

District 9650 Annual Youth Protection Training

District 9650 is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses, partners, and any other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact.

The Rotary Club Insurance & Compliance Declaration seeks information annually about our compliance, namely

Is your club familiar with the R.I. sexual abuse/harassment allegation reporting Guidelines?

Has your club received Youth Protection procedures training?

The D9650 Youth Protection team have designed a brief **PowerPoint** so that all clubs can address this. The PowerPoint includes leaders notes for each slide and also contains 2 documents (named A and B) with pertinent background information for the presenter.

In addition to this, there is an **email package** of 3 documents (named 1, 2 and 3) which can be sent to members who were absent when the PowerPoint was presented at the club meeting. When this option is used, members should reply via email that **'they have read and understood the information provided'**.

It is anticipated that the Club Youth Protection Officer, Youth Director or President will present this but that decision rests with the club. Many clubs have members engaged in the Health, Education and Law Enforcement fields. These members undergo extensive online training annually in this area and they may be willing to assist in the delivery.

We suggest you keep a copy of participants with your club's Youth Protection records (WWCC's etc).

The purpose in providing a club-based training package is to ensure all Rotarians have access to the basic information relating to the legislative requirements of Child/Youth Protection. In essence, it seeks to provide a roadmap of what to do when a young person makes a disclosure when participating in a Rotary program.

Child/Youth Protection can often be a **sensitive and emotive** topic. As you commence the presentation, advise Rotarians that the sole purpose is to provide information about our responsibilities as Rotarians. Should this raise any concerns please ask the person to discuss this with you individually at the end and perhaps refer them to the District Youth Protection Officer or the District Governor following the meeting.

As this training should occur annually, consider scheduling the presentation at your first Rotary meeting or perhaps at your AGM.

As many clubs are currently trying to establish meeting routines following COVID19 disruptions and that the D9650 Rotary Club Insurance & Compliance Declaration has already hit our Inboxes, clubs may wish to use the email version of this training package so they can respond in the affirmative to having completed Youth Protection procedures training. This is a club decision.

We have also included a copy of the D9650 YOUTH PROTECTION CLUB CHECKLIST which was distributed earlier in this Rotary Year.

Please contact us should you have any queries.

D9650 Youth Protection Team