

## **PRESIDENT** The leader of True Blue Toastmasters

The **President** of True Blue Toastmasters is the CEO of the organization, having a level of authority that can inspire many members. The President directs the club's growth while ensuring that the club provides a mutually-supportive and positive learning experience for all members and guests.

### Preparation before the meeting

- Prepare any club announcements, updates, or remarks a few days before the meeting is to occur.
- Collaborate with the Vice President of Education (VPE) and decide whether an officer or an experienced member should give an "Educational Tidbit." Let that officer/member know ahead of time and what the Educational Tidbit topic is.
- Consult with the VPE who the **Toastmaste**r is for the meeting. Ask the Toastmaster to send a 2-5 sentence introduction of himself/herself two days before the meeting.

### During the meeting

- 1. Arrive early to ensure that the Sergeant-At-Arms has prepared the meeting room and to confirm that everything is running smoothly.
- 2. Please greet guests and ask for their names. Talk to other members as well. Ask members when they are speaking next to inspire them to sign up as a prepared speaker or as a functionary role.
- 3. When the meeting begins, the Sergeant-At-Arms will open by banging the gavel and make a few remarks about the theme. Then he/she will have everyone read aloud the "Mission of Toastmasters." The Sergeant-At-Arms will introduce you as the club President. Please shake the Sergeant-At-Arms' hand at the lectern and confidently take control of the meeting.
  - a. Remember to be upbeat and positive (even if you don't feel like it internally) because you are representing True Blue. Share a fun story or an amusing anecdote that will set the mood for the meeting.
- 4. Make any club remarks/updates/announcements at this time, or you can wait to give it during closing remarks. Ask guests to STAND UP and introduce themselves.
- 5. Introduce the **Toastmaster** with a prepared introduction, and shake the Toastmaster's hand at the lectern.

- 6. At the end of the meeting, the Toastmaster will return control to the President. Remember to shake hands at the lectern.
  - a. Please make any closing remarks and officially conclude the meeting by banging the gavel.
  - b. Remember that you are the last person/words that people remember. The first and last impressions of a meeting are important because they show subtle aspects of leadership.

#### After the meeting

• Reflect on how you did while giving the Presidential opening and closing remarks and implement any changes or improvements for next time.

More information about being President can be found <u>here</u>.

# Serving as President is an excellent way to practice your leadership skills as you guide the club to perform at its very best. Preparation is key to your success!