



District Director Report

9 August 2021

As at the start of the 2021/22 Toastmasters year the District has a base of 109 clubs, however Outspoken Toastmasters has closed but still shows on the baseline as members had paid up until October renewals period and a membership payment base of 4,057.

We currently have 3 vacancies on the District Leadership Team, Division D Director, Area E3 and Area G1 Directors. The rest of the team is starting to build a very good working culture.

The Trio are busy with District Trio Training with the other Trios from around Region 12, which is helping to build our knowledge as well as creating networking opportunities with our peers.

The recently held Townhall meeting went very well, and I thank Region 12 International Director Lesley Storkey DTM for joining the Trio for this event as a panelist. I would also like to recognize the contribution of our District Parliamentarian Carol Mitchell DTM as our moderator and our Admin Manager Kayleen Gilder for her work behind the scenes as our Zoom host. To those members who turned up I wish to thank you for giving up your time to join us and for sending in your questions.

District will look at running more of these events soon.

While we have voted to hold all contests in person, the Trio are still very weary of the ongoing COVID situation and the ever-present threat of more lockdowns and will make decisions when and if that happens in consultation with the District Executive committee.

The vote at the start of the year on whether to drop down to 3 contests or not raised the interesting fact that while Toastmasters International has given the District Director the right to recommend this to the District Executive, if the Exec had voted yes to drop one of the contests then our District protocols state that it has to go to the District Council to be ratified, which in essence means that the District Council could have overturned a decision made by the District Executive. I seriously believe that we need to look at this protocol.

Our focus for the year is on member retention, leadership and teamwork and I believe we have made a great start on this with the District Executive as we have started working together as a team. As we move through the year our training team will start delivering leadership training modules to the team to upskill the team on leadership. It is also our plan to offer leadership training to the membership, however our ability to do this will be decided by the budget.

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David O'Brien