



Division H Director Report

22 August 2020

It's fair to say that I knew, walking into the Division H Director role this year, it would be an interesting and challenging year and it's certainly delivered on that! At the time of writing, we have been unable to fill the vacancies for the H1 and H2 Area Director roles and I've resigned myself to the fact that these are unlikely to be appointed during this Toastmasters year. I am blessed to have several experienced Toastmasters offer their support to ensure that we are able to complete club visits and ensure these clubs are given the same level service between us all as they would receive with a dedicated Area Director.

Key Division Goals:

- Ensuring all clubs are supported and guided with or without an Area Director appointed.
- Working with club leaders to ensure they are equipped with the skills needed to address the ongoing issues impacting clubs as a result of COVID-19 including physical distancing at face-to-face meetings, organising and holding online club meetings and the possibility that we could have to hold contests online at short notice based on the Government response to the August resurgence in Auckland.
- We intend to pull together a small pool of experienced Toastmasters who will be available to facilitate Moments of Truth at clubs across the Division (either face-to-face or via Zoom) so that we can better understand the member experience across our clubs. In particular, this will be focused on our clubs with poor member retention/low numbers to provide valuable insight into the club's culture and 'brand'. This will be offered to clubs following the September dues round when we have a clearer picture of where the Division numbers are sitting.
- Deliver a well organised Division Conference in November with a particular focus on providing newer Toastmasters the opportunity to take a lead role including contest chair and test speaker to encourage them to explore Toastmasters outside of their own club/area. The venue has been booked and the conference chair Glen Pearce is holding regular planning meetings.
- We will leverage the training and workshops provided by the District Training Team and encourage our members to take part in these where possible and build on the topics covered where appropriate. Given these are being presented online and presented from a District level, we do not have plans to hold Division-level workshops or trainings this year.

Key successes so far:

- Areas H3 and JH4 have started their club visits and have set their area contest dates. I am working with the club leaders of the H1 and H2 clubs to organise online Area Council meetings and work to understand how we can best support them with a limited team and organise their Area Contests.
- Several clubs have already held their first contests and are working very well to source judges and officials from across the Division – demonstrating the importance of working collaboratively.

Challenges so far:

- At the time of writing, with one session left, only 50% of clubs have achieved the minimum number of attendees at Club Officer Training under the Distinguished Club Programme. Several clubs have confirmed they will reach the target, however a very small number have not responded at all to any communication around this.
- Despite submitting the paperwork to officially dissolve in the 2019/2020 Toastmasters Year, the Emerging Leaders club is currently still showing on the dashboards as a club. Toastmasters HQ has been contacted in response to this.

Division H Director 2020-2021

Owen Winter