



Chapter 53

District 31 – Republic of China and Mongolia (2006–2019)¹.

Since 1920, Zonta International has grouped clubs by district. The following is information on the formation of District 31. As of 2019, District 31 had 23 clubs in Mongolia and Taiwan (Republic of China).

District 31 was formed in 2005 from the division of the original District 26.

District history background and highlights

1980–1990: During this period, all Zonta clubs in Asia belonged to District 17.

1990: The original District 17 was divided into Districts 17, 25 and 26. Clubs located in Taiwan belonged to District 26 together with those in Japan and South Korea.

2004: Region Mongolia was established with the chartering of the Zonta Club of Ulaanbaatar, club number 1765.

2005: The eighth District 26 Conference adopted a resolution to divide the district into three separate districts:

- District 26 for clubs in Japan
- District 31 for clubs in Taiwan, Republic of China
- District 32 for clubs in South Korea.

2006: The Zonta International Board adopted the decision and the division became effective in July.

2016: District 31 and Region Mongolia decided to include Region Mongolia in District 31, effective in July 2016.

The district was organized into three Areas comprising 22 clubs in two countries.

2018: 598 members as of March and 600 members as of September.²

¹ Research compiled by Eva Nielsen with contributions from Hsin-Hsin Yang.

2019: 647 members, including the 23rd District 31 club, formed in December 2018.

Scholarship programs in District 31

Many clubs have scholarship programs and the district offers the Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award annually. While no local recipients have yet won an international YWPA award, young women from Taiwan have succeeded at the international level in other awards:

- 2012: Nickie Wan-Hsin Yue, International Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar
- 2013 and 2014: Yu-Tso Li, International Amelia Earhart Fellow

Service and advocacy projects from District 31

- **2012–2016:** Members collaborated with Taipei-based Garden of Hope Foundation in sponsoring Formosan Girl Awards in Taiwan and Asian Girl Awards to recognize teenage girls distinguished in service and advocacy programs to promote gender equality.
- **2014–2016:** Members organized a sewing workshop for women suffering losses as a result of a deadly gas explosion in Kaohsiung in July 2014. They also extended scholarships to girl students affected by the explosion. In addition, members offered a year of counselling to school children suffering trauma after losing classmates, friends and family members in the collapse of an apartment building in Tainan during the severe earthquake which struck southern Taiwan in February 2016, killing more than a hundred people.
- **2014–2018:** Members financed a primary school education project and women's vocational training program in Laos with the support of World Vision. A pre-project site survey was conducted by a District 31 team led by 2014–2016 Governor Hsin-Hsin Yang.
- **2017:** Advocacy and service projects in Ulaanbaatar were conducted by Areas 01 and 02 during an Area 03 meeting in Mongolia.
- **2016–2018:** Members advocated for women's rights in collaboration with the Amah Museum which has been fighting for an official apology and fair compensation from Japan for the Taiwanese "Comfort Women" who were forced into prostitution for Japanese soldiers during World War II.
- **2017–2019:** For three years in succession, all clubs in District 31 held a charity walk on Zonta Rose Day (8 March). In 2017 the walk was held in Taoyuan City, in 2018 in Chia-Yi City, and in 2019 in Hua-Lin, advocating for the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign and advancing the visibility of Zonta International.
- **2018:** Taiwan was the first Asian country to pass domestic violence legislation – the Domestic Violence Prevention Act of 1998. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of this accomplishment and raise awareness of ending violence against women, governor May Wen organized an event called "Ride with Us to End Domestic Violence" in collaboration with the cities of Taipei, Taichung and Kaohsiung. Members wanted to convey a message of safety for abuse victims and equal rights for all.

District conferences³

- **2007:** 13–16 September in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte, the Philippines.
 - Jointly held with District 17.
 - Theme: Living Together, Growing Together with Zonta.
 - 160 members from District 31 attended.
 - District 17 Governor Virma P. Vergel de Dios convened the conference jointly with District 31 Governor Bi-Shiou Chiou as the first Inter-district Conference of District 17 and District 31. This was the first joint conference, with joint opening and closing ceremonies, workshops, and social fellowship events. Separate business sessions for each district were held with their respective International representatives, International President Olivia Ferry and President-Elect Beryl Sten.
 - District 31 Rules of Procedure were adopted.

- **2009:** 12–13 September in Chia Yi, Taiwan.
 - Theme: Change, Challenge, Chance.
 - 257 people attended.
 - After attending the conference, International President Beryl Sten visited the areas in Mt. Ali to deliver condolences to victims of the major earthquake on 8 August.

- **2011:** 9–11 September in Taipei, Taiwan.
 - Theme: Green living vs Soft Power.
 - 232 people attended, including International President Diane Curtis, International Director Kikuko Hara and District 26 Governor Tobue Ueda. Governor Ueda accepted USD\$80,000 donated by Taiwan Zontians to support relief programs following the tsunami in Japan in March.
 - Then-Taiwan President, Ma Ying-Jiue, accepted the invitation to attend the gala dinner as a special guest.

- **2013:** 19–20 October in Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
 - Theme: Zonta Says NO.
 - 220 people attended, including International President Lynn McKenzie.
 - International President, Lynn McKenzie, chartered the Deguang Catholic High School Z Club during the visit.
 - The first revision of the District 31 Rules of Procedure was adopted.

- **2015:** 30 October–1 November in Taipei, Taiwan.
 - Theme: Trust, Explore and Grow.
 - 295 people attended, including International President Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard. It was also joined by then-District 26 Governor Yukiko Toyota and ten members from Region Mongolia led by Regional Representative, Ariunaa Ulzitogtokh.
 - A proposal was passed by delegates from Taiwan and Mongolia to integrate Zonta clubs in Mongolia into District 31 as Area 3 while Taiwanese clubs remained in Areas 01 and 02.
 - Zonta International President, Maria Jose Oestergaard, chartered the Taichung Hong Wen School Z Club.
 - The second revision of the District 31 Rules of Procedure was adopted.

- **2017:** 4–5 November in Taipei, Taiwan.

³ 2014–2016 Governor Hsin-Hsin Yang

- 299 people attended.
- International President Sonja Hönig Schough attended and chartered the Concordia Middle School Z Club.
- The third revision of District 31 Rules of Procedure was adopted.
- **2019:**19-20 October in Kaohsiung, Taiwan
 - Theme: Honor and Empower
 - 303 people attended, including International President Susanne von Bassewitz and 49 Z and Golden Z Club students. District 26 Governor Akiko Kinoshita and past governor Yukiko Toyota also attended as guests.
 - A parallel meeting and workshop about the role of women in sustainable city planning, were held for Z and Golden Z Clubs.
 - International President Susanne von Bassewitz chartered the National Pingtung University of Science and Technology Golden Z Club, sponsored by Kaohsiung Yu Hsiuan Club.
 - The Open Forum section, hosted by International President Susanne von Bassewitz and Governor May Wen, strengthened members' resolve to work together and increased their understanding of Zonta International

District 31 members at the International level

- Amy Hung
 - 1990–1992: Zonta International Director
 - 1992–1994: International Public Relations Committee member
- Laura Fei
 - 1995–1999: Zonta International Foundation Board Director
- Amy Lai
 - 1998–2000: Nominating Committee member
 - 2003–2007: Zonta International Foundation Director
 - 2008–2012: Service Committee member
 - 2014–2018: Centennial Anniversary Committee member
- Hui-Jung Chi
 - 2016–2018: Advocacy Committee member
- Hsin-Hsin Yang
 - 2016–2018: Zonta International / Zonta International Foundation Director
- Vivienne Shen
 - 2008–2010: Bylaws & Resolutions Committee member
 - 2010–2014: Bylaws & Resolutions Committee vice chair
 - 2014–2018: Bylaws & Resolutions Committee chair
- Lily Chien
 - 2012–2018: Young Women in Public Affairs Committee member
- Joanna Lee
 - 2014–2018: Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Committee member
- Sylvia Li
 - 2016–2018: Z & Golden Z Club Committee member
- Pauline Tzuang
 - 2016–2018: Translation Committee member

- Li-Chiou Wu
 - 2014–2016: Z & Golden Z Club Committee member
- Ouyang Yuanmei
 - 2014–2016: Translation Committee member
- Chin-Fong Yeh
 - 2006–2008: Nominating Committee member
- Bi-shiou Chiou
 - 2004–2006: Young Women in Public Affairs Committee member
- Monica Kuo
 - 1996–2000: International Environment Committee chair (verified 1998–2000)
 - 2000–2002: Nominating Committee member

History of formation of District 31 clubs

Taiwan, Republic of China

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2018	Closed
1964	0523	Zonta Club of Taipei I	01	
1971	0669	Zonta Club of Taipei II	01	
1972	0691	Zonta Club of Taipei County	01	
1972	0692	Zonta Club of Taichung	02	
1972	0693	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung	02	
1979	0897	Zonta Club of Tainan	02	
1979	0901	Zonta Club of Taipei III	01	
1982	1023	Zonta Club of Hsin Chu	01	
1987	1189	Zonta Club of Hua-Lian	01	
1989	1257	Zonta Club of Chang Hua	02	
1991	1343	Zonta Club of Taipei Shin	01	
1994	1484	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung Yuhsuan	02	
1995	1513	Zonta Club of Chia-Yi	02	
1997	1587	Zonta Club of Tainan Charming	02	
1999	1631	Zonta Club of Taoyuan	01	
2003	1742	Zonta Club of Miaoli	01	
2006	1814	Zonta Club of Taichung II	02	
2012	1895	Zonta Club of Taipei Rainbow	01	
2016	1957	Zonta Club of Taipei Cosmo	01	
2017	1963	Zonta Club of Tainan Phoenix	02	
2018	1985	Zonta Club of Taichung Land-Sing	02	

Mongolia

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2018	Closed
2004	1765	Zonta Club of Ulaanbaatar	03	
2006	1821	Zonta Club of Ulaanbaatar II	03	

Z and Golden Z Clubs in District 31⁴

As of March 2018

Z Club	Year Established	Sponsoring Club
Hsin Chu Z Club	1997	Zonta Club of Hsin Chu
Kaohsiung Z Club	2004	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung
Phoenix Z Club of Tainan	2006	Zonta Club of Tainan
Kaohsiung American School	2014	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung Yuhsuan
Taichung Hong Wen	2015	Zonta Club of Taichung
Concordia Z Club	2017	Zonta Club of Chia-Yi
Z Club of Tainan Charming	2013	Zonta Club of Tainan Charming

Golden Z Club	Year Established	Sponsoring Club
Kaohsiung Golden Z Club	2000	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung
Golden Z Club of Hsin Chu	2004	Zonta Club of Hsin Chu
Golden Z Club of Taoyuan	2016	Zonta Club of Taoyuan
Kaohsiung Wen Zao Golden Z	2016	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung
MCU Golden Z Club	2018	Zonta Club of Taipei III
Chung Hwa	2019	Zonta Club of Tainan Phoenix
NPUST Golden Z Club	2019	Zonta Club of Kaohsiung

⁴ Zonta International Director Hsin-Hsin Yang's report to Eva Nielsen in 2018