# **Youth Protection Officer**

The District Youth Protection Officer (YPO) is appointed by the person who will be the District Governor (DG) when the term begins. The appointment shall be for a three year term. The YPO is to provide leadership to the Youth Protection Committee and ensures that all mandates of RI regarding the protection of youth are carried out. The YPO ensures that background checks are performed. The YPO is also responsible, along with the DG, is to ensure that all clubs are in compliance with the policy.

## **Youth Protection Committee**

### **Purpose:**

The Youth Protection Committee implements and administers the District's Youth Protection policies and educates clubs and club members about youth protection. The District is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, spouses or partners of Rotarians and any other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent abuse or neglect of youth with whom they come into contact in Rotary youth activities.

### **Composition:**

The District Youth Protection Officer shall appoint 3-5 members to the Youth Protection Committee. Committee members include the DG and DGE and may include relevant professions/backgrounds such as education, social work, law enforcement, medical or legal.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Meets as often as needed, but at least annually;
- Reviews District Youth Protection Policy, at least annually. (See Part Three- Policies "Youth Protection"):
- Acts as alternate District Youth Protection Officer when YPO is unable to do so;
- Convenes quickly to address any concerns or allegations of abuse or neglect in Rotary youth activities;
- Develops policies and procedures for certifying clubs;
- Ensure the DES maintains records of background checks;
- Reports all criminal allegations involving any Rotary youth activity to Rotary International within 72 hours.

•