

## Ideas to Perk Up Club Meetings & Events

Compiled by PDG Kevin Crosby, April 2023

The following ideas were gathered from various sources on the Internet.

### Meetings

1. Have spouses/partners run the meeting
2. Have members' children/grandchildren (e.g., teens or older) run the meeting – perhaps they could attend a few meetings in advance and/or get coaching from the person who normally fulfills the role
3. Have President from another club run the meeting using agenda/practices from his/her club
4. Have Rotaractors and Interactors run the meeting
5. Run the meeting backwards – Start with farewell and progress through agenda in reverse order to end with the welcome
6. Have members take turns running the meeting – trying out new activities
7. Have a Reunion Meeting – invite past members
8. “Thank you” meeting – invite guests who have helped the club; or, organizations that have benefited from the club
9. Have a meeting at a different time of day – e.g., breakfast club meets for lunch or dinner and vice versa
10. Member spotlight in each meeting – 5-10 minutes about a member
11. Reciprocal visits between two clubs (one month Club A attends a meeting at Club B; next month Club B attends a meeting at Club A)
12. Show short, inspirational Rotary videos at each meeting (many are available online)
13. Rotate “Greeters” for each meeting – to greet folks as they arrive
14. Invite members to give a presentation on innovations/trends in their industry/profession
15. Prepare guidelines to send to speakers – use it as a marketing tool to promote the activities of your club as well as providing specific instructions about your venue, sending their PowerPoint presentations in advance, avoiding politics, etc.
16. Send out promotional announcements about upcoming speakers to generate interest and encourage members to invite guests (i.e., potential members)
17. Have an occasional field trip to a member's business for the club's meeting
18. Ask local businesses to host your meeting at their facility and invite company leaders (and others) to attend
19. Have a “back-up” presentation ready to go on short notice in case a speaker cancels at the last minute. It might be an inspirational video that could lead to a discussion
20. Have pre-assembled “Visitor Kits” that include information about Rotary, about your club, a sample Rotary magazine and a membership application

### **Special Events**

1. "Rotarians Got Talent" or "Rotary Idol" – conduct an event with competition and prizes
2. Speed networking with business and professional guests
3. Casino night – most communities have organizations that can provide and operate all of the games (for a fee)
4. Wine, beer or liquor tasting event – at club venue or at another site
5. Rotary club cooking competition – e.g., chili, soup, pies, etc.
6. Club picnic in a park
7. Progressive dinner – group moves from one home to another for next course
8. Attend sporting event as a group
9. If available, a river or lake cruise – perhaps a dinner cruise
10. Card party – poker, penguin or other popular card games
11. If horse racing or trotting is available – a night at the races
12. Trivia night at a local bar
13. Board game night – e.g., Monopoly, Clue, Scattagories, etc.
14. Bowling party
15. Bocce tournament
16. Ice cream social
17. Sponsor a competition among local businesses for ethical business practices