

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BY THE
AD HOC RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

March 4-5, 2011

International Headquarters Building
St. Louis, MO

SECTION I. FOR BOARD ACTION

A. BASELINE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Rationale: The Board of Directors created the Ad Hoc Recognition Committee at its December 2011 meeting to address issues and concerns that have been ongoing for years regarding the Recognition Programs. There is no doubt that the varying requirements from year-to-year, and even within the same year, has created confusion and an atmosphere that precludes some clubs from participating in the program.

The President of Optimist International appointed this Ad Hoc Committee to address these concerns and to provide a baseline program that will be consistent from year to year to encourage more clubs to participate in the program with the hopes that the organization will benefit with membership growth and club activities.

As part of the process to review the overall Awards structure of Optimist International, a comprehensive survey was emailed to some 27,500 Optimist members with varying tenure in the organization; and a wide spectrum of involvement at the Club, Zone, District and International levels. 2,478 (9%) members responded to the survey. This represents a larger member input than at any Optimist International Convention in recent history. As such, this survey is included as an integral part of the Ad Hoc Committee Report to the Board. Furthermore, the awards program from 1983 until 2001, changed 8 times; from 2002 to present, the program changed 11 times.

Motion Requested:

That the Board of Directors adopt the following new policy as the baseline awards program to be effective 10-1-2011 with the understanding that the President-Elect is entitled to create his/her own Incentive Program for further excellence of service to Optimist International.

Club Awards:

“Bringing Out the Best” Club

(banner patch then year bar thereafter)

Sponsor at least two service projects a year

Add at least one member

Be current on District and OI dues

Recognize Club member or local community individual

Honor Club

(banner patch, then year bar thereafter plus \$100 credit on first quarter dues)

Sponsor at least three service projects a year

Recognize a Club or community member

Grow Club by net plus 1

Be current on District and OI dues

Distinguished Club – for Club President and Secretary and/or Treasurer

(watch, banner patch, then year bar thereafter, plus \$250 credit on first quarter dues)

Meet Honor Club Criteria plus:

Net of 15 OR Start a New Club

Harry S. Truman Club President Award

(plaque or trophy – recognized at convention)

Up to 2 Distinguished Clubs Presidents who most exemplify the goal of youth service nominated by each Governor

10 Club presidents selected by the International President from nominations received by District Governors

Must meet Distinguished Club Criteria

Distinguished Lt. Governor

(Desk clock)

All Clubs are honor clubs OR

Net plus one in membership and net plus one new Club

Distinguished Governor

(Ring)

Grow District by net plus 1 in membership

Grow District by net plus one in Clubs

B. BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL FOR RECOGNITION AND PRESIDENT'S INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Rationale: In order to be certain an awards program will not change from year to year, the following bylaws amendment proposal is offered.

Motion requested:

That the Board of Directors propose the following amendment proposal to the delegates of the July 2011 Convention to be effective October 1, 2011.

Article III. Section 3

The Board of Directors shall establish a baseline recognition program. The Recognition Program shall not be changed more than once every five years (beginning October 1, 2011). The President may propose an Incentive Program for his or her year, not to conflict with the Recognition Program.

Respectfully submitted,

James Kondrasuk, Chair
Chris Jernigan, Member
David Bruns, Member

Attachment – Results of January 2011 Awards/Recognition Survey