

Induction Ceremony for New Members

It is customary for the club president to induct new members. However, this important duty may be performed by any senior Toastmaster who can handle it with style. Other participants include the vice president education and the Toastmaster(s) assigned to serve as coach/mentor(s) for the new member(s) being inducted. This script is written for a ceremony in which two or more new members are being inducted. However, it can easily be adapted to an induction ceremony involving a single new member. The following materials are needed for the ceremony: a membership pin (catalog number 5751 or 5753) and a member certificate (513—included in the New Member Orientation Kit) for each new member.

Inducting Officer

“Fellow Toastmasters, it is now our duty and privilege to induct _____ new members into the _____ Toastmasters club. This is an important occasion, both for these new members and for our club. These individuals have come to Toastmasters seeking to improve their communication and leadership skills, and we now have an opportunity to help them learn, grow and achieve.

“I will now call our new members forward and ask them to join me at the lectern. Please withhold your applause until the ceremony is completed.”

Inducting officer calls each new member forward by name.

Inducting Officer

“_____, you are joining a worldwide organization that has helped nearly three million people learn to communicate more effectively. As members of the _____ Toastmasters club, you will benefit from a proven program of self-development. You will become part of an outstanding group of people who are dedicated to helping one another in a spirit of sharing and enjoyment.

“Mr. (Madam) vice president education, have these new members been given an opportunity to discuss their needs and goals with the clubs? Have they been told how the Toastmasters program works, and informed of the many benefits they will receive, as well as the obligations of membership?”

Vice President Education

“Yes, Mr. (Madam) president.”

Inducting Officer

“Who have been assigned as mentors for these new members?”

Vice President Education

Give names of mentors.

Inducting Officer

“Would these Toastmasters please stand? As experienced Toastmasters, you have been asked to help these new members get off to a good start. Do you accept this responsibility and pledge to share your knowledge and experience with our new members so that they can immediately begin to benefit from their Toastmasters membership?”

Mentors

Give affirmative response.

Inducting Officer (to new members)

“Membership in this club and in Toastmasters International is

a privilege that carries with it many rewards. Yet it also places certain obligations upon you. We are a group of people brought together to do things we could not accomplish alone. Our collective obligation is to grow and improve ourselves and to share our knowledge and experience with fellow members in a spirit of enjoyment. This means you must work diligently toward your own self-development... evaluate others' speeches in a spirit of support and sharing... assist the club in reaching its goals... remain positive... and keep a smile on your face.

“We ask you, our new members, to dedicate yourselves to personal growth, to share this great gift with your fellow members, and to help keep this Toastmasters club strong and dynamic.

“Please face your fellow members and affirm your membership by repeating the following words:

“I _____, IN THE PRESENCE OF MY FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE _____ TOASTMASTERS CLUB, MAKE THIS FIRM OBLIGATION... TO ATTEND MEETINGS REGULARLY AND PREPARE FULLY FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT... TO APPLY MYSELF TO THE PROGRAM OUTLINED IN THE TOASTMASTERS MANUALS... TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN CLUB ACTIVITIES... TO EVALUATE OTHERS IN A POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER... TO BUILD OPEN, FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIPS WITH MY FELLOW MEMBERS... AND TO BRING OTHER NEW MEMBERS INTO THE CLUB SO THAT THEY CAN ALSO GAIN THE BENEFITS OF TOASTMASTERS.”

“Would all club members please stand and repeat your club's pledge to its new members?”

“WE THE MEMBERS OF THE _____ TOASTMASTERS CLUB PLEDGE TO SUPPORT YOU IN YOUR QUEST FOR SELF-DEVELOPMENT... TO PROVIDE YOU WITH POSITIVE, HELPFUL EVALUATIONS... TO MAINTAIN A FRIENDLY, SUPPORTIVE ATMOSPHERE... TO GIVE YOU OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP OTHERS... AND TO MAKE YOUR TOASTMASTERS MEMBERSHIP A REWARDING AND FULFILLING EXPERIENCE.”

Inducting officer places a membership pin on each new member and hands each a Toastmasters membership certificate. Inducting officer leads applause, then asks new members to return to their seats.