

Executive Director Sarah Kelly



Becoming a Future Ruritan National Board Director: A Path to Community Impact

Leadership and Community Service

“Leadership is not about being in charge. It is about taking care of those in your charge,” as Simon Sinek aptly puts it. This sentiment is central to Ruritan’s mission: improving communities and building a better America through fellowship, goodwill, and community service. By focusing on caring for each member, we foster thriving communities.

Key Questions for Aspiring Directors

Before stepping up to serve on the Ruritan National Board, consider these critical questions:

- Why do I want to serve?
- Do I understand the role and expectations?
- What do I have to offer?
- Am I qualified?
- Do I have the time, energy, and resources?
- Do I have family and employer support?

Reflecting on these questions ensures you’re prepared for the responsibilities ahead.

Responsibilities and Expectations

Governance and Strategic Leadership

As a board member, you’ll provide strategic leadership, ensuring our mission is fulfilled through programs, strategic planning, and outreach. This cycle of “Think, Plan, Do” must be a continuous rhythm for effective governance.

Oversight and Financial Stability

You will monitor and evaluate the organization’s performance, oversee financial management, and ensure financial stability. Regular communication with clubs about their growth status is vital, as is the timely payment of dues and the protection of our youth.

Advocacy and Engagement

Representing Ruritan in the community, advocating for our mission and vision, and maintaining consistent communication with districts are key duties. Embracing an expansion mindset, you’ll strive to spread the values of fellowship and goodwill across America, supporting the goal of each club growing by five members and opening new clubs.

Time Commitment

Meetings and Preparation

Board members are expected to attend quarterly NBOD meetings, district meetings, and events such as conferences and conventions. Preparation involves reviewing materials, asking questions, and actively participating in discussions.

Committee Involvement

Serving on at least one committee and participating in its activities, often virtually, is crucial. The bulk of our work happens in these committees, ensuring a stable and effective organization.