

TDC Charity Selection Guidelines

Charity Selection

It is a tradition for TDC to support local and National charities during our rallies. The majority of this activity occurs during our Fall International Rally and Spring Rallies, but we also support any rally that wishes to conduct a charity related activity. These activities could take the form of raffles, auctions, community projects, or national projects such as Habitat for Humanity – “RV Care-A-Vanner” program; <http://www.habitat.org/cd/rv/schedule.aspx> . TDC is a non-profit organization, therefore the selected charities must also be non-profit. Caution: not all charities are registered, and/or current in their non-profit status.

The rally masters have the responsibility of selecting and vetting the chosen charities. This information should then be sent to the TDC-Vice President for National (Fall & Spring Rallies) or your Regional Vice President (Regional Rallies) for final approval.

The charity vetting process should include the following.

1. Is the charity a bona fide, tax exempt non-profit? This information is usually found on the organization’s website. (501(c)(3); 501(c)(8); 501(c)(10)).
2. Another important aspect to verify regarding charities is the amount of donated funds used to achieve their philanthropic mission vs advertisement, salaries, fund raising costs and general administration. A worthwhile charity will spend at least 75% of its income on the organization’s mission. The following organizations will help you with this assessment.
 - a.) National Charity Reports-BBB Wise Giving Alliance (or the local Better Business Bureau, if it is a local community charity).
 - b.) GuideStar gives an overview of an organization’s financial health and budget breakdown.
 - c.) Charity Navigator evaluates about 7,000 non-profits. This organization does not rate charities that have less than \$1 million in revenue or haven’t been in existence for at least 4 years. Chosen charities should have a 3 star rating or higher.
 - d.) Charity Watch rates about 600 charities, grading them from A to F and takes a watch dog approach trying to expose non-profit abuses.
 - e.) You can also refer to: www.topnonprofits.com/lists/best-nonprofits-on-the-web

Be advised, these organizations do not rate or list ALL reputable, bona fide charities in the US or Canada. If you are in doubt of an organization’s status, contact them directly and discuss their

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status, mission and financial status with them. Request them to provide their Tax EIN Number. If they are unwilling to have this discussion, caution is advised.

Remember that all funds collected to support a charity are to be sent to the TDC Treasurer, who will issue a check to the charity. Remember to provide the Registered Name and complete mailing address to mail the check. This enables TDC to track our charitable giving.

The TDC Treasurer is responsible to report donated amounts, by charity, at our annual General Meeting.