



Division Director Report prepared by Julia Schafer as at 4th February 2025

Club Officer Training – Round One

The first six months of the year have been marked by significant activity, commencing with the first round of Club Officer Training (COT), which was held at the Broadbeach Community Center. The event was well-attended, and it was inspiring to see Club Officers begin their roles with enthusiasm, achieving their initial training goals.

As the second round of COT will be conducted online, we have challenged all Clubs to meet the minimum requirement of four Club Officers trained and to strive for full participation by having all seven officers trained in this round. From reports I can see that only two Club officers have been trained so far but I feel more are yet to be recorded.

Club Visits

I am pleased to report that 100% of Clubs in our Division were visited during the first half of the year. A special acknowledgment goes to Ron Atkinson, who, despite starting his role as Area Director later in the term and overseeing the largest number of Clubs, successfully completed all required visits. All Area Directors have made contact with their Clubs and will begin the second round of visits after completing DLT this weekend.

Area Contests

Area Contests for the Division were conducted throughout November, and our four Area Directors—Ron Atkinson (Area 6 Director), Louise Donnan (Area 23 Director), Tom O’Sullivan (Area 24 Director), and Sarah Boynton (Area 35 Director)—should be commended for their outstanding efforts. Their dedication and organisational skills ensured that each contest ran smoothly and professionally. Feedback from participants and attendees indicates that the contests were a resounding success.

Distinguished Club Program (DCP) Potential

Congratulations to GC Hub, Twin Towns, and Southport Clubs for achieving “Almost Distinguished” status by meeting at least four DCP goals and fulfilling membership requirements in the first half of the Toastmasters year. Notably, GC Hub has already achieved six goals and requires just one additional member to attain Distinguished Club status.

Membership

Membership remains a challenge for six Clubs in our Division. I strongly encourage all Clubs to take advantage of the New Year by organising open houses or demonstration meetings. These events are excellent opportunities to engage members of the community who have resolved to improve their communication and leadership skills and to invite them to join Toastmasters.

Southern Division Contests

We are eagerly anticipating the Southern Division Contests, which will take place on **23 March 2025** at the Nerang Bicentennial Center. A flyer with event details is attached for your reference. I am pleased to announce that a Chief Judge has already been secured, and several major and minor roles have been filled.

A Contest Planning Zoom meeting was conducted late last month to finalise the program for the day. With the first and second-place winners from Area Contests eligible to compete at the Division level, we anticipate a total of 32 speeches, promising an exciting and memorable event.