

The History of Rostrum Club 42

Rostrum Club 42, the City Sunrise Club, held its first meeting as a “Provisional Club” on 10th April 1986 in the Room with a View Restaurant at the Esplanade Hotel, Perth. Over twenty men attended the first meeting and that number grew in the succeeding weeks. After a probationary period in which the Probationary Club demonstrated it could maintain an average attendance of 20, it was elevated to full Club status on 4 September 1986 by the then National President of Rostrum, Freeman Harold Luxton. This meeting was attended by over 25 members, including State President of WA Rostrum, Freeman David Price who was one of the foundation members.

The Club celebrated its 1000th meeting on 18 June 2006 by holding a brunch meeting at the City West Function Centre to which a number of former members including several foundation members attended.

The Club has met in a number of venues in Perth over the years. After two years at the Room With A View, the club has moved successively to George’s on the Terrace in 1989, the Karrakatta Club in 1992, the Mount St Inn in 1994, Café David in 1997, Montana’s Bar and Grille in 1999 (which became Aaron’s Hotel in 2003), and most recently to the Anzac Club in 2008.

It is interesting that, in 1986 Rostrum was a men only organisation. The change to the constitution which admitted women to Rostrum was not made until 1987. This saw the gradual change of the club’s membership to include members of both genders.

Club 42 is very proud to still have two foundation members as active members. They are **Freeman David Carlson** and **Speaker Fred Uloth** who have also had life membership of the Club bestowed upon them. The two other life members are **Speaker Alan Dickson** and **Speaker Rob Gates**.

Rostrum clubs understand that many people join, stay for two or three years and then move on. The main contribution of Rostrum Clubs to the community is to give people the opportunity to develop their speaking skills and the ability to participate in and chair meetings.

Rostrum Club 42 has trained hundreds of men and women who have joined, learned and left. They then apply their skills in their employment and their community.

The Rostrum Promise

When a new member joins Club 42 or indeed any Rostrum Club he or she makes the Rostrum Promise which is:

I promise to submit myself to the discipline of this Rostrum Club, and to endeavour to advance its ideals and enrich its fellowship.

I will defend freedom of speech in the community, and will try at all times to think truly and speak clearly.

I promise not to be silent when I ought to speak.

The promise should act as a guiding principle for all Rostrum members as they proceed through life.

Club Management

The Club is run on a day to day basis by a small committee of five to eight members. Election for the positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Director and Committee Member(s) are held every six months. Membership and participation in the Club's management is in itself a training opportunity. The weekly program for club meetings is the responsibility of the Program Director. Each week the President introduces the Chairman for the day who chairs that week's meeting. This is a further training opportunity for members.

The Club Committee meets monthly to keep business of the club running and to plan ahead. Having a well run and keen and effective committee is essential if a club is to survive and grow. A club cannot succeed unless it has an active committee attending to a lot of the behind the scenes work.

Duties of Club Committee Members

President's Duties

- 1 The President is the figurehead of the club and has an overall watching brief to ensure the club functions well and the committee members are carrying out their duties.
- 2 The President chairs the first and last club meeting of his or her term of office and all committee meetings
- 3 He or she represents the club within Rostrum and at other functions or other clubs

- 4 He or she should demonstrate leadership by having an agenda or a strategy for the club for duration of the term

Secretary's Duties

Weekly Meetings

1. Time keep each week
2. Collect signed Agenda from each meeting.
3. Circulate Informer etc
4. Have spare copy of agenda in case Chairman forgets it
5. Circulate Visitors' book and Members' Activities book.
6. Have voting slips prepared as necessary
7. Ensure visitors' contact details are recorded.
8. Record any data (Impact of the Day) relevant to an award.

Committee

1. Issue agenda for Committee meetings before the meeting
2. Take Minutes at committee meetings and then prepare and distribute to committee members.
3. Organise food and drink roster.

New Members

1. Organise new members to sign application form and forward to Rostrum WA with cheque obtained from Treasurer.
2. Obtain contact details from new members.

Rostrum WA

1. Supply Syllabus information to Rostrum WA once a semester as instructed by Rostrum WA.

General

1. Collect trophies for end of year awards and organise engraving.
2. Obtain nominations for committee members each semester, notify club of nominees and organise date of elections.
3. Update members' contact list early each semester
4. Update list of joining dates for new members.
5. Keep all permanent records of the club.

Treasurer's Duties

- 1 Ideally arrive about 6.50 am so that most of the collection can occur before the meeting begins.
- 2 Collect weekly fees and bank as soon as possible. The fee includes a Raffle Ticket for each person present.

- 3 Collect new semester fees about 6 weeks before end of current semester. Submit return of member names when DAIS fees are paid each semester.
- 4 Run the weekly Raffle.
- 5 Pay **Anzac Club** for the breakfast by cheque each week.
- 6 Pay any accounts or other costs incurred by members (perhaps except absolutely minimal ones) by cheque to provide an audit trail.
- 7 Undertake a monthly account balance and reconcile to the Bank account. This should be presented in summary form verbally to the Club each month and in written form provided at each Committee meeting.
- 8 About 6 weeks before the end of the semester prepare a budget for the next semester in conjunction with other Committee members.
- 9 If the semester fee needs to be increased, this decision needs to be ratified at a meeting during Club Business.

Program Director's Duties

General

1. Publish the "Notice to Speak" at least a fortnight in advance of the speaking commitment.
2. Ensure that copies of the "Agenda" go to members by the Monday preceding the meeting.
3. Maintain records of speakers' activities completed
4. Keep updated records of PDP and IDP progress and advise the secretary when a certificate is completed.
5. Conduct the Speaker of the Year competition (second semester)
6. Conduct the Impromptu Speaker of the Year, Tall Stories competitions or any other competition that the committee approves.
7. Canvas members for their contributions to the list of topics for the syllabus each semester.
8. Include in the agenda whether a speaker is undergoing an activity as part of the PDP, IDP or ADP program.
9. If unable to attend a meeting, find out from the Chair if there were any alterations to the speaking program of the day and update the records.
10. At the end of the term of office
 - have the next three weeks programs prepared for the incoming Program Director
 - forward templates of "Notice to Speak" and "Agenda"
 - ensure all records are up-to-date
11. Ensure a new member or a recent inductee is quickly involved in the speaking program. The "Thumbnail Sketch" is seen as an ideal starter.
12. For members ensure that there are sufficient activities so that members have the opportunity to meet their personal goals and to allow them to progress through the development programs.

Speaker of the Year

1. Held in second semester (suggest over August – Sept)
2. Seed speakers and spread the top speakers over all the heats.
3. Leave some spaces in the final heats to allow for speakers who missed their scheduled heat.
4. Topics from the State S.O.Y competition are appropriate and could provide practice for any members who participate in that competition.

Most Improved Speaker

1. Notify members (mid Nov) to be prepared to vote.
2. All members vote, preferential voting used to select the top 3.
3. These names to be submitted to the Club's Life Members for final decision

Club 42 Standing Orders.

All Clubs in Western Australia operate under the constitution of WA Rostrum. In addition Clubs may determine some local rules known as Standing Orders which apply to that particular club only. The following are the Club 42 Standing Orders which can be amended from time to time as circumstances dictate.

1. The club is to be known as Rostrum City Breakfast Club No. 42
2. The toast "Advance Rostrum, Advance Australia" will be used at each meeting.
3. Normal club meetings are to commence promptly at 7:00am and finish at 8:15am on the date shown in the Rostrum syllabus.
4. Attendees will be levied a weekly meeting fee as determined by the Club from time to time.
5. Term membership will be set by the club's committee, and ratified by the club members at a normal meeting. Term fees will take into account W.A. Dais fees, Club running expenses and the cost of the critics' meals.
6. Membership fees will become due and payable as follows:
prior to 15th November for January-June term of following year and prior to 15th May for July-December term. Members who fail to pay by the due date will not have their name included in the following term's syllabus.
7. Members of other Rostrum Clubs shall have their membership reduced by the amount of the W.A. Dais Levy, if that levy is paid through the member's other Rostrum club.
8. Prospective members shall pay a nomination fee, to be set by the committee and ratified by the members. This fee will be the cost set by W.A. Dais for membership plus a club component. The nomination fee will be paid prior to formal readings taking place.
9. Matters and motions dealing with venue, meals, services and staffing shall not be raised or discussed during General Business.
10. Any member who is unable to attend a meeting to undertake a rostered activity should contact all members of the club advising of same and

- seeking another member to undertake the activity.
11. The **Advance 42 Award** will be awarded annually to the person who advances the cause of the club the most during that year. The President and Secretary of the club will determine the winner each year, and will be ineligible for this award during their terms of office.
 12. The **Most Improved Speaker Award** will be awarded annually. This award will be determined at the first meeting in December each year when all members will cast a first, second and third vote for the members they believe have shown the most improvement in speaking ability over the year, and a result determined by full preference count. The names of the top three members will be given to the Club's Life members who will make the final choice for the award.
 13. The **Club 42 Speaker of the Year Award** will be presented annually to the winner of the Club Speaking Competition which will be held over several weeks during the second semester each year.
 14. The **Club 42 Impromptu Speaker of the Year Award** will be presented annually to the winner of the Club Impromptu Speaking Competition which will be held over several weeks towards the end of semester two each year.
 15. The **Consistent Performance Award** will be awarded annually. The member receiving the most of the weekly "Impact of the Day" awards will be the winner.
 16. The committee will organize the engraving of the various shields once the awards are determined and arrange an awards presentation ceremony at a suitable time.
 17. Proposed alterations and/or additions to Standing Orders shall only be received by the Secretary in a Notice of Motion containing the signatures of the persons who proposed and seconded the motion.

These Standing Orders were last amended on 13 November 2008