



Toastmasters District 74

Botswana • Lesotho • Namibia • South Africa

May 2026

District Council Reports

Coordinator Reports

Club Fitness Rewards Champion

Chief Judge

Club Extension Chair

Conference Convenor

Corporate Liaison

Garmeson Trust

Membership Leads Chair

TLI Chair

Youth Leadership Chair

Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

CFR Champion

Coordinator Name:

Michael Shackleton

Purpose of the role:

District 74 covers Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa. The Club Fitness Rewards (CFR) Champion is a pivotal member of the District 74 Program Quality Team. The role is designed to promote club excellence, drive performance, and recognise achievement by leveraging the Club Fitness Rewards program. The CFR Champion plays a key part in encouraging clubs to track and improve their performance using Toastmasters dashboards and structured incentives.

Serving under:

- ☒ Program Quality Director
- ☐ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

30 / 03 / 2026

Coordinator Overview

As the District 74 Club Fitness Rewards (CFR) Champion, I served as a key member of the Program Quality Team, responsible for promoting club excellence, incentivising performance, and recognising achievement across Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa.

The role required a strategic balance between performance tracking, member engagement, and recognition systems, ensuring that clubs actively utilised Toastmasters dashboards and aligned their activities with the Distinguished Club Program (DCP).

Through structured incentives such as the CFR vouchers, the portfolio aimed to drive behavioural change, encouraging clubs to focus on membership growth, retention, financial compliance, and overall club quality.

Highlights in your term of office.

A key highlight of my term was the successful hosting of the District 74 Hall of Fame evening online, where we recognised high-performing clubs and introduced Cabinet members. This created a strong sense of unity, visibility, and celebration across the District.

It has been particularly fulfilling to recognise clubs through the CFR programme, as this recognition has a direct impact on morale. Clubs that feel valued are more likely to retain members, remain active, and strive for excellence.

Another highlight has been the broad participation across multiple regions, demonstrating that the CFR programme is gaining traction as a meaningful incentive framework within District 74.

Milestones achieved in your term.

Successful implementation and uptake of the CFR programme across the District, with consistent participation from clubs in all four countries.

Disbursement of 34+ Club Fitness Reward vouchers (R300 each), reflecting active engagement and measurable performance outcomes.

Strong uptake across key performance categories, including:

Full House 7 x 7

Treasurer's Excellence

Smedley Award

Talk Up Toastmasters

Club Success Plan submissions

Retention initiatives and DCP Sprint achievements

Notable high-performing clubs included:

Moving Forward Toastmasters (multiple achievements across categories)

Pinnacle Toastmasters Club

Florida Toastmasters Club

Egoli Golden City Toastmasters

Improved awareness and utilisation of Toastmasters dashboards, supporting data-driven decision-making at club level.

Strengthened alignment between recognition and performance metrics, reinforcing the value of structured incentives.

Areas for development in the role

Increased awareness and education: While uptake has been positive, further education is needed to ensure all clubs fully understand the CFR criteria and benefits.

Earlier engagement in the Toastmasters year: Encouraging clubs to participate from the beginning of the term will maximise impact and results.

Enhanced tracking and reporting systems: Streamlining the submission and verification process would improve efficiency and turnaround times for rewards.

Broader reach into underperforming clubs: Targeted interventions are needed to ensure struggling clubs are not left behind and can also benefit from the programme.

Integration with Division and Area leadership: Strengthening collaboration with Division Directors and Area Directors will improve adoption and accountability.

Overall Remarks

The Club Fitness Rewards programme has proven to be a powerful tool for driving performance, recognition, and engagement across District 74.

In a diverse District spanning four countries, the programme has helped create a shared culture of excellence, where clubs are motivated not only by achievement but also by recognition and belonging.

From my perspective, the true success of this role lies in the human impact—clubs feeling seen, valued, and encouraged. This directly contributes to membership retention, leadership development, and sustainable club growth.

Going forward, the opportunity exists to further institutionalise CFR as a core pillar of Program Quality, ensuring that every club in District 74 understands that excellence is not only expected—but recognised and rewarded.

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TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

District 74 Chief Judge's Pre-Contest Report

Date: 15/03/2026

Prepared by: Elaine O’Gorman DTM], Chief Judge

Contest Level: District 74

Contests International Speech Contest, Evaluation Contest, Table Topics Contest]

Contest Date & Venue: ThriveCon 31/04/2026 & 01.05/2026

1. Executive Summary

I am pleased to report that preparations for the upcoming **Contests** are almost complete and on track.

Necessary forms will distributed and collected where applicable. Eligibility will also be confirmed in the first week of April, following the Semi Annual Dues Deadline

The judging panel ensures fair representation, and all processes align with the current **Toastmasters International Speech Contest Rulebook**.

No major issues have been identified at this stage. The contest is expected to run smoothly with full compliance to eligibility, timing, and judging protocols.

2. Officials Appointed and Confirmed

The following officials have been secured and will be briefed prior to the contest:

- **Chief Judge:** Elaine O’Gorman
- **Voting Judges:** 10 Voting Judges have been confirmed as per the following table. We are planning on 2 Judges pr Division, and are working on filling these roles by 30th March 2026. To ensure equal representation from participating Divisions

Division	Confirmed	Level Achieved
A	Voting Judge	DTM
A	Voting Judge	DL4
B	Voting Judge	LD4
B	Voting Judge	IP5
C	Voting Judge	TBC
C	Voting Judge	TBC
D	Voting Judge	DTM
D	Voting Judge	TBC
E	Voting Judge	DTM
E	Voting Judge	TBC
F	Voting Judge	PM2

F	Voting Judge	DTM
129	Voting Judge	DTM
129	Voting Judge	DTM
129	Voting Judge	DTM

- **Tie-Breaking Judge:** appointed and known only to the Chief Judge)
- **Timers:** 3
- **Ballot Counters:** 3
- **Sergeant-at-Arms (supporting):** To be confirmed

All officials have confirmed their availability

3. Next Steps

- Once we have confirmed all the roles, we will be holding pre-contest training from 7th – 15th April 2026 .

4. Pre-Contest

- **Judge's Certification of Eligibility and Code of Ethics (Item 1170):** will be collected and reviewed for all judges. Confirmation of Eligibility.
- **Judge's Guide and Ballot (Item 1172):** Distributed to all voting judges and tie-breaking judge.
- **Timer's Record Sheet and Instructions (Item 1175):** Provided to timers.
- **Counter's Tally Sheet (Item 1176):** Ready for ballot counters.
- **Results Form (Item 1168) and Notification of Contest Winner (Item 1182):** Prepared for post-contest use.
- **Contestant Certifications (Eligibility & Originality):** Received and verified for all contestants where required.
- **Timing Lights** Confirmation from Contest Chair/Contest Organisers
- **Video recording** Confirmation from Contest Chair/Contest Organisers

4. Briefing Schedule

A comprehensive **Chief Judge Briefing** for Judges, Timers, and Ballot Counters will be held **60 minutes prior to the contest start** in a separate location (away from contestants and audience).

A separate private briefing for the **Tie-Breaking Judge** will also be conducted.

Key topics to be covered in the briefing include:

- Review of the official Speech Contest Rulebook.
- Judging criteria and unbiased evaluation process.
- Timing rules (including disqualification procedures and one-minute silence where applicable).
- Ballot completion and collection process.
- Protest procedures (eligibility or originality only – must be lodged before results announcement).
- Tallying and results reporting process.
- Code of Ethics reminder.

5. Key Reminders and Protocols

- Judges must evaluate based solely on the performance heard on the day, without bias or prior knowledge.
- Timers will record exact times and clearly indicate any over/under time violations.
- Protests regarding eligibility or originality must be directed to the Chief Judge or Contest Chair **before** results are announced.
- Ballot counting will occur in a secure, private location with multiple verifications for accuracy.
- In the event of a tie, the Tie-Breaking Judge's ballot will be used according to official rules.
- Results will be reported to the Contest Chair promptly after verification.

6. Potential Risks and Mitigation

- All officials are confirmed, reducing the risk of last-minute changes.
- Backup officials have been identified if needed.
- Digital or printed forms will be ready and sorted

7. Conclusion and Readiness Statement

The judging team will be fully prepared, impartial, and committed to conducting a fair, transparent, and professional contest in line with Toastmasters International standards. I look forward to a successful event that celebrates excellence in communication and leadership.

I am available for any questions or additional coordination prior to the contest.

Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

Club Extension Chair

Coordinator Name:

Vivien Boddy

Purpose of the role:

To assist the Club Growth Director with identifying New Clubs and assisting in the launch process

Serving under:

- ☐ Program Quality Director
- ☒ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

09 / 03 / 2026

Coordinator Overview

One of the mandates of Area Directors is to Open New Clubs. This is important as there are countless opportunities for New Club ideas. It is my opinion that Leaders are hesitant around opening New Clubs simply because the process might appear onerous. However, there are many skills learned around opening Clubs. The real skills of following up, learning how to connect with people and very important, to ask questions because leads are often revealed this way.

Highlights in your term of office.

As New Clubs were launched, the process became easier and confidence grows. The leads that materialise during the months and then followed up on, become great opportunities to grow District 74. The wins that Areas and Divisions achieve make it all the more exciting.

Milestones achieved in your term.

Helping Team members realise that the process of opening a Club is a great opportunity for growth. However, it is vitally important that the right Mentors are in place. The energy around opening a New Club is so different from being on the Executive Committee of a Club. It's very different and broadens perspectives. The support of Team during Demo events, meetings with prospective Clubs etc is also heart-warming and is the power of Toastmaster Teams. The Goal was initially 10 new Clubs in this year (with no losses). We have already Chartered 7 Clubs and there are some good Prospective Clubs in the pipeline for this 2025/2026 year. The desire was to grow the District 74 by a minimum of 10 New Clubs but this should be over and above any losses sustained. I was thrilled that Area E2 has decided to run with our idea of an all women Club. We hope to see it Chartered before end of April.

Areas for development in the role

Early teaching of the importance and relevance of New Clubs and identify key role players to assist in these launches. What can happen is that a few role players are left Mentoring the Club with no support say from the Clubs that birthed the new Club. A strengthening of the VPM role and sessions that assist them to convert Guests into Members would be key to assisting growth. PR campaigns to assist Division Directors, Area Directors might be useful although in the past low conversion rates have emerged. The role of Leads Coordinator could be grown by a couple of Leaders who would assist Clubs and even identify New Club opportunities.

If I had to start this role over, I would focus very strongly on the first 6 months. The second half of the year from Jan - June is a busy one but a lot can be accomplished if focus is good. Another strength that would be important is to search for leads in the time frame Jan - June 2026 so that the incoming Leaders have a ready number of New Club leads to develop and hopefully launch these Clubs in the first 3 months of the year 2026-2027. A brainstorming session might be useful for Division Directors and Area Directors to help them look for Members who might come up with New Club ideas.

Overall Remarks

I have learned a lot more from this Co-Ordinator role and have appreciated the input of our Club Growth Director and others in the Team. This is a very rewarding Co-Ordinator position and looking forward to seeing the next Clubs that have been identified for Chartering in this Toastmaster year 2025-2026. I believe we should have at least another 7 Clubs before year end.

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Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

Conference Convenor

Coordinator Name:

Yonela Motloung

Purpose of the role:

Organizing the conference

Serving under:

- ☒ Program Quality Director
- ☐ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

05 / 03 / 2026

Coordinator Overview

We've had a good journey organizing the conference. Some of the wins so far:

- 1) Sponsorship by Old Mutual insure
- 2) Speech craft sponsorship
- 3) A strong dedicated team consisting of members from both SA and Lesotho
- 4) A sold-out conference by end of Jan 2026!

The above has allowed us to plan a strong and enjoyable conference with extra funds to cover key elements. We are grateful as we're confident we will not need District to cover any of the conference costs.

Highlights in your term of office.

I took on this challenge knowing it would be stretching but I've been pleasantly surprised by the support I've gotten from my team and the District as a whole. The team in Lesotho has been amazing! I'm confident to deliver an outstanding conference!

Milestones achieved in your term.

- 1) Sponsorship by Old Mutual insure
 - 2) Speech craft sponsorship
 - 3) A strong dedicated team consisting of members from both SA and Lesotho
 - 4) A sold-out conference by end of Jan 2026!
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Areas for development in the role

N/A

Overall Remarks

N/A

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CGD ~ CORPORATE LIAISON Report for District Council – 02 May 2026

Submitted by	Granny Be007 on 16 th of March 2026
Portfolio	To create meaningful relationships with Corporates that have Toastmaster Clubs in order to ensure smoother transitions between ExCos and keeping within the company mandate. Such relations also improve Toastmasters VALUE for Corporates and supports their annual payment process.
D74 CORPORATE LIAISON	

Overview:

Finding the key people in each Organisation has been difficult BUT good progress is being made in this area. This is critical to the Corporate Club's success in order to ensure timely annual renewals that can empower the Club Officers to stay connected to Club Central and Base Camp for the benefit and success of the club and its members. Continues training and motivation has been instrumental in building better relationships.

Challenges

Finding Heads of Learning and Development as they are mainly the key people in supporting a Toastmasters Club. Some other Corporates, might have a person designated to deal with L&D within the HR Department. Beyond that, we are looking at using each Corporate's generic Appraisals to align them with roles, Education and Projects within the Toastmasters Programme to help the company and the members enjoy tailored Toastmasters value.

Leadership skills developed in the role

Fine-tuning the art of negotiations, helping others see the VALUE of Toastmasters and how to use it as a TOOL for THEIR SUCCESS, instead of feeling overloaded with MORE responsibilities!

Closing Remarks

I have seen that there are Corporates that flourish and are doing EXTREMELY WELL in their clubs and would like ALL Corporate clubs to enjoy GREAT SUCCESS as they understand how to gain the BEST VALUE from the Toastmasters Club and Education. Beyond that, I believe when we build good relationships with our Corporates, we can form symbiotic relationships that
May all our efforts produce #CatalystsOfSuccess this year
for us to be a SMEDLY DISTINGUIDHED DISTRICT 74!



March 31st 2026

Garmeson Trust Annual Report for District Council – Apr 2026 Serving under District 74

Submitted by	Tim Knights 082 894 7542 timknights3@outlook.com
Purpose of the Role	Financially helping underprivileged Members with their dues

Highlights in your term of office

The Garmeson Trust is financially supporting underprivileged members who cannot afford to pay the dues, by providing the joining fee and half of the semi-annual dues.
A total of 52 Individual members are currently being subsidised by the Trust, 5 of which are from District 129

Milestones achieved in your term

Two years ago, District 74 was split into two Districts: District 74 and District 129.
We have continued to subsidise the underprivileged members of District 129.

Areas for development in the role

In the past we've had administration problems, particularly with the bank.
We are on top of these problems and are back on track.

Overall Remarks

Should you have a member who you feel is justified in benefitting from the Garmeson Trust, please contact me for an application.

Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

Membership Leads Chair

Coordinator Name:

Maboi Mashabela

Purpose of the role:

To ensure centrally received leads are allocated to the relevant Toastmasters Club or Clubs and that they are responded to timely.

Serving under:

- ☐ Program Quality Director
- ☒ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

/ /

Coordinator Overview

There is a general timely response to membership leads.

Highlights in your term of office.

Seeing an active participation and timely responses are given when leads are shared with them.

Milestones achieved in your term.

1stly, the coordination of leads is itself a milestone. 2ndly, having a coordinated function focusing on the leads allow District 74 a central record of the leads and responses. 3rdly, the coordination ensure a timely response to the leads and this is critically important for all Clubs.

Areas for development in the role

1) Ensure that up-to-date contact details of all the Clubs in Dist 74 are kept in some easier to access and navigate place. 2) It may help that the central place where the leads are received on the District's website, a functionality is build to allow for referrals to made there, and update captured by the individuals to whom the referrals were made - creating an end-to-end place and info custody on this important process. 3) The current process does not have a loop-back step that would allow the District to know/measure the level of conversion from its leads. Such process is important and it could be build into my point 2 under this para.

Overall Remarks

A great initiative that will indeed ensure the Dist 74's Clubs put the members at the centre of what they do. Speed of response in acquiring new members is critical and the Coordinator's role helps achieve this - but this role should over time become redundant when the members of the various Clubs start doing what they are supposed to do.

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Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

TLI Chair

Coordinator Name:

Pamela Msibi

Purpose of the role:

Planned and executed biannual training programs for club officers, coordinating all educational workshops, trainer selection, and event logistics. Ensured quality learning experiences that equipped officers with essential leadership and operational skills to strengthen overall club performance.

Serving under:

- ☒ Program Quality Director
- ☐ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

09 / 03 / 2026

Coordinator Overview

The focus on assisting with BETA training round 2 was very empowering and insightful. The continuation of training of club officers for round 2 and advising on the curriculum focus, scheduling, and ensuring that training sessions meet Toastmasters International standards. Ensuring consistency across all division training and streamline the planning process.

Highlights in your term of office.

Supporting PQD and division directors with their visions on training. Having 7/7 fully trained officers in the early stage of second round training. During the first round of training Division E Director officer training session was a hit with members incorporating a keynote speaker from an experience Toastmasters member and looking forward that it can be replicated during training season.

Milestones achieved in your term.

BETA Round 2 training, having been part of the training and conducting training on the new material. That was very empowering and insightful. To have been able to resolve trained officers dispute speedily. Collaboration with D129 TLI Chair resulted in supporting club officers and providing training opportunities.

Areas for development in the role

N/A

Overall Remarks

This has been a wonderful opportunity and learned a lot of planning. The biggest takeaway is to rely on others for support. Ask and you shall receive or be assisted. Looking forward to being a support to the new TLI Chair and sharing my learnings and areas of improvements.

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Coordinator Report *(May 2026 Council)*

District 74 | Southern Africa

Coordinator Role:

Youth Leadership Chair

Coordinator Name:

Gadifele Moeng

Purpose of the role:

Strategic Oversight: To provide a central point of contact and administrative oversight for the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) and Speechcraft initiatives.

Resource Sustainability: To develop and maintain a centralized, accessible library of documentation on Google Drive to ensure the program's continuity and ease of use.

Internal Advocacy: To raise awareness of the YLP among fellow Toastmasters and leadership, ensuring they have the information needed to support and grow the program.

Serving under:

- ☐ Program Quality Director
- ☒ Club Growth Director
- ☐ Public Relations Manager
- ☐ Finance Manager

Date Submitted:

DD MM YYYY

23 / 03 / 2026

Coordinator Overview

Inquiry Oversight: Acted as the primary point of contact for information regarding the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) initiatives.

Resource Management: Facilitated access to YLP documentation and forms via Google Drive to ensure they are available for any member to access.

Highlights in your term of office.

Community Advocacy: Had the valuable opportunity to share the benefits and structure of the Youth Leadership Program with fellow Toastmasters to increase internal awareness.

Knowledge Sharing: Engaged with the Toastmasters community to promote the program's potential impact on youth development.

Milestones achieved in your term.

Digital Infrastructure: Successfully compiled and organized a comprehensive set of documentation and resources on Google Drive for future youth leadership programs.

Inquiry Processing: Received and managed three initial inquiries/forms from Toastmasters interested in the program, even though the sessions have not yet officially commenced.

Areas for development in the role

Area Director Engagement: Focus on educating Area Directors about the YLP so they are better equipped to assist and guide members within their respective areas.

Program Conversion: Developing a strategy to move interested members from the inquiry stage to active program participation.

Direct Facilitation: Transitioning from providing administrative information to becoming more directly involved in the actual YLP sessions.

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Overall Remarks

By increasing awareness among fellow Toastmasters and focusing on Area Director training, the program is well-positioned for future growth

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