



Optimist INTERNATIONAL

C.A.R.E Program

Celebrate + Address + Recognize = Excel

The C.A.R.E Program is a structured plan for clubs to celebrate accomplishments while resolving issues and strengthening membership.

This 4 step annual program is designed to help keep Optimist club membership healthy, strong and engaged. While allowing everyone to feel they have a voice and an influence in the club's direction.

Invite a few members to plan the program, make it a special club event. Send out invites and member surveys.

The member surveys need to remain anonymous. Some suggested websites are Survey Monkey or Jotform.

Purchase a cake!
Make this program a party!



Ask a fellow Optimist to be your "Facilitator" to help preside over the C.A.R.E Program at the party.

This person cannot be a member of the club. Some suggestions are a past or current Governor, LG, or member of a club nearby

1. Celebrate

Host an annual party for your club members, send out invites, invite a fellow Optimist "Facilitator" to run the program, have CAKE and celebrate and discuss the clubs' accomplishments, the impact you have had in the community and the youth you have served.

Send out a member survey 2 weeks prior to the event. Members should be able to answer anonymously and give honest feedback. Include these 4 questions;

- **What do you think went well this year?**
- **What do you feel the club needs to work on?**
- **What makes you happy to be a member of your Optimist Club?**
- **Do you have a new idea for the club as a community service project/ youth activity/ fundraiser? describe.**

2. Address

Have the guest facilitator review the responses from the 4-question survey previously provided to membership. Have an open unbiased discussion. Address any reasons why members leave the club.

Make a list of improvements.



3. Recognize

Recognize any issues, areas for improvement and ways to strengthen membership. Then create an opportunity to recognize members for their accomplishments, exceptional work and effort given throughout the year. Honor certain members with appreciation awards, strength of optimism award and/or a member of the year award.



4. Excel

Plan to move forward and excel together as a stronger club.

**Optimists bring out the best in youth,
the community and ourselves.**