

# Be the Editor

Congratulations on being elected club editor. The role of editor is very important, and the work you do this year will bring more recognition to your club and members. Your main focus will be to create monthly newsletters, publicize your club in your school and community, and submit photos and articles to your district. Suggested topics for your monthly newsletter are included in this guide. Every club is unique, so showcase your strengths. Meet with your advisor and other officers to determine additional responsibilities for your position. Good luck, and have a wonderful year.

# Official duties

Your Key Club will be as strong as your officer team, and that team is designed to empower each officer to carry out their own duties. When your officers work with one another, the team's success will take precedence over individual success. Below is a list of official duties related to your position, but feel free to add to it based on the needs of your club.

**Send** articles to the district publication regarding projects and new ideas from your club. Be sure to include photos.

**Post** signs, posters and banners announcing meeting dates, projects and any type of Key Club promotion at your school and in the community.

**Produce a monthly newsletter** to members providing the following information:

- Important dates.
- Upcoming events.
- Officer information.
- Meeting schedule.
- Service project dates and information.
- Review of completed projects.
- Committee updates.
- President's message.
- Major Emphasis information.
- District project information.
- Reminders.
- Dues update.

Make public-service local press and send articles and photographs and radio stations.

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- 1 Each club will decide which duties will be the webmaster's and which duties will be the editor's. The two positions should work together to ensure the club's message and activities are shared with a diverse audience.
- 2 Refer to your school or organization policies or rules prior to creating a website and social media accounts for your Key Club.

Done is better than perfect.

SHERYL SANDBERG

# **Checklists**

### monthly weekly annual ATTEND ALL CLUB MEETINGS WITHIN THE CLUB, AND THE CLUB OFFICER-TRAINING ATTEND CLUB BOARD OF **CONFERENCES WITH THE** RECEIVE ALL MATERIALS FROM PAST CLUB EDITOR. LT. GOVERNOR. DIRECTORS' MEETINGS. ATTEND KIWANIS CLUB MEETINGS AND PROVIDE UPDATES ON CLUB SAVE ALL PUBLISHED NEWSLETTERS, SIGNS, CALENDARS AND BANNERS POST A CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO PUBLICIZE MEETINGS. HAPPENINGS. AS A REFERENCE. TAKE PHOTOS AND DOCUMENT CLUB EVENTS, MAKE MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS TO UPDATE THE CLUB WEBSITE PROMOTE PROJECTS AND OR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE, IF MEETINGS AND OVERALL MEETINGS. THE CLUB HAS ONE. WORK. MAKE POSTERS, SIGNS AND MAKE A SCRAPBOOK TO BE BANNERS TO PROMOTE PRODUCE A BIMONTHLY ENTERED IN DISTRICT AND PROJECTS AND MEETINGS. OR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS. PUBLICIZE MEETINGS BY POSTING FLIERS AND KEY TAKE PHOTOS AT MEETINGS AND EVENTS. CLUB POSTERS. SET UP A FILING SYSTEM FOR THE INCOMING CLUB EDITOR. ASSIST IN TRAINING THE EDITOR-ELECT. NOTE TO SELF KEY CLUB

## Be the Writer

The editor is responsible for the creation of all kinds of material meant to share your club's good works. But the first step is to make sure you have a good understanding of how to write and what to write. Here are some tips.

- Make it informative. Offer useful tips, simplify anything complicated and tell people what is coming up.
- Make it relevant. Irrelevant content can cause readers to disregard your work. If you write about things that aren't pertinent, people may not pay attention when you write about the important things.
- Make it right. Always check your work for errors. You will want to be on the lookout for grammar and spelling mistakes. Also be sure to fact-check — you don't want to communicate the wrong time or date and cause problems for members.
- **Make it concise but complete.** Write at a length appropriate for the medium. Obviously, a newsletter article can be longer than a school announcement. Always make it long enough to divulge pertinent information, but not so long that people get bored.
- **Make it visually appealing.** Follow the Key Club brand guide (**keyclub.org/brandguide**) to ensure your publications are appealing and look like Key Club. You will also want to include photography and easily readable fonts.
- Make it engaging. You want to help make sure your messaging is relatable. Try to create content that is thought-provoking, conversational and touches on current trends.
- Make it reflect your club. In photography and quotes, always be inclusive. Take photography and share quotes that feature a variety of members. People are more likely to read or like something they feel connected to in some way. The best way to make people feel connected is to be inclusive. Before you publish any media, such as photographs, get permission from every person who appears in it. For minors, permission from a parent or legal guardian is also required. It could be illegal to do otherwise. A photo release can be found on the Key Club website.

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Social media can be a great tool for promoting your club and club projects. Creating a club account for every social media channel can be a lot of up keep, so consider focusing on Facebook and Instagram. Consider creating a private Facebook group where your club can share updates about upcoming projects, club events or cool opportunities for members. Another idea: Create a hashtag for your club. Encourage members to use the hashtag when they post pictures from events or give updates on projects. Use the #KeyClub hashtag to help your posts get more exposure.

# Suggested reporting timeline for club newsletters and publications

### **May-June-July**

- New board member names and email addresses
- District convention highlights
- Information on awards and contests
- New lieutenant governor and board information
- Promote the Youth Opportunities Fund grant
- Key Club International convention review and registration
- Farewell to past officers and members
- Promote Global Leadership Certificate, Key Leader and other leadership development opportunities

### **August-September-October**

- Information on the new member mailing
- Key Club International convention highlights and introduce the new Key Club International Board representative
- Fall rally and/or officer training conference promotion and summary (if applicable)
- Dues information
- District project explanation and tips to help
- Preferred charities information

### **November-December-January**

- Key Club Week and the planned activities
- Holiday service projects
- District convention promotion (include site, dates and costs)
- Fundraising ideas

### February-March-April

- Club elections
- District convention preview
- Lieutenant governor and district executive board election results
- Key Club International convention promotion



## Be the Promoter

As the editor, you also act as your club's public relations ambassador. Good public relations strategies can help your club recruit new members, improve your school and community image and keep members engaged.

That means public relations matters inside and outside your school. When publicizing your club and/or events within the school:

- Be creative, so you make sure your message isn't lost.
- Be inclusive in your messaging on flyers and posters encourage as many people as possible to take an interest.
- Promote the club by giving each member talking points to keep a consistent message about the what and why of joining your club.

Outside your school, an important aspect of public relations is to connect with local media outlets such as newspapers, radio stations and television stations.

- The first step is to make a phone call or send an email. Prepare a brief description of Key Club and Kiwanis, unique facts about your club, number of members, service projects and contributions to local and global causes.
- Create a simple club fact sheet to use when reaching out. You might work with the club secretary to create and consistently update such a document.
- Best practice encourages persistence, professionalism and politeness. Always include your contact information when sending out any information or press release. And follow up! In fact, don't be afraid to ask questions regarding the process for getting coverage. Your first attempts may not earn much, but they may be the first step to relationships with journalists or community members who turn into your club's allies.

Go to **keyclub.org/grouping/marketing** for marketing ideas.

I would encourage members to run for this position because it allows you to be more hands on and get a better understanding of the club and what it stands for.

SHANNON NAUTA, NEW JERSEY DISTRICT, CLUB HISTORIAN



# Be the Photographer

Plan ahead. Don't wait for the right image to come to you — create it. Consider your location, props and composition.

Keep the background simple. Make sure the background doesn't distract from the subject and assure nothing behind the subject affects the image.

**Think about your lighting.** Make sure your subject stands in the best light — it might be bright out, but the sun can cast shadows on a face.

Capture faces. Expressions, reactions, moments, emotions and action make great photos. The best way to get them is by concentrating on people's faces when taking photos. Avoid shooting mugshots.

|            |                         |                              | ed at 6"x4"     |
|------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Specs      | Low Resolution          | Medium Resolution            | High Resolution |
| Pixels     | 900x600                 | 1800x1200                    | 3600x2400       |
| Resolution | 150 ppi                 | 300 ppi                      | 600 ppi         |
| File Size  | 1.5MB or less           | 5MB or more                  | 20MB or more    |
| Scr        | een resolution specs fo | or a horizontal image displa | ved at 6"x4"    |
| Specs      | Low Resolution          | Medium Resolution            | High Resolution |
| Pixels     | 300x200                 | 900x600                      | 1800x1200       |
|            | 72 ppi                  | 150 ppi                      | 300 ppi         |
| Resolution |                         |                              |                 |

# Be the Brand Advocate

In all of your communications activities, follow the Key Club Brand Guide (keyclub.org/brandquide). A brief guide can be found on the next page. That's where you'll find important guidelines, established with the help of experts and designers, for using specific fonts, colors and other visual elements. You'll help unify Key Club International under one look, keeping it recognizable around the world. Doing so helps make your club recognizable. All of your club members — including fellow officers — should be familiar with these standards. Share the information and provide guidance where you can!

# Official brand assets

#### KEY CLUB COLOR PALETTE



#### KEY CLUB FONT FAMILIES

| Myriad Pro Primary sans serif font         | Century<br>Gothic<br>Alternate sans serif font |
|--|--|
| Garamond<br>Premier Pro                    | Verdana  Alternate sans serif font             |
| Abril Display Italic Optional display font | Goudy<br>Oldstyle<br>Alternate serif font      |

KEY CLUB WORDMARK

# KEY CLUB®



Preferred color options for Key Club wordmark — blue, black or white

KEY CLUB SEAL





Preferred color options for Key Club seal — black, blue, blue/gold or white

> **Download** the complete Key Club Brand Guide at keyclub.org/brandguide.

## Know your resources

build your club. You can find more resources at **keyclub.org** or through the semimonthly Key Club Membership Update Center at keyclub.org/muc.

### Service ideas

Visit **keyclub.org/service\_ideas\_main** to find submit your club's favorite project.

### **Partners**

Go to **keyclub.org/partners** for information on

### **Meeting kits**

as you go. Or you can opt to pick sections to use, such as icebreaker activities, videos or service project ideas. Learn more at **keyclub.org/meeting-kits-guide/**.

### **Global Leadership Certificate**

the cost of the Global Leadership Certificate is included in your membership fee. Visit **keyclub.org/glc** 

### **Key Leader**

Key Leader is a weekend experiential leadership program for today's youth leaders. By participation in Leader and what programs are happening in your area at key-leader.org.

# KEY CLUB°



keyclub.org



kevclubint



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