



International Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals

CONSTITUTION

AMENDED – August 2020

Previous amendments - August 2004, June 2006, June 2009, May 2012

ARTICLE I - NAME

1. The name of the organisation shall be International Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals (IRFHP)

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this Constitution is to set forth the mission, objectives, and internal procedures of the International Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals (IRFHP)
2. This fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by Rotary International.

ARTICLE III - MISSION

3. The mission of IRFHP is to develop a global fellowship of Rotarian Doctors and Allied Health Professionals who, by personal and collective efforts, support and promote Rotary International and its goals, in particular – but not exclusively - in the Rotary Foundation's Areas of Focus - Disease Prevention and Treatment and Maternal and Child Health.
4. The Fellowship and all its members (Rotarian and non-Rotarian, main group and branches) will uphold high ethical standards in their personal and professional relationships as codified in the Four Way Test:

Is it the TRUTH?, Is it FAIR to all concerned?, Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?, Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

ARTICLE IV - OBJECTIVES

5. To encourage fellowship among Doctors and Healthcare Professionals by
Physical or online meetings locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.
Communication by newsletters, emails and by other platforms.
Visits and engagements for professional development and for friendship.
6. To encourage participation in health programs by volunteering, advising or serving the needy; by visiting and offering training, as well as, sharing experience with colleagues.

7. To maintain contact with other members of the Fellowship by visits and exchange programs as well as by electronic communication.
8. To recognize individuals who have provided exceptional service.
9. To seek collaboration with other Rotary Networking and Services Group, Professional bodies and institutions, Governmental and non-Governmental agencies.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

10. Life membership is open to practising and retired Rotarian Doctors and Allied Healthcare Professionals.
11. Membership is granted on application and on payment of a one-time fee as determined by the Board.
12. The Board reserves the right to reject an application in which case the applicant is entitled to seek explanations, but the decision of the Board is final.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

13. Associate membership is open to non-Rotarians including family members of Rotarians, alumni of all Rotary and Foundation programs as well as other health professionals who are in sympathy with the ideals of Rotary.
14. Associate Membership is granted on application and on payment of a one-time fee as determined by the Board.
15. The Board reserves the right to reject an application in which case the applicant is entitled to seek explanations, but the decision of the Board is final.
16. If an associate member joins Rotary, he/she will be entitled to apply for Life membership by paying the difference between the fee for Associate and Life membership.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

17. Honorary Fellowship is awarded to persons of distinction who may be Rotarians or non-Rotarians. Any Life member may nominate such persons for Honorary Fellowship, the granting of which will be at the discretion of the Board.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

18. The Fellowship shall be governed by a Board of Directors with no fewer than five members. The number of directors shall be determined by the Fellowship's Board. All directors shall be active Rotarians and Life members.
19. Terms for directors may last from one to three years. Directors' terms are renewable for up to six years. After six consecutive years of service, directors are ineligible to serve in the same office until one year has passed. Terms shall commence on 1 July of the calendar year elected and end on 30 June of the terminal year.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS AND ANNUAL REPORT

20. An annual meeting of the members shall take place at the RI Convention each year, or elsewhere or online as determined by the Board of Directors.
21. The Board will be responsible for the submission of an annual report and any other information required by RI before 1 October.

ARTICLE IX - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

22. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and so indicated in a notice to the members. In the event there are more nominations than vacancies, the Board will set procedures for a free and fair election in which all Life members are eligible to cast a non-transferable vote.

ARTICLE X - FISCAL MATTERS

23. The fiscal year of the Rotary Fellowship shall be the same as the Rotary year, i.e.1 July through 30 June.
24. The Board will have responsibility for all financial matters of the Fellowship. The Board will cause an audited and approved annual account to be published on the website before 1st October.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND DISSOLUTION

25. The constitution can be amended only at an Annual or a Special General Meeting – in person or on-line - with the consent of, at least, two thirds of Life Members present and eligible to vote at the meeting.
26. Any Life member of IRFHP may submit amendments to this Constitution, in writing, to the Board no later than three months prior to the next AGM.
27. The Board shall review and recommend approval, amendment or denial of any such proposal. The Board's decision shall be final.
28. Each approved proposal with any amendments shall be voted upon separately, by members in attendance at that AGM.
29. A proposal for dissolution of the Fellowship can only be submitted to the AGM or a Special General meeting at the instigation of the Board which must pass such a resolution by two third majority of those in attendance and eligible to vote.

ARTICLE XII – SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

30. A special general meeting may be convened, either face to face or online, at the request of a minimum of, twelve Life Members of the Fellowship, or at the instigation of the Board. One month's written notice to the Secretary shall be required.

ARTICLE XIII - DISSOLUTION

31. In the event of discontinuance of the activities of IRFHP, the Board shall direct the Treasurer to donate the entire cash balance held in its name, after payment of all debts, to The Rotary Foundation.