

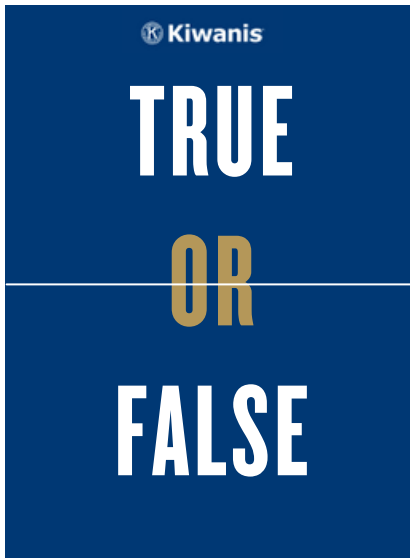
HOW TO ADDRESS OPINIONATED IDEAS ABOUT KIWANIS?



Instructions

At a club meeting, divide your club members into small groups of 5-6 people.

- Dispatch the groups for 40 minutes and hand out the cards below.
- For each card, ask participants to share their opinions about the club by answering the questions.
- Ask them to give additional ideas on how to communicate if they are faced with someone who thinks like this.
- At the end of the time, bring the groups together and ask them to talk about the cards that made the biggest impression on them and share their opinions and areas for improvement for the club.



I reached out the local Kiwanis Club to inquire about membership and was told they don't accept new members at this time, they are full.

Discussion

- What do you think about this situation?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such response?

Solution

- Kiwanis should be accessible for everyone. Make it easy for everyone to join any Kiwanis club: think about satellite, different types of clubs or the option of organizing a new club.

It is easier to find a job than it is to join Kiwanis due to all the difficult admission procedures.

Discussion

- What do you think of this statement?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remark?

Solution

- Revise your club's bylaws! There should not be any obstacle for anyone to be admitted.
- Kiwanis International has no restrictive admission policy.

HOW TO ADDRESS OPINIONATED IDEAS ABOUT KIWANIS?

I know Kiwanis, my friend is a Kiwanian. But it's not something for me, I'm not rich enough.



We are unable to find a contact number of any Kiwanian to ask how we can join the organization.



Kiwanis is not a normal club that you simply join. As a rule, admission is based on recommendation or application. If the chemistry is right, and you're a good fit, we look forward to hearing from you.



Discussion

- What do you think of this statement?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Cite examples in your club of people from all walks of life.
- Inform the person about the real cost of membership.

Discussion

- What do you think of this situation?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Make sure that the contact information of your club is easy to find on your club website, its facebook profile etc.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Revise your club's bylaws! There should not be any obstacle for anyone to be admitted.
- Kiwanis International has no restrictive admission policy.



HOW TO ADDRESS OPINIONATED IDEAS ABOUT KIWANIS?

The club meetings include a meal in a castle restaurant. Usually they eat duck, deer, and other such types of dishes. I'm a vegetarian so it's not something for me.



I visited the local Kiwanis club and didn't see anyone there who looked like me. Why would I join a club of all white men?



These people (e.g. young professionals) are not "real" Kiwanians.



Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Kiwanis is open to all, try to tailor your meeting places based on your members' preference. Nowadays most restaurants offer vegetarian meals, even vegan.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Kiwanis International stands up for and promotes diversity, equity and inclusion. You are encouraged to join any club!

Discussion

- What do you think of this statement?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Return the question : What do you mean by "not real" Kiwanians"?
- All members have an equal share in terms of dues, participation in social projects and support for children in their community.



HOW TO ADDRESS OPINIONATED IDEAS ABOUT KIWANIS?

We have 22 ladies in our club. You know, that's already difficult enough, so we don't need more members.



Kiwanis requires that you write in the bylaws that people need to be interviewed before they can join, and that all the club members need to agree.



Kiwanis requires we have a good mix of people with different professions in our club.



Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- There is no limit to the number of members in a club. Choose your meeting place based on the size of your club. The more members you have the more ideas and hands you'll have to carry out your social projects.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Your club's bylaws is what members make out of it!
- Keep in mind: Kiwanis International has no restrictive admission policy.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- The strength of Kiwanis comes from the diversity of its volunteers.
- A good mix of professions enables Kiwanis to be seen as an exciting and attractive organization, however it is not a prerequisite.



HOW TO ADDRESS OPINIONATED IDEAS ABOUT KIWANIS?

My club needs to breath money.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- Every club needs money to operate, however contributions are tailored to members' wallets. Every bit matters, at the end of the day the most important thing is to be passionate about helping children.

The club meets at a time when I am unable to attend due to my family situation.

Discussion

- What do you think of this sentence?
- Is it representative of your club?
- How would you respond to such remarks?

Solution

- A club should offer different time slots for meetings so that everyone can participate.
- Communication and flexibility above all!

