

SUMMARY OF BOARD DECISIONS

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Friday, June 30, 2023

Hyatt Crystal City
Arlington, Virginia

Signature Program

The Board of Directors approves the packaging, marketing and piloting of a new Signature Program under the name “OWLS” (Optimists Working for Learning Success) as shown below.

Optimist International be the primary organization known for supporting a safe, comfortable and productive learning environment for elementary school students, supporting students at three different levels.

- 1) Fundraising: the Optimist club sponsors a school (or classroom for small clubs) and fundraises to support the basic needs of the students: nutrition, clothing (coats, hats, mitts, socks, underwear, etc.), personal hygiene products (deodorant, etc.) and school supplies not supplied by the school.
- 2) Volunteers: The key learning years for basic reading and math are kindergarten to grade 3. Optimists can volunteer as reading buddies, math tutors, mentors, school trip chaperones or teachers aids.
- 3) Programs: we can bring in the Junior Optimist, Kids Speak Out and other programs if needed and welcomed.

This will provide a focus and a purpose for those clubs struggling for an identity, and will provide a project to attract new members and can be a focus for identifying new communities needing the support of an Optimist Club.

Canadian Exchange Rate

he Canadian Currency Rate Cap at 1.30, effective October 1, 2023.

Cost of Living Adjustment – Fiscal Year 2023/2024

The 4% cost of living adjustment (COLA) will be instituted to the fiscal year 2023/2024 Annual OI Membership Dues.

Baseline Commitment to Recognize any Group to Organize

A baseline commitment will be developed to recognize and facilitate a desire by any group, worldwide, to organize under the general vision, mission, and core values of Optimist International.

Standard Club Bylaws

The Standard Club Bylaws were amended and will be effective October 1, 2023.

Policy C-12; Optimist Club Youth Protection Policy

Board Policy C-12 was amended and updated on the website