

Constitution and Bylaws

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million Rotarians. There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Each club runs with full autonomy. Yet there is a document that keeps all clubs to operate in the “Rotary” way instead of that of Lions or Kiwanis. Such document is called the **Standard Rotary Club Constitution**.

A club has to accept the Standard Rotary Club Constitution to be qualified as a member of the Rotary International and be called a Rotary club. Such constitution cannot be amended by a club and can only be revised by **Council on Legislation** held every three years. The club constitution defines the basic rules of a Rotary club such as frequency of club meetings, minimum attendance of a Rotarian, etc.

Along with the club constitution come the **Recommended Rotary Club Bylaws** that further detail how a club may be operated. Each club may amend the Recommended Rotary Club Bylaws to fit its own needs as long as the amendment is in harmony with club constitution. The bylaws can be amended at any regular meeting, a quorum being present (which is 1/3 of total active membership), by a two-thirds vote of all members present., provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days before such meeting.

With the club constitution and bylaws, all 33,000 Rotary clubs may maintain autonomy while marching towards the same goal to service above self and make the world a better place altogether.