



MEMBERSHIP SOCIETY FAQ

General information

What is the Membership Society for New Member Sponsors?

The Membership Society for New Member Sponsors is a recognition program that honors members who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication and commitment in sharing the gift of Rotary by sponsoring 25 or more prospective members. Sponsoring a new member means being responsible for bringing a new member into your club, including proposing someone to be considered by the club board for membership. The names of these sponsors are listed in our new [virtual gallery](#) on My Rotary.

When did the Membership Society start?

The Membership Society's [virtual gallery](#) was launched 1 July 2021.”?. The program recognizes all qualified new member sponsors that have ever been reported to Rotary.

What are the recognition levels of the Membership Society?

The recognition levels are:

- Bronze level: Sponsored 25-29 members
- Silver level: Sponsored 30-49 members
- Gold level: Sponsored 50-74 members
- Platinum level: Sponsored 75 or more members

Who is eligible for the Membership Society?

A member needs to have sponsored 25 or more new members and reported those sponsorships to Rotary to be included in the Membership Society. When a new member is reported to Rotary, a sponsor can be named. Rotary's database tracks the number of new members that someone has sponsored.

For this recognition program, only new member sponsorships between active members in the same Rotary club are counted. While chartering a new club, bringing in new Rotaract members, or helping someone join a Rotary club other than one's own club (known as a referral), are worthy actions and may be included in this program in the future, they are currently not counted as new member sponsorships.

If you believe your RI sponsorship record is incorrect, write to data@rotary.org with the necessary information, including your club name, the names of the members you sponsored, and the dates that they joined and we'll update your record.

What does *not* count toward eligibility for the Membership Society?

While chartering a new club, bringing in new Rotaract members, or helping someone join a Rotary club other than one's own club (known as a referral), are worthy actions and may be included in this program in the future, they are currently not counted as new member sponsorships. Only new member sponsorships between active members in the same Rotary club are counted.

What about new members of a satellite club? Do those sponsorships count?

Because members of a satellite club sponsored by your club are technically part of your club, new satellite club members are counted toward sponsorships for the Membership Society. For example, if a satellite member or member of the sponsor club brings in another satellite member, that will be counted as a new member they sponsored.

Can honorary, former, or deceased members be included in the Membership Society?

Yes. All members who sponsored 25 or more new members and whose sponsorships were reported to Rotary are included in the Membership Society, along with their membership status. Membership status will be updated as it changes.

Do new honorary members count towards the sponsorship total?

No. Only new active members count toward a person's sponsorship total.

If three existing members sponsor one new member, do all three get sponsorship credit?

Rotary recognizes up to two sponsors for one new member. To add a second sponsor, send the request to data@rotary.org.

What about deceased members?

The Membership Society includes all members who sponsored 25 or more new members and whose sponsorships were reported to Rotary.

Are sponsored Rotaractors included in my sponsorship total?

No, but we may add them in the future. Our system currently has limited data on Rotaractors, and we are working to expand My Rotary access for Rotaract officers.

Will I receive a pin or certificate as part of the Membership Society?

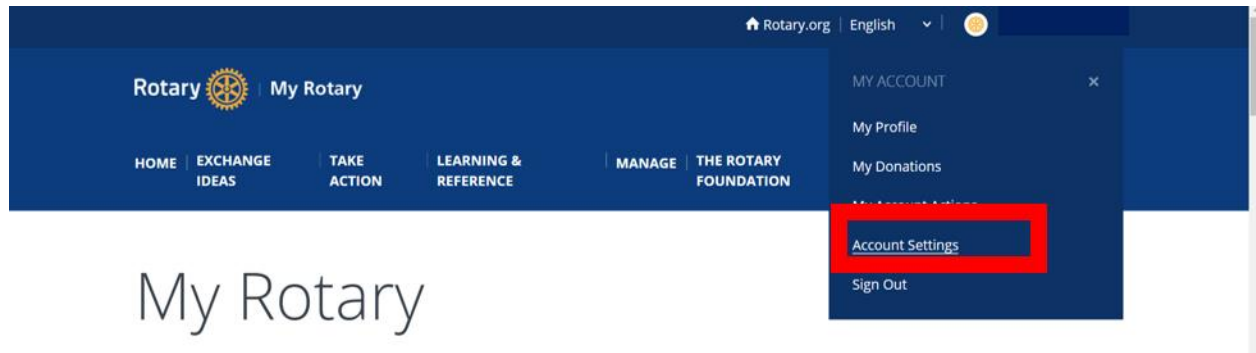
Membership Society members are recognized in the [virtual gallery](#), but there is no physical recognition item. Some clubs, districts, and zones are adding their own incentives and award items for different levels of sponsorship, and we encourage clubs and districts to recognize members at local events. However, this is not part of RI's Membership Society recognition program.

Virtual gallery

I'm eligible for the Membership Society, but I don't want my name included in the virtual gallery. How can I opt out?

If you don't want your name included in the virtual gallery, you can sign in to your My Rotary account and update your preferences by following these steps:

1. Go to **Account Settings**.



2. Under Sponsorship, select **No, I don't want to share this information**.

If I opt out of the Membership Society but decide later to opt back in, will my name be included in the virtual gallery?

Yes. You can change your display preferences at any time.

Sponsorship data and information

How far back does Rotary's sponsorship data go?

Rotary started tracking membership sponsors in 2014. However, you can report sponsorships before that date by writing to data@rotary.org with the following information in half-width alphanumeric character: sponsor and new member names, IDs and start dates; club name and club ID. (Note: the new member start date must be after the sponsor's start date, and the sponsor and new member must belong to the same club). We'll update your record if the information you provide matches the information RI has for that member.

I've sponsored more than 25 members. Why aren't I included in the Membership Society?

Some of your sponsorships might not have been reported to Rotary, so the information isn't in our database. Also, some local club or district databases aren't synched with RI's database. If you have questions about your record, you can write to riawards@rotary.org.

Another possibility is that you've indicated that you don't want to receive emails from RI. If that's the case, but you do want to be recognized, go to your account settings and update your preferences under Sponsorship.

Be aware that new member sponsorship is recognized only between active members in the same club. While chartering a new club, bringing in new Rotaract members, or helping someone join a Rotary club other than one's own club (known as a referral), are worthy actions and may be included in this program in the future, they are currently not counted as new member sponsorships.

What if a sponsor brings in new members to a club, but then joins another club?

The sponsor's name will be displayed in the virtual gallery with the district and club in which they were most recently active.

What if one of my sponsored members switches from being an active member to an honorary member?

The Membership Society recognizes the initiative of inviting people to become Rotary members. This action is worthy of recognition on its own. Even if the sponsored member is no longer an active member, the sponsor still receives credit for helping them join our organization.

I sponsored new members, but they weren't reported. Can my information be updated?

We'll honor requests to update new member sponsors whenever possible. Those requests should be sent to data@rotary.org with the following information in half-width alphanumeric character: sponsor and new member names, IDs and start dates; club name and club ID. (Note: the new member start date must be after the sponsor's start date, and the sponsor and new member must belong to the same club). We'll update your record if the information you provide matches the information RI has for that member.

Communications and privacy

How will members be notified that they're part of the Membership Society?

New members of the Membership Society will receive an automated message notifying them about their eligibility and explaining how to manage their account settings if they choose not to be recognized.

Who do I contact for other questions?

You can write to riawards@rotary.org.