

## **Guidance Note on Satellite Clubs**

### **What's the purpose of the new Satellite Club policy established through the 2013 CoL enactment?**

The new Satellite Club policy provides a new way to create Rotary clubs. A Satellite Club functions as a short-term, transitional step on the path to becoming a full, independent Rotary Club.

### **How does a club apply to have a Satellite Club?**

An application is sent to Club and District Support RIBI (further information will be available soon) by the sponsor club president.

### **Is there a minimum or maximum number of members of a Satellite Club?**

There is no minimum number needed to start a Satellite Club. However, there will need to be sufficient members to form a Council. There is no maximum number of members.

### **How are Satellite clubs named?**

Satellite clubs are named: Rotary Satellite Club of [Sponsor Club Name] [Additional Qualifier], State/Province, Country. Example: Rotary Satellite Club of Bangkok North Evening, Thailand.

### **If the sponsor club is terminated, does the Satellite Club need to close as well?**

Yes, Satellite Clubs are terminated with the sponsor club.

### **Can Satellite Clubs create a separate Council with a different set of officers than the sponsor club?**

Satellite Clubs set up their own Council and have their own officers. However, instead of a president, a Satellite Club has a chair.

### **If there are two Councils, how are any disagreements handled?**

The Council of the sponsor club has the final authority when there are disagreements.

### **Does the leadership of the Satellite Club have a position on the Council of the main club?**

This is not required, but is highly recommended.

### **Are Satellite Club members Rotarians?**

Yes, they are Rotarians and members of the sponsor club.

### **Do Satellite Club members pay RIBI dues?**

Yes, they are Rotarians and so pay the same Rotary dues as other Rotarians.

### **Can a Satellite Club have a separate dues structure and bylaws?**

Yes. The Satellite Club determines its dues structure and bylaws in collaboration with its sponsor club.

### **Who decides on the Satellite Club's meeting place and time?**

The Satellite Club.

### **Will the Satellite Club need to set goals as well? Will they be able to use Rotary Club Central for this purpose?**

All clubs, including Satellite Clubs, are strongly encouraged to set goals to achieve success. Rotary Club Central cannot accommodate Satellite Club goals at this time.

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### **Does someone who has only served as the chair (president) of a Satellite Club meet the qualifications for a DGN?**

No, but the district can ask the Rotary International President to waive this requirement.

### **If an existing weak club becomes a Satellite Club, what are the criteria to revert back to autonomous club status?**

Satellite Clubs are considered to be a new way to start a Rotary Club. It may be possible for a weak club to become a Satellite Club for a period but please discuss this with the relevant member of the RIBI MDR Team.

### **How does a Satellite Club apply to become a new, independent club?**

The Satellite Club works with the sponsor club and district governor to complete the application for a new formation. Where a club is formed from a Satellite Club a survey is not required.

### **How long can a Satellite Club exist?**

Satellite Clubs are intended as a temporary step on the way to becoming a full, independent Rotary club. However, there is no time limit on these clubs.

### **Could Rotaract Clubs be converted into Satellite Clubs as a transition to becoming a full Rotary Club?**

Some or all of the members of a Rotaract Club may form or join a Satellite Club.

### **Where can I get further information?**

Contact Cath Chorley, member of the RIBI MDR Team on [cath.chorley@gmail.com](mailto:cath.chorley@gmail.com)