

# WHAT TO EXPECT

## Toastmasters Fonske Leuven



Great! You just signed up to attend your first Toastmasters meeting as a guest. Here's a brief overview of what you can expect from the organization and from our club.

### Toastmasters International – [toastmasters.org](https://toastmasters.org)

- ▶ Established in California, USA, in October 1924.
- ▶ Mission: help people learn how to speak, conduct meetings, plan programs & work on committees.
- ▶ 358000 members in 143 countries spread throughout 16800+ clubs, 23 of which are in Belgium: in Brussels (13), Antwerp (2), Diegem (2), Evere, Ghent, Hasselt, Waterloo, Mons and Leuven.

### Toastmasters Fonske Leuven – [toastmasters.be/leuven](https://toastmasters.be/leuven)

- ▶ Bilingual club (Dutch-English), chartered on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.
- ▶ 40+ members total, new & experienced, ±25 members per meeting, 15+ nationalities.
- ▶ Meetings are every 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (and 5<sup>th</sup>) Thursday of the month, from 19:15-21:45.
- ▶ Meetings are usually at Café Tempo in Kessel-Lo – always check the [calendar](#).

### Meeting Structure & Roles

- ▶ Standard meeting structure:
  - Welcome & introductions
  - Speeches: 5 speakers deliver a speech according the curriculum (5-7 minutes each)
  - 15 minute break
  - Evaluations: 5 evaluators give feedback to the speakers (2-3 minutes each)
  - Table Topics: ±5 speakers give an impromptu speech (1-2 minutes each)
  - General evaluation of evening's proceedings, awards & announcements
- ▶ Club meeting roles:
  - Toastmaster of the Evening: the Master of Ceremonies, chooses a theme & hosts the evening, introduces all speakers.
  - Grammarians: helps the speakers improve their grammar and vocabulary.
  - Ah Counter: notes any overused words or filler sounds (so, like, ah, euhm, ...).
  - Timekeeper: responsible for monitoring the time of meeting segments and speakers.
  - Video Director: records speeches, evaluations & Table Topics.
  - Table Topics Master: delivers the Table Topics portion of the meeting, provides the inspiration for the impromptu speeches.
  - General Evaluator: evaluates everything that takes place during the club meeting (except the speeches).

We trust you'll find that our club is a positive environment with a very welcoming atmosphere and hope to see you there!