

Standard Rotaract Club Constitution



ARTICLE I — Name

The name of this organization shall be the Rotaract Club of Indiana University - Purdue University, Indianapolis

ARTICLE II — Purpose and Goals

The purpose of Rotaract is to provide an opportunity for young men and women to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address the physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service.

Goals

The goals of Rotaract are:

1. To develop professional and leadership skills;
2. To emphasize respect for the rights of others, and to promote ethical standards and the dignity of all useful occupations;
3. To provide opportunities for young people to address the needs and concerns of the community and our world;
4. To provide opportunities for working in cooperation with sponsoring Rotary clubs;
5. To motivate young people for eventual membership in Rotary.

ARTICLE III — Sponsorship

Rotary Club Sponsor

1. The sponsor of this Rotaract club is the Rotary Club of Indianapolis, which, through a committee of its Rotarians, the number of which shall be determined by the club, shall provide guidance and have supportive responsibility for this Rotaract club. The continued well-being of this club shall depend on the continued active personal participation of the sponsoring Rotary club.
2. The basis of organization shall be young men and women residing, employed, or studying anywhere in the vicinity of the sponsoring Rotary club. Where a university or other institution of higher education is located within the vicinity of the sponsoring Rotary club, the student body of each institution may also be a basis of organization. This club is not a part of, and neither this club nor its members have any rights or privileges with respect to, the sponsoring Rotary club.
3. This club is a non-political, non-sectarian organization.
4. In the event that the sponsoring Rotary club is terminated, the governor of the Rotary district will seek to install another sponsoring Rotary club; if one cannot be found within 180 days, the Rotaract club will be terminated.

ARTICLE IV — Membership

Membership Qualifications

1. The membership of this club shall consist of young men and women of good character and leadership potential between the ages of 18 and 30.* It is recommended, but not mandated, that there be a minimum of 15 charter members when chartering a new club.
2. The method of electing members of this club shall be determined by this club in consultation with the sponsoring Rotary club. The method of electing new members of university-based** Rotaract clubs shall have the approval of the appropriate authorities.
3. Each member of this Rotaract club shall attend at least 60% of the club's regularly scheduled meetings annually, provided that absence from a regularly scheduled meeting of the club may be made up as follows: any member absent from a regular meeting of this club may make up such absence by attendance at a regular meeting of any other Rotaract club or any Rotary club on any day of the two weeks immediately preceding or following the day of the absence, or attendance and participation in a club service project or a club-sponsored community event or meeting authorized by the board.
4. All Rotary Foundation scholars, who are within the age guidelines adopted by the board for the Rotaract program, shall be eligible for guest Rotaract club membership during the period of their study in another country.

* On 30 June of the Rotaract year in which the member becomes 30 years old his/her Rotaract membership will end.

** As used in this constitution, the term "university" is intended to include all institutions of higher education.

5. Membership shall automatically terminate (a) upon failure to meet attendance requirements unless excused by the board of directors of this club for good and sufficient reason or (b) by termination of the club or (c) on 30 June of the Rotaract year in which the member becomes 30 years old.
6. Membership may be terminated (a) upon failure to continue to meet the qualifications for membership, or (b) for cause, as determined by this club by vote of not less than 2/3 of all the members in good standing.

ARTICLE V — Meetings

Bimonthly Meetings

1. The club shall meet not less than twice per month, as provided in the by-laws, at a time and place suited to the convenience of the members.
2. The board of directors shall meet as provided in the by-laws.
3. Rotary International recommends each sponsoring Rotary club to designate one or more members of its club to attend the meeting(s) of its Rotaract club(s) at least once a month.
4. Meetings of the club and of the board of directors may be cancelled during holiday or vacation periods at the discretion of the board of directors. The board may cancel a regular meeting if it falls on a legal holiday or in case of the death of a club member, an epidemic, a disaster affecting the whole community, or an armed conflict in the community that endangers the lives of the club members. The board may cancel not more than four regular meetings in a year for causes not otherwise specified herein provided that this club does not fail to meet for more than three consecutive meetings.
5. Minutes of the meetings of the club and board of directors shall be provided to the chairman of the sponsor Rotary club's Rotaract committee within two weeks after each meeting is held.

ARTICLE VI — Officers and Directors

Governing Body

1. The officers of this club shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and such additional officer(s) as may be provided in the by-laws.
2. The governing body of this club shall be a board of directors composed of the president, immediate past president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and additional directors whose number shall be determined by this club, all to be elected from among the members in good standing. All decisions, policies, and actions of the board and of the club shall be subject to the provisions of this constitution and policy established by Rotary International and its members.

If university-based, this club shall be subject to the same regulations and policies established by the appropriate authorities for all student organizations and extracurricular activities of the university.

The board of directors shall have general control over all officers and committees and may, for good cause, declare any office vacant. It shall constitute a board of appeals from the rulings of all officers and actions of all committees.

3. Elections of officers and directors shall be held annually prior to 1 March by methods compatible with local customs and procedures, but in no case shall more than simple majority of the members present and in good standing be required for elections. All Rotaract club presidents and district representatives who reach the age of 30 during the term of office may serve one additional year as immediate past president or immediate past district representative, to provide continuity in leadership.

The term of office of all officers and directors shall be one year. No provisions shall be made for a term of office shorter than one year except with the permission of the sponsoring Rotary club.

4. All incoming Rotaract club officers, directors, and committee chairmen shall be provided with leadership training from the district Rotaract committee* in conjunction with the RI district Rotaract committee.**

ARTICLE VII — Activities and Projects

Objective

1. Within the limits prescribed in Section 1 of Article III, this club shall be responsible for planning, organizing, financing, and conducting its own activities and shall itself supply money, manpower, and creative imagination necessary thereto, except in the case of joint projects or activities undertaken in cooperation with other organizations, such responsibility shall be shared with such other organization(s).
2. This club shall undertake among its activities at least two major service projects annually, one to serve the community and the other to promote international understanding, and each shall involve all or most of the members of the club.
3. This club shall provide for a professional development program for its members.
4. It is the responsibility of the club to raise the funds necessary to carry out its program. It shall not solicit or accept more than occasional or incidental financial assistance from the sponsoring Rotary club, nor shall it make

* District Rotaract committee (composed of Rotaractors) ** RI district Rotaract committee (composed of Rotarians)

general solicitation from Rotary clubs other than its sponsoring Rotary club or from other Rotaract clubs; nor shall it solicit financial assistance from individuals, businesses, or organizations in the community without giving something of value in return. All funds raised for service projects must be expended for that purpose.

ARTICLE VIII — Committees

- 5 Committees**
1. There shall be provided in the by-laws of this club the following standing committees; club service, international service, community service, professional development, finance, and such other standing committees as may be deemed necessary or convenient for the administration of the club.
 2. The president, with the approval of the board, may appoint such special committees as he/she may deem necessary, citing their duties at the time of appointment. All such special committees shall lapse upon the completion of their duties, upon discharge by the appointing president, or with the end of his/her term of office, whichever occurs first.

ARTICLE IX — Fees

- Fees**
1. Each sponsoring Rotary club upon organization of a new Rotaract club shall be required to pay an RI Rotaract organization fee equivalent to US\$50 with the "Rotaract Club Organization List."
 2. Any fees, dues, or assessments on the membership of the club shall be nominal and shall only be for the purpose of meeting the administrative costs of the club. Funds for activities and projects undertaken by the club shall be raised apart from such fees, dues, or assessments and shall be placed into a separate account. A thorough audit by a qualified person shall be made once each year of all the club's financial transactions.

ARTICLE X — Acceptance of Constitution and By-Laws

- Constitution**
- Every member of the club, by acceptance of membership, thereby accepts the principles of Rotaract as expressed in its purpose and goals and agrees to comply with the constitution and by-laws of this club, and on these conditions alone is entitled to the privileges of the club. No member shall be absolved from the observance of the constitution and by-laws on the plea that a copy of them has not been received.

ARTICLE XI — Standard By-Laws

- Standard By-Laws**
- The club shall adopt the "Standard Rotaract Club By-Laws," together with such amendments as are not inconsistent with this constitution and which may be deemed necessary or convenient for the government of the club, provided that such amendments are adopted in accordance with the amendment procedure prescribed in the "Standard Rotaract Club By-Laws."

ARTICLE XII — Rotaract Emblem

- Rotaract Emblem**
1. The Rotaract emblem shall be preserved for the exclusive use and benefit of Rotaract club members. Each member of this club shall be entitled to wear or otherwise display the Rotaract emblem in a dignified and appropriate manner during the period of membership. Such entitlement shall be relinquished upon termination of membership or termination of this club.
 2. When displayed by individual club members, the emblem may be used without further information. When the emblem is used to represent a club, the name of the club should appear with the emblem.

ARTICLE XIII — Duration

- Duration of Club**
- This club shall exist so long as it continues to function in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and policy relating to Rotaract established by Rotary International, or until it is terminated (a) by this club upon its own determination and action, (b) by the sponsoring Rotary club upon withdrawal of its sponsorship, after consultation with the district governor and district Rotaract representative, or (c) by Rotary International for failure to function in accordance with this constitution or for other cause.

Upon termination of this club, all rights and privileges relating to the Rotaract name and emblem shall be relinquished by the club and by its members individually and collectively. The Rotaract club shall relinquish all financial assets to the sponsoring Rotary club.

ARTICLE XIV — Administration

- Amendment**
- The constitution may be amended only by the Board of Directors of Rotary International and all amendments to the "Standard Rotaract Club Constitution" adopted by the Board of Directors of Rotary International shall automatically amend the Constitution.