

January 9, 2022

Greetings District 7430 Club Presidents:

This amended advisory comes to you from District Governor Bob Hobaugh and COVID-19 Advisor Michael Seidner, MD. We wish to share updated guidelines for Rotary activity in the face of the continuing pandemic and the exacerbation from the omicron variant of COVID-19. As stated before, the most important step a Rotarian can take to prevent COVID infection is to become fully vaccinated and boosted. Masks are recommended indoors for all Rotarians participating in any Rotary event. As many businesses, institutions, and schools are taking steps to limit in-person interaction, **we recommend that Clubs consider virtual or hybrid meetings for the foreseeable future.** No Rotarian should feel that he or she has been pressured to attend an in-person event. Club Presidents are to report any positive COVID-19 tests of a Rotarian who has participated in the last 14 days in an in-person Rotary event. A Club announcement, tracing and testing should follow any positive test of a Club member in attendance. Presidents, please report such positive tests to both District Governor Bob Hobaugh and Michael Seidner, MD.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (Health Department) updates its statistics regarding COVID-19 case incidence and vaccination status daily. As we are all aware, cases of COVID-19 are surging and setting new records. Unvaccinated individuals continue to be at the highest risk for hospitalization and death. COVID-19 in vaccinated individuals tends to be milder and in many cases hospitalization is not required. Recently revised CDC guidelines indicate that Individuals testing positive should isolate for at least five days, have become symptom-free and should participate in contact tracing. Check the Pennsylvania Department of Health website for more updates at <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>.

Please stay current with your individual county's transmission rate by checking the Pennsylvania Department of Health Early Warning Dashboard located at: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you for your attention and commitment to keeping yourselves, your Clubs, and the public safe during the ongoing evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic. As with polio, please advocate for vaccinations to not only keep individuals safe but also our worldwide community!

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