# Minutes of the Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting

August 22, 2025

The meeting was called to order by International President Radhi Spear, DTM, at 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, August 22, 2025.

Chair Spear announced the following appointments:

- Timers – Keith de Silva, Club 1290125; and Gamini Kalinga Wijeyewardene, Club 28677718
- Credentials Committee Chair – Past International Director Monnica Rose, DTM
- Credentials Committee Co-Chairs – Past International President Deepak Menon, DTM; Past International President Gary Schmidt, DTM; and Past International Director Jim Kohli, DTM
- Supervising Director – International Director Elisa Tay, DTM
- Parliamentarian – Registered Parliamentarian Patti Titus, DTM

Credentials Committee Chair Rose reported as follows: A total of 20,629 votes were accredited, representing 10,194 of the 13,960 eligible clubs, with two votes each, and 241 of the 318 eligible Delegates at Large, each with one vote. A total of 9,413 votes needed to be registered at the beginning of the meeting for quorum to be present and 18,412 votes were registered. The Chair declared a quorum to be present.

The Credentials Committee report, meeting agenda, and standing rules were adopted without objection.

Registered Parliamentarian Titus explained the procedural rules prescribed by the Board of Directors for the election of three officers for the 2025-2026 term and seven directors for the 2025-2027 term. Titus also provided direction for voting delegates on the casting of votes.

Past International President, Richard E. Peck, DTM, Chair of the 2024-2025 International Leadership Committee, presented the committee's report.

**International Officer and Director Elections**

The following are the results of the officer and director elections:

| Candidate | Office | First Ballot | Second Ballot |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stefano McGhee, DTM | International President-Elect (uncontested) | 1 | |
| Gauri Seshadri, DTM | First Vice President (uncontested) | 1 | |
| Jean Gamester, DTM | Second Vice President | 10,100 | |
| Elmer Hill, DTM | Second Vice President | 2,633 | |
| Melissa McGavick, DTM | Second Vice President | 6,679 | |
| Michael Bown, DTM | International Director, Region 1 | 11,212 | |
| Abhijeet Joshi, DTM | International Director, Region 1 | 8,173 | |
| Chris Raneri, DTM | International Director, Region 3 | 7,385 | 11,495 |
| David Storey, DTM | International Director, Region 3 | 6,240 | 7,985 |
| David Woodcock, DTM | International Director, Region 3 | 5,754 | |
| Andrew Horberry, DTM | International Director, Region 5 | 10,682 | |
| Jing Humphreys, DTM | International Director, Region 5 | 8,653 | |
| Ramona Baylor, DTM | International Director, Region 7 | 9,662 | |
| Vickie Goodman, DTM | International Director, Region 7 | 5,840 | |
| Victoria Noethling, DTM | International Director, Region 7 | 3,530 | |
| Katrina Letargo, DTM | International Director, Region 9 | 4,066 | |
| Kathy Toh, DTM | International Director, Region 9 | 3,853 | |
| Hani Nur Zaihanirah Zaini, DTM | International Director, Region 9 | 11,414 | |
| Patrick Oluyide, DTM | International Director, Region 11 | 13,453 | |
| Nikki Quinn, DTM | International Director, Region 11 | 6,057 | |
| Sudash Liyanage, DTM | International Director, Region 13 | 1,392 | |
| Suganthi Periasamy, DTM | International Director, Region 13 | 11,395 | |
| Charles Tan Chia Lih, DTM | International Director, Region 13 | 6,547 | |

Chair Spear announced that McGhee, Seshadri, and Gamester were elected International President-Elect, First Vice President, and Second Vice President, respectively, for the term of 2025-2026.

Chair Spear also announced the following candidates elected as International Director for the term of 2025-2027: Bown, Raneri, Horberry, Baylor, Zaini, Oluyide, and Periasamy.

Chair Spear referred to the communication to all Club Presidents notifying them of Proposals A through H: Amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International and Club Constitution for Clubs of Toastmasters International. Notice of the proposed amendments was properly sent to the voting membership at least 60 days prior to the meeting, with the Board of Directors' recommendation that they be adopted.

Chair Spear invited Second Vice President Seshadri to present Proposal A which contained a series of amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International that would update language to be more clear, modern, and in line with current practices. The Board recommended that the voting membership adopt Proposal A, effective immediately. The voting results were: Yes, 17,977; No, 504. Chair Spear announced that the proposal was adopted.

Chair Spear invited First Vice President McGhee to present Proposal B which contained a series of amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International that would simplify cross-references relating to "written" communication and communication "in writing." The Board recommended that the voting membership adopt Proposal B, effective immediately. The voting results were: Yes, 17,513; No, 348. Chair Spear announced that the proposal was adopted.

Chair Spear invited International President-Elect Rochat to present Proposal C which contained a series of amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International that would update some of the language relating to the organization's internal disciplinary processes. The Board recommended that the voting membership adopt Proposal C, effective immediately. Other relevant governing documents would be amended, as needed, upon adoption of the proposal. The voting results were: Yes, 15,133; No, 979. Chair Spear announced that the proposal was adopted.

Chair Spear invited Immediate Past International President Mathieson to present Proposal D which contained a series of amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International to provide clarity on how the Board of Directors is constituted, the preferred notification method for Board meetings, and the duties of the Board. The Board recommended that the voting membership adopt Proposal D, effective immediately.

A voting delegate, representing a Member Club, made a motion to move the previous question for the remaining proposals – Proposals D through H. The motion was seconded. The voting results for the motion were: Yes, 14,542; No, 1,278.

Chair Spear called for the question on Proposals D through H combined. The voting results were: Yes, 13,876; No, 999. Chair Spear announced the following proposals adopted:

- Proposal D: Amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International to provide clarity on how the Board of Directors is constituted, the preferred notification method for Board meetings, and the duties of the Board.
- Proposal E: Amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International that update language to be in alignment with current practices regarding the Credentials process and the Annual Business Meeting.

- Proposal F: Amendments to the Club Constitution that update language to align with current practice and use modern phrasing.
- Proposal G: Amendments to the Club Constitution to provide clarity and readability.
- Proposal H: Amendments to the Club Constitution that establish the Club Executive Committee as the only required club standing committee.

As there was no other business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned.

The Bylaws of Toastmasters International authorizes the submission of proposed Bylaws amendments by “at least one percent (1%) of all the votes held by the voting membership” (Article XIV, Section 1(b)(2)). Based on the total number of clubs and Delegates at Large eligible to vote at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting (28,238 votes), meeting the 1% minimum requirement for any such proposal to be submitted for consideration at the 2026 Annual Business Meeting would require 283 votes, representing 142 clubs or 283 Delegates at Large, or any combination of those two voting memberships.

Pursuant to Protocol 11.3: Board of Directors Confidentiality, items contained in the minutes of this meeting were classified as “unrestricted” upon distribution of the minutes by World Headquarters, not to include any matters marked “restricted” or “highly confidential.”

Kristen Kyriazis

Kristen Kyriazis
Secretary

Distribution: Board of Directors
Nonprofit General Counsel
Chief Executive Officer
Past International Presidents
Past International Directors