RYPEN SummerCamp'27 - Information Pack

Program Overview

Event: RYPEN Summer Camp '27
Location: Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen
Date: Friday 12th February at 5:00pm to 3:30pm Sunday 14th February, 2027

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 6th December 2026

Introduction

The Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) is designed to resonate with the unique needs of today's youth by providing a dynamic and supportive environment where teenagers can develop crucial life skills. In a world where academic performance is often emphasized, RYPEN recognises the importance of holistic growth. The program empowers young people to build self-confidence, enhance their communication and leadership abilities, and foster a sense of responsibility and teamwork. By addressing these essential skills, RYPEN helps students navigate the challenges of their future, whether in further education or the workplace, all while encouraging personal growth and community engagement.

Program Objectives

During an intensive residential weekend, young people aged approximately 14 to 16 years will develop:

- **Increased Motivation:** Encouraging students to find and pursue their passions.
- **Improved Life Skills:** Teaching practical skills for everyday life.
- **Better Self-Image:** Helping students build confidence and pride in themselves.
- **Goal Setting:** Understanding the importance of setting and achieving goals.
- **Teamwork:** Interacting with peers from different backgrounds to improve teamwork skills.
- **Informal Learning Atmosphere:** Encouraging questions, debates, and fun.

Participant Criteria

- **Age:** 14-16 years old
- **School Year:** Students from years 9/10
- **Target:** Students with undeveloped potential

- **Focus:** Aimed at students who need help developing leadership, initiative, and responsibility skills and often lack opportunities for expansion.

How to Participate

- **Nomination:** Directly through the local Rotary Club. Alternatively, the highschool Year 9/10 Coordinator, School Counsellor, or Careers Advisor.
- **Commitment:** Rotary Clubs are encouraged to nominate TWO students for each camp.
- **Gender Balance:** Aim for an equal number of male and female students (for Cabins).

Student Benefits

Participants will achieve:

- **Leadership Skills:** Improved leadership in a non-threatening and supportive environment.
- **Motivation & Life Skills:** Increased motivation and enhanced life skills.
- **Self-Image:** Better self-image and pride in their abilities.
- **Goal Setting:** Understanding the importance of setting and achieving personal goals.
- **Confidence:** Increased confidence to overcome problems and take control of their future.
- **Appreciation of Diversity:** Improved appreciation of diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Rotary Club Benefits

- **Market Niche:** Fills a niche in the teenage market.
- **Youth Support:** Supports Rotary's commitment to youth service.
- **Program Bridges:** Serves as a bridge to RYLA, Youth Exchange, and Rotaract.
- **School Relationships:** Offers a great opportunity to build relationships with local schools and other community leaders.
- **Future Leaders:** Today's RYPENians are our future community leaders.

Post-Event Engagement

After the event, Rotary Clubs are encouraged to:

- **Club Meeting:** Invite participants back to a club meeting to share their experiences.
- **Presentation:** Invite a local dignitary or sponsor for the presentation.
- **Media Coverage:** Take photos and send them to local newspapers to highlight the event.

For more information and to get involved, contact your local Rotary Club. Join us in making a positive impact on the lives of young people and fostering the leaders of tomorrow.

Contact Information

RYPEN Summer Camp Program Lead, 2026-27
Melanie Lewis
Ph. 0407 496 636
Melanie.Lewis@rotarysocialimpact.org

Additional Information

- **Venue:** Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen
- **Dates:** 12-14th February 2027
- **Participants:** 14-16 years old, full-time students from years 9/10
- **Sponsorship:** Clubs are encouraged to sponsor two students for each camp @$450ea

Packing List

- Essentials such as clothing (accommodating hot & cold weather), toiletries, and medication
- A hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent
- Swimmers and a towel, thongs for in-shower only
- Closed-toe shoes that can get wet (consider reef booties)
- Linen is not provided - please bring a king-single top sheet, sleeping bag, pillow and bath towel.

Do not bring:

- Drugs or alcohol; phones will need to stay in baggage at all times and are brought at your own risk – there are no safes available. Money is not required.

The RYPEN program will conclude with a fun closing ceremony at 2pm on the 14th February 2027, and participants may be picked up by their sponsoring Rotary Club representatives or parent/guardian. Rotarians and parents are welcome to attend the closing ceremony – details will be made available closer to the camp date.

Please fill in each question below and submit completed applications via email to: Melanie.Lewis@rotarysocialimpact.org

Melanie Lewis
D9685 RYPEN SummerCamp Program Lead, Ph. 0407 496 636

APPLICATION FOR RYPEN SUMMERCAMP'27

Rotary Club Sponsorship

- **Sponsoring Rotary Club:**
- **Rotary Club Contact Person:**
- **Contact Number:**
- **Email Address:**

Student Details

- **Full Name:**
- **Preferred Name:**
- **Date of Birth:**
- **Gender (for dorm placement):**
- **Address:**
- **Contact Number:**
- **Email Address:**
- **School Year:**
- **School Name:**
- **Emergency Contact Name:**
- **Emergency Contact Number:**

Personal Information

1. **Are you currently a full-time student in Year 9 or Year 10?**
    - Yes / No
2. **Please describe your hobbies and interests:**
3. **Do you have any leadership roles or responsibilities at school or in the community? If so, please describe:**
4. **Why do you want to attend the RYPEN program? What do you hope to gain from this experience?**

Medical and Dietary Information

5. **Do you have any medical conditions, allergies, or special requirements that we should be aware of?**
    - Yes / No

If yes, please specify:

6. **Do you have any dietary requirements?**
    - Yes / No

If yes, please specify:

7. **Please name your sponsoring Rotary Club:**

Parent/Guardian Consent

I, the undersigned, give permission for my child to attend the RYPEN program at the Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen in February 2027. I understand that my child will be participating in various physical and intellectual activities and that all necessary precautions will be taken to ensure their safety. I also give consent for emergency medical treatment to be sought if required. I note that this is an interim application and that a full registration form will be sent out in December (for detailed medical and dietary requirements).

- **Parent/Guardian Name:**
- **Signature:**
- **Date:**
- **Mobile Number*:**
- **Best Email*:**

  ***This will be used as a primary communication channel**

Please note: this form registers the named student as a sponsored nominee of the SummerCamp'27 program. Once received by the Registrar, parents and students will be sent a secure link to the Sydney Academy of Sport portal to register formal attendance and any special medical or dietary needs required for a multi-night stay.

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