

Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL

(DATA WILL NOT BE RETYPED OR CORRECTED.)

Nominee for the position of **International Council Member**

PLEASE NOTE: Neither a candidate for election to any international office, nor any club, group or affiliate is permitted to campaign by sending letters, literature or other influential messages to enhance any candidate's chances for election. If a violation is reported, the Nominating Committee after reviewing and verifying the report has the right to disqualify the candidate.

Name: Mr Bjørn Arve Bentsen
Nationality: Norwegian
Date of birth: 13-12-1948
Name of spouse: Hellen Bentsen
Number of children: 3
Religion: Christian
Profession: Retired (Master degree in Chemical Engineering)

Name of Y's Men's Club: Y's Men's Club of Mandal
Club chartered on: 25/03/2014
Number of Club members as at 1 February this year: 120



Schools and Professional Experience:

Education:

High School, Mandal, Norway 1967

Technical University, Trondheim, Norway 1971(MSc)

Job experience:

Norwegian Labor Inspectorate (5 yrs)

United Nations (ILO), Regional office for Asia, Thailand (1yr)

Statoil, Stavanger, Norway, London, UK, Kalundborg DK (30 yrs)

Nordea Bank, Norway (5 yrs)

Examples of one or two club activities (both local and international):

Our club is very active in our local state church and in charge of planning and building a new church center (budget: USD 3,5 mill)

Our club is the biggest in Norway, may be also in Europe? We think that the club model we have established could be the answer for establishing clubs anywhere. (Strong relations to YMCA/YWCA)

The Mandal club has brother clubs in Kalundborg and Fladstrand, DK and in Ekaterinburg, Russia

Involvement in Y's Men International

I (the nominee) am the current RD in Norway and as such member of ACM, Europe.

Some members have attended Area Conferences, R2R meetings and CE meeting.

My wife and I attended The International Convent in Yeosu, 2018 and we also brought two of our grandchildren to attend the Youth Convocation there.

YMCA and other involvement:

Brought up in local YMCA in Mandal.

20 yrs as Group Leader in YMCA Scouts in Stavanger

3 yrs member of National board of YMCA Scouts in Norway

20 yrs member and once President in Bekkefaret Y's Men's Club in Stavanger

Founder of- and 2 yrs President in Mandal Y's Men's Club

1. My ideas and/or concerns about Y's Men International today:

My main concern is to strengthen the organization at all levels in order to stop the decline in number of members and to create new clubs in close cooperation with the local YMCA.

2. What I would like to do for Y's Men International during my term if elected:

I think that the organizational concept of Y's Men needs to undergo some changes and improvements in order to make it more modern and more attractive for new members.

I should very much like to take part in these improvement processes.

3. How we can develop Y's Men International internationally:

The most important point in this respect, as I see it, is to lower the gap that exists between the international boards (ICM and ACM) and the individual club members.

Many potential new clubs have difficulties in seeing the advantages that a membership in Y's Men International would mean to them.

4. My personal belief in and concept of the Christian dimension in Y's Men International:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus, his only Son our Lord.

I believe in the holy spirit and the life everlasting.

For me the Christian basis of Y's Men is very important and I will do my best to fight for that to remain!

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Name: Mr Roy Rasmussen
Nationality: Norwegian
Date of birth: 28-09-1948
Name of spouse: Bjoerg Else Rasmussen
Number of children: 5
Religion: Christian
Profession: Assistant Professor - Retired

Name of Y's Men's Club: Y's Men's Club of Tønsberg
Club chartered on: 14/09/1963
Number of Club members as at 1 February this year: 56



Schools and Professional Experience:

Education

University of Southeast Norway- bachelor in cybernetic engineering
Oslo MET Univerity- Honour degree in pedagogics

Working Experience:

20 years as a cybernetics engineer in differnt branches
25 years as lecturer and head of department at Univerity of Southeast Norway, Engineering department

Examples of one or two club activities (both local and international):

Voluntary support og YWCA/YMCA-campsite Knattholmen
Brother-Club visits to Middelfart, Denmark'
theater visits.....

Involvement in Y's Men International

Charter member at Porgrunn Ysmen Club, Norway (closed down)
District Governor og District South East Norway 181-1982
District Governor of Vestfold District, Norway 2012-2013
DGE Vestfold. Active rthis year
I have been modurator 2 times for the Regional Conference of Norway

YMCA and other involvement:

Active in YMCA since I was a kid. brought up by devoted YWCA/YMCA parents. Also active in scout movement.

My primary activity in YMCA as an active leader has been between children age 7 to 15. Both in the uniformed(scouts) and civil(YMCA) part of YMCA. Primary local , but also at regional and national level.

The last 15(+) years I have been assistant "direktor" of the Regional Board of YWCA/YMCA Vestfold and Telemark. This board have the overall responsibility for 1500-2000 members of all ages, and a regional campsite Knattholmen which takes about 17000 guests a year, serving more than 55000 meals/y

1. My ideas and/or concerns about Y's Men International today:

My Ysman experience is primarily national in Norway. As this I see an aging movement, year by year.

My concern is to bring back "youth" in the movement.

Looking for ideas and experience world wide to implement locally would be something I want to do.

2. What I would like to do for Y's Men International during my term if elected:

Information is essential in the life of the clubs. From my point of view I sometimes had difficulties in obtaining precise, actual and interesting information of international projects and even to bring out to my members.

This is something I want to be a part of.

easy to find- easy to use principle.

3. How we can develop Y's Men International internationally:

My hope is that Ysman both internationally and locally can be a place where active YWCA/YMCA leaders can find a harbour of comfort where they can regain strength and peace. This will bring them back as members when they go from active leaders to supporters, and will give Ysman new life.

We need to find the ways of engaging people of today, in our club life and develop new goals reflecting the world today

4. My personal belief in and concept of the Christian dimension in Y's Men International:

To me the Christian belief and basis of Ysman is vital.

This means for me Christian identity and belief with central officers in the movement is crucial.

Open membership (all beliefs)- Christian leadership.

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Name: Mr Bjarne Soenderskov
Nationality: Danish
Date of birth: 31-10-1949
Name of spouse: Inge-Lise Rose Jørgensen
Number of children: 1
Religion: Christian
Profession: Lawyer and economist

Name of Y's Men's Club: Y's Men's Club of Randers-Kronjylland
Club chartered on: 22/11/1980
Number of Club members as at 1 February this year: 31



Schools and Professional Experience:

AARHUS UNIVERSITY

- Chief Accountant
- Finance Manager
- Attorney
- Civil Servant

Examples of one or two club activities (both local and international):

- A) International Church Day, with participation of other Y's Men's Clubs
- B) Mini golf during 1 week of August.
- C) Christmas market.

Involvement in Y's Men International

2013-14 RD,
2011 - 13 RLM,
2009 -11 RLME,
2000 - 01 DG
2000, 2008 and 2012 Participation in International Conventions,
2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017 Participation in Area Conventions
2000 Delegate to International Convention in Hong Kong

YMCA and other involvement:

1961 - 1981 YMCA scout
2004 - Member of the local parish councils

1. My ideas and/or concerns about Y's Men International today:

Ideas:

a) it is important to act in the time we are. Young members are very project oriented.

Concerns:

a) To recruit younger members, we need to work project oriented

b) To acknowledge that we as a club have social responsibility for our club members.

2. What I would like to do for Y's Men International during my term if elected:

a) To sustain growth for Y's Men International younger,

b) In order to facilitate continued progress for Y's Men International, it is important that the YMI is aware of supporting initiatives initiated in each area

3. How we can develop Y's Men International internationally:

It is important for me that Y's Men International is a vibrant organization with offers to modern people, both now and in the future.

This may be achieved by strengthening the image of each Y's Men's Club locally. Making club projects known as well as our national and international projects such as ToF and RMB. Furthermore, to tell about corporation in the Y family.

4. My personal belief in and concept of the Christian dimension in Y's Men International:

In our laws, it is certain that Y's Men International is a Christian organization and that we perform our work on the basis of Jesus Christ's teachings.

This is and must always be the basis of all our work, and we can not or must not compromise on this point.

It's also important to me, as Y's Man, that our work is based on an attitude, both organization and personal.

Our work in the individual club must locally show commitment to the diaconal work being performed.