

## New Suspension Policy

In July, 2006 the Board of Directors approved a new policy, effective July 1, 2007 that affects Clubs that have not paid their club balances on time. The new policy is as follows:

A Club which has an unpaid balance in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 150 days will be automatically suspended including the charter, rights, privileges, and obligation of the Lions Club for a period not to exceed 90 days. In the event, the Club does not reach a good standing within the Suspension period; their charter would be automatically canceled.

Suspension is the temporary deferment of the charter, rights, privileges and obligations of a Lions club due to an unpaid balance.

Clubs on suspension shall not:

- (a) Conduct service activities
- (b) Conduct fund raising activities;
- (c) Participate in district and multiple district functions or seminars;
- (d) Participate in any voting procedures outside of the club
- (e) Endorse or nominate a candidate for district, multiple district and international office;
- (f) Submit Monthly Membership Report and report forms;
- (g) Sponsor a Lions club, or organize a Leo or a Lioness club.

Clubs on Suspension shall:

- (a) Hold meetings to discuss the future of the club and identify the steps needed to regain an active status.
- (b) Make payments to clear the existing outstanding balance, or request a payment plan.

This new policy has serious consequences for clubs that are in arrears in paying their club balances. This policy could affect Clubs that have as little as two per-capita billings or less unpaid at 150 days. Clubs placed on suspension may regain an active status by sending payments sufficient to pay the balance. A re-activation report will not be required to regain a good status, however, the officers should immediately review and update the membership roster after a Club is removed from Suspension.

This change in policy was necessary because many Clubs were accumulating large unhealthy balances over 90 days in excess of US\$1,000. Many of these clubs were unable to pay such large amounts and were eventually inactivated and canceled. Large balances in these amounts are difficult to revive, and caused many members to give up and leave their Clubs.

Dues are the primary source of income used to support the programs and services provided to our membership. Regular and prompt payment is expected to ensure continued support of this great operation.

Please feel free to contact us at [membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org](mailto:membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org) should you require additional information. We hope all clubs will review their statements regularly, and will send the necessary payments to ensure their good status is protected.

Membership Billing and Accounts Services

300 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

Oakbrook, IL 60523-8842 [membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org](mailto:membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org)

630-571-5466 630-571-1687 FAX