CLUB TYPES, FORMATS, AND MODELS

All Rotary and Rotaract clubs share similar values and a passion for service, but each offers a unique experience. When you start a club, you'll need to choose a club type, a meeting format, and a club model. Consider the needs of your community and the club's prospective members to decide which kind of club would be best.

CLUB TYPE: First, determine whether your new club will be a Rotary club, a Rotaract club, or a satellite of a Rotary or Rotaract club.

Club type	Description	Appeals to	Member minimum for new clubs
Rotary club	Professionals and other leaders who meet regularly for service, connection, and personal growth Learn about a successful Rotary club.	People who are looking for friendship, service, and networking opportunities Learn more with the Starting a Club online course.	15 required
Rotaract club	Adults who take action through community and international service while learning leadership skills and developing professionally Learn about a successful Rotaract club.	Younger professionals and university students who want to become more effective leaders, find innovative solutions to community issues, and have fun through service Learn how to start a club.	12 recommended
Satellite club	A part of a Rotary or Rotaract club that has its own meetings, projects, bylaws, and board, managed in collaboration with its sponsor club Learn about a successful satellite club.	Those who want a club experience, meeting format, or meeting time other than what local clubs offer and who appreciate the support and partnership of another club. Some satellite clubs eventually form standalone clubs, while others, sometimes called companion clubs, do not. Learn more in the Guide to Satellite Clubs.	8 for a satellite Rotary club 4 for a satellite Rotaract club

MEETING FORMAT: Next, determine whether your club will meet in person, online, or both.

Meeting format	Description	Appeals to
In person	A club that meets in person at a designated location Learn about a successful club that meets in person.	Those who consider face-to-face interactions an important part of the meeting experience or who don't enjoy online meetings
Online	A club that meets primarily online and offers in-person service opportunities Learn about a successful club that meets online.	Frequent travelers, people who have difficulty attending in-person meetings, or those who prefer an online experience Learn more about online club meetings.

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In person and online	A club that holds some meetings in person and others online, or one that holds in-person meetings that some members attend virtually Learn about a successful club that meets in person and online.	People who have various needs and enjoy a flexible schedule and those who want many attendance options or a mix of experiences Learn more about clubs that meet online and in person.

CLUB MODEL: Finally, determine the approach your club will offer. You can choose a model below or design your own.

Club model	Description	Appeals to
Traditional	The club experience includes having a meal, hosting a speaker, and practicing traditions that members value. Traditional clubs often have higher dues because of venue and meal costs. Learn about a successful traditional club.	People who want to socialize over a meal while learning about a new topic or an opportunity to serve the community
Passport	A club that allows members to attend other clubs' meetings frequently if they attend a specified number of home club meetings each year Learn about a successful passport club.	People who travel frequently or who enjoy trying a variety of club experiences and meeting lots of people Learn more in the Guide to Passport Clubs.
Cause-based	A club whose members are passionate about a specific cause and focus their service efforts on that topic Learn about a successful cause-based club.	People who want to connect with others while addressing a particular issue
Interest-based	A club that focuses on a particular interest or hobby Learn about a successful interest-based club.	People who want to enjoy Rotary by focusing on a shared interest or activity, such as professional development
Corporate	A club whose members (all or most of them) work for the same employer Learn about a successful corporate club.	Employees of one organization who want to do good in their community
Alumni-based	A club in which most members (or a majority of charter members) are former Rotary program participants or former Rotaractors or Rotarians Learn about a successful alumni-based club.	People who have previously participated in Rotary International or Rotary Foundation programs, or are former members
Service-based	A club that meets at least twice monthly for service projects and meets occasionally for social events or fundraisers Learn about a successful service-based club.	People who join Rotary to participate in service but who don't want to or can't attend meetings, or those who want a club with lower dues

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Language-based	A club whose members speak a common language other than the primary language of their district Learn about a successful language-based club.	People, such as expatriates, who want to connect with each other using a common language, or people who prefer to connect through that language
International	A club whose members are from different countries than the district where they reside Learn about a successful international club.	People who want to connect with others from all over the world or want a more international club experience
Districtwide online	A club whose members are from anywhere in the district rather than a specific locality, and who meet online. These clubs can function as a temporary club for members exploring different Rotary experiences or a permanent club for those who prefer this format. Learn about a successful districtwide virtual club.	People who want to connect online with others from a larger geographical area, and those who want to volunteer and meet others but may not be able to attend regular meetings in person and fulfill other club membership commitments. This model works well to engage prospective members or re-engage former members and program participants who may want to explore various projects and clubs.