

# District 23

## District Leadership Committee Report

April 26, 2022

Because of unforeseen circumstances, the District Leadership Committee's normal duty of nominating candidates will not take place this year.

This change is because early on, the DLC missed several hard deadlines imposed by the Governing Documents of Toastmasters International.<sup>[1]</sup> Because of missing these deadlines, the DLC's work is considered invalid and the DLC is not allowed to nominate candidates.<sup>[2]</sup> However, the DLC may still interview and advise candidates, recruit new officer candidates, and work toward the betterment of our district's nomination process.

Since the DLC's work is invalid, all candidates for office must run from the floor.<sup>[3]</sup> This also means that any qualified candidate may run from the floor for any office.<sup>[4]</sup> As a comment to all potential candidates for the elections that will take place during the business meeting, please be prepared to have someone nominate you when the District Director calls for nominations.

Before moving on to the rest of the report, we will address the following question which you probably have in your mind right now: "If the DLC's work is invalid and everyone has to run from the floor anyway, why did you put in the time and effort required to interview the candidates?" The DLC's work is more than just interviewing and nominating candidates. The interviews are designed to help the candidates think about the office for which they're running as well as enabling the DLC to provide valuable feedback after the interview. The feedback will, hopefully, help the candidates be stronger leaders whether they end up in an office or not. Because of our desire to have the strongest possible leaders working for our district, the District Director, the District Leadership Committee, and the candidates for office chose to continue with the interviews.

The DLC interviewed four candidates. The DLC recognizes and thanks the following candidates for participating in the DLCs work of interviewing and advising candidates:

- Diane Faulkner
- Jeff Miller
- Rebeca Pontaski
- Beverly Williams

Another candidate, Jonathan Vo, contacted the DLC but we ran out of time before completing his interview.

As a result of the DLC's interviews and other work, the DLC makes the following recommendations to the members of District 23's elected and appointed officers:

1. All district officers are strongly recommended to take on an individual mentor. While we believe group mentoring – as you will receive from your Region Advisor as well as other forms of group mentoring – is a great benefit to district officers, we also believe that one-on-one mentoring from a past District Director or District Governor is invaluable.

2. The Immediate Past District Director is a mentor to the current trio. And since most IPDDs are only in the role one time, we also recommend that the IPDD take on a mentor. The IPDD is a journey unto itself and by the end each IPDD will learn a great deal about being the IPDD. Having a mentor could be of great benefit to the individual and strengthen the position of IPDD within District 23.
3. As much as is possible, the district officers should get the members of the District 23 together for in-person events. The loss of live, in-person events has hampered the district and its work. We believe that getting members of our district back together in-person could be a great step towards getting back on a path of growth.
4. The DLC has a lot of work to do. It goes beyond just interviewing the candidates and writing a report. The assigned duty of recruiting candidates can be a slow and time-consuming process. Because of our late start, we had little time to recruit candidates. We recommend that the DLC chair be assigned in July and the committee members recruited by August so that the DLC may begin its work sooner. The DLC's work is a needed function within the district and an earlier start could help strengthen the district.

Sincerely,

The 2022 District Leadership Committee

- Tracy Thomason, DTM, PID (DLC Chair)
- Steve Chavira
- Lucille Forster, DTM, PDG
- Steve Hightower, DTM
- Donna Labatt, DTM, PID
- Alison Schlaegel
- Janet Tarr, DTM, PDG

## References

[1] Toastmasters Governing Documents, Policy and Protocol

*Protocol 9.0, Section 1*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
No later than November 1	District Director appoints District Leadership Committee (DLC) Chair.
No later than December 1	DLC members are recommended by the DLC Chair and approved by the District Director.
No later than January 15	Call for candidate declarations.

[2] Toastmasters Governing Documents, Policy and Protocol

*Protocol 9.0, Section 4.E*

The DLC report is incomplete if the DLC is unable to nominate the required number of candidates for any individual office(s). The nomination report is invalid if any other DLC requirement, process, or deadline is not complied with.

[3] Toastmasters Governing Documents, Policy and Protocol

*Protocol 9.0, Section 11.D.II*

If the DLC report is invalid, candidates for District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, and Division Director may be nominated as floor candidates without going through the DLC evaluation process.

[4] Toastmasters Governing Documents, Policy and Protocol and District Administrative Bylaws

*District Administrative Bylaws, Article VII, Section e*

Floor candidates who have not gone through the District Leadership Committee's evaluation process may only be nominated during the annual District Council meeting if the District Leadership Committee's work is invalid.

*Protocol 9.0, Section 4.G*

If the DLC report is invalid, qualified candidates may run from the floor for all positions. Any nominations made by the DLC are invalid. The report may be presented to District Council members as an advisory report at the discretion of the District Executive Committee.