

OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT 5190 YOUTH PROTECTION PLAN

THE YOUTH PROTECTION PLAN WILL GO INTO EFFECT JULY 1, 2017

This document will serve as an overview of the Youth Protection Plan for District 5190, mostly covering Interact activities and other Club and District youth programs such as Scouting, Achievement Beyond Obstacles, etc. Excluded from this overview are District programs that have their own separate policies such as Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE), Rotary Youth Leadership Awakening (RYLA), and Rotary Eighth Grade Leadership (REGL)

Rotary International strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. *Adopted by the RI Board of Directors, November 2006*

Rotary District 5190 ("the District") is responsible for adhering to and administering Rotary's safe environment and youth protection policies in all district and club activities and programs.

The District Governor is responsible for supervision and control of all youth activities in the district.

Both the clubs and the district are provided liability insurance by Rotary International with appropriate coverage and policy limits. This policy protects the organization from third-party claims and lawsuits alleging negligence by the organization, its employees, or its volunteers.

The following are key points taken from the District 5190 Youth Protection Policy that club leaders need to know. Please refer to the Policy document for full information.

- **All Clubs participating in District 5190 youth programs and/or that conduct youth programs of their own, are required and are responsible to follow the youth protection policies of District 5190.**
- **All District and Club volunteers are responsible to follow the youth protection policy of District 5190.** *All procedures, including travel, MUST be followed in all instances of club and district activities and any programs involving youth* (e.g., Interact, Achievement Beyond Obstacles, youth overnight stays for district functions, and other club and district programs, including one-time events and those held on a scheduled basis).
- **"Two Deep Rule."** No private situations with one adult and one youth are authorized. Adults must ensure private situations never occur with fewer than two adults (preferably one of each gender) and one youth, or no less than one adult and two youth. The purpose of this rule is to assure that youth and adults are never in a one-on-one situation, to reduce the risks to all involved.

- **The “Two Deep Rule” also applies to digital communications.** There will be no one-on-one private online communications, including email, social media, games, etc. between adults and youth participants. Adults shall copy a parent, school personnel or another Rotarian in digital and online communication with youth participants. While it is permissible for Rotarians to “friend” a youth (i.e. on Facebook) since postings, comments and “likes” are visible to the social media world, it is not permissible to use social media as a means to communicate one-on-one. Another approach is to build group sites to avoid one-on-one situations. All efforts will be made to avoid one-on-one situations in text, social media, or other forms of online or digital communication.
- **Travel by car.** All travel must follow the “Two Deep Rule” of no one-on-one situations. An adult driver may not have just one youth passenger, unless it is the driver’s child. One adult may drive 2 or more youth, or at least 2 adults may travel with one youth.
- **Travel outside District 5190.** For youth travel farther than **50 miles outside** of the District 5190 boundaries, in addition to compliance with all other youth protection policy and procedures, activity leaders will be responsible to complete the following steps before departure:
 - Obtain written permission from the parents or legal guardians of youth participants.
 - Give parents and legal guardians details about the travel, including locations, accommodations, itineraries, and the organizer’s contact information.
 - Verify that program participants have adequate insurance coverage.
- **Except for some short-term group activities,** (4 hours or less per event, such as club meetings, scholarship presentations, etc.) all youth program participants will complete an application, which will be reviewed, approved and filed by a responsible club official. Except for some short-term group activities, all youth program participants will complete the volunteer application and the prescribed on-line youth protection training.
- **All Rotarian and non-Rotarian Volunteers must complete an application form prior to working with youth participants. The club youth service chair, president, or other club official assigned by the president shall review and approve the application prior to the applicant working with youth participants. The application shall be kept on file for 3 years, and available for review by district representatives.**
- **Successful completion of on-line Youth Protection Training is required of all Rotarians working with youth participants.** Training will be done via the online NAYEN (North American Youth Exchange Network) and is accessed by requesting a link from the District Youth Protection Training Officer. This training must be repeated once every three years. The District Youth Protection Training Officer will keep records of completed training for review by district representatives. These records will be stored on the District 5190 Egnyte cloud storage.
- **Other organizations’ youth protection policies prevail**
 - When working with youth participants in a school setting, the school youth protection policy prevails unless this district policy is stricter.
 - When working with youth under the auspices of any Scouting program, the Scouting youth protection policy prevails unless the district policy is stricter.