



Programme Quality Director District 112 Report

Neil Stichbury, DTM – 12 August 2018

Welcome to a big New Year!

Welcome to 2018-2019, a big year, the inaugural year for District 112. Bells, lights, whistles! There are many changes happening and I want to comment on the ones around education and contests.

Firstly, congratulations to our new Distinguished Toastmasters! Two since the beginning of the new District's year with another couple on the way.

- Glen Irving of Ellerslie Sunrise Club
- Stephen Lindsay of Silverdale-Orewa Club

Note that Glen beat Stephen to the punch by only four days! Great to have some firsts to celebrate and those DTM's came about as Glen & Stephen had them as goals.

Great also to see that Pathway level completions are being registered on a regular basis as more and more members take on Pathways. Our Pathways goal this year is to have had every member complete their Pathways Icebreaker. Traditional educational system awards are coming through as well. Keep it up!

June training and Club Leadership Training

The June training weekend for the 2018-2019 Division and Area Directors went well with an impressive turn-out of District Leaders. Participants received a lot of a variety of information, which we are confident is being put to great use. The Club Leadership Training programme was just one of the topics discussed. Significant attention was given to Pathways and we will be doing more in this area. Feedback from around the District at this stage is that CLT has been going very well with a good turnout from club officers.

Admin training

During July, the senior District Officers met for the District Planning Meeting and further training. This was another successful weekend with lots of progress being made on putting marketing and club growth plans in place, and getting the budget discussed. Pathways was discussed and also proposals as to how we can add value to training in the future. Many of us are used to receiving information and education via online Webinars and we are giving this methodology a serious look. If you think that you may have something to contribute as a potential presenter, please inform your Area Director. Online education presentation will not be a substitute for CLT events.

Trio training

The District Trio will be attending training in Chicago during August and will spend time with our compatriots in Region 12, (including District 72 of course!), as well as meeting other Trios from around the world and picking up lots of new ideas to bring back to District 112. The Trio members at the September training will share the training and International Convention highlights. A thank you too to clubs for getting their proxy votes sorted, with close to 100% done. Awesome!

September training

The next formal training weekend for all District Officers is the weekend of 8th and 9th September. Tea and coffee will be available from 9.30am, with a prompt start at 10:00am. If you are a newly appointed Area Director, or were unable to attend the June training, please ensure that you attend the September training as it will assist you greatly in your role this year. For those who attended in June, I'm sure we will be bringing new information from the Chicago training and expanding what we have discussed to support and guide you as well.

Contests

Divisions and Areas are deciding how they will conduct their contests both this year and next year with a major change to the District event, with the one event in May next year running four contests.

Divisions and Area will have some options, with decisions also determining how respective clubs will conduct their contests, particularly with respect to timing.

Another change that Divisions and Areas may also look at, is the requirement to video the District International Speech Contest. To get comfortable with such a change Divisions may look at including videoing to assist competitors understand what may be involved. Please review the current Contest Rulebook for further information.

All the best for the educational year ahead and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions about education and speech contest matters.

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