

RIBI YOUTH ROOT AND BRANCH REVIEW

PURPOSE

The RIBI Executive asked the President Nominee, Donna Wallbank, to undertake a review of current Youth activities. A sub-committee was established to undertake this process.

PROCEDURE

A survey was sent to 1746 Clubs resulting in 791 responses, representing 45.3% of those surveyed. Following analysis of the survey, recommendations were submitted to the RIBI Executive and Governing Council. These recommendations were agreed and to be in place by July 1st, 2019.

CURRENT YOUTH COMPETITIONS

Current provision and procedures will be reviewed to reflect suggestions made in the survey including:

- Materials available by the end of March of the preceding each Rotary year
- All documentation will be online for download

YOUNG CHEF

- No change in age groupings but change in date of national final to coincide with EXPO

YOUNG MUSICIAN

- No change in age groupings but change in date of national final to coincide with EXPO

YOUTH SPEAKS

- No change in age groupings. Focus will be more on a debating competition and new guidance and information will reflect this for implementation on 1st July 2019.

YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER

- No change in age groupings but change in date of national final to coincide with EXPO

YOUNG MUSICIAN

- No change in age groupings but change in date of national final to coincide with EXPO

YOUNG WRITER

- No change in age groupings but change in date of national final to coincide with EXPO

Rotary Young Citizen Award [RYCA]

- This is regarded as a public relations highlight, not to be lost and all efforts made to retain BBC coverage. This is a cost we could not afford to pay directly for such high-quality publicity.
- We shall endeavour to retain and award WheelPower a special prize so long as they continue as a supporter.

NEW YOUTH COMPETITIONS

YOUNG MUSICIAN

- There will be an additional aspect to Young Musician: a new opportunity at district level to enable Choirs, Bands and Instrumental Groups to participate at an event such as a 'Youth Make Music'.
- This will be monitored for a period of three years to ascertain the benefit to membership and public relations. This will be considered at the next Root and Branch review to ascertain if the momentum gained warrants this progressing to regional and national events.

OTHER NEW COMPETITIONS

Feedback from the survey has indicated an interest in competitions such as:

- Young Artist
- Young Environmental Project (working with the RIBI Environment group)
- Young Film Maker
- Young Scientist

These new opportunities will be added to the RIBI youth competitions menu from July 1st, 2019. It is stressed that clubs do not have to do everything: consider visiting a restaurant - you don't eat everything you read on the menu!

OTHER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

ROTARY TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT

The technology tournaments are continuing to develop in line with the National Curriculum and STEM activity across RIBI including the relationships with those working with Rotary. To sustain this, the organisers will continue to:

- Seek new tasks
- Develop and modernise tasks presently available
- Attend Big Bang events regionally and nationally
- Seek new supporters and develop Regional Rotarian specialists for Regional Big Bangs Near Me
- Sponsor Big Bang award as a PI and PR opportunity of value, recognising membership and Youth membership development opportunities.
- Ensure the Big Bang Rotary award is consistent with RI President's annual focus.

RYLA

The RIBI RYLA lead will

- create a channel of communication for all RYLA district officers to share spaces and assist in filling all age groups and to share a communication avenue for all districts.
- share cross district opportunities

ROTAKIDS AND INTERACT

The review highlighted that Young Rotary programmes are available in our communities and that every effort must be made by clubs, districts and regions to engage RotaKids and Interact clubs to

meet and communicate with each other. Regional Expos will facilitate this as will the RIBI EXPO on a national scale.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

BETTER PUBLIC IMAGE OPPORTUNITIES

There is a clear need to develop:

- better PI materials for clubs and districts to use for consistent Marketing of 'our brand'
- a mark which recognises the categories 'Supported by', 'Sponsored by', or 'Working with' sponsors and opportunity developers.

SHOWCASING THE ROTARY COMPETITIONS

With the development of the traditional RIBI conference into the 'EXPO', a platform to showcase the winners of competitions will be developed as the venue for the competition finals and to showcase other competition winners' work.

THE FAMILY OF ROTARY DEVELOPMENT

There is a need to develop processes to introduce young people to the next level of the family of Rotary i.e. RotaKids to Interact, Interact to Rotaract (in both university and community locations) and Rotaract to Rotary.

Consistent Communication processes need to be identified from club, district and RIBI teams to ensure information on all opportunities are received by those with whom we need to communicate.

REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The regions for Youth competitions have not changed despite the reduction in districts, from 29 to 25. From July 1st, 2019 regions will be readjusted to reflect this. The new regional makeup has been based on a central location and appropriate use of national motorways and routes to have a journey time of less than two hours in most cases.

Region	Districts	"Mini-Expo" Suggested venue locations
1	1010,1230,1020.	Glasgow
2	1030,1190,1040,1285,1220.	Leeds/Harrogate
3	1070,1080,1260,1240.	Cambridge
4	1090,1130,1145,1120.	Guildford
5	1175,1200,1110.	Plymouth / Exeter/Taunton
6	1180,1210,1060,1150,1100.	Telford
7	1160.	Athlone

REGIONAL COSTS

Costs of the regional finals will be shared equally by all districts in all regions. This will be the case even if a district decides not to participate in any one or any competitions.

Clubs are expected to assist their winners in travel and any other associated financial arrangements as this allows for an inclusivity of all.

REGIONAL EXPO ARRANGEMENTS

The financial cost and time elements of attending regional finals can be considerable so to accord with the changes to an RIBI EXPO, Regional EXPO's should be developed to include all regional youth finals on one day at one event in all regions – over 2 weekends.

This will save all districts multi travel days and a better visitor experience. The development of these will involve working with all *RI Co-Ordinators and RIBI Teams along with District specialists.

The Regional Expo's will include all RIBI teams covering *PI, Membership, Home, International, Foundation and PI/PR teams and make a visitor experience which promotes Rotary as the organiser and host of these Regional EXPO's.

RIBI COMPETITION FINALS

Beginning 2020, all RIBI Youth Finals and exhibitions of finalists' work will be held at the Rotary EXPO. If the competition cannot be hosted in the EXPO venue, the final should be within a 5-10-mile radius of the EXPO venue.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Clubs, districts, regional and RIBI Finals will offer vocational prizes as of July 1st, 2019.

All prizes for club, district and regional competitions should be of vocational relevance; the RIBI Prize will reflect a higher experience for the National Final.

This will ensure that the prizes ensure a benefit in terms of an experience e.g. a master class / work experience with a highly experience musician or a well-known restaurateur, for example.

The financial prizes normally given may be used to assist with travelling costs.

BUDGET LINES

Clubs, Districts and RIBI are always good hosts, however that does not mean we have to put on a buffet or meal. Consideration of somewhere that people can get refreshments at a sensible cost must be made. Offering cold and hot drinks, biscuits or cakes should be sufficient to be seen as good hosts.

This budget line should then be used to manage travel expenses to assist their representatives to travel to finals.

NEXT STEPS

A three-yearly review will be undertaken with the next review beginning on July 1st, 2021. This will ensure that opportunities remain relevant, modern and enable the ongoing development of programmes and competitions.

Donna Wallbank, President-elect
Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland
October 2018