Dues Proposal

Questions and Answers

1. Why is the Kiwanis International Board announcing the dues increase two months before the convention?

For each of the past few years, Kiwanis International has reduced spending, cut budgets and tightened its belt. This past March, the board and staff began developing the budgets for 2012-13 with plans again to cut, reduce and tighten. During the process, however, it became apparent that Kiwanis needs additional revenue to maintain critical services to our clubs, build on the momentum of our record-setting Service Leadership Programs growth and develop a membership campaign for Kiwanis. At its April meeting, the Kiwanis International Board realized that continuing to cut services no longer is an option.

2. Why is a dues increase necessary?

A dues increase is necessary for several reasons:

- Kiwanis has not had a dues increase in nine years.
- Kiwanis must replenish its reserve funds. Over the past decade, reserves have been needed to supplement the organization’s budget—despite annual cuts in spending.
- Inflation continues to increase costs and erode our buying power—approximately 3 percent per year.
- Membership declines have reduced our revenue base annually—at a rate of almost US$225,000 per year.
- CKI, Aktion Club, Key Club, Builders Club, Key Leader and Kiwanis Kids need our continued support. Children, teens, young adults and adults with disabilities are joining our Kiwanis-family in record numbers; Kiwanis must be financially fit to ensure the quality of our Service Leadership Programs and to build upon this momentum.
3. Why US$15?

This amount of additional funds will allow Kiwanis to:
- Continue supporting our ever-growing Service Leadership Programs.
- Invest in membership growth.
- Improve our electronic communications and websites.
- Develop and support online education efforts.
- Improve and develop better electronic reporting capabilities for members, clubs and districts.
- Help support our education and growth efforts globally.
- Help support districts and regions.
- Develop a strategic growth plan.
- Improve our building infrastructure.

4. Why not less than US$15?

The current dues of US$42 was set in 2003 and ever since has been affected by inflation at a rate of about 3 percent annually. The proposed increase of US$15 will restore our 2003 buying power and provide a little more to continue investments in our Service Leadership Programs and initiate a membership campaign.

5. When were our last dues increases?

- 1982 from US$10 to US$15
- 1989 from US$15 to US$18
- 1997 from US$18 to US$27
- 2003 from US$27 to US$42

6. How long will this dues increase last?

Financial projections indicate that this dues increase will last a minimum of five years.
7. How long have past dues increases lasted?

- 1982: seven years
- 1989: eight years
- 1997: six years
- 2003: nine years

8. Explain Kiwanis dues and fees.

Each member pays dues to his/her club. Depending on the club’s location, a member’s total membership costs include:

- Kiwanis International:
  - Dues
  - Magazine subscription (United States and English-speaking clubs in Canada)
  - Liability insurance fee (United States, Canada and the Caribbean)
- Federation (Europe)
- Districts dues (some divisions also have a membership fee)
- Club dues