Encouraging Members to Improve or Contribute

Members are highly encouraged to participate and provide feedback. Input from your local section members are vital in your local section success. Officers should be proactive in gaining member support. Refer to this article on [The Most Effective Techniques to Encourage Team Members to Contribute to a Project](#).

**Step 1: Encourage Ownership**
- Promote a sense of ownership
  - Members need to feel that their contribution is substantial
    - Success vs Failure
- Communicate openly with members
  - Do not withhold information
  - Allow members to have equal awareness of the project or task
- Allow for members to voice their ideas
  - Members can display their talents
    - Strengths and weaknesses can be observed

**Step 2: Allow Everyone the Chance to Speak**
- Assertive (Extroverts) vs. Passive (Introverts) Members
  - Assertive members voice their ideas
  - Passive members shy away from speaking
- Create a structure that allows for EVERYONE to speak
  - Refer to article on "Nine Ways to Support Introverts in Meetings"
  - Avoid criticizing other members ideas

**Step 3: Make Everyone A Leader**
- Use collaborative instead of hierarchal approaches
- Make sure every member has a leadership role
  - Refer to this article on “How to Encourage Your Employees to Take Leadership Roles”
  - If possible, assign personal responsibilities to each member based on their strengths and weaknesses.
**Step 4: Lead by Example**

- Set the example by being the model leader
  - Display the leadership qualities
    - Members will follow

- Contribute to all aspects of the project
  - Collaboration is key
  - All members should agree on the project

- Contribute new ideas and continuously innovate

- More Praise, Less Criticism
  - Commend members for their part in the project
  - Reduce the criticism

- Relax and have fun