

The Rotary Duck Race

Guidelines for Youth Group Engagement

The Duck Race concept is for Rotary to enable youth organizations in the community to have a simple, effective means of raising funds to fulfill their organization's needs.

"Youth Organizations" require some extended definition:

- 1) Any group that is based in our community MR/PM that promotes benefits to their group to advance their purposes is a youth organization.
The group can be in any area of advancement: arts, culture, environment, sports, etc.
- 2) The organization must comply with the gaming rules concerning the use of the funds.
Duck Race funds eligibility is, however, narrower than gaming rules use of proceeds.
- 3) Being a registered charity does not necessarily qualify the group for Duck Race funds.

The methodology for success is to create a volunteer group of Rotarians and non-Rotarians to engage and involve businesses to provide the prizes and sponsorships necessary to eliminate (or at least greatly reduce) the costs involved in putting the race on – so that every dollar raised from the sale of the ticket goes to youth organizations. There is no administration fee as is permitted under gaming guidelines because Rotary and the supporting businesses and sponsors in our community have stood up to the plate to support our youth.

The distribution of funds has been simplified to an art form.

- 1) Ticket sales by Rotarians and others who are not associated with a specific youth organization will fall into the general funds.
- 2) Each qualified youth organization will receive 90% of the dollar value of tickets sold by them. The remaining 10% will go to KidSport.
- 3) The general fund will be distributed proportionately to youth groups who participated in raising funds increasing their receipts to over 90% of what that youth group sold.

There may be, on occasion, some distribution of general funds outside the guidelines but that would be rare and determined by the Duck Race Committee.

In summary, with Rotary providing the organizational skill to obtain significant donor prizes, significant sponsorships and to reach out to all facets, groups and youth interests in the community, we create a synergy for youth organizations that is unparalleled.

We are, of course, guided in this by the Rotary Four Way Test:

- 1) Is it the truth?
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?