



# SIA Relief Package Key Information for Region Leaders

## Communication & Application Timeline

All communications will be sent to club presidents, treasurers, and club email addresses, with copies to region governors, governors-elect, and region offices.

- **Monday, October 13, 2025:** Notify governors and governors-elect in their language before invoicing clubs.
- **Thursday, October 16, 2025:** Notify region offices about this timeline before invoicing clubs.
- **Monday, October 20, 2025:** Notify all club presidents and treasurers in their language.
- **Thursday, January 1, 2026:** Formal invoicing of all clubs for the mandatory convention fee.
- **Friday, January 2, 2026:** Email all clubs outlining the relief fund application process.
- **Friday, January 2 – Friday, February 15, 2026:** Application period for club officers to request relief funds.
- **Friday, January 2 – Monday, March 2, 2026:** SIAHQ staff review applications and notify clubs of their final status.
- **Saturday, March 15, 2026:** Mandatory convention club fee payments are due.
- **Sunday, March 16, 2026:** A 10% late fee will be applied to any accounts with unpaid fees.
- **Wednesday, April 1, 2026:** Clubs that have not paid by this date will be notified that they are at risk of losing their club charter.

## Eligibility for Mandatory Convention Club Fee Relief

Clubs requiring financial support will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, with final decisions communicated by **March 2, 2026**. Clubs may apply if they meet one or more of the following criteria and should be prepared to provide the following information in their application:

- Facing financial difficulty.
- Significant membership declines affecting the ability to pay the full fee.
- The fee limits the club's ability to serve women and girls through the Dream Programs or Big Goal Accelerator Projects.

- Clubs chartered or reinstated from July 1 in the club year preceding the convention to the end of convention are not required to pay the mandatory convention club fee.
- Other extraordinary circumstances.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Our club has already paid the \$825 convention fee. Can we apply for the relief and receive a refund?**

No. The relief must be applied at the time of payment and is not available as a refund once fees are paid.

We're unable to offer retroactive adjustments under the current policy, C. FEES 6. *Annual dues/fees paid to SIA headquarters are nonrefundable.* Thank you for understanding.

### **Is the mandatory convention fee higher because meals are included?**

No, the increase is due to the rising costs of in-person events, not the inclusion of meals.

### **Can the fee be reduced if a club does not attend the 49th Biennial Convention?**

No, attendance is encouraged but not mandatory. The fee covers the general business meeting, convention expenses, and registration for one delegate per club, regardless of attendance. This fee will also cover delegate attendance at the virtual business meeting option with one registration per club and only the club delegate covered.

### **Does the fee cover the delegate's registration?**

Yes, the mandatory fee includes registration for one delegate per club whether attending virtually or in-person.

### **Can the fee be reduced if a club does not send a delegate?**

No, the fee supports convention-related expenses, which remain the same regardless of attendance.

### **If no one from our club can attend, can another club's member use our delegate registration?**

No, per SIA Bylaws, each club's delegate registration is non-transferable, and proxy votes are not permitted.

### **What are the consequences of not paying the mandatory convention fee?**

Clubs that do not pay by April 1 will be considered not in good standing and will lose voting privileges until the fee is paid. We encourage clubs to apply for relief and contact headquarters with any concerns.