

2013 MCCGA Proposals
June 29, 2013

BY LAWS

Create Policy Manual **PASSED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Create Article VIII in the By-laws as follows:

Article VIII. POLICY MANUAL

The MCCGA Policy Manual may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and Executive Council at any time or by the Membership at the annual membership meeting.

Rationale: Much of what we have as “rules” are really more akin to policies and procedures and should be categorized as such. This also allows the Board/Executive Council to make adjustments to these policies as needed without a full vote from the entire Membership. However, the Membership can still make changes at the annual meeting if needed.

2. Policy Manual **PASSED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Create a Policy Manual for MCCGA. [see attached Policy Manual]

Rationale: This Policy Manual takes existing rules and procedures from our rulebooks (Festival Procedures and Festival Host Application) along with other items that help to codify what we already do (travel, compensation, voting procedures...) to create a set of policies and procedures we can understand and follow. The goal is to make it clear how MCCGA operates as well as allow the Board and Executive Council some leeway to change minor “rules” to facilitate running the organization.

Circuit Governance **PASSED**

Submitted by Chad Schaedler, Executive Board Member

Proposal: Revoke the proposal passed at the 2012-2013 meeting that eliminated Articles IV., V., and VII. that is set to take effect in the 2014 season and keep the current Articles IV., V., and VII. in place. *(A copy of the current by-laws and articles can be found here:*

<http://mccga.org/forms.htm>)

Rationale: After sitting on this passed proposal for a year I believe that it is a mistake to implement such a large change of leadership and leadership structure. While it is always helpful to seek and learn from other organizations, what’s right for one is not always right for another. Change for the sake of change isn’t the way to progress and push an organization to new heights. I would like to revisit the rationale presented last year:

Point 1 - A Board of Directors of an organization the size of MCCGA should be a group of individuals that direct the Association and look towards the future of MCCGA.

Point 2 - Our current Board is tasked with too many day-to-day activities in running the Circuit to be able to focus on others tasks more important to the future of MCCGA.

Point 3 - This structure gives symmetry to the guard and percussion administration and frees up the Board members to handle the tasks a Board should handle.

Point 4 - The proposed structure allows for more specialization so that tasks are broken into more manageable pieces.

Point 5 – The proposed structure allows for more specialization so that tasks are broken into more manageable pieces. This also allows for those individuals that are investing large amounts of time to running the Circuit to be paid for their effort, like many other large Associations around the country.

Our current system in place covers all of the above points made for change. There seem to be 2 common themes, the future of MCCGA, and overworked individuals. The current individuals that are in place today functioning within the current structure do not feel overworked. I do not think a review of their performance presents overworked individuals. Nor have I heard of any complaints from directors that they are unresponsive or not able to fulfill any duty required. Therefore I believe this may be the perception or opinion of an individual made without consulting or talking with any board member that is fulfilling a role within the current system in place.

Looking towards the future is the job of everyone that is involved with MCCGA from the President to the first year director that makes up the advisory board. We are all here today to discuss change, reflect on the past season, and look forward to the future of the organization. It is the job of this body to decide together what we want and where we want to go. Again, I say the current system we have in place fulfills these points made. Together over the past few years we have migrated to a digital adjudication and tabulation system that delivers notifications to your phone. We have expanded our championship events to 3 facilities. Last season we had 2 performance venues on university campuses. Based on director request we re-worked and re-staffed our entire judging communities for both guard and percussion. All of this while bringing our organization financially out of the red and into the black. These are just a few of the things we did together under the current system. This advisory board brings forth new and fresh ideas and the current board puts those ideas into action.

When reviewing the new system I feel it promotes segregation and isn't conducive of collaboration. I believe it will divide the organization and complicate functionality which will slow progress and change if and when needed. There are too many elected individuals micro performing functions and allowing individuals to say "That isn't my area!"

The elected members will make decisions for the entire organization, however, under the new structure, the entire organization does not elect these individuals. (i.e. the Region Reps are voted on by the Region units).

I close with the famous phrase coined by Thomas Bertram Lance, Director of the Office of Management and Budget in President Jimmy Carter's 1977 administration, "If it ain't broke, don't try to fix it!" I don't feel that there is/was anything broken and the proposal passed last season is fixing anything. Most of us are directors and want to provide the best experience we can for our students and don't really care how it gets done. So if those that volunteer and have been elected by you to get it done don't want this...why do you?

Election Process **WITHDRAWN**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Insert new Article V (and renumber existing Articles) as follows:

V. *ANNUAL ELECTIONS*

A. Elections for members of the Board of Directors of MCCGA shall occur annually at the General Membership Meeting.

- 1. The Chairman shall be elected in even years by a secret ballot of the entire MCCGA Membership.*
- 2. The At-Large Director shall be elected in odd years by a secret ballot of the entire MCCGA Membership.*
- 3. The Springfield Director shall be elected in 2014 and every three years thereafter by a secret ballot of the Springfield Membership.*
- 4. The Kansas City Director shall be elected in 2015 and every three years thereafter by a secret ballot of the Kansas City Membership.*
- 5. The St. Louis Director shall be elected in 2016 and every three years thereafter by a secret ballot of the St. Louis Membership.*

B. Elections for the Executive Council shall occur annually at the General Membership Meeting and by vote of the Board of Directors following the General Membership Meeting.

- 1. The Percussion Coordinator shall be elected in even years by a secret ballot of the percussion Membership.*
- 2. The Color Guard Coordinator shall be elected in odd years by a secret ballot of the color guard Membership.*
- 3. The Color Guard Chief Judge shall be elected in even years by secret ballot of the entire Board of Directors within one week of the General Membership Meeting.*
- 4. The Percussion Judges Coordinator shall be elected in odd years by secret ballot of the entire Board of Directors within one week of the General Membership Meeting.*
- 5. The Education Director shall be elected in odd years by secret ballot of the entire Board of Directors within one week of the General Membership Meeting.*

- C. *Elections for the Guard Advisory Board and Percussion Advisory Board shall occur annually at the General Membership Meeting.*
1. *Two Color Guard Representatives shall be elected in even years by a secret ballot of the color guard Membership.*
 2. *One Color Guard Representative shall be elected in odd years by a secret ballot of the color guard Membership.*
 3. *Two Percussion Representatives shall be elected in odd years by a secret ballot of the color guard Membership.*
 4. *One Percussion Representative shall be elected in even years by a secret ballot of the color guard Membership.*
- D. *Elections for the Administrators of MCCGA shall occur annually by secret vote of the Board of Directors and Executive Board within two weeks of the General Membership Meeting.*

Rationale: This rule change creates the process and timing for the elections to occur under the new governance structure. Most of this was already understood from the proposal that passed last year, but this makes it clear and codifies the process

Filling vacant offices **WITHDRAWN**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, Odessa HS

Proposal: Insert new Article VI (and renumber existing Articles) as follows:

VI. VACANCY OF OFFICE

- A. *The following process shall be used to fill a vacancy of any office of the Board, Guard Coordinator, Percussion Coordinator, or Advisory Board Members.*
1. *In the case of a vacancy in the Board of Directors, the Advisory Boards shall elect an individual to finish the term of the office vacated.*
 2. *In the case of a vacancy of the Guard Coordinator, the Board of Directors and the Guard Advisory Board shall elect an individual to finish the term of the office.*
 3. *In the case of a vacancy of the Percussion Coordinator, the Board of Directors and the Percussion Advisory Board shall elect an individual to finish the term of the office.*
 4. *In the case of a vacancy in the Guard Advisory Board, the Board of Directors and the remaining Guard Advisory Board shall elect an individual to finish the term of the office.*
 5. *In the case of a vacancy in the Percussion Advisory Board, the Board of Directors and the remaining Percussion Advisory Board shall elect an individual to finish the term of the office.*
- B. *For any other vacancy, the same procedure used to elect an individual to the position will be used to fill the vacancy through the end of the term.*

Rationale: On occasion, individuals may leave service of MCCGA and their roles need to be filled appropriately. This new rule simply creates a process to fill that vacancy.

GUARD AND PERCUSSION RULEBOOKS

Festival Procedures- Maximum Number of entries **FAILED**

Submitted by: Duane Williams, MCCGA President

Proposal: Eliminate the maximum number of performances per day. The current rule states: No festival (excluding Championships) shall have more than forty (40) color guard performances in one day. This shall include all color guard performances prelims/finals festivals. If the festival is the only festival being held that day by MCCGA, then the maximum shall be sixty (60) color guard performances.

Rationale: Over past two seasons we have decreased the number of festivals per season, per region but our circuit continues to grow. The current rule may limit unit(s) from participating in a festival which could exclude them from eligibility to participate at circuit championships due to scheduling needs of the unit(s). The current statement also contradicts Section D under Festival procedures which states: The MCCGA Board reserves the right to limit the maximum number of entries to any festival to the number the Board feels the facility can adequately handle.

Early postmark available for meeting attendees **PASSED**

Submitted by Sonja Vogt, Odessa HS

Proposal: Insert Section II.C.2. in the Guard and Percussion Rule Books (and renumber existing sections) to read as follows:

2. *Units that are represented at the Annual Membership Meeting will be allowed to return (postmark) their entry forms one week earlier than units not present at the Meeting.*

Rationale: Attendance at the annual meeting is important and units that make the extra effort to be a part of the process in person should be given some benefit for that effort. This is not to penalize units that cant' attend, but to encourage units to be present at the meeting.

Revise Festival Host Fees **AMENDED AND FAILED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, Odessa HS

Proposal: Replace Sections C. and D. of the Guard and Percussion Rule Books Appendix – Festival Application and Procedures with the following:

Festival ~~and Championships~~ sponsors pay MCCGA a sponsorship/administration fee equal to the fees paid to the judges at that festival. A deposit of \$1,000 is due with the application to host a festival. The MCCGA Board reserves the right to limit the

maximum number of entries to any festival to the number the Board feels the facility can adequately handle.

Rationale: MCCGA is the 3rd most expensive circuit in the country to be a member of and the 4th cheapest for festival host fees. What this means is that the MCCGA Membership foots the bill for over 75% of the cost of a festival. I propose that festival hosts start paying a larger share of the cost of the festival from which they are profiting.

The model MCCGA uses is clearly not the norm. It is common for small circuits, as MCCGA once was. But large circuits use a model where festival hosts pay most or even all of the costs of the festival. Switching to that model will allow MCCGA to keep its membership dues reasonable (less than \$500) while still allowing for us to remain competitive in technology, judges, and administration.

If festival hosts pay a more appropriate amount, then it is possible that MCCGA could afford to provide tarps for festivals, a quality sound system for each festival, host Championships in larger venues, etc... Unfortunately, MCCGA does not have the financial reserves to be able to pay for these expenses; expenses every other circuit the size of MCCGA has had for years.

*Board and Executive Council creates festival calendar **WITHDRAWN***

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Revise Section B.1. to the Festival Application and Procedures Appendices to the Guard and Percussion Rule Books to replace "Full Board" with "Board of Directors and Executive Council."

Rationale: This is somewhat a semantics issue as we move forward with the new governance system. This proposal would involve many of the key players, including representation from each region of the circuit.

*Change yearly calendar to days instead of dates **AMENDED AND PASSED***

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Revise the Yearly Calendar in the Guard and Percussion Rule Books to read as follows:

October

1ST MONDAY OF OCTOBER- 1ST DAY TO ACCEPT EARLY POSTMARK FOR THOSE UNITS REPRESENTED AT ANNUAL MEETING

Second Monday of October – 1st day to accept Membership/Entry Form (earliest accepted postmark)

November

Second Monday of November – Deadline for membership fee discount

December

Second Monday of December – Deadline for membership registration

Last day of December – Deadline for Membership fee receipt

February

Varying – Deadline for guards to have first performance for Championships eligibility (See Rule V.B.1.)

Varying – Deadline to enter MCCGA Championships (4 weeks prior to Championships)

Last Friday of February – Scholarship and Volunteer of the Year Forms due

March

Varying – Deadline to enter MCCGA Championships (4 weeks prior to Championships)

Varying – Last weekend scores can be used for Championship seeding (one week prior to Championships)

Rationale: The calendar has to be updated every year to reflect that year's actual dates. Instead, if we have dates be based on days instead, it will be easier to predict year after year and saves us from having to revise it every year in the rule books.

*Remove definitions of Open and World Class **PASSED***

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Remove the definitions (other than time) of Open and World class from the Classification appendices in the Guard and Percussion Rulebooks.

Rationale: Units that sign up in these classes can look to the WGI manual for definitions and likely already know what these classes are all about.

*Festival Director appointments **WITHDRAWN***

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Change the process for appointing Festival Directors in the Festival Procedures appendices in the Guard and Percussion Rulebooks to the following:

Festival Directors are appointed by the Guard Coordinator [Percussion Coordinator in the Percussion Rulebook] with approval of the Guard Advisory Board [Percussion Advisory Board in the Percussion Rulebook]. Potential Festival Directors will be chosen from either current members of the Board of Directors, Executive Council, Administration or Advisory Boards or individuals who have had extensive experience and are capable of administering a festival. The MCCGA Representative serving as

Festival Director at a festival will be compensated on a scale as determined by the Board of Directors and Executive Council. When practical, the Festival Director will not have a unit at the festival.

Rationale: This change brings the selection of the Festival Directors in line with the new governance model put in place last year.

*Festival Entry Deadline **PASSED***

Submitted by: Duane Williams, MCCGA President

Proposal: Revise Article II-Entry Forms to read:

In order to guarantee space in festival lineups, each entry must be returned to MCCGA

1. With multiple entries on one form
2. On separate forms no later than December 15th, the deadline for MCCGA membership.
3. The signed entry form must be submitted with payment or Purchase Order. The entry is NOT valid until payment or P.O. is received.

Rationale: The current process is administratively cumbersome. This change will enable MCCGA to submit sanction requests to MSHSAA earlier and develop/publish schedules in a more timely fashion. This change would not affect the cancellation policy.

COLOR GUARD RULEBOOK

*Return to 2011 Regional classifications **FAILED***

Submitted by Chris Putnam, Odessa HS

Proposal: Revise the Guard Rulebook to return to Regional A, B, and C classifications and remove the Novice classification.

Rationale: The change to a single Regional A class with a Novice class led to festivals with huge numbers Regional A units and a confusing situation in the Novice class. At the 2012 Championships, the spread from top to bottom in the class was over 20 points in 2 of the 3 rounds (17.5 points in the 3rd round). This sort of spread really calls into question the competitiveness of the class. This past year at Championships, of the 27 Regional A units, 17 scored above 74 while 7 were below 70. The bottom 10 units had no chance to compete with groups scoring 5 or more points ahead of them all season.

The Novice Class requires judges to judge using criteria they will see only once or twice in a season and have not been trained on at all. With the WGI Regional A criteria, we are assured

that the judges are familiar with, and have used it, all season long. The application of an unfamiliar criteria leads to questionable scoring. And, in an activity where competition is an important motivator, having a class devoid of competition runs counter to our principles.

Change Novice and Middle School criteria **FAILED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Use the WGI Regional A Class criteria for the Novice and Middle School/Junior High classes, using the following breakdown for box scoring:

Box 1: 0-49

Box 2: 50-59

Box 3: 60-79

Box 4: 80-89

Box 5: 90-100

Rationale: Because the Novice Class criteria is MCCGA criteria, the judges never get training on it prior to judging the show that day. We have also eliminated the idea of competition by having judges simply indicate a word as their evaluation of a unit. By putting the WGI Regional A criteria in place, we give judges criteria they are trained to use and give the units a scoring metric to help them understand what the judges are seeing and where they can improve. Finally, by beginning the scoring of Box 2 at 50, we should see scores increased dramatically as a way of helping foster the interest of these beginning students.

Change Novice judging system **FAILED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Change the current judging system for the Novice class to the following:

3 judges: Individual Analysis (Movement and Equipment – 40%), Ensemble Analysis (20%), General Effect (40%)

Scoring -Box 1: 0-49 (Poor)

Box 2: 50-59 (Fair)

Box 3: 60-79 (Good)

Box 4: 80-89 (Excellent)

Box 5: 90-100 (Superior)

Rationale: The current system does not give scores to units, so there is very little information on what areas to improve upon. This proposed approach would bring the scoring process into line with how the unit will be scored in Regional A class (and beyond).

Eliminate Novice class from Championships **FAILED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Remove Novice Class from MCCGA Championships

Rationale: Given the primary purpose of Championships is to determine a Champion, the Novice Class does not belong in such an event. Without scoring, there is no way to determine a Champion and the class is truly just an exhibition event. Time at Championships is better spent with units that will be competing at the event and not just performing.

Amend Appendix A of the Color Guard Rulebook **WITHDRAWN**

Submitted by: Jackie Krasuski, Spintronix

Proposal: Change the Middle School/Junior High and Novice class descriptions in the Appendix A of the MCCGA Color Guard Rule book to state the following:

Guards with membership of students from the same school and guards with membership of students from multiple unassociated schools (independent guards) may enroll under this classification according to the age and/or grade level of their performing members:

Rationale: The description of the MCCGA Novice class explains that the class should consist of performers who are “youngest and/or being introduced to color guard.” So they may be nurtured and developed with the very beginning skills and qualities as their standard. By redirecting beginning independent groups to classify in the Novice class (or middle school/junior high based on age and/or grade level of the group), performers will have the ability to explore introductory skills and vocabulary while still remaining competitive by performing alongside groups of their own age and skill level.

This amendment will achieve MCCGA’s goal of discouraging “those who overwrite in an attempt to be competitive and whose excessive demand on the performers precludes their proper training and development” as such is often the case when students at the introductory level are placed in a position to compete outside of their ability. This would also negate the necessity of creating a separate Novice class for independent groups, where there may only be one guard per season that qualifies for classification into that category.

Appendix A, Classification within MCCGA, currently explains the allowances for placement into each class by age, skill level, and training of performers. Part 1, Middle School/Junior High class and Part 2, Novice class make no distinction that members of the guards in those classes must be students from the same school. However, independent guards have been discouraged

from entering those classes as they hold membership with students who attend multiple schools. This is inconsistent with the stated purpose of the aforementioned classes.

Currently, the lowest possible class for independent color guards is the Independent Regional A, a class in which guards ranging in age and skill level from beginner all the way through expert are directed to enroll for a minimum of the beginning of their first season. This pits students in high school and/or junior high aged-guards who may be in the preliminary stages of technique training against college-aged guards who could have been training for years in other areas (marching band, drum corps, etc) but are new to the MCCGA circuit, at least in the beginning of the season. This can result in low self-confidence and a sense of defeat among performers in the beginning guards, especially those belonging to organizations who might wish to start independent training guards at the junior high level.

Order of appearance at festivals **FAILED**

Submitted by Sonja Vogt, Odessa HS

Proposal: Change Section II.C. of the Color Guard Rule Book to read as follows:

Performance times for Festivals in the first three weeks of the season will be determined by class and postmark date of completed entry (entry form plus payment or purchase order) with the earliest postmark going last in the Class. Beginning with week four of the season, performance order will be determined by seeding score with the highest scoring unit going on last in the Class. If a unit has not performed in the class that season, order of performance will be by postmark date with those units performing in the middle of the class.

Rationale: The order of performance makes a huge difference in the contest dynamics and, thus, the scoring of the class. Units that are scoring higher should go on later in the class or round so the judges have a better opportunity to see units in competitive neighborhoods. This process will help scoring consistency during the season and lead to more accurate results in scoring between units.

Promotions at Championships **PASSED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, Odessa HS

Proposal: In Section IV.F.1.g. of the Color Guard Rule Book, eliminate "Circuit Championship Class Winners and" and update the reference to Review Scores.

Rationale: Section IV.F.1.a. already stipulates the class winners that should be promoted from one season to the next. This language in Section g actually conflicts with Section a.

Unit Review for Promotion **AMENDED AND PASSED**

Submitted by Bryan White, Francis Howell High School

Change wording to:

~~If a review score is achieved two consecutive times at two separate festival by a unit,~~ the Chief Judge (Chair of the Review Committee) will forward such information as deemed appropriate to the Steering Committee within 24 hours of the end of the festival so that those individuals may discuss and vote as to whether that unit should be promoted. Such grounds may include scoring that is inflated by “visiting” judges, contest dynamics, inexperienced judges or other reasons the Committee may deem rationally related to scoring being inaccurate at a particular festival or for a particular class in a particular festival. Deference is always given the judging panel for their scoring decisions; however the Review Committee may find reasonable grounds to allow a unit to retain its classification. ~~Only Steering committee members that are not associated with the class that the unit is currently in or the class the unit would be promoted to will be allowed to vote.~~

Rational:

With all of the out of town judges and the inconsistency of scores from week to week it seems that we need to have a more difficult review process. This past season, way to many units were promoted into classes that they were not ready and/or prepared for and it was evident at championships with their placements in the new classes. If a unit is promoted, they should still be competitive within their new classification.

The second part would to eliminate bias in the review process.

Change:

WEEKEND

	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10
Regional A	69	71	73	75	77	79	81	83	85
Scholastic C	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72
Scholastic B	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	82

Novice Class Novice Class units receiving a Gold Division rating will be reviewed by the Steering Committee for promotion

Rational:

I thought that the Regional A scores were fairly accurate for promotion, however, the Sch C and Sch B were not. I added 2 points to each weeks review score because it would allow only units that would be competitive in the next classification to be promoted.

Promotion limitation **AMENDED AND PASSED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, Odessa HS

Proposal: Section IV.I. of the Color Guard Rule Book will be changed to read as follows:

~~Each year, the review scores below will be updated to reflect the upcoming season and any changes the membership feels necessary. The review scores will be in effect at all MCGGA festivals and WGI Regionals beginning with the first week, through and including the sixth week of each season. If a unit has not participated in a festival by the sixth week, the first MCGGA festival the unit participates in after the sixth week is also subject to review. In the event of a discrepancy between this Section and Section IV. F. 3. a., Section IV. F. 3. a. will be controlling.~~

~~If a review score is achieved at a festival, the Color Guard Chief Judge (Chair of the Guard Advisory Board) will forward such information as deemed appropriate to the Guard Advisory Board within 24 hours of the end of the festival so that those individuals may discuss and vote as to whether that unit should be promoted. Such grounds may include scoring that is inflated by "visiting" judges, contest dynamics, inexperienced judges or other reasons the Advisory Board may deem rationally related to scoring being inaccurate at a particular festival or for a particular class in a particular festival. Deference is always given the judging panel for their scoring decisions; however the Advisory Board may find reasonable grounds to allow a unit to retain its classification.~~

~~Such vote must be returned to the Color Guard Chief Judge no later than the following Tuesday by 6:00 PM Central Time, unless the Color Guard Chief Judge determines an extension of time is needed. If an extension is needed, the Color Guard Chief Judge shall request permission for that extension from the Board of Directors. A simple majority is required to overturn a review if the unit is being reviewed for the first time that season in that class. If a unit is being reviewed a second time **in the same class**, a 2/3 vote is required to overturn a review. If a unit is being reviewed for a third time or more **in the same class**, a unanimous vote is needed to overturn the review. In the case of a tie, the review stands and the unit is moved to the proper classification.~~

~~The decision of the Advisory Board will be disseminated by the Color Guard Chief Judge to the unit at issue and the Advisory Board.~~

Rationale: Most changes to this section are to accommodate the new governance structure put in place this year. However, there is added language (in bold and underlined) to clarify that units being reviewed for promotion a second or third time in the same class need super majorities or unanimity to stay in the class.

Unit Review for Promotion **WITHDRAWN**

Submitted by: MCGGA Executive Board

Proposal: Revise the first paragraph of Section IV.I. of the Color Guard Rule Book to read:

Each year, the review scores below will be updated to reflect the upcoming season and any changes the membership feels necessary. The review scores will be in effect at all MCCGA festivals and WGI Regionals beginning with the first week, through and including the sixth week of each season. If a unit has not participated in a festival by the sixth week, the first MCCGA festival the unit participates in after the sixth week is also subject to review. In the event of a discrepancy between this Section and Section VI. H. 3. a., Section VI. H. 3. a. will be controlling. A unit may only be reviewed once during the season.

If a review score is achieved at a festival, the Chief Judge (Chair of the Review Committee) will forward such information as deemed appropriate to the Steering Committee within 24 hours of the end of the festival so that those individuals may discuss and vote as to whether that unit should be promoted. Such grounds may include scoring that is inflated by “visiting” judges, contest dynamics, inexperienced judges or other reasons the Committee may deem rationally related to scoring being inaccurate at a particular festival or for a particular class in a particular festival. Deference is always given the judging panel for their scoring decisions; however the Review Committee may find reasonable grounds to allow a unit to retain its classification.

Such vote must be returned to the Chair of the Review Committee no later than the following Tuesday by 6:00 PM Central Time, unless the Chair determines an extension of time is needed. If an extension is needed, the Chair shall request permission for that extension from the Executive Board. A simple majority is required to overturn a review if the unit is being reviewed for the first time that season in that class. If a unit is being reviewed a second time, a 2/3 vote is required to overturn a review. If a unit is being reviewed for a third time or more, a unanimous vote is needed to overturn the review. In the case of a tie, the review stands and the unit is moved to the proper classification.

The decision of the Review Committee will be disseminated by the Chair to the unit at issue, the Review Committee, and the Color Guard Advisory Board.

Rationale: Over the course of the past few seasons, units up for review have been promoted 95% of the time. Limiting the amount of times a unit can be promoted will enable the unit time to adjust to the new class/criteria.

Seeding score adjustment **PASSED**

Submitted by Chris Putnam, *Odessa HS*

Proposal: Change the Section V.C. of the Color Guard Rule Book to read as follows:

C. Championship Seeding

1. *The order of appearance at MCCGA Circuit Championships will be determined by averaging the two (2) most recent scores received by a unit at MCCGA Festivals or WGI Regionals. These scores will be “progressed” by adding 1.5 points per week before March 1 and 1 point per week thereafter. After progression, 70% of the highest score will be added to 30% of the second highest score to determine the total average score of the unit.*
2. *The two scores used for the seeding process must be a finals score (if a prelims/finals format is used) unless a unit does not perform in finals. In this case, the prelims number is used for seeding and promotion purposes.*
3. *Units will perform in championships in their seeding order with the highest scoring unit performing last in their class or round.*

Rationale: By using the most recent scores instead of just the highest scores, there should be less “craziness” going on in terms of these seeding scores. As we have seen historically, there is always a festival that results in scores being considerably higher than the rest of the season. These abnormalities in one weekend have the result of dramatically shifting the order of appearance at Championships. By the time most units are performing in their last events, scores have stabilized more and these scores are more relevant.

*Middle School/Junior High and Novice recaps **PASSED***

Submitted by Sonja Vogt, Odessa HS

Proposal: Replace Section O. of the Color Guard Rule Book Appendix – Festival Procedures with the following:

At all MCCGA events, scores will not be announced for any unit in the JH/MS or Novice classes. At Championships, only rankings will be announced for these classes. Recaps for all classes will be posted to a website where they may be viewed only by directors or staff of MCCGA units. Recaps for all classes other than Middle School/Junior High and Novice will be posted on a website available to the general public.

rationale: With the growth in technology, there is no reason to not post recaps for all shows where directors can see them. CompetitionSuite and the use of the forums are both ways we can easily post this information so we can see how all units are doing in the Circuit. Relative to the MS/JH class, there needs to be a way of seeing how scores are moving around the Circuit as we prepare for Championships.

