

## **Become, Discover, Be Challenged**

### **Winter Camp - Overview**

The motto of **Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)**, which emerged from the first seminar in 1980, is “**the Cultivation of Youth**” and after comprehensive review through the 3-year COVID shut down, we define that we do this through supporting participants to **Become, Discover and Be Challenged**. RYPEN aims for the average student and not for the outstanding few, if your young person has qualities worth developing, qualities of decency, courage, persistence, sincerity, and application in everyday life, and deserve a further development opportunity then they are suitable for RYPEN. They do not have to be the leaders in the school or up at the top of their year, they simply must show qualities that would be worth further development and nurturing.

RYPEN is aimed at the young people aged between 14 and 16 year; must be minimum 14 at the start of the camp and in years 8 to 10 at school. The aim of camp is to challenge participants to become and discover through a series of sessions on goal setting, problems solving and social experiences which will assist them in forming their own values and moral standards, and to broaden their horizons culturally, socially, and academically. Participants will be given an opportunity to learn from achievers in the worlds of business, law enforcement and more. Presenters will speak at workshops and share their experiences with participants, while emphasizing the need to dream big, work hard and stay focused. At the same time, participants are interacting with peers from different backgrounds and improving their leadership, teamwork and communication skills. All this is done in an informal atmosphere, where questions and debates are facilitated and encouraged. In addition to camp activities, participants receive suitable instruction and play an active part in introducing and thanking guest speakers, leading group activities and assisting in camp chores.

The cost is only \$300.00 per student but this will be funded by a local Rotary club seeing no cost to schools or families. Our rules are simple and are consistent with civilised behaviour; breaches may result in the student being sent home. We aim accept participants from a diversity of backgrounds, genders and schools as we have accommodation for 64 in 8 rooms that house 8 students. If the participant cancels within the 7 days prior to camp, without an unavoidable reason the family *may* be liable for the cost and no refunds will be given if participants are sent home for a breach of rules.

It is advised that the participant does not go with friends. If the participants do not know anyone at the start of the seminar, they will leave with 60+ new friends and contacts when it finishes on Sunday afternoon, it also pushes them out of their comfort zone in a safe environment, where the most growth can occur.

Nominees are accommodated in dormitory style rooms with meals are provided in a communal dining room. Special dietary requirements can be catered for by the camp chefs. The District RYPEN committee provides the organisation and planning. Rotarians, their Partners and Youth Facilitators (Mentors) live-in for the duration of the camp, as counsellors and mentors and we also have a camp mum and dad just in case.



**RYPEN Winter Camp Rotary District 9685  
14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
BLUE GUM LODGE Springwood**

## **Information for Parents**

**WHEN:** 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

**WHERE:** Blue Gum Lodge Springwood

**COST:** \$300 per participant – covered by sponsoring Rotary Club

**NOMINATION CLOSING DATE:** 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

It is the caregivers responsibility to ensure their children are transported to and from the seminar, and arrive between **11-11.30am on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June** for Registration and Lunch, and collected around **3:00pm on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June**. If needed this may be pre-arranged by caregivers with the sponsoring Rotary Club. It is not the responsibility of the camp committee to make transport arrangements. Please consider this early and make plans to bring them or discuss this with your Rotary club.

It is not satisfactory for the student to miss any of the Seminars; if your participant cannot attend the camp in full, please do not apply; the camp costs the Rotary club \$300 per participant so full attendance is expected.

If you have a suitable young person but do not have a sponsoring Rotary club or have any questions please contact the camp Director Amanda Barnes [winterryphen@gmail.com](mailto:winterryphen@gmail.com)

### **Relevant Links:**

[Application form for Participants](#)

[Graduation Lunch RSVP](#)

[RYPEN facebook page](#)