



# District 72 Newsletter

August 2020

## District 72

Email:

[erind.tm@gmail.com](mailto:erind.tm@gmail.com)

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## Support D72

**Like us on Facebook:**

Toastmasters New Zealand  
<https://www.facebook.com/ToastmastersNewZealand/>

**Join:**

District 72 Members Group on Facebook to share ideas and resources.  
<https://www.facebook.com/group/s/729184510847991/>

**Follow us on Instagram:**

nztoastmasters

**Website:**

[www.toastmasters.org.nz](http://www.toastmasters.org.nz)

And, of course, tell your friends...

Tēnā koutou District 72 Members

As you settle into the Toastmasters year, you're likely finding that there's a lot of information coming to you from various sources about Toastmasters. We'll do our best to streamline the information that comes to you from the District Team, so we want you to know where to go for the District information you need.

The District Team predominantly publishes in three ways:

1. This newsletter, which provides or links you to information to help your club manage its business, e.g. training, conferences, appointments of District Officers, etc.
2. Our website, where content is stored, e.g. training registrations, the District calendar, 'how-to' videos, etc.
3. Social media platforms, which we use for context, e.g. advertising, reporting on events, congratulations, introductions, special occasions, etc.

There might be occasional overlap but those are the main places you will find information about, and from, District 72.

### Club Officer Training

The new, online, District-wide training for Club Officers continues. Four opportunities to participate remain:

- **Monday, 3 August from 5:30pm**
- **Friday, 14 August from 4:30pm**
- **Thursday, 20 August from 5:30pm**
- **Saturday, 22 August from 1:30pm.**

Training is 3.5 hours, online, with 'Achieving Excellence' as the focus. To help make your club stronger, register at:

[http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member\\_resources/club\\_business/clt2020\\_round1](http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/club_business/clt2020_round1)

Please read the preparation materials listed at the bottom of that page.

Here is some of the feedback from the sessions so far:

*"Zoom was more interactive and engaging"*

*"Zoom elicited a lot more information as people used 'chat' rather than one or two answering a question"*

*"Zoom enabled input from all on all topics."*

*"I prefer breakout sessions face to face but the practical sessions worked better on zoom"*

*"Very efficient (and), although we didn't get to meet others in a social context, I liked that it didn't take all day"*

Each session is attended by a member of the District Trio, who is available for a chat during breaks. This is a chance to meet members of the team and ask questions early in the Toastmasters year.

## District Workshops

Our District Trainers have been hard at work and will be offering online training throughout the year. They'll be presenting sessions on Contests, Evaluation and Mentoring, with the focus being on Contests during August-October. As the sessions become available, links will be posted to the Toastmasters New Zealand website.

You can **register for the first Judging session now** using the links below. It will be offered twice to have room for everyone. You must attend one of these workshops if you wish to join the judging practice workshop later.

The topic is **"Theory of Judging"** and will give you an excellent grounding in your role as a judge, covering:

- What is judging?
- Judges' ethics
- What to actually look for
- Judges' briefing for International and Evaluation contests.

**Theory of Judging: Thursday, 6 August, 7-9pm:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkde-rqjorGtbQ6mKcYju1n2QdGqfU90De>

**Theory of Judging: Saturday, 8 August, 10:30am-12:30pm:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlTfuysrj4vGtAvK5fwSAGPxVX5u6yhZ\\_B2](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlTfuysrj4vGtAvK5fwSAGPxVX5u6yhZ_B2)

## Pathways Workshop

Divisions D and E are continuing their **monthly Pathways workshops** online. This month's workshop covers the basics of Pathways, then moves onto the Pathways mentoring program. If you're just starting out on Pathways, whether you're new to Toastmasters or you've just finished awards in our previous system, online workshops work well to introduce you to the program.

**Pathways Workshop: Thursday, 6 August, 7pm-8pm** presented by Bailey Wood. Zoom link is -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81037388550?pwd=OHZiR01HM3NpNVdZb0ZWWVEwTOVjUT09>

## District Team

In the July newsletter, we introduced you to the District Team. Since then, we've had some additions and a change.

Please welcome:

Area D3 director	David Kolien (replacing Ursula Keay)
Area G2 Director	Erin Rose
Area H4 Director	Mike McKee

We also still have **two vacancies** covering central Wellington daytime clubs: Areas H1 and H2. If you want an opportunity to be part of the District Team and take your leadership skills to the next level and have some fun doing it, then please contact Division H Director, Owen Winter at [owen.winter@xtra.co.nz](mailto:owen.winter@xtra.co.nz).

Thank you to everyone who has been elected or come forward to be a leader this year. If you would like to get to know the Senior Officers better, please read their pre-term reports on the link below. Reports are posted three weeks before District Meetings and are a great way to find out what is happening within your Division and District.

[http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member\\_resources/district\\_documents/executive\\_meeting\\_documents\\_-\\_d72](http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/district_documents/executive_meeting_documents_-_d72)

## Other Opportunities at District Level – Situations Vacant

We get better by doing. District has several opportunities available for members at all stages of their Toastmasters journey. Whether you are a new member or past District Director, if you would like a new challenge, please let us know what interests you, your current goals and skills and we will try to match you with a task. It may be presenting, coaching, mentoring, being on a Committee or something else – our motto is – *the more the merrier*. If this sounds like you, contact Erin Daldry at [admin.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:admin.d72@toastmasters.org.nz). Training and support will be given if required.

## District Calendar

We're in the process of 'finalising' the District calendar for publication on our website so members can see what's going on around the District. Training, like those events mentioned above, will be included along with conferences and District meetings, etc. As events arise, they'll be added to the calendar so, once it's available, consider bookmarking it to keep up-to-date.

## District Meetings

These meetings carry out the business of District 72, including the dispersal of member funds. Take an interest and have a say through your **President** and **Vice President Education**, who are members of the District Council.

The first **District Executive Committee** meeting of 2020-21 was held on 19 July. This committee is made up of the District Officers:

- The Top Table: District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Public Relations Manager, Finance Manager and Administration Manager
- Division Directors
- Area Directors.

We are required to meet at least four times a year to discuss District business such as training, budget, conferences, appointments and resignations, and general business. The minutes of that meeting will be available on the website by 23 August and will be held along with the Senior Officer reports mentioned above at:

[http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member\\_resources/district\\_documents/executive\\_meeting\\_documents\\_-\\_d72](http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/district_documents/executive_meeting_documents_-_d72)

The next District Executive Committee meeting will be held on 26 September 2020 in Blenheim.

The **District Council**, which is made up of the District Executive Committee members plus all **Club Presidents** and **Vice Presidents Education**, will meet on **Sunday, 27 September 2020**. This will be a virtual meeting and will include approval of the annual budget. Further details will be notified as they become available but please save the date in your calendar if you are a President or VP Education. Also keep an eye on our website for the meeting documents.

## International Proxies

On the subject of having your say, your **Club President** and **Secretary** should have received a reminder email recently to allocate their proxy for the votes that will be taken at the Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting in August. The deadline is **Tuesday, 18 August**.

Find information about the candidates and proposed amendments at <https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/featured-article/july-2020>

For a Q&A page about the meeting and proxies, go to <https://bit.ly/2D4yJdc>

Here's a reminder of how to designate your proxy.

# Designating a Proxyholder



**The Deadline is**  
**August 18, 2020**

All clubs must designate a proxy to vote. You can designate a delegate from the club, another active member, or the District Director.

Follow these steps for proxyholders:

- To assign the club votes, go to **Club Central**, log in, choose the club(s) you are assigning proxies for, and click on **Club Proxy**.
- The Credentials process will be conducted online from August 19 to 22. Proxyholders must log into the Toastmasters International website during that time to obtain their proxy summary report and be validated for access to the electronic ballot.
- If the club provides voting directions, proxyholders will vote in the manner a club instructs.

More information on proxy voting will be emailed to Club Presidents, Secretaries, and liaisons this month.

Use these guidelines to help ensure a smooth voting process. If you have any questions, please email us at [proxyinfo@toastmasters.org](mailto:proxyinfo@toastmasters.org).

## **International Convention – 24-30 August**

For many of us, this year presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend a Toastmasters International Conference. COVID-19 means that the Conference couldn't go to Paris, so it's gone online... and it's **free!**

The Conference includes the World Championship of Public Speaking as well as the Annual Business Meeting, elections, educationals, keynote speeches and even a sing-along.

Let your inner Toastmasters nerd roam free for a week.

More information at [www.toastmasters.org/events/2020-international-convention](http://www.toastmasters.org/events/2020-international-convention)

## **Division Conferences and Contests**

Division Conference dates have been set. Please note when your Division conference(s) will be held and the contests they'll cover so you can plan your club and Area contests to be ready. Remember to network with other clubs in your Area/Division to find helpers for contests. Good luck to everyone competing whether it's for the first time or the fiftieth!

Divisions C, D and J, will conduct one Division Conference, covering all contests:

- Saturday, 13 March 2021 – **Division D**
- Saturday, 20 March 2021 – **Divisions C and J.**

Divisions E, G and H will conduct two Division Conferences this year:

- Saturday, 7 November 2020 – **Division E**, covering Table Topics and Evaluation contests
- Saturday, 14 November 2020 – **Division H**, covering Evaluation and Humorous contests
- Saturday, 21 November 2020 – **Division G**, covering Evaluation and Humorous contests
  
- Saturday, 10 April 2021 – **Division E**, covering Humorous and International contests
- Saturday, 10 April 2021 – **Division G**, covering Table Topics and International contests
- Saturday, 17 April 2021 – **Division H**, covering Table Topics and International contests

## **Facebook – calling interviewers and writers**

As mentioned in the July newsletter, we are constantly looking out for quality content for our District Facebook pages, especially if it provides value to guests, allows us to celebrate our members and can help some complete Pathways projects. If you have something to contribute or wish to better understand how you can help, or if you want to nominate members to be interviewed, please contact Public Relations Manager, Tian Qu, at [prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz). Take up an opportunity to stretch yourself!

## **Facebook Boosting and Meet Up**

In the July newsletter, we let you know that open meeting Facebook boosting was suspended for the time being and that a final decision on it would be notified in this newsletter.

Budget constraints mean that Facebook boosting will be reserved for District-wide marketing. Promotion of open club meetings is encouraged and can be supported by the District on Meet Up. Meet Up works by matching events to people with a common interest. Guests attracted from Meet Up are highly motivated; they've already shown a strong interest in public speaking. It's been proving successful and very cost-effective.

If your club doesn't have a Meet Up account, District 72 offers the opportunity to promote all your club meetings for free on the Toastmasters New Zealand Meet Up account. Please email your club meeting details to Tian Qu on [prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz) to start your Meet Up journey today!

## **Club Promotion Fund**

In the July newsletter, we mentioned that the Club Promotion Fund was being reviewed and that a final decision on it would be notified in this newsletter. The fund will continue, with District providing financial support for clubs with low funds. If your club has less than \$1000 in the bank, apply for up to \$250 to promote your club and help grow your membership. Contact Club Growth Director, Kathryn Duncan, at [clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz) for full details and a new, streamlined application form.

## District Service Charge

The District Service Charge helps to fund expenses at Division and Area level that are not covered by those budgeted at District level, for example, training and workshops. It is charged at \$8 per member based on membership numbers as at 1 July 2020. Invoices will be mailed out in August and September. We really appreciate your support with this as we strive to generate opportunities for members to network and develop skills beyond the club.

## Smedley Award – August and September

Toastmasters runs three membership-building programs during the year to give clubs impetus. The first one honours the Toastmasters founder, Ralph Smedley. If your club adds five new, dual or reinstate members with a join date between 1 August and 30 September, you'll qualify to receive a Smedley Award ribbon and a 10% discount voucher. For more information, visit the Toastmasters International website: <https://bit.ly/Smedley2020>

## Have you thought about...

During Club Officer Training, a member raised an issue your club might like to consider. He is concerned about the safety of electrical equipment used by Toastmasters clubs and whether there could be health and safety issues associated with them. It occurred to him that it would be a good idea to have any electrical kit used at clubs – such as timing lights – tested and certified to be safe.

## People ask...

One question that has cropped up quite a bit lately is how clubs' generic email addresses work. That's the email that looks like this: [clubname@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:clubname@toastmasters.org.nz).

The addresses were originally set up to funnel enquiries into the two committee members most responsible for guests: the VP Membership and the VP Public Relations. When Pathways started, Toastmasters International needed a way to get emails to the Base Camp Managers, i.e. the President, VP Education and Secretary. They simply added those committee members to the redirections for the generic email address. Therefore, enquiries to that address will go to five of your committee members. It's important that you have processes in place to deal with those emails so enquiries are answered.

## Looking forward

Our Public Relations Manager, Tian Qu, is organising a workshop for all **Vice Presidents Public Relations**. A Zoom registration link will be sent to all VP PR closer to the time. In the meantime, save the date of **Wednesday, 2 September, 7-8:30pm**.

Ngā mihi  
Rob Woolley  
District 72 Director