

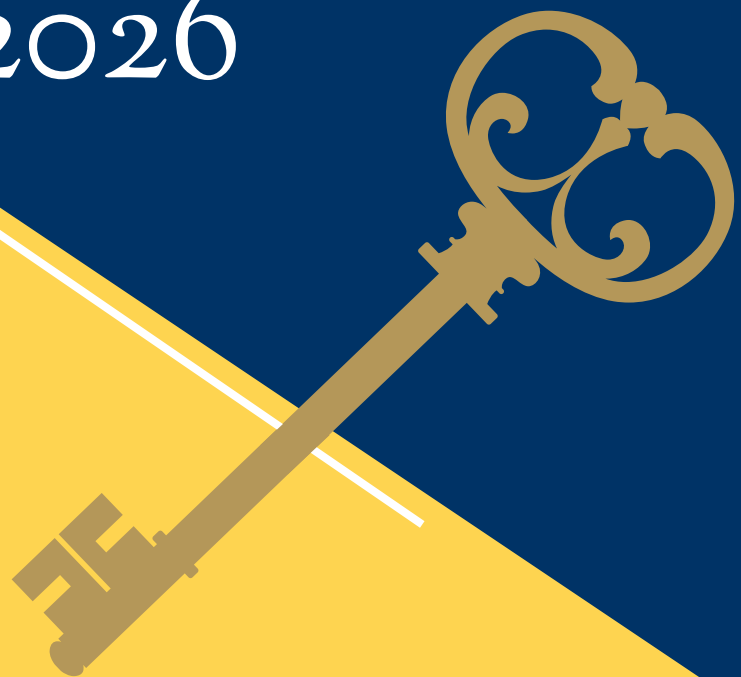


Kentucky-Tennessee

*Membership*

*Handbook*

2025-2026



# Table of Contents

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- K-T District Board (2-5)
- Kiwanis Family Overview (6-7)
- History and Structure of Key Club International (8-9)
- Key Club Pledge, Motto, Vision, Core Values, and Objects of Key Club International (10-12)
- International Service Partners (13)
- District Service Project (14)
- DCON (15)
- ICON (16)
- Dues Information (17)
- Tips to Build Your Club (18)
- Code of Conduct and Dress Code (19)
- District Calendar (20)

# 2025-2026

## K-T District Board



Jack Slaton  
District Governor  
jack@ktkey.org



Reagan Seeger  
District Secretary  
reagan@ktkey.org



Addi Rice  
District Treasurer  
addi@ktkey.org



Myah Hamilton  
District Historian  
myah@ktkey.org



Tammy Truong  
District Bulletin Editor  
tammy@ktkey.org



Nicholas Kwok  
International Trustee  
nkwok@keyclub.org



Isabella Baldisseri  
International President  
@keyclub.org



Aza Young  
Division 1 LTG  
aza@ktkey.org



Anna Saxe  
Division 2 LTG  
anna@ktkey.org

# 2025-2026

## K-T District Board



Annabelle Hicks  
Division 3 LTG  
annabelle@ktkey.org



Aly Curtis  
Division 4 LTG  
aly@ktkey.org



Kyle Harper  
Division 5A LTG  
kyle@ktkey.org



Hayden Graham  
Division 5B LTG  
hayden@ktkey.org



Ella Lynch  
Division 6 LTG  
ella@ktkey.org



Noah Canter  
Division 7 LTG  
noah@ktkey.org



Olivia Phillips  
Division 8 LTG  
olivia@ktkey.org



N/A  
Division 9 LTG  
@ktkey.org



Sam Kotter  
Division 10 LTG  
sam@ktkey.org

# 2025-2026

## K-T District Board



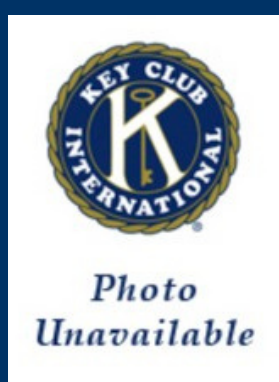
Sunny Trieu  
Division 12 LTG  
sunny@ktkey.org



Ishika Srivastava  
Division 14 LTG  
ishika@ktkey.org



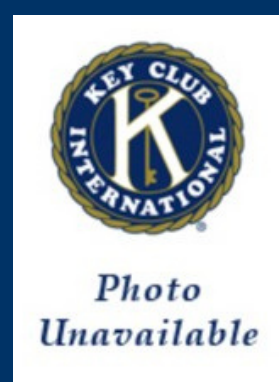
Sophia Yoon  
Division 15 LTG  
sophia@ktkey.org



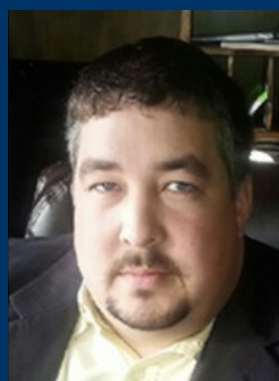
Kira Wilburn  
District Administrator  
kira@ktkey.org



Eugene Harrell  
Assistant Administrator  
eugene.harrell@ktkey.org



Madison Branscom  
Zone Chair  
madison@ktkey.org



Michael Hicks  
Zone Chair  
mjhicks1781@ktkey.org



Bob Hillhouse  
Webmaster/Zone Chair  
bob@ktkey.org



Pattie McMillan  
Zone Chair  
pattiemcmillan@gmail.com

# 2025-2026

## K-T District Board



Lane Northcutt  
Zone Chair  
lane@ktkey.org



Shelli Wilburn  
Zone Chair  
shelliktkey.org



Blake Roller  
Special Assistant  
broller@outlook.com



Steve Phillips  
Administrator Emeritus  
sphillips@ktkey.org



Ira Gladson  
Administrator Emeritus  
ira@ktkey.org



Carolyn Hamilton  
Zone Chair Emeritus  
gcvol@ktkey.org



Jim Hughson  
Zone Chair Emeritus  
captain@ktkey.org

# Kiwanis Family History

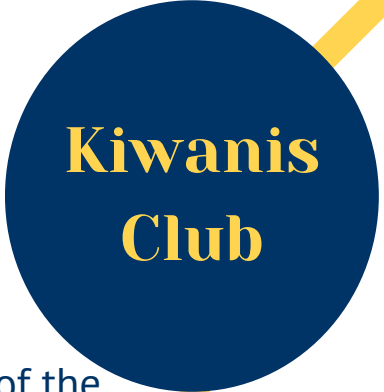
The Kiwanis Family was originally started in 1915 by the Kiwanis Organization and has grown substantially since then. The Kiwanis Organization's goal is to perform meaningful service, with service to children as its priority. They started with sponsoring Key Club and went on to sponsor other clubs, including Circle K, K-Kids, Builders Club, Aktion Club, and many other programs that benefit local communities and the world!



Kiwanis International is a community of global clubs, members, and partners devoted to helping children. Kiwanis International offers clubs for adults. Kiwanians are adults who serve their community, annually raising more than \$100 million and 18.50 million hours of service to build communities and help families.



The primary school level of Kiwanis, K-kids, stands for Kiwanis Kids. It is one of the only opportunities for primary students to learn about self-empowerment and leadership through service.



One of the only opportunities for adults living with disabilities to lead through service.

# Overview of Kiwanis Family

The middle school level of Kiwanis builds on the self-empowerment skills and leadership taught in K- Kids.



The college level of Kiwanis is an opportunity for students to lead through service after school. It is the largest student-led organization for college students.

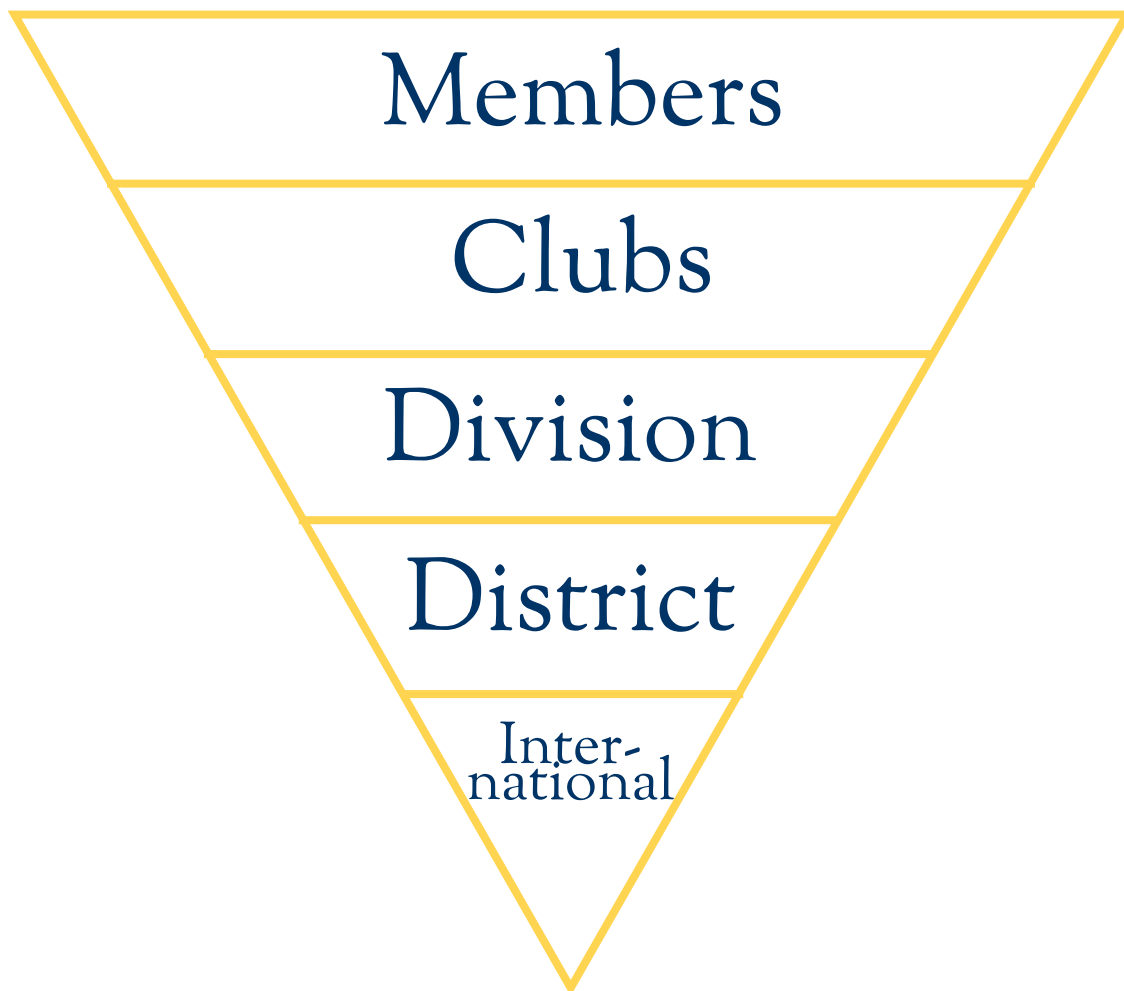


The high school level of Kiwanis continues on the same path as K-Kids and Builders Club. It is the oldest and largest student-led service organization in the world.



# History and Structure of Key Club International<sup>8</sup>

Key Club International was founded in 1925 at Sacramento High School in California by two Kiwanis members. Key Club gets its name from the original intention of the “key” boys of the school, providing service and building school spirit. The purpose of the organization is to provide students with opportunities to serve their homes, schools, and communities. The club also offers students the opportunity to develop leadership skills and cultivate their character. Currently, Key Club has about 5,000s clubs in 40 countries.



# Members

More than 251,000 members make up Key Club International. This is the most important level of Key Club. Members are the ones who motivate the other levels to work harder and stay dedicated to our passion for service.

# Clubs Level

Clubs are found in high schools around the world and consist of members, an advisor, a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and Class Representatives. Elections are held for officers of the clubs.

# Division Level

Each division elects a lieutenant governor to serve them, provide support, and carry out district responsibilities. Lieutenant governors also serve on the district board.

# District Level

Multiple divisions make up each district. Each district is led by a District Governor. The Executive District Board is also made up of a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Bulletin Editor, and a Historian.

# International Level

The international board is composed of 11 trustees, an International President, and a Vice President. Key Club International comprises 34 organized districts and additional countries not included within those districts.

## Key Club Pledge

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold the objects of Key Club International; to build my home, school, and community; to serve my nation and God; and to combat all forces which tend to undermine these institutions.

## Vision

Key Club is an international, student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership.

## Objects of Key Club International:

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher standards in scholarship, sportsmanship, and social contacts.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render unselfish service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which makes possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

# *Core Values*

## LEADERSHIP

Leadership is grounded in humility and service to others. A true leader listens, recognizes, and empowers.

## CHARACTER BUILDING

Character is built by everyday acts of kindness, integrity, and teamwork to grow stronger relationships and communities.

## CARING

Compassion for others is a cornerstone of the Key Club experience, inspiring action, and service to one's community.

## INCLUSIVENESS

We welcome people of all backgrounds and ethnicities to join in serving and making a positive difference in our world.

*“Caring  
Our Way  
Of Life”*



# Service Partners



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**Thirst Project-** A non-profit organization dedicated to ending the global water crisis by building freshwater wells in communities that lack access to clean, safe drinking water. Through this partnership, Key Club members raise awareness and funds to support the Thirst Project's mission, helping to provide sustainable water solutions in countries.

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**UNICEF/Start Strong Zambia-** KCI supports UNICEF through initiatives like Start Strong Zambia, a program focused on improving maternal and child health in Zambia. This partnership aims to give every child a strong start in life by providing access to essential healthcare, nutrition, clean water, and education.

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**Erika's Lighthouse-** This organization promotes mental health and growth for teenagers through resources to help start more conversations about mental health in students. It uses four pillars as a guide: classroom education, teen empowerment, family engagement, and school policy and staff. Over 2 million teens have been positively impacted by this organization.

# Seasons of Service (District Service Project)

## *Ronald McDonald House Charities-*

The Ronald McDonald House Charities is to create, find, and improve the overall health and well-being of children and their families. RMHC provides families with a place close to their hospitalized children at little to no cost. Key Club supports the Ronald McDonald House Charities by donations, wish list items, supplies for their families, fundraising, or simply volunteering at their local chapter.

### *Contact Your Local RMHC:*

Chattanooga, TN: (423) 778-4300

Huntington, WV: (304) 529-1122

Knoxville, TN: (865) 637-7475

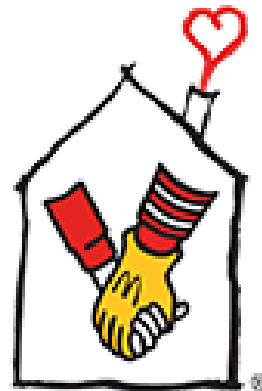
Lexington, KY: (859) 268-0757

Louisville, KY: (502) 371-1442

Nashville, TN: (615) 343-4000

Southern Appalachia: (423) 975-5437

Cincinnati, OH: (502) 371-1442



Ronald  
McDonald  
House®

# District Convention

## What is DCON?

District Convention, or DCON, is a fun and inspiring weekend where Key Clubbers from across the Kentucky-Tennessee District come together to celebrate service, leadership, and friendship!

**When?** March 20-22, 2026

**Where?** The Park Vista Hotel Gatlinburg, TN

## What Can You Expect at DCON?

- Engaging Workshops

Want to learn more about Key Club, leadership roles, or how to run for office? DCON offers a variety of workshops that are perfect for new and experienced members alike.

- Elections & Leadership

Be part of the action as we elect our next District Board. Attend caucus sessions, hear inspiring speeches, and maybe even consider running in the future!

- Exciting Contests & Events

- District Dance
- Talent Show
- Oratorical Contest

- Show off your talents or just cheer on your fellow members!

**Make Memories That Last!!!**



# International Convention

## What is ICON?

International Convention, or ICON, is the ultimate Key Club experience, a week-long global gathering of Key Clubbers from all over the world! While DCON is for our district, ICON brings together members from every district internationally to celebrate service, share ideas, and grow as leaders.

**When?** July 2026     **Where?** Dallas, Texas

## Highlights You Don't Want to Miss:

- Global pin trading (bring your extras!)
- International board elections
- Impactful leadership workshops
- Inspirational keynote speakers
- City adventures with the KT district

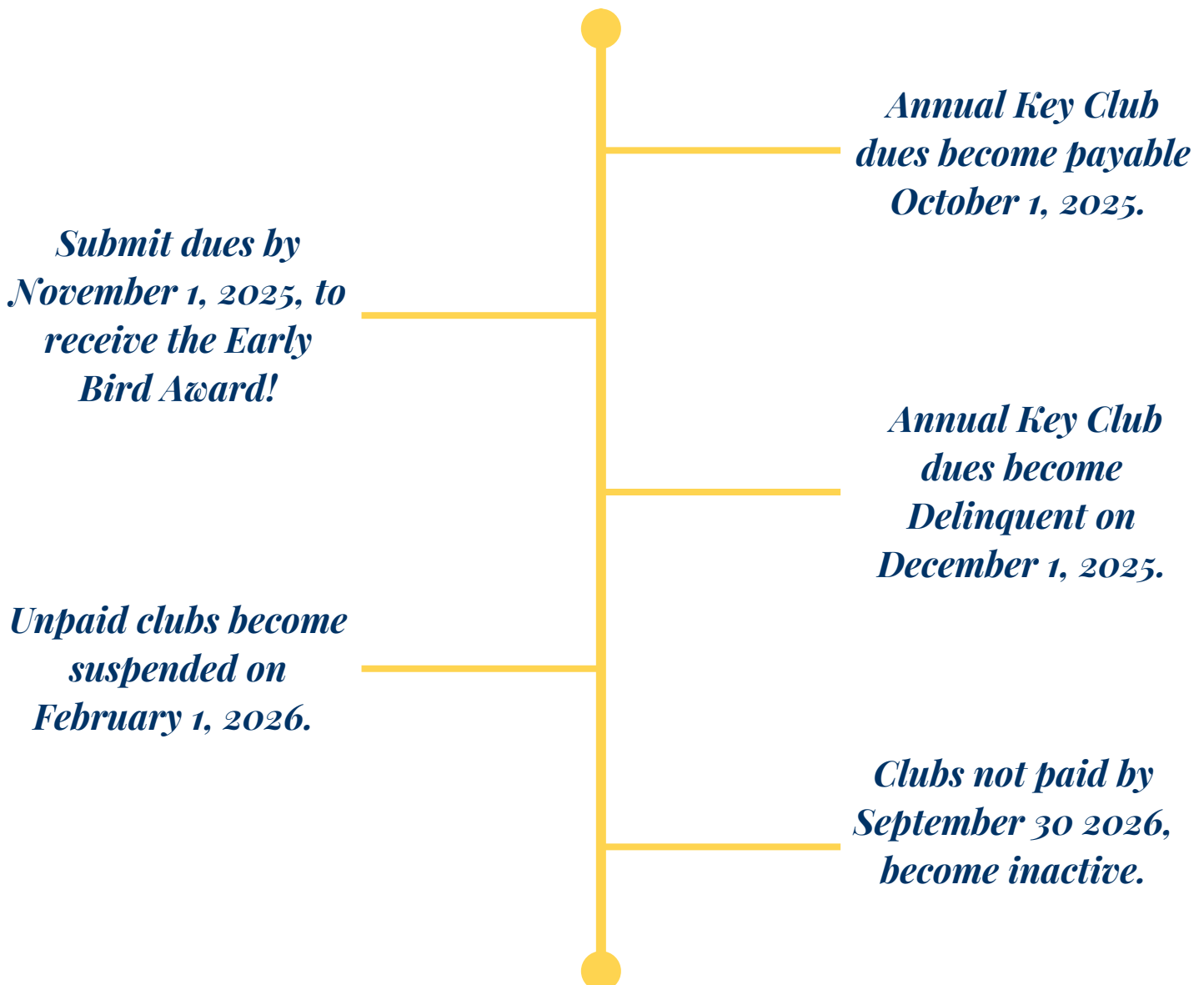


**DALLAS**

**We can't wait to see you there. Let's make memories together at DCON 2026!**

# Dues Payment

In order for a Key Club to be active, Members must pay dues. Dues are \$20 per member. \$10 goes to Key Club International, and the other \$10 goes to the K-T District. Clubs/schools may add extra fees to this price.



# Tips for Building Your Club <sup>18</sup>

Use resources such as flyers and videos from the Key Club International website!

Increase engagement on your club's social media accounts!

Keep members updated on service and leadership opportunities!

Let Key Clubbers and non-Key Clubbers know what resources are available!

Implement diversity, equity, and inclusion in your club!

Make your meetings as fun and engaging as possible!

# CODE OF CONDUCT & DRESS CODE

## KEY CLUB

Key Club members, adult advisors and invited guests are expected to demonstrate behavior consistent with the high ideals of Key Club and should abide by the provisions of this Code while in attendance at any Key Club International event. Every member will respect the authority of the Sergeant-at-Arms Committee, Key Club administrators, and designated staff.

### **Responsible Behavior**

1. All participants are expected to abide by all government laws and regulations.
2. Members must respect the personal property of others as well as the property of any meeting or lodging facility. The placing of signs or messages on the windows of the hotel rooms is prohibited. No material may be affixed to any hotel walls. Any damage caused by a member must be paid for by that member.
3. Members may not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages.
4. Members may not possess or use any drugs or other controlled substance, with the exception of medication prescribed for the attendee.
5. Members may not possess or use tobacco products.
6. Members are expected to abstain from any activity of a sexual nature.
7. Members are expected to not tolerate hazing or any action that creates unnecessary physical or mental discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule of others.
8. Members may not possess weapons, firecrackers, or anything of a dangerous nature or act in any way unbecoming of a Key Clubber.

### **Lodging**

1. Members staying in a hotel or other lodging facility must sleep in their assigned room.
2. Female members are not allowed in the room of any male member, and male members are not allowed in the room of any female member.
3. Male and female members may be present together in hospitality suites when an adult chaperone is present.
4. All members are expected to abide by a curfew beginning at midnight and lasting until 5:00 am unless otherwise specified by the hotel. No Key Clubber shall be allowed on balconies after curfew.
5. Items within this section may be modified by the Key Club International Board with approval of the International Administrator.

### **Dress Code**

1. All participants are expected to abide by the designated dress code for each session.
2. "Professional" refers to dress shirt, slacks, necktie, sport or suit coat and appropriate shoes for males, and dress or suit, skirt or slacks, blouse, and appropriate shoes for females.
3. "Business Casual" refers to slacks, collared shirt, and appropriate shoes for males, and slacks, skirt or skort, blouse or collared shirt and appropriate shoes for females.
4. "Casual" refers to shorts or jeans, collared shirts, sweatshirts, or appropriate tee-shirts and casual footwear for males, and shorts, skirt, skort or jeans, collared shirt, sweatshirt, or appropriate tee-shirt and casual footwear for females.
5. At no time will any clothing with inappropriate language, or graphics be allowed. Any shirts, shorts, or skirts deemed to be of inappropriate length will not be allowed.
6. All participants are required to wear name badges for all convention events.

### **Enforcement**

1. Violations of this Code will result in notification to the respective district administrator and event chaperone.
2. Violations involving destruction of property, possession, consumption or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances will result in dismissal of the attendee from the event.
3. Notification, in writing, will be made by the Key Club International Administrator or his representative to the school, Kiwanis sponsor and parents of any member disciplined under this section.
4. These rules are effective as of the time you arrive at this event, until the time you depart.

An adult chaperone for Key Club shall be a Kiwanis member, faculty member, parent, legal guardian, or person who is: in loco parentis; over the age of twenty-one (21); approved by the school; and registered with and accompanying the Key Club members at the convention. The adult chaperone shall be responsible for the Key Club members assigned to him/her. Ultimately, each Key Club district administrator shall have authority for all persons in attendance from his/her respective district.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## KEY CLUB

May 1, 2025	Deadline to Register for ICON Tour
May 26, 2025	Final payment due for ICON Tour
June 29 – July 7, 2025	K-T Tour to Key Club International Convention in Orlando, FL
Aug–Oct, 2025	Division Officer Training Meetings
October 1, 2025	Annual Dues become payable
October 2025	Trick or Treat for UNICEF
October 15, 2025	Youth Opportunities Fund Applications due (Fall Cycle)
October 18, 2025	Dollywood Fall Rally in Pigeon Forge, TN
November 3–7, 2025	Key Club Week
December 1, 2025	Annual Dues become Delinquent
February 1, 2026	Unpaid clubs become suspended
February 2026	Club Officer Elections (Suggested)
Feb–Mar 2026	Divisional Spring Rallies
March 1, 2026	Youth Opportunities Fund Applications due (Spring Cycle)
March 20–22, 2026	Key Club District Convention in Gatlinburg, TN
July 2026	K-T District Tour to Key Club International Convention in Dallas, TX