

NEW COUNTRY CRITERIA

1. The following criteria shall be satisfied before a proposed club in any new country or geographical area is submitted to the international board for charter approval.

a. The goals and purposes of Lions Clubs International can be accomplished under local government structures.

b. Residents and citizens of a new country/ geographical area are free to join and participate meaningfully in local Lions clubs.

c. Proposed Lions clubs and districts may operate under Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws.

d. Clubs and districts may be adequately serviced in necessary administrative needs.

e. Activities of proposed clubs can be adequately supported by local residents and citizens.

f. Banking and monetary conditions in a new country permit favorable transfer of association funds.

g. The rules governing the formation of a new club are fulfilled.

h. A coordinating Lion has been approved by the International Board of Directors.

i. A Guiding Lion shall be appointed prior to the formation of any club to insure that all prospective members are fully aware of the responsibilities of being a Lion. This Guiding Lion shall submit a report prior to the formation of any club, and periodic reports after chartering of a new club, to monitor its progress.

j. In addition to the Guiding Lion overseeing the formation of the new club, a past international president or past international director from the area, should visit the club site and speak with all involved in the formation of this club. The past officer should then submit a letter regarding his/her findings. The past officer should follow up with the club after it is chartered and report back to the board on the club's progress.

k. Prior to the establishment of a new country, the sponsoring club of any proposed new club shall submit a letter explaining their plan for assisting the new club, and plans to give proper orientation. It is the responsibility of the sponsoring club to do so.

l. The club itself shall write a letter outlining the commitment being made by the members of the proposed club, i.e., payment of dues, conduct fundraising activities, and plans to assist those less fortunate.

m. The sponsoring club shall not pay the dues of the club it has sponsored. From the moment a club submits an application for charter, all financial responsibilities shall be handled by the members of the prospective club.

2. Written evidence that the criteria has been met shall be sent to the Extension and Membership Division at International Headquarters.

3. At the time the new club charter is approved, the international board shall determine whether or not the new country shall be part of a provisional zone, region or district or remain undistricted.

Effective October 10, 2013

Chapter X

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