



Becoming a Rotarian and a member of Rotary Club Estoi Palace International (RCEPI)

A new member of RCEPI may be a Rotarian transferring from another Rotary Club, a former Rotarian, or an applicant new to Rotary.

For transfers, confirmation and support by the previous club is necessary to initiate the admission process, although the application will of course be sympathetically considered an applicant cannot assume to be automatically accepted.

A former Rotarian will be asked to attend our Club for four (preferably consecutive) meetings, to meet the members, to meet and discuss with the Classification Committee, to present a brief CV, and finally apply for membership which will be subject to approval as detailed below.

For a new applicant, the process is a little more detailed than for existing or former Rotarians. The basic requirements for membership of Rotary are that the applicant supports the aims and objectives of Rotary, holds or has held, a senior position in their chosen profession, be able to attend at least 50% of the weekly meetings and be able and willing to support selected projects.

An applicant will normally be a person living in the Algarve, already established in the community and of professional or management status, and financially able to contribute to club activities and Rotary aims.

Membership is by invitation only, although a new applicant can express interest by contacting a current RCEPI member. There may be some restrictions on applications based on age, nationality, or occupation (classification) in order to achieve an overall balanced membership profile, but an applicant's personal circumstances may outweigh any other restrictions. The reason for not encouraging an application is not disclosed.

RCEPI strives to establish a well-balanced mixture of Classifications. A Classification within Rotary reflects the profession (current or former) of a club member.

A new applicant must be sponsored by an existing member and must attend at least four (preferably consecutive) meetings. During this time, RCEPI members have the opportunity of getting to know the applicant and will be informed about the potential member's interest at an early stage.

RCEPI is based upon a spirit of fellowship and each member holds the right of veto over accepting new members. An applicant's initial visits to RCEPI as a guest offers existing club members the opportunity to establish their opinion before issuing to the guest a formal invitation to apply. Should any member express reservations, the potential applicant / guest will be informed at an early stage.

If no reservations are expressed, the formal admission process can begin, and the potential member is asked to complete an application form and to present a brief CV to the Classification Committee.

If the Committee is satisfied with the application, it will recommend that the RCEPI board accept the application. The board will then discuss the application and make a decision whether or not to recommend the applicant.

The board's decision to recommend a new member is then announced at a weekly meeting, after which there will be 14 calendar days during which any member can formally object. After this period, the sponsor or chairperson will inform the applicant of their acceptance or non-acceptance. Reasons for non-acceptance are not normally disclosed.

More detailed information can be obtained from the Internet along with details of contact persons etc:

- Rotary in general www.rotary.org
- Rotary in Portugal www.rotary.pt
- RC Estoi Palace International www.rotaryestoiipalace.org