

The Presidency is finally mine! All mine! My diabolical plan has succeeded! I have the gavel! I have the power! All shall do as I say! I will remake this club in my image!

The next week, my club meeting attendance count was 2. Me -- and my ego!

Welcome Toastmasters, guests, and fellow Club Presidents,

How many of you won a contested election to be Club President this term?

Congratulations on your victories. You now have less power! Who here inherited the Presidency by default because no one else wanted it? My condolences. You now have more responsibility!

Less Power!

More Responsibility!

What is leadership? It's an age-old question debated by philosophers throughout history. At the top of your handout, take a minute to write what **you believe leadership is.**

“Leadership is not about titles, positions or flowcharts. It is about one life influencing another.”

— [John C. Maxwell](#)

Toastmasters is a volunteer organization. As President you could issue edicts to other officers and members, If your subjects refuse to comply, what are you going to do? Bludgeon them with the gavel? Fire them?

Dock their pay?

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Toastmasters provides a program that is specifically designed for an individual leader tasked with leading a group in achieving a specific goal: the High Performance Leadership program. In that program, the leader learns how to:

- Set goals
- Impart a vision
- Make an action plan
- Delegate responsibility and authority
- Track progress to the plan

How do these apply to Club President?

- Goals are provided by the Distinguished Club Program: all 10!
- A vision is also provided by the DCP: Presidents Distinguished Club
- An action plan is provided by club manuals and club officer training
- Responsibilities and authority are divided amongst the club officers.
- Your Area Governor helps you track progress towards the plan and goals.

You are being TAUGHT the tools to be successful!

True leaders do not make people into followers, but into other leaders.”

— [John Holt](#)

You are now THE leader! You have big ideas for big changes! For example, as President of Lake Mary Toastmasters my big ideas are to take advantage of Google for Non-Profits and make frequent and effective use of social media and telecommunications. Let me tell you, I have some challenges. Some of the members think Facebook is a book full of photographs of people's faces!

It's now your turn to speak up. What are your big ideas? What big changes do you want to make? What do you hope to learn?

Great ideas! I bet everyone wrote those down. Now I have another question for you to answer: What if you fail? Will the club

suffer? Will your ego suffer? Or will you pick yourself back up, brush off the setback, consider where things went wrong, and try again?

Fellow officers

- Goals
 - Same as yours?
 - DCP?
- Motivations
 - Positive or negative?
 - Service or recognition?
- What will you do if they fail?

Story: Stepping in when necessary,
Treasurer vs. VP PR \Rightarrow LET THEM FAIL!
LET THEM LEARN!

Fun to Learn, Safe to Fail

- Support initiative
- Provide advice
- Offer to help
- Let them fail
- Give feedback
- Cover when necessary

“The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things.”

— [Ronald Reagan](#)

PUSH THEM. Drag them out of their comfort zone.

Secretary ⇒ alas, she ran away

Susan ⇒ hiding under desk to DTM Prez.

Dist. Club & Area

7 contestants in International Speech at the

club!!

A manager organizes, tracks, and coordinates.

A leader inspires, motivates, and **emotes**.

MLK - Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!

Reagan - We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for the journey and waved goodbye and 'slipped the surly bonds of earth' to 'touch the face of God.'

Churchill - If we fail, then the whole world, including the United States, including all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new Dark Age made more sinister, and perhaps more protracted,

by the lights of perverted science.

Patrick Henry - I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

What are your leadership strengths?

What are your leadership development needs?

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are an excellent leader.”

— [Dolly Parton](#)

What is your legacy?

This handout: It is your contract with yourself.

- Your philosophy
- Your goals
- Your plans
- Your contingencies
- Your legacy

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.”

— [William Arthur Ward](#)

Whether by choice or by necessity, you are now President. You have responsibility without authority, but your club members look to you for guidance and direction. From that platform, with planning,

organization, and coordination, you have the opportunity to motivate, to inspire, and to invigorate your club. Try new ideas! Attempt big changes! Grow as a leader, and grow your fellow officers as leaders. Show your fellow Toastmasters that it is okay to fail, that with failure comes growth, and that in your club the growth of each member is the ultimate goal.

The truth is, power really is about getting other people to do what you want.

It's easy to take power when you can make threats and apply force.

Power can be gained by rewards and gifts. True power is having neither force to apply nor gifts to offer and still convincing people that what they want is what you want.

If I convinced you today, then my diabolical

plan really has succeeded!