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Annual Club Campaign Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Annual Club Campaign?

The Annual Club Campaign is a recognition program for clubs that contribute money raised from their local fundraising efforts to support federation programs. Clubs have a long history of helping to fund federation programs and the club campaign is an opportunity for each club to contribute to programs that also reach beyond their own community. Through federation programs, clubs can take collective pride in improving the lives of women and girls throughout the world.

How are donations from the Annual Club Campaign used?

Contributions to the Annual Club Campaign support Soroptimist programs, including: the Women's Opportunity Awards, Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls, Soroptimists Stop Trafficking, the Violet Richardson Award, the Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence, and the Making a Difference for Women Award.

What kind of recognition is given for Annual Club Campaign contributions?

It is suggested that clubs contribute at least 10 percent of their local fundraising efforts to the Annual Club Campaign. Soroptimist is grateful for every club contribution that supports federation programs and recognizes that every member of every club has an important part to play in raising funds given through the Annual Club Campaign. Each year clubs are acknowledged for gifts donated during the campaign period, which runs from June 1 through May 31, at the following levels:

\$1,000 or more – Gold club \$750-\$999 – Silver club \$500-\$749 – Bronze club

Headquarters acknowledges every contribution to the Annual Club Campaign. In addition, clubs qualifying at the above levels receive a Certificate of Appreciation, recognition on the SIA website, <u>www.soroptimist.org</u>, as well as recognition at federation conventions and/or meetings. Gold clubs receive an invitation to attend a reception in their honor at the federation meeting held in odd-numbered years.

Region governors and fundraising chairs also receive recognition for their efforts in educating clubs about the importance of their contributions and encouraging clubs to give at the gold, silver, and bronze levels. For regions with the highest total club contributions and the highest percentage of participation, the name of the governor and region fundraising chair will be inscribed on a plaque hanging at headquarters.

How does a club submit their gift to the Annual Club Campaign?

A club may submit their contribution at any time during the campaign period. Multiple contributions made during a campaign period are cumulative for recognition and must be received at headquarters before May 31. Contributions received at headquarters after May 31 are credited to the following year's campaign. Clubs may submit their gift anytime online or send in a completed <u>*Club Giving form*</u> with their check or credit card payment. A club's gift to the Annual Club Campaign may also be included with its annual dues payment.

Can a club give \$1,000 to the Annual Club Campaign at the gold level and also honor someone with a Laurel Society membership with the same donation?

No. A club will receive gold club recognition for its gift of \$1,000 or more to the Annual Club Campaign. The Laurel Society is a recognition program for individuals. (See Laurel Society <u>FAQs</u>). If a club wishes to honor an individual, the club must submit a Laurel Society contribution form with the honoree's name and the appropriate donation amount.

Who should a club contact if there is a question or concern about the club's contribution to the Annual Club Campaign?

Inquiries must come directly from the donating club and should be directed to siahq@soroptimist.org. The inquiry should include:

- Club name and number
- Amount of the contribution
- Method of submission—mail, fax, e-mail, online, etc.
- Date the contribution was sent in to headquarters
- Whether the contribution was made by check or credit card
- For credit card—the date on the donor's statement that the contribution was charged to the card
- For checks—a copy of the front and back of the cashed check (available from the donor's bank)

Headquarters will respond to the inquiry within three to five business days.

Does a contribution to the Annual Club Campaign qualify a club for a Club Award?

A minimum contribution to the Annual Club Campaign fulfills a fundraising requirement for the Club Award. Please refer to the Club Award form for each region for the minimum amount required.