



Toast

The purpose of the toast is to honour a person or persons, an institution or, less commonly, an event. Make your toast timely and inspiring to give our meeting a sense of gravitas.

Speaking



Arrive by

5:50PM

Leadership



Speaking Time

1 min

Organization



Before the meeting

- *Prepare or look for a subject to toast*

During the meeting

- Stand up, come to the front and shake hands with the Chairperson.
- Introduction: Begin with an introductory sentence that lets the audience know this is a tribute or honour.
- Body: Mention a few reasons why you are toasting that person and what makes her worthy of a toast at this time. Do not mention the person's name yet so as to create some suspense.
- Invite the audience to hold their glasses and rise.
- Then mention the name of the person you are toasting.
- Finally, conclude by a short declaration to that person which members of the audience are expected to repeat after you, "To Santa Claus!" Keep your declaration down to 3 or 4 words so that audience can repeat it easily and in unison.

Important Note

- We should try to avoid proposing a toast to controversial persons or subjects because we are asking members to pay tribute to someone whose views they may strongly disagree with (and no one should be made uncomfortable in a Toastmasters meeting.)
- It normally lasts about 30 to 60 seconds and no more than one minute. As usual, the speaker begins by addressing the Chairperson and members of the Audience.



- *You'll find your delivery of the Toast much more effective when it is presented without notes. If needed, use a small cue card instead of a sheet of paper,*
- *Try practicing your toast in front of your mirror.*