

Adopt-A-Club – get JOVIAL!

When meeting quality deteriorates experienced members may disengage or form cliques, members may miss/skip meetings, others get burnt out, and more. These early warning signs, if addressed promptly, can ward off serious future problems and ensure people can take full advantage of Toastmaster's offerings. Enter 'Adopt-A-Club.'

Pre-Requisite

Leadership from potential adoptee club wants adoption. (No pressure! No coercion!)
Adopting club agrees to adopt the club, will appreciate of honoring the adopted club members.

What is Adopt-A-Club?

A club that has strong quality meetings 'adopts' a challenged club to improve quality of club meetings through interaction, guidance, and example.

How Long is the Adoption Period?

6 months

Contact your LGET to get started!

When Should a Club Be Adopted?

Ideally, a club should be adopted before a club requires DG/LGM to search for a Club Coach.

What Does Adoption Look Like?

At least three members of adopting club become members of the adopted club. Other members of the adopting club are encouraged to visit. Adopting club meets with adopted club to clarify club culture and current reason for existence; encourage creation of a tagline or slogan for club to refocus and re-energize. Toastmaster materials can be used including The Successful Club Series on how to be a Distinguished Club, the Best Club Climate, Meeting Roles & Responsibilities, etc.

How Does It Work? - Get JOVIAL!

- Pre-requisites must be met before progressing to the next step; last step should be throughout!
- **J**oin: At least 3 adopting club members join adoptee club becoming dual members
- **O**bserve: Dual members and others from adopting club (as available) visit adoptee club meetings for at least 3 meetings (participating and fulfilling roles as requested by adoptee club)
- **V**isualize: Using the facilitation speech (from Discussion Leader Manual) conduct discussion on ideal future state of the club; include
 - Why adoptee club was created and whether reason is still valid
 - What adoptee club likes and wants to keep as part of their club
 - What adopting club observed using Toastmaster feedback standards (both positive and opportunities for improvement - specific, helpful, motivational)
 - What suggestions adopting club has for adoptee club
 - Standards of what the club will look/feel like in the future, include pre-meeting activities
 - Create a club tagline or slogan (Vision/Mission module questions can spark discussion)
- **I**mplement: Operate like envisioned club. Conduct Toastmaster modules (e.g. Creating the Best Club Climate, Moments of Truth, Meeting Roles & Responsibilities, Keeping the Commitment)
- **A**ssess: Score the meeting each week with the Meeting Quality Index (MQI)
- **L**ite and **L**augh! Be serious about keeping it lite and find opportunities to laugh. Dr. Smedley says we learn most in moments of enjoyment. Ensure the experience and meetings are fun!

Can This Be Combined With A Club Coach Activity?

Yes! Club Coach(es) are often grateful for additional energy. See added synergy if Club Coach(es) is from adopting club. Club Coach(es) is *in addition* to three members joining from adopted club.

Rewards

Pink ribbon for banner and a set of the Leadership Excellence or Successful Club Series