



**ROTARY DISTRICT 9810
MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY
(MUNA)**



**SATURDAY 5 May
and SUNDAY 6 MAY 2018**

INFORMATION FOR CLUBS

The Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is part of Rotary District 9810's continuing commitment to youth development. We will be continuing with this exceptionally successful program by conducting our eighteenth MUNA on the weekend of Saturday 5 May and Sunday 6 May 2018 at Parliament House, Melbourne.

Most Rotary Clubs in District 9810 participate in this really worthwhile and educational forum by sponsoring one or more teams of two students from local secondary schools to attend MUNA. A club can sponsor more than one team. The students do not pay anything, but of course put in the time and effort.

What is MUNA?

MUNA simulates the workings of the United Nations (UN) by having teams of two Year 11 students represent UN member countries and engage in debate on matters of world political and social concern.

MUNA provides students with the opportunity to develop their public speaking and debating skills through informed and researched comment on international issues. It also helps to develop an awareness of the UN and its workings as well as assisting them to see topics from another country's perspective. It helps to foster friendship with students from other schools within the region. It is astonishing how quickly friendships are made.

The MUNA experience encourages young people to learn respect and tolerance for people of all races, religions and nationalities.

What is required of clubs?

Secondary Schools in your area should be invited to nominate a team of two students from Year 11. Students who have already participated in MUNA are not accepted for a second year.

The best point of contact at a school is usually the Debating Coordinator or English Department Head.

Each team will represent a member nation of the UN and will debate topics of international significance. Countries are allocated to teams after the team members' names and details are registered with the District MUNA Committee. The team members are given the name of their allocated country and the resolutions that may be debated over the MUNA weekend.

Clubs can sponsor more than one team, but in order to provide this opportunity to as wide a range of schools as possible, participation is limited to a maximum of two teams from any one school.

If our committee receives applications from a third team from the same school, these will be put on a waiting list and allocated countries only if MUNA is undersubscribed.

Your Club may select students for MUNA by interview or consultation with the local school. The aim is to select students most likely to benefit from a rewarding and enjoyable weekend.

Members of clubs, parents and teachers are welcome to attend and view MUNA and meet the students at morning or afternoon tea. This is a very rewarding experience.

What are the costs?

The cost in 2018 is expected not to exceed \$890 per team. This covers morning and afternoon teas in Queen's Hall, lunch each day in the Members' Dining Room for all participants, the administration costs for Parliament House, and the awards. MUNA expenses are calculated to break even against income and the Parliament House management requires us to meet all their expenses including provision of security. Your Club may also offer to pay up to \$60.00 per student to reimburse expenses for costume hire.

The sponsorship fees paid by a club enables MUNA to operate at Victoria's Parliament House and also allows the winning team to have a subsidised trip to Canberra to attend the National MUNA weekend in the Old Parliament House. This is normally held in August. While the District pays the cost of registration for the team at the national MUNA weekend, the cost of travel to and from Canberra is the responsibility of the sponsoring Club. Clubs must also ensure that the team is accompanied by a counsellor who may be a parent/guardian.

Registration and payment

Clubs are encouraged to submit team and student registration forms early. Participation is limited to 40 teams. Early registration assists with early allocation of countries. This gives teams the time to research the resolutions, and research the country they are representing so they can make a more meaningful contribution to the debate.

For 2018 MUNA participating clubs have already indicated their commitment to sponsor one or more teams. We expect that final costings for MUNA will be available early in 2018 enabling us to firm up the fee per team. Based on the strong support received for MUNA 2018 we expect the fee to be less than the previously advised \$890 per team.

Once the overall costing for MUNA is finalised we will enter into agreements on behalf of the District and will be required to pay a deposit. To ensure the District is not exposed, the participating clubs will be sent invoices based on the number of teams they have committed to. Payment will be due by 28 February 2018.

Team registrations should be emailed or posted to the MUNA Chair (details below) and will be accepted in the order they are received. Payment must be made to Rotary District 9810 (BSB 633000, A/C 132503590) quoting the invoice number in the reference field, or by cheque mailed to the District MUNA Chair. If paying by direct credit to the District account, clubs must send a copy of the remittance slip to the MUNA Chair to secure the participation of their teams.

On rare occasions a registered team is unable to participate in MUNA. If the MUNA Chair is advised of this early enough, it may be possible to substitute a team from a reserve list of teams. If this cannot be done the club will be responsible for any costs incurred for that team. A missing team reduces the atmosphere and the effectiveness of the event. It may also prevent another team from being given the opportunity to participate.

Closing date for team registrations is Friday 9 March 2018

Note: completed registration forms and parent consent forms need to be submitted to the MUNA Chair by the closing date. Teams cannot be allocated a country unless payment has been received.

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