior active, past service or honorary membership by a final ballot by the club members at a regular meeting, a quorum being present and a three-fourths vote of all members in attendance being necessary to an election.)*

## **Article XII Resolutions**

No resolution or motion to commit this club on any matter shall be considered by the club until it has been considered by the board. Such resolutions or motions, if offered at a club meeting, shall be referred to the board without discussion.

## **Article XIII Order of Business**

Meeting called to order.  
Introduction of visiting Rotarians.  
Correspondence and announcements.  
Committee reports if any.  
Any unfinished business.  
Any new business.  
Address or other program features.  
Adjournment.

## **Article XIV Amendments**

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting, a quorum being present, by a two-thirds vote of all members present, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten days before such meeting. No amendment or addition to these by-laws can be made which is not in harmony with the club constitution and with the Constitution and By-laws of Rotary International.