

Re: Membership database updates

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.tablesdbdesign/2008-03/msg00214.html>

- *From:* Pennington <Pennington@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 20 Mar 2008 16:07:00 -0700
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I don't mind bluntness but I did explain that the list I am handling is for a local branch of a charity. The main database is in HQ and they send me a list of members in my branch. HQ can do all sorts of things with the database but the branch needs to understand its members so that is why I want to look at local trends. I was able to create all the necessary Reports and Charts but the difficulty I have is when I receive an update from HQ. that omits ex-members but may have address changes and other changes that means I cannot use the members table I have currently.

Perhaps what I need to do is

- a) import the update into a new table and name it NewMembers,
- b) run the "unmatched query wizard" with the CurrentMembers table to identify the ex-members ,
- c) check the MembersRemoved field and delete the rest
- d) merge this list with the NewMembers table
- e) delete the CurrentMembers table and rename the NewMembers table as CurrentMembers so that the Reports and Charts work.

Incidentally, when I rename a table does it automatically update all references to that table because I tried this and it didn't seem to work.

If you can help me write a query to do this in less steps it would be brilliant.

"Fred" wrote:

If you don't mind bluntness that only intended to try to be helpful.

I run membership data / dabases for 6 organizations, 2 of them for over 20 years.

You never explained the key points, but they are finally starting to come out.

Now it looks like there is something fundamentally wrong with what's happening. It sounds your organization is running two databases that are, doing the same thing. And they are sending you "updates" in the worst

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possible way (just the whole list, with no useful fields about additions / deletions) and then you are trying to go through contortions trying to deal with this fundamentally mixed up situations. So, your efforts to deal with that mess are a good tough workout for learning Access, but is much more difficult that it should be.

The best thing would be for your organization to decide who is running the membership database, and for that function there should only be one database. All CHANGES should then get entered in THAT database. And all data and reports that people need should come from that database.

Sincerley,

Fred

"Pennington" wrote:

Many thanks, this is most helpful.

Yes you are correct the Reports do have a source record but the Charts do not even though the query on which they are based still exists.

The reason I was renaming tables is that I built the database using the Dec 07 members list I received. I received an update in Feb 08 and created a new table. Although I could easily establish who the new members were from the DateJoined field I used the "Unmatched Query Wizard" to find the members that

were not in the list as there is no MembersRemoved field in the lists I am sent (I have asked for this data but as yet I am not being sent it)

Now I have gone back to the first table I created and have created a new query as you suggested and presumably I simply produce another copy with different criteria depending on whether I want a list of new members or a list of ex-members.

Now, how do I import the updated lists for Feb and Mar as there is no MemberRemoved field? Even if I create such a field before I import it, it will be blank. If I import the data into the existing table I won't know if any members have been removed from the later list

"Evi" wrote:

The reason your report's record source is blank is because the table on which they were based no longer exists. If you click next to RecordSource you can then choose a different table or query from the list on which to

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base your report. When you stop renaming your tables, this will no longer happen.

If you don't have to remove non-current members then it is even easier – no need for an archive table.

You definitely *don't* need a different field for current members, just filter using your DateRemoved field or even a tickbox Yes/No field if you need also need some other way to indicate someone has left. Your unique membership number will ensure that you don't accidentally add member twice.

I really don't understand why you have been renaming tables. Is it because you need to look back to who was your member on any one year? I can see why that could be tricky if a member is suspended and then re-instated but there