

Boyd Park Toastmasters Club

Speaking for fun in Brisbane, Australia

Club no. 1068212, Area 19, Metropolitan Division, District 69, Region 12



Speechcraft Q & A

What is Speechcraft?

Speechcraft courses are designed to quickly develop basic public speaking skills. They are given in small groups where all participants work on the same exercises.

Dates

Boyd Park offers an annual speechcraft course. For 2012 the course begins Monday 14th of May and runs every Monday for 7 weeks. Due to a long weekend on the 7th of May this night will not be on thus 6 weeks of quality teaching and learning. Start time is 7:15 for a 7:30pm start.

Cost

For the 6 week course the cost is \$100. This includes class materials and light refreshments. All Course leaders are well trained volunteers.

Who should do Speechcraft?

Speechcraft is intended for people wishing to quickly develop basic public speaking skills in a classroom environment. It is not recommended for very nervous beginners because the course is very intense and might seem a little confronting. Very nervous beginners progress better with regular Toastmasters training because the program is more flexible and can accommodate a more gradual start.

Speechcraft vs. Toastmasters Training

Speechcraft concentrates on basic public speaking skills and is designed to develop those skills very rapidly. It is given in a classroom situation, staffed with a number of experienced Toastmasters who present educational sessions, act as mentors and give positive feedback. The course is designed for a high level of interactivity and is more expensive than regular Toastmasters training.

Regular Toastmasters training is given in a club situation where all members work through the Toastmasters training program at their own pace. Typically there is a wide variety of skills and experience, ranging from beginners through to very experienced members who work on advanced programs. All members learn to support each other, regardless of their level of experience.

Speechcraft vs. commercially available courses

Speechcraft runs in short 2 hour sessions spread over many weeks whereas most commercially available courses run over an intense two or three days. We believe that the Speechcraft approach is much more effective because it gives participants time to assimilate the skills taught, reflect on them and then put them into practice. Impromptu speaking is a particular skill that is best developed over a longer period because there is time to reprogram the brain to think ahead while speaking.

Speechcraft is run by skilled volunteers and is much more affordable than commercial courses. There is no pressure to minimize contact hours for a particular monetary return.