

MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Report Souper Bowl of Caring results	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Daylight Savings Time begins	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20 Start looking at the Honor and Distinguished Honor Club qualifications	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOTES:

- If you are running for International Office at Convention, start gathering necessary paperwork.
- Junior Optimist Reading Contest – Must turn in project by April 1.

Joint Projects

Joint projects are an excellent way to allow Optimist and Junior Optimist Members to get to know one another. Joint projects allow both Clubs a chance to do a project that the Club could not or would not do on its own. Try to plan a joint project in conjunction with an officer from each Club. One-day events work well for joint projects. Optimist International Programs such as Bike Safety Rodeos, Respect for Law Rallies or essay or speech contests make excellent joint projects. Successful past joint projects include spaghetti dinners before school events, tree planting, holiday decorating and food drives. Encourage as much participation as possible from both Clubs by carefully selecting the event, location and time. Excellent publicity will help ensure the project's success.

Choosing a project:

Ask your sponsoring Club's President to see the *International Programs Planning Guide*, available at junioroptimist.org.

The Programs Department at Optimist International can provide you with a list of past Community Projects Awards winners, which you can repeat. Call (800) 500-8130 for more information.

- Brainstorm for project ideas in which many of the Club Members are interested.
- Identify specific needs in your community.
- Determine how many people your project will benefit.
- Determine if the project is reasonable – can the Club accomplish the project with the Members and resources it has?

The Wonderful World of Activities

- Mentor younger youth by reading to them
- Environmental clean-up
- Christmas caroling
- Organize a teacher appreciation day
- Start a pen pal program
- Peer tutoring
- Visit nursing homes
- Help with Special Olympics
- Donate clothes for the needy
- Hold a Halloween party
- Clean up school grounds
- Toys for Tots
- Conduct a recycling project
- Plant trees
- Sponsor a book drive
- Food baskets for the underprivileged
- Collect school supplies for schools in other countries
- Answer phones at a telethon
- Usher at school plays
- Sponsor a \$50 scholarship

Honor Club Award/Distinguished Honor Club Award

Every year this award recognizes hundreds of Junior Optimist Clubs that recruit new Members, keep good records and conduct great volunteer projects

Application and Checklist (Please print or type)

Club Name: _____ Club # _____

Club President: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ ZIP/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Fax Number: (_____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Has your Club earned the Honor Club in the past? _____

1. Membership/Growth – Your Club must add at least one Member to its roster during the year. If your Club has 75 Members or more, you will just need to maintain your October 1 membership.
Members as of October 1: _____ Members as of September 30: _____
2. Club Roster & Election Report – Your Club must submit a Club roster for the current year as well as an election report for the following year.
Date current roster sent: ___/___/___ Date following year's election report sent: ___/___/___
3. Annual Fees – Your Club must submit its annual registration fee and membership fee (dues) to the International Office.
Date annual registration fee paid: ___/___/___ Date membership fee (dues) paid: ___/___/___
4. Club Projects – Your Club must complete at least one project in each of these categories during the current year: Community Service, Fundraising, Club Building.

Number of Service Projects completed: _____

Number of Fundraising Projects completed: _____

Number of Club Building Projects completed: _____

Total number of service hours spent on the projects listed above: _____

5. Your Club must complete and submit the Annual Club Report Form by September 30.

6. Your Club must have a minimum of 8 Members.

*In order to receive the Distinguished Honor Club Award, one Member of the Club must reach the Bronze level of the PGI program as well as one of the following:

7a. New Club – Your Club must assist with the building of a new Club. (NOTE: This requirement is for the Distinguished Honor Club Award only.)

New Club Name: _____ Date Chartered: ___/___/___

New Sponsoring Optimist Club: _____ Club #: _____

Or

7b. Have two delegates attend the Junior Optimist International Convention (attendance verified by Optimist International Staff).

This application and your support materials need to be submitted by September 30 to:

Optimist International
Junior Optimist Department
4494 Lindell Boulevard | Saint Louis, MO 63108
Fax: (314) 371-6006
juniroptimist@optimist.org

Prizes:

Honor Club: Banner Patch and President's Certificate

Distinguished Honor Club: Banner Patch, President's Certificate and a President's wristwatch with the Junior Optimist logo.