

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2012



A residential course at Grafham Water Centre
28th July – 4th August 2012

Specification of aims, objectives and processes.

This is an action packed week that will challenge the participants mentally and physically. By the end of the week, they will have:

- Developed personal leadership skills and time management
- Understood team dynamics
- Participated in business simulations
- Taken part in an exercise to demonstrate their skills
- Participated in physical and water sports

The purpose of the course is:

To provide and to present an opportunity for young people to experience, discover, identify, discuss and consider the patterns of leadership current in society.

To observe and recognise the qualities of leadership in other people and in themselves through the media of activities, personal contact and experience, which will be challenging physically, intellectually and socially.

To gain skills, awareness, understanding and self-confidence, which will enable candidates to return to their own business/profession/community and be able to contribute in a leadership capacity.

Course content:

- Interaction and group dynamics
- Simulation exercises which will include computer-based simulations and role play which will further self-discovery
- Physical activities offering new experiences and the learning of skills both in didactic and collaborative sessions and with opportunities for experimental self managed learning
- An overnight expedition presenting challenge, adventure and opportunity for initiative
- Talks and discussions on the pattern of leadership.
- Opportunities to act as leaders
- Preparation and delivery of a short presentation
- Opportunities for contact between individuals of differing backgrounds and experience
- Group tutorials to identify needs and provide support
- Social occasions involving hospitality and protocol

Selecting your candidate for RYLA 2012 - Qualifications:

Your candidate must be between the ages of 18 and 26 years of age at the start of the course, be reasonably fit physically and able to swim since sailing and canoeing activities are included in the programme.

Ideally, your candidate should be involved with youth work or as a helper in the community or have an interest in such involvement. The course will develop any leadership potential.

Where to look (in no priority order):

Leaders or helpers in Youth Clubs, Guides and Scouts, ATC or Army Cadets, Boys or Girls Brigade, Young Farmers Clubs, etc.

Young people employed by or known to Rotarians in your Club.

Rotaract members, and former Interactors, are always excellent candidates.

Children or grandchildren of Rotarians.

Some Clubs advertise in the local press and interview applicants.

The selection process - Important:

If you are fortunate enough to have a number of likely candidates, set up a small selection committee from Club members and interview them. It is most important that you get the candidate's commitment to attend the course that takes place during the traditional holiday period. It is also important that the candidate attends the whole course as it is structured on forty-five awardees, (five teams of nine) with each day building on the experience learned in previous activities. Absent candidates waste the Rotary Club's time and money, create unnecessary work for the organisers and unbalances the course to the detriment of all involved – especially the awardees. You should confirm your candidate's commitment at the interview and, at the same time, select a reserve candidate.

If you have two candidates of equal merit, look at their ages and plans for the next year. The older of the two may be too old next year, whereas the younger may still be available in 12 months time.

It is the Rotary Club's prime responsibility to choose a reserve to cover the unforeseen circumstances such as accident or illness. This year's reserve could become next year's priority candidate. It is not uncommon for a reserve to have to attend at the last minute!

District 1070 cannot guarantee a refund of fees for reserved places not taken up by a Rotary Club's candidate.

The number of candidates for the course will be advised to Grafham Water Centre on 30th March 2012. Additional candidates may be added after that date, if necessary.