



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Governors  
Lt. Governors Education and Training  
Lt. Governors Marketing

**FROM:** Jon Greiner, DTM  
International President 2004-05

**SUBJECT:** Toastmasters International Bylaws proposed change to increase dues

During its February 2005 meeting, the Board of Directors decided that an increase to dues is necessary. This will require changes to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International, to be presented to the delegates for a vote at the 2005 Annual Business Meeting on August 26 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The Board of Directors recommend that votes are cast "FOR" this proposal.

The Board of Directors drafted the proposal to increase members' fees only after careful study and consideration. In the years since the last dues increase in 1992, the organization has enjoyed significant growth in new clubs, membership and sales from the supply catalog, our three main sources of revenue. In spite of this, the increasing costs of supplies, materials, labor and postage have outpaced our income growth.

As the current leaders of this organization, you, more than anyone, understand how our organization operates and the funds needed to provide services to members, clubs and districts, not to mention create and produce new and exciting programs that benefit all members. In addition, districts need more funds to better serve existing clubs and to build clubs so more people can receive the life-changing benefits of Toastmasters.

The last dues increase was almost 13 years ago. Through diligence, we have been able to postpone a dues increase until now. However, it is time to bring this matter forward to the membership for a vote....and we need your support and the support of the incoming district governor who will be carrying the proxies to the International Convention in Toronto to ensure the proposal is approved.

Districts have also gone almost 13 years without an increase in funds. A dues increase will provide additional funding for districts so they can better achieve the District Mission and the Toastmasters

***"Toastmasters: Changing Lives, One at a Time"***

International Mission within the district. If the dues increase proposal is passed, districts will continue to receive 25 percent of the increased membership dues collected by Toastmasters International.

Attached is a question and answer brochure on the dues increase. We hope this information will be helpful to you. As respected leaders of the organization, we are sure your opinion will be asked by district and club leaders. We want to ensure you have information that will help you in these discussions. The question and answer brochure is also included on the TI web site at [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org).

Over the next month, we will be sending out information to the membership about this very important matter. Proxies will be mailed on March 31 and will be accompanied with even more information. We are committed to providing as much information as possible to members so they can make an informed decision.

Should you or others have questions that are not answered in the brochure, please contact World Headquarters. Also, World Headquarters has a special e-mail address set up for dues increase questions at [duesincrease@toastmasters.org](mailto:duesincrease@toastmasters.org).

The Board of Directors needs and looks forward to your support of this bylaws change so that we can continue to provide quality services to our clubs and members.

cc: Board of Directors

***“Toastmasters: Changing Lives, One at a Time”***

P.O. Box 9052 • Mission Viejo, CA 92690-9052  
**Tel:** (949) 858-8255 • **Fax:** (949) 858-1207  
[www.Toastmasters.org](http://www.Toastmasters.org)