

# Soroptimist International of Willimantic Club Guidelines

Adopted 6/1/16

## VISION

To share our time, talents, and financial resources to make an impact in our community and around the world. We will:

- work together to improve the lives of women and girls
- serve as a global voice for women
- provide leadership development opportunities for women
- enjoy a diverse network of women with the same goal—to help women and girls to live their dreams.

## MISSION AND CORE PURPOSE

Soroptimist International is a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

## CORE VALUES

Soroptimist International of Willimantic is committed to:

- volunteer action
- leadership development
- fellowship and diversity
- international goodwill and understanding

## SOROPTIMIST OF WILLIMANTIC CURRENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Relay for Life

Dream It, Be It Conference for Girls

Generations Pre-Natal Dental Program

Health Care for Women in Need

International Projects

Journey House at Natchaug Hospital

Live Your Dream Award For Women

Perception Programs/Next Step Cottage

Sexual Assault Crisis Center

United Services Domestic Violence Program

Volunteer Award for Girls

Dream It, Be It at Questers' Way

**To learn what we do as an international organization**

**[Visit Soroptimist.org](http://Visit Soroptimist.org) and [soroptimistinternational.org](http://soroptimistinternational.org)**

## FUNDRAISING

Heart to Heart Charity Ball (February)

A Toast to Women (November)

Take a Stand Against Domestic Violence

Bingo at Foxwoods

Raffles

Jewelry Sales

## **AGREED UPON AND PRACTICED MEMBER BEHAVIORS**

- Value the big picture and put the interests of the club and the women and girls we serve ahead personal interests.
- Make input relevant to the point under discussion. Respect opinions of others.
- Work collegially and collaboratively.
- Listen, respect, and support one another.
- Recognize own strengths and strengths of others.

## **EFFECTIVE CLUB MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATION (First Wednesday of Month)**

- Include time for networking and conversation so that members get to know each other.
- Focus on the mission and the agenda.
- Provide structure by following Roberts Rules of Order monitored by a Parliamentarian.
- Ensure effective membership, program, public awareness and fundraising committees by involving members with appropriate skill sets.
- Provide any training and material needed for success.
- Adhere to approved budget.
- Ensure all members are informed and updated.
- Orient board members and Chairpersons to responsibilities.
- Provide continuing education of relevant issues for better understanding of values and purpose of Soroptimist International to public.
- Include program guide in new member packets and at meetings

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPACTFUL AND RELEVANT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

- Focus on core issues such as domestic violence, human trafficking, and overcoming obstacles facing girls such as low self-esteem and access to education and health care.
- Provide impactful support to local women and girls.
- Keep it simple and work together in committees.
- Set goals for all services and projects. Use simple project/event proposal format to ensure mutual understanding and budget approval.
- Assure accountability by monitoring progress of project/event plans through monthly 3-5 minute reports to see they are being carried out as planned.

## **RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF COMMITTED MEMBERS**

- Provide opportunity for networking and social interaction.
- Reach out to organizations and universities, intern programs, and social media to engage interested women.
- Be inclusive and interactive with new members and guests.
- Provide orientation materials and assign mentor for each new member joining.
- Invite new members to join committees according to their skill sets.

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

- Be a presence at all types of public events, e.g. tables at festivals, community, and university events where appropriate.
- Maintain a Club Facebook page and website.
- Make a point of talking about our programs to others