

### **Optimist Club Bowl-a-thon**

In an effort to improve the participation and income of the bowl-a-thon we will implement a new format for the participation of outside youth groups.

Any youth groups that participate will receive 80% of the proceeds they raise up to \$2,500. If they raise \$2,500 to \$5,000 they shall receive 90% of the proceeds they raise. If they raise over \$5,000 they shall receive 95% of the proceeds they raise granted to them for use in their organizations.

It should be noted to each organization that the above formula is based on collected amounts not pledged amounts and that typically 5 to 10% is not collectable.

These youth groups will submit proposals for the use of their funds once the bowl-a-thon is over and the funds have been collected. The Optimist Board will determine if the proposals are in keeping with the proper uses intended for all Optimist grants. Should a proposal not be in line with the Optimist grant intentions, then that club will be given a letter with guidelines for Optimist grant uses and asked to resubmit a new proposal for any remaining funds they are due from their bowl-a-thon participation so that these funds can be granted to them.

#### **Advantages to youth groups and organizations**

- a) They incur no costs at the bowl-a-thon, all Pizza, Soda, Lane Costs, Bowling Shoe Rental, Administration costs and other expenses are paid for and handled by the Optimist Club.
- b) All billing costs and collections are handled by the Optimist Club.
- c) All preparation including lane reservations, door prizes, grand prizes, and cleanup is handled by the Optimist Club.
- d) Being part of a program that benefits many youth groups will gain more public recognition each year making it easier for each group to increase their pledges every year, in turn increasing their grant income.

#### **Advantages to the Optimist Club**

- a) The Optimist can phase out of supplying (funds we raise as the Optimist Club) to participating groups, these groups will raise the funds for themselves, and the Optimist Club will collect the funds then grant them to each group in the amount that each club raised.
- b) The funds now freed up by this system (funds we raise as the Optimist Club) will then be freed up to grant to new groups throughout our area. Then these new groups can be asked to participate in the bowlathon which will intern convert these groups to self supporting bowl-a-thon participants as well, again freeing up Optimist raised funds to find new groups.
- c) All lane sponsorship funds will be the proceeds for the Optimist Club, this should increase each year as the number of youth groups participating increases as well as recognition for the event.
- d) The Optimist Club receives recognition for granting all funds raised by these groups.
- e) The bigger the event, the more recognition, the more our expense supplies are donated for sponsorship.

The bowl-a-thon has struggled to grow income from pledges for many years without any great success.

**It is believed that if the Optimist Club takes the position of becoming a tool for youth organizations to raise funds for themselves, and if these groups receive all or most of the funds they raise granted to them, then they will continue to participate and increase their income from pledges through their own contact sources each year.**

The Optimist Club Membership raises on average approximately \$7,500 each year in the bowl-a-thon, these funds will be freed up to bring in new groups each year and then convert them to self supporting.

The public recognition and buzz of many youth groups participating should make this a more recognized event each year which will benefit all organizations involved.