

ABM 3 May 2022: Vice President Education Report

The VP Education is responsible for managing member progress in Pathways and acts as the primary Base Camp Manager. When members complete projects, the VP Education receives notification of this via email and verifies it through Base Camp and Club Central. Information and aspects of Pathways are provided for members through assistance and Educationals. During the current Toastmaster year the focus has been on drawing attention to the club's own website and resources, as well as the google spreadsheet, and one Educational on Pathways was delivered.

The Spinnaker club programme is supported by the club's google spreadsheet, set up by the previous VP Education for members to select their preferred role at meetings, including speech slots. It is reasonably well utilized, and a colour code is used for indicating who is available or absent. Chairpersons who are tasked with compiling meeting agendas also benefit greatly from members indicating their preference for roles. Of late this self-selection process has been enhanced by filling in gaps in the google sheet and completing a draft agenda at the end of meetings.

An informal policy of "everybody at the meeting gets to speak" is in place, and as a general rule, the club endeavours to provide four formal speaking slots for speeches per meeting. Guests are invited to speak and encouraged to participate as a matter of principle.

Currently 15 club members are signed up to Pathways. Of those enrolled, 15 are engaged at Level 1, with most members having completed this Level. It should be noted that several members have completed Level 1 in more than one Path, for example in Presentation Mastery and Innovative Planning.

12 members are at Level 2 or have completed this Level – again, some members completed this Level in more than one Path.

8 members are at Level 3, 6 members are either in progress or have completed Level 4, and 2 members are at Level 5 – one member has completed Level 5.

Currently members have selected 9 different Paths, with Presentation Mastery the Path most members are engaged with. It is also the only Path that has been completed to date. This achievement must be considered in context, as it requires some time and commitment to complete all the required tasks set in the individual levels. Even though the club allows for four speeches per meeting, there are a limited number of speaking slots when contests and other events – and Covid disruptions – are taken into account.

Spinnaker Toastmasters members are consistently gaining awards beyond club levels in contests, a testament to the supportive environment that allows members to hone their skills and the quality of the club. It is a pleasure and an education to observe this skill and talent at club meetings.

Katina Beauchamp - VP Education Spinnaker Toastmasters