

### 1 Call to order and welcome

District Director (DD) Carol Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7.35 pm, who also advised that this meeting is recorded for minute taking purposes. (late start due to technical issues from Administration Manager

DD Carol warmly welcomed all attended. She also advised attendees of zoom protocol and meeting procedure.

#### 2 District Mission

Program Quality Director (PQD) Kayleen Gilder read the District Mission Statement.

## 3. Notice of Online Meeting

Administration Manager (AD) Celina Templeman read the notice of meeting

## 4. Speaking Rights

DD Carol advised that only District Officers have voting and speaking rights at this meeting.

These include:

- all Area (AD) Directors;
- all Division (Div.D) Directors,
- Administration Manager (AD) Celina Templeman DTM,
- Finance Manager (FM) Glenys Brown DTM,
- Public Relations Manager (PRM) Peter Simmons,
- Club Growth Director (CGD) Lisa Coppins,
- Program Quality Director (PQD) Kayleen Gilder,
- District Director (DD) Carol Mitchell DTM

Under Toastmasters International Policy DD Carol Mitchell also extended speaking rights to:

- District Parliamentarian Harry Fox,
- District Logistics Manager Esther Haines.
- Tech Support Tim Law.

DD Carol also gave all attendees a reminder when speaking to clearly state your Role and Name, and Raise your ZOOM hand when wishing to move or second a motion.

## 5 Voting System

Voting is undertaken using the Voting Platform. Once voting has been declared closed, and the vote results announced, no further votes will be counted. If voters wish their vote to be recorded in the minutes, voters are asked to advise the AD Celina or District Parliamentarian Harry Fox.

A test vote was undertaken.

#### 6 Confirmation of Quorum

District Parliamentarian Harry Fox (DP Harry) confirmed the quorum as follows: This is a District Executive Committee Meeting. A quorum for an Executive Committee meeting is the majority of it's members.

The Executive currently has 7 Senior Officers, 4 Division Directors, 17 Area Directors 28 Voting members A quorum is 15 members.  DD Carol. We have 23 Members present, and you do have a quorum.  7 Apologies AM Celina Templeman moved that the apologies as recorded be accepted
7 Apologies
(Doesn't require a seconder)
Voting via the electronic Platform Yes: 24
No: 0 Abstain: 0
The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried
8 Changes to and Confirmation of Agenda and Additional Items DD Carol Mitchell asked it there were any items that needs to be added to the agenda. There were no additions or changes
9 <b>Minutes of the District Executive Committee Meeting held Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 7.00pm.</b> The minutes of the 28 <sup>th</sup> April District Executive online Meeting have been circulated.
DD Carol Mitchell asked if there were any corrections (of a significant Nature) to these minutes; Minor corrections to AM Celina Templeman.
There were no corrections.
DD Carol moved "That the minutes of the District Executive Meeting held 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 as circulated are a true and correct record?"  Moved: Marie Fox, Area C1 Director Seconded: Kath Cherrie, Div G Director
Voting via the electronic Platform Yes: 22 No: 0 Abstain: 2
The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried
9 Matters arising from the minutes (not covered in the reports/Agenda)
DD Carol Mitchell asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes, which are not covered in the Agenda/Reports?
There were no matters arising from the Minutes
10 Correspondence
DD Carol Mitchell asked if there were any items of correspondence concerning issues that need to be addressed by the District Executive
AM Celina advised there was no correspondence relating to this meeting.
11 Urgent Business
11.1 Confirmation of District Officer Resignations There have been no resignations.

## 11.2 Confirmation of District Officer & Field Officer Appointments

DD Carol Mitchell confirmed the following new District Officers since the District Council Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024

- Logistics Manager, Esther Haines
- Audit Committee Manager, Sheryl Ryan
- Area C2 Director Marie Fox
- Area C3 Director Christine Livingston
- Area C4 Director Hugh Newbury
- Area D1 Director Lyn Harris-Hogan
- Area D3 Director Leonie Wilkinson
- Area D4 Director Lovey Ratima-Rapson
- Area D6 Director Dana Briscoe
- Area G1 Director Sian Farr
- Area G3 Director Rachel Clay
- Area G4 Director Tania Sales
- Area G7 Director Derek Russell
- Area J2 Director Nu Taramai
- Area J4 Director Siyi Qian
- Division G Director Kath Cherrie
- Division J Director Helen Cartmell

# DD Carol moved "That the District confirms the appointments of the officers listed.

Moved: Celina Templeman, Administration Manager

Seconded: Glenys Forsyth, Division C Director

Voting via the electronic Platform

Yes: 21 No: 0 Abstain: 0

The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried

### 11.3 Confirmation of New Clubs into Areas

There were no new clubs.

#### 12 Conference Report

### 12.1 Bids for Future conferences

PQD Kayleen Gilder advises she has received the following bid from a team in Wellington all paperwork is in order and on the correct forms.

Proposed date: Friday 9-Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Venue: Legislative Council Chamber, Great Hall & Select Committee Rooms (for

Breakouts) Parliament Buildings. (Note 4 Locations were investigated)

Capacity to hold 140-150 people

Vision from Committee: That the conference in parliament would be a unique and enriching experience for members. Holding the conference at Parliament would highlight the

connection between the ability to communicate effectively and the ability to affect changes for the better in any field of endeavour.

Theme – not yet decided, but will be linked to the above vision.

Accommodation: Many option types nearby.

Travel from Airport: approx. 20 minutes.

Draft Budget submitted with Bid (Note DRAFT).

# PQD Kayleen moved "That the District Executive Committee recommend the acceptance of the bid from Roger Hynd, to hold the 2025 Annual District Conference in Wellington"

Seconded: Jo Moar, Division D Director

DD Carol open the floor for Discussion.

Div.G Director Kath Cherrie, asked who was leading the team. Response was Roger Hynd will be leading the team.

Div.D Director Jo Moar, advised people in Chch, were thinking, so it was good to see Wellington put their name forward.

Voting via the electronic Platform

Yes: 23 No: 0 Abstain: 0

The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried

## 13 | Senior District Officer Reports

DD Carol Mitchell asked that Senior Officers move their reports be received

- Division C Director Glenys moved that the Division C Report be received as published with no verbal updates.
- Division D Director Jo Moar moved that the Division D Report be received as published with no verbal updates
- Division G Director Kath moved that the Division G Report be received as published with no verbal updates
- Division J Director Helen moved that the Division J Report be received as published with no verbal updates
- Club Growth Director (CGD) Lisa Coppins moved that the Club Growth Report be received as published with no verbal updates
- PQD Kayleen Gilder moved that the Program Quality Report be received as published with no verbal updates
- DD Carol Mitchell moved that the Immediate District Directors report as published be received with no verbal updates

DD Carol Mitchell asked that someone moved "That all the Senior District Officer Reports be received"

Moved: Glenys Forsyth, Division C Director Seconded: Lisa Coppins, Club Growth Director

Voting via the electronic Platform

Yes: 23 No: 0 Abstain: 0

The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried

The reports were opened for Discussion – none were discussed

## 14 Contests – Area, Division, District

DD Carol Mitchell advises....As per the 2024/2025 Contest Rulebook, Rule 1.A.2..."the District Director recommends which contests are to be conducted. The recommendations are subject to the approval of the District Executive Committee at it's first meeting of the program year".

Information from TI about the options for contests has been circulated. My recommendation is that District conduct the following contests in the 2024/25 Toastmasters Year:

- 1. The International Speech Contest
- 2. The Online Speech Contest
- 3. The Evaluation Contest
- 4. The Humorous Speech Contest

Carol further advised: "As I intend to speak to my recommendation and move a motion I will hand the Chair to PQD Kayleen Gilder to conduct this section of the meeting.

PQD Kayleen thanked DD Carol, then went on to clarify the procedure/process for the meeting...as follows:

For the information of the meeting, Kayleen explained the process that we will follow to conduct this business.

- "1. I will call on DD Carol to present her recommendation with any explanation about the process.
- 2. I will then call on DD Carol to move a Motion to implement her recommendation.
- 3. This Motion will need a Seconder. I will
- 4. Speaking rules:
  - a. The rules for this meeting allow for each speaker to speak once to a Motion, apart from the mover of the Motion.
  - b. The mover of a Motion has the right to speak first and a right of reply at the conclusion of the debate.
  - c. The Seconder has the right to speak second, or to reserve their right to speak until later in the debate.
  - d. The time allowed for speakers will be 2 minutes.
  - e. Speakers will be timed with lights,
    - i. green at 1:00 min,
    - ii. yellow at 1:30 and
    - iii. red at 2:00. Tech Support can you test the lights?
  - f. Speakers will be muted if they exceed 2:10.
- 5. Amendments: Members are reminded that they may propose amendments to the Motion. The process is as follows:
  - a. Any member may propose amendments if they have not already spoken to the Motion.
  - b. The way to do this, once you have been recognised by the Chair, is to state; "I move that the Motion be amended by .......".
    - c. Once I am clear about the wording of the amendment, I will call for a seconder. If there is no seconder, the amendment will fail and the debate on the original Motion will continue.
    - d. Once the Amendment is seconded, we will commence debate on the Amendment.
    - e. The same speaking rules will apply as outlined above.
  - f. All members can speak to the Amendment.
  - g. At the conclusion of the debate, I will call for a vote on the Amendment.
- 6. If the Amendment is successful, the main Motion is modified to this effect. If the Amendment fails, the main Motion remains unchanged.
- 7. We will then resume debate on the main Motion.
- 8. At the conclusion of the debate, we will then vote on the Motion.
- 9. Once this business has been concluded I will hand the Chair back to DD Carol."

PQD Kayleen asked: Are there any questions?

I call on DD Carol to present her recommendation for the 2024-2025 Contest Program

DD Carol moved "That the District conduct the International, Online, Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests at Area, Division and District Levels in the 2024/25 Toastmasters year"

PQD Kayleen asked: Do I have a Seconder? Seconded: Helen Cartmell, Division J Director

The Motion is now open for discussion. I call on DD Carol to speak to her Motion.

DD Carol: Carol reminded the attendees, that they should all have received and read the email from her with regards to this motion.

The rationale behind the motion: We have online clubs, clubs with geographical location issues, people with physical challenges that mean they are unable to get to Area Contests, along with people who are impaired or infirm. Because all members pay the same dues, they should all have the same opportunity to compete contests.

Seconder Helen spoke to seconding the motion: She is in total agreement with the motion, as she realises that we as a District have no choice about the number of Contests that we are able to offer. Also some people have issues with attending face to face events. Online meetings are a thing of the future, as this is a skill with many working online. The motion may be emotional for some, but believes it is necessary to hold an online speech contest. If we don't offer the online speech contest to our members, we may well loose members, which we can ill afford to do so.

Area G7 Director Derek asked: Is it possible to have the Online Speech Contest as the Humorous type contest? Or is it possible to combine the Impromptu speech contest with the Online Speech Contest?

DD Carol responded that the Online Speech Contest has a set format which is in the Speech Contest Rulebook and as a consequence we must follow it for this speech contest type.

Div.G Director Kath: advised that based on the clubs from her Division, the Humorous speech contest should be the one to be deleted, rather than the Table Topics. She asked for clarification why the Table Topics was chosen to be the one swapped out.

DD Carol responded that there was no set reason, other that historically when this was approached in the past the Table Topics was the one selected back then.

Div.G Director Kath Cherrie Moved an amendment to the Motion, replace Table Topics with Humorous.

The amended motion to read:

That the District conduct the International, Online, Evaluation and Humorous Table Topics Speech Contests at Area, Division and District Levels in the 2024/25 Toastmasters year"

Seconded: Jo Moar, Division D Director.

Div.G Director Kath Cherrie spoke to her motion: That Table Topics is often one of the first contests that new members enter, and is relevant to everyday life, with impromptu speaking being quite important in day-to-day life.

PQD Kayleen opened the floor for discussion.

Area J3 Director Andrew Hardwick: Agreed with the amendment to the motion. Clubs within his Area did not like the deletion of Table Topics from the District Contest Calendar.

Area J2 Director Nu Taramai: Supports this amendment. Table Topics is in parts of everyday life. Table Topics encourages the creative aspect of Speaking, more so that other parts of speaking. Impromptu speaking is also the basis of Debating and so many avenues of life.

Area G6 Director Katina Beauchamp: Supports this amendment to the motion. Agrees that Table topics is important and should be kept.

Area C3 Director Christine Livingston: Found this to be an emotive conversation with Clubs in her area. Distance and Cost can be instrumental in reasons for members not being able to attend Contests in person. Suggestion was maybe that Contests could be rotated, with a different contest being opted out each year.

Admin.Manager Celina Templeman shared her thoughts against both the original motion and amended motion: that people love Table Topics and it is often the first contest for new members. Humorous is often very entertaining for all. Noted DD Carol's rationale for putting the motion forward, and agreed with all those reasons, however, also noted that the number of members affected by the motion may not be that high. Also says she wished we could have 5 contests instead, so that this motion would not be necessary.

Area J4 Director Siyi Qian shared that although they welcomed Online contests, they thought that having an online contest should not be at the cost of losing 1 of the other contests. Still wish to have the same 4 contests, yet still have the Online Contest as an additional contest instead.

Area J1 Sian Farr supports the amendment: Reason: As an AD to an area of Corporate Clubs, where online attendance is the normal. They find online contests not to be a challenge, whereas attending contests in person, would mean many are unable to attend due to distance and other factors. And where possible make the Online Contest Humorous in content.

The amended motion being voted on is:

## That the word "Humorous" be replaced with "Table Topics"

Voting via the electronic Platform for the amendment to the motion.

Yes: 19 No: 2 Abstain: 1

The Ayes have it. The amended motion is Carried

The New Motion now being discussed is:

"That the District conduct the International, Online, Evaluation and Table Topics Speech Contests at Area, Division and District Levels in the 2024/25 Toastmasters year"

Area J3 Director Andrew Hardwick supports the current motion, and advises that his clubs will be more appreciative of the new motion, and more correctly reflects their views. Thank you.

Area J2 Director Nu Taramai wishes to move an amendment to the motion, to delete Online and replace it with Humorous.

"That the District conduct the International, Online, Humorous, Evaluation and Table Topics Speech Contests at Area, Division and District Levels in the 2024/25 Toastmasters year"

Seconded: Glenys Brown, Finance Manager

Area J1 Director Gary Nicholson supported the fact that we still need Online Contests and is against this motion.

Division D Director Jo Moar: speaks against the motion. States that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have more online meetings in our personal lives, so there is a need to have online contests for people to challenge themselves. Life is about speaking off the cuff, so this is important.

Admin.Manager Celina believes that Toastmaster International has it wrong that we have more members meeting in person. Still believes we need online contests, but believes we need to have 5 contests and maybe we should write to TI to ask. So is speaking for the motion.

Area C3 Director Christine Livingstone, asked a technical point that prior to voting the Parliamentarian clarify what happens for each result of the voting. Will be done.

IPDD Glen Pearce is against this motion, as speaking online is a skill we need to have and need to practice more, as this is the way the world is going.

DD Carol restated she is for there being online contests. We need to be supporting each and every member (even if it is a smaller number) and if we don't have an online component, we are not supporting our online clubs who have no other contest outlet. In the Corporate world, more and more meetings are held online, so we also need to give our members opportunities to challenge and improve themselves. It should be noted that many other Districts from around the world have elected not to have an Online Contest, and many of it's members are disappointed and angry. They have expressed interest in joining District 72 if we should be successful in voting in to have the Online Contest as one of it's contests.

Finance Manager Glenys Brown says that she supports this and agrees with Celina about us as a District going back to Toastmasters International (TI) and asking if there could be an option to have 5 contests. Supports Online Contests, but not at the loss of our other 4 contests. Advised that there are members who prepare their speech a year in advance, and to be told now that the speech can't be used, isn't fair to them.

The amended motion now being voted on is:

"That the word "Online" be replaced with "Humorous"

Parliamentarian Harry Fox clarified the result.

This means that if you vote for this motion means you are voting to have the standard 4 contests we have normally hold and all in person.

This means if you vote against this motion, means that we are voting to have an Online Contest, with the other 3 contests still being held in person.

Voting via the electronic Platform for the amendment to the motion.

Yes: 12 No: 13 Abstain: 0

I declare the amendment is lost and we are back to the previous motion as follows:

The motion now reads

"That the District conduct the International, Online, Evaluation and Table Topics Speech Contests at Area, Division and District Levels in the 2024/25 Toastmasters year"

Open for discussion to those who have not spoken to the motion previously

Area J1 Director Lyn Harris-Hogan asked if it was possible to clarify or specify that those who compete in the In-Person Contests, cannot compete in the Online Contest?

Parliamentarian Harry and PQD Kayleen both clarified that we cannot exclude members from any of the contests. All members can compete in all 4 contests, and if they wish, a club can nominate a member if they choose not to hold any one of the contests.

Voting via the electronic Platform for the amendment to the motion.

Yes: 16

No: 8 (2 of these are Admin Manager Celina Templeman & Area J3 Director Leonie

Wilkinson

Abstain: 0

I declare the motion carried

I will now hand the Chair back to DD Carol

DD Carol thanked everyone for their time and patience throughout the meeting. Especially, as this a contentious issue and very emotive for many. Thanks to the Area Directors for contacting their clubs and seeking their viewpoints. At the next District Officer training there will be more on Parliamentary/Meeting Procedure.

#### 13 General Business

DD Carol advised that as there is no general business we will move on to the next Agenda Item.

#### 14 Announcements

The next District Executive meeting will be held at 1pm on 21<sup>st</sup> September with the Venue to be confirmed. (Since confirmed Airport Gateway Lodge, Christchurch

The next District Council Meeting will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September at a time and venue to be advised.

#### 15 Close

DD Carol Mitchell thanked all who participated and assisted in the DEC meeting. There being no further business, I ask somebody to move "That the Meeting be closed"

Moved: Tania Sales, Area G4 Director

Seconded: Christine Livingstone, Area C3 Director

Voting via the electronic Platform

Yes: 17 No: 0 Abstain: 0

The Ayes have it. The motion is Carried

DD Carol Mitchell declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

### **Confir-mation of Quorum**

District Parliamentarian Harry Fox (DP Harry) confirmed the quorum as follows:

This is a District Executive Committee Meeting. A quorum for an Executive Committee meeting is the majority of its members.

The Executive currently has 7 Senior Officers, 4 Division Directors, 17 Area Directors 28 Voting members A quorum is 15 members.

DD Carol We have 23 Members present, and you do have a quorum.

# **Apologies**

Dana Briscoe, Area D6 Director & Peter Simmonds, Public Relations Manager

Celina Templeman

Administration Manager 2024-2025

## Appendix 1 - List of Attendees & Apologies

#### **ATTENDEES**

District Director Carol Mitchell, DTM
Program Quality Director Kayleen Gilder
Club Growth Director Lisa Coppins

Administration Manager Celina Templeman, DTM Finance Manager Glenys Brown, DTM District Parliamentarian Harry Fox (NonVoting)
Immediate Past District Director Glen Pearce, DTM

Logistics Manager Esther Haines (NonVoting)
Tech Support Tim Law, DTM (NonVoting)

Division C Director Glenys Forsyth

Division D Director Jo Moar

Division G Director Kath Cherrie, DTM
Division J Director Helen Cartmell, DTM

Area C2 Director Marie Fox

Area C3 Director Christine Livingston
Area C4 Director Hugh Newberry

Area C6 Director Mitesh Rajendra Popat

Area D1 Director Lyn Harris-Hogan, DTM (Apology for late arrival)

Area D3 Director Leonie Wilkinson

Area G1 Director Sian Farr
Area G3 Director Rachel Clay

Area G4 Director

Area G6 Director

Area G7 Director

Area J1 Director

Area J2 Director

Tania Sales, DTM

Katina Beauchamp

Derrek Russell

Gary Nicholson

Nu Taramai

Area J3 Director Andrew Hardwick

Area J4 Director Siyi Qian

## **APOLOGIES:**

Public Relations Manager Peter Simmonds
Area D6 Director Dana Briscoe