

# Every Club Can Be Distinguished

Many clubs, and especially club members, question why it is important to be Distinguished. There are a many reasons to be Distinguished, Select Distinguished or President's Distinguished. The Distinguished Club Program is a measure of a club's commitment to the Toastmasters educational and leadership program, and to its members. First, being Distinguished or better means your club is delivering the Toastmaster program to its members. When members achieve their educational goals, leadership goals, getting new members, and maintaining administrative responsibilities are crucial to a club's success.

Second, being Distinguished means your club is using the Toastmasters program to its best potential.

Getting to Distinguished, EASY! Here's how:

- If at least four (but shoot for all seven) officers go to training in the summer and winter - that's one goal.
- If one officer gets the membership list and dues in on time - that's two.
- If two members get their Competent Communicator award - you got three.
- If two members complete the Competent Leaders manual - you are up to four and five!

That is all it takes be a Distinguished club. The big question is "How are we doing with our membership goals?" Your club needs to have at least 20 members or a net gain of five, to qualify for Distinguished Club status. Here is how you get new members:

- If four of your officers or members recruit four new members - another goal is met.
- If four more members recruit four more new members - another goal is completed.

Every Toastmaster can be a member of a Distinguished club. We all pay our dues for a communication and leadership program. It is our responsibility as members and officers to focus on that program. Imagine what a club of 20 or more dedicated members can achieve.

## Go For it! Be Distinguished!

Compliments of Tim Swearingen, DTM, International Director Candidate, Region III  
[www.timswearingen.org](http://www.timswearingen.org)

