

Information for Corporate & Business Sponsors

The Rotary Young Leaders Awards – Rotary District 9999 <https://rotarydistrict9999.org/>

Queenstown Course 3pm 1 February – 2pm 6 February 2026



Investing in your Rising Stars

RYLA (The Rotary Young Leaders Awards) is an invaluable programme that brings together individuals to harness creativity, diversity, inspiration, energy, and leadership to cultivate personal growth, challenge limits and empower.

Do you believe in investing in your young leaders? Do you see potential in someone within your workplace that needs to be unleashed and positively developed? If you understand the value these young people will bring to your business, then RYLA is the right choice to help grow them and your business.

RYLA is a 5 day live-in residential leadership course and is probably the most competitively priced leadership programme available at just \$1,100pp +GST.

Values

To harness diversity and utilising strengths in others | To inspire courage | Tolerance and understanding uniqueness

Aim

To empower young adults to create growth within themselves and their communities.

Participants will

- ★ Grow and develop as a leader and how to effectively lead others
- ★ Discover their own personal skills and strengths
- ★ Challenge themselves physically and mentally to extend their capabilities
- ★ Interact with and learn from inspirational business and community leaders
- ★ Network with like-minded individuals from varying backgrounds
- ★ Develop and learn public speaking techniques
- ★ Advance their ability to operate and communicate effectively in a team environment

Get in touch

Further enquiries can be directed to your local Rotary Club Representative or

Phone: Queenstown Facilitator
Lee-Ann Murray 021 343 506 or
Email d9999rylaqt@gmail.com

- ★ Course Fee for 2026 \$1,100 +GST pp
- ★ Applications close 15th November 2025. Send applications to d9999rylaqt@gmail.com
- ★ Course Dates 1-6 February 2026
- ★ Download the Flyer [here](#)
- ★ Access to FULL INFO PACK [here](#)
- ★ This QR code leads to the online application form



WHAT IS RYLA?

The Rotary Young Leaders Awards Empowering Young Leaders Aged 20–30

The next RYLA course in Queenstown will be held on 1 – 6 February 2026

RYLA Queenstown is a high-energy, five-day residential program for young leaders who are already showing leadership potential or currently in leadership roles. It's designed to build confidence and stretch the skills, and sharpen the mindset needed to take leadership to the next level. Through interactive workshops, outdoor challenges, group projects, inspiring guest speakers, and guided self-reflection, participants explore what leadership really means.

We know leadership isn't one-size-fits-all. It's more than just being the one out front — and that path isn't for everyone. At RYLA, participants will discover other powerful ways to lead like sparking new ideas, driving change, inspiring others, or making an impact quietly from behind the scenes. Different styles, same influence.

Along the way, lasting networks and friendships will form, with many past RYLarians calling the experience life changing. The program is led by a dedicated committee and returning alumni who act as peer mentors, support participants, and help deliver the program.

Every year, more than 25,000 young leaders worldwide take part in the RYLA experience.

Simply put, RYLA empowers young leaders with confidence, skills, and a mindset to thrive—and inspire the next generation to do the same

RYLA Values: Harnessing diversity and utilising strengths in others | Developing self-leadership & self-responsibility | Inspiring courage | Tolerance and understanding uniqueness | Empower long-lasting meaningful change

Our Aim: To empower young individuals to create growth within themselves and their communities through harnessing their leadership potential

Participants can expect to cover:

Self – *Who am I? How can I be the best I can be?*

Career – *What is expected of me? How can I develop leadership skills to get ahead? And to lead others?*

Leadership – *Aspirations: What do I want to achieve? How will I accomplish my goals?*

Community – *What is Community? What groups do I identify with? How can I make a difference?*

Participants will explore how to:

- ✓ Advance their ability to operate and communicate effectively in a team environment
- ✓ Grow and develop as a leader and how to inspire others
- ✓ Discover and develop their own personal skills and strengths
- ✓ Challenge themselves physically and mentally to extend their capabilities
- ✓ Interact with and learn from inspirational business and community leaders
- ✓ Network with like-minded individuals from varying backgrounds

ONLINE APPLICATIONS can be found by clicking this link [online app](#) or scanning the QR code

Enquiries to: District 9999 RYLA Queenstown Facilitator, Lee-Ann Murray 021 343 506



What does it cost?

Nothing for the applicant – successful applicants are fully sponsored by a local Rotary club or can be corporate, or industry sponsored.

All that applicant is required to provide is 5 days of their time, a positive attitude, an open and engaging mind, and lots of enthusiasm.

Do I qualify?

Yes, if you are aged 20-30 and have the desire to be a leader of the future, have the will to invest in your own growth and have the passion to be the best you can. There is some physical activity, but equally, we encourage applications from persons with physical difficulty who are self-sufficient.

What's in it for me?

This course will benefit you if your intention is to:

- Grow and develop as a leader
- Discover and develop your own personal skills and strengths
- Challenge yourself physically and mentally to extend your capabilities
- Interact with and learn from inspirational business and community leaders
- Network with like-minded individuals from varying backgrounds
- Advance your ability to operate and communicate effectively in a team environment

What can I expect?

No two days at RYLA are the same.

Expect inspiring speakers, group discussions, team challenges, physical activities, off-site visits, and a hands-on community project. Along the way, you'll discover new strengths, build lasting friendships, and connect with a diverse group of future leaders.

And yes—the food is *amazing*! Prepared by professional caterers, it's a highlight past RYLarians still rave about.

Where & when is RYLA held?

RYLA is held at Lakeland Park Camp at 496 Peninsula Road, Kelvin Heights, Queenstown. The camp has comfortable and modern facilities and beautiful views with a 3 minute walk to the Lake.

Please arrive at 3pm on Sunday 1st February for a 4pm start
Concludes at 2pm on Friday 6th February 2026.

There is plenty of parking on site.

Online applications - [online app](#)

See you there!



THE OBJECTIVE OF RYLA

- ✦ **To provide** information, instruction, real-life stories & experience on a wide range of subjects.
- ✦ **To appreciate** and enhance our local environment.
- ✦ **To equip**, instruct and encourage promising young people from differing cultures and backgrounds, to better serve their communities and countries.
- ✦ **To develop and encourage** leadership of young people, by young people.
- ✦ **To recognise** young people who are providing service to their communities.
- ✦ **To provide** delegates with an experience they will not forget and that will benefit them well into the future.
- ✦ **To provide** an environment for young leaders to build relationships that develop into lifetime friendships and networks.

RYLA provides an opportunity to extend leadership skills, assist personal growth, develop new networks and make new friends!



WHAT IS RYLA?

The Rotary Young Leaders Awards (RYLA) is a leadership recognition program where local Rotary Clubs and employers select young adults who currently hold leadership positions or have the potential to lead, either within the community or at work.

It provides an opportunity to participate in a challenging week-long residential conference where young people:

Many RYLA graduates refer to RYLA as "The week that changed my life."

- ✦ **Discover** ways to become a better role model and more adequately face decisions on important personal, work and social situations
- ✦ **Exchange** ideas, opinions and plans with talented, energetic, like-minded people, in a supportive atmosphere free from pressure and distractions.



FAQ

Where is it?

- ✦ Lakeland Park Camp is a unique venue, nestled on the foreshore of Lake Wakatipu in beautiful Queenstown. Comfortable, well equipped facilities. Plenty of on-site parking. 496 Peninsula Rd, Kelvin Heights, Queenstown.

Who can apply?

People aged between 18 and 30, who are already proven leaders in their chosen field of study, vocation or organisation they belong to.

How do I apply?

Contact your local Rotary Club, OR download an application form OR apply online via www.rotarydistrict9999.org.nz

What happens next?

The Rotary Club who sponsors you or the RYLA committee will be in touch. If you are looking for a sponsor club, we can find one for you. There is also a short eligibility interview process.

Where do I send my application?

To the email provided on your chosen course material or via your local Rotary Club Representative.

- ✦ **Corporates/Businesses & Industries** may nominate staff or associates. Please contact the facilitator.

If you'd like to know more about RYLA, contact the facilitator or get in touch with your local Rotary Club!

✉ d9999rylaqt@gmail.com

☎ 021 343 506

Club contact name: _____



WHAT'S ON OFFER?

- ✦ Self discovery
- ✦ Career Planning
- ✦ Goal setting
- ✦ Effective communication
- ✦ Public speaking
- ✦ Indoor & outdoor activities
- ✦ A community project
- ✦ Talks from professional trainers and leading presenters that offer a broad range of subjects crucial to your future leadership success

There are many outdoor activities to motivate and help develop effective team work and push your personal boundaries.

A **Community Project** is an important part of the programme which involves developing a business case model, project management and teamwork to see the project to completion.



"RYLA was all about looking inside ourselves to find what is really important to us"



ROTARY DISTRICT 9999
ROTARY YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS

1 - 6 FEBRUARY 2026



APPLY TODAY!
SCAN HERE



INDUSTRY & CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

Are you an employer and interested to invest in your rising stars? This just might be the best thing you can do for your business.

Similar programs can cost thousands of dollars and your employee may still walk away with nothing tangible or new. You are **guaranteed** to see a positive change in the person you choose to send on RYLA.

ABOUT YOU

- ✦ **Are you a student** and looking for inspiration or direction?
- ✦ **Are you already in the work force** and looking for inspiration or direction?
- ✦ **Perhaps you are living your best life right now**, and nailed your dream job, but chasing something more, and want to develop an edge over others around you?
- ✦ **Maybe you know you have "it" in you**, but lack confidence in yourself to take it to the next level.
- ✦ **Are you looking to further develop as a leader** of people, or overcome your fear of public speaking



QUEENSTOWN APPLICATION FORM

- **Candidate** - completes sections 1 to 8, OR apply online [online app](#)
- **Employers & Industry Sponsors** - complete section 9 (*Clubs can also do this on behalf*)
- **Rotary Clubs** - complete section 10
- Email your handwritten application, signed Terms of Agreement, and a profile photo to d9999rylaqt@gmail.com by **18 November 2025**
(final deadline: **1 December 2025** – but earlier is appreciated!)
- Late applications may be accepted if spaces are still available.
- All personal information is confidential unless needed for your health or safety. Please answer honestly—this won't affect your acceptance.

Feel free to email if you have any questions d9999rylaqt@gmail.com or call 021 343 506

Please arrive at 3pm on Sunday 1st February 2026 | Concludes 2pm Friday 6th February 2026

Thank you

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Surname	
Given Name	
Preferred Name	
Address – Street # and name	
Town / City	
Mobile Phone	
Email Address	
Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Sex (M/F/Other)	
Shirt Size (S/M/L/XL)	(Sizing is what you normally wear)

2. EMERGENCY CONTACT

(CAN BE A FAMILY MEMBER, PARTNER, OR NOMINATED ROTARIAN)

Contact Name	
Relationship	
Mobile Phone	
Alternative Phone	
Email Address	

3. HEALTH (*Optional) *Discretion is available if this application will be handled by other parties outside of the RYLA committee. You will be asked about this again during the final interview with the RYLA Committee member handling your application.*

For the safety of all candidates, all medication must be disclosed to the RYLA Organising Committee and third-party providers relevant to the programme.

Any information disclosed will not affect your acceptance onto the course.

* Any Health / Medical Conditions	
*Current Medication	
*Dietary Requirements AND/OR Allergies	
*Is there anything we need to be aware of? (ie triggers, phobias, fears)	

4. EDUCATION

Tech/University attended	
Courses Taken Or Degrees Obtained	
Year Currently in or final Year Attended	
Special Awards or Recognitions	

5. OCCUPATION

Current employer	
Position held and are you Full Time or Part Time?	
Period of employment	
Do you need to ask for time off?	

6. RECREATIONAL INTERESTS & INVOLVEMENT

Sport	
Organisations / Clubs	
Hobbies	
Community Volunteering groups	

7. NOMINEES QUESTIONS

Are you able to bring all the necessary equipment? <i>You can ask your Rotary club sponsor to help if necessary.</i>	
Describe your level of fitness: 1 -5 (5 being awesome)	
You will be sponsored into this leadership programme. Briefly, why do you think you are a worthy candidate?	
Who will be paying for you to attend RYLA..... <i>Please select one</i> • Yourself • A Rotary Club • Employer or Corporate • I am looking for a sponsor	<i>I understand that I may be asked to speak to the Rotary Club who nominated me.</i>

8. DECLARATION

I, being the Applicant, acknowledge and understand the following

Requirement	Details
Code of Conduct	I have read and understand the Code of Conduct (HERE) and will adhere to the course requirements and the instructions of the RYLA committee and/or venue managers
Accommodation	I understand I will share a single sex cabin/room with others. Any comments here:
Privacy Act	I agree to my name and contact details being used on a list of awardees for RYLA follow-up, administration, and Alumni list
Photos	I authorize the RYLA Queenstown Committee to use appropriate photos in future presentations or publicity
Medical consent	I authorise the RYLA Queenstown Committee and give consent on my behalf to any necessary medical or surgical treatment, and I undertake to meet any costs incurred.
Photo submission	I will include a head and shoulders passport style photo in .jpg or similar format along with application

Signed:

Date:

9. FOR EMPLOYER OR CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP USE *Employer/Industry Sponsor please complete*

Name of Business/Industry	
Name of Sponsor/Contact	
Position	
Mobile Phone	
Other Phone	
Email	
The corporate contact is aware the course fee is \$1,100pp (plus GST)	☐ YES – Please provide invoice to the contact and email above ☐ NO – Please make contact or provide more information

10. FOR THE NOMINATING ROTARY CLUB USE *Club please complete and return this page, along with the Interview Sheet if applicant has applied online*

The Rotary Club of recommends and endorses this Applicant be selected for the RYLA 2026 Programme

Rotarian Contact Name	
Position in Club	
Rotarian Mobile Phone	
Email	

NOTES FOR NOMINATING ROTARY CLUB, CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SPONSORS

- Clubs are required to endorse any corporate sponsored nominees.
- Clubs are to use the correct forms and are responsible for interviewing, completing, and submitting the appropriate paperwork including a head shot photo of applicant (unless application has been made online).
- Corporate sponsors can independently submit an application on behalf of their nominated staff member. Please complete section 9.
- Final acceptance of applicants remains with the RYLA Queenstown Operational Committee.
- Completed forms are to be emailed to d9999rylaqt@gmail.com by **18th November 2025**. Late registrations will be accepted if maximum course numbers have not been reached.
- The application fee per awardee: **\$1,100** (GST exempt) for Rotary Clubs & charities
\$1,100 (Plus GST) for corporates

Corporate Sponsors please note: If you have specific invoicing requirements or a different name for invoicing, please add below or, if your contact & email is different to section 9)

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Clubs, your invoice will also be your receipt once payment is received.

Please make your payment via internet banking for **RYLA QUEENSTOWN** to:

Rotary International District 9999 Inc – 01-0635-0320139-01

IMPORTANT: PLEASE REFERENCE your Club/Business and candidate name

Thank you for supporting RYLA and our Future Leaders

Code of Conduct



RYLA is a space for growth, connection, and leadership. To help create a safe, respectful, and energising environment for everyone, we ask all participants to embrace the following Code of Conduct.

Respect for People and Property

Respect the people, place, and community that make this experience possible. Let's leave the venue better than we found it and treat everyone—staff, fellow participants, volunteers, and Rotarians—with kindness and appreciation.

Noise and Rest

To support wellbeing and full participation, quiet hours are observed from **10:00 PM to 7:00 AM**. While 'lights out' isn't enforced, we encourage everyone to get enough rest to make the most of each day.

Health & Safety

Please stay within the campgrounds unless you've checked in with a Committee member first. If you need to head out, just let one of us know so we can keep everyone safe and in the loop.

The boat ramp and jetty area below the camp are off-limits unless you've been given the go-ahead from the Committee. This is part of our Health & Safety policy and also about being good neighbours to the local residents—especially at night when noise carries.

Participation

RYLA is a shared experience—your full presence helps create the magic. Please attend all sessions and limit phone use during activities so we can all stay engaged and connected.

Personal Relationships

We value the connections formed while on the course, whether professional or personal, and we encourage interactions grounded in respect, integrity, and inclusivity.

While friendships and relationships may naturally develop, we ask that participants:

- Maintain professionalism in all settings
- Be mindful of others' comfort and boundaries
- Ensure personal interactions don't disrupt the group dynamic

Let's create an environment where everyone feels safe, respected, and empowered to grow.

Prohibited Substances

To maintain a safe and inclusive environment, drugs and alcohol are not permitted on the grounds or during the programme.

Smoking and Vaping

If you smoke or vape, please do so only during free time and in designated outdoor areas

Code Administration

We take the Code of Conduct seriously to ensure a safe and respectful space for all. If concerns arise, they'll be addressed fairly and promptly, with everyone's voice heard. Serious breaches may result in dismissal from the programme at the participants own expense.

Participant Commitment & Consent



RYLA is a unique opportunity to grow as a leader and connect with others. By joining, you're committing to a shared experience built on respect, engagement, and personal growth.

Participant Agreement

By accepting a place on the RYLA course, I confirm that I have read and understood the accompanying Code of Conduct, and I agree to the following terms:

I confirm that:

- All information I have provided is true and accurate.
- I am enrolling in the Rotary Young Leadership Awards (RYLA) programme and commit to full participation.
- I will be available for the entire duration of the programme and will attend all scheduled sessions and activities.
- I am responsible for arranging my own transport to and from the Queenstown venue.
- I will follow guidance from the RYLA Organising Committee and Leadership Team, especially regarding health and safety.
- I will abide by the course rules and uphold the RYLA Code of Conduct at all times.
- I understand that serious breaches may result in early departure from the programme, at my own expense.
- In the event of a medical emergency or if I require medical treatment, I agree to reimburse the D9999 RYLA Committee for any costs incurred, upon invoice.
- I acknowledge that my attendance is supported by a sponsoring Rotary Club, corporate partner, or employer who has invested in my leadership development. If I withdraw without sufficient notice (approx 3 weeks prior to the course start date), I understand that my sponsor may seek to recover associated costs.
- I give permission for photographs taken of me during RYLA to be used for promotional purposes.
- I consent to my name, contact details, and photograph being included in participant lists for RYLA follow-up, alumni networks, sponsor communications, and administrative use.

NAME:

SIGNED:

DATE:

This Form is to be returned with Application Form

PLEASE NOTE: The application form and this signed Terms of Agreement Form are to be emailed to: d9999rylaqt@gmail.com before the advertised closing date.

Late applications may be accepted if maximum course numbers have not been reached.

Please ensure all items are clearly named. The RYLA Committee or the venue managers accept no responsibility for any loss or damage that may occur while you are on the course.

General use throughout the week:

- Pillow
- Single fitted sheet & duvet or single fitted sheet and sleeping bag
- 2-3 Shower Towels
- Personal toiletries
- A small basic personal first aid kit with pain relief and plasters etc
- Any personal medication can be put in a separate plastic bag. If any medication needs to be refrigerated, this can be left in a separate area in the kitchen walk in fridge.
- Swimming togs, a beach towel, sunhat and sunscreen
- Casual comfortable clothing for 6 days
- Sports clothing for daily exercise (may get wet or dirty)
- 2 pairs of casual footwear for day to day, walking and sporting use
- Shower proof Jacket
- Gumboots (Optional)
- Semi-formal wear for one social evening for the Award Gala Dinner Event (something you would wear to a nice restaurant for dinner)
- Small day backpack
- Head torch (preferable) or standard torch
- Camera if you wish
- Musical instruments if you wish
- Games (optional)
- Photo ID
- Laptop (optional)

Please also Bring: 3-5 non-perishable, in date, food items for a charity grocery hamper 😊

DO NOT BRING:

Anything Valuable

Alcohol or Drugs

Optional Extra Outdoor Equipment:

- Waterproof over pants is optional
- Polar Fleece over layer and/or a thermal layer
- Beanie and warm (woolen) socks

Please arrive at 3pm on Sunday 1st February 2026 | Concludes 2pm Friday 6th February 2026