



Division C Director Report

6 April 2021

Area Directors

Division C did have four Area Directors. Area C2 Director has resigned after having too many personal commitments to deal with. As Division C Director, I will be performing the role until a replacement is found.

The Dunedin and Oamaru areas C1 and C4 have been well supported by their Area Directors. They have both been very active and did very well to conduct their area contests as one. The planning meetings started about six weeks before and the contests ran very smoothly. The planning was meticulous and the contestant briefings went well too. Kayleen and Graeme also coordinated with Kathryn to organize the Division Contests which went very well.

Area C2 and C3 also had a combined contest. There was very little planning in advance. The C3 Area director was not available on the day, and the role was shared with the previous year's Area Director and the Division Director. The script was shared in advance and the main effort was put into the Technical person. Tim was available in the afternoon, so that was when the contests were organised for. The Club Growth Director also assisted in finding judges and other roles. There were no contest briefings in advance. No power point certificates, nor screen sharing was performed on the day. The contest ran smoothly, and the scripts were adhered to, which also assisted. All contestants were contacted by phone in advance to ensure they would be available. This allowed for the ordering of contestants and the time schedules to be determined beforehand.

Areas C1 and C4 have very active Area Directors who support each other. The Division Director is supporting Area C3 and covering for Area C2. There has been one club visit report filed already and all are preparing for the club visits. Area C2 has only three clubs but it is geographically challenging covering Wanaka, Queenstown and Gore.

Clubs

There are still currently 17 Clubs in Division C with 285 members. The previous report had 265 members so there has been a growth in members by 7.5%, which is very encouraging. The number of clubs has remained stable during this period. Some noticeable trends are Queenstown has had 13 new members, followed by Dunedin Toastmasters gaining 10 new members.

There is one club with fewer than 10 members, another eight clubs with 15 or fewer members, another three clubs have fewer than 20 members, and the remaining five clubs have 20 or more members. Clearly some clubs are struggling to survive.

Only one club has struggled to get the minimum of eight members to renew their membership; the other 16 have met their sub requirements. Three clubs have already become Distinguished.

Club Officer Training

The Club Officer Training (COT) looks like it has been a great success being online. Eight clubs did not meet the COT requirements during the second round. Division C successfully hosted one of the online training sessions. The idea of each Division hosting one of the training sessions was well received and gave an opportunity for members to be involved.

Pathways

Looking at the Pathways Total Member Rate: 35% have 100% adoption rate; 41% have 85%-91% adoption rate, and the remaining 24% have 53%-72% adoption rate. My aim was to have no clubs with less than 75% adoption rate. There is still a quarter under this mark.

Contests

At this stage, the Area and Division contests have been completed. It has been noted that this was only possible with help from outside the Division. Divisions were required to exchange roles to make it possible. A shout out to Tim Law for the technical assistance. Since the Area and Divisions are not funding venues, it might be possible that the funding is put toward the technical expertise as this is such a crucial aspect of holding online contests. Such expertise needs to be professional and those that are currently performing these roles ought to be compensated in some way as they were giving up their time covering the whole District. The last thing the District needs is burnt out technical people.

Aims

To encourage the clubs, through the Area Directors, to:

- 1) Increase the Pathways adoption rates. Aim to have no clubs with less than 75% adoption rate. [There are 25% remaining under 75%.](#)
- 2) Maintain club numbers; not expecting any growth here and some are on the survival list. [Clubs have remained the same.](#)
- 3) Increase membership numbers for the existing clubs. This may involve promotional activities. [Club member numbers have increased by 7.5%.](#)
- 4) Encourage club engagement with the contests and COT. [All areas provided contestants and Area C1 and C4 have been exceptional with organising Area and Division events.](#)

Division C Director 2020-2021

Simon Greig