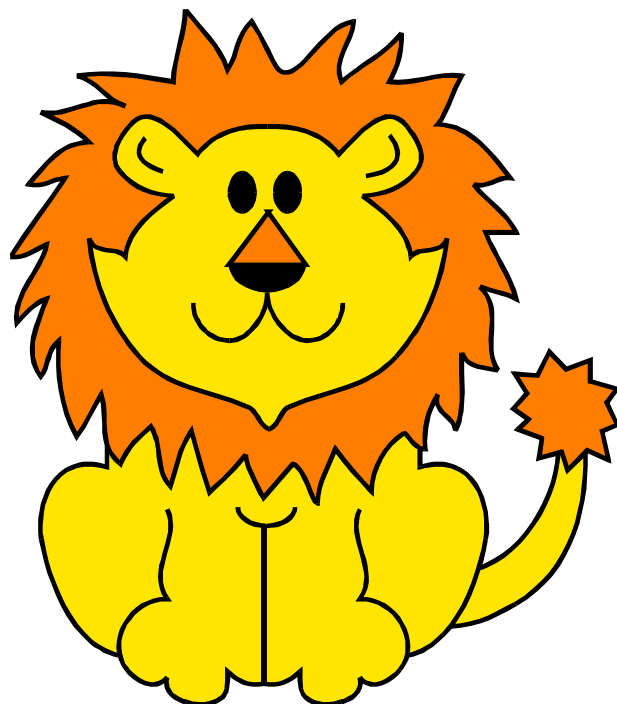




MD105 YOUTH PROJECTS GUIDE FOR CLUBS



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The first four sections are to encourage the Club to get involved in Youth Activities. The remainder is to help and guide the club Youth Officer and Committee

This Toolkit is intended to complement the details and information distributed by the District Youth Officers and not replace them.

Above all, the hope is that it will encourage Lions Clubs to widen the extent of their Service Activities and to enjoy those new activities.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Lions 'Opportunities for Youth' Programme; - Changing tomorrow today.

1.1.1 Lions Policy Statement

Recognizing youth as this world's greatest asset and hope for the future, Lions Clubs International believes that it is the humanitarian responsibility of individual clubs throughout the world to make a community aware of its obligations to youth, discover their needs and help to fill those needs.

1.1.2 Mission Statement

To help and challenge young people to learn, to achieve and to serve.

This statement is simple, constant and always our mission.

1.1.3 Vision Statement

To develop a widespread understanding and respect for people so that we install a willingness to work together for our mutual benefit and encourage and enable the young people in our community to develop their full potential.

This statement is dynamic and can be changed. Initially setting out a vision of what is to be achieved in the next two to three years.

1.1.4 Guide Background

This Guide Includes: -

- Ideas and information which came out of the two Multiple District Youth Forums held in January 1999 and November 2000.
- Ideas that have been gathered from many officers at all levels who have worked on these projects.
- Experience gathered over many years and ideas that have proved successful.

All these are now being passed onto Clubs in one working paper, we hope they will be of value.

The aim of this Club Youth Projects Guide is to: -

- Help and guide Clubs to have a more effective 'Opportunities for Youth' Programme
- Help Clubs decide which Youth Projects are suitable and relevant to them and the area served by the club.

Clubs cannot be expected to support every project. The club membership, size and experience of the area served and the experience of the Club will vary tremendously. Our aim in this guide is to help and encourage Clubs to support one or more of these projects in a successful way. In particular we hope that it helps Clubs who have had little contact with young people to feel more confident in developing their Youth Programme in the future.

1.2 Why bother with a Youth Programme?

Lions have two main reasons for having a Youth Programme

- 1) To give children and young people in this and other countries a better quality of life than they currently have.

In particular we are concerned for those who are disadvantaged, as a result of difficult home backgrounds, war, poverty etc.

We do this at a local level for families known to the club.

We do it at International level through our many and varied Lions Projects.

The ways we do this are too many and too varied to detail in this document. But every Club will know of projects they have supported.

- 2) We encourage, support and reward young people, many of whom are leaders in their own community and peer group.

We do this because we want to encourage volunteering. We want to show young people that there are older people who care like they do. Lions are one of these groups.

We want to introduce them to Lionism now, so that we are: -

“Changing Tomorrow Today.”

This is a long-term investment, but there is also a short-term gain because we will learn to work with these young people, we will learn from them, as they will learn from us.

1.3 Opportunities for Youth

looking carefully at the full range of activities we have for our young people is an eye opener: -

<u>Age</u>	<u>Activities</u>
0 – 18	Each Club helps young people in their own community in various ways, too numerous to list here.
7 – 11	The Skills Programmes for the Primary School Child, developed with our Partners 'TACADE', closely tied to the National Curriculum.
11 – 13	The International Peace Poster Competition
11 – 18	The Life Skills Programmes for Secondary Schools.
11 – 16	The Possibility of developing school based (Alpha) Leo Clubs
14 – 16	The MD105 Youth Football Competition.
15 – 19	The Youth Award Competition, which is being developed to an International Level, under the title 'Young Ambassadors of the 21 st Century', along with the Lions Young Leaders in Service Award, Silver and Gold Certificates for Voluntary Service.
17 – 22	The Youth Exchange Programme. The age increasing to 30 if we include Camps for the Disabled.
16 –28	The possibility of sponsoring Community (Omega) Leo Clubs.

The 'New Century Lions Clubs' for men and women under the age of 35.

We also support 'Gift for Living', 'Street Children', 'The Sight First Programme' etc

Schools are also developing their own programmes of Community Service within the Citizenship Syllabus. In this they give service themselves both in school and in the community and learn about others who give service. This tendency provides Lions with a real opportunity of working with the young and telling them about Lions.

In addition we must note the opportunities all these projects give for introducing Lions to other Youth Leaders; -

PARENTS

FAMILY

FRIENDS

YOUTH LEADERS

YOUTH

TEACHERS

SPONSORS

THE MEDIA

JUDGING PANEL

All the above include potential Lions and almost all are younger than the average Lion, but Lions must take the opportunity of talking Lionism to them.

1.4 Information Available to Clubs

The following list includes both information available from Lions and information that can be gathered from other sources.

- 1) An A4 Leaflet outlining all the Multiple District and International Lions Youth Projects. It is easily photocopied, amended and is intended for widespread distribution.
- 2) The Youth Booklet "**Changing Tomorrow Today**". A high quality booklet covering all the projects in more detail in an attractive, professional format. It is intended for publicity for Lions, to schools, businesses, the media and for targeting individuals, schools and businesses when looking for entries to competitions, applicants to projects, support, sponsorship, judges and publicity.

Both contain brief histories of Lionism, our aims and objectives.

It is suggested that when both the above are given out or posted they are followed up with a phone call or meeting after the recipient has had time to read them.

- 3) This toolkit for Clubs
- 4) The LCI Video entitled: - "The Future is Ours So Now What?" This is an American production showing a lot of young people talking about community Service and giving ideas for our own young people to copy or adapt. It is obtainable from LCI Headquarters in Oak Brook.
- 5) A workshop on Youth Projects being written for Multiple Districts, Districts, Zones and Clubs to help guide and stimulate their thinking.

Local Information

This can be gleaned from many sources providing Lions are prepared to look: -

- Local Newspapers
- Local Radio
- Youth Leaders
- Youth Councils
- School Newsletters
- Drug Reference Groups

Government/Local Government initiatives could also provide an opening.

Best of all, recruit into your Club a Lion who is very involved in the local "Youth Scene", perhaps as an Associate Member.

MD information is given in the relevant sections, but these are being added to all the time as more and more web pages are being written and information at present in pamphlet form is added to the web.

1.5 What does your club need to make the Youth Projects Happen?

- a. Most important of all a commitment to, and enthusiasm for, a Youth Programme
- b. Initially to build on current resources. Possible developments could be: -
 - Ideally a committee of three, with one Lion being replaced each year.
 - If this is not possible initially a dedicated Club Youth Officer who will be encouraged to find two other committee members. Possibly recruiting new Lions with a youth Interest or knowledge of local youth activities and needs.
- c. Careful thought on financing, this could be done by funding each project or with an annual budget agreed before the start of each Lions Year.
- d. Papers and information on all the Lions Youth Programmes. The Club will want to chose which to support, but knowledge of all will help the club choose which is/are the best for them to introduce into the club programme. Knowledge of rules, regulations, closing dates etc are essential.

These can all be obtained from the relevant District Officer or in the case of Life Skills from Tacade (1 Hulme Place, The Crescent, Salford, Greater Manchester. M5 4QA, Tel 0161 745 8925, Fax 0161 745 8923, Email ho@tacade.demon.co.uk Website – www.tacade.com)
- e. Knowledge of the local youth scene in the broadest sense of the word. This can be gathered over a period of time or by inviting local teachers, youth leaders, youth council members to committee meetings.
- f. A list of local contacts, showing position, addresses, telephone/fax numbers, email addresses. Also the best time and best way to make contact.

Month	Peace Poster	Youth Award	Youth Football	Youth Exchange	Life Skills
March	Find names of Heads of Art. Packs can be obtained from LCI/Distinct Peace Poster Officer	Gather Information about contacts – school reference writers. St Johns, Local Papers etc.	Look for suitable teams	Begin to finalize arrangements for host families/youth exchangers going out. Keep a track of progress	
April	Contact Heads of Art and show Peace Poster Pack.	Make sure you have the rules. Make contact with people who will know candidates. Arrange appointments for August/September	Make Contacts re-next year's competition	Progress Exchangers arrangements	Contact Head of Jnr Schools to establish needs. Secondary School teacher about next years Personal Development Curriculum.
May	Follow up contacts.	Follow up contacts.	Follow up contacts.	Follow up contacts.	Follow up contacts.
June	Agree budget at Club level	Agree budget at Club level	Agree budget at Club level. Make team entry to Competition.	Agree budget at Club level	Agree budget at Club level
July	Confirm competition entries. Pass details to School/Club	Confirm Contacts	Confirm entries	Inwards/Outwards exchanges taking place. Confirm club policies on how to choose candidates – letter? – Interview? – Reference? – candidate must benefit and be reliable	
August		Plan club final. Invite Candidates, judges, Parents, teachers, youth leaders etc. Organise PR	Maintain contact with team.	Note any problems that may have occurred inwards/outwards	
September	Maintain contact	Contact candidates, give out and explain entry forms & use of bursary form.	Entry confirmed to be followed up and team informed	Discuss future youth exchange programme. Final info on Youth Camps.	
October		Keep checking	1 st round – keep in touch with team	Interview candidates and give out application forms.	
November	Club Final	Club Final	2 nd Round – keep in touch with team		
December	District Final			Send off forms	
January	Information available from Oak Brook	District Final		Maintain contact with Family and District	
February					
Contacts	Lion Tel -	Lion Tel -	Lion Tel -	Lion Tel -	Lion Tel -

A YEAR'S PROGRAMME

The time table below is intended to provide a basic timetable for undertaking many of the projects in this guide. Most clubs leave things until it is too late; the motto must be 'Start planning in plenty of time'. Remember that many of the programmes, especially Leos are ongoing, so are not included in this section. Clubs can extract timetables for individual projects from this list and add more details and target dates.

March	(YF) Youth Football – look for suitable teams (YA) Youth Award – begin to get information about contacts school reference writers – St Johns Contacts, scan local papers etc. (YE) Youth Exchange – begin to finalise arrangements for host families/youth exchangers going out, keep track of progress. (PP) Find names of Heads of Art for Peace Poster Competition, Order Packs from LCI or District Peace Poster Officer.
April	(YF) Make contacts with teams and District officers about next year's competition (YA) April to June make sure you have the rules, make contact with people who know candidates and make arrangements about contacting them in August/September (YE) Youth Exchange – begin to finalise arrangements for host families/youth exchangers going out, keep track of progress.
May	(PP) Time to make contact with schools before they really get down to planning in detail next years curriculum (YA) follow up (YE) and finalise YF team arrangements.
June	Continue as above, in June or July make YF entry. YE finalise arrangements for Club Hosting, Keep in contact with schools, keep clubs informed, Fix and ask for budget for following year, in first year this will be a guess!!
July	You should know by now who will enter the PP competition, who to contact for YA, that final details have been made for 'Yex Out' and the exchanger will have left, Inward Exchanger may have arrived. Discuss club policy on YE. How do you chose candidates, letter? Interview? Reference? The candidate must benefit and not let you down.
August	YE may be with Club, Youth Exchange Out will return contact about problems, enjoyment etc. Fix date and venue for Club YA Final, invite judges (None lions), organise PR, ensure Club know and plan evening, invite parents, teachers, Youth Leaders etc. Keep contact with Football team.
Sept	Make Contact with YA candidates, give and explain to them the entry forms and use of money form. Contact schools re PP and LS, by end of month may have heard about YF entry. Discuss whether the club, perhaps in conjunction with other clubs would like to host YE and prepare and embryo programme.
October	YA Final in this month or early November, YF Entry will have arrived, arrange first match, YE Camps will have started appearing on LCI Web Site contact schools about possible exchangers, arrange to go to schools/colleges to talk about the programme and get names of possible participants, give them entry forms and other details.
November	Club YA Candidate chosen, to be briefed on next stage, follow up YE and YF. PP will have to be completed and judged by about the middle of the month, arrange judges, PR possible town displays, certificates for participants, prizes for winners etc.
December	You will be busy with the club christmas programme, but the YE candidates will have been chosen and papers sent to District and MD officers. Record Sheet of progress prepared and applicants kept informed. Possible PP follow up or next month, i.e. awards handed out.
January	District YA Final may be in this month. If you candidate has reached this stage they must be prepared, YF Competition continues (Maybe), Maybe a chance to contact schools about LS and if they want any further courses and how valuable the courses are.
February	This year's programme will be coming to an end for PP, YA, YF but other things will be ongoing and a start can be made on next year's programme. If the club are hosting YE begin to work on the programme for the exchangers, fix budgets for hosts and people organising outings etc.

1.6 Preparation

Before embarking on a successful Youth Programme the club ideally needs to do a good deal of planning and preparation.

The first thing to do is to get the Youth Committee together or failing that to appoint a Youth Officer. If there is no-one suitable in the club the first task must be to recruit someone who is, appoint a Lion to make enquiries about this.

The second task is to assemble together all the information from District Officers and local sources. This will take time and the process could last over weeks, months or years, but it should not stop you making a start, for the best way to find the information is to do so with a particular project in mind: -

- a. Rules, Regulations and Procedures for all the Lions Youth Projects. These are frequently lost from one year to the next so should be filed, even though the projects are not supported.
- b. A List of all the secondary schools in the area with addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers, email addresses and websites. Add: -
 - Names of the Headteacher with qualifications for courtesy purposes
 - Head of Art (For Peace Poster Competition)
 - Head of PE (For football and other sporting activities)
 - Head of Sixth Form for Youth Award and Youth Exchange
 - The Current teacher or Deputy Head responsible for the Personal Development Curriculum in the school for contact about Life Skills, drug education and the school programme for Community Service/Involvement.
 - Heads of Year/House if you want to approach the school for fund raising activities (eg Swimathons, Fun Runs etc), NB some schools have a committee to deal with such activities.
 - Head of Music.
- c. A list of all Primary Schools in the area to include addresses, telephone and fax numbers, email addresses, websites. Name of headteacher, Deputy and the name of any other teacher responsible for sport, Skills for the Primary School Child, Healthy School accreditation. Teacher responsible for school music.
- d. Contact names, telephone numbers, addresses of as many Youth Leaders as possible in the area. This list will take time to assemble and will need updating regularly. It will include: Local Government Youth Leaders/Officers, Scout and Guide Leaders (Area and Pack Leaders, St John Ambulance, Red Cross, Gateway Club, PHAB Club, Martial Arts Clubs, Youth Bands, Choirs) etc
- e. Names of Local Trusts which support Youth Projects.
- f. Names of Firms you could approach for sponsorship and the name of an individual in the firm who will be your point of contact.

We suggest the first meeting of the Youth Committee should be to prioritise the projects and decide where you are going to make a start or improve what you have done in the past.

2.0 Projects

2.1 Making Leos Happen – Leadership, Experience, Opportunity.

2.1.1 Why form a Leo Club

To encourage young people to get involved in voluntary work by giving service to their community.

To give young people leadership experience.

To increase the amount and variety of service given by Lions in their community.

To make contact with young people, their families, their teachers and youth leaders.

To learn something from them about their activities, their problems and the needs of young people in your town.

To learn what and how young people think

To have fun working together and to keep Lions young at heart, this is the real secret of a successful Leo Club: - Lions and Leos must work together.

The Leos of today are the Lions of tomorrow.

Forming a Leo Club cannot be done in a hurry, the more thought put into preparation beforehand the more successful the club and the Partnership with Lions will be.

2.1.2 A Community Based Leo Club (Omega)

Some initial thoughts: -

- Contact the District or Multiple District Officer for Information/Guidance
- The age range in this country is normally 16-28. Is this what you want? or do you want to cover just a part of the age range? Will it be a permanent decision or one for the early life of the Leo club only.
- If you decide on including the 16/17 age group, how will you deal with the Licensing Laws.
- How will a Leo Club enhance your Lions Club?
- Leo Clubs are dual gender, does this affect your Club?
- You will need a budget for PR, Hire of rooms etc. Perhaps £200.00

Once you have a small sub-committee formed to consider the matter the following gives some ideas for discussion and action. They are ideas only and each club will want to do it their way, the only criteria at the end of the day is how successful the process has been.

a **List the advantages of forming a community based Leo Club.**

b **Be Honest.:** - List the problems that you expect to have. Seek advice of teachers, youth leaders, parents etc and then get some ideas about how these problems can be overcome. You could ask a teacher or a youth leader to join your committee in an advisory capacity.

- c **Decide on the club's approach to the question of age range.** If you limit this in the first place you may also consider how to increase it later. Your decisions on this could affect where the Leo Club meets.
- d **Guidelines from Kevin Munday.** Kevin a former Leo, A Youth Leader employed by St Johns Ambulance and a member of the Youth Council of the UK, Spoke at the MD105 Youth Forum of November 2000 and gave the following advice to Clubs and potential members. How? Why do? When? Can people get involved. Using FLEXIVOL as a wish list the following gives a good guide and could well prove a basis for discussion: -

- F. **FLEXIBILITY.** People like to feel they are in control of their own time, that volunteering fits in with their other commitments. Short time volunteering means you know where it starts and ends, but joining a club is different, there is a fear of being asked to give too much time, which can put people off joining and cause resignation.
 - L. **LEGITIMACY.** What image does the organisation give? Is it acceptable to the peer group? If not this can have a very negative effect. Is it known by and have positive vibes for employers, local government, Lions and other volunteer groups.
 - E. **EASE OF ACCESS.** Do young people know how to get involved? For success it is essential to have good PR with the relevant age group. There must be no sign of a closed shop.
 - X. **EXPERIENCE.** In the competitive world in which we live, young people will want to know what skills for personal development they will gain from membership. e.g. experience in leadership, organisation, working in a team, report/minute writing, account keeping, time management, dealing with other organisations, all leading to self confidence. Is there a way of recording these experiences so that it will be an advantage to the member in their working life.
 - I. **INCENTIVES.** Is there a tangible outcome, a C.V. a reference from someone of standing. Are/What expenses are paid? Is there any formal training involved, e.g Leadership Development, online training via International website. What opportunity is there for working with the local Lions Club; how much support, guidance is given; how much are Leos left alone to make their own mistakes and learn from them.
 - V. **VARIETY.** Does the club offer variety of work, activity, experience, time commitment. How much support will be given by other club members. Being left to cope alone can be very off putting and can lead to refusal to take office or in extreme circumstances resignation. Also the club must learn to use the experience of ex-presidents, officers and not treat them as yesterday's person.
 - O. **ORGANISATION.** Young people want to join a club where they will feel at ease. It needs to be efficient, but informal and relaxed. The Club should think of organising itself in such a way that it will attract the people it wants to attract.
 - L. **LAUGHS.** A voluntary organisation must be fun, so members get lots of laughs. Young people do not want to give their time for long stodgy meetings and for tension filled events. Good structure and organisation will prevent this. They will also want social events which appeal to them.
- e **Planning your Leo Club.** With all the above in mind create a plan for your Leo Club.
 - Suggest a budget, initially perhaps £200 to be increased as required.
 - Plan a recruitment campaign

- Discuss the nature of the club – how much social activity, how much community service?
 - How much do you plan to lead? How much to leave to the members?
 - When do you aim to bring young people into your planning and which young people will you seek to advise you?
- f **Deciding on the Venue.** For the first 'get together' meeting, which must attract young people. Discuss the regular meeting place for the early meetings.
- g **Active Recruitment.** List all the places from which you could recruit members and your contacts in those places
- Local secondary school, Head of Sixth Form, current members or those not going on to Higher Education, possibly speak to Sixth Formers.
 - A copy of the electoral register
 - The Local Technical/Sixth Form College. Especially important where there are no Sixth Forms in Schools.
 - As many local Youth Groups/Organisations as you can think of.
 - Try to get a nucleus of 3 or 4 young people who could advise and work with you in planning, getting them involved straight away. Give them email addresses of Leos in other clubs, so they can get ideas from their own age range, allowing them to bring their own ideas to the discussion and thus the added confidence to get their own members.
- h **The Initial Meeting.**
- Where will you hold this meeting?
 - Who do you invite apart from potential Leos?
 - How would you organise the meeting?
 - What literature/information would you need/distribute at this meeting?
 - What are the main points you need to make?
 - What part will potential and existing Leos play in the meeting?
 - How much and when will you leave it to the potential Leos to make decisions?
 - What do you want to have achieved by the end of the meeting?
- i **How do you Plan to ensure there is continued liaison between Lions and Leos.** The comments from Leos at the Youth Forum are: - communication between the two clubs must be good and open. Involve more than one Lion; allow free exchange of ideas, do not inhibit discussion or requests for help, in fact be a genuine partnership supporting each other in mutual trust, but keeping their individuality. Leos need to be nurtured and encouraged, they will make mistakes, but must learn from these and not be blamed for them.
- j **How would you use the local Media.** There is local radio as well as local papers. You need to be sure of the message that you want to get across and use the potential Leos in all of this, but they will need, and must have, training either from Lions or other voluntary organizations, especially for press releases and radio interviews.
- k **Potential Sponsors.** Would you approach potential sponsors? How? When? To sponsor what? (Use the Youth Booklet – Changing Tomorrow Today) Could the sponsor join in discussion to see how Leo membership/experience could be used to the advantage of members? e.g. What would employers be looking for in an application from a Leo and how could this be recorded?

- l **A Leo Certificate.** Could the Club draw up their own certificate for the Leos listing the experience gained as a member?

In time this type of certificate will be drawn up by the Multiple District.

- m **Continuity.** The important thing is to get structure into the Leo Club which is acceptable to Leos and the sponsoring Lions Club, so that the Leo members get maximum benefit from membership and the Leo Club adds to the success of the Lions Club. There is need to find regular avenue for recruiting: - electoral roles; Schools, Colleges, Youth members of our communities; Employers in the town who want their young managers to gain Leadership Experience.

N B *This will all demand big input from Lions who will have to give up some of their other commitments in the club, but their loss can be more than made up by the Leos working with the Lions Club.*

2.1.3 School based Leo Clubs (Alpha)

At the moment there is only one in the Multiple District, Ashby and Coalville, which was started with the enthusiasm of one teacher now a Lion, so we are on a learning curve.

However outside of Europe, Alpha Leo Clubs are the norm, so they must be possible and they must work, but we need to learn from each other and plan together.

The following comments came from a workshop at the Youth Forum in November 2000.

2.1.4 How much do we rely on Teachers

- a. The Club will need the support of the Headteacher, who needs to be sure of the motives of the Lions Club and how the school will benefit. They will also need the support of at least one committed member of staff.
- b. The Lions Club will have to fit in with the demands of the school so at least one teacher will have to be involved, who will know school routines, school rules; Space/Rooms available; storage space etc; and will know the children involved. *The Lions Club will have to fit in with the demands and requirements of the school.*
- c. The PTA could become involved, especially the parents of Leo Club Members.
- d. The teacher will know the times at which the Leos could meet. This could be during the lunch hour or after school.
- e. The teacher will know of the needs within the school and how much the Leo Club could satisfy the school policy on Community Service/Involvement.

NB. All schools now have "Citizenship" on their curriculum and have to deliver that in a practical way, Lions could be a big help in this. But remember the good name of the school is paramount in the eyes on any Head so any whiff of scandal or trouble and the club could be closed immediately.

2.1.5 What will attract young people to join.

- a. Something to put on their record of achievement and ultimately their CV.
- b. A knowledge that it will give them skills and experience that will be of value to them. This will have to be carefully explained from the word go.
- c. The knowledge that they will choose the projects which interest them.
- d. It is non - uniform!!

2.1.6 What rewards can we offer to Leo Club Members?

- a. Lions Young Leaders in Service Awards for 12-18 year olds, a Silver Certificate for 50 hours and a Gold Certificate for a 100 hours of voluntary Service.
- b. Increase in self esteem and self confidence. This will be very important for the poorer classroom achievers and is something which is very real.

- c. A sense of achievement and a more impressive Record of Achievement.

2.1.7 What Leadership Experience can we give and how?

- a. Running a meeting, which is something children must be trained to do.
- b. Acting as an officer, e.g. Secretary or Treasurer, again they will need a lot of guidance.
- c. Organizing experience and skills in running events.
- d. Communications skills with each other and outside people, i.e. building self-confidence in communication.
- e. Life Skills coping with challenges and difficulties.
- f. Responsibility in seeing things through.

All the above are invaluable experiences for Leo's and all need the guidance and support of Lions to ensure that they are done well. This is new territory for Lions, we have only the guidance of one club and one leader. (Ashby and Coalville Leos – 105E), so the following are ideas which may be followed, but be sure you have a very good grasp of thoughts and information first: -

- Try to make an appointment with the Head of the local secondary school.
- Send him/her the Youth Leaflet, the Youth Booklet and any other information about Leo's
- Be prepared to explain how you think Leos could help the school's image.
- You could make reference to all the other Youth Projects mentioned in the Youth Booklet.
- Emphasise that Leo's train young people to volunteer for community service give leadership experience and could fit in with the Citizen Course.
- Be prepared to follow the lead of the Head regarding age group and being put in touch with another teacher who will support the club.

2.1.8 Be realistic from the word go. The most important thing you can offer is knowledge of the Community and where the Leos could help. You could also offer to advise the Leo Club Officers, but you will need a teacher to control and show how you can use the school to best advantage. In the end the teacher as the leader is essential, but Lions will still have a large part to play in the club and remember that one of the main purposes is to sell the idea of Lionism to the Leo members and the teacher.

Information available from the MD, District Officers and MD/D Leo Presidents.

International Web Site - www.lionsclubs.org; at MD Leos.org and www.lionsmd105.org

The MD 'Leo Club Formation Guide'

2.2 Youth Award

This project is now developing into a European and International project with the title of “Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century.” The International First Vice President thought enough of our Youth Award Competition to come to the M.D. Final in 2001 and was very impressed.

2.2.1 What are the advantages of Youth Award?

- You introduce Lions to some of the youth leaders in your community.
- You have the opportunity to introduce Lions to many adults linked to your candidates.
- You learn of things which motivate young people and give them your active and monetary support.
- You are saying to community minded people: - “You are doing a great job, keep it up and we are supporting you.”
- There is a wonderful opportunity for PR in the media and local businesses.
- It puts you in touch with schools, colleges and other youth organizations.

2.2.2 The Youth Award Year

March/April

- Make sure you have a copy of the rules, the entry form and other information from the District Youth Award officer.
- At the Youth Sub Committee, or equivalent, decide on the budget you need. This will have to cover costs for room hire for the club ‘competition’, costs of the evening; amounts for prizes; cost for taking your candidate on to the next stage(s).
- Decide whether you want a Club Trophy for your chosen representative?
- Decide your calendar for the rest of the year.

March/July Do your research

- Read the local newspapers to see if there is news of Youth Achievements and make notes about the achievements and any contacts.
- Research the names of the contacts in the local Secondary Schools and Further education Colleges.
- 11 – 16 Schools, contact the Heads of Year 11
- 11/13 – 18 Schools, contact the Heads of Sixth Forms or anyone promoting Community Service.

- Further Education/Technical Colleges, contact Lecturers responsible for writing references. The names of Heads of Departments catering for the 16 – 19 age group.
- The names of contacts in the various organizations in which this age group are involved:-

** St John Ambulance: The Red Cross:

** Scouts and Guides:

** Sporting clubs of all sorts where older members may coach the young:

** Youth Orchestra, Bands, Choirs where it is almost certain that one or more young people go beyond merely playing:

** Clubs for the disabled (PHAB, Gateway):

** Town Youth Councils: Drop in Centers: Youth Coffee Bars:

** Churches: Hospices: Hospital Radio: Libraries:

Do keep and file the names etc of the contacts once you have found them, but make sure that you keep them up to date. N.B. Lions are great at losing vital information!!!

At this time it might be a good idea to find out the best way to deal with each of the people that you contact. Some may be prepared to take responsibility for handing out the forms and chasing up entries, others will limit their support to giving names for you to contact. It is best to know, you can then proceed accordingly.

Make a point of meeting/talking to as many of these contacts as possible during this period. Give them the Youth Pamphlet and/or Youth Booklet, "Changing Tomorrow Today." Let them know everything about Youth Award, the PR advantages to the organization and the advantages to the young person themselves:-

- Interview practice.
- The rewards /bursaries you, as a club, give and which are achievable at District, Multiple District and eventually International level.
- Mention the PR that the winner and the school/organization get.
- Give them literature about the scheme and say when you will be in touch again: perhaps in September.

September/October Take Action

- 1) Distribute the entry forms in the way you have decided and follow them up. Keep looking for new information and new possible entries.
- 2) Decide the date and times for the Club Final. Give plenty of notice to the candidates so they can make arrangements.
- 3) Decide and book the venue for the Club Final. This should be comfortable: have a room where the candidates and other guests meet and spend the time together with tea/coffee making facilities. There must also be another room for the interviews, which ideally will be small, have four comfortable chairs set in a circle where the conversation can take place in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

This is the time when you are selling Lions as a quality Association to other people and the venue should fit that aim. You may find a hotel or local business that would sponsor the Award Scheme by providing free rooms and drinks.

- 4) Invite three judges, one of whom will be asked to chair the panel. They should be non-Lions; represent both sexes; represent education, youth activities and the business community (this includes the local media). Explain the rules to them and the marking schemes; prepare the judging forms with space for each of the judging criteria. Suggest a time for each interview (20 – 30 minutes).
- 5) Invite the candidates and other guests: - their parents/family; the sponsor; the local media; newspaper and BBC local radio; anyone else you feel would be interested (by letter, followed by phone call).
- 6) If possible, visit the candidates in their homes to explain the evening and other details about the competition. This shows that you value them and want to put them at ease.

Early November (probably)

- 1) Finalise the programme for the Club Final, one suggestion is:-
 - Welcome and introductions of the candidates and the judges.
 - Explanation of the aims of Youth Award; explain how we have sold the idea to the International Association.
 - Explanation of the format of the evening.
 - Decide the order of the interviewing: - draw numbers or in alphabetical order.
- 2) Decide how you will entertain the candidates (and guests) when they are not being interviewed. A number of Lions should be present to talk to everybody. A display of Lions activities should be mounted. A quiz or competition may dispel nerves. Tea coffee and biscuits, at least, should be readily available.
- 3) You could take the opportunity to hold a discussion on a current youth topic, e.g. that teenagers in the UK are the biggest drinkers, smokers, drug takers in Europe, getting views from all present, trying to find any local needs.
- 4) While you are waiting for the judges to make their final decision you could take the opportunity to give a short talk on Lionism, perhaps using the display in the room and handing out leaflets about your club to all present.
- 5) **The announcement of the judge's decision.** Do emphasize that everybody interviewed is a winner in the eyes of the Lions, which is why we make a donation/give a present to each participant. The person chosen to represent the Club at the next stage of the competition is:-.....
- 6) Thanks to the judges, the participants, the guests for supporting, the media for being present (you may be able to arrange an interview for the Club representative with local radio + the Club organizer of the event). A small gift to each judge and an invitation to attend any Lion meeting or event. Take a photograph of the candidates and prepare a press release.

Post November

Make sure that the candidate's entry is fully ready for the next stage: - the paper on using the bursary is well written and within the rules, that photographs are organized and that the candidate is prepared. Ideas could include: - assembling a portfolio of their activities, ensuring they know the date and time

and perhaps meeting them to run through the procedures beforehand. Organise an occasion for the club representative and perhaps other entries to come and talk to the club.

If the candidate wins the District or they are clearly of high quality, i.e. they will not feel embarrassed, invite them to a Club Meeting and/or the Club Charter, and, in any case, to next years Club Final.

2.3 Youth Exchange

2.3.1 The Object

Is simply “To create and foster a spirit of understanding amongst the peoples of the world.” If we do this at an early age, so much the better. The age range for Youth Exchange is generally between 17 and 22, but this can and does vary.

There are two ways in which this achieved:-

- a. To welcome and host young people, sponsored and screened by Lions Clubs in another Multiple District.
- b. To sponsor a young person from your area on the Youth Exchange programme.

NB The more young people we can host in MD105 the more we are able to send abroad.

2.3.2 Hosting

Hosting takes place at two main times in the year:-

From early December to mid January, when visitors come from Australia and New Zealand.

In the summer from approximately mid July to late August when the visitors come from many parts of the world.

The times when hosting is needed are known well before the event, but the names and personal details of the visitors are not known until later:-

The winter visitors by September and the summer visitors by mid April.

2.3.3 Sponsoring

Youth camps and the format of visits

Information about Lions Youth Camps (the name, venue and other details) can be obtained from the LCI Web Site, <http://www.lionsclub.org> from September onwards.

The “Exchanger” stays with a host family for part of their stay and in the Youth Camp, usually held in a university or hostel, for the rest of their visit. It is common for “Exchangers” from many countries to attend Youth Camps. The “Exchanger” will be met at the arrival airport and taken to their first destination and will be looked after by local Lions throughout and at the end of their stay they will be taken to the departure airport.

What will the “Exchanger” experience?

During their stay they will experience home life in a different culture, will visit local places with the family or other Lions and will enjoy Camp Life along with many new friends they will almost immediately make, many of whom they will visit in succeeding years.

Almost all young people who take part in Youth Exchange enthuse about and gain great benefit from the experience.

The Cost to the sponsor

This depends on the Club, it can cost the Club nothing, and at the other extreme the Club could pay the entire costs as some do for their Youth Award winner.

2.3.5 What must the club do?

June/December (in previous year)

- Inform the District Youth Exchange Officer of the name and address of the Club Youth Exchange Officer and ask for application forms and other details.
- Decide the Club policy on financing exchangers. Costs could include: - transport from home to destination; insurance premiums; internal traveling costs abroad; spending money; pins/banners from the Club.
- Brainstorm/decide, how/where you will find the candidate(s). One suggestion used by a Club which regularly sponsors Youth Exchangers is:-

Get permission to talk to the relevant age group in school or college, explain the scheme; see who is interested; get them to write 500 words on why they want to take part; then interview them and make your decision, who and how many you want to sponsor. Inform all candidates of the decision.

September/December (the earlier the better)

- Get a list of Camp Sites from the Lions Web Site or District Officer. There are camps in nearly all countries where there are Lions Clubs, some of which are specifically for Disabled People.
- Approach sources for candidates and arrange your programme with that source.
- After selection, distribute the application forms, stressing the need for absolute honesty, accuracy, and including the necessary detailed information.
- Check and send to District Youth Exchange Officer, who will sign the form and send it to the Multiple District Youth Exchange Outward Officer (name and contact number of whom will be in the list of MD Officers in the MD Directory).

A possible spreadsheet could be:-

M.D Ref	Name & Address	Statement Marked	Interview Date	Application Checked	Sent to District	Name of Camp Details
Host Name & Address	Insurance Checked	Flight Details Checked	Banners and Pins given	Final Checks Made	Comments	

Sometimes there is a long delay between applications being made and then hearing about being accepted, which in some cases will not happen until April.

April/June

Monitor progress on spreadsheet and keep District Officer informed.

NB Processes may vary. Sometimes information will come to the family from the MD Officer, at other times it will go straight to the family. In all cases everybody must be kept informed. The information will contain details of Camp and/or Host family, arrival airport and expected arrival time. The Host family will write to the exchanger who should reply. Holiday insurance must be checked and ensured that it is adequate. Flights should be booked and the Hosts informed of the details.

Exchangers should be informed that they are representing the Club, must obey rules, and play a full part in the Host family life. It is not a cheap holiday!! Rules of the Youth Exchange must be obeyed. On return the Exchanger should be invited to speak at a Club Meeting.

2.3.5 Hosting

The notes which follow are a summary of making a success of family Hosting. More details can be obtained from the MD105 publication (obtainable from the District Youth Exchange Officer):-

Youth Exchange Family Hosting – A Guide

Hosting can be a great experience, but should be a Club or even a Zone project so that the load can be shared and it should be thought through carefully beforehand. The MD Youth Exchange Inwards Officer can pass on contacts for Zone Hosting.

Preparation

NB. Months are not given by name (because of the winter/summer hosting) but by a suggested countdown.

The Hosting period is usually about 10 days

9 months

Decide Club policy on Hosting, whether you will Host, how many you will Host (it is often easier to Host in 2's as they entertain each other):

Has the Club a preference for male or female or a mixed group?

Has the Club a preference for nationality, specific e.g. Japanese, or general European; or will you wait and see?

The budget

Does the Club intend to reimburse the Hosts (£10.00 per night); what will be allowed for outings? It must be emphasized that the aim of Youth Exchange is to introduce young people to our culture, not to take them to all the expensive "honey pots" in your area. Costs can be taken from the Charity Account.

The Club Commitment

- a) Find potential Hosts; these need be no more than Bed and Breakfast venues provided by Lions or people well known to Lions. This may be provided by an older Lion whose children have left home, but the rest of the club must be prepared to share the Hosting responsibilities.

- b) The visitors could be taken out by different Lions each day, while others could provide a meal in the evening. Other Lions may have families in the right age bracket, or may know young people of the right age to help with entertainment.
- c) It is important that the visitors do have time on their own and/or with young people they have met.

All the above can be decided at an early stage.

6 months

Provisional plans finalized. Inform the District Officer that the Club is prepared to Host including any special requests, but you want to see the application forms. Confirm the dates when Hosting is required.

3 months

Details of visitors will start to arrive and the District Officer will be in touch. Make a final decision in liaison with the District Officer about when you are able, whom and how many you will Host.

2 months

Write to the Exchanger saying you are looking forward to meeting them and give details about your family. Liaise with the MD Officer about arrival time, airport etc and meeting place.

1 month

Make final preparations in conjunction with District and MD Officers.

ENJOY THE VISIT

2.3.6 Zone Hosting

You may prefer to join with other clubs and make the Hosting a Zone project in which the same things are done but at Zone level. In this case:-

- Each Zone Club will attempt to find Hosts.
- Each Zone Club will take responsibility for entertaining the guests for about 2 days, which makes life easier all round.
- A Zone budget will be decided between the clubs.
- It will help bonding within the Zone.
- Clubs will benefit from the experience of Hosting young people from other countries; they will establish friendships between the Club and the student and with their sponsoring Club.
- Clubs could get to know more of their own young people; they will learn how young people think both in this country and elsewhere.
- Clubs will be put in touch with other Lions Clubs.
- Zone Clubs will have done something practical together as a team.
- Often new enthusiasms can be generated and it will link the Club with wider Lionism.
- Often Clubs thrive on doing something new so it is worth trying for that reason alone.....it makes the adrenalin flow!!!

Information available

Lions International Web Site – **www.lionsclub.org**

MD leaflet Youth Exchange – MD105, A Window on the World

MD leaflet Youth Exchange – Family Hosting, A Guide.

We are proposing to produce a new leaflet entitled 'Youth Exchange – Zone Hosting'.

2.4 Peace Poster Competition

This is now a well established Lions International Competition and it gives Clubs the opportunity to talk to local schools. A possible programme is:-

January The details of next year's competition are published and packs can be obtained from Oak Brook. Cost = £8.00/£9.00 per pack.

Decide what you aim to give to:- the winner; the participants; the school. The PR you plan for the school, the Club and the winner.

February/March Find the name of the Head of Art in the local secondary schools and a good time to contact him/her. Phone and speak to the receptionist for this information.

By letter invite the school to take part, describe the competition, emphasise the International aspect, enclose a copy of the rules and the topic for the year and the relevant dates. Stress paper size.

Explain what you are prepared to give the winner, the participants and the school if that is your wish, emphasizing the PR possibilities. Add that you will be in contact in about a week and make sure that you are.

You may get an immediate answer or you may have to wait, but do go back and follow up, teachers are under all kinds of pressures.

If you get a positive answer, send to Oak Brook for the packs, which will be charged to the Club account. Give Club name, District and if possible Club number.

Also approach Junior School Heads to see if their final year (year 6) could take part. Follow up in the same way as with secondary schools.

Some Clubs have had more success in contacting Youth groups like Brownies and Guides. So this is an alternative. The National Curriculum does not dominate these groups!!

April/July Pass the papers and rules etc to the schools and keep in touch.

September/November Keep in touch with the school and monitor the progress.

Agree with the school the judging procedure. You may want to see all of the entries or you may prefer the school to select 10 to 15 for the final judging. Ensure all concerned know the criteria for judging.

Decide the closing date of entries from the school. Perhaps the week after the autumn half term.

Invite a judging panel of local people of note, e.g. the Editor of the local newspaper, the Mayor, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, local radio reporter etc. Get all the PR you can for your Club and the School.

November 15th is the postmark deadline for the Club to send the winning entry to the District Governor. The District judging has to be completed by December 1st.

January/February The Club may be able to arrange a display of the entries somewhere in the town, perhaps in an empty shop window. Arrange to make Presentations to the winner(s)

You may be able to use the contacts made for other Youth Projects.

2.5 Drug Abuse and the School Skills Programme.

It should be realized that the School Skills programme for both the Primary and Secondary schools aims to do much more than help children deal with the problem of drugs. It helps school children cope with a great variety of problems which they have to face in their school days and afterwards. Drug Abuse and Substances for Abuse are two of the most important, but they are not the only ones.

2.5.1 Background to the Problem of Drug Abuse.

At the Youth Forum Lion Kit Leck and Vicki Barnes from the Warwickshire Drug Action Team spoke about the background to Drug Abuse. They emphasized that in any area a Drug Action Team is active, and which interested bodies work in co-ordination to tackle the problem.

Their aim is Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain.

- **Young People** - to help young people resist substance misuse in order to achieve their full potential in Society.
- **Communities** – to protect our communities from substance misuse and related anti-social and criminal behaviour.
- **Treatment** – to enable people with substance misuse problems to overcome them and live healthy and crime free lives.
- **Availability** – to stifle the availability of illegal drugs on our streets.

The National Picture – Young People.

At the end of the year 2000 the statistics for the use of illicit drugs were:-

- 1 in 12 twelve year olds
- 1 in 3 fourteen year olds
- 2 in 5 sixteen year olds
- Half of all young people will take drugs at some time in their lives.

The most at risk are:-

- Those receiving Criminal Justice.
- The Homeless.
- Those excluded from school.
- Young people looked after by someone other than their parents.
- The unemployed.

The National Picture – Treatment

- The number of people with drug problems is increasing each year.
- There are between 100,000 and 200,000 seriously problematic drug misusers in the UK.
- 3 times more men report to available support services than women.
- 56% of these will be heroin related.

The National Picture – Crime and Cost

- Half of all recorded crime has a drug related link.

- The total cost from serious drug users is estimated at over 4 billion a year.

Alcohol – The National Picture in Relation to Youth

- Young people between 15 – 25 suffer the highest number and proportion of all alcohol related facial injuries and assaults.
- 70% of physical assaults by men are alcohol related.
- Children are drinking at an earlier age and drink more than ever before.
- Approximately 20% of adults are likely to be drinking to unsafe levels.

All of the above topics are covered in the Skills Programmes produced by the Tacade/Lions Partnership for Primary and Secondary Schools. Drug Abuse, Tobacco, Alcohol and Substances for Abuse are all covered in addition to topics such as Bullying, Peer Pressure, Dealing with Problems and many more.

These Skill Programmes produced for the benefit of Schools and Teachers are closely tied to the National Curriculum and are in line with the Department of Education Initiatives like the Healthy Schools Programme for Primary Schools.

2.5.2 How can Lions Clubs promote the Skills Programmes and tackle the problem of Drug Abuse at a local level?

It will be rare for Lions Clubs to have members with the knowhow to tackle the problems of Drug Abuse at a local level alone. Lions will normally support, where they can, the local initiatives that are already in existence.

To discover these initiatives, possible sources of information are:-

- The local Youth Service
- The Police
- Local Secondary Schools
- The local Education Authority
- The local Drug Action Team

The first aim must be to find out if the support of Lions is needed and how the club can help.

2.6 The Skills Programmes

Lions Clubs of MD105 and Tacade signed a partnership Agreement some years ago. To show their commitment to the agreement members of Tacade, including the manager, are now Affiliate Lions.

2.6.1 How can Clubs develop a partnership with local schools?

- a Appoint at least one member to take over the project and make contact with the relevant teachers in both Primary and Secondary Schools.
- b Find out as much as possible from Tacade about:-
 - the courses at both Primary and Secondary school levels
 - the link with the National Curriculum
 - Government Initiatives
- c Use the excellent club guide written by Lion Tony James – www.lions105m.org.uk/tacade.htm

The contact details for Tacade are:-

Head Office – 1 Hulme Place

The Crescent

Salford

Greater Manchester

M5 4QA

Telephone – 0161 745 8925

Facsimile - 0161 745 8923

Email - ho@tacade.demon.co.uk

Web Site - www.tacade.com

Lions International Web Site – www.lionsclub.org

MD Website – www.lionsmd105.org

The Communications Manager is Lion Mandy Broadbent, who you find extremely helpful.

The more comfortable you feel with, and the more you know about the information, before you approach the schools the better.

- d Find out, if possible, which programmes have been placed in schools in you area. You may be able to discover this from Club Records and/or personal knowledge of Club Members. You may find Lions who know which teachers are the contacts in the local schools.
- e **Junior Schools** Make contact with the schools, if possible make the first contact with the most friendly school, this could help boost your confidence.
In the case of the junior school, if you don't know the contact write to the Head teacher on Headed Club paper, say who you are, that you have just taken over this Lions Club Project and would like to make contact with the school to see how much the Skills material is being used and how useful it is. Ask if you, representing the local Lions, can help and who you should contact in the school. Add that you will ring in two or three days time to discover the above information. It is always easier to make a phone call following a letter. If possible try to make an appointment to meet the relevant person.

- f At the meeting find out how much the material is being used, if not is it because teachers are unsure how to use it? If so Tacade will lay on a course for groups of local schools. (Advice for this can be obtained from your District Skills Programme Officer or Tacade).
- g Take a leaflet about the new course for Primary Schools:-

I am - I know - I can
Personal, social and health education and citizenship in the primary school.

This programme is closely tied to the Governments Healthy School Initiative and will help schools become accredited. Details are in Tacade leaflets and the February/March 2001 B & I Lion magazine, page 36 and in Tacade Literature.

- h You should also take information about all the other courses published by Tacade in case they are needed. This can be obtained from Tacade.
- i Having made contact do try to keep in touch with the school on an occasional basis. This could create all sorts of PR and development possibilities with the staff and the Parents Association.
- j **Secondary Schools** This is not always easy and you may have to be persistent. The first task is to find the name of the teacher responsible for Personal and Social Development Courses in the school. A phone call to the school will probably illicit an answer from the receptionist. As in all cases when a school is being contacted note the name of the relevant teacher, the times of the school day, including breaks and lunch hour and if possible when the relevant teacher is free.
- k Write your introductory letter asking if it is possible to come and talk and say you will phone in a couple of days to arrange a meeting. Personal contact is always likely to have a more positive result.
- l Make sure you have up to date information and leaflets, which you can leave in the school, about the Tacade courses, Skills for Life and especially the new course "Respect It" about alcohol education. The alcohol problem being the one in the forefront of the news.
- m If you can arrange a meeting try to find out:-
- If courses have been placed in the school and how much they are being used and with what success.
 - Try to find out if the Lions Club can help in any way, e.g. finding outside speakers; suggesting community projects; supplying further courses.
- n Use the opportunity to discuss School based Leo Clubs and the new International Silver and Gold Awards, which could lead to Youth Award. If schools are community minded they will be keen to hear of these and perhaps take them on board and have candidates for Youth Award.
- o Try if possible to maintain the contact you have made and to introduce the other Lions Projects, you may find surprisingly positive responses.

2.7 MD Youth Football Competition

Why is it special?

- It is the only UEFA sanctioned competition that U16 teams can enter straight from their own league. For the FA Youth Cup the team has to win it's league first.
- The only competition with teams entered from every country in MD 105
- The competition offers some teams the opportunity to play on all weather surfaces, under lights and in Football League Stadia.
- The only external competition in the country that is permitted to reserve dates for the semi finals and final (the early and late May Bank Holidays). All sanctioned by the FA.
- It offers some boys a unique experience, possibly a climax they will always remember, for others like Phil Neville it is one step on the way to major honours.

What does the Lions Club gain from entering?

- An opportunity to introduce Lions to Youth organizations in the community. With good PR it introduces Lions to all the local football teams.
- It introduces Lions to managers, the families and supporters of the teams. i.e. players are potential Leos and managers/supporters are potential Lions.
- As pitches etc come under leisure services it provides Lions links with these services and their managers and may open up other opportunities
- It gives lions opportunities to get sponsorship from local businesses and other organizations.
- Local radio and the local press will give you lots of PR especially if your team makes good progress.
- The opportunity to meet members of other Lions Clubs, often some distance from your own.

However the Lions Club must be pro active and make the most of the opportunities provided.

The Lions Football Year.

At the start of the Lionistic year, having decided to support Lions Youth Football, appoint a small committee, which could include:-

- A Youth Football officer
- A member of the Club Membership team
- A member of the Club PR committee
- A member of the Fund Raising committee to get sponsorship

Get the information sheet from the District Youth Football Officer and discuss points with him/her. Perhaps invite him/her to a committee meeting.

January to March

1 make contact with the local football league secretary/committee for the names of teams and managers playing in the local U15 league. Explain the competition and that you are looking for a team to represent the town in the following season, in the U16 age group.

2 Contact the managers, tell them all about it. If necessary go to a club or league meeting (contact Wirral Lions Club about this).

April to June

1 Find out which teams are interested in entering. If necessary you may have to organize a play off between interested teams. this could be done at this time but make the most of the PR opportunities (Mid Tyne Lions could advise).

2 talk to local businesses, coach firms and caterers about sponsorship.

June to July

This time is crucial. Entry forms must have reached the MD Officer by the end of July. If one team has already been selected, complete an entry form for this team.

If the play off has still to be held, complete an entry form on each team and send them all to the District officer. All will be sanctioned so it doesn't matter who wins the play off.

August to September

All teams entered have to be sanctioned, and in Alphabetical Order, by UEFA this takes six weeks from the arrival of our completed applications. No matches can be played until this has been done. The Draw will be made in September, but no one is informed of this until the sanction has been granted.

October

A full set of Competition rules will be sent along with the draw for the first two rounds, with a list of all Lion and football Club entries and their managers. A copy should be given to the football team manager, who should fix the games and keep all necessary people, including the Lions Club, informed. The local league must be kept informed of progress because the late stages of the competition are fixed and clubs may need permission to change their league programme.

October onwards

Get as much support as possible from the Lions, the families of the players and the local media as possible at the matches.

As the club progresses you and they will receive the draw for the later rounds.

With forethought and initiative this competition is ideal for spreading the word about Lionism. It shows we support one very positive Youth activity, helping to occupy youngsters in a positive and healthy way.