

## District 112 Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### Motions on Notice

#### Motion 1

That as required by TI Policy 6 the District Executive endorses the District Director's recommendation that the Table Topics, Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests be run in addition to the International Speech Contest during the 2024-2025 year.

**Explanatory Note:**

This motion is required at this meeting by TI Policy 6. The District Director recommends to the DEC which contests will be run in addition to the International Speech Contests. In his report DD Richard recommended that the Table Topics, Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests be run. No change in the contests from previous years.

This motion gives the DEC endorsement of Richard's recommendation.

#### Motion 2

That The meeting approves the following dates for the Division Conferences as recommended by the Division Directors:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Division K&L Combined | Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> November + Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March |
| Division M&N Combined | Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> November + Saturday 29 March               |
| Division O            | Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> October + Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April  |
| Division P            | Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> November + Saturday 29 March               |
| Division Q            | Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> October + Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March |
| Division R            | Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April [All 4 Contests]                |

**Explanatory Note:**

The existing DP violates the principle that one leadership team may not decide matters for the next year except via a District Procedure. As explained in the explanation to Motion 3, this motion has the DEC approve the dates.

#### Motion 3

That District Procedures 2.3 and 2.4 be replaced by the following and subsequent procedures be renumbered.

**DP 2.3 Division Conference Dates**

Sometime after the May District Council, the incoming Division Directors meet with the incoming Trio and identify suitable dates for the Division Conferences. Those dates should allow of one of the Trio (DD, PQD and CGD) to attend each Division Conference. The proposed Division Conference dates are confirmed by the July District Executive Committee via a motion on notice.

Existing Clause

2.3 The current District Team (Division Directors and Trio) propose dates for the Division Conferences in the next Toastmasters year. The dates should allow of one of the Trio (DD, PQD and CGD) to attend each Division Conference:

2.4 The Draft Division Conference(s) dates proposed by the current District Team (Division Directors and Trio), are confirmed by the Incoming District Team no later than 30th June.

**Explanation**

One year's District leadership team does not have the authority (except through a District Procedure) to make decisions affecting a future year. WHQ made this very clear when our DPs were first approved when the District was established.

This change provides for dates to be arranged in May/June, put in the form of a motion which is published 2 weeks prior to the July District Executive. Whilst A Division Conference is a matter for the Division Director, because of the speech contest timelines it affects Area contests and Club contests. As such it is a matter for the DEC to confirm..

#### **Motion 4**

**That the vacant DP 3.4 be replaced by a new District Procedure.**

##### **DP 3.4 District Speech Contests Consultant.**

**The District Director may appoint a District Speech Contests Consultant responsible to the Program Quality Director and who shall have the following tasks and roles.**

- (i) To support training programmes for Speech Contest Officials.**
- (ii) To promote awareness of the current TI Speech Contest Book and any Speech Contest FAQs.**
- (iii) To be the first source of interpretation of clauses in the TI Speech Contest Book, with right of appeal to the Program Quality Director.**
- (iv) To be a resource for Division Directors and Area Directors regarding Speech Contests.**
- (v) To update contest chair's scripts for approval by the PQD.**
- (vi) The role does not give any authority to appoint contest officials at any level.**

A District Contest Speech Consultant role is established for this TI year, and this covers what the role entails. It does not remove the right and role of a Division Director or Area Director to appoint the Contests Chairs for their contests, however they may seek suggestions from the consultant. The role is limited the Speech contests and excludes any other contests run in the District.

The DP states that a Division Director **may** appoint someone to the role. It remains each District Director's choice in their year, whether to fill the role or leave it vacant.

#### **Motion 5**

**That a new clause 9.12 be inserted and subsequent clauses be renumbered.**

##### **DP 9.12 Important Matters Occurring between regular meetings.**

Should a matter, requiring District Executive Committee approval, arise between the regular scheduled meetings of the District Executive Committee, the District Director may call for a virtual vote by members of the District Executive Committee, subject to the following:

- [a] Methodology**
  - (i) the vote may be by electronic means accessible by all District Officers.**
  - (ii) for the motion to be adopted over 50% of the District Officers must return a positive vote. (i.e. an abstention is a vote against the motion).**
  - (iii) the email vote is open for five days or until a yes vote is confirmed, whichever is sooner.**
  - (iv) full details of all virtual votes under this DP are reported to the next regular scheduled District Executive Committee meeting, immediately after matters arising from the minutes.**
- [b] Information to be supplied to District Officers.**
  - (i) why the matter is better dealt with now.**
  - (ii) the motion is listed in full.**
  - (iii) there are full explanatory notes, including pros and cons.**

Sometimes a matter arises which requires DEC approval, but perhaps does not warrant a full DEC meeting, either virtual or in person. An example from earlier this year is, in February the DEC approved the presenters for the Taupo Conference (DP 8.5.1). Closer to the event one of the main educational presenters withdrew because of a family emergency and had to be replaced, i.e. changing a decision of the DEC. This new clause provides a procedure, with adequate safeguards.

## Motion 6

That DP 12.5 be replaced follows.

### Division Expenses

- 12.5.1 Division Directors are responsible for managing their budget items as specified in this Sub Clause. A Division Director may apply to the DEC for additional expenditure to be authorised.
- 12.5.2 Division Directors are allocated a budget to cover their Area and Division Contests / Conferences. Information is provided to Division Directors in two stages.
- (i) At the July DEC the Finance Manager advises a recommended maximum cost of an individual Area Contest.
  - (ii) At the September DEC the Finance Manager advises the maximum budget allocation for each Division to cover their Area and Division Contests / Conferences
- 12.5.3 As provided for in Section 5 of TI Policy 6.0, a Division may charge individual admission fees to a contest / conference, to cover additional event expenses. No club shall be charged such a fee, and no contestant shall be charged a fee to compete in a contest. Any monies collected in this manner shall be deposited intact to a District Bank Account specified by the Finance Manager.

### Existing Clause

12.5 The Finance Manager is to provide each Division Director with an indicative Division Budget by the 15th of July and any updates once the overall District budget is approved by the District Council. Division Directors are responsible for managing the budget items as specified in Sub Clause 12.3.1 (i). Additional Divisional level expenditure may be authorised by the District Trio.

### Explanatory Notes

The problem with the current DP is that 15 July is very early in the District budget process. TI sets a maximum of 5% of total budgeted income for Speech contests. WHQ doesn't usually advise the budgeted income for the District until very late July or early August. The District's Speech Contest budget covers the recording of the District International final, personal trophies for the placegetters in the District finals, all Division Contests and all Area Contests.

Based on previous years cost the DFM issues a recommended maximum cost for the first Area Contest, as these are often booked before the September DEC. At the September DEC each Division is allocated a contest budget to cover all their Area and Division Contests.

This clarifies what expenditure a Division Director is responsible for and how it is managed.

It also covers a situation where the District budget allocation may not cover the costs of the Division event. (E.g. for a Division dinner or where a prior event in that year have left insufficient funds for the final Division event.)

## Motion 7

That DP 9.11 be replaced by

- 9.11 At a **Meeting (Virtual, hybrid or in person)** the chair will put a motion and then ask if there is any opposition to it. If no member objects to the motion, the motion is carried.
- If there is any opposition then there is a vote,

- (i) in person meetings by show of hands, or
- (ii) hybrid meetings a combination of show of hands by those in person and for those online.
- (iii) online meetings using a polling option determined by the District Director.

The online poll is open for two minutes.

Either the chair or any ten district officers can request a formal vote, in which case each district officer is asked to give a spoken vote of Aye, No, or Present. (present means they did not vote).

#### Existing Clause

9.11 At a Virtual Meeting the chair will put a motion and then ask if there is any opposition to it. If no member objects to the motion, the motion is carried. If there is any opposition then there is a vote using the polling option in Zoom. The poll is open for two minutes.

Either the chair or any ten district officers can request a formal vote, in which case each district officer is asked to give a spoken vote of Aye, No, or Present. (present means they did not vote).

DP 9 relates to DEC meetings. It does not cover District Council Meetings where online voting is required. See Motion 8

The clause was written during covid. It is amended to cover the different type of DEC meetings we can now have. It also allows other online polling systems than Zoom to be used.

#### Motion 8

That a new clause 10.7 be added.

10.7 At District Council Meetings, the District Director determines the voting platform to be used where there is no consensus.

#### Motion 9

That DP 9.8 be renumbered as 9.6 and subsequent sections be renumbered.

It seems logical to have Reports for the District Executive Committee Meeting, part 1 and part 2, consecutive, rather than in different parts of the DP.

#### Motion 10

That the 2025 Annual District Council be hybrid.

The DEC has to determine whether the Annual District Council (May 2025) will be online or hybrid. Refer TI Protocol 7.1: District Events, Section 5. District Executive Committee Meetings. Item C