



Minutes District 107 Executive Committee Meeting (hereinafter, “DECM”)

Saturday, 11 September 2021

(Hybrid Online Madrid) - 9:00 Morocco & Portugal / 10:00 Spain

I. OPENING (meeting started at 9:05 / 10:05h)

A. Call to order / Welcome address (slides 1-4)

District Director (hereinafter, “**DD**”) welcomed the District Executive Council (hereinafter, “**DEC**”) and called the meeting to order.

1. The DD gives a warm welcome and thanks to those who organized the meeting (Madrid coordinator, Program Quality Director and IT Manager).
2. The DD explains the purpose of the DECM (District Executive Council Meeting) and the district officers who make up the DEC team (Area Directors, Division Directors, the District Core Team, and the Immediate Past District Director). They are the only ones allowed to attend DEC meetings in order to make executive decisions based on District matters. This is the District Executive Council.
3. The DD explains the various acronyms. DOT stands for District Officer Training and is open to all district officers including club officers.
4. The budget is first discussed by the Core Team then gets approved by the District Council made up of the DEC, Presidents, and Vice Presidents of Education. The budget gets approved in September at the DCM (District Council Meeting).
5. DC stands for District Council.
6. DOT (District Officer Training) is like a COT (Club Officer Training) except for District Officers.

B. District mission (slides 5 - 6)

The Administration Manager (hereinafter, “**AM**”) read the District’s mission: “*We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence*”.

C. Inspirational Moment (slide 8)

Our Immediate Past District Director (hereinafter, “**IPDD**”) gave us an inspirational moment by asking - how do you react when you have to face a huge challenge? She asked us to reflect on the reactions we had to the pandemic. Some of us cocooned ourselves and others were in grief. We lost members and now we are starting to have hybrid meetings and some in person. When we applied to be a district officer we didn’t know what to expect and here we are today. She left us with an inspiring quote by Dolly Parton, “If you want the rainbow you have to put up with the rain”. We need the storm. She ended with: Let’s get rained on!

D. Robert’s Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure (slides 9 - 30)

Our parliamentarian gave an overview on how to conduct a successful meeting by explaining briefly the use of Robert’s Rules of Order. First, she discussed online etiquette, muting



ourselves, and naming ourselves accordingly (AD_area_name, DIV_division_name, Core team (DD, PQD, CGD, PRM, FM, ADM, IT, PAR)). Highlights of main points:

1. If we are in a small meeting it's easy to make decisions but in a larger meeting, it becomes more difficult.
2. We must transform chaos into order and for that, we have Robert's Rules of Order.
3. A motion is a formal way a member can ask the assembly to take any action or recommendation.
4. An action can be a decision or can be open for further discussion.
5. Handling of the Main Motion - I move to - I second - chair opens the floor for discussion - discuss - vote.
6. If amending - I move to amend - I second - chair opens for discussion - discuss - vote.
7. Address the chair - raise your hand - lower your hand after being given the floor - mute at the end.
8. If you want to second - write "second" in the chatbox or you say it out loud if in person.
9. If you want to speak during the debate, raise your hand, lower your hand when given the floor - mute at the end. Note that you may not need to speak if the previous person has already addressed your concern.
10. For online voting, you will receive a pop-up to vote.
11. Quorum is the majority of DEC members.
12. Most of the motions are approved by a majority of votes. Only the votes in favor or against will count toward the vote.
13. Abstention by non-voters is not taken into account for decisions.
14. How are motions approved? The chair will ask if there is an objection to the motion.
15. If no one opposes - the motion is approved.
16. If someone opposes - voting must take place individually in person by raising hands and online via poll with a pop-up on the screen.

E. Certification of the quorum (slide 31)

The AM informed that the quorum required for the DECM is the majority of the members. Quorum is the minimum number needed to conduct meetings and make important decisions. A quorum was reached 38/38. AWESOME!

F. Adoption of agenda (slide 32)

The DD presented the agenda that had been timely submitted to the DEC members. The agenda was adopted with a slight change. DD proposed a 10-minute break after the division reports. There were no objections and the agenda was approved.

G. Online DECM MoM approval (slide 33)

The DD presented the minutes of the previous DECM (online) that had been timely posted on the District 107 website. The 18 July 2021 DECM minutes were approved without objections.



H. District Success Plan (slides 35 - 94)

DD Report - (slides 35 - 42)

1. District Success reports were delivered by the District Core team discussing challenges and proposals. There are plans that might change throughout the year.
2. This year it's about GROWTH and SUPPORT.
3. We want to be a **Smedley Distinguished District** which means that it has grown its membership, has increased the number of clubs, and these clubs are proven to provide their members with a consistently high-quality experience.
4. DD reiterates that everyone could count on the district team to help.
5. We want all clubs to reach the president's distinction.
6. DD ends with District Motto and Vision = **Let's Dive In and Rise to the Top!**

Program Quality Plan Report - (slides 43 - 52)

1. The goal is to achieve 47 Distinguished Clubs - we want to be awarded **Smedley Distinguished District**. A distinguished club is what TMI measures in quality.
2. DCP goals (education - membership - training - administration).
3. Ensure members grow in their paths.
4. Train all officers.
5. Ensure members renew their membership.
6. Ensure TMI has an updated list of club officers.
7. Challenge - for each club to have 20 members or membership growth of +5 in growth and 100% Pathways adoption.
8. We should be proud - we were the second district in the world in PATHWAYS ADOPTION.
9. We will be tracking monthly recognition and video tutorials in the form of educational pills.
10. PQD ends with District Motto and Vision = We count on all of you to **Dive In and Rise to the Top!**

Club Growth Director Report - (slides 53 - 77)

1. We want to grow 10% plus add 23 clubs.
2. Achieve 47 clubs Distinguished clubs (DCP).
3. Submit club visit reports.
4. CGD also means CREATE - GREAT - DESIRE to grow!!
5. We need to add 2 new members to each club to reach Smedley Distinguished - actually 1,5 members ;-)
6. Smedley Distinguished IS POSSIBLE!!
7. We will have Club Growth Awards.
8. Assign a Club Coach - find a club coach ASAP if your clubs need improvement (TBI = To Be Improved).
9. We are working on a NEW CLUBS ACADEMY.
10. Events: Learners - Corporate Summits - Open Houses.
11. Possibilities are here! **CREATE A GREAT DESIRE TO GROW!!**



Marketing and Public Relations Plan - (slides 78 - 87)

1. As toastmasters, we can make a difference in society.
2. Dive In and Rise to the Top!
3. District Rebranding - District Iberia 107 is now District 107.
4. Recognize Achievements.
5. Toastmasters Awareness Activities.
6. Be present - Be Creative - Be Funny - Be Brave - Be Engaging!

IT Manager Plan - (slides 88 - 94)

1. Easy Speak help desk.
2. Hybrid webinar tutorial.
3. Video tutorials on how to create and maintain a website.
4. Hybrid session support.
5. New infrastructure to create a legacy and to make it easier for future IT District teams.
6. NEW WEBSITE - tmdistrict107.org

Q&A -

1. Will all the slides in today's meeting be available on the website? YES!!!!

I. Division Director Success Plans (slides 96 - 132)

II. Current District Business (slide 133)

DD highlights that Toastmasters International (hereinafter, "**TMI**") gives us funds based on District membership. In the month of August, our Finance Manager (hereinafter, "**FM**"), worked tirelessly with the Core Team and on his own to prepare the budget for Toastmasters International approval. The document that we will see has been pre-approved by TMI. The budget is also pre-approved by the Core Team then pre-approved by the DEC team and the final approval is by the District Council (hereinafter, "**DC**") at the first District Council meeting held in September. If you have any doubts, express them here at the DECM. Explain the budget to your Presidents' and VPs' of Education prior to the District Council meeting.

A. Budget 2021-2021 (slides 134 - 159)

FM highlights that our aim is to increase the member base to increase the budget. The money is here for you to spend. This is our proposal and we can make changes here at the DECM. The final will be submitted for approval on September 18 at the DCM. We are on a tight budget so every single cent counts. You can now go into SAP Concur and start asking to be reimbursed.

B. Motion to approve the budget (slides 160 - 161)

DD highlights that the P on the agenda stands for a preliminary decision. The DD moves to approve the budget as presented. It was seconded by the parliamentarian.



It was then open for discussion:

1. **Area Director D3 asks** if you don't spend money in one category can it be used in another? DD and FM confirm that you cannot move funds from one category to another.
2. **Division A Director asks** - Imagine if you are an AD that does not spend 85 euros in Marketing and only spends 50 euros. Can he/she use the remaining 35 euros for a COT or conference?
 - a. **The FM responds** if it belongs to the same category, YES, but if it does not, then it is not possible. **DD responds** that if you have any doubts or ideas it is always best to ask the FM beforehand. Check with the Core Team first.
 - b. **50 euros for coaches.** Can the coaches spend their money on traveling?
 - c. **DD responds**, NO, but YES on recognition and marketing but not on travel and food since it belongs to a different category and is not available to coaches.
3. **Area Director E1** - Can we increase the allowance of 85 euros, for Area Directors, to a different number?
 - a. **FM responds** "yes we can but if we do then it will impact other areas".
 - b. We need to adjust as much as possible.
 - c. **DD adds**, maybe some areas don't spend anything and other areas need it more. Different areas have different needs.
 - d. We will have a better perspective in the middle of the year. Imagine if the corporate summit didn't take place then we have money in that category.
4. **Division B Director** - Let's say I have 35 euros for Marketing as a Division Director and Area Directors have 55 euros. Let's say we want to organize a joint FB advertising campaign for a webinar. Of course, 35 euros is nothing so we decide to spend 50 euros from one area, 50 euros from another and my 35 euros, a total of 135 euros. In order to do that, I pay FaceBook from one account so they will charge me 135 euros but there are 3 different allowances. I have to justify 3 different allowances. Can I use the same bill to get reimbursed?
 - a. **FM gives the example** of sharing a room with others.
 - b. Each individual claims the expense using the same bill.
 - c. They just need to say what amount, from the bill, is theirs and state it clear when reporting it in Concur. Each will get reimbursed individually.
5. **Division F Director** - Last year we were granted 50 euros for marketing on Facebook. We opened the account on FB but as you know, FB does not charge you 50 euros the first time. It charges you as you publicize the marketing campaign. We didn't complete the 40 euros that we had left but FB did charge those 50 euros. How do we get that reimbursement? We have 40 euros left pending from last year and we have already paid them.
 - a. **FM responds** if we go by the rules you should have submitted those expenses in Concur one month after you made them and not now in September.
 - b. **Division F Director adds** we did that, but we did not cover all the expenses. So you allowed us 50 euros, we paid FB 50 euros, but when we got the invoice, FB only charged us 20 euros and FB has the remaining 30 euros. Will



- we be able to get those 30 euros back if we present you with the invoice this year?
- c. **FM responds** if the invoice is for this year then it will need to be deducted from this year's budget and not last year's. Every year's budget is self-contained. When the money is not being used it is returned to Toastmasters. We need to use this money. So yes, you will get the money but it will be taken away from this year's budget.
 - d. **Division F Director responds** I think you should have taken this into account last year because you know you were going to pay us 50 euros from last year's budget so it should be covered with last year.
 - e. **FM responds** we can't do this work for you. You have an allowance of 50 euros and you have that money to manage. We can't guess this. You are telling us this for the first time or at least to me anyway.
 - f. **Division F Director responds** we told you that last year.
 - g. **FM responds** that IPDD says she has no idea about this as well. We need to know about these things before they happen.
 - h. **Division F Director responds**, I will check all the emails I sent to you last year but I think that that was clear and that you will have to get 40 euros from last year's budget to include those 40 euros for this year.
 - i. **DD interjects** it seems like a discussion where we are saying NO and we can say YES. A discussion that we don't have the power to decide anything because last year, it's done. We can't do anything about last year's budget. Every year we start with zero.
 - j. **IPDD interjects that in the last DECM before the May conference**, the immediate past finance director made a request to everyone to submit the expenses.
 - k. **Division F Director responds**, we did. There is a difference between submitting what FB has charged you and what FB has got. You have to pay 50 to FB but FB does not give you an invoice for 50 euros. That is the problem. They only give you an invoice for the amount that you have spent and they keep the rest. The problem is that FB has 30 euros from our budget from last year that we cannot recover, especially if you have not taken that into account.
 - l. **IPDD interjects** that she doesn't really understand the question. Anything personal and particular please send **FM and DD** an email and if you want to copy me please do. As I said, last year is already closed and we can't recover the money from last year.
6. **AD A1** - Can I join the money that is given to me for the District Officer Training (hereinafter, "DOT") 80 euros for travel and 80 euros for lodging? I'm from Madrid and haven't used the money for the DOT in Madrid. Can I join the two budgets and spend in Lisbon?
- a. **DD and FM respond, YES, the 160 euros is the budget for the entire year** and you can split it between the two DOTs, however, you cannot increase your travel budget by using your lodging budget and vice versa.
 - b. We have two separate budgets, one for travel and one for lodging and you can't take from one category to increase in another.
 - c. **Remember, it's not 160 euros for each DOT.** It is 80 euros for travel and 80 euros for lodging for the entire year split between the two DOTs.



7. **DD asks** if someone opposes the preliminary presentation of the budget. If not, can we consider the budget approved as presented? There are no objections. The preliminary budget, as presented in the DECM, is pre-approved. We will present the budget, once again, at the DCM on 18 September and will vote on it.

C. Motion to approve the languages for the spring speech contest, 2021 - 2022 - (slide 162 - 163)

Program Quality Director (hereinafter, "**PQD**") took the floor and prefaced that in our previous Extraordinary DECM, on July 18, I discussed having the possibility of introducing different languages for the speech contest term, 2021-2022. I suggested having French as a possible language, we then discussed it, and then I withdrew the motion because we agreed that I would run a survey to understand the needs of the areas and divisions and to decide whether or not to have French included.

- The results of the survey show that there is interest in having French as well as Spanish and Portuguese. English is not debatable since it is the official language of the International Speech Contest.
- There is an intention in divisions A, B, C, and F to have contests in French. Given that four out of six are interested in having the French language, **I move to conduct the 2021-2022 speech contests in Spanish, Portuguese, and French.**
- Someone from the audience seconded the motion and it was then open for discussion.
 1. **Division D Director** - asks if it is just at the District level or does this affect all other levels such as club, area, and division?
 - a. **PQD** - the idea is to push and organize the speech contests as soon as there are candidates. There might be areas that won't have any candidates for French so then it's OK if they don't organize a contest in that language.
 2. **Division F Director** - We also have Arabic which is the official language of Morocco. What contest are you planning to have? Just the speech contest or are you going to have evaluations, table topics, etc? Because if we run French as well that means we will have to run an English contest, a Spanish contest, a Portuguese contest, and an Arabic contest. If you multiply that by 3 (speech, table topics, and evaluations) that means we will have to run 12 contests which will be very very tedious, and long. I don't know if you have thoughts about that.
 - a. **PQD responds** - what we are deciding here is for the District conference and we will only have the speech contest and nothing else. Not table topics, not evaluations. That answers the first part of your question.
 - b. Regarding how many contests, that is up to each area and division to decide whether or not to add evaluations, table topics, and even tall tales. We want to make sure we have the structure in place for the District Conference. It's not a burden but a challenge. Of course, it is challenging but it is worth the effort for our members. Last year we had an amazing District conference running online



- c. There, in your division, if you want to have Arabic, which is something you will have to decide, just consider, and I know that you are aware, you only have one area where Arabic might be the case.
 - d. **Division F Director** - We might have two, that's why Arabic will be at the Division level.
 - e. **PQD** - It's worth it for your members and for your Division. You have a diverse Division - it does make sense.
 - f. **IPDD** - Maybe you don't have Portuguese.
 - g. **PQD** - Or maybe you don't have French but there was interest in French. For example, in Portugal, they have to run the Spanish contest because they have Portuguese who want to participate in the Spanish contests. There are also areas and divisions that don't have candidates. So not in all cases will you have to run a contest. You have to support your teams and ask the District for support.
 - h. **Division F Director** - Officially, it will only be the English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French speech contest? No table topics, evaluations, or tall tales at District Level.
 - i. **PQD** - CORRECT, if we approve this motion, correct!
 - j. **Division F Director** - OK, so at the Division level, we can only have the speech contest in those languages as well?
 - k. **PQD** - Yes, and you can also have other contests or just those.
 - l. **Division F Director** - But the minimum required are those three contests?
 - m. **PQD** - To make it possible, yes, if you have candidates.
 - n. **Division Director D** - please make it clear in the minutes.
 - o. **PQD** - Our administration manager will make sure of it!
3. **Division B Director** - Once we have decided what language to include for the district speech contest, and once we have informed members of this decision, is it enough for only one member who wishes to participate in one of the languages to run the entire contest and get all that is needed to run that one contest?
- a. **PQD** - If you only have one candidate you just want to make sure to run it and that he/she doesn't run overtime or under 4 minutes 30 seconds. Even if the person stays still for 5 minutes. You don't need the judges. If you have more than one candidate just make sure that it is fair for all of them. Get a couple of judges to understand the language and the rest will evaluate the vocal variety and body language. As long as it is fair for all of them it's OK. We might be able to count on other districts to help. But if you don't manage just make sure they at least have the same rules and criteria to be judged and validated.
 - b. **Division F Director** - So does that mean that if one member wants to participate say in French and we don't have judges he can participate without judges?
 - c. **PQD** - If there is only one candidate, YES!
 - d. **DD interjects** - This is not a new rule. It is in the contest rule book. It is only mandatory to check if they have spoken within the time limits and are not disqualified.



- e. **Division F Director** - OK, it's only if we have two or more candidates that we will need to get all the judges and everything. Right?
 - f. **PQD** - Correct!
 - g. **AD D3** - reiterates that if there is only one candidate there is no need to host a contest and just to make sure he/she is not disqualified due to time.
 - h. **PQD** - Correct!
 - i. **Division F Director** - But that's at club level, right?
 - j. **PQD** - NO, Area, Division, and at District level as well. It's only the timing that matters in this case.
 - k. **Division F Director** - Does this mean that if someone wants to compete in Arabic will he/she be able to run all the way to District?
 - l. **PQD** - NO.
4. The proposal is to conduct the speech contest in ENGLISH SPANISH, PORTUGUESE AND FRENCH. Now since this is an open assembly, if someone wants to move a motion to include Arabic we can. Is there any objection to this motion?
- a. **Division F Director** - I would like to include Arabic as well.
 - b. **DD** - In order for Arabic to be included, we have to remove one because there is a limit in the rules. We can only have English plus a maximum of three more.
 - c. **Division F Director** - Since the official languages of our district are Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic I would like to remove French and include Arabic as the official language and to have a contest in Arabic as well.
 - d. **PQD** - So you move to amend by substituting French with Arabic. Is that correct?
 - e. **Division F Director** - YES!
 - f. **Division B Director** - I second it!
5. The proposal has been amended by the Division F Director and seconded by the Division B Director. It now reads - **I move to conduct the 2021 - 2021 speech contests in SPANISH, PORTUGUESE AND ARABIC.**

The amended motion is now open for discussion.

- a. **IPDD** - speaks **AGAINST** the motion - It's not true that the main languages in our district are Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic. There are way more in fact five of the Spanish areas have Catalan. The main languages in our District are Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese, therefore I am against having Arabic as an official language in the conference.
- b. **AD F4** - speaks in **FAVOR** of the motion - I'm with having Arabic as the language of the District speech contest. First of all, it is the official language that represents the Moroccan clubs and French is only a second language. It won't be significant for us to run a contest in French. I'm not saying that this is something all of us should do. I'm speaking out loud and representing the voice of my clubs that would like to have Arabic and run the contests up to the District level.



- c. **AD F1** - speaks **AGAINST** the motion - In my area we have clubs, corporate clubs mainly and they are multicultural and have plenty of different languages - to support the wishes of those clubs they also want French. We have a lot of French speakers. It is a language that they have asked for and that we should consider.
- d. **Division D Director** - speaks in **FAVOR** of the motion - I am in favor of the Arabic language because Morocco has just joined our district and most people's first language in Morocco is Arabic. Arabic should be included. We should respect their culture and their language. Probably there are more people in our clubs speaking Arabic than French. So I am in favor of Arabic.
- e. **FM** - speaks **AGAINST** the motion - I believe that most people who will be participating in the Arabic speech contest will most likely be coming from Morocco and not from Portugal or Spain. For that, the Division contest is enough. To have only one person compete at the District level would be the same as a Division contest. Most probably there will not be contestants in other Divisions and that is the most important thing. Otherwise, it is just a copy of the Division contest. Why should we make it that? I would love to have it but only if we have more people coming from other Divisions.
- f. **AD - D1** - speaks in **FAVOR** of the motion - I think we need to be supportive and it is a way to support the diversity of the languages even though I may not understand the language - I think it is only fair.
- g. **AM** - speaks **AGAINST** the motion - We embrace Morocco as a new area and as a new country in our district that we are so happy to have you. However, I still feel not many of us understand the competitions well enough. If you want Arabic you can have it at the club, area, and division level and with as many people as you wish. At the District level, we have definitely more Spanish, Portuguese, and more French speakers than Arabic. The three that we are proposing would be more beneficial for the entire district.
- h. **AD Samir** - speaks in **FAVOR** of the motion - I think we need to have some rules. We are talking about nationalities and their national languages. So Portuguese for Portugal, Spanish for Spain, and Arabic for Morocco. And yes we may not understand the language but there are many other things as toastmasters that we can see. There is body language, the way they speak, and the way they bring people together. That is the reason why I vote in favor.
- i. **PQD** - speaks **AGAINST** the motion- I believe there is no doubt that we all embrace Morocco. Also regarding the formal languages of the countries, we know that there are many that we and I did not consider but the reason I move to have French and not Arabic is the dimension - - I don't think that at the district level it would bring so much value and now based on the data of the survey it makes sense to have the French language better than Arabic for that reason. Again, Divisions and areas are there for that. You can have contests in Arabic at those levels like they do Catalan in Catalonia. I think the real value at the District level will be better to have French than Arabic. I understand



there are other languages but fortunately, our colleagues from Morocco can defend themselves in French and in English.

6. We are now ready to vote for the amendment - **I move to conduct the 2021 - 2021 speech contests in SPANISH, PORTUGUESE AND ARABIC.**

PARLIAMENTARIAN reads the results:

- IN FAVOR - 3 people present in Madrid and 6 at home - **total 9 IN FAVOR**
- AGAINST - 10 people present in Madrid and 4 at home - **total 14 AGAINST**
- The amendment was not approved.

We are now ready to vote **IN FAVOR or AGAINST** the original motion proposal - **I move to conduct the 2021-2022 speech contests in Spanish, Portuguese, and French.**

PARLIAMENTARIAN reads the results:

- IN FAVOR - 10 people present in Madrid and 5 at home - **total 15 IN FAVOR**
- AGAINST - 2 people present in Madrid and 5 at home - **total 7 AGAINST**
- **The amendment was not approved.**

THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL AND FOR THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE WILL BE ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE.

THE CONTEST THAT WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL IS THE SPEECH CONTEST. ALL OTHER CONTESTS, SUCH AS EVALUATIONS, TABLE TOPICS, AND TALL TALES MAY BE CONDUCTED AT THE CLUB, AREA, AND/OR DIVISION AND IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE IF NECESSARY SUCH AS CATALAN, OR ARABIC. IF THERE IS ONLY ONE CANDIDATE YOU MUST ENSURE THEIR SPEECH FALLS WITHIN THE TIME LIMITS AS DETAILED IN THE SPEECH RULE BOOK FOR THE TERM 2021-2022.

DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO THE DISTRICT CORE TEAM IF THIS IS STILL NOT CLEAR.

PQD - Thank you very much! As you can see we are open to discussing and hearing from each other. The majority rules and all of our voices are heard. Officially, the international spring contest will be hosted in ENGLISH, SPANISH, PORTUGUESE, and FRENCH. We will communicate it officially but you can distribute this information to all your clubs for them to prepare.

DD - Remember that we just made a decision at the District level. You are free to decide what languages and what contests (table topics, evaluations, tall tales, etc.) you would like to host at the club, area, and division levels. The winners at the district contest will be announced accordingly but the only one that will proceed to the International Convention will be the winner of the English International speech contest.



III. New Business - International Convention Update (slides 164 - 171)

DD - When we talk about the 2022 International convention, English is the official language. We will have the convention in August where we will also elect the International President as well as the International Directors. Maybe one day, we will have a regional advisor or international director, or president from our district.

- District Council meetings will be held online. The next one will be held next week on the 18th of September and in Aveiro in May 2022.
- A new Pathways level 1 is on its way in October.
- The most important thing that happened at the International Convention is that we had a champion from our District, Isidro Sousa. We should be very very happy.
- The next convention will be in Nashville, Tennessee, from August 17-20, 2022.

IV. District Leadership Committee (slides 172 - 176)

IPDD (DLC Chair) - Our responsibility as leaders is to lead. Also, since the moment we step into the role our objective is to spot new leaders - our successors - and this is the role of the DLC.

- Call for DLC - September 11th
- Appointment of DLC - October 31st
- Call for nominations - November 30th
- Deadline for candidates to declare intent to run - December 31st
- Interviews start - January 15th to February 28th
- DLC submits report to DD by April 2nd
- DD publishes nominations by April 16th

V. Marrakech, Aveiro and fall summit 2022 (slide 177)

Marrakech - The 2021 fall summit chair takes the floor via ZOOM - he is very passionate and motivates the entire district to attend this event and encourages everyone to promote the event to all the clubs and to other districts.

Aveiro - The FM takes the floor and speaks on behalf of the District spring Conference Chair with regards to the conference to be held in Aveiro, Portugal, in May. We are going to host the conference in an old ceramics factory. The FM assured amazing food, amazing hospitality, and amazing facilities, and an amazing toastmaster's spirit. The people there will be opening their arms to receive you! This will take place the second weekend in May.

PQD - Fall summit 2022 - If anyone is interested in hosting the next fall summit please let us know. A call for this will be sent to you shortly.

DD gives a warm thank you to everyone who attended and reminded everyone to attend the next DECM which will take place on the 20th of November. And reminds everyone that we will present the strategic plan of the district - district success plan and the budget at the DCM next week on the 18th of September.



The meeting adjourned at 13:10 and we couldn't wait to have lunch!