



Minutes: District Executive Committee Meeting, District 107

Saturday, 05 September 2026

Hybrid Meeting (Online & El Jadida)

9am Portugal | Morocco | Tunisia | Algeria

10am Spain | Gibraltar | Andorra

1. Opening

- Meeting called to order by the District Director Izidro Souza DTM; session recorded.
- **District mission** presented as interactive crossword (Administration Manager, Beatriz Duarte DTM): *"We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence."*
- **Parliamentary briefing** by Parliamentarian Hanane Bourehiyi DTM: Robert's Rules of Order apply — recognition → motion → second → restatement → debate → vote → announcement; one motion at a time

2. Quorum Certified

- Per the District Administrative Bylaws Article XI: Section a. District Executive Committee - Item 3: "The majority of this committee shall constitute a quorum"
- Quorum → 17 of 33 members (33 votes: 21 area directors + 5 division directors + 7 core team members)
- Present: 30 attendees registered → **Quorum met**

3. Decisions made

#	Decision	How
1	Agenda adopted as presented, no objections	Motion by the District Director, Izidro Souza DTM, silence = consent
2	May (online) DECM minutes approved as distributed, no corrections	Motion by the District Director, Izidro Souza DTM, Silence = consent
3	District budget approved as presented (€58,176.47 allocation)	Motion by the District Director, Izidro Souza DTM, no objections
4	District Director's appointments confirmed (Parliamentarian, Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Area Directors)	Motion by the District Director, Izidro Souza DTM, no objections
5	Motion 1 PASSED — Speech Contests in Spanish, Portuguese and French at Area, Division and District level, 2026–27 season.	Motion by the Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM, no objections



6	Motion 2 PASSED — English Evaluation Speech Contest at Area, Division and District level, 2026–27 season.	Motion by the Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM, no objections
7	Motion 3 PASSED — Online Speech Contest in English at Area, Division and District level, 2026–27 season.	Motion by the Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM, 19 for, 3 against (recount after confusion: 17 → 20 → final 19 for / 3 against)
8	Motion 4 PASSED — if an Area has 4 or fewer clubs, the District will allow 2 contestants from each club to compete at the Area level, 2026–27 season. Only 1 contestant will advance from Division to District level.	Motion by the Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM, no objections

4. Reports Presented: District Success Plan

- **District Vision and Goals (District Director, Izidro Souza DTM):** Goal = **Smedley Distinguished**. Base: 88 clubs, 4,196 membership-base payments (1,398 to date). Context: D107 was Smedley (2022–23), President's Distinguished (2023–24), Distinguished (2024–25); last year no distinguished status — "year zero" to rebuild.
- **Program Quality Plan (Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM):** Target 53+ distinguished clubs (last term: 54). 75/88 clubs with 4+ officers trained. **Club Success Plan submission by 30 Sept — mandatory for Distinguished** (only 31/88 submitted — flagged as low). Support: Club Success Plan workshop next Tuesday with Susana; district control panel coming; Winners Academy; Pathways workshops in October (+ Pathways coaches group); Moments of Truth.
- **Club Growth Plan (Club Growth Director, Mafalda Guimarães DTM):** 3 pillars — support / grow / expand. Targets: avg 23→25 members/club; clubs with 20+ members 61%→70% (54→62); clubs ≤12 members 18%→10%. Tools: Find-a-Club page on district website; VPPR social-media email; TI campaigns; open houses/speechcraft; One Year Strong renewal raffle; Sprinters awards; **Adopt-a-Club launching**; club-coach pool (clubs <13 members). Pipeline: 4 prospective clubs in September, 3 more chartering this month, 21 active leads; goal 9–12 lasting new clubs.
- **Alignment Plan (Alignment Manager, Anabela Pereira DTM):** Purpose = serve clubs + adapt to district dynamics. Criteria per TI guidelines (areas 4–6 clubs; divisions min 4 areas; district max 9 divisions — as stated). Current: 88 clubs / 21 areas / 5 divisions. Timeline: Oct–Nov consult division directors → January core-team agenda → Feb–Mar reconnect → **May vote** on the Alignment Plan.
- **IT Plan (IT Manager, Ali Parandeh DTM):** Zoom booking = WhatsApp/email in advance; new PIN-via-email login procedure (PDF guide coming — test before your meeting; 3 wrong tries = lockout → contact him). Proposal to district committee: professional microphones (~€2,000, 5–10 yr use) for conferences.



- **District Budget (Finance Manager, Meriem Mentagui):** Allocation **€58,176.47** = 25% of last year's payments (up vs. prior years). 11 TI categories respected (min/max). Priorities: social media, corporate summits, new clubs, recognition, IT + area/division allowances. Motto: *"money should not be idle."* Q&A: Area Director A4, Ángel Acha asked about a raise for the travel expenses of area directors and if the tolls were included in the reimbursement payment from Toastmasters International. District Director, Izidro Souza DTM answered that it is not possible to raise the travel budget (maximum permitted from Toastmasters International) and that Tolls are not included in the reimbursement. The conversation ended with the approval of the budget as presented.

5. Debate summary — Online Speech Contest

- Structured debate (for/against speakers called in turn) on the **Online Speech Contest**, chaired with a "democracy in action" spirit — every voice heard, then a vote.

Concerns raised:

- IT Manager, Ali Paradeh DTM (former Area Director): last year the online contest was a huge burden — struggling to find judges and personal time, short preparation window, not everything "by the book." Asks the **district level to help with judges, timers and last-minute prep** so Area Directors aren't overloaded.
- Area Director E1, Remi Aiyela: personally could not commit the time if it is mandatory — might not be able to deliver.
- Area Director A4, Ángel Acha: **against the mandatory part, especially at Area level.**
- District Director's, Izidro Souza DTM reply (to all): an Area Director **doesn't have to organize it personally** — delegate to a club or a member (good DTM project), recruit judges district-wide/online; the district will help with judges and officers.

Voices in favor:

- Inclusion: members spread across countries who can't travel/physically attend get to compete.
- Members joining mid-year without Pathways Level 1–2 get a contest experience instead of frustration (Finance Manager, Meriem Mentagui).
- Visa/travel barriers: last year's Moroccan winner couldn't reach the district stage (pro speaker).
- Morocco's distance + visa needs make it "a nice opportunity" (Finance Manager, Meriem Mentagui).



6. Leadership

- District Leadership Committee (DLC) = Immediate Past District Director, Norberto Amaral DTM (chair) + **one member per Division** (geographic balance; experienced but available).
- Suggestions received from Divisions **A and C** — **still needs B, D and E**; reminder email coming.
- Timeline: committee complete in **September** → call for nominations/applications to **all members early November** → deadline **first weekend of January** (earlier than last year) → interviews → report to District Director, Izidro Souza DTM **mid-March** → published on website.
- Floor candidates must still go through the DLC; anyone eyeing an appointed core-team role should talk early to the likely next District Director.
- **Ask: Division Directors of B, D, E — send your DLC member suggestions now.**

7. Events

- **Fall Summit, Mallorca, 6–8 Nov (Ulli Stumke):** Early bird until **30 Sept**; hotel special price guaranteed until 15 Sept. 3 keynotes, gala dinner party by the sea, excursions/wine tasting. QR registration live.
- **Spring Conference 2027, Viana do Castelo (Program Quality Director, Sérgio Águia DTM):** Venue — auditorium of School of Health Sciences; gala dinner with awards stage + dance floor. Official launch at Fall Summit.

8. Action items

#	Action	Owner	Due	Source
1	Submit Club Success Plan (mandatory for Distinguished)	All club officers	30 Sept 2026	PQD report
2	Fall Summit Mallorca: register (early bird) + book hotel	All members	Early bird 30 Sept	
3	DLC applications (area/division directors + incoming core team)	All interested members	Nov → end of 1st week of Jan	DLC report
4	Submit corporate/community club leads ; volunteer as coach / adopter / sponsor / mentor	All members	ongoing	CGD report
5	Start club speech contests in January ; read rulebook; attend judge/workshop training	Clubs, areas, divisions	January 2027	



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6	Club visit reports early (Knock-Knock); talk to area director at first sign of trouble	Area directors + clubs	ongoing (early = awarded)	CGD report
7	Prepare DCM items (budget, etc) for council ratification	Core Team	DCM 12 Sept (online)	
8	Build district judge/officer support pool for online contests (so Area Directors can delegate)	PQD team + district	During season	

9. Next meeting

- DECM: 14 November 2026, online.

10. Participants

Ali Parandeh | Ana Natário | Anabela Pereira | Anna Paola Cedrini | Ángel Acha | António Manuel | António Mendes | Beatriz Duarte | Daniela Dumitru | Dora Sinogas | Eduardo Espinheira | Florence Hennion | Francisco Nascimento | Hanane Bourehiyi | Izidro Souza | Joana Ferreira | Koro Gonzalez | Liz Pérez | Mafalda Guimarães | Meriem Mentagui | Najoua Ben Aissa | Naoufel Kahtane | Remi Aiyela | Sérgio Águia | Sofia Vieira | Sónia Garcia | Ulli Stumke | Wahida Aloui

