

Rotary



PEOPLE OF ACTION

Advice for the Club President-Elect

TIPS FROM ZONE 26/27 2021-2022 GOVERNOR-ELECTS

Responding to the Question: What advice would you give to a Club President-Elect to have the best opportunity for success and have fun? The responses are sorted into four major categories: Relationships - Leadership - Training - Wisdom.

— RELATIONSHIPS —

- Ask your club members, “What do you want?” (membership survey)
- Communicate well! Especially as we continue in a Zoom world. Phone calls can produce endorphins too.
- Engage all of your members
- Be a good listener.
- Listen to your members and be open to new ideas
- Listen to your members - pay attention to what they want their club to be.
- During your entire year, greet your club members as they arrive at each meeting. They will feel valued and noticed...the best beginning of a strong relationship
- Communicate with your membership - outcomes of board meetings, updates from RI and District, news, speakers, etc.
- Don't forget this is supposed to be fun. Plan more social time (especially once we can get back to in-person), celebrate friendships and the great work we do!
- Be a cheerleader and encourage members to be their best.
- Get to know each member personally, if possible.
- Have fun as president and convey that to the members of their club.
- Communicate action plan, involve other to get by-in from club board and membership
- Network, network, network! Learn from those beside you, in front of you, and behind you. Enjoy all the new friends you will make along the way.
- Survey your members and ask for anonymous feedback on what they feel is going well and could go a lot better for them (this goes to the 'value' of Rotary for folks who are already members).
- Engage all members and their families in activities and committees
- Celebrate with your members and your teams on the great work that they do; provide recognition of successes and find opportunities in the challenges.
- Listen to your club members – find out what's important to them and incorporate as many of their suggestions as possible. Don't be afraid to change things up.
- Get to know your members by having a personal chat with each one, or conversations in a small focus group. Find out what they enjoy most about your club and where they want to be involved.

—WISDOM— —TRAINING— —LEADERSHIP—

- Be a team with your club's leaders.... not a lone authority figure!
- Have a diverse board who understand your passion.
- Do hands on projects that your club members can engage in.
- Partner – with other clubs, with community organizations. ASK what is needed, and work to provide it through your service. Don't just 'give' what 'you think' is needed, or what you want to give.
- Ask folks who are not Rotarians why they are not. Then think seriously about the feedback. This point goes to diversity, inclusivity of the community at large – and to why young professionals don't want to be part of Rotary.
- Have an action plan which includes how to make meetings fun and organized social events even if they are virtual
- Review status of action plan throughout the year.
- Lead by example. Positive attitude, listen, respond to inquiries in a timely manner
- Set one goal you hope to accomplish in your year.
- Be prepared. Have your year planned out with your goals. Make sure you communicate and get input from your board and membership.
- Vary up your meetings! Change them up every once in a while. Have a birthday party for your club, St. Patrick's Day, Jeopardy, no set tables - must mingle with others, etc.
- "Build a bench." Do more to involve members in all aspects of the club -- whether it be training to be an officer, asking them to take on a project or attend non-club functions such as a district event or global project.
- Give members the opportunity to experience a wonderful "Rotary moment."
- Be more involved in your community. Take on more service projects and collaborate with other groups in their communities.
- Create a dedicated time each week to organize your Rotary responsibilities and to prepare for your weekly meeting. The more prepared YOU are the better your club will run.
- Find something to notice each week that is positive about your club or club's service. Congratulate and praise your club on a regular basis. The more positive YOU are the more positive the atmosphere will be!
- Recognize Rotarians and Community Partners; Invite community participation and Celebrate accomplishments together!
- Make your meetings “can't miss” – create F.O.M.O. (“fear of missing out”) by having great speakers and engaging graphics/videos/PowerPoints...be creative.

- Visit other clubs and take notes of what you like and don't like.
- Absorb as much training as possible!
- Take advantage of all the resources you have access to (yup.... even those assignments in the RI Learning Center. It will make your job as President so much easier).
- Embrace change, or at least the idea of change, with enthusiasm! Ask for and suggest new ways of doing things to increase vibrancy in your clubs.

- Be organized and enthusiastic
- Have fun, fun, fun.
- Increase Club engagement.
- Maintain a balance of your commitment to Rotary and your commitment to yourself, your family, or other obligations. Rotary is meant to enrich your life, not to cause you great stress.
- Don't try to do it all. Choose your priorities and do them well.
- Take things in stride and have fun!
- Go “all in” – be present and enjoy the experience
- Always be prepared and make meetings fun
- Be engaged and keep members engaged with passion and enthusiasm
- Recruit your team early; collaborate with existing team to plan year ahead