

BUDAPEST TOASTMASTERS

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS
AND GUESTS

Fall / Winter Season
2011/12

ABOUT BUDAPEST TOASTMASTERS

Mission statement of Toastmasters International

Toastmasters offers a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop and practice communication and leadership skills, which in turn fosters self-confidence and personal growth.

What is the best way to find out about Toastmasters in Budapest?

By far the best way to find out about Toastmasters is by attending a meeting as a guest. In order to attend please check our Club locations and schedule at:

<http://www.budapesttoastmasters.org/locations.html>

What happens at a Toastmasters' meeting?

Each regular meeting follows a script established by Toastmasters International.

1. The *Toastmaster* introduces the meeting and the roles of *Grammarian*, *Timer*, *Ah-counter* and *Vote counter*. For explanation of these roles please see the glossary. The *Toastmaster* may start with a warm up question.
2. Then there are pre-assigned speeches given by members of the Club. Each *speaker* is introduced by an *evaluator*
3. There is a round of *table topics*.
4. The speeches are evaluated and the meeting is brought to a close.

What are table topics?

In table topics club members are asked to give an impromptu answer of 1.30 minutes to a question posed by the *Table Topics Master* on a single theme. Each question is different. Everyone has a chance to speak at least once during a meeting, though guests are allowed to pass when they first visit the Club.

How are speeches chosen?

New members work from the *Competent Communicator Manual*. This is a series of ten speech assignments prepared by Toastmasters International. The content of the speeches is not prescribed – each assignment focuses on a specific skill of speech-craft.

What is unique about Toastmasters?

Toastmasters provides a supportive environment in which you can focus on developing communication and leadership skills. After each assignment you receive friendly constructive feedback.

About our Club

Budapest Toastmasters is dedicated to the development of professional speaking standards and leadership skills in our city. We organize regular meetings, speech contests and social functions. We provide a forum for business and social networking. Budapest Toastmasters is a not-for-profit organization. We maintain our Club by charging members a membership fee every six months.

Our website

Our website is at <http://budapesttoastmasters.org/> .

You can also join our mailing list and receive regular bulletins at:

<http://eepurl.com/fPZc5>

Club is available also on Facebook and LinkedIn:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Budapest-Toastmasters/112819708732424>

http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=2004973&trk=anet_ug_hm

Meetings

Our meeting schedule is by-weekly at alternate times and locations

Monday evenings (even week) from 6.30 p.m. at Central European University, Frankel Leo u.

Tuesday mornings (odd week) from 7.30 a.m. at California Coffee Company Szent István tér

Thursday evening (odd week) from 6.30 p.m. at the ExxonMobil offices at Vaci-Petnehazy corner

Our website has maps and directions:

<http://www.budapesttoastmasters.org/locations.html>

Contact

Regarding joining & membership contact the VP Membership at:

VP-Membership@budapesttoastmasters.org

Glossary

Toastmaster	The Toastmaster is in charge of a meeting.
Table Topics master	This person provides witty questions on a theme.
Speaker Speakers	follow an assignment from one of the manuals.
Evaluator	This person provides warm and constructive appraisal of a speaker.
Grammarians	Notes grammatical errors and provides a word of the day.

Ah-counter	Provides feedback on awkward ums, ahs and pauses.
Timer	This person provides feedback on time-management.
Vote counter	There is a vote for best Table Topics speech.

JOINING BUDAPEST TOASTMASTERS

Joining our Club and Membership fees

You are welcome to visit our Club as a guest for three occasions. You participate as an observer or regular member, as you wish.

You may become a member by completing the *Membership form* provided by our VP Membership, or any one of the Club Officers.

The first-time membership fee is at total of 16.000 HUF comprising

- 12.000 HUF for membership of the Club for six months and membership of Toastmasters International
- 4.000 HUF for the new member Starter Kit. This contains the Competent Communicator and the Competent Leader Manual, without which you cannot have your speeches evaluated and your leadership progress recorded.

To find out more please contact VP Membership or talk to any of the Club Officers at a meeting(<http://www.budapesttoastmasters.org/club-officers--roles.html>).

Can I still attend even if I do not join as a Member?

Yes, you can continue to attend as an *Associate Member* of the Club even after completion of your three visits as a guest.

As an *Associate Member* you are charged 1000 HUF per meeting, payable at the meeting. You may give speeches and these will be evaluated, however, as you are not a member of the International Organization these cannot be accredited.