



Division E Director Report

17 January 2022

The District 72 mission is: **We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.**

The main goals for Division E are to strengthen existing clubs and heighten retention of members through increasing uptake of Pathways.

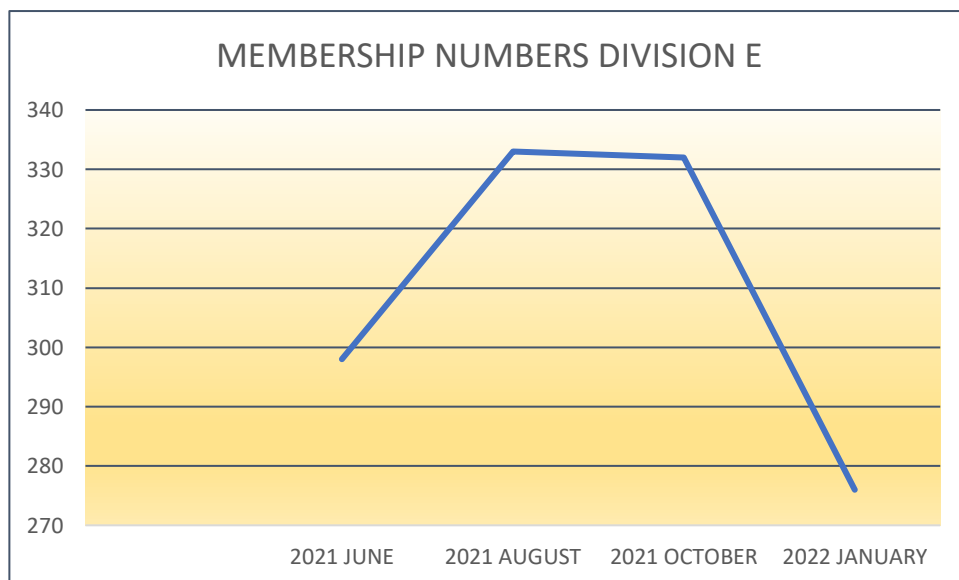
The last few months have been difficult for clubs as new government restrictions regarding Covid 19 have come into play. Many clubs were uncertain as to whether they need to have a vaccine mandate and how to implement this. In addition, many clubs were nervous that they would lose a substantial number of members.

Venue Vaccine Mandates

Clubs in Division E were encouraged to check the vaccination requirements of their meeting venues and to adapt their club bylaws accordingly. Some members decided to leave because they are vaccine hesitant. Other clubs opted to run online meetings. There is a clear downtrend in membership numbers in the last three months. The reasons for this are the ongoing uncertainties about future Covid 19 restrictions and the threat of having to return to online meetings.

Membership numbers for Division E

At present, there are 276 members in Division E. In comparison, there were 322 members in October 2021. This is a drop of 14%.



The good news is that some of the marginal clubs in Division E - especially in Area E1 have consolidated. Motueka Club and the Sunbelt Club were both lacking in energy but have since picked up speed, thanks to the Area Director's excellent work (Erik Roeper). It's especially gratifying to see new life and a lively social programme for the Motueka Club which was near extinction in 2020/2021.

The Area of E3 has got some marginal clubs, especially the Northside Toastmasters Club with 9 members and the Greymouth Club with 10 members. Of particular concern is the Northside Toastmasters Club because they are not following Toastmasters protocol. Talking to the President, it turned out that the Executive Committee has decided not to use Pathways in their club. Instead, they are using photocopies of the old Competent Communicator manuals.

New Clubs

A possible new club in Golden Bay has not eventuated yet. As there is a strong movement of vaccine hesitancy, there may be some barrier for establishing a face-to-face club. It may be advantageous to suggest a hybrid or online club structure.

Area Contests

All area contest dates and venues are set.

- E1: March 5th, 2022 (all contests)
- E3: March 12th, 2022 (all contests)
- E5 : February 12th, 2022 (all contests)
- E6: October 19th, 2021 Humorous & Table Topics.
February 14th Evaluation & International

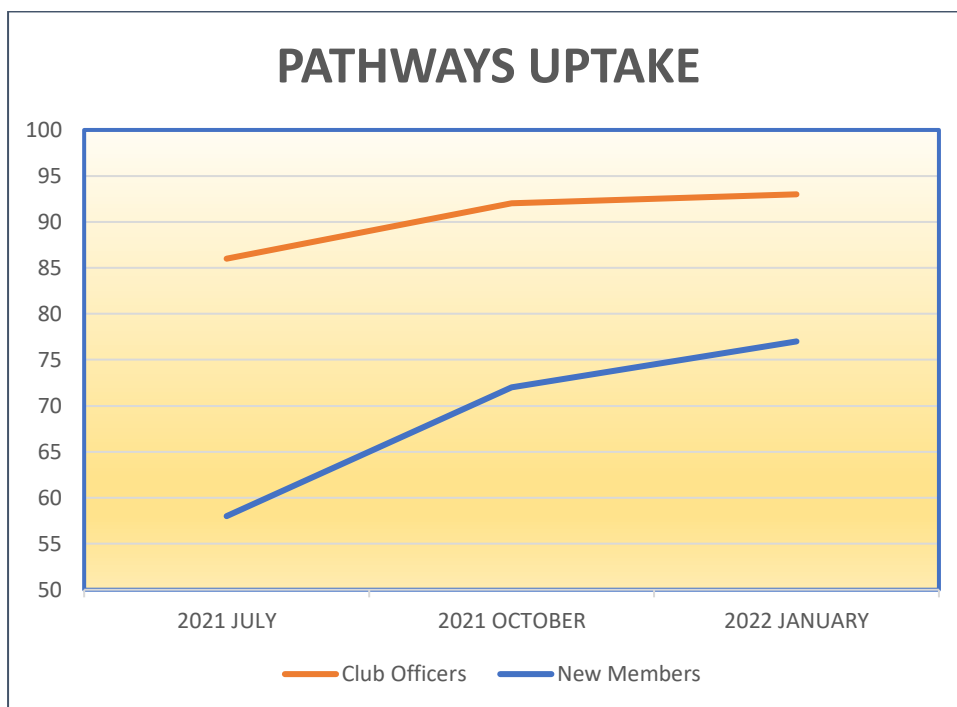
Pathways Adoption Rates

One of the main goals of Division E is to boost retention rates by increasing the uptake of Pathways.

Here are the relevant stats:

- July 2021: Officers 86%, New members 58%
- October 2021: Officers 92%, New members 72%
- January 2022: Officers 93%, New members 77%

It's pleasing to see the steady increase as shown in the chart below. This shows that one of the main goals of Division E is being met.



Mary Jaksch
Division E Director 2021-2022