



Division E Director Report

9 April 2020

It is club visit time again and Area Directors are now beginning club visits.

Membership Report:

Overall, we had 10/21 clubs at charter strength last report and now have 4/20. Currently:

E1 – one club is at charter strength

E3 – one club is at charter strength

E5 – two clubs are at charter strength

E6 – one club is at charter strength

Overall, the numbers are on the decline for most clubs and, as a Division, we are losing members.

All clubs have at least one point towards the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) with the exception of clubs that are closing. With so many under charter strength, the DCP won't be as attainable for many clubs as it has been in the past. Bryan Harrison has taken up the task of marketing with the Division Promotional Fund. Hopefully this will help.

Six clubs did not have any officers trained in the last round of Club Officer Training (COT).

For the rest of the Toastmaster year, it is my goal to support Area Directors with club visit reports and club issues.

Rotoiti has been a wonderful success and Brad is off planning the next one at Hanmer Springs. I am unlikely to be able to attend.

Area Directors are finding replacements but, as of yet, no one is stepping up for Division Director.

Pathways:

The online nature of this education programme still remains a burden for some.

D & E Division Events and member opportunities:

Over the course of the year to-date, we have had new names and faces lead contests and participate in upcoming events. New people involved in contests and events is still our goal plus making roles look like fun to others.

The goal is to highlight those looking for leadership opportunities and begin discussions now for planning in the future.

I'd like to see District going outside the norm for new Contest Chairs and seek upcoming leaders for events in May.

Realignment:

We have held meeting with our Area Directors in Divisions D and E and discussed the realignments. In Division E, we only need to realign if Tasman is able to charter but, in the current market with Nelson only having 14 members, this club may need to wait another year.

Again, I bring up the issue of funding Area Directors who have to travel to distant clubs. This has been talked about over and over again with no resolution.

I propose that funds be put aside to cover overnight accommodation plus mileage for the current E1 and E3 Area Directors: \$100 per night per visit plus mileage.

The biggest issue faced by Area Directors for E1 and E3 is the distance to the clubs out West. We feel that this needs to be addressed in a financial sense and that some money from a budget needs to go into accommodation for club visits to these clubs. This is what has been brought to my attention from the Area Directors. They feel that it could be a challenge to find replacements unless this situation is rectified.

In summary, stepping outside my comfort zone this year has created opportunities for growth. I am pleased with Rotoiti and what we put in place there. The clubs are on the decline but that is happening all across the world. We need funding for longer distance travel for Area Directors. All in all, it has been a good year so far.

Division E Director 2020-2021

Lisa Wheeler