



WELCOME TO ROSTRUM CLUB 18

What is Rostrum? Rostrum consists of a number of clubs whose members meet to gain confidence and practice skills in public speaking and meeting procedure in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Most Members say that they enjoy hearing a variety of views and that they have made new, interesting friends in Rostrum and that they enjoy the fellowship.

There is an elected overarching body at State level, called **Dais**, on which all the Clubs are represented. The Presidents of the State bodies form the membership of the national committee which is called the **Australian Rostrum Council**.

How are the clubs run? Each club is slightly different. In Club 18 we meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, at the Metropolitan Hotel, Grote Street, in the City, at 6.00pm. We have a short Business Session in the first part of the meeting. Members take it in turns to be Chairman and Minute Secretary. Each activity, introducing guests, welcoming guests, reading the minutes etc, is treated as an exercise in public speaking. We also take part in various aspects of running a meeting including balloting for members, and conducting elections (Officers such as President, Programme Director and Treasurer are elected every 6 months).

In the second part of the meeting, after the meal, there are exercises for which Members are rostered by the Program Director. *Members may, if they wish, request particular exercises, such as speeches for special occasions; eg weddings and presentations, including power point. There is also a program of exercises a member may follow if he or she wishes, on completion of which, they may receive a certificate.*

At the end of each meeting the trained Coach (appointed each year by the Club from the membership of Rostrum) gives feedback and advice on how the members handled their various duties and exercises.

What is expected of visitors? Visitors are always very welcome and are not expected to speak. (though we do allow visitors to participate if they ask to do so.) Visitors may come as often as they wish. A visitor can apply to join the club after attending two meetings. A ballot is held (presenting the opportunity for an exercise on how to run a ballot) and the visitor is inducted at the following meeting.

What is expected of a new member? After consultation with the Programme Director the new member is asked to read a short piece, or to give a short speech on some aspect of their life or something that interests them. In time other exercises follow with help available from the more experienced members. As a member you are expected to apologise if unable to attend a meeting.

If new members wish, the President may appoint an experienced member to act as a mentor to assist them with advice before and during meetings. New members are also offered the opportunity of receiving up to six hours of private coaching from a very experienced member.

We hope you enjoy the meeting.

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