



2020-2021 District Council Meeting

Proxies

March 1, 2021

Dear District Leaders,

As you may recall, the Board of Directors announced in August 2020 that Districts would have the option to conduct both the Annual District Conference and Council meetings online through June 30, 2021. This will ensure each District has the flexibility to accommodate their members' needs and safety and will not be bound to the requirement of having to conduct the Annual District Conference and Council meeting in person.

For Districts that can and intend to host an in-person event, the option to participate online **must** be provided for members who cannot attend in person. This requirement for a hybrid format meeting has led to inquiries regarding the assignment of proxies. The Board reviewed the inquiries and Article X of the District Administrative Bylaws regarding proxies and decided that proxies *not* be allowed for any annual District Council meetings for the 2020-2021 program year.

Normally, proxies are permitted for in-person council meetings to ensure Member clubs are represented if any potential physical limitations are preventing the voting delegates from attending. However, given the ability to participate online, voting delegates will be able to participate online and will not need to proxy their vote.

This decision will alleviate the burden on Districts of determining how to allow in-person attendees to assign a proxy to carry their vote while not allowing online voting delegates to assign a proxy to carry their vote. Regardless of whether the meeting is held online-only or in a hybrid format, all District council members will have the opportunity to attend and cast their own votes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Peck".

Richard E. Peck, DTM
2020-2021 International President
Toastmasters International

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Rex".

Daniel Rex
Chief Executive Officer
Toastmasters International