

OPTIMIST YOUTH FOUNDATION, INC.

The Optimist Bowl-a-thon Participation Guidelines

For all participating organizations:

Please use this guide for your participation in our bowl-a-thon fundraiser.

In an attempt to improve the bowl-a-thon for all parties, the following format is established for the granting of funds to outside youth organizations:

Any youth group that participates shall be granted 80% of the funds they raise. The remainder 20% will be applied to the bowl-a-thons costs including lane and shoe rentals, advertisement and other expenses incurred for the event. See advantages to youth organizations below.

The above formula is based on amounts collected not pledged. Typically 5 to 10% of pledged amounts are not collected.

Each participating youth group must be a 501c3 tax-exempt organization and submit:

1. A copy of the IRS determination letter.
2. A proposed plan for how the funds granted will be used within their organization.

The Optimist Board will determine if the proposals are in keeping with the proper uses intended for all Optimist fundraising and grants. Should a proposal not be in line with Optimist guidelines the organization will be given a letter and asked to resubmit a new proposal.

Note: Optimist grants and bowl-a-thon disbursements are made after collections and annual grant review processes, which are usually completed by February.

Advantages to youth groups and organizations

- a) They incur no costs at the bowl-a-thon. The Optimist Club pays for all pizza, soda, lane costs, bowling shoe rentals, administration costs and other expenses.
- b) All billing costs and collections are handled by the Optimist Club. (Participating organizations may help with the collections if they so desire.) All funds collected shall be turned over to the Optimist Club for proper grant procedures
- 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 make it easier for each group to continually increase their pledges annually, in turn increasing their grant income.

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

Optimist Youth Foundation, Inc.
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