Membership

Module no. 3

Inner Wheel e-Training
1st Course
The Levels of Membership

In inner Wheel there are 4 levels of Membership
Includes all Inner Wheel Clubs

Individual Inner Wheel Clubs belong to International Inner Wheel.
Includes all the Districts and Clubs within its boundaries.

The minimum number of Districts required to form a National Governing Body is 2.
Each District includes **all the Clubs within its boundaries**.

The minimum number of Clubs required to form a District is 4.
The Members

Individual Inner Wheel members belong to a Club.

A member may belong to one Club only.

The minimum number of Active Members required to form a Club is 10.
Classes of Membership

There are 3 classes of Membership
Inner Wheel Today

By right or by invitation
Classes of Membership

Active Membership

Honoured Membership

Active

Honorary

Clubs

Honoured Active

(ACTIVE MEMBERS WITHIN A CLUB WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN A SPECIAL AWARD, BECAUSE OF THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO INNER WHEEL).
Class «А»: Active Membership

Approval of proposal 17 at the XV Convention has modified the class «А» of Active Membership
In Class «A», there are 3 categories: a), b), c)

**Active Membership** may be retained or taken up by the following, provided that they are over 18 years:

- **a)** Women related to Rotarians/former Rotarians.
- **b)** Women related to Inner Wheel members/former Inner Wheel members.
- **c)** Women who have been invited to join – provided that a majority of the Club members agree.

**Active Membership should be taken up in the Inner Wheel Club** most convenient for an Inner Wheel member to attend.
Class «B»: Honoured Active Membership

An Award
An Award. A Club may confer Honoured Active Membership on an Active Member who has given outstanding service to Inner Wheel.

The Club will pay the members dues for the year in which Honoured Active Membership is awarded.

In the following years, she retains Honoured Active status, but pays all her own dues. Such a member retains all the rights of Active membership for life, or until she leaves Inner Wheel.
Class «C»:
Honorary Membership

For distinguished persons
Clubs may invite up to 4 persons whom they wish to Honour to become Honorary members. Such members shall be subject to re-election annually.

Each National Governing Body may determine the period of consecutive Membership. Honorary Members have no vote and cannot hold any office in a Club. International Inner Wheel, National Governing Bodies and Districts may also invite a distinguished person whom they wish to honour, to become an Honorary Member.
If the Club wishes to honour someone, for example, a local dignitary, or a person who has helped the Club in some way, or someone from a Charity, they can invite them to join as an Honorary Member for a limited time.

Clubs can invite up to 4 persons whom they wish to Honour to become Honorary Members. Such members cannot hold office and cannot vote, and they must be elected annually.

When considering inviting someone to be an Honorary Member, the Club President should propose that person’s invitation to the members at a Club meeting.

The members present at that meeting should then be asked to vote, and if a majority of those present agree, she can be invited to join.
Learn more about:

- New Membership rules – New Members
- Next generation Clubs
- Welcome to new Members
Category c) of Class «A»

Membership is **Now Open** to **All Women** thanks to Proposal 17, approved by an overwhelming majority at the **Convention in Istanbul 2012**.
What is the significance of this new Membership rule?

It is great for the positive impact on the future of Inner Wheel.

Promoting & Communicating Inner Wheel

To the public
- Through media
- meetings
- projects
- campaigns

Its activities, values, history

Vision
- New Members

Mission
- New Clubs

Extension
«New Membership rules»

By Norma Friar, Constitution Chairman IIW 2010-2013
Procedure when a possible new member is from category c)

"If anyone hears (Club members or District Officers) that someone is interested in joining Inner Wheel, then the Club President/Secretary or District Extension Organiser should be informed, and they should arrange to meet that person to discuss the possibility of them either joining an existing Club or starting a new Inner Wheel Club."

"
Joining an existing Club

A majority of the Club members must agree. The Constitution does not state how the vote should be taken, therefore the vote can be taken either:

a) at a Club meeting
or
b) by a postal vote.

It is up to each Club to decide how they wish to conduct the vote.
If the Club selects

To vote at a Club Meeting

“All the members should be informed, prior to the meeting, that a vote will be taken, and if they cannot attend that meeting they should submit their vote by post, before the date of the meeting. If their vote has not been received when the meeting takes place, those votes will be counted as abstentions. A simple majority of all the votes cast is all that is required.”

Postal vote or E mail

“All the members should be asked to submit their vote by post. If some members do not submit their votes, they will be counted as abstentions. A simple majority of all the votes cast is all that is required.”
When it states that a vote requires a majority of the Club members to agree, that means 50% + 1 = 51% of the Club members.

For example if a Club has 30 members a majority would be 16 members (half the members plus 1). If a Club only has 12 members a majority would be 7 members.

If a Club has an odd number of members, it is a little more difficult. For example, if a Club has 31 members 51% would be 15.5 + 1 = 16.5: that would need to be rounded up to 17, because you cannot have half a member.

‘A majority’ is the same as ‘a simple majority’. The word ‘simple’ is sometimes added just to stress that the requirement is 51%, and not a greater majority of say 60% or 75%.
A new Club can be formed from any of the three categories, and it is permissible to form a new Club totally from Category c). Because there are no existing members, then a majority vote of approval does not apply. As soon as those new members join, they become full active members, and can vote and hold office, and participate in all aspects of the Club. It would therefore be advisable to have a small welcoming committee, who could explain the objects of Inner Wheel and how the Club functions.
A new Club can be formed and sponsored by:

- District Executive Committee
- Inner Wheel Clubs
- Rotary Club
The District Extension Organiser should be involved to explain the objects of Inner Wheel and how Clubs and Districts function

If no District exists, then the sponsoring Inner Wheel Club should take on that responsibility, and they should keep IIW informed of the possible formation.

Every member is a potential extension officer, and should always be looking around to find women who fully agree with the objects of Inner Wheel, and share our values.
We now have a wonderful opportunity to increase membership and inject new life into those Clubs, which have been struggling to attract new members under the present rules.

The possibilities for encouraging new members, from category c) to join are immense, and it is up to all Clubs to look for those potential members. Posters etc. could be placed in surgeries, libraries and public places about Inner Wheel, displaying our new slug ‘Happier Futures’ Inner Wheel helping children around the world, and asking the question ‘Would you be interested in becoming a member?’.

Norma Friar 2012
Would you be interested in becoming a member?

Every member is a potential extension Officer
Using the Handbook

The Handbook section, on Pages 42 to 67 in the Constitution & Handbook 2015, contains useful information.
New members

Next generation Clubs
Inviting more members and more younger members

New members
The Secretary of the Rotary Club should always be asked to help by sending the names and addresses of all new Rotarians to the Secretary of the Inner Wheel Club. In the case of women not connected to Rotary or Inner Wheel, the President, or her representative, should make a personal visit to a possible new member and extend an invitation to attend a Club meeting, as a guest or prospective member.

Next generation Club
Since 2005, some ‘Next Generation Clubs’, with more flexible meeting arrangements, have been formed, to encourage younger, working women to join. For further information contact IIW Headquarters.
Welcome to new members

A suggested form of induction for new members.
The following is a suggested form of procedure for welcoming new members:

At the beginning of the meeting the President should read the Objects of Inner Wheel (Constitution & Handbook page 1) and address each of the new members by name and say:

“You have been invited to become a member of this Inner Wheel Club because we are sure you will welcome the responsibilities of friendship and service that membership brings with it. We believe that you will enjoy being a member of our truly International Organisation and take a full and active part in all that this Club offers. We do hope that you will feel you are among friends, and enjoy participating in all aspects of Inner Wheel.”

The President will call upon all present to stand, and addressing the new member say:

“(Her Name) on behalf of the Members of the Inner Wheel Club of (Club Name) I welcome you: and (addressing the Club) I introduce this new member to you and ask you to extend your friendship to her.”
Membership at large

How to be Inner Wheel member without Club
A: Countries with a National Governing Body

If an active member resides in an area of a country where there is no Inner Wheel Club, the National Governing Body of that country can grant her ‘Membership at Large’ status. Application must be made to the National Governing Body, through her former Club, or District if there is no former Club due to disbandment. Payment of International Inner Wheel Capitation Fees must be made to that Governing Body.

Such a member cannot vote or hold office.
Any active member of Inner Wheel who takes up residence in an area or a country where there is no Inner Wheel Club, shall be entitled to ‘Membership at Large’ on application to International Inner Wheel Headquarters, through her former Club, and on payment of the appropriate International Inner Wheel Capitation Fee. 

**Such a member cannot vote or hold office.**
Transfer

To another Inner Wheel Club
Transfer

An Active Member may, in some circumstances, **transfer to another Inner Wheel Club**, provided both Clubs agree, and permission is obtained from the District Committee/s.

The Secretary of the Member’s previous Club shall communicate with the Secretary of her new Club. Any adjustment of subscription is a matter for agreement between the Treasurers concerned.
In the case of a member from a Non-Districted Club wishing to apply for a transfer, **application should be made to International Inner Wheel Headquarters.**

A member moving to a country or town where there is no established Inner Wheel Club may retain her membership through her former Club. Any question of dues is a domestic matter for the Club concerned.
When a member is no longer able to continue through sickness or infirmity, she may be termed “retired” rather than “resigned”.

Retired, not resigned
Termination of Membership

The end of Membership
Active Membership terminates on failure to pay the annual subscription by 31st December or by exclusion for serious reasons, the member concerned having a right of reply. The decision to exclude a member for serious reasons must be approved by a two thirds majority vote by the club members by way of secret ballot and submitted for agreement to the District Executive Committee or the Executive Committee of International Inner Wheel in the case of non districted clubs. The Club Executive Committee shall notify the member concerned of its intentions by writing at least 30 days in advance, the notice to be sent by registered mail to her last known address. No final decision to be taken without mediation. An excluded member cannot return to her former Club.
End of the MODULE no. 3