

Rotary Compass Club Connect - January 28 2026 - Meeting Transcript

Meeting summary

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Key takeaways

- The meeting introduced the [Rotary Compass Club of Colorado](#), a new satellite club of Denver Metro South designed to help people explore Rotary before committing to a specific club
- The Compass Club offers a flexible, low-cost entry point to Rotary with monthly virtual meetings and opportunities to visit other clubs
- Members of the Compass Club are full Rotary members with access to district resources and service opportunities
- The club needs 8 members to officially charter with Rotary International
 - Membership application form (<https://form.jotform.com/260265972667065>) to officially join the Compass Club
- Membership costs \$300 per year, invoiced quarterly w/autopay options (\$75/Qtr)
- The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2026, at 5 PM.

Discussed topics

Introduction to the Rotary Compass Club concept

The name "Compass" represents guidance and direction for new members exploring Rotary. The meeting began with introductions of the leadership team and an explanation of the Compass Club concept.

- **Details**
 - **David:** Introduced himself as the Compass Club leader from Centennial Rotary Club with 15 years of Rotary experience
 - District Membership Co-Chairs
 - **Jolene:** Introduced as Erie Rotary Club member
 - **Debbie:** as Longmont Rotary Club member
 - **Ray:** Introduced as past District Governor and district trainer
 - **Nicole:** Introduced as president of Denver Metro South Club
- **Conclusion**
 - The Compass Club is a brand new concept in Rotary designed to help people find their path in Rotary
 - The leadership team consists of experienced Rotarians who will guide new members

Overview of Rotary International

Ray provided background information about [Rotary as a global organization](#).

- **Details**

- Explained Rotary was founded in 1905 and now has 1.2 million members in over 45,000 clubs across 200+ countries
- Highlighted Rotary's work on global issues including the [polio eradication](#) initiative
- Described the Four-Way Test as Rotary's ethical guide
- Explained how members bring their vocations and life experiences to clubs and build lifelong friendships

- **Conclusion**

- [Rotary is a worldwide organization](#) tackling major global problems
- The organization is guided by the Four-Way Test: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Purpose and structure of the Compass Club

The team explained how the Compass Club differs from traditional Rotary clubs.

- **Details**

- Described the Compass Club as providing a learning experience about Rotary with a low-cost, easy entry point
- Explained there's no rigid meeting schedule or fixed location, with monthly Zoom meetings
- Emphasized the club will help members connect with other clubs and service projects
- Noted the club is a satellite of Denver Metro South Rotary Club

- **Conclusion**

- The Compass Club offers flexibility not found in traditional clubs
- Members can explore different clubs in the district to find the right fit
- Monthly virtual meetings will provide education about Rotary

Ideal participants and member interests

A poll was conducted to understand participants' interests in Rotary and the Compass Club.

- **Details**

- **David:** Described ideal participants as prospective members curious about Rotary, former Rotarians re-engaging, and individuals seeking a low-cost, flexible entry point
- **Jolene:** Conducted a poll about participants' interests in the Compass Club and volunteer preferences
- **Richard:** Shared that he volunteers through YMCA and is looking for volunteer opportunities in Longmont
- **Dr. Lisa:** Expressed interest in learning more about Rotary through the Compass Club

- **Conclusion**

- Participants showed interest in flexible service opportunities, learning about Rotary, and connecting across clubs
- Many were interested in exploring different types of volunteer work

Rotary service projects and opportunities

David presented examples of local and global Rotary projects.

- **Details**

- Described district-wide events like [Epic Day of Service](#) in May and the MLK Parade
- Highlighted the [Pediatric Mental Health Student Fellowship](#) at Children's Hospital Colorado
- [Rotary Peace Poles](#) promoting peace worldwide
- [WASH projects](#) - global water and sanitation projects in Kenya, Cambodia, and Nepal
- [Rotary Fellowships](#) that connect members with similar interests globally

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- **Conclusion**

- Rotary offers diverse service opportunities at local, district, and global levels
- Members can participate in existing projects or create their own based on interests

Membership process and benefits

The team explained how to join the Compass Club and what membership entails.

- **Details**

- **Dr. Lisa:** Asked if Compass Club members are "real" Rotary members
- **Debbie:** Confirmed Compass members are full Rotary members, with the expectation they'll eventually (within 2 years) transfer to a regular club
- **Nicole:** Explained that 8 members are needed to officially charter the club with Rotary International
- **Jolene:** Stated membership costs \$300 per year, billed quarterly
- **Dr. Lisa:** Asked about visiting other clubs and associated costs
- **Cindy:** Explained that clubs handle guest meals differently - some include them in dues with a guest fee, others have members pay individually

- **Conclusion**

- Compass Club members are full Rotarians with all associated benefits
- The club needs 8 members to officially charter
- Members can visit other clubs and participate in their meetings and service projects – [current club activities shared across the district here](#)

Resources and communication

The team discussed how members can access Rotary information and stay connected.

- **Details**

- **David:** Showed how to access the Rotary Club websites and find the [Compass Club online](#) (link)
- **Dr. Lisa:** Asked how to get information about district-level activities
- **Nicole:** Explained that information is available on the [district's member website](#) and [Denver Metro South website](#) (Compass Club on menu)
- **Ray:** Mentioned that members will receive email communications from our District Governor (see [January's message here](#)) and can use the Club Runner app (provides access to community and member only content).
- **Debbie:** Noted we are considering creating a newsletter for Compass Club members to provide ongoing connections to clubs, socials, and volunteer opportunities.

- **Conclusion**

- Multiple resources are available including district and club websites
- Members will receive regular communications about district events and opportunities
- The Club Runner app provides information about clubs and members

Future Compass Club activities

Discussion about potential service projects and activities for the Compass Club.

- **Details**

- **Dr. Lisa:** Asked if the Compass Club will have its own projects or just participate in other clubs' activities
- **David:** Suggested zero-cost service opportunities like Food Bank of the Rockies and Project Cure
- **Debbie:** Emphasized the importance of building connections through hands-on service together
- **David:** Expressed hope that the Compass Club would become known for showing up for service projects

- **Conclusion**

- The Compass Club can organize its own service projects
- Members will have opportunities to participate in both Compass Club projects and those of other clubs
- In-person service activities will help build connections among members

Action items

- **All interested participants**
 - Fill out the membership application form (<https://form.jotform.com/260265972667065>) to officially join the Compass Club
 - Attend the [next meeting on February 25, 2026](#), at 5 PM
- **Leadership team**
 - Send meeting recording and slides to all participants
 - Video recording not available (sorry)
 - Continue outreach to potential members to reach the 8-member threshold for chartering
 - Create systems to help members connect with other clubs and service projects
 - Consider creating a newsletter for Compass Club communications
 - Inform all district clubs about the Compass Club concept
- **Dr. Lisa**
 - Help recruit additional members for the Compass Club
 - Look into registering for the [RISE leadership training](#) (starts February 28)