

# Club Three Person Membership Committee\*

**Concept:** The resolution to establish the Three Person Membership Committee was adopted at the 1989 International Board of Directors Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The board's objective was to put into place a stronger team in this crucial area of a Lions club's operation. In this regard, four areas are emphasized: membership growth, extension, retention and leadership. Basically, the goals of this committee are to select, recruit, involve and retain members. The committee itself is comprised of three elected members, serving three-year terms on a rotating basis, with one new member elected each year. To implement this approach in strengthening a club's foundation, members are encouraged to operate as follows:

**Freshman member** with three years remaining is responsible for Membership. This member's major responsibilities are:

- Establish goals and write a Membership plan for the club. These should be submitted to the club's board of directors.
- Motivate club members to set their own goals and to develop programs that increase members.
- Coordinate and conduct club workshops on membership. Submit a report detailing results to the club's board of directors.
- Initiate regular monthly communication with the board of directors.
- Involve previous club membership chairmen in the development of workable programs.

**Junior member** with two years remaining is encouraged to focus on Leadership and Retention; serves as vice-chairman of committee.

- Set club leadership and retention goals, develop an action plan and submit these to the club's board of directors.
- Organize and promote annual club officer training.
- Communicate with District Leadership Chairman to conduct annual club officer training.
- Organize, promote and conduct leadership and retention seminars for all club members.
- Assist other club committee chairmen in developing their own workshops, seminars, conferences and other meetings.
- Involve previous club leadership chairmen in developing leadership and retention programs.
- Prepare articles on leadership, on retention for club and district publications.

**Senior member** with one year left is encouraged to focus on Extension. This member also serves as committee chairman and has a position on the club's board of directors. Activities include:

- Oversee the club's extension program and organize a team of extension-minded Lions who are interested in chartering new clubs.
- Establish extension goals and an action plan and submit these to the club's board of directors. Communicate with the board on a monthly basis---more often if necessary---about any extension action the committee is taking.

- Conduct research to identify areas where extension is possible.
- Prepare articles on extension for club and district publications.
- Provide encouragement, coaching and motivation for all Lions who are directly involved in extension efforts.
- Whenever possible, attend extension workshops at the district and multiple district levels.

### **Qualifications required for each member of the Membership Committee.**

Lions on the Three Person Membership Committee need to meet stringent qualifications for these *elected* positions. They should possess a comprehensive understanding of Lions Clubs International and a desire and ability to work with others. These three members need to have effective presentation skills (public speaking, workshop presenter...) and enjoy credibility with other Lions. They must also have the time available to give fully of themselves in their position and a willingness to commit to a three-year term on the committee.

### **Benefits for the Club**

- The Three Person Membership Committee is a direct link to the MERL team at the district/multiple district levels.
- It provides for a stronger team.
- The committee ensures emphasis on the four aspects of club operation.
- It highlights the importance of membership responsibilities at the club level.
- Encourages ongoing communication about membership with the club's board of directors.
- The rotation of terms better prepares each eventual chairman and gives continuity to the committee's efforts.

\*Please note: This Tool Box insert written in anticipation of a board of director's resolution scheduled for adoption in April, 2002.