

## WHAT IS PATHWAYS?

Pathways is the new Toastmasters International Educational Program. It was rolled out throughout the entire Toastmasters organisation between 2017 and 2018. Our District, together with the rest of Australia, has had access to the program since December 2017.

## WHY WAS IT DEVELOPED?

In 2010 the Toastmasters International Board identified the need to modernise the communication aspect of the educational program and renew the focus on leadership. Additionally, there was a growing need to augment the current program by providing greater access to educational materials, expanded learning resources and an education experience with real-world applications. In short, the goal of the new program is to meet the evolving needs of the members.



(Click on picture to watch the introductory Pathways video)

## WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE?

**Currently there are 11 paths;**

- Dynamic Leadership
- Effective Coaching
- Engaging Humour
- Innovative Planning
- Leadership Development
- Motivational Strategies
- Persuasive Influence
- Presentation Mastery
- Strategic Relationships
- Team Collaboration
- Visionary Communication

## **Each Path has 5 Levels;**

Each path has 5 levels of increasing complexity, so that you build on what you have learned from the previous level. All Paths have the following levels:

Level 1: Mastering Fundamentals

Level 2: Learning Your Style

Level 3: Increasing Knowledge

Level 4: Building Skills

Level 5: Demonstrating Expertise

There is a minimum of 14 assignments (projects) which will be a mix of required and elective. There is a wide spectrum of topics.

Path recognition is achieved when a member completes 14 projects across all 5 levels; a combination of 10 required projects and 4 elective projects. Most projects include at least one speech. You do have the option of completing as many elective projects as you like.

## **HOW DO I CHOOSE A PATH?**

You start with a short assessment of your skills, interests and goals. At the end of the assessment the system will recommend a learning path that best fits your responses; if you don't agree with the recommendation you are free to choose a different Path.

## **IS IT ONLINE?**

You can work online or in print. Working online does have some additional advantages, such as access to interactive quizzes, activities, videos and additional information. If you work online, you can print the online materials.

## **WHERE DO I ACCESS ONLINE MATERIALS?**

All your learning materials will be available in **Base Camp**; an intuitive, user friendly site. Here you will find: Projects, Resources, Transcripts, Videos, Tips, Tools and much more. You can work on projects, connect with members of your club and view badges and certificates you'll earn along the way. This is also where the Base Camp Managers will track, validate and approve your progress.

## **WHAT ABOUT MY WORK IN THE TRADITIONAL PROGRAM?**

The Traditional Program is no longer available. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 the only Toastmasters Educational Program is Pathways. Any work you completed using the "old" (traditional) manuals, until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020, and submitted before that date, will be recognised and remain in your educational record.

## **WHAT ABOUT THE DISTINGUISHED CLUB PROGRAM?**

The six traditional educational goals have been replaced by six new educational goals. Have a look at your Club's Distinguished Club Program Report to see the changes.

## **CAN I TRANSFER ANY OF MY TRADITIONAL PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS TO PATHWAYS?**

Unfortunately none of the speaking achievements can be transferred, since the Traditional Educational System and Pathways are different in structure. In the Traditional System, the Leadership and Public Speaking Paths were separate, while in Pathways they are integrated in all Paths.

The only achievements that can be transferred are serving as club officer for 12 months; serving as a club mentor or coach; serving as club sponsor or conduct Speechcraft or Youth Leadership program and serving as District officer for 12 months. All of these can be claimed towards the DTM award.

## **IS THERE STILL A DTM?**

Yes, the DTM is still be the highest achievement of the Toastmasters Educational Program. The new requirements to achieve a DTM are: complete 2 learning paths; serve as club officer for 12 months; serve as a club mentor or coach; serve as club sponsor or conduct Speechcraft or Youth Leadership program; serve as District officer for 12 months; complete the capstone DTM project (create and implement a project of your own design, demonstrating skills and expertise gained).

## **WHAT HELP CAN I GET?**

Trained Pathways Advisors are available for you or your Club to contact and ask for assistance, either by providing training sessions or giving one-to-one assistance. Additionally, District 70 will organise regular training and information courses for all its members.

## **IS THERE MORE INFORMATION AROUND?**

Yes, other than the information provided in District 70 website, we suggest you visit the Toastmasters International website at:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/Pathways-Overview>

a great resource where to get more information, available in reading materials and a number of interesting short videos.