



# DISTRICT 72



Toastmasters International - New Zealand South Island  
and Wellington Region

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Seasons Greetings District 72

Greetings from some of  
our District Leaders

## Important Dates

### COT Round 2

- Saturday 3 December
- Thursday 8 December
- Tuesday 24 January
- Thursday 16 February
- Saturday 25 February

Registration links inside  
this newsletter

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# Understanding the District

## District Committees

Sometimes it feels like Toastmasters beyond the club is a mysterious secret society.

Some of us find it all too much and stay in the safety of our clubs as a result.

Sometimes people bravely step into the Area Director role so they can grow and help their local area, only to find themselves drowning in the strange terms and approaches.

This article is looking at one of these mysteries - the different committees the District has to help it function well.

### Let's start with some terms that can be confusing:

- Trio: District Director; Programme Quality Director and Club Growth Director
- Top Table: Trio plus Finance Manager, Administrator Manager, Public Relations Manager, Immediate Past District Director and Parliamentarian



Now some of those meeting titles:

- Senior Leadership Meetings: Top Table plus all the Division Directors
  - District Executive Meetings: Senior Leadership plus all the Area Directors
  - District Council Meeting: District Executive plus all the Club Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education
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There are committees that are formed each year. The role of each committee is the same, with the composition of the committee changing.

- **Nominations Committee:** considers the nominations submitted for the elected roles and supports those proposing to stand for election to a Senior Leadership role in the coming year. The Chair of this committee is usually the Immediate Past District Director.
- **Procedures Committee:** reviews the policies and procedures of the District. Any changes they recommend must be submitted to the District Council meeting for discussion and approval. The Chair of this committee is appointed by the District Director.
- **Re-alignment Committee** considers the location of Divisions and Areas in the District. They make recommendations for any changes after consulting with the members in the impacted clubs. The recommendations must be submitted to the District Council meeting for discussion and approval. The Chair of this committee is usually the Programme Quality Director.
- **Conference Committee:** plans and arranges the annual District Conference. The Chair for this committee is the lead of the group whose submission has been approved by a District Council meeting. The Programme Quality Director supports the Conference Committee on behalf of the District.

There can be various ad hoc committees set up as members of the Top Table think is necessary for that year. This year we have:

- **Marketing Team:** set up by the Club Growth Director to help with marketing the District.
- **PRM Team:** set up by the Public Relations Manager to help with the publicity and promotion of the District



Want to know more about the  
District Committees?

email: [prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

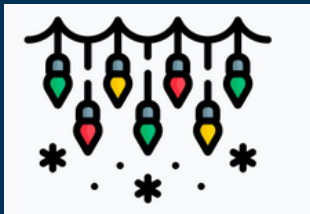
# Nomination Committee

## District Elected Positions - Nomination Information

Nominations are now open for the District 72 elected roles for the 2023 / 2024 year

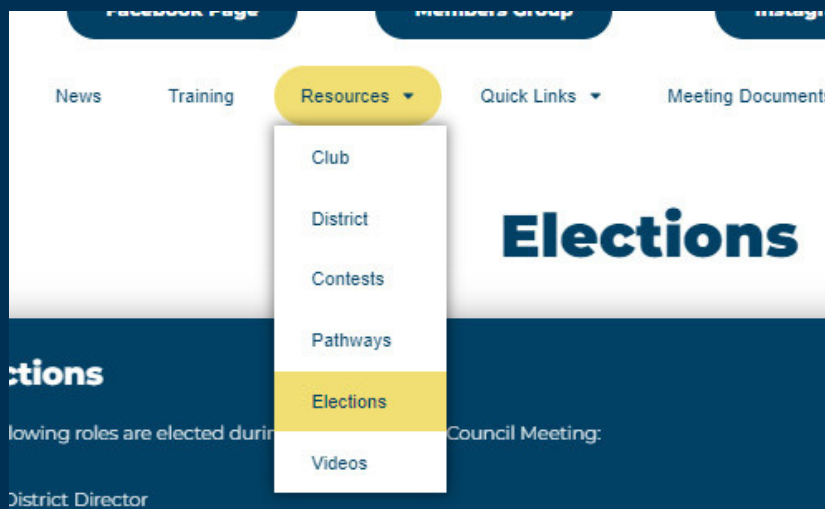
**Nomination Period: Thursday 1 December - Sunday 29 January**

### Roles include:



District Director  
Programme Quality Director  
Club Growth Director  
Public Relations Director  
Division Director - 5 Divisions

Further information on the [District 72 website](#) - or follow the guide below



Please send completed nomination forms to the District Leadership Committee Chair David O'Brien: [david.obrien612@gmail.com](mailto:david.obrien612@gmail.com)

### Area Director roles

Interested in being an Area Director?

Please send your nomination forms to the current District Director Kathryn Duncan - [director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)



# Realignment Committee

**Realignment** – considering if clubs, areas and divisions are lined up in the best way to support members

## What is considered?

- Geography and demographics
- Growth opportunities
- Toastmasters International Policy – areas must have been four and six clubs

## Realignment committee this year

- Glen Pearce
- Joy Ackrill
- David Templeman
- Leanne Fox
- Kayleen Gilder



Draft proposal available on the [District 72 website](#) or download the report here - [Realignment Report](#)

You are encouraged to read the report and provide feedback.

**Clubs Feedback:** email [realignment@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:realignment@toastmasters.org.nz) by 28 February 2023

**Meetings** to discuss are planned for 2003. Attend and have your say.

### South Island – Divisions C and E

Sunday, 19/02/2023

Thursday, 23/02/2023

Tuesday, 28/02/2023

### North Island – Divisions G and J

Thursday, 02/03/2023

Sunday, 12/03/202

Zoom calls 7.00 - 8.00 pm

Registration details: email [realignment@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:realignment@toastmasters.org.nz)

# Training Update

## Club Officer Training – Round 2: Helping Clubs to Thrive

### What happens at the training?

We continue our theme of “Helping Clubs to Thrive”. We explore insights to help clubs continue to build on the last six months and cover the events for the rest of the Toastmasters’ year.

### You learn more about

- Being a club officer.
- How to help your club benefit, grow, and gain Distinguished Club Programme (DCP) points

You will have discussion time with a District Leader and the option to attend workshop sessions.

We will finish with facilitated role-specific breakout rooms (eg, President, **Secretary etc) to consolidate the learnings from the training and hear others’ experiences.**

### Session dates

5 sessions in December, January, and February

- Session 1: Saturday 3 December; 9.00 – 11.30 am; hosted by Division C
- Session 2: Thursday 8 December; 6.30 – 9.00 pm; hosted by Division G
- Session 3: Tuesday 24 January; 6.30 – 9.00 pm; hosted by Division J
- Session 4: Thursday 16 February; 6.30 – 9.00 pm; hosted by Division E
- Session 5: Saturday 25 February; 9.00 – 11.30 am; hosted by Division D

### How to register

All sessions will be held via Zoom.

Registration is essential and will be used to track your attendance. Please don’t share the link you will receive to the session – it will be unique to you.

Click on the link to register for the session of your choice.

- [Session 1: Saturday 3 December](#)
- [Session 2: Thursday 8 December](#)
- [Session 3: Tuesday 24 January](#)
- [Session 4: Thursday 16 February](#)
- [Session 5: Saturday 25 February](#)

### Got questions?

Email the Training Team

Marie Fox: [marie@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:marie@toastmasters.org.nz)

Karen Squires: [karen@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:karen@toastmasters.org.nz)



# Contest Focus

## Interested in learning how to be an EFFECTIVE JUDGE?

I have been a Toastmaster for over 10 years. I love contests and the challenges they provide. However, I avoid judging unless I am cornered!

I don't think I have the necessary analytical skills to interpret the judging criteria to a suitable level. Some Toastmasters who know me disagree with my self-assessment. They encourage me to judge - telling me I will gain confidence the more I do it.

While they may be correct, I am not sure about learning by practising on people who have put much hard work into preparing for the contest.

I have a possible solution - 'cause I am sure I am not the only Toastmaster in the District who needs help to understand the judging criteria and how to use it to analyse and judge speeches.

### Judging School

Yip, that's my idea. Someone who is an experienced and successful contest judge facilitates a series of classes.

Of course - for it to be worth their time, we would need a group of about 8-10 to commit to attending all the sessions.

At the end we could be given a certificate, acknowledging our work and showing clubs, areas and divisions they can have "trained" judges.

A bonus would be the standard of contest results would rise across the District. And that would be a big win for all of us.

Improved contests would raise the level of speaking and evaluation across the District.

Interested? Email [toastmastersdistrict72@gmail.com](mailto:toastmastersdistrict72@gmail.com).



# Educational Focus

## Use your Fear!

One of my clubs has several newish members who are having trouble overcoming their fear of speaking. I wanted to use my experience to provide guidance for them.

One of the educationals in the **Better Speaker Series** is called **Controlling Your Fear**. I thought this would be a great resource to use. However, I knew I didn't want to use the educational format. I wanted to share my experience as a 5 - 7 minute speech.

Here is what I did:

- I studied the material in the **Controlling Your Fear** module, and considered what particularly resonated with me.
- I reflected on my own experience - even though I have been a Toastmaster for over ten years, I still get anxious when I have to present or facilitate. As I work as a trainer this is significant.
- I combined the ideas in the module with my personal experience and drafted a speech.
- A **Pathways** project I needed to complete was the **Evaluation and Feedback** one. I thought this would be an ideal project to use. I knew I wanted to give the speech twice.
- Speech version #1 was presented at the other club to which I belong. This club is made up of very experienced members so I knew I would get great feedback - and not just from my evaluator!
- Using the feedback and comments I received, I worked on my approach. The content remained the same - on the whole. One comment received was that I seemed to have two conclusions. It was suggested I tighten up in this area. Another area comment was that the use of my own experience was a powerful way to connect with the audience.
- Using these two pieces of feedback I gave the speech a different title and used this to add punch to a single conclusion.
- Speech version #2 was presented at the club I intended the message for. The feedback during the speech was very reassuring - I could see people nodding as they listened and connected with what I was sharing.





# Dear Diary

**Monday 31 October:** sent the week's programme to everyone using both Teams and email - it would be good to get everyone using Teams for Toastmasters.

**Wednesday 2 November:** one of the speakers has pulled out. On the hunt for a replacement

**Friday 4 November:** TTM is prepared with extra topics as there will be only one speaker this week. Spent a little time with a new member who is doing timing for the first time. She is ready to go.

**Monday 7 November:** rinse and repeat

**Tuesday 8 November:** a new member is doing his Icebreaker this week. Provided support and encouragement over coffee on Teams.

**Thursday 10 November:** all roles confirmed. Yea!!!!

**Friday 12 November:** Meeting today. I can relax and enjoy.

**Monday 14 November:** people are dropping like flies this week. There's a big event in the Auckland office I wasn't aware of.

**Tuesday 15 November:** worked with the President and Chair for this week. We planned a different meeting format to allow for a smaller group. Love the flexibility in our club.

**Friday 18 November:** Now that was fun. People stepped up and tried evaluating in a different way.

**Monday 21 November:** Email and Teams message as usual. Speakers confirmed quickly. Might be a light week.

**Tuesday 22 November:** Maybe not. Some of the functionaries are not available. Bother. We will have to ask some of the very new members to try different roles.



# Dear Diary

**Wednesday 23 November:** President is helping to support people taking on roles for the first time. Means I only need to spend time with two of them. Love a supportive Club President.

**Friday 25 November:** A great meeting. Speakers were well prepared and presented interesting speeches. Our new members stepped up well. They seemed to enjoy their roles. It is great hearing new people taking on different roles - they often have a different approach when they haven't been to many meetings. 😊



Written by a VP Education  
from a weekly Corporate  
Club