



Compliance Committee

Lion Steve Kaplan, District Compliance
November 13, 2021

The mission of the Ohio Lions Compliance Committee is to effectively educate, encourage, and assist Ohio Lions Clubs and Foundations to meet their fiduciary duties and filing requirements. Our goal is to achieve 100% compliance with the filing requirements of the IRS, Ohio Attorney General, Ohio Secretary of State, Ohio Department of Taxation, and Department of Commerce.

Lions District OH-5 has 50 clubs and 7 club-level foundations for a total of 57 organizations tracked by the compliance committee. The latest check of all available databases was performed on November 6, 2021. Lions District OH-5 had the following compliance:

IRS Compliance

All clubs that use the standard fiscal year (ending June 30) are now due to file for 2020-2021. Currently the district stands at **75%** (43 out of 57) compliant. Reminders, instructions, and offers of assistance have been sent multiple times to club officers of non-compliant clubs.

Attorney General Compliance

All clubs that use the standard fiscal year (ending June 30) are now due to file for 2020-2021. Currently the district stands at **82%** (47 out of 57) compliant. Reminders, instructions, and offers of assistance have been sent multiple times to club officers of non-compliant clubs.

Incorporation Compliance

The district stands at **93%** compliant (53/57). It is strongly recommended that all clubs maintain incorporation status to increase the protection of their members. All OH-5 clubs and foundations are incorporated except: Columbus Southern Pines and Green Camp which have never incorporated; and Marion Evening and Mount Gilead whose incorporation was recently cancelled. Also of note are renewals now due for London, and Milford Center.

Department of Taxation Compliance

All 501 c 4 organizations, such as Lions Clubs, must collect and submit sales tax from the public when selling taxable items as a fund-raising project. Currently there is no searchable database to monitor compliance. However, the state is preparing to crack down on non-compliant organizations. Clubs are strongly encouraged to get compliant now.

Department of Commerce

All Lions Clubs and Foundations are now required to submit an unclaimed funds report annually to the Ohio Department of Commerce, even if no funds are unclaimed. Instructions have been sent out to every club. Currently there is no way to monitor compliance.

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