

District Newsletter



T O A S T M A S T E R S I N T E R N A T I O N A L ®

Are Your Contestants Eligible?

Speech contest season is here. If your club is participating in your district's speech contests in September, October and November, make sure contestants are eligible. One eligibility requirement that causes confusion for clubs and districts is whether a contestant and club are in good standing. The following are considered to be in good standing:

- ▶ A continuing member whose dues for the April-September 2005 period was received at WHQ before the club contest was held.
- ▶ A new, dual or reinstated member who joined the club since the April-September dues period began and whose membership application and dues were received at WHQ before the club contest was held.
- ▶ A club whose dues for the April-September 2005 period were received at WHQ before the club contest was held.

Payment of October 2005-March 2006 dues is not required for participation in contests held in September, October and November. We encourage clubs and members to submit dues on or before October 1, but allow them to pay dues as late as November 30 before they lose their good standing.

For assistance in determining if your club's contestants are members in good standing, contact dyosha@toastmasters.org. Membership in good standing of a club in good standing is just one eligibility requirement. Please check TI's *Speech Contest Rulebook* (Catalog No. 1171) for the additional eligibility requirements for a specific contest.

Submit Report of Club Visit Forms ONLINE

Area governors now can submit their Area Report of Club Visit forms online through the TI Web site. Click on "District Business," then on "Area Report of Club Visit." You *do not* need to enter your district's password to access the Area Report of Club Visit forms.

Type the club number, hit the TAB key, then click "select." The form will appear. (Be sure to follow these directions exactly. Hitting the TAB key populates the form with the necessary information to continue. Not hitting TAB could result in a system error.) Simply type your responses to the questions in the spaces provided. After completing the form, click "submit." Copies automatically will be sent to the district governor, lieutenant governors and club president. Online reports must be received at WHQ by midnight November 30 for credit in the Distinguished Area Program.

Area governors still have the option to submit their reports by mail. Area governors must mail their reports to their district governor by October 31 **ONLY** if they did not submit the report online. District governors must then forward a copy to WHQ. To be credited in the Distinguished Area Program, forms must be postmarked on or before November 30 and received at WHQ by 5 p.m. December 10.

Need a Club Coach?

So you're ready to build your club's membership and make it Distinguished? Uncertain about how to get started? Help is on the way! Club coaches are assigned by district governors to assist clubs that want to be distinguished and are having difficulties building or maintaining membership. Assignments may be made at any time of the year. Contact your district governor now to request a club coach for your club.

If you'd like to get started building membership today, go to www.toastmasters.org. Click *Information for Members* then *Membership Building Ideas & Resources*.

Need Help Rebuilding a Club?

Any district officer can tell you that rebuilding clubs can be a most difficult challenge, but the *How to Rebuild a Toastmasters Club* manual (Catalog No. 1158) offers tried-and-true advice and instructions that will help you get those clubs back to charter strength in no time!

Contact WHQ today or visit www.toastmasters.org and get that club back in action!

District Web Sites

Ever wonder what other districts around the world are doing to serve their members? There is a way you can find out!

Visit the Toastmasters Web site and visit the District Web Page link. Click on Information for Members, then District/Club Info and Reports and select District Web Sites.

The more information we can share with each other, the closer we are to making effective worldwide communication a reality.

Contacting the Board of Directors or Executive Committee

Anytime you want to get a message to a Board or Executive Committee member, you need only to contact WHQ.

Send an e-mail to rlamb@toastmasters.org

Or Send a letter, addressed like this:

Attn: Name of the person you wish to contact

c/o Executive Director

PO Box 9052

Mission Viejo, CA 92690

Top 5 District Newsletter Contest

At the convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Toastmasters International honored five districts with the Top 5 District Newsletter award. And we're doing it again in Washington, D.C.!

These newsletters should help achieve goals related to the district's mission, educational completions, officer training, membership growth and club building. Entries are judged for content, readability, layout and presentation and should be composed primarily of original material of educational value.

Some additional guidelines have been added to the list of rules. Please visit the TI Web site before submitting your newsletters for competition.

The deadline for this contest is April 26, 2006.

Toastmasters Is For Everyone

Just a reminder that Toastmasters International has a policy against discrimination:

"No person shall be excluded from membership in a Toastmasters club, and no member shall be deliberately discriminated against in the conduct of official Toastmasters programs because of age (except those persons under the age of 18), race, color, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or physical or mental disability so long as the individual, through his or her own efforts, is able to participate in the program."

Policy violation by an individual member, club, area, division, district or other official groups will subject the offending person or entity to disciplinary action, in accordance with the Bylaws of Toastmasters International, unless the offending party ends its own violations.

New Club Scoreboard

One hundred seventeen clubs were chartered for August, compared with 71 in 2004, and 61 in 2003. Our year-end total of new clubs is 188. The leaders in club extension are:

<u>District</u>	<u># of Clubs</u>
75	8
60	6
47, 51	5

Corporate Leads

Thinking of starting a corporate club? Here are some companies that already have clubs:

Safeco, Seattle, WA; PATH, Seattle, WA; City of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, AZ; PayPal, San Jose, CA; eBay, San Jose, CA; Sony Corporation, San Diego, CA; Ambient Consulting, Minneapolis, MN; Umpqua Indian Development Corp, Canyonville, OR; Missouri Athletic Club, Saint Louis, MO; Deloitte Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA; Sage, Richmond, BC, Canada; Aquila, Inc., Raytown, MO; Countrywide Home Loans, Fort Worth, TX; Pricewaterhouse Coopers, McLean, VA; NRECA, Arlington, VA; Radiology Imaging Associates, Clinton, MD; Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, Inc., Livonia, MI; Countrywide Home Loans, Lancaster, CA; Raytheon, Goleta, CA; American Girl, Middleton, WI; National Cooperative Bank, Washington, DC; John Deere, Cary, NC; Stantec, Sacramento, CA; Medtronic Sofamore Danek, Memphis, TN; Pepsi Cola, Valhalla, NY; Merrill Lynch, Red Bank, NJ; Moore Stephens Lovelace, P.A., Winter Park, FL; Scotia Bank, Bahamas; VyStar Credit Union, Jacksonville, FL; FedEx/Kinkos, Dallas, TX; DHL, Malaysia; Dynasty Hotel, Malaysia; Yung Kong, Malaysia; Westlake Countrywide, Westlake Village, CA; Sikorsky DCMA, Stratford, CT; RLI Insurance, Peoria, IL; Whataburger, Inc., San Antonio, TX; Honeywell, Houston, TX; FN Manufacturing LLC, Columbia, SC; Synnex Corp., Greenville, SC; Municipal Property Assessment Corp., Pickering, ON, Canada; Siemens L&A G.R., Grand Rapids, MI; McKee Foods Corporation, Collegedale, TN; Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, Rochester, NY; Northrop Grumman Newport News, Newport News, VA; Marsh Pty Ltd, Australia; Auckland City Council, New Zealand; Total South Africa (PTY) Ltd., Johannesburg, South Africa; West Bay Learning Center, Philippines; National Power Corporation, Philippines; Sykes Asia Inc., Philippines; Metro Drug Inc., Philippines; Etelectare Global Solutions, Philippines; Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA; Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Costa Mesa, CA; Philips, China; Cisco Systems India, India; Chugach Electric Association, Inc., Anchorage, AK; and Thomson Corporation, India.