



Division D Director Report

JUNE 2022

All Division D clubs are engaging in Pathways speeches and run engaging meetings, “the Toastmaster way”. Despite the great challenges that Covid-19, and especially the Omicron variant posed this year, we ended up with a few Distinguished clubs, which I wish to mention here. Congratulations to the following clubs and their members:

1 x President’s Distinguished Club Award: Congratulations to all Ashburton Toastmasters club members for your unique contributions to achieve this incredible award this year!

3 x Select Distinguished Club Award: Christchurch Club, Aranui Toastmasters Club, and Liffey Club.

1 x Distinguished Club Award: Congratulations to Boaters Toastmasters Club.

This was not an easy feat during this year. Division D started off with 19 clubs and lost one to a merger, making it 18. Currently two other small clubs are also struggling with 6-7 members. Members of our division are generally committed, yet the continuous lockdowns, vaccination requirements and Covid-19 affected members, have put on great strain on clubs. This is apparent through the loss in membership across the division, with only a few pockets of thriving clubs (see table below).

The quality of Division Conference contestants was impressive, with the winner of the Division D Humorous Speech contest, Sheila Hailstone, also taking the District 72 first place award. Another of our Division members, Sandra McLean, took the second place in the Humorous contest, both making our Division proud of our humorous speakers!

The Division D team, made up of four Area Directors, Mata Samatua, Russell Hazelwood, Marie Fox and Cam Parsonson, set out to support our Division’s clubs to deliver high quality Toastmasters meetings, a good predictor of membership retention, and to help grow our clubs. While the first was achieved, the latter was not. However, this was not due to inaction but rather because of external circumstances. I have personally seen how our Area Directors went above and beyond to support their clubs, as far as even inviting members from different clubs to another to help struggling clubs with role filling and to talk with guests. Special thanks to Russell, who has excelled in this.

Marie has been an incredible source of knowledge for her clubs, producing PowerPoint presentations for her clubs and club officer training, which provided new insights into good mentoring practices to support new and older members, and ultimately increase retention rates. District 72 is lucky to have her in 2022/2023 as a District trainer. I have no doubt she will continue to inspire clubs with her enthusiasm.

Mata and Cam have provided training to club leaders in setting up hybrid meetings and running successful Moments of Truth meetings, respectively, and -as did Marie and Russell. Everyone went above and beyond their role to “make a difference”, achieving an important goals as set out in the Success Plan early in the Toastmaster year.

It is great to have a team with such commitment to make a difference in Toastmasters. It makes the job of a Division Director easier. I wish the new team under Celina Templeman all the best in re-building the strength in numbers of our Division, as we quietly move out of the Covid-19 peak impact season. With the heart in the right place, I am certain that clubs will grow once again. There is much enthusiasm even in the smallest clubs to continue learning and growing their clubs. Supporting them with club coaches and PR approaches that make them more visible and “personable” in the swarm of information on social media.

Dani Rius

Division D Director 2021-2022

District 72 - Division D		Membership				Membership Variation		
Area	Club Name	New	1/7/2021	1/10/2021	1/4/2022	JUL/OCT 2021	OCT 21/ APR 22	JUL 21/ APR 22
1	Boaters Club	0	34	29	24	-5	-5	-10
1	Sunrise Club	3	31	28	29	-3	1	-2
1	Southern Cities Club	5	14	16	12	2	-4	-2
1	Victoria TMs Club (CHCH)	7	27	26	26	-1	0	-1
1	Dollan House TMs	3	14	10	12	-4	2	-2
 								
3	Avon Club	2	11	10	12	-1	2	1
3	Pegasus Toastmasters	1	18	15	15	-3	0	-3
3	ChCh Speechcraft Club	1	7	8	8	1	0	1
3	Bay Harbour TM Club	4	15	12	12	-3	0	-3
3	Aranui TMs Club	3	22	22	21	0	-1	-1
 								
4	Christchurch Club	9	35	29	25	-6	-4	-10
4	Civic Club	2	15	15	9	0	-6	-6
4	ChCh Athenians TMs	0	16	13	Ceased	-3	Ceased	Ceased
4	Spreydon TMs Club	0	18	13	9	-5	-4	-9
4	Alphabet Athletic TMs	3	17	19	10	2	-9	-7
 								
5	Ashburton TMs Club	4	19	16	14	-3	-2	-5
5	Alpine TMs Timaru	3	17	18	12	1	-6	-5
5	Liffey Club	11	21	23	22	2	-1	1
5	Lincoln Research TMs	1	18	15	8	-3	-7	-10

Last Update: April 2022