



RULE BOOKS, BY-LAWS AND POLICY MANUAL

Proposal 1. MEMBERSHIP FEES

Submitted by: Robert Gatewood, Modulation Z

Proposal: Schools/Independent Groups who have not fielded a group before or are at least two years removed from fielding a group will receive a discount off the full membership rate for their first two years. A 50% discount off the full rate (no discount for attending the meeting) for the first year and 25% discount off the full rate (no discount for attending the meeting) for the second year. Third year and beyond, groups will pay the full rate with the ability to earn the early registration discount by attending the yearly meeting. This discount will only apply to new groups for the 2019 season, and does not apply to scholastic groups starting an additional group.

Rationale: Money is a huge part of the activity, and the circuit can help new groups get started by slowly ramping up their costs to partake in festivals. This discount only applies for the first two years of the groups existence, so the financial hit to the circuit is less that a full entry fee.

Proposal 2: STAFF BADGES

Submitted by: Mike Davis, Freedom Percussion

Proposal: Increase the number of staff badges for entry into sows as an option to purchase.

Rationale: WGI offers the “plus passes” for groups that need more staff badges. This is an extra cost for groups who could use the extra badges. If voted in, this could be used as an option to groups that could use them. I know not everyone could use extra passes. This would also help in making sure groups with multiple staff members won’t have to find a way in or pay for a ticket to enter a show when they work for the ensemble. In the end, for some of us, 7 passes just aren’t enough.



Proposal 3. CHAMPIONSHIPS SEEDING

Submitted by: Brian Dutton, Bentonville High School

Proposal:

- 1.) The order of appearance at MCCGA Circuit Championships will be determined by the most recent score received by a unit at either a MCCGA festival or WGI Regional. This score will be “progressed” by adding 1.5 points per week, throughout the course of the regular season.
- 2.) The highest score obtained that weekend will be used for the seeding process. If the finals score is lower than the preliminary score, the preliminary score will be the unit’s seed score. If the unit does not advance to finals, their preliminary score will be used for the seeding process.
- 3.) If rounds are utilized, the highest scoring unit will perform in the final performing round with the next seeded unit placed in the previous performing round. Once a unit has been seeded into the first performing round of the class, the process repeats back at the final performing round and works its way back forward in time until all units are placed in a round. The example is based on three rounds of 27 units.

| Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 27, 24, 21, | 26, 23, 20, | 25, 22, 19, |
| 18, 15, 12 | 17, 14, 11 | 16, 13, 10 |
| 9, 6, 3 | 8, 5, 2 | 7, 4, 1 |

- 4.) Units will perform in championships in their seeding order with the highest scoring unit performing last in their class or round.

Rationale: This is the seeding process for WGI World Championships. Part 1 is different in that it eliminates the previous 70/30 split. This makes seeding based solely on the present, not the past. Part 2 is similar with adjusted dialogue concerning a lower finals score. Taking the highest score for the weekend, regardless of prelims or finals, was voted on and passed this past May at the WGI Advisory Board meeting. Part 3 may not have eliminated the “snake method,” but it does define the seed method used so there is no question. Again,



this is the method used at WGI World Championships. Lovely little diagram for those visual learners. Part 4 is unchanged.

Proposal 4: TERM LIMITS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

Submitted by: Robert Gatewood, Modulation Z

Proposal: The President and Vice President of the circuit may not hold office in the same position for more than two consecutive elected terms. Those currently holding office under this proposal would not be affected by this until their next election year (president in 2018, VP in 2019). Officials term-limited out of a position may run for additional office, or run for the same office after a two-year cooling-off period.

Rationale: Many people are interested in taking part in the operations in the circuit, however seeing those who are continuously re-elected to the same positions make those unwilling to step out and attempt to run for office. This proposal would allow those who are interested in potentially holding office to potentially be tutored under those who currently hold office, allowing mentoring to take place prior to elections and giving those interested the ability to judge whether or not they are best fit for the position. It also allows new people to assist in running our circuit, preventing the circuit from potentially becoming too complacent in operations.

Proposal 5: CHIEF PERCUSSION JUDGE

Submitted by: Derek Kelly, Gateway Percussion

Proposal: Revise the MCCGA By-laws Article IV Section B to create a new position on the board of directors entitled "Chief Percussion Judge"

- Vote on every two (2) years (sim to other board positions)
- Nominees must attend the Annual MCCGA Directors Meeting to present their goals and past experience
- The person in the position cannot adjudicate within the circuit during their term
- Person is responsible for acquiring and reserving percussion adjudicators at all MCCGA shows
- All adjudicators that are reserved adhere to MCCGA adjudicator qualification policies



Rationale: Currently the Chief Percussion Judge is a selected position by the board of directors. This proposal creates a position on the Board that is nominated/voted/elected by the attendees of the MCCGA annual meetings.

Current Chief Judge must balance color guard and percussion. Recently the percussion judging at MCCGA shows has become an issue, there has been a lack of quality adjudicators that attend all shows within the circuit. Without quality adjudication it is very difficult for groups that are wanting to educate themselves and grow on a national level

Proposal 6. CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT

Submitted by: Derek Kelly, Gateway Percussion

Part 1: MCCGA Percussion Championships to be a prelims/finals event

- i. Prelims performances would be arranged by class, and would be in random order
 - a. Prelims Scores posted after each class is completed
- ii. Finals would be arranged by class and would be in score order
 - a. The amount of groups that attend finals would depend on the amount of groups that participate in prelims. (MCCGA Chief judge to determine the appropriate amount of finalists)

Part 2: MCCGA percussion championships location to be determined at the Annual MCCGA Directors meeting.

1. Nominated sites are voted upon every two years at the Summer MCCGA Directors meeting
2. Sites must provide logistical proof and backup regarding their ability to host the percussion championships
3. The President of MCCGA and the Percussion/Winds Coordinator must tour the facility prior to the vote in order to confirm space and logistics

Rationale: the current MCCGA circuit does not allow prelims/finals at percussion championships this not give Adjudicators the best advantage when trying to rank each group off of a first read, the second view of each ensemble would allow for more comments and more feedback to the directors and members. For some groups the journey to championships involves and overnight trip, to make the trip worth more than a "1 and done" this would make



the overall trip to the championship site worth the money the members a putting into the season.

This change would also give championships the opportunity to easily expand into a 2 day event. Similar to most major WGI regionals and other championships events across the nation. Also this change may possible require Percussion championships be hosted at a different site or even a different weekend.

This may require revision of Article VII (*“Championships for all will be held one week prior to the WGI Color Guard World Championships. If such weekend is Easter weekend, then these Championships will take place two (2) weeks prior to the WGI Color Guard World Championship”*)

Part 2: With the large amount of groups attending championships there is an opportunity to assist in alleviating some of the congestion of having that many groups in a single area. If the percussion championships were moved to another site this would help many groups in finding hotels and rehearsal sites. Also if Part 1 is passed ths would help to ease some of the scheduling at the site i.e. not having to worry about hosting a color guard championship event prior to the percussion/winds event.

Could also mean that percussion championship are hosted on a different weekend than color guard championships. This is sim to most national circuits. As with part 1 this may require a change to Article VII.

Proposal 7: Percussion Judge Requirements

Submitted by: Derek Kelly, Gateway Percussion

Proposal: At minimum one (1) Adjudicator in any caption must attend circuit shows that is a WGI registered adjudicator. All other Adjudicators must have proof of adjudication training or equivalent experience that is to be evaluated by the Chief Judge. At minimum two (2) adjudicators attending MCCGA Percussion Championships must be WGI registered adjudicators. All other Adjudicators must have proof of adjudication training or equivalent experience that is to be evaluated by the Chief Judge



Rationale: This change will bring MCCGA percussion closer to the national standard of adjudication. Currently the percussion circuit within MCCGA is falling behind in education and competition on a national level. This can be due to the quality of percussion judging within the circuit has greatly decreased over the past few seasons. Without quality adjudication our design/education teams/members do not gain the knowledge they need in order to be competitive on a national level.

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COLOR GUARD RULE BOOK

Proposal 8. CADET CLASS AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Submitted by: Billy Saccomanno, Chief Judge

Proposal: Eliminate Cadet Class from Championships

Rationale: This class was changed to a non-competitive, rating system of adjudication. As the circuit continues to grow, our championship schedule grows with it and we are pressed for time in a day and judge availability. We could provide some type of “regional” championship at the final regular show in each region to celebrate these young performers.

Several years ago I was asked to assemble a 3rd judging panel to accommodate the circuit growth. This accommodation was only intended to be short term as we worked through different ways of restructuring championships. However, it has now become the norm for our circuit, and on a weekend where almost every circuit hosts championships it has been increasingly difficult to assemble a 3rd judging panel; especially judges that are not coming into the circuit on a “first read” situation.

Cost savings for the circuit, with flights, pay, hotel, etc. would be approximately \$6,400-\$7,000 per year.

Proposal 9. Cadet Class Adjudication at Championships

Submitted by: Billy Saccomanno, Chief Judge

Proposal: Rating/Evaluation at Circuit Championships to be completed by MCCGA instructional community assembled by the MCCGA Color Guard Education Director.

Rationale: This class was changed to a non-competitive, rating system of adjudication. The Cadet units are obtaining valuable judge feedback throughout the season to assist in their development throughout the season.



This change would eliminate the need for a 3rd judging panel for Championships. Cost savings for the circuit, with judge flights, pay, hotel etc. would be approximately \$6,400-\$7,000 per year.

Proposal 10. ADDITION OF SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL AA CLASS

Submitted by: Danielle Welch, Belleville East JV

Proposal:

- 1.Reinstate the Scholastic C class, renaming it Scholastic Regional A (SRA). Use the SRA sheet for judging.
2. Change the name of the Scholastic Regional A class to Scholastic Regional AA (SRAA). Use the SRA sheet for judging.
- 3.Specify the language of what is acceptable in the Scholastic Regional A class and Scholastic Regional AA class (SRA & SRAA).
- 4.Divide SRA class for the 2019 competition season as follows: 1) promote the 2018 first place winners in each of the five rounds of SRA to SAA, as set out in the current rules/guidelines; 2) promote any group who scored higher than an 86.500 in each of the five SRA rounds at the 2018 Championships to SAA; 3) leave anyone who scored between 86.500 and 78.000 in the SRA class at 2018 Championships in SRA; and, 4) place anyone scoring lower than a 78.000 in the SRA class at 2018 Championships in the newly created SRAA class. Any group placed by this creation, may move up a class, but may not move down unless they appeal pursuant to the appeal process set out in paragraph IV. Unit Classifications, Paragraph G., Subparagraph 2.

Rationale: We are seeing an overflow of groups in the SRA class. Some that need to be there, but some that are competing there because they are not quite ready to make the step to the Scholastic A class sheet (SA/SAA). There is a need for that “stepping stone” class for a number of reasons.

- 1) SRA class is just too large.
- 2) Some of the groups may have only a few members who are excelling, but the rest of their team is still at an elevated Regional A level, so the entire ensemble is not ready to make the jump to the next sheet, but their skill set is exceeding the SRA sheet.
- 3) Many shows in the SRA class are severely overwritten. We are seeing more and more world class skills in SRA shows. The class is meant as a training class for both the performers and for their directors.



4) Adding this additional class would give some of the groups who have been sitting in the middle of the SRA class a chance to rise to the top of the SRAA class by performing skills that are meant for this level. (Referred to attached sheet.)

5) Defining what is acceptable in this (these) class(es) would allow the class to go back to what it was meant to be, eliminate the overwriting and put performance groups in their proper competition class.

6) As for the promotion and/or placement of the groups currently in SRA, there were two groups who placed 2nd in their rounds, but scored higher than a 1st place group in a different round, and therefore, belong with the other groups being promoted to SAA after 2018 Championships. And, it does not seem fair to promote the top 3 medalists in each round because two of the 3rd place winner's scores were lower than a 4th and/or 5th place score from other rounds. Making the cut at 78.000 for the newly created SRAA class will make the two Scholastic Regional A/AA classes virtually even as to the number of groups in each class.

(REFER TO ATTACHMENT A AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT)

Proposal 11. COLOR GUARD REVIEW PROCESS FOR PROMOTION

Submitted by: Danielle Welch, Belleville East JV

Proposal: Change the language in Section IV. Unit Classification, Paragraph G., Subparagraph 1 c) to read as follows:

1. c) A guard that meets or exceeds the promotion score set out below will be reviewed by the MCCGA Steering Committee and may be promoted to the next higher class for the remainder of that Season.

| Class | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Week 8 | Week 9 |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Scholastic Regional AA | 64 | 66 | 68 | 70 | 72 | 74 | 76 | 78 | 80 |
| Scholastic Regional A | 60 | 62 | 64 | 66 | 68 | 70 | 72 | 74 | 76 |
| Scholastic AA | 64 | 66 | 68 | 70 | 72 | 74 | 76 | 78 | 80 |

Change the language in Section IV. Unit Classification, Paragraph G., Subparagraph 3 to read as follows:

2. Mid-Season Promotions will adhere to the promotion schedule set out in Section IV. Unit Classification, Paragraph G., Subparagraph 1 c) and the top 3 units (with the exception of A, Open, World) at each contest will be reviewed as well as all WGI Regional finalists. Additionally, all 1st place



units, including all WGI Regional finalists will continue to be reviewed until 2 weeks prior to MCCGA Championships.

Add the following paragraph 4 to Section IV. Unit Classification, Paragraph G.:

Any unit promoted either during Mid-Season or at Championships shall remain in the class they have been promoted into for at least two (2) seasons following their promotion, subject to their right to appeal as set out in paragraph IV. Unit Classifications, Paragraph G., Subparagraph 2 above.

Rationale: The judges on site at each festival are seeing the performances first hand and are more equipped to determine the abilities of the performance ensemble. The judges combined scores for any particular ensemble should carry a greater weight. That being said, there are groups/directors who are “playing the system” when it comes to performance/classifications in that they are clearly holding their performers back and once the review period is over, they are unleashing their group’s true capabilities.

Adding paragraph 4 would be keeping with the WGI Rules and adding this language would keep groups from returning to a lower class every other year just to be a medalist.

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PERCUSSION RULE BOOK

Proposal 12. Festival Attendance Qualification for Championships

Submitted by: Derek Kelly, Gateway Percussion

Proposal: Revise the percussion rule #5 section B to allow participation in WGI percussion regional that is hosted within the circuit to count toward the requirement of two (2) shows in order to attend MCCGA Percussion Championships.

Rationale: A WGI show has now been established itself within our circuit in order to grow participation in that show, groups should be allowed to count the WGI regionals hosted within the circuit as credit towards the circuit show requirement.

Currently the MCCGA requires participation at two (2) circuit shows in order to attend MCCGA championships, this has become harder to take into consideration when scheduling the season as there is a limited amount of quality MCCGA percussion shows during the season.

Some groups may find it financially difficult to attend the WGI regional because of the current requirement. They may not want to pay for the WGI regional, 2 MCCGA shows, and Championships. If we give groups the choice to attend either we can increase attendance at the WGI regional as a growth in education and competition to our circuit.

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ATTACHMENT A

| Round | Rank | Score |
|-------|------|--------|
| R5 | 1st | 92.700 |
| R4 | 1st | 90.340 |
| R1 | 1st | 89.800 |
| R2 | 1st | 88.540 |
| R4 | 2nd | 87.950 |
| R1 | 2nd | 87.950 |
| R3 | 1st | 86.580 |
| R5 | 2nd | 86.310 |
| R1 | 3rd | 85.510 |
| R2 | 2nd | 85.420 |
| R3 | 2nd | 84.740 |
| R2 | 3rd | 83.960 |
| R4 | 3rd | 83.650 |
| R4 | 4th | 82.890 |
| R3 | 3rd | 82.870 |
| R3 | 4th | 82.230 |
| R1 | 4th | 81.710 |
| R4 | 5th | 81.010 |
| R5 | 3rd | 80.140 |
| | | 79.780 |
| | | 79.660 |
| | | 79.300 |
| | | 79.110 |
| | | 78.240 |
| | | 78.050 |
| | | 77.860 |
| | | 77.650 |
| | | 77.460 |
| | | 77.310 |
| | | 76.950 |
| | | 76.950 |
| | | 76.740 |
| | | 76.490 |
| | | 76.340 |
| | | 75.750 |
| | | 75.520 |