

District Training Bulletin 5

“If you do not think about your future, you cannot have one.”

John Galsworthy

Belated Happy New Year.

Firstly, material added to the DKL (District Knowledge Library) since the last bulletin. Just look down the alphabetical list on the home page, and you'll find them. <https://www.1040knowledge.net>

- The glossary of acronyms and terminology has been updated.
- A recording of the District Council meeting held by zoom on 27th January.
- A very useful PowerPoint presentation about Foundation, that was part of the District Council meeting, but is also listed separately.
- Membership seminars:
 - a copy of the zoom recording of the meeting held on Saturday 3rd February where there was an interesting exchange of ideas about North Star. Sadly it wasn't especially well attended, but hopefully as North Star develops, there will be more interest in future seminars.
 - **Date for your diary: the next seminar will be March 2nd, 9.30-10.30 by zoom and instructions on how to register will be coming out shortly.**
- A link to an online seminar which some of you may have attended on “Setting the right club culture”. (it's under “Culture” on the DKL).
- An article about why a good website is essential.
- Training links for presidents and secretaries elect – more of later.

Preparing for next year

You may have just been elected, volunteered or had your arm twisted to take on the role of president or secretary for 2024-2025. At the moment July seems a long way away, especially with the wet and cold weather recently – but it will come around very quickly, so now is the time to prepare. Whether you've been a president or secretary before or are totally new to the role, it's recommended that you look through the wealth of training available in the Rotary learning centre, as things change over time, and when you were president 10 years ago there probably wasn't the range of training programmes available.

Even if you are not going to be president, before you skip this section, cast your eyes down the list of training programmes as there is material there pertinent to all Rotarians, for example, *Promoting your club as people of action*.

Available president training

There are two president training modules available. One is called Club President Basics and the other is called Club President Intermediate.

The first includes the following courses:

- Getting Started With the Learning Center
- Managing Club Business
- Working With Your Club Leadership Team
- Minimizing Risk
- Best Practices for Engaging Members
- Rotary Club Central Resources
- Online Membership Leads
- Rotary Foundation Basics

and the second includes these courses:

- Is Your Club Healthy?
- Creating an Inclusive Club Culture
- Promoting Your Club as People of Action
- Committing to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Preventing and Addressing Harassment
- Protecting Personal Data
- Rotary's Change Model
- Protecting Youth Program Participants

Available secretary training:

- Getting Started With the Learning Center
- Get Ready: Club Secretary
- Managing Club Business
- Working With Your Club Leadership Team
- Minimizing Risk
- Rotary Club Central Resources
- Online Membership Leads
- Protecting Personal Data
- Preventing and Addressing Harassment
- Rotary's Action Plan and You

Look down the alphabetical list on the DKL home page and you'll find the links.

A general point, not covered by the formal training programmes, and that is about presidents and secretaries not passing on general emails to their members. I'd come across this in a couple of cases in the past when I've been speaking to Rotarians and they weren't aware of a topic that should have been available to all members. However, in the past 6 months or so, as I've been chatting to even more Rotarians, it

is apparent that this is more wide spread than I originally thought. I'm referring to emails that come out from District and are sent to "all presidents and secretaries".

I don't know why this happens. It could be that the president thinks the secretary should do it or vica versa and it therefore slips through the net. Or it could be that they don't realise that this information should be cascaded down – and it should – unless it is very specific to the president or secretary. Or, and I know this to be the case in some clubs, the president and secretary (and sometimes the club council gets involved) decide what to cascade down and what not to. This is gatekeeping, and is not fair on the club Rotarians who want to be informed of what's going on, and it disadvantages them when other Rotarians in other clubs are receiving the information. So please, in the future, unless an email from District is specifically president or secretary related, pass them on to your members. And members, if you feel you are missing out on information you should be receiving, then please challenge your president / secretary.

I always send these bulletins to all members to ensure that nobody misses out.

In the next training bulletin, I'll be writing about Rotary Club Central and Rotary Showcase.

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