

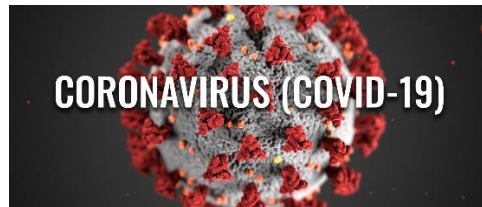


District 9350

Connecting the World™

Weekly Newsflash – Covid-19

5 May 2020



A weekly update during this time of crisis

“It’s a strange strange world we live in, Master Jack” – Lyrics by 4 Jacks and a Jill from 1967!

As we progress through this difficult and strange time, we need to rethink and redefine how we work in Rotary – here are some of the stories and decisions that can help inspire you!

Rotary Foundation Disaster Grant

All funds have now been allocated and are being paid as we speak. We look forward to finalizing these ASAP and looking at how else we can assist you in the weeks and months ahead.

Club activities

Last week I reported on club activities – and did not realise how some clubs have really gone the extra mile. The value of food support (excluding our recent disaster grant – another R375 000 alone) we are well above R1.3 million!

Helderberg sunrise have an innovative fund raising effort in progress which has raised over R440 000 so far – with more promised. How? Firstly, members have been asked to donate to the fund in place of what they would pay for breakfast each week. Overseas connections have been making donations as well, and some partner clubs have committed funds to this effort as well. Contact them for details of how they have done this, and ideas on how you can make it work for your club!

Inductions – what can you do?

As this lockdown continues to evolve, the impact on our changeover of leadership in June is obviously impacted. We don’t know where we will be in June, but the best case scenario will still see us at level 3 – so regular meetings will not be permitted.

How do you do a virtual induction? The only real difference is we will not be present in person, and will not be able to stand up and do speeches, (or enjoy the same meal). Plan a program as for any induction, and the “handover” is acknowledging the incoming president’s new role. Handover of Regalia will happen once we are able to meet again. It is unknown territory for all of us – so please share your ideas and experiences!

Virtual Freedom run – fundraising

Calling all runners! See the flyer below. Anyone who enters is invited to make a donation and specify where the money will be spent (area). According to DG Jaco (D9370) it raised R15 000 for Rotary in the first few days. A great way to remain connected to the running community and raise funds to help us

Virtual Freedom Run

Exciting New Event

Celebrate the freedom of no more lockdown and you get to test your fitness against others. Enter the Virtual Freedom Run now and from the 1st May or when lockdown is reduced in your region, get on the road and do your Virtual run. Upload your results to see how your fitness ranks with others.

What You Receive

- Results ranked against other participants
- A Virtual Medal with your Name and Time
- An Online Certificate that can be printed
- The opportunity to support Rotary Charities
- Chance in the draw for a Free Race Entry

R50
per entry



Support worthy charities, with a donation to Rotary who will ensure that 100% of donations go directly to those who need it most.



5KM



10KM



21KM



42KM

ENTER NOW BY VISITING
www.championchip.co.za

Rotary International – Board Decisions

(Decisions relevant to our district are in bold)

April 2020

The 2019–20 RI Board of Directors met via video conference on 18 March and 21–24 April 2020. At these meetings, the Board reviewed 10 committee reports and recorded 36 decisions.

COVID-19 Response

25 February Executive Committee Ballot

The Board agreed to prioritize the health and safety of Rotarians during the COVID-19 outbreak and encouraged districts to follow local government recommendations for gatherings;

agreed to allow districts to delay (until no later than 30 June 2020) or to convene online their training events, including PETS and district training assembly, at no cost to Rotary International, should their government recommend restricting gatherings due to COVID-19 or if district leaders feel such action is appropriate;

recommended that those districts holding their training meetings online due to the COVID-19 outbreak, hold at least three one-hour meetings to cover 1) Rotary's strategic plan, 2) the role and responsibility of the participant, and 3) goals for the year, and further to follow all other requirements for district training meetings;

agreed to allow districts to delay (until no later than 30 June 2020) or cancel their district conference, at no cost to Rotary International, should their government recommend restricting gatherings due to COVID-19 or if district leaders feel such action is appropriate.

18 March Special Virtual Session of the RI Board

The Board cancelled the in-person 2020 RI (Honolulu) Convention and approved refunding of registration fees and fees for RI ticketed events to registered attendees.

21–24 April Virtual RI Board Meeting

The Board

approved holding a virtual convention on 20–26 June 2020;

agreed to the following general principles:

The health and safety of all participants in Rotary programs, meetings, and events is of paramount importance.

No in-person meeting or event shall be mandatory for any Rotary participant who may feel uncomfortable attending because of the pandemic.

All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings are strongly encouraged to consider all health concerns in deciding whether to hold in-person meetings.

All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings shall fully comply with all health and safety rules in effect in that location.

With the principles above in mind, adopted the following rules and guidance for specific Rotary activities:

All RI Board meetings shall be conducted virtually (and not in-person) for the remainder of calendar year 2020.

All RI committee meetings shall be conducted virtually (and not in-person) for the remainder of calendar year 2020.

The general secretary shall develop contingency plans for interim report to the Board at its June 2020 meeting: to train district governors-elect for those unable to attend in-person the 2021 International Assembly and to conduct the 2021 International Assembly virtually in the event more than 40 percent of the governors-elect are unable to attend in-person.

2020 Rotary Institute conveners are strongly encouraged to conduct their institutes and governor-elect and governor-nominee training virtually. Conveners are authorized to decide whether to conduct such meetings in-person or virtually; however,

no Rotary staff shall attend an institute, governor-elect, or governor-nominee training in person unless specifically authorized by the general secretary in exceptional circumstances;

directors shall not be funded to attend an institute that is outside of their zone or region unless specifically authorized by the president

In fairness to all districts, Rotary International shall not fund the expenses of any president's representative to a district conference for the 2020–21 Rotary year. If a district requests a president's representative, the president may appoint one at no cost to RI.

Governors are strongly encouraged to use virtual meetings for club visits that occur during calendar year 2020.

Regional leaders are strongly encouraged to use virtual meetings for training seminars and other events during calendar year 2020.

The general secretary shall prepare a risk assessment of conducting the Rotary Youth Exchange Program during the 2020–21 Rotary year for report to the Board at its June 2020 meeting.

requests the president and the president-elect to jointly appoint a nine-member Pandemic Response Task Force to comprehensively study how Rotary can optimally utilize virtual technologies during the COVID-19 pandemic and agreed that the task force's mandate runs through 31 October 2020.

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Programs, Meetings, and Awards

The Board

received President-elect Knaack's update on holding a third preconvention event in conjunction with the 2021 RI (Taipei) Convention on Intercountry Committees;

amended its policy on district conferences to allow for participation of non-Rotarian community leaders in a conference and encouraged governors to hold public-facing events as part of their district conferences;

amended its policy to provide for Rotaractors to be eligible to receive the Service Above Self Award, and the Avenues of Service Award, and for Rotaract clubs to be eligible to receive the Significant Service Award;

Administration and Finances

The Board

agreed to sunset the Rotary Global Rewards program by 1 July 2021;

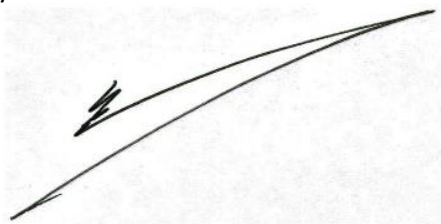
broadened the mandate of the Rotary Representatives Network beyond public relations to include helping build connection for humanitarian projects, opening doors to expertise, and helping facilitate

Apologies for the length, but some important information in this summary from RI

Please stay safe, stay connected and let's keep up the great work!

Yours in Rotary

DG David

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.