CKI Structure

There are three levels of CKI: club, district, and International

The Club Level

The club is the first and most important level of CKI. Without the clubs, there would be no need for the district and International levels. The club level is where the mission of CKI is realized. Clubs are the heart of CKI’s service. The other levels exist to provide consultation and develop program materials that will assist and support the club in attaining their service and leadership development objectives.

The District Level

CKI is divided into districts that are either a state, a combination of states, provinces, and/or countries. They are regionally identified. The main function of the district is to develop and maintain clubs within the specified region. The chief spokesperson and leader of the district is the governor. Other district officers include the secretary, treasurer, or secretary/treasurer, bulletin editor, and lieutenant governors.

The districts are further broken down into divisions that are managed by lieutenant governors. The lieutenant governor is responsible for servicing the needs of the clubs in his/her division by visiting, counseling, assisting, getting clubs involved in district and division projects, and evaluating club progress. The lieutenant governor is the club’s primary liaison to the district. He/she can share ideas and recommend strategies for your club management questions.

The district offers a number of leadership development and social opportunities. The district also involves itself in a district-wide project, in which each club is encouraged to participate. The district will conduct divisional rallies for the clubs in each division; it will sponsor a leadership training conference in the fall and a district convention in the spring. At the district convention, as many club members as can attend should represent each club. The club is allowed two voting delegates to elect new district leadership, share input, vote on amendments to the International Bylaws, and determine the district’s future.

The International Level

The final level of Circle K is the International level. The International Board of Trustees is composed of the President, the Vice-President, and seven representatives. These students administer the organization at the International level. They identify the critical issues facing the organization and evaluate strategies to help the organization support its mission. The International Board sets the policies for CKI, develops service initiative programs, and advises and educates the districts.

The International Board provides consultation to each district via the governor to assist him/her in managing the organization at the district level. The International representative serves as a liaison between the district and International levels. Annually, the council of governors meets with the International Board of Trustees to discuss the state of the organization.

There is an annual International convention. At the International convention, as many members as can attend should represent each club. The club is allowed two voting delegates to elect new International leadership, share input, vote on amendments to the International Bylaws, and determine the future of CKI.

One thing that sets CKI apart from other collegiate organizations is that students lead the organization at all levels.

The Kiwanis International Office in Indianapolis also maintains a team of employees designated to work solely for Kiwanis service leadership programs. It develops service program materials, processes dues and membership information, creates leadership development literature, manages the International budget, and forwards mailings to clubs, faculty advisors, and Kiwanis clubs, just to name a few tasks.

Though the structure of CKI is complex, it is designed to ensure that members receive adequate support for their organizational activities. Furthermore, the organizational structure has been developed so all levels are interrelated and interdependent. Although autonomy in operation and decision-making is maintained at each level, all three levels of CKI must interact to realize the Objects and Vision of the organization.
CKI provides numerous resources both in hard copy form as well as many resources available online at www.circlek.org. Here are some of the many resources available to all paid CKI members:

- Bylaws and Policy Code (online)
- Standard Form for Club Bylaws (online and hard copy available)
- New Club Building Kit (online and hard copy available)
- Dues Letter and Password (online)
- Officers Guide (online and hard copy available)
- PR and Marketing Guide (online and hard copy available)
- Merchandise Catalog (online and hard copy available)
- Service Initiative Guide (online and hard copy available)
- Club Member Handbook (sent to all new members)
- Circle K (CK) Series Bulletins that address a wide variety of issues (online)
- CIRCLE K Magazine (sent to all paid members via the member’s address; online and hard copy available)
- Scholarship Booklet (online)
- Award and Recognition Forms (online)
- Recruitment and Retention Tools (online and hard copy available)