

# YEAR-ROUND GROWTH PROGRAM

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Preparing Certificates of Sponsorship

Membership growth in a Lions club must be a year-round activity which replaces periodic membership drives. The Year-Round Growth program represents a strategic change in thinking and is a critical component of membership development.

### **Certificates of Sponsorship**

Participating Lions will be recognized with attractive certificates for their sponsorship of new members through the Year-Round Growth program in the following manner:



#### **Preparing the Certificates**

Lions Clubs International will provide each district governor with a supply of blank Certificates of Sponsorship (Bronze, Silver, Membership Excellence).

Quarterly, a list of new members will be prepared and forwarded to each district governor. This list is called the Quarterly Sponsorship Report and contains all the information you will need for preparing Certificates of Sponsorship:

- Sponsor name
- New member name
- Name of club
- Join date
- Certificate designation (Bronze, Silver, Membership Excellence)

#### Spelling

Lions Clubs International goes to great lengths to insure proper spelling of club and member names. If a disparity should arise, governors are encouraged to resolve locally.

#### **Printing/Lettering**

All certificates are printed on high quality, 80-pound paper. Member/club information may be entered by hand with pen or calligraphy or, in most cases, by PC printer (ink jet, laser printers post-1995).

#### **Entering Sponsor Information**

For clarity, a template of the Certificate of Sponsorship is shown here along with placement of member information:

#### Presented To

[name of sponsor]

In Recognition For Sponsoring

[name of new member]

#### Into Membership With

[name of Lions club]

#### On

[join date: new member]

This is the only information (enclosed by brackets) you will normally place on the certificates involving 1, 2, and 3 new members attributed to the same sponsor.

#### Four or More New Members

Many Lions will sponsor four or more new members during a single fiscal year. These individuals receive Bronze, Silver, and Membership Excellence certificates covering the first three new members sponsored, plus a duplicate President's Membership Excellence Certificate at year-end where the total number of new members is entered below the words "In Recognition For Sponsoring." The certificate for a four-member sponsor would read:

> In Recognition For Sponsoring Four new members Into Membership With

Lions Clubs International will distribute a Year-End Sponsorship Report containing names of four-plus sponsors to district governors as appropriate.

#### **Presentation of Certificates**

Sponsor Lions have done their part; they should be recognized promptly.

District governors may synchronize their schedules with arrival of Quarterly Sponsorship Report or, alternatively, can make presentations prior to receipt of the report by referring to Monthly Membership Reports (MMR) for the names of new member sponsors.

As governor, you may present certificates to Lion sponsors in person, or designate your vice district governors, region chairmen, or zone chairmen to help with distribution of sponsorship certificates.

When three-member sponsors are being recognized, they should receive the President's Membership Excellence Pin in tandem with the Membership Excellence Certificate.

#### **Special Circumstances**

#### **Missing Sponsor Name**

In some cases, sponsor name is omitted from the Monthly Membership Report and, as a result, not available to Lions Clubs International's computer system. Sponsorship certificates cannot be awarded in these cases. Governors are encouraged to remind club officials to enter all new-member information on the MMR so sponsors can receive recognition.

#### Four or More New Members

Reminder: names of four-member (or higher) sponsors will not appear on the regular Quarterly Sponsorship Report. During the Lionistic year, name listing of sponsors stops after three new members are reported; a special summary Year-End Sponsorship Report will list these four-plus sponsor Lions.

#### **Obtain More Certificates/Pins**

Additional Certificates of Sponsorship (Bronze, Silver, Membership Excellence), and Membership Excellence pins, are available at no cost from the Membership Operations Department. Governors are encouraged to use the Year-Round Growth supply order form enclosed with shipments of certificates, or contact the department:

Fax: 630/571-1691 E-mail: *yearroundgrowth@lionsclubs.org* 

Remember: New certificates with the new president's theme will be available in July, so don't order for next Lionistic year yet.

#### Questions

Please contact the Membership Operations Department if you have questions or want more information about the Year-Round Growth program:

Fax: 630/571-1691 E-mail: *yearroundgrowth@lionsclubs.org* 

Thank you for your support and involvement with the new Year-Round Growth program.