



Western Division - 8 September 2024

Educational Awards

No significant awards to report in current period.

Membership

The following clubs have increased membership numbers. Renewals effective 1 October may affect these data:

- Darling Downs - +3 > 23
- Stanthorpe +2 > 15
- Ipswich +2 > 19
- City of Ipswich +7 > 28
- Heart of the City +3 > 15
- Lockyer Valley +1 > 13
- Compass +2 > 18
- Toowoomba TM +2 > 11
- Goondiwindi +2 > 19

The other 11 clubs in the Division remain at the base membership – at least until 1 October.

All clubs are striving to retain members and recruit new members.

DCP Goals

It is too early in the current period to draw conclusions regarding DCP goals. Membership - the greatest DCP challenge for most clubs in the Division - has been addressed.

Club Officer Training

Pending reports from D69 Online training and out of district training the following clubs have trained this number of club officers in COT1:

- Stanthorpe 3
- Warwick 1
- Morning Talkers 3
- Southern Cross 2
- TRC 2
- Goondiwindi 3
- St. George 1

In the interests of club effectiveness, and to get the DCP credit, I hope that there is still training to be credited. Tara Country Chatters are commended for training all seven club officers. The other 12 clubs have at least four officers trained.

Contact with Area Directors

Monthly catch-up Zoom meetings are scheduled for the Area Directors and the Division Assistant Directors. The September meeting was replaced by email contact because of my absence on the Scootaville odyssey.

The Division is deficient an Area Director for Area 11, but the past AD and stalwart Toastmasters working as a team are carrying out the duties.

Contests

Planning for Area and Division Contests is progressing, and club contests are underway.

Clubs

One club, Highfields, has surrendered its charter. This was because of a decision made in the previous year.

New Clubs

No new clubs are projected. The emphasis is on retaining and consolidating membership of the many clubs that have fewer than the 20 members required to charter a club.

Successors for Director Roles

The incumbent Area 31 director has agreed to nominate for the Western Division Director role in 2025-26. Area Director successors are yet to materialise.

Other Information/Comments

The current early months of the Toastmasters year are busy and challenging for new area directors. Arranging area conferences and contests, conducting visits to clubs, assisting the division director with club officer training and encouraging clubs in membership retention and recruiting initiatives.

The semi-annual renewal deadline of 30 September looms as a moment of truth: how many members will decline the opportunity?

*Submitted by John Bushell on 8 September 2024
Western Division Director 2024-25*