

District Director

Margherita Brodbeck Roth, DTM

Program Quality Director Elena Grammenou

Club Growth Director Francesca Gammicchia, DTM

District Administration Manager Burcu Ünal Erdoğan

District Finance Manager Bill Vardas

District Public Relations Manager Tarek Desir

Immediate Past District Director Turan Tanin

District Parliamentarian Berit Dahl

District Credentials Chair Yoko Owatari

District Mission We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

District Motto learn together – excel together – dream together

Meeting Minutes

The District Executive Committee consisting of the

Division and Area Directors Core Team of District 109

convenes on

Sunday, 19 May 2024

19:00 - 22:00 CEST

(dial-in from 18:45 CEST)

via Zoom

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88487954848?pwd=8 mrj9TaQD5h0U2NMdRKy58VkVbPfo7.1

> Meeting ID: 884 8795 4848 Passcode: 743490



Agenda

Time	Description	Role	I, D, P*
18:45	Zoom Link open		
19:00	Welcome	District Director	
19:05	Call to Order	District Director	
19:07	Review Parliamentary Procedures	District Parliamentarian	1
19:12	Review Voting Procedures and Certification of Quorum	District Credentials Chair	1
19:18	District Mission	District Administration Manager	1
19:20	Approval of the Agenda	District Director	D
19:22	Approval of Meeting Minutes of DECM of 4 November 2023	District Director	D
19:24	Keynote Speech: The game is still on	Region 10 Advisor	
19:34	District Alignment Report and Recommendations for the District Council Meeting (DCM) • Presentation of Alignment Chair Report	District Alignment Chair	т
19:44	 Recommendation to DCM to Approve the Alignment Chair Report 	District Director	D
19:54	District Leadership Committee (DLC) Report and Recommendation for the DCM	DLC Chair	1
20:04	District Core Team Reports and Updates District Officer Changes District Director Report Program Quality Director Report Club Growth Director Report District Public Relations Manager Report District Finance Manager Report District Administration Manager Report Immediate Past District Director Report 	District Core Team	I
20:44	BREAK		
20:54	Audit Committee Chair Report	Audit Committee Chair	1
20:59	Division A, C, D, E, F, G and H Reports	Division Directors	1
21:34	District Business Announcement Hall of Fame (hybrid) Announcement District Conference 2025 Upcoming Meeting(s) 	District Director Program Quality Director District Director	1
21:44	Other Business	District Director	1

*I=Informative, D=Decision-making, P=Preliminary



Abbreviations

MBR	Margherita Brodbeck Roth, District Director	DD	District Director
EG	Elena Grammenou, Program Quality Director	PQD	Program Quality Director
FG	Francesca Gammicchia, Club Growth Director	CGD	Club Growth Director
BUE	Burcu Ünal Erdoğan, District Administration	AM	District Administration Manager
	Manager		
BV	Bill Vardas, District Finance Manager	FM	District Finance Manager
TD	Tarek Desir, District Public Relations Manager	PRM	District Public Relations Manager
TT	Turan Tanin, Immediate Past District Director	IPDD	Immediate Past District Director
BD	Berit Dahl, District Parliamentarian	DP	District Parliamentarian
YO	Yoko Owatari, District Credentials Chair	DCC	District Credentials Chair
AT	Allison Turner, Area Director E2	DvD	Division Director
AS	Aline Schillig, Area Director E1	AD	Area Director
ET	Erica Tanti, District Alignment Chair		
CF	Cristina Francolini, Division A Director		
HL	Harry Loots		
LF	Laura Filippi, Area Director A6		
NT	Nigel Thew, Division D Director		
VX	Vasiliki Xyfteri, Area Director G2		
DG	Damien Gautier, Area Director D2		
DSK	Deniz Senelt Kalelioglu, Division H Director		
SV	Santhiago Vieira, Area Director E4		
РК	Panagiotis Karanikas, Division G Director		
SBA	Sara Banu Akkaş, Area Director H1		
CA	Christoph Aublinger, Division E Director		
SFS	Sylvicley Figueira da Silva, Division F Director		

Minutes



1400	
MBR	Welcome and call to order.
	 Margherita Brodbeck Roth, DTM and District Director is presiding officer.
	 District Offices, staff and supporting members are welcomed.
	• Meeting is a reminder of the dedication and passion that each brings to our organization. Commitment
	to excellence and willingness to serve make our district thrive.
	• Today's meeting is about discussing agenda items and about celebrating achievements and addressing
	the challenges that lie ahead. It is an opportunity for us to connect, collaborate, and inspire each other
	to reach new heights.
	Thanks to the extraordinary efforts made by our district leaders and volunteers over the past few
	months.
	Exceptional circumstances in our district have absorbed our resources to levels never experienced
	before. Support and timeliness have not always been as it could have been; apology. All are kindly asked
	to remain civil with each other during the proceedings and understand that many people contributed a
	lot of work, as much for Toastmasters as they do for our full-time job.
	Keep microphones shut when not speaking.
	 Only voting delegates may participate in discussion debate.
	Our officials for this meeting are: The start of
	 Zoom Master: Toastmaster Giannis Kanlis Timer: Toastmaster Bill Vardas
	 Credentials Committee Chair: Toastmaster Yoko Owatari
	 Parliamentarian: Toastmaster Berit Dahl.
	 Note Taker: Toastmaster Burcu Ünal Erdoğan.
BD	Parliamentarian Presentation by Berit Dahl – reminder of the rules:
	https://drive.google.com/file/d/13upxRDYofd XzvFPxSVLmGnHeAm7C1oZ/view?pli=1
MBR	Thanks BD and moving to the next agenda item.
YO	Explanation of voting procedures:
	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CD5Z8cR6EOs5T90qs5KZA89zab1ZZznf/view
	 Certification of the Quorum: Out of 40, we have 33 registrations, and 29 members are participating.
	Thus, we can confirm that we have the quorum.
MBR	Thanks YO and moving to the next agenda item.
BUE	 Toastmasters International Mission: We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.
	 District Mission:
	We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.
MBR	 Thanks BUE and moving to the next agenda item.
	 The agenda has been shared; are there amendments?
CF	• Pol: the Alignment Report was shared just before the DECM, thus suggesting not voting the District
-	Alignment today.
NT	He is for voting of the alignment for the divisions, which does not require any change or have no
	objection.
VX	 Seconds Cristina Francolini's request to remove the voting for the alignment report at a later date.
LF	 Seconds the amendment of rejecting the item from the agenda.
BV	• For specific reason it took the alignment longer than we expected, but as any other year we need to talk
	about the alignment for next year and if not, today we won't have any other chance to discuss it.
CF	Motion moved:
	"The item of the District Alignment Report and Recommendations for the District Executive Council
	Meeting has to be removed from the agenda as it was not presented on time."
NT	Nigel Thew speaks opposed to the motion:
	This would mean that Div D no longer meets TMI requirements.
LF	Laura Filippi speaks in favor of the motion.
	 She is supportive to Cristina Francolini, they would need more time to get prepared for the realignment
	discussion.

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YO	DCC shares the Google form to vote the motion.
	"Yes, I support the removal of the District Alignment Report from the DECM agenda."
	"No, I do not support the removal of the District Alignment Report from the DECM agenda."
	 The District Director has confirmed the formulation of the voting and the link for the google form has hear characteristic photon
MBR	been shared in the chat. If there are issues with the Google form, please contact YO directly in chat.
	Results of voting shared:
YO	 33 individuals have voted in total,
	 73% of them voted for "Yes," and
	 27% has voted as "No,"
NT	• Pol: BMS Boudry Toastmasters was placed in Division C by mistake. If we do not have realignment, it will
	not be placed in Division D where it belongs.
DG	Moves and amendment to the motion:
	 "I propose an amendment to add in the agenda the alignment only for Div C and Div D.".
MBR	The amendment to the motion is open to debate.
DSK	 I am in favor of this amendment and want to amend this motion including Div H.
	 Amendment to the amendment of the motion: "I propose an amendment to add in agenda the alignment only for Div C, D and H."
AT	 Similar suggestion to Deniz, to include Division E as well.
MBR	I am to move a little bit from the procedures. We are still going to vote. We are leaving the agenda item in
IVIDK	the agenda as aligned and will still listen to the report. We will vote for every division separately. It is
	pointless if we are re-adding the divisions to the amendment of the motion. For each division it is either
	rejected or accepted. If every Division wants to add itself, it is pointless. I will try to rewrite my point. In the
	meantime, I give the word to BV and NT.
BV	We have points that we need to realign in other Divisions, it is a pity that in one division we cannot do it. I
	want to amend the motion including Div A, because we have some clubs that needs to be assigned to one
	Division.
NT	As the majority accepted Cristina's amendment, we need to respect everybody's wishes. We may move on leaving Div A outside unless any other Division raises the hand and wants to stay outside as well.
MBR	Do I hear a motion that we are reintroducing into the Agenda the District Alignment Report again, except
, WIBI	for Division A?
NT	Moves a motion that
	"We reintroduce the realignment report into the agenda with the exception of Division A".
	Pol: When would be another time to vote for the District Realignment if we remove it today from the
MBR	agenda? We need to finalize this decision until the end of the term, but it will also affect the elections.
	In this case, I second the motion of Nigel.
HL	
YO	 DCC shares the Google form to vote the motion. "Yes, I support the motion reintroducing the district alignment report into the DECM agenda with the
	exception of Division A."
	"No, I do not support the motion of reintroducing the district alignment report into the DECM agenda
	with the exception of Division A."
	Voting is closed after time is up.
YO	DCC announces the results:
	 90% of the attendees voted for "Yes," and 10% used for "Ne"
	 10% voted for "No,". Do I hear a motion to accept the agenda with one change on it?
MBR	"I move a motion to amend the agenda with one change that we present and vote for the district alignment
EG	report with the exception of Div. A."
NT	I second the motion.
YO	 DCC shares the Google form to vote the motion.
10	"Yes, I support the motion to accept the DECM agenda as amended."
	"No, I do not support a motion to accept the DECM agenda as amended."
	 As all the ballots have been submitted, the voting is closed.
	Results of the voting shared:
	67% voted as "Yes, I second a motion to accept the DECM agenda as amended."
	33% votes as "No, I do not support a motion to accept the DECM agenda as amended."

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Online District Executive Committee Meeting

MADD	Moves to port agonda item
MBR	 Moves to next agenda item. Are there any rejections to the meeting minutes of the last DECM?
CF	 Pol: Meeting minutes were not in the shared list, could we read them so that everybody is informed.
MBR	 We will show them on the screen so everyone can read it very quickly, as we made a mistake and shared the wrong file. Asks Admin. Manager to share the Extraordinary DECM minutes on the screen. There were no objections to the meeting minutes. "With unanimous consent the meeting minutes of last DECM are approved." Please welcome virtually our Keynote Speaker Region 10 Advisor, Distinguished Toastmasters Piotr Chimko to stage. As he cannot attend in person, the recording of his speech will be shared by our Zoom Master: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKPNXsBMOa8
	 Moves to the next agenda item. Today, the DEC will decide what proposal to present to the DCM on 26 May 2024 for acceptance.
ET	Shares the District Alignment report.
MBR	 We are now going through this report division by division. Vasiliki X. Has raised the hand. MBR asks if this is related to the first Division. As it was not the case Vasiliki removes the raised hand and the meeting moves to the discussion about Division C.
MBR	 ET shares the proposal of Division C on screen, as there are no objections to the Div C proposal; it is accepted by unanimous consent. ET shares the proposal of Division D on screen, as there are no objections to the Div C proposal; it is accepted by unanimous consent. The proposal for Division E, Northeastern Switzerland has been presented. Asked if there are any objections to this proposal?
AT	On what basis did ET choose Ignite CH TM Leadership Circle to move to Area E5?
ET	 As Ignite is a Corporate club, this is to distribute them among all areas as advised. This is not a criterion, but this is for the health of the areas, having those being distributed among areas.
AT	 I object, because Ignite CH TM Leadership Circle is brand new and all other clubs in the area E2 are weak clubs. In addition, geographical proximity of Ignite is aligned with E2. Proposal is to leave Ignite in E2 and move another corporate club to E5. Suggests moving TM EF to E5 instead of Ignite.
HL	 Area E5 has Toastmasters at Deloitte, which we know is struggling and may close due to lack of members. If one club in E5 is suspended, then the area will not be in good standing. He has no objection for Ignite staying in E2 or swapping one for another. His proposal is that one club may be suspended and to keep E5 healthy requires moving another club to this area.
MBR	 The proposal is up for discussion.
AS	Speaking in favor of the proposal: • I am supporting Allison's proposal.
SV	 Speaking opposed the proposal: There is no defined date to chartering club on the E4 list; it is postponed without a fixed date. I will continue to work on chartering this club.
MBR	 We can swap in the proposal Ignite with EF Zurich. There is a concern about Deloitte in E5, but there is no point even to move it, as there is not a fixed date to charter a new club in area E4 any time soon. Do I hear such a motion?
AT	• I move a motion to except the proposal as seen on the slide with the amendment to swapping TM EF Zurich with Ignite Toastmasters Leadership Circle.
AS	The motion is seconded.
MBR	Are there any amendments to the motion?
HL	Says that he has no objection if there are no prospect clubs to be chartered very soon.
MBR	 Asks DCC YO to formalize the Google form to vote as: "Yes, I support the motion to accept the proposed Division E realignment whilst swapping Ignite CH Toastmasters Leadership Circle with Toastmasters EF Zurich." "No, I do not support the motion to accept the proposed Division E realignment whilst swapping Ignite CH Toastmasters Leadership Circle with Toastmasters EF Zurich."
YO	 Results of the voting: 95.2% supported the motion and 4.8% do not support the motion of the Division E realignment whilst swapping Ignite CH TM Leadership Circle with Toastmaster EF Zurich.
MBR	 The alignment for Division F has been accepted as proposed by unanimous consent. Next, review the proposal for Division G.
VX	 Speaks opposed to the proposal: In area A1, Thessaloniki is the only healthy club in the area and there is no cultural proximity with the



	Bulgarian clubs. Kavala is chartered very recently.
РК	Speaks in favor of the proposal:
	• This proposal has been prepared based on an open survey to all members of Division G. He emphasized the cultural and geographical considerations for the respective clubs in Division G, expressing the need
	to support for expanding Northern Greece and integrating clubs from different cultures.
MBR	Do I hear a motion to accept Div G alignment as seen on the slide?
РК	 I move a motion to accept Division G alignment as seen on the slide.
EG	• Seconds.
MBR	Asks DCC YO to prepare the Google form for voting:
	 I support the motion to accept the proposed Division G realignment as displayed in the slide (from 01 July 2024).
	"Yes, I support the motion to accept the proposed Division G realignment as written in the Realignment Report."
	"No, I do not support to accept the proposed Division G realignment as written in the Realignment Report."
YO	Results of the voting:
	92% support the motion,
	8% do not support the motion.
MBR	 Asks District Alignment Chair, Erica Tanti to bring up the slide for Division H and shortly summarize the proposal again.
ET	The proposed changes are:
	 MyShell Turkey to be moved from H3 to H2 due to geographical proximity. Istanbul Asia to be moved from H2 to H3 due to geographical proximity.
	 Istanbul Asia to be moved from H2 to H3 due to geographical proximity. Izmir Turkce TM to be moved from H1 to H2. This club is geographically far but most of the members
	are based in Istanbul.
SBA	 Pol: Who is voting during the DECM for Division H?
MBR	 As per the procedures, all DECM members are allowed to vote for the District Realignment.
SBA	 Pol: If I fill out the questionnaire only looking at the changes affecting my area without considering the
JDA	changes in other areas, how is this difference considered by the alignment committee?
ET	 In the questionnaire, it was asked to agree or disagree and with the option to share comments. The majority of the members have agreed.
SBA	 I move a motion to change the proposal by moving İzmir Türkçe Toastmasters back to Area H1 in the proposal.
BUE	The motion has been seconded.
MBR	Is there anyone who wants to speak in favor of or opposed to the motion?
	 SDK and NS want to speak opposed to the motion.
	SBA wants to speak in favor of the motion.
ET	 Pol: At the questionnaire the President and VPE of Izmir Türkçe Toastmasters club have accepted the proposal to move the club to area H2
	 proposal to move the club to area H3. As there is no one else to speak in favor of the motion, only DSK and SBA will speak
MBR	
DSK	 Speaks in favor of the motion: None of the members of İzmir are in Ankara and some of the members are in Istanbul, thus it is better
	to move them to H3 istanbul Asia. But there are other clubs in the Anatolian part of Turkey to be
	chartered, they will be assigned to H1.
SBA	Speaks opposed to the motion:
	Last year Izmir Türkçe TM has been realigned to area H1. They have been meeting in online and hybrid
	mode, and recently they have decided to meet more in person in İzmir and hybrid for the members in Istanbul as of 1st of July.
MBR	Asks DCC YO to prepare the Google form for voting as below:
	"I support the motion to accept the proposed Division H realignment as written in the District
	Realignment Report, whilst moving Izmir Türkçe Toatmasters to Area H1."
	"Yes, I support the motion to accept the proposed Division H realignment as written in the Realignment
	report, whilst moving Izmir Türkçe Toatmasters to Area 1." "No, I do not support the motion to accept the proposed Division H realignment as written in the
	Realignment report, whilst moving Izmir Türkçe Toatmasters to Area 1."
YO	 Results of the voting are:
10	65.2% voted to support the motion and 34,8% not to support motion.

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MBR	 The majority has decided; Izmir Türkçe Toastmasters moves to area H1. Considering the time, we continue with the agenda. Since only Pol remain, let's share them quickly. 	
ΤΤ	 Turan Tanin DLC Chair, shares his team's report starting with the DLC process and the nominees for the elected and appointed roles. 	
	 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Eo9k3IE9k1ViCLMZoPPdvnkIVXnopi_E/view?pli=1 	
MBR	 We now move on to the District Core Team Reports and Updates. 	
	I shall start with the District Officer Changes.	
	I have discharged the Area Director G3 from office on 22 March 2024. This aligns with my right as	
	the individual who nominated them. Due to the complexity of the situation and in agreement with	
	Toastmasters International, there will be no replacement until the end of this Toastmasters year. I	
	take this opportunity to thank Area Directors G1, G2, and G4 for the outstanding work they are doing by helping us to complete the club visit reports and ensuring affected Club Officers get the	
	support and training they need. My thanks go also to Division Director G and the District Core team	
	for their support.	
	The District Director Report is not presented but stored:	
	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pwMdpI8exUg98420wXkOc_EEGF8TW8ZO/view?pli=1	
EG	PQD report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NW0AebxBInFssUmKYbwzeHb3XpmvAUap/view?usp=sharing	
FG	CGD report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wf26SFz2OW8whxmev_Alg_3XwOmvEotM/view?pli=1	
TD	District PR report:	
	• Across all the platforms, we are active, we have increased reactions. For the district conference and	
	other campaign promotions, we have done very well. Number of followers have increased since last	
	year. As PR manager my role is following up with the clubs for who is who and make sure that their	
	events have been published.	
BV	District Finance Manager report:	
	 We are in line with our budget, everything is going very smooth with the TI finance department. Everybody who has not uploaded expenses into Concur please do it asap, by end of June I must close 	
	them for this for this term. The audit report is a work in progress; delay is due to last year's money from	
	the district conference to be recorded to our accounts. Good news is that this money will be recorded	
	to our term and will cover the loss from this year's conference. The money we are allowed to spend has	
	to do with actual members, please make sure that more members renew.	
TT	Immediate Past District Director report by Turan Tanin:	
	• Communication: people don't read e-mails, but as communicator we have the responsibility that our	
	message reaches the targeted audience. Unfortunately, this is a challenge for the district, which needs	
	 to improve. Diversity: I had the privilege to interview many people as DLC chair. There are many brilliant ideas, 	
	which we need to listen and implement to the district.	
	• Excellence: I would like to propose the idea, excellence is doing extra ordinary thing in an extra ordinary	
	environment. We have many extra ordinary members that we meet at club meetings. Let's make the	
	magic happen at our clubs, when this magic happens, we will be able to grow members in our district.	
GK	District Audit Committee Chair report by Giannis Kanlis:	
	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NZ9Fkbv76JdScOwJ3IkD5fso5Y1RjUCd/view	
MBR	The Division Directors of District 109 will now share their reports.	
CF	Division A Director report: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wKhCvRlQviHkak1xtcHipwoQu3v-6f/view</u>	
GB	Division C Director report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HYAWMHYly8pBZTau7NVTrfpiAj_gD5ny/view	
NT	Division D Director report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-hnM6rOZHfJPWCk1ogPk5rLPAFsY6Nn6/view	
CA	Division E Director report: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YDolEGL-qmINg5ay6Y9g913au-9Kvngr/view</u>	
SFS	Division F Director report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zZjzeVtThnxCKZGEY0jK5z14smwaKEBt/view	
РК	Division G Director report: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bf1-g_QrsaE3JAJefgjxFBYX8zcMDmZm/view</u>	
DSK	Division H Director report: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Vf9maUgUAoaXmcbgyP0FPcarWjEDssfW/view</u>	
MBR	Thanks, all Division Directors and moves to other district business.	
	District Hall of Fame which this year takes place in Chios. Stride: 21 June 2024 10:00 21:00 Chios Club Masting at Chandria Hatal. Chios Town, fallowed hu	
	 Friday 21 June 2024, 19:00-21:00 Chios Club Meeting at Chandris Hotel, Chios Town, followed by finger food and drinks. 	
	 Saturday 22 June 2024, 21:30 Hall of Fame in Avgonima village, followed by dinner. Pick up in Chios 	
	Town at 20:00.	
	 Sunday 23 June 2024, 08:30-14:30 Homerion Cultural Center, Chios Town DOT/COT. Pick up in 	
	Avgonima village at 08:30.	



	 We have merged it with the Chios International Camp, and you will have the ability to book ancillary events. Invitations will be shared tonight, and our District Finance Manager will follow to clarify your funding. The intent is to invite outgoing and incoming Core Team, Division and Area Directors as well as individual who will receive specific recognitions.
EG	 PQD Elena Grammenou announces officially that the next District Conference in 2026 will be in Malta. Dates are set as 16-18 May 2025.
MBR	 There will be another DECM during this tenure. Multiple Complaints have been filed against Toastmasters Members within the District. As soon as the District Disciplinary Committee's proposals will be ready, invitations for the meeting will be sent. Is there anyone else who wants to add something? As there were no comments, adjourns the meeting.