

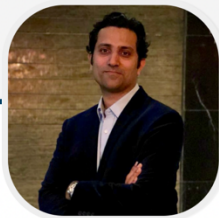
District 36

Toastmasters

Fall District Council Meeting (Hybrid)

Saturday, September 20, 2024

2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Arvind Venugopal
District Director



Augusta Inniss
Program Quality Director



Jill Vanderweit
Club Growth Director



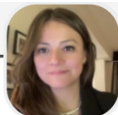
WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE



Ramu Garapati
Immediate Past District Director



Sheraline Thomas
Finance Manager



Maria-Pia Younger
Public Relations Manager



Mike Onzay
Logistics Manager



Meredith Wilson
Administration Manager



Reeya Majeedu
Webmaster

District 2025-2026 Vision: **Nurture, Grow, Inspire.**

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2025-2026 Fall District Council Meeting

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Agenda

Agenda Item	Presenter
Call to Order 1. Review of our Mission 2. Zoom Etiquette	Meeting SAA
Welcome and Introduction Agenda Adoption	District Director - Arvind Venugopal
3. Meeting Standing Rules & Adoption	District Director & Parliamentarian – Ena Okah, PDD
4. Credentials Report	Credentials Chair – David Alexander
5. Spring Meeting Minutes Approval	District Director
6. Confirmation of Appointments	District Director
2024-2025 Audit Report Update	Immediate Past District Director - Ramu Garapati
7. District Budget Adoption (8-10 mins)	Finance Manager – Sheraline Thomas & District Director
8. Profit & Loss (P&L) Report	Finance Manager
9. Club Alignment Update	District Director
10. Upcoming District Alignment Update	District Director
11. Division Reports (2-3 minutes each)	Division A Director – Venkatraman Krishnasami Division B Director – Sancho Jacinto Division C Director – Margaret Serrano Division D Director – Carla Harper Division E Director – Irina Gabidullina Division F Director – Sandhya Murthy
12. Public Relations Report (3-5 mins)	Public Relations Manager - Maria Pia Younger
13. Club Growth Report (5-7 mins)	Club Growth Director - Jill Vanderweit
14. Program Quality Report (5-7 mins)	Program Quality Director – Augusta Inniss
15. District Director Report (5-7 mins)	District Director
Unfinished Business New Business	District Director
Announcements & Reminders	District Director
Acknowledgements	District Director
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting SAA

1. Review of Our Mission

Toastmasters International Mission: We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

District Mission: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Club Mission: We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

2. Zoom Etiquette

1. When entering the Zoom meeting, all participants must be identified with your Role plus your First and Last Name so it shows on screen. If your name is not listed, you will be asked to identify yourself. If you do not add your name, you will be removed from the meeting. Examples:
 - P FirstName LastName** for Club President
 - VPE FirstName LastName** for Vice President Education
 - O FirstName LastName** if you are only an Observer
2. If you have multiple clubs for which you are a District Council Member use a "/" symbol, as in
 - P/P FirstName LastName** for serving two clubs as President
 - VPE/VPE FirstName LastName** for serving two clubs as VPE
 - P/VPE FirstName LastName** for serving one club as President, another as VPE
3. For District 36 DEC Members: Division Directors, Area Directors, Administrative Manager, Finance Manager, Public Relations Manager, Immediate Past District Director, please use the letters "DEC" **DEC FirstName LastName**
4. If you are both a member of the DEC and are serving as Club President or Club VPE, the naming convention is:
 - P/DEC FirstName LastName**
 - VPE/DEC FirstName LastName**
5. All participants will be muted when joining.
6. All participants will keep camera/video off unless speaking.
7. When acknowledged by the Chair, the Zoom host will un-mute your audio to allow you to speak.
8. The "Raise Hand" feature is available by clicking on the hand icon in the participant window or by clicking on the "Raise Hand" icon in the Reactions bar at the bottom/top of the screen, depending on the version of Zoom that you have. If you are participating by phone, please press "star 9" to raise your hand.

3. District 36 Council Meeting Standing Rules (for virtual meetings)

From TI District Administrative Bylaws, Articles IX - XI and XIII, as amended
(Not subject to approval by the District Council)

Voting District Council Composition: The District Council shall consist of the District Executive Committee and the President and Vice President Education from each member club in the District. The District Executive Committee is composed of the District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Public Relations Manager, Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Division Directors, Area Directors, and the Immediate Past District Director. These shall be the only voting members of the District Council.

Quorum: One-third of the Presidents and Vice Presidents Education from member clubs in the District shall constitute a quorum for District Council Meetings. In the event that any business is transacted at any District Council meeting at which a quorum is not present, the action shall be deemed as valid as if a quorum were present if it thereafter is expressly approved in writing, personally, by mail, fax, e-mail, electronic transmission or other reasonable means, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Member Clubs in the District on the basis of two (2) votes per club.

Proxies: Proxies are not permitted for a virtual business meeting.

Voting: Each member of the District Council participating in a Council Meeting is entitled to one vote. The President and Vice President Education from a member club in good standing are entitled to two votes and any such individual member who is also entitled to a vote as a member of the District Executive Committee is entitled to an additional vote, for a total of three votes. All other members of the District Council shall be limited to a maximum of two votes. Proxies are not permitted for virtual meetings.

Rules of Order: Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the final authority on parliamentary procedure insofar as they do not conflict with any provision in the District Administrative Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of Toastmasters International, Policies and Procedures, set by the Toastmasters International Board of Directors.

Credentials: Council members were asked to preregister to establish a quorum. Registrations to determine a quorum will be tallied 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Parliamentary Aids: To expedite the meeting, the Chairperson will use unanimous consent as much as possible, especially in accepting the submission of committee reports. Any Council

Member may object to unanimous consent by stating “objection” when the presiding officer says, “if there are no objections” or “hearing no objections.” With any objection, a motion will have to be made and seconded, discussed and voted. While all points of view are entitled to be heard, that does not mean every member needs to speak. Because of limited time for debate and discussion, members are asked to primarily make statements that offer new information and not repeat what has already been stated. Rights of the minority opinion are to be protected and respected even though majority rules. Courtesy should be extended to all participants and that includes not asking redundant questions that have previously been answered either in the delegates’ package or by other delegates. Specific voting details will be shared at the meeting.

Submittal of Motions: Resolutions, motions, or amendments to motions shall be submitted in writing to the Chair. For a virtual meeting this may be done via Chat.

New Business: Motions for “New Business” must be submitted no later than seven days prior to the council meeting.

Announcements: The Chairperson should be informed of any intentions to make announcements before the start of the District Council Meeting.

Addressing the Council: Recognition by the Chairperson is required before a person addresses the District Council. Without recognition, comments will not be part of the official record. During virtual meetings, individuals shall be muted unless delivering a report or recognized by the chair and unmuted. To address the District Council, an individual must address the Chairperson and wait for acknowledgment by the Chairperson. For a virtual meeting, an individual will address the Chairperson through the “Raise Hand” and “Chat” features and must be recognized by the chair and unmuted before addressing the District Council.

1. During the virtual meeting, to ask a question, make a motion, speak in debate, or second a motion, please “Raise Hand” and write in the Chat box, giving your name and District role or club name/club number represented (in the Council meeting), and wait to be acknowledged by the Chair.
2. Once acknowledged, the individual should state their name, club name, club number, or District Council role, and then succinctly state the business.
3. The District Director will request that main motions and amendments be in writing in advance (when possible), signed by the maker of the motion using the following format (/s/ First and Last name), and submitted electronically to be presented to the Chair, with a copy to the Administration Manager. For virtual meetings, such documents may be posted in the chat.
4. All Council members may participate in discussions, in accordance with these rules and the District's parliamentary authority.

Business Time Limits and Guidelines for Participation: There will be limited debate on items of business.

1. Each individual shall have a maximum of two (2) minutes to address the question. No member of the District Council shall speak in debate more than once on the same question except by permission of the District Council granted by a two-thirds vote (or unanimous consent) without debate.
2. Council Members holding ballots have the right to debate before members without ballots.
3. The maximum time for discussing or debating any particular motion, including its amendments, shall be fifteen (15) minutes. Unless two-thirds majority of Council Members vote in favor of any motion to change the time limits for debate, the Council will immediately vote on the pending question if the 15-minute limit is reached.
4. Any Toastmaster in good standing may voice their opinion on any question of business but may not make any motion nor vote on any business unless they are a Council Member.
5. During the Annual Business Meeting, each district officer candidate, including any floor candidate, is entitled to a two (2) minute speech after nominations are closed and prior to election of the respective officer position. At the discretion of the Chairperson, candidate speeches may be suspended for uncontested positions (cases in which only one candidate has been nominated). Speeches by candidates are delivered in alphabetical order of the candidate's last name, by office, beginning with the highest contested office. Each speech shall be delivered by the candidate if present. If the candidate is absent and has consented to the nomination and signed the Officer Agreement and Release Statement, the candidate's representative may give the speech. All floor candidates must identify their intent to run from the floor by seven (7) days prior to the business meeting and must have been interviewed by the District Leadership Committee (DLC): non-DLC-interviewed floor candidates will not be accepted during the meeting. No other speeches, demonstrations, or other activities related to the election of officers are allowed during the Council Meeting.

Appointment of Timer: The District Director shall appoint an official timer(s) for this District Council Meeting. The designated timer(s) will mute the speaker when speaking time expires.

District Administrative Bylaws: District Council shall refer to Toastmasters.org for current governing documents.

4. Credentials Report

Presenter: David Alexander, Credentials Chair

Clubs Eligible X 2 = _____

Quorum (1/3 of Clubs Eligible X 2) = _____

Presidents and Vice Presidents Education Represented = _____

District Executive Committee Members Represented = _____

Total Ballots Available = _____

Majority (50% of the Total Ballots Available + 1) = _____

2/3 Majority = _____

5. District 36 Spring Council Meeting Minutes

District 36 Spring Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 16, 2025
Hybrid Meeting at Rockville Hilton and on Zoom

1. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by District 36 Director, Ramu Garapati.
2. Welcome
 - a. Ramu welcomed club officers, district staff, members, and guests.
 - b. He recognized dignitaries in attendance and district leaders.
 - c. He introduced zoom host, Past District Director, Bonnie Maidak, DTM.
 - d. Zoom etiquette was discussed, such as remaining mute and turning off your video if you step away from the camera. He also stated that the zoom host will be monitoring the chat.
 - e. He introduced District Co-Administration Manager, Janice Strachan, DTM and Parliamentarian, Scott Meyer, DTM, PDG.
 - f. District Council members (also referred to as 'delegates') were asked to go to the district website, <https://district36.org/d36-spring-district-council-meeting/>, to download the delegates package which contains the agenda and other needed information for today's meeting. The first version was posted two weeks prior to the date of this meeting. The most recent version was uploaded around 10:00 am the morning of the meeting. Adjustments included changes in the order of agenda items, and the inclusion of completed reports by various district leaders.
 - g. During the meeting, the term 'DEC' was used to refer to the District Executive Committee, which includes those district leaders who serve the members of the district.
 - h. The following individuals were appointed to assist with today's meeting:

Role	Person
Chat Monitors	Bonnie Maidak, Justine Desmarais
Mic Runner	Sandra Ponds
Timer (Primary)	David Alexander, Greenbelt Club #692953
Timer (Backup)	Rachel Alexander, Greenbelt Club #624924

- i. Time limits were explained during the meeting when necessary. (They were mostly for the speeches & officers reports.)

3. Reading of the District Mission, Purpose, and Vision Statements
 - a. The statements were ready by Janice Strachan.
 - b. Ramu thanked her for sharing these words.
- 4.
5. Credential Committee Report (Establishment of a Quorum)
 - a. The report of the Credentials Committee was presented by co-chairs John Kinsman, DTM, PID and Jon Ojiefu, DTM.
 - b. There were 120 eligible clubs in District 36. Each club received two votes, one for the president and one for the vice president education. The maximum number of club officer ballots were 240.
 - c. To achieve a quorum, one-third of the presidents and vice presidents education (VPEs) of eligible clubs must have been represented, which was 80. There were 112 ballots issued.
 - d. As such, we achieved a quorum.
 - e. There were 11 District Executive Committee (DEC) members represented. DEC members were not counted to achieve a quorum. (The Credential Chairs believed this underestimated the number of DEC members in attendance.)
 - f. The total ballots available were 123. If everyone voted, a simple majority would be 63; a 2/3 majority would be 88.
 - g. That concluded the Credentials Committee Report.
 - h. Ramu thanked John Kinsman and John Ojiefu and the Committee for their service.
 - i. Without objection, the Credentials Report was adopted.
6. Confirmation of Appointed District Officers
 - a. There were no newly appointed officers after the fall business meeting.
7. Meeting Rule Adoption
 - a. The Council Meeting Standing Rules and Proposed Ground Rules for virtual meetings were included in the delegates' package.
 - b. There were no objections. The Standing Rules and Ground Rules were adopted as presented.
8. Adoption / Approval of the Agenda
 - a. The agenda was circulated prior to this meeting.
 - b. The posted agenda was adopted.
9. Administration Manager Report
 - a. Ramu stated that, due to technical problems at the Fall District Council meeting, the Administrative Office could not capture the meeting minutes. Therefore, no minutes are available for the Fall District Council meeting that was held September 22, 2024.
 - b. Here are some important notes from the Fall District Council Meeting:
 - i. Approval of the Spring 2024 District Council Meeting Minutes
 - ii. Approval of Appointed District Officers
 - iii. Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget

- iv. Approval of the January 2024-June 2024 Audit report
- v. Approval of District Committee Chairs

10. Unfinished Business

- a. There was no “unfinished business”.

11. New Business

- a. Alignment of Clubs within Divisions/Areas

- i. Information about this topic was included in the delegates’ package.
 - ii. The presentation was made by Alignment Committee Chair, John Ojeifo, DTM. Additional member of this year’s committee included:

- 1. Division A Director Sandhya Murphy, CC
 - 2. Division B Director Maria-Pia Younger, LD5
 - 3. Division C Director Representative Tisina Samaroo, DTM (Area C-34 Director)
 - 4. Division D Director Justine Desmarais, DTM
 - 5. Division E Director Mike Onzay, DTM
 - 6. Division F Director Patrick Cuff, PM5, IP5, PI5
 - 7. Division G Director Jill Vanderweit, DTM

- iii. The committee explained the required rules and timeline that Toastmasters International has for this process. New rules from Toastmasters International are that each division must have a minimum of 4 areas, each area must have between 4 and 6 clubs, and only clubs “in good standing” count towards the minimum. (Seven clubs were identified as suspended clubs.)

- iv. The committee discussed the process with the DEC in March. Proposed draft alignment in April. After the DEC approved the alignment plan, affected clubs were contacted and given an opportunity for feedback.

- v. In the final proposal, the number of divisions were reduced from 7 to 6; the number of areas were reduced from 33 to 27, several of the 142 clubs in good standing were proposed to be moved to different areas for the 2025-26 Toastmasters year starting on July 1, 2025.

- vi. John Ojeifo, on behalf of the Alignment committee, moved that the Alignment report be adopted.

- vii. Division G Director Jill Vanderweit moved to accept this proposal and Division F Director Patrick Cuff seconded the motion.

- viii. Marie-Pia Younger, Division B Director, asked about Dupont Circle of Speakers Club which is missing from the Area 21 list. John Ojeifo stated that this club will be moved to Area 14 to ensure all areas have at least 4 clubs.

- ix. Pamela Bayles, Club 3421, stated that the club has changed its name to Curious Minds Toastmasters Club and updated with TMI. When the final plan is submitted, you may need to update this. Based on the presentation Club 3421 is moving from F to E.

x. There were no objections, therefore the proposed realignment was approved. Ramu noted that he would coordinate with the District Director-Elect to submit this realignment to World Headquarters by July 15, 2025.

xi. Ramu thanked Chair John Ojiefu and the members of the committee for their service.

b. District Leadership Committee (DLC) Report

i. This committee was formerly known as the Nominating Committee. Members of the DLC included: Danielle Derrick, DTM, PDD, Chair; Gwen Miller, DTM, PDD; Barry Piatt, DTM, PDG; Socrates Alexander, DTM; David Davis, DTM; Toni Ward, DTM; Jason Wyatt, and Douglas Kelly, DTM.

ii. Committee member Gwen Miller presented those individuals recommended by the Committee for the 2025-2026 D36 elected offices. Those nominated were:

For District Director – Arvind Venugopal, DTM

For Program Quality Director – Augusta Inniss, DTM

For Club Growth Director – Jill Vanderweit, DTM

For Division Directors (6 positions were available) - Irina Gabidullin, Sancho Jacinto, and Sandhya Murthy.

iii. Ramu asked Gwen to confirm that nominated candidates had been interviewed/evaluated for the position, had signed a copy of the "Officer Agreement and Release Statement", and met the requirements of the office. Gwen stated yes.

iv. Ramu thanked Gwen and members of the committee for their service.

v. Anyone who had wanted to run from the floor needed to have notified the District Director seven (7) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting of their intent. No such notifications were received.

vi. Since there was only ONE candidate for each office, the Co-Administration Manager was instructed to cast a single vote for Arvind Venugopal as District 36 Director, Augusta Inniss as District 36 Program Quality Director, and Jill Vanderweit as District 36 Club Growth Director.

vii. Since there were fewer candidates for Division Director than the number of open positions, the Co-Administration Manager was instructed to cast a single ballot for each candidate.

viii. Ramu noted that the District Director-elect will make appointments to the three open Division Director positions and they will be ratified at the next D36 District Council Business Meeting.

c. No additional motions for New Business were submitted by seven days prior to the council meeting, therefore no further New Business needed to be considered by this Council.

12. Financial Reports

a. Report of the Mid-Year 2021-2022 Audit Committee

- i. Audit Committee Chair, Howard Glassman, DTM presented the report. The report was included in the delegates' packet.
- ii. Other members of the Audit Committee were Bonnie Maidak and Krish Murti.
- iii. The District expenses and payments were appropriate for the period reviewed. A recommendation was made to the District to attach prior approval documentation for expenditures to the expense reports to provide a complete audit trail.
- iv. Audit Committee Chair, Howard Glassman, on behalf of the Audit/Financial Review Committee, moved for the adoption of the Interim Mid-Year Audit/Financial Review for the 2024-2025 Toastmaster year.
- v. Ramu stated that the Mid-Year Audit report was submitted to Toastmasters World Headquarters on time as stipulated in the District Leaders Handbook. The District Council can only ask questions and then approve the report.
- vi. Beverly Byam-Hercules, NTL Advanced Speakers Club 3797, asked for clarification of what attachments were missing from the expense reports. Howard stated that the approvals were in another folder but not attached to the expense report. The audit would have been easier to do if that information was attached to the expense report.
- vii. There were no objections, therefore, the Mid-Year 2024-2025 Audit Committee Report was adopted.
- viii. Ramu thanked Howard and the members of the committee for their service.

b. District Finance Report

- i. The Profit and Loss Statement was included in the delegates' packet.
- ii. District Finance Manager, Robert Behr, DTM, presented the Profit and Loss statement from the end of the third quarter (March 31, 2025). The report included data for the month of March 2025, and for actual and expected expenses and income for the year.
- iii. Our membership revenue was down \$3582 compared to expectations. This amount is based on dues payments. We had 400 fewer membership payments. Robert stated that we are under budget. For example, we had \$4000 budgeted for Open Houses but there was little use of that money. Contest room rentals, district special events, and printing and postage were also under used. There will be ample funds (\$33,667) that will carry over to the next Toastmasters year.
- iv. We were assessed by Toastmasters International for "reallocation" of funds in February of \$9,218. The amount was based on a formula that looks at the overage in the reserve fund. Robert recommended that we spend the amount that we budget to reduce the amount of surplus rather than return money to TI.
- v. Mr. Jabba, VPM from USAC Speaks Club # 6966899, asked what is meant by being "over budget". Robert clarified that the District had more money budgeted than we spent.

vi. James Scarborough, The George Washington University Club # 791413, asked what the negative numbers on the Profit and Loss report mean. Robert replied that when expenses from last year are submitted after the end of the Toastmasters year, they show up as negative numbers. An example of this type of expense is last year's incentives which were submitted in September.

vii. Gail Hawkins, Talking Heads of State Club # 707433, asked to clarify is the membership number of "400 fewer" is dollars or people. Robert clarified that we had 400 fewer payments (= people). Gail also about solutions for the "potential reallocation problem". Robert stated that we need to ensure all expenditures from this year are paid during this year, and ensure more incentives are awarded during this year. Also identify worthy projects to spend down some of the surplus, to perhaps ask for permission to exceed the annual budget. .

viii. Howard Glassman, Great Seneca Power Talkers Club # 8897, asked if the divisions and areas have a deadline for submitting expenditures so they are processed on time. Robert said that he presents this information at every DEC meeting and every Steering Committee meeting.

ix. Sancho Jacinto, Area 31 Director and Speakeasy in Downtown DC Club # 1365958, asked if areas have a budget for expenses such as end of year party. Robert said, that at the beginning of the year, there were policies established for club open houses, expenses for area and division contests, divisions had a budget for recognitions. Toastmasters rules do not allow for "business meals" as a type of reimbursable gathering.

x. VPPR Chris Halsifac, of Germantown Toastmasters Club # 2394, asked if there are worthy projects in the queue or how to submit ideas. Robert stated that incoming leadership will be discussing this.

xi. Ramu thanked Robert for his report and for his service throughout the year. The reports will be filed for financial review.

13. Reports by District Officers – written reports were included in the delegates' package.

a. The first division director report was from Division A. The Division Director Sandya Murthy had an emergency, so the report was given by Arvind Venugopal. Division A had some challenges with a couple of area directors being remote and the impact of current federal government actions. They used this opportunity to reestablish this as a thriving division as it used to be. Sandya has committed to serving another year as a division director.

b. The next report was from Division B Director Maria-Pia Younger. She recognized the area directors and other members of the division team. The clubs that had achieved distinguished status by May were identified.

c. The next report was from Division C Director. The Division Director Shivali Haribhakti was not in attendance (she had a baby boy), so the report was given by Augusta Inniss. She recognized the great support from the area directors. The division had a successful open house with great attendance. Almost all club visit reports are done. There are 18 division clubs currently in good standing.

- d. The next report was from Division D Director Justine Desmarais. Division has 254 paid members in 26 clubs, new Prince Georges County Healthy Voices Club formed in April, re-instated Bowie State University Club in February. They held quarterly division council meetings and co-hosted a division open house with Division G. She thanked her area directors, other members of the division team, and all members of the division.
- e. The next report was from Division E Director Mike Onzay. He recognized the area directors and other division team members. He said that they took these roles to grow. He identified those clubs that were close to being distinguished as of April 30.
- f. The next report was from Division F Director Patrick Cuff. A challenge was recruiting area directors. More club visits are being completed in the spring. Marriott Toastmasters had 70% of their club members laid off. Recognized clubs that will be distinguished. Thanked people from other division directors for their help with contests.
- g. The first report was from Division G Director Jill Vanderweit. She thanked her area directors and other team members for their support. They ensured that they completed 100% of club visits. She recognized clubs that were already distinguished. Lost one club due to DOGE activities, and three others may be in trouble.
- h. The first senior level district officer report was from Public Relations Manager Hareldau Argyle King. She thanked all who served on the team this year. Created a comprehensive communication strategy. She highlighted the March event named "Amidst Turbulent Times". They also created video communications.
- i. The next senior level district officer report was from Club Growth Director Augusta Inniss. We lost several clubs due to current political situation. We formed 4 new clubs and have 5 more that could be chartered before the end of July. We have 18 distinguished clubs. She added the open house challenge and would like to spend all money set aside for that incentive. She has reached out to local organizations to connect with them. We have 120 paid clubs, which is more than we had a few days ago. She thanked her team members.
- j. The next senior level district officer report was from our Program Quality Director Arvind Venugopal. He thanked the people on his team and his mentor. Whatever he did this year, he wants to do even more next year. The theme of the conference is Transform Today for a Better Tomorrow. He sees that as a real goal for our successful future.
- k. The final senior level district officer report was from the District Director Ramu Garapati. He thanked the entire district for allowing him to blossom during his time as District Director. We have lost 400 people and several clubs, but he is amazed with the resilience of our clubs. He encouraged everyone to use Pathways to reach their goals. He thanked his mentors and encouraged each person to also have a mentor.

14. Announcements

- a. Ramu reminded delegates that they needed to inform the Chair of any intentions to make an announcement before the start of the District Council Meeting. The Chair has received the following announcements.
- b. The 2025 International Convention
 - i. The 2025 International Convention will be happening in Philadelphia, PA, from August 20-23. Get excited to be on the forefront of the next 100 years!

Join fellow Toastmasters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to help shape and make your mark on a very special “envision” board of the future.

ii. Please have your incoming Club President and Secretary watch for an email from Toastmasters International at the beginning of July. This is to register your club’s proxy to vote at the Annual Business Meeting in August at the hybrid International Convention. Clubs MUST register each year. Remember that your Club’s vote/proxy can be assigned to any active Toastmaster ... if no one from your club is planning to attend the Annual Business Meeting, at that time consider assigning your Club Proxy to the District Director Arvind Venugopal.

iii. There is a call for Helping Hand volunteers at the Philadelphia Convention on August 20-23, 2025. Please visit the www.district36.org to complete the interest form. One of the chairs of Helping Hands will be Viki Kinsman.

c. Second Announcement. The first Club Officer Training for the 2025-2026 year will be in June. Stay tuned for announcements of other dates for the Summer 2022 club officer training season. To find upcoming sessions, go to <https://district36.org/tli/>.

d. Third Announcement. Please save June 28-29 for the Hail and Farewell Event.

15. Adjournment

a. The next District Council Meeting will take place in September 2025. The specific date will be announced after July 1.

b. Ramu adjourned the meeting at 8:54 pm.

Submitted by Co-Administration Manager Janice Strachan, DTM

6. Confirmation of Appointments

2024-2025 District Leader Appointments	
Title	Name
Administration Manager	Meredith Willson
Finance Manager	Sheraline Thomas
Logistics Manager	Mike Onzay
Public Relations Manager	Maria-Pia Younger
Webmaster	Reeja Majeedu

2024-2025 District Leader Appointments – Division Directors	
Division	Name
A	Venkatraman Krishnasami
C	Margaret Serrano
D	Carla Harper

2024-2025 District Leader Appointments – Area Directors		
Division	Area	Name
A	14	Katherine Mitchell
B	21	Jeanine Braithwaite
B	22	Landon Fortenberry
B	23	Andrea Chu
B	24	Jacob Williams
C	31	Bria Crawford
C	32	Luz Blanco
C	33	Amber Arrington
D	42	JuDawn Lowe
D	43	Juliet Agocha
D	44	Deneen Williams
D	45	Maria James
E	51	Jean-Pierre Leroy
E	52	Roosevelt Brutus
E	53	Maiha Thompson
E	54	Fritzie Leroy
E	55	Rosalyn Brown
F	62	Kalyan Bandaru
F	63	Jill Staggs
F	64	Indira Gonzales
F	65	Iman Newman

7. District Budget & Adoption:

Full Budget Document available at <https://district36.org/d36-fall-district-council-meeting/>

	<u>Total</u>
Membership Dues Allocation	69,177
Conference revenue	30,000
Oct/Nov Event revenue	920
Fundraising revenue	6,600
Education and Training revenue	-
District store revenue	1,750
Speech contest revenue	-
Total Revenue	108,447
TI Allocation Expense	3,456
Conference expense	28,000
Oct/Nov Event expense	920
Fundraising expense	3,300
District store expense	-
Marketing Outside Toastmasters expense	3,500
Recognition expense	13,700
Club Growth expense	8,125
Public Relations expense	6,900
Education & training expense	7,200
Speech contest expense	3,200
Administration expense	6,792
Food and Meals expense	9,600
Travel expense	3,006
Lodging expense	9,607
Total Expenses	107,307
District Net Income/(Loss)	1,140

<u>Break even</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Policy</u>
Conference	30,000	28,000	2,000	Meets Policy
Fundraising	6,600	3,300	3,300	Meets Policy
District Store	1,750	-	1,750	Meets Policy
<u>Minimum Expense Type</u>		<u>Expense</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Policy</u>
Marketing Outside Toastmasters		3,500	5.1%	5.0%
<u>Maximum Expense Type</u>		<u>Expense</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Policy</u>
Education and Training		7,200	10.4%	15.0%
Marketing Outside Toastmasters		3,500	5.1%	10.0%
Club Growth		8,125	11.7%	15.0%
Public Relations		6,900	10.0%	10.0%
Recognition		13,700	19.8%	20.0%
Travel		3,006	4.3%	25.0%
Lodging		9,607	13.9%	15.0%
Food and Meals		9,600	13.9%	15.0%
Speech Contest		3,200	4.6%	5.0%
Administration		6,792	9.8%	10.0%
Total Membership Dues		69,177	100.0%	

9. Club Alignment Updates

Club	Area	Division	Latest Update	From Spring 2025 Council Meeting
Hostmasters	11	A	NEW Charter on 09/01/2025	Not Applicable
Speaking to Win	12	A	NEW Charter on 6/30/2025	Not Applicable
Dupont Circle of Speakers Club	21	B	Retained in original Area B21	Was shifted from B21 to A14
ACC	24	B	NEW Charter on 6/30/2025	Not Applicable
The Restored-online club	42	F	Virtual club - Placed in D42 to balance Areas	Was shifted from G75 to F63
Columbians Toastmasters Club	44	D	Placed in D42 due to geography	Was shifted from G75 to F62
Global Leaders and Speakers	54	E	Reinstated Club	Previously in E56*
Business Oriented Toastmasters	55	E	Retained in original Area E55	Was shifted from E55 to E54

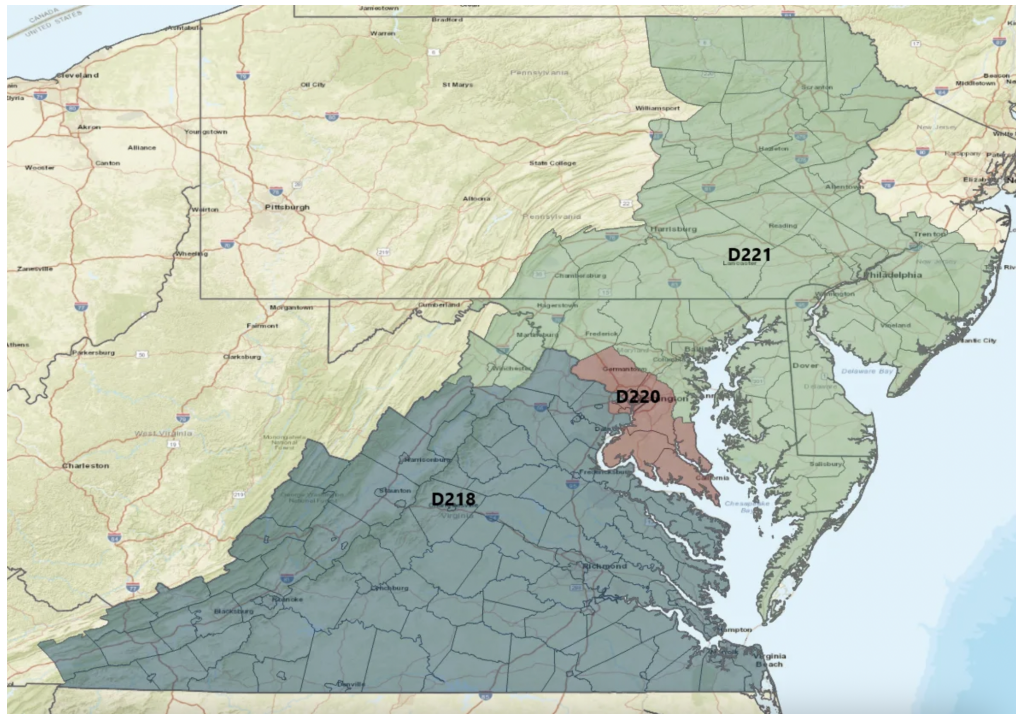
Link to the full Alignment from Spring 2025 Council Meeting can be found at district36.org (under the Resources menu) on this link or click on this direct link-> [HERE](#)

10. District Realignment Update from TI

NOTE: These changes will take effect only on July 1, 2026

What is District realignment?

Realignment is a process initiated by the Toastmasters International Board of Directors in which Districts with fewer than 100 clubs may have the District's boundaries modified, which means the clubs will be redistributed into one or more Districts.



Group 11 District Boundaries

District 220

The District boundaries of this District shall be as follows:

District of Columbia

Maryland:

The counties of Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's.

Virginia:

The portion of Virginia inside the Capital Beltway I-495 and south of I-66.

Will the District still conduct the annual Spring conference? —

Yes, the District will still hold its annual conference. The District Council meeting will be affected by the transition, but the other conference events should be held as normal.

How will the Annual Meeting of the District Council be affected? —

There will be two District Council meetings this year- one based on the District's current boundaries, and one based on its 2026-2027 boundaries.

The District Council meeting based on the current (2025-2026) District boundaries will be conducted to close out any outstanding District business, which may include approving filled District officer vacancies, presenting officer reports, and the audit report. Alignment approval and elections will not be conducted at this meeting.

The additional District Council meeting will include District Council members based on the 2026-2027 District boundaries. This may include the Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education of clubs who are not yet a part of the District, and may exclude District Executive Committee members who will not be a part of the District in the next program year. During this meeting, the alignment approval and elections will be held for all 2026-2027 District Council members to vote on.

How do District Directors select their Alignment Committee and District Leadership Committee Chairs? —

District Directors will not be directly selecting the chairs for the Alignment Committee and District Leadership Committee; chairs of these committees will be selected by the Transition Team to ease the transition between program years. District Directors may still identify members who are willing to serve in these positions.

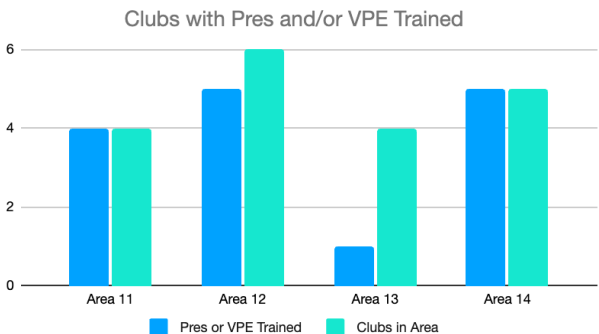
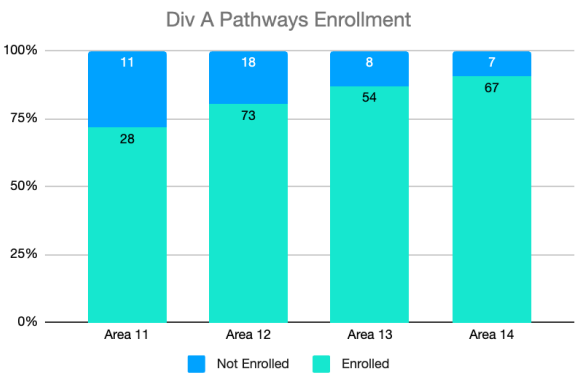
11. DIVISION Reports

Division A

Team:

- Division A Director - Venkat Krishnasami
- Area 11 Director – Supported by Division/District
- Area 12 Director – Supported by Division/District
- Area 13 Director – Supported by Division/District
- Area 14 Director – Katherine Mitchell
- MENTOR – John Kinsman, PDD

Key Data Snapshots:



Division A Director’s Report

Submitted By: Venkatraman Krishnasami, Division A Director

Division A in District 36 currently comprises 20 clubs across four areas (A11 through A14), with a total of 286 members. We are pleased to announce the chartering of a new club, "Hostmasters," on September 1, 2025, which has already welcomed 20 members.

Regarding the Summer TLI Update, 15 out of 19 clubs in Division A successfully had at least four of their club officers trained. Notably, "Speaking to Win!" and "Ambassadors of Speech Club" achieved 100% officer training.

Club visits by Area Directors and the Division Director (in areas without assigned Area Directors) are scheduled for September and October 2025. Additionally, the Fall Speech Contests for clubs are planned to conclude by October 31, 2025. Area-level contests for Areas 11, 12, 13, and 14 will take place in November 2025, followed by the Division-level contests for Division A in December 2025.

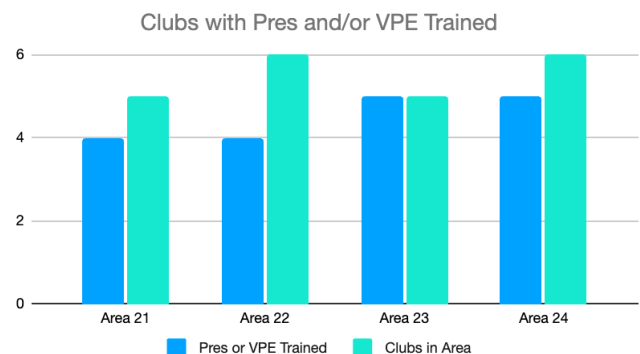
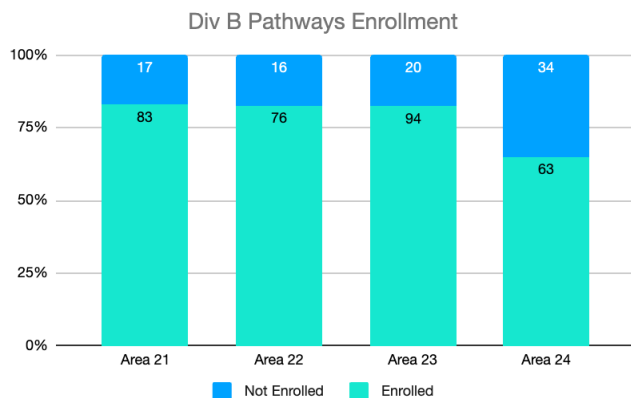
Area Council Meetings are being set up with the Club Officers from the respective Areas and will be kicked off during September 2025. In addition to this, Monthly email updates, including newsletters, are consistently being sent to all clubs in Division A by the Division Director and Area Director.

Division B

Team:

Division B Director – Sancho Jacinto
Area 21 Director – Jeanine Braithwaite
Area 22 Director – Landon Fortenberry
Area 23 Director – Andrea Chu
Area 24 Director – Jacob Williams
Supported By – Immediate Past Division B Director Maria-Pia Younger

Key Data Snapshots:



Division B Director's Report

Submitted By: Sancho Jacinto, Division B Director

Division B has a diverse mix of strong clubs and struggling clubs. We have begun setting up our area, and division contests and club success plan submissions have been strong. The contests' info has been sent to the district and is on the district website. The entire team is in full swing with building relationships with the clubs and have scheduled multiple club visits. See below a detailed info per area.

- Area 21 – Really strong area which is led by with a mix of big and small clubs but are all meeting and functioning well.
 - Dupont Circle of Speakers Club – Flagship club of Area 21 with a lot of members and strong meetings.
 - Dupont Circle Toastmasters – Another strong club with good membership base. DC's very first Toastmasters club founded in 1950.
 - The George Washington University – Small but dedicated members. Can work in increasing members, will work with AD to see if we can target students.
 - Foggy Bottom Toastmasters – Smallest club in the area. Will work with AD more to see how we can increase membership.
 - Global Business Leaders – International members based in District 36. Vibrant culture and distinguished members. Only downside is that they're not in person to participate in our district events.
- Area 22 – A lot of federal government clubs which are affected by the layoffs. Priority to help these clubs to prevent them from being inactive. We might need help from multiple coaches from Club Growth Director Team.
 - GSA Toastmasters Club – Affected by layoffs but still strong membership, will work with AD to see how we can help.
 - National Press Toastmasters – Affected by layoffs, low membership, risk of being inactive, will work with AD to help.
 - Clara Barton Advance and Conquer Toastmasters Club – Affected by layoffs, risk of being inactive, low membership, will work with AD to help.
 - Talking Heads of State Club – Strong club with the state department. Select
 - Distinguished last year. One of 7 Toastmasters clubs from the state department.

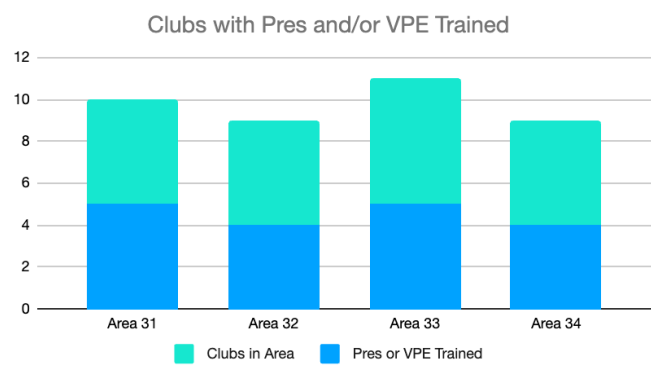
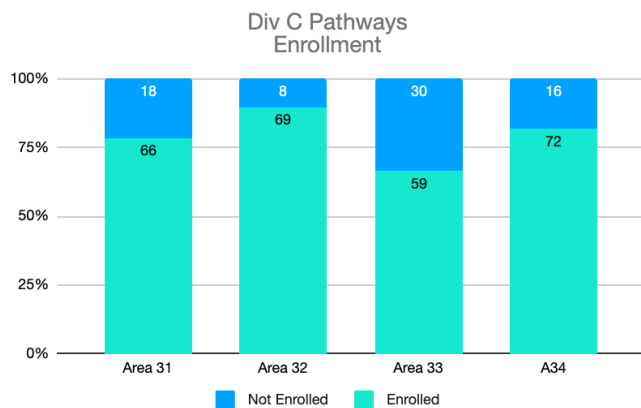
- Stately Speakers Club - Affected by layoffs, risk of being inactive, will work with AD to help. Might have Talking Heads help them by conducting joint meetings. One of 7 Toastmasters clubs from the state department.
- Diplomatically Speaking – Doing well as they’re having regular meetings with strong and vibrant members. One of 7 Toastmasters clubs from the state department.
- Area 23 – Strongest area in the division with a very active area director Andrea. She started a Pathway recognition program which culminates at an Area 23 Member Recognition and December 2025 celebration. AD has already established strong working relationships with the clubs. AD plans to focus on strengthening inter-club and team collaboration.
 - International Chat Masters Club – Relatively smaller membership but strong members. AD visit scheduled 09/35. Plans to invite external speakers at meetings to diversify topics. They also focus on club growth.
 - World Bankers Club – Strongest and largest club in the division. Club visit scheduled for 09/17. Will work with AD to see if we can get more people from this club to have more district involvement.
 - PAHO Toastmasters Club – Another strong club. AD completed visit on 09/09. They’re focusing on club growth.
 - IMF Toastmasters Club – Strong club with AD visit scheduled for 09/25. Held a 35th year anniversary event which I attend which has been very successful. Many attendees which rejuvenated the club.
 - IFC Toastmasters Club – Meets regularly. AD meeting scheduled for 10/14.
 - Plans to invite external speakers at meetings to diversify topics. They also focus on club growth. They also have an open house planned.
- Area 24 - A lot of federal government clubs which are affected by the layoffs. Priority to help these clubs to prevent them from being inactive. We might need help from multiple coaches from Club Growth Director Team. They have a brand-new club with ACC and one strong club with Federal Reserve.
 - Interior Toastmasters - Affected by layoffs, low membership, risk of being inactive, will work with AD to help.
 - OPM Our People Matter Toastmasters - Affected by layoffs, low membership, risk of being inactive, will work with AD to help.
 - FDIC Club - Affected by layoffs, low membership, was risk of being inactive by efforts from the district board helped them bounce back. They are doing joint meetings with the Dallas FDIC club to help each other.
 - Federal Reserve Board Toastmasters – Strong club which continues to thrive. Issue is the work distribution among officer is uneven. AD will work with president encourage work delegation better.
 - Eisenhower Toastmasters - Affected by layoffs, low membership, risk of being inactive, will work with AD to help.
 - ACC – Newest club in the division. Currently in the honeymoon period with lots of enthusiasm. Will work with AD to capitalize on this so they can become a strong club.

Division C

Team:

Division C Director – Margaret Serrano
Area 31 Director – Bria Crawford
Area 32 Director – Luz Blanco
Area 33 Director – Andrea Chu
Area 34 Director – Supported by Division/District
Deputy Division Director – Tisina Samaroo

Key Data Snapshots:



Division C Director's Report

Submitted By: Margaret Serrano, Division C Director

1. The division contest date and location are selected. Area directors need to submit their location and dates to receive support from division director. Will encourage area directors to consider partnering to cohost contest.
2. Club visits are a priority.
3. One of our Division Areas does not have a director. Division Director will ensure those clubs have support via club visits and ensuring an area contest is organized and hosted.

Division D

Team:

Division D Director – Carla Harper

Area 41 Director – Supported by Division/District

Area 42 Director – Supported by Division/District

Area 43 Director – Juliet Agocha

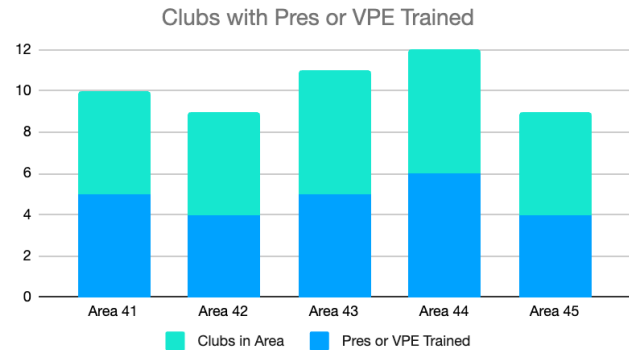
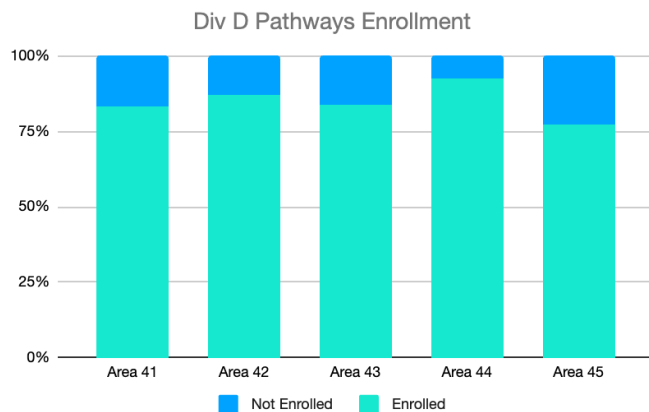
Area 44 Director – Deneen Williams

Area 45 Director – Maria James

Deputy Division Director – Tammie Riggs

Supported By – Immediate Past Division D Director Justine Desmarais

Key Data Snapshots:



Division D Director's Report

Submitted By: Carla Harper, Division D Director

Division Director Monthly Meeting with Area Directors (ADs)

- The Division Director met with the AD for area 45 to discuss the importance of scheduling club meetings and being able to attend those meetings, with the expectation of completing the Area Club Visit reports in a timely fashion.
- An Area Director for 42 has been successfully identified, and the District Leader form has been submitted to her for completion. The new AD will be able to help conduct club visits and assist with contests.

Club Visits

- For areas 41, 42, and 45, a total of 11 clubs were contacted.
- A total of 4 club visits took place: 2 within Area 41, 1 within Area 42, and 1 within Area 45.
- A total of 4 Area Club Visit reports have been submitted.
- 3 clubs have been recommended to seek support from the Coaching/Mentorship program.

Club Contest

- Contests are an inspiring event for District 36. A few clubs have expressed interest and the possibility of competing in contests. There are at least 3 clubs that have mentioned that club contests will be held this month, with the hopes of sending someone to the Area Contest at the end of October. At least one Toastmaster has expressed interest in becoming a contest judge and will be attending the Judges' Training session. The recruitment of additional people who could assist with upcoming contests is still underway. The discussion about possible venues for the Area Contests was held. I have reached out to get pricing from

Greenbelt Community Center. Area Director from 45 is reaching out to Prince George's Community College to inquire about possible meeting space that can be utilized, if not for the Area Contest, maybe for the Division Contest. The dates for these events will be announced as soon as possible.

Membership

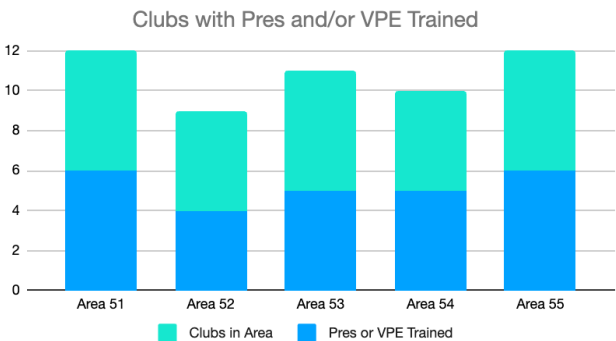
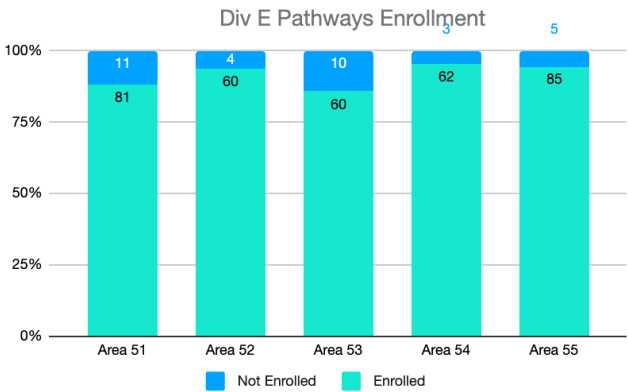
- **A total of 5 clubs have renewed memberships.:**
 - Area 41-One club
 - Area 42-Two clubs
 - Area 43-Zero club
 - Area 44-One club
 - Area 45-One club

Division E

Team:

Division E Director – Irina Gabidullina
Area 51 Director – Jean-Pierre Leroy
Area 52 Director – Roosevelt Brutus
Area 53 Director – Maiha Thompson
Area 54 Director – Fritzie Leroy
Area 55 Director – Rosalyn Brown
MENTOR – Mike Onzay

Key Data Snapshots:



Division E Director’s Report

Submitted By: Irina Gabidullina, Division E Director

Educational Awards	The year just started, no awards
Membership	October Dues paid 8 out of 28 or 29%: Area 51 - 2 out of 6 done (GO and NIST) Area 52 - 1 out of 5 (Twinbrook) Area 53 - none Area 54 - 1 out of 5 (GSPT) Area 54 - 1 out of 5 (GSPT) Area 55 - 4 out of 6 - is the Leader so far (only Tally Ho and AHRQ left)
Distinguished Club Program Goals	Club success reports submitted - 17: Area 51 - 5 Area 52 - 1 Area 53 - 2 Area 54 - 4 Area 55 - 5
Club Officer Training	TLI Results: 24 clubs completed (4 outstanding)

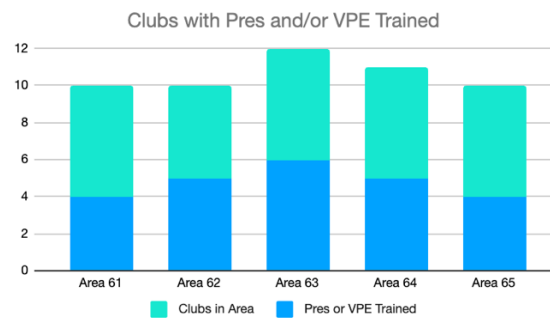
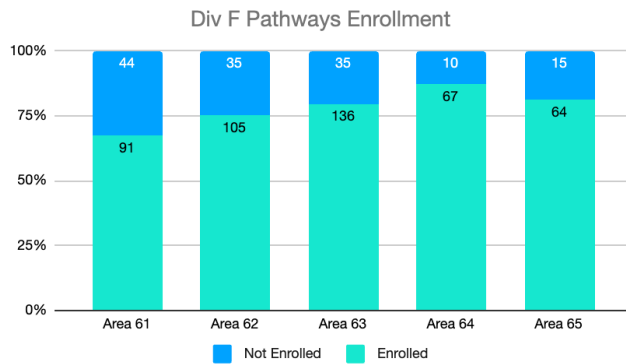
Contact with Area Directors	We met in person in August (2 people) and meet on Zoom monthly, August (3 people), September (expect 5 people). We communicate via text, WhatsApp group and email.
Contests	<p>All fall evaluation contests are scheduled.</p> <p>Area 51, 52, 54 contest on 11/8 from 10.30 am in Rockville Library</p> <p>Area 53/55 contest on 11/15 from 2-5 in Gaithersburg Library.</p> <p>Division E is 12/6 from 2-5 in Rockville Library</p>
Clubs	<p>On membership level alone, at least 11 clubs need coaches.</p> <p>Area 51 - 2</p> <p>Area 52 - 2</p> <p>Area 53 - 4</p> <p>Area 54 - 1</p> <p>Area 55 - 2</p>
New Clubs	No new clubs
Successors for Director Roles	Started search
Other Information/Comments	24 members added or 7% (now at 383 members)

Division F

Team:

Division F Director – Sandhya Murthy
Area 61 Director – Area Supported by Division/District
Area 62 Director – Kalyan Bandaru
Area 63 Director – Jill Staggs
Area 64 Director – Indira Gonzales
Area 65 Director – Iman Newman
Deputy Division Director – Ty Nichols
MENTOR – Glenda Dickonson

Key Data Snapshots:



Division F Director's Report

Submitted By: Sandhya Murthy, Division F Director

Core Values

Based on Toastmasters International's core values of integrity, respect, service, and excellence, Division F's core values are:

- Nurture
- Grow
- Inspire

Team Operating Principles

The team operates on the following principles:

- Trust
- Collaboration
- Transparency
- Teamwork

Potential Obstacles

The team will need to consider the following obstacles during strategizing:

- Kalyan is located in Virginia, which may make onsite meetings difficult for him.
- The Division Director has recurring commitments on:
 - Every other Wednesday evening, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Once a month on the second Tuesday, 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM
 - Every third Wednesday, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Meeting Protocol

The team will meet once a month every third Tuesday between 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM ET. The Division Director will send out meeting invitations in advance.

Team Interactions and Behavioral Norms

- **Decision-making:** Decisions will be made collectively, with each leadership team member receiving one vote. A weighted method will be used to break ties.
- **Method of Communication:**
 - a. WhatsApp group
 - b. Toastmasters email
 - c. Phone (if needed)
- **Communication Parameters:** Team members can communicate as often as needed on the chat. Formal monthly meetings will be held with an agenda and discussion items.
- **Resolving Differences of Opinion:** The Division Director will confer individually with members to gather opinions, develop a plan of action, and then bring members together to share the plan and make a final decision.
- **Mutual Support:** The team will support each other for contests and work collaboratively to ensure the success of all area contests in the division. The WhatsApp group or monthly meetings can be used to seek assistance.
- **Equitable Participation:** The Division Director will ensure tasks are equitably distributed by asking members about their capacity to take on tasks, maintaining a running log of assignments, and checking progress via WhatsApp, monthly meetings, or email.
- **Accountability:** The Division Director will send gentle reminders to assignees as due dates approach. Leadership team members can also send reminders if the Division Director is behind on assigned tasks.

- **Recognition:** Core and extended team members will be recognized through shout-outs during DEC meetings and text messages. The Division Director will celebrate successes by treating the leadership team to coffee or preparing a homemade meal.

Goal: Distinguished Clubs and Club Growth

Starting Number

20 Club base

Qualifying Requirements

No net club loss

Goals for Distinguished Clubs

Status	Formula	Target (based on 20 clubs)
Distinguished	Club base x 0.4	8
Select Distinguished	Club base x 0.45	9
President's	Club base x 0.5 + 1 club	11

Other Updates

Area Success Plan

- Indira Gonzales - Area 63 director has provided her Area success plan.
- The others are working on it.

Contests

Club contests are being scheduled in collaboration with Area Directors. The Division contest is scheduled for December 14th. We are working our way backwards to accommodate the club and area contests. We hope to have the dates by the end of September.

District Status

Division F has the highest percentage (77%) of non-engagement in the Pathways program

The division plans to work with Pathways Chairs to create a plan for success.

Out of the 29 Clubs, 16 clubs have yet to submit their success plans. Working with AD's to get to the goal by September 30th. Division F faces a significant challenge with 77% non-engagement in the Pathways program. To address this, the division intends to collaborate with Pathways Chairs to develop a comprehensive success plan.

Additionally, 16 out of 29 clubs have not yet submitted their success plans. The division is working with Area Directors to ensure these plans are submitted by the September 30th deadline.

12. Public Relations Manager Report

Reporting Period: July – September 19, 2025
Submitted By: Maria-Pia Younger, District 36 PRM

Executive Summary

The District 36 Public Relations (PR) Team is focused on increasing the visibility, credibility, and reputation of our District by promoting our clubs, members, and events.

This report summarizes activities and outcomes from July through September 19, 2025, highlighting progress in four priority areas:

- **Social Media & Campaigns** — Expanding our reach and engagement across platforms
- **Podcast (Toasty Talks)** — Showcasing District 36 stories and initiatives
- **Workshops** — Training VPPRs and strengthening club-level PR efforts
- **Next Steps & Budget Proposal** — Building long-term PR capacity and infrastructure

Through these efforts, the PR Team is working to elevate the District’s brand, support our clubs, and create more public awareness of Toastmasters.

1. Social Media & Campaigns

Goal: Increase District 36 visibility and engagement across platforms while driving membership growth.

Social Media & Communications Growth

(July – September 19, 2025)

Platform	Start (July)	Sept 19	Change
LinkedIn – Private Group	313 members	328 members	+15
Facebook – Private Group	732 members	742 members	+10
LinkedIn – Public Page	152 followers	178 followers	+26
X (formerly Twitter)	569 followers	578 followers	+9
Facebook – Public Page	82 followers	87 followers	+5
YouTube	39 subscribers	N/A (tracking to begin)	—
MeetUp	1,627 members	N/A (tracking to begin)	—
EventBrite	New	N/A	—

Highlights

- The LinkedIn public page grew by 17%, showing the strongest growth this quarter.
- Steady gains in LinkedIn and Facebook private groups reflect ongoing engagement from current members.

Season I Campaigns Overview

Period: August 1 – September 30, 2025

Campaign Name	Dates	Reporting	Status / Notes
Club Success Plan	08/18–09/30	Biweekly (Weekly in September)	Completed 8/18; ongoing
Eight Member Payments (incl. three renewals)	08/18–09/30	Biweekly (Weekly in September)	Completed 8/18; ongoing
Open House Shoutouts (Smedley support)	08/18–09/30	Reshares Only	Ongoing
Educational Levels Completed	08/22–06/30/26	Monthly	A is completed – on hold
New Members Welcomed	08/18–06/30/26	Likes / Comments Only	Ongoing
TLI Course (4+ officers trained)	08/18–08/31	Triweekly	A, C, D, E, F completed (8/18); ongoing
Dream Team (7 officers trained)	08/11–08/31	Triweekly	A, C, D, E, F completed (8/18); ongoing
Installations with Area Directors	08/01–11/30	Reshares Only	Ongoing
Smedley Award (5 new paid members)	09/08–09/30	Self-report by Division	Ongoing

SMART Goals (October 2025 – June 2026)

Goal	Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Relevant	Time-Bound
Grow LinkedIn Public Page	Gain 100 new followers, increasing from 178 to 278	+100 new followers	Averaging +26 this quarter makes +100 feasible	Expands D36's professional visibility	By June 30, 2026
Grow LinkedIn Private Group	Gain 50 new members, increasing from 328 to 378	+50 new members	Consistent with the current growth pace	Strengthens member-to-member connections	By June 30, 2026
Boost Facebook Private Group Engagement	Reach 800 members and 15% post engagement rate	+58 members, 15% engagement	Matches current growth trends	Strengthens internal community	By June 30, 2026
Launch YouTube Channel	Reach 100 subscribers and publish five videos	+61 subscribers, five videos	Planned content from workshops & podcast	Expands multimedia footprint	By June 30, 2026
Maintain Consistency	Post at least 2 branded posts per week on all active platforms	2+ posts per week	Supported by PR calendar	Increases visibility and content flow	Weekly until June 30, 2026

2. Podcast — Toasty Talks

Goal: Strengthen District 36's brand through storytelling and member visibility.

Season #1 (Nurture)

Episode Name	Host	Recording	Air Date	Guest(s)
Introduction	Dr. Esohe Irabor	09/07/2025	09/09/2025	Maria-Pia (Introductory Episode)

Scorecards	Dr. Esohe Irabor	10/12/2025	10/14/2025	Barry Piatt, DTM
R.I.S.E	Dr. Esohe Irabor	11/10/2025	11/12/2025	The Trio & Maria-Pia, LD5
Pathways	Dr. Esohe Irabor	12/07/2025	12/09/2025	Justine Desmarais, DTM

Future Planning — Seasons #2 (Grow) and #3 (Inspire)

Season #2 (Grow)

Episode Name (TBD)	Host	Recording	Air Date	Guest(s)
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	01/11/2026	01/13/2026	TBD
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	02/08/2026	02/10/2026	TBD
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	03/08/2026	03/10/2026	TBD

Season #3 (Inspire)

Episode Name (TBD)	Host	Recording	Air Date	Guest(s)
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	04/12/2026	04/14/2026	TBD
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	05/10/2026	05/12/2026	TBD
TBD	Dr. Esohe Irabor	06/07/2026	06/09/2026	TBD

Host Planning & Co-Host Opportunities

- We hope to continue collaborating with Dr. Irabor as the host
Recognizing she may face bandwidth or connectivity challenges during her Peace Corps mission in Ghana in January, we are:
 - Exploring co-hosts from within District 36
 - Building a co-host onboarding process
 - Keeping Toasty Talks, a platform created by and for the members of District 36

3. Workshops — PR Training Series

Goal: Equip VPPRs and PR teams with practical skills to strengthen club visibility.

Session	Title	Date	Format	Highlights
I	Building Your Club Website & Social Media Presence	08/30/2025	Introductory Primer	Covered FreeToastHost setup, social media best practices, and content planning
II	Creating Graphics with Canva & ChatGPT	09/27/2025	Guided Workshop	Taught how to design branded graphics, flyers, and social media posts using D36 templates
III	Building Your Club Website & Social Media Presence — In the Lab	10/26/2025 (planned)	Full Hands-On Lab	Participants will work on their club websites and social pages live with direct feedback

Impact

- Over 30 VPPRs, Presidents, and VPEs participated in Session I
- Over 45 RSVPs and 11 “maybes” are confirmed for Session II as of September 19
- This series has already resulted in more clubs redesigning their websites and social pages early in the Toastmasters year
- If Session III is hybrid, we will secure volunteers to support the speakers and hosts

Incentive

- Canva Pro scholarships will be awarded to the top VPPR(s) by the end of the calendar year, based on their club’s social media and/or newsletter work

Phase II — Back to School Season with Your PR Team

YouTube video series focused on collaboration and teamwork between VPPRs, VPEs, and VPMs.

Goal: Show how PR-related officers can collaborate effectively as a team.

- Skit-based video series showing a VPPR, VPE, and VPM **brainstorming campaigns and content together**
- Launching mid-November on the **District 36 YouTube channel**
- Designed to **build a volunteer base and foster a teamwork mindset** in clubs • Will include follow-up feedback and coaching from the PR team

Phase III — Data-Informed Future Sessions

- Future workshops will be based on **survey feedback** from VPPRs to focus on their highest-priority needs

4. Budget Proposal

The District 36 PR Team submitted the following proposal to support year-round social media outreach, printing needs, Canva Teams access, and potential WMATA or extended advertising campaigns.

Range	Base Cost (Ads Only)	=+ Printing (Annual)	=+ Canva Teams (Annual)	=+ WMATA & Extended Advertising	Total Annual Range
Minimum (Social Media + Printing Only)	\$900	\$210		—	\$1,110
Moderate (Prime Social Media, Printing, Incentives)	\$1,150	\$210	\$300	—	\$1,660
Maximum (Best Social Media, Printing, Incentives, + Posters)	\$1,800	\$348	\$300		\$2,448
Maximum (Baseline WMATA)	\$6,000	\$348	\$300	\$6,000	\$12,648
Maximum+ (WMATA + Extended Advertising)	\$30,000	\$348	\$300	\$6,000-\$18,000	\$36,648-\$48,648

Notes:

- Canva Teams covers a shared Canva Pro workspace for the PR team and Division PRRs.
- Printing refers to annual costs for flyers, banners, and branded promotional materials.
- WMATA and Extended Advertising cover paid ad placements on metro buses, trains, stations, and digital signage.

4. Next Steps — Capacity & Infrastructure

Goal: Build long-term PR capacity across the District.

Recruitment Priorities

- District Graphic Designer
- Outreach Chair
- Member Engagement Chair

Communications Infrastructure

- Launching the **District 36 Newspaper** to spotlight clubs, members, and leadership stories
- Opening **blog/article opportunities** for contributors across the PR team ● Maintaining the **PR Team Shared Drive**, which houses:
 - Area, Club, and Division leaders' resource folders
 - PR Team working files and campaign content
 - PR Team Workshops materials
 - **PRM Presentations** (slide decks for DEC meetings, officer trainings, and district briefings)
- Providing **custom writing prompts and data graphs on demand** to support Division PRRs and other leaders

Call to Action

If your club has news, milestones, or highlights you would like featured in our newsletter, blog, or social media channels, please email publicrelations@district36.org.

13. Club Growth Director Report

Submitted By: Jill Vanderweit, District 36 CGD

Nearly three months into the Toastmasters Year, I have worked with my team members to help build new and existing clubs.

The Club Extension Chair is Cristin Birch, and his main role is tracking new leads and communicating with prospective new club contacts. So far this year, the leads, sent to us by Toastmasters International, have not been productive.

The Club Retention Chair is John Ojeifo. He focuses on managing the club coach program.

- His team currently includes 5 officially assigned coaches, Amanda Lay, Janice Strachan, Betty Ford, Maimuna Jallow-Hancock, and Ramu Garapati, John has matched these coaches with 5 eligible clubs, and the coaches are working with the clubs and preparing reports on their progress.
- There are 3 more clubs that have indicated their interest in getting club coaches, and together, we are identifying new coaches who have completed Toastmasters' online training for club coaches.

I am currently managing Club Quality, and that role involves identifying, training, and assigning Club Sponsors and Club Mentors for new clubs.

- One new club, Hostmasters, was chartered on September 1. The Sponsor for that club is Arvind Venugopal, and the Mentor is Jaci Pasley.
- Two clubs, Speaking to Win and ACC, were chartered on June 30. The Sponsors are Augusta Inniss and David Alexander, respectively. And the Mentors are Gwen Miller and Maria James for Speaking to Win; and Sandra Coles-Bell and Lianne Gayle for ACC.
- Previously appointed Mentors who are still supporting their new clubs include Bonnie Maidak, John Ojeifo, and Justine Desmarais.

With help from my personal mentors, Scott Meyer and Bonnie Maidak, I have been working to coordinate steps for carrying out my larger plan for retaining membership and growing the District.

- One project related to this vision was an in-person TLI elective on Building Clubs. Facilitated by John Kinsman, the panel included Scott Meyer, Bonnie Maidak, John Ojeifo, and David Alexander.
- The panel presented best practices on forming new clubs and strengthening struggling clubs.
- This TLI elective attracted about 10 attendees and resulted in several new club coach requests.

Along with District Director Arvind Venugopal and Program Quality Director Augusta Inniss, I attended District Training at the Toastmasters International Convention in Philadelphia.

- In addition to making connections with other Club Growth Directors from around the world, I found the training on talking up Toastmasters especially relevant for me. This training compared Toastmasters Features with Benefits and Values; and Values are the aspects that are most effective for promoting Toastmasters to non-members.
- The District Trio attended the TI Business Meeting and, as proxies, represented various District clubs in the voting process.

14. Program Quality Director Report

Submitted By: Augusta Inniss, District 36 PQD

Overview

The Program Quality and team remain committed to strengthening our clubs, elevating member experiences, and ensuring District 36 achieves Distinguished District recognition. The guiding approach this year is centered on the T.E.A.M. framework: Training, Education, Administration, and Membership.

Accomplishments from 2024–2025 (as Club Growth Director)

- Chartered six new clubs
- Revived two clubs back into good standing
- Hosted dedicated office hours for Vice Presidents' Membership, providing practical recruitment and retention support

These achievements, which were made possible through our collective efforts, underscore the importance of collaboration and a member-first focus.

2025–2026 Goals and Priorities

District Goal focused on DCP

- Achieve Distinguished District or higher by June 30, 2026.

Key Priorities

- Training:
 - Accomplished as of today: Summer TLI completed with 87 clubs, achieving the 4-officer training requirement.
 - Planning: Winter TLI with improvements based on team and member feedback.
- Education:
 - Promoting active completion and club utilization of their Club Success Plans (CSPs).
 - Launching a year-long Educational Series on various aspects of leadership and learning.
 - Continuing recognition of members' educational awards and Pathways milestones.
- Administration:
 - Monitoring DCP progress at the district, division, and area levels.
 - Providing regular updates and targeted support to leaders.
- Membership:
 - Engaging members not enrolled in Pathways by offering division-based Pathways enrollment sessions.
 - Supporting clubs with resources to improve retention and engagement.

Upcoming District Events

- Fall District Event
 - November 1, 2025 | 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
 - Laurel Library, 507 7th St, Laurel, MD
 - This event features two speakers who will speak on the topics of education and leadership, a group activity, and lunch.
- Contest Season
 - Judges Training on September 23 by District Chief Judge
 - Club Evaluation Contests completed by October 31
 - Area Contests completed by November 30
 - Division Contests completed by December 31

Closing Statement

Through training, education, administration, and membership support, District 36 is on track for a strong year. By focusing on member engagement, celebrating their achievements, and equipping clubs with the tools they need, I am confident in reaching Distinguished District and striving toward Smedley Distinguished.

15. District Director Report

Submitted By: Arvind Venugopal, District 36 DD

Dear District Council Members, Past Leaders, Mentors, and Guests—

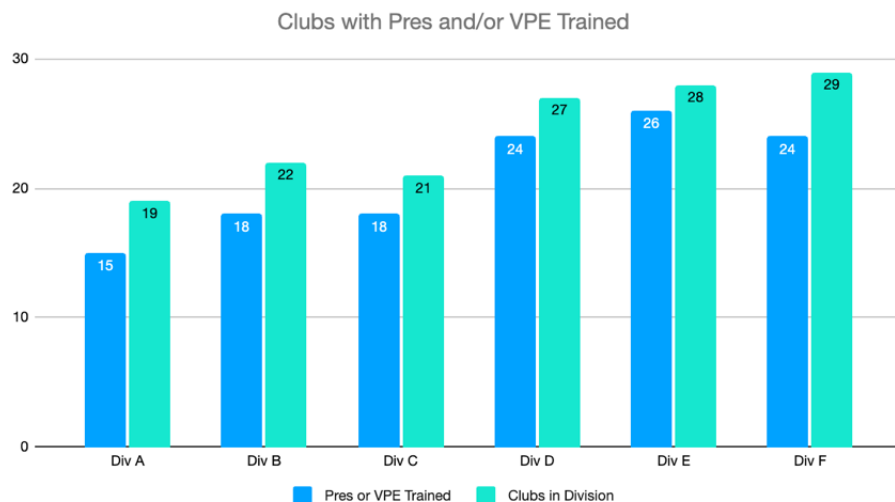
It is my honor to share with you the current state of District 36. This year, our theme **Nurture, Grow, Inspire** guides everything we do—from how we support members, to how we engage leaders, to how we shape the future of Toastmasters in our community.

I would like to Thank our Program Quality Director Augusta Inniss, Club Growth Director Jill Vanderweit, Finance Manager Sheraline Thomas, Administration Manager Meredith Wilson,

1. District Snapshot

- Base Paid Clubs: 139
- Newly Chartered so far this term: 1 club
 - Congratulations to Hostmasters club. Welcome to the family!
- Base Membership Payments: 4,880

Snapshot of 2025 Summer PRES & VPE Training



Thanks to our Metrics Chair Krish Murti and our PQD Augusta Inniss for all data insights and charts in this delegate package.

This year, as a District we are not only aiming to be Distinguished—we are aiming to become Smedley Distinguished. That means stretching beyond the minimum and working together to achieve excellence at every level.

2. For Our Members — You Are the Heart of District 36

Members, you are why we exist. Every speech delivered, every evaluation given, and every leadership role accepted contributes to your personal growth—and inspires others.

- Nurture: Use mentorship to strengthen your skills and confidence.
- Grow: Renew your membership and invite someone new into your club—growth starts with one person at a time.
- Inspire: Share your story. Your progress encourages others to begin their own journey.

When you renew, when you grow, when you inspire, you move us closer to our District's goals.

3. For Our Officers & Leaders — You Are the Backbone of Our District

Officers and leaders, your dedication sustains the member experience.

- Nurture: Ensure your clubs complete their Club Success Plans. This roadmap sets the tone for the entire year.
- Grow: Actively support renewals and new member campaigns. Every member retained is a stronger club, and every new member

strengthens our District.

- Inspire: Recognize and celebrate progress—whether it's a member completing a Pathways level or a club achieving a Distinguished milestone.

Your leadership ensures not only the survival but the success of our clubs.

4. Our Path Forward

This year, we are focusing on five key strategies:

1. Fostering member growth through Pathways engagement and mentorship.
2. Boosting leader engagement by training and empowering officers at every level.
3. Celebrating clubs for creativity, resilience, and growth.
4. Recognizing members for every milestone achieved.
5. Developing future leaders who will carry us to greater heights.

With these efforts, our path to Smedley Distinguished is not just possible—it is within reach, if each of us plays our part.

5. Gratitude - I wish to thank:

- My fellow Trio members – PQD Augusta Inniss and CGD Jill Vanderweit for their commitment to the shared vision and strategy.
- Each of my fellow District Executive Committee leadership team members, including all Directors, Managers, Deputies and Chairs for your commitment to turning strategy into action.
- My current and past mentors, for their guidance and encouragement.
- Past leaders, whose service built the foundation that we stand on.
- Our members and officers, who give their time, energy, and passion to make every club thrive.

6. Call to Action

- To members: Renew today, invite a friend, and keep growing.
- To officers: Drive renewals, complete your Club Success Plan, and nurture your clubs with care.
- To everyone: Remember, every action we take—large or small—brings us closer to our shared vision of District 36 as a Smedley Distinguished District.

Together, let us make this year a true embodiment of Nurture, Grow, Inspire.

Thank you for your continued commitment and service.