

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL District 53



District Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 3:00pm, Online via Zoom

Items that required a vote are shaded **yellow**.

This document and all supporting information can be viewed at the following links.

Info Package: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/iyydo0mwgmaw0mk/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Info Kit.pdf>

Agenda: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ophsigi75eh5o93/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Agenda.pdf>

Minutes (this document): <https://www.dropbox.com/s/54wfg3mb8jm6nq5/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Minutes.pdf>

Video Recording: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/p18jfb4p73ej30m/D53 DC 022-05-07 Video.mp4>

Audio Recording: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/1odg2yks91fs25l/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Audio.mp3>

Attendee List: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qyeympt2srs50t0/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Attendees.xlsx>

Previous DC Minutes: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pmtdzuxba3q07bn/D53 DC 2021-09-23 Minutes.pdf>

Staff Report folder: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/99vo6jismumu9vhr/AABCbNxpSRQmpAjedqP8tnGta>

- Year-End Audit Report: [D53 2020-2021 Year End Audit Report.pdf](#)
- Mid-Year Audit Report: [D53 2021-2022 Mid-Year Audit Report.pdf](#)
- Realignment Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 Realignment Report.pdf](#)
- DLC Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 DLC Report.pdf](#)
- PRM Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 PRM Report.pdf](#)
- CGD Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 CGD Report.pdf](#)
- PQD Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 PQD Report.pdf](#)
- DD Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 DD Report.pdf](#)

1. Special Orders

1.a. Call to Order

Akihiro Ishii, District Director

Meeting video location: 0:00:15.

Mr. Ishii opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

He reminded all participants to keep CHAT open for important meeting information. He also reminded all participants of the preparation materials that were distributed leading up to this meeting. All were reminded to have key documents opened during the meeting for reference. Specifically, voting representatives will need the Agenda, Meeting Info Package, and especially Voting Credentials and links handy during the meeting.

Mr. Ishii acknowledged the attending Steering Committee members and functionaries (Zoom masters, Timers, and Registration Manager), past District Directors from Andrew Watt back to Don Logie, and our Region 9 Advisor Patricia O'Reilly, the International Director from Region 9, and also a past District 53 Governor, Jeff Sobel, and immediate past International President, and past District 53 Governor, Richard Peck.

1.b. Reading of Mission Statements & Promise

Patricia Walter, Club Growth Director

Meeting video location: 0:05:35. Meeting Info Package page 5.

Ms. Walter read the Toastmasters International Mission, the Toastmasters District Mission, and the Toastmasters Promise.

1.c. Review of Online Meeting Protocol

Norm Thibodeau, District Administration Manager

Meeting video location: 0:07:45. Meeting Info Package page 6-7.

Mr. Thibodeau reviewed our online meeting protocol and explained the online voting process. We paused for questions or comments. There were no questions in the chatbox.

1.d. Approval of Special Rules of Order

Samuel Young, Parliamentarian

Meeting video location: 0:14:50. Meeting Info Package page 8.

The special rules of order were read by Mr. Young and were approved/adopted without objection.

1.e. Agenda Review and Approval

Akihiro Ishii, District Director

Meeting video location: 0:17:55. Meeting Info Package page 3.

Full Agenda: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ophsigj75eh5o93/D53 DC 2022-05-07 Agenda.pdf>

The agenda was reviewed by Mr. Ishii and approved without objection.

1.f. Roll Call for Quorum

Akihiro Ishii, District Director

Meeting video location: 0:20:20.

Mr. Ishii called for the Roll Call vote (done using our online ballot system). Voting delegates posted their attendance by entering their Voting Credentials into the online Roll Call ballot.

1.g. Credentials Report

Paul Randolph, Credentials Chair

Meeting video location: 0:26:50.

Quorum was NOT met. The Credentials Report was as follows.

District Council Meeting, 2022-05-07

Quorum Report

Business meeting quorum is defined as 1/3 of potential votes from all active clubs. Each club is allowed 2 votes.

Number of Active Clubs	95
Total possible club votes (clubs*2)	190
Quorum (Tot Votes/3, rounded up)	64
Actual Club Votes Present	61
Quorum has not been met	
DEC Votes Present	20
Total Votes Present	81
Simple Majority	41
2/3 Majority	54

The Credentials Report was adopted without objection. Because Quorum was not met, Mr. Ishii explained that business will still be conducted, but all results will need to be ratified by an online vote of the District Council after the meeting. This will be conducted during the following week.

2. Business Decisions

2.a. Approval of 2020-2021 Year-End Audit Report

Richard Derksen, Audit Committee Chair

Meeting video location: 0:30:10. Meeting Info Package page 14.

Full Report: [D53 2020-2021 Year End Audit Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Ishii asked if there were any objections, corrections, or questions regarding this report. There were none. Motion made by Paula Zajac to accept the audit report.

Seconded by Darrell Fox and Molly Hayward.

Online ballot results:

For adoption of the 2020-2021 Year-End Audit Report

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Yes	76	94%
No	0	0%
Abstain	5	6%

Motion has passed with majority vote

2.b. Approval of 2020-2021 Mid-Year Audit Report

Richard Derksen, Audit Committee Chair

Meeting video location: 0:39:25. Meeting Info Package page 15.

Full Report: [D53 2021-2022 Mid-Year Audit Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Ishii asked if there were any objections, corrections, or questions regarding this report. There were none. Motion made by Janice Dimock to accept the audit report.

Seconded by Andrew Cournoyer, Melanie Lee, and Paula Zajac.

Online ballot results:

For approval of the 2021-2022 Mid-Year Audit Report

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Yes	74	91%
No	0	0%
Abstain	7	9%

Motion has passed with majority vote

2.c. Approval of Sept 2021 DC Meeting Minutes

Steve Lanning, District Administration Manager

Meeting video location: 0:46:55. Meeting Info Package page 9-13.

Minutes Document: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pmtdzuxba3q07bn/D53 DC 2021-09-23 Minutes.pdf>

The minutes were distributed with the meeting package. Mr. Ishii asked if there were any objections, corrections, or questions on the minutes. There were none.

Motion made by Melanie Lee to accept the September 2021 meeting minutes.

Seconded by Debbie Froehlich and Paula Zajac.

Online ballot results:

For approval of the September 23 2021 District Council Meeting Minutes

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Yes	72	89%
No	0	0%
Abstain	9	11%

Motion has passed with majority vote

2.d. Approval of the proposed 2022-2023 Realignment

Amy Chiu, Realignment Co-Chair

Meeting video location: 0:55:20. Meeting Info Package page 16-28.

Full Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 Realignment Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Chiu briefly introduced the Realignment Committee members, summarized the process and considerations for developing the realignment proposal this year, explained how to view the tables and maps included in the Realignment Proposal, and displayed (screen-shared) a table to show counts of Areas and Clubs before vs. after the proposed realignment.

Mr. Ishii opened the floor for comments, questions, or objections. There were no comments, questions, or

objections.

Motion made by Melanie Lee to approve the proposed 2022-2023 Realignment.

Seconded by Aimee Soucy, Robert Ekblaw, Paula Zajac.

Online ballot results:

For approval of the proposed 2022-2023 club realignment

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Yes	74	91%
No	1	1%
Abstain	6	7%

Motion has passed with majority vote

2.d. Election of 2022-2023 District Officers

Akihiro Ishii, District Director

Meeting video location: 1:07:00. Meeting Info Package page 27.

Full Report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 DLC Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Ishii conducted officer elections for the 2022-2023 Toastmasters year, beginning July 1, 2022. There were two candidates for the role of the Club Growth Director and also for the Division B Director. He explained that both candidates will have the opportunity to give a speech when the meeting reaches that point.

First, Mr. Ishii requested District Leadership Committee Chair, Andrew Watt, to present the DLC report.

Mr. Watt explained that the District Leadership Committee missed the early deadline for Committee formation on December 1st because a representative for one division could not be found on time. Thus, the Committee's work was considered invalid by the terms of the Toastmasters governing document. We also didn't identify the Division D Director candidate so the report was considered incomplete. Thus, all candidates were considered Floor Candidates and had to identify as such before the April 30th deadline. As a result, this report was purely advisory for the District Council, and each nominated candidate would run from the floor. The Committee submitted the following advisory for the District's elective offices in the 2022-2023 program year in District 53.

District Director – John J. Hogan, DTM

Program Quality Director – Patti Walter, DL5

Club Growth Director – Mohan Padamati, DTM, and Bettyann Peck, DTM

Division A Director – Jacqueline Kessler, SR4

Division B Director – Scott R. Davis, PM1

Division C Director – Chad Babcock, DTM

Division E Director – Beth VanKempen, EC2

Mr. Watt explained that after the DLC report was submitted, and before the April 30 deadline for "floor" nominations, two additional candidates have self-identified. DLC interviewed these candidates on April 29 in order to provide a simulacrum of the full interview experience and provided feedback to the candidates. These candidates are.

- Paula Zajac, LD2 is running unopposed for the Division D Director position.

- Paul Terman, DL1 is running for the Div B Director position as an alternate to Scott Davis.

Mr. Watt concluded his report by identifying and thanking the DLC Team members for their service.

Mr. Ishii continued with an explanation of the election process. There were two contested races for consideration, one for the Club Growth Director, and the other for the Division B Director, which required a full Council vote. For all other positions, we would use the process of "unanimous consent" whereby the DD, Mr. Ishii, would request the DAM Lanning to submit one unanimous consent ballot for the uncontested candidates, and barring any objections from the floor, the candidate is elected.

District Director

At Mr. Ishii's request, DAM Lanning cast one unanimous consent vote for John J. Hogan for the role of District Director 2022-2023. Mr. Ishii accepted the vote and announced that Mr. Hogan was elected.

Program Quality Director

At Mr. Ishii's request, DAM Lanning cast one unanimous consent vote for Patti Walter for the role of Program Quality Director 2022-2023. Mr. Ishii accepted the vote and announced that Ms. Walter was elected.

Club Growth Director

Mr. Ishii announced the candidates for the position of Club Growth Director, Mohan Padamati, DTM, and Bettyann Peck, DTM. Prior to the vote, each candidate was given 2 minutes to address the Council.

Mohan Padamati presented his candidate's speech. (Meeting video location: 1:17:20.)

Bettyann Peck presented her candidate's speech. (Meeting video location: 1:20:25.)

Mr. Ishii instructed delegates to use Ballot E to vote for the Club Growth Director position.

Mr. Thibodeau needed more time to count the vote so he asked Mr. Ishii to continue the rest of the meeting and come back to show the result later. (skip to next section)

After the candidate speeches for Division B Director (next section), Mr. Thibodeau was able to share the results for the Club Growth Director position.

Online ballot results:

For election of the Club Growth Director

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Bettyann Peck	42	52%
Mohan Padamati	23	28%
Abstain	6	20%

Motion has passed with majority vote

Mr. Ishii announced that Bettyann Peck received the majority of votes and was elected.

Division Directors

Mr. Ishii announced the candidates for the position of Division B Director, Scott R. Davis, PM1, and Paul Terman, DL1. Prior to the vote, each candidate was given 2 minutes to address the Council.

Scott R. Davis presented his candidate's speech. (Meeting video location: 1:35:15.)

The second candidate, Paul Terman, couldn't join the meeting today. Mr. Thibodeau delivered Mr. Terman's speech on his behalf from a note. (Meeting video location: 1:39:10.)

Jeff Sobel, the International Director from Region 9, pointed out that we cannot move on to the next vote until the previous voting result is finalized. (Returned to Club Growth Director "Online ballot results" section before continuing.)

After finalizing the result for the Club Growth Director position, Mr. Ishii instructed delegates to use Ballot F to vote for the Division B Director position.

Online ballot results:

	Votes	%
Total Possible Votes	81	100%
Paul Terman	49	60%
Scott Davis	16	20%
Abstain	16	20%

Paul Terman wins with majority vote

Mr. Ishii announced that Paul Terman received the majority of votes and was elected.

Mr. Ishii identified the candidates for the four uncontested Division Director positions, as follows.

Division A Director – Jacqueline Kessler, SR4

Division C Director – Chad Babcock, DTM

At Mr. Ishii's request, DAM Lanning cast one unanimous consent vote for Division Directors A, C, D, & E positions. Mr. Ishii accepted the vote and announced that all nominated candidates have been elected.

Mr. Ishii thanked all candidates.

3. Business Reports

Mr. Ishii reminded delegates that all reports were distributed prior to the meeting and delegates were instructed to read the reports before the meeting and come to the meeting with any questions or comments. As such, these reports will only be briefly summarized and then the floor opened for questions and comments. Mr. Ishii reminded everyone of the special rules of order for discussion on each report: that discussion is limited to 1 minute per person and the total discussion for each report will be limited to 10 minutes unless an extension is voted for by a 2/3 majority.

3.a. Public Relations Manager's Report

Bettyann Peck, Public Relations Manager

Meeting video location: 1:55:00.

Full report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 PRM Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Peck indicated that the final Public Relations Manager's report was sent prior to this meeting and there were no changes. Mr. Ishii opened the floor for questions or comments. There were none.

3.b. Club Growth Director Report

Patricia Walter, Club Growth Director

Meeting video location: 1:56:30.

Full report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 CGD Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Walter briefly presented the CGD Report. Mr. Ishii opened the floor for questions or comments. There were none.

3.c. Program Quality Director Report

John Hogan, Program Quality Director

Meeting video location: 2:00:35.

Full report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 PQD Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Hogan directed delegates to review the PQD report which was sent prior to the meeting. He specifically pointed out the last section in the report about "Finishing The Year". As the 2022-2023 DD elect, Mr. Hogan shared that summer club officer training will be conducted from June to August and emphasized that charting the 2022-2023 course begins today. Mr. Ishii opened the floor for questions or comments. There were none.

At this point, DD Akihiro Ishii transferred the meeting chair role to PQD John Hogan. Mr. Hogan accepted the virtual gavel and introduced Mr. Ishii for the District Director's report.

3.d. District Director Report

Akihiro Ishii, District Director Report

Meeting video location: 2:03:40.

Full report: [D53 DC 2022-05-07 DD Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Ishii summarized the DD report but did not show his slides in the interest of time. He reminded everyone to be careful and check with local facilities when clubs decide to conduct a hybrid or an in-person meeting.

Mr. Ishii briefed the following items:

- We didn't have a sufficient budget to hire a company to maintain the D53 website. Mr. Andrew Watt took on the role of the D53 Webmaster and has led the development of the new D53 website.
- We conducted several "Train the Trainer" events to ensure training speakers and facilitators were properly trained and armed with skills to provide quality club officer training.
- We conducted the Club Coach program and Pathways Traveling Roadshow supported by the Club

- Quality Director and many district members.
- PRM Bettyann Peck has prepared great content for the D53 email blast to keep all members informed on important updates and announcements.

Mr. Hogan opened the floor for questions or comments. There were none.

At this point, PQD John Hogan returned the meeting chair role to DD Akihiro ishii.

Mr. Ishii accepted the virtual gavel and continued with the meeting.

4. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

However, Mr. Ishii announced that since we didn't make a quorum today, we'll need to validate today's business decisions via an email referendum with all District Council members. This will take the shape of one additional ballot that will be distributed in one business day, and the deadline to complete will be Saturday, May 14. Because this will require a response by a quorum of club delegates, Mr. Ishii requested that all delegates watch out for that email and respond to the validation request on time.

5. Adjournment

The next District Council meeting will be on Thursday, September 22, 6:30-8:30 pm. The format (Zoom or in-person) is still to be decided.

Before adjourning, Mr. Ishii reminded everyone to register and participate in the District Conference on Saturday, May 14th.

Adjournment

With a motion from Norm Thibodeau seconded by Elizabeth Keeling and others, the meeting was formally adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by,

Amy Chiu, EC5, MS2

Recording Secretary, 2022-2023

The District Council consists of the D53 Executive Committee and the president and VP of Education from each club in District 53.

The District 53 Executive Committee consists of all Area Directors, Division Directors, District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Public Relations Manager, Administration Manager, Financial Manager and Immediate Past District Director.

The final agenda will be distributed at the District Council Meeting. The agenda may be modified during the District Council Meeting by majority vote of delegates present and voting.