



2024-25 MCCGA Proposals

Color Guard, Percussion/Winds Rulebooks

Proposal 1: Membership Fees **PASS 61 yes/4 No/0 Abstain/17 No response**

Submitted by: MCCGA Executive Board

Proposal: Revise I. Membership Levels to read:

- A. MCCGA Full Membership=\$650** (\$600 before the second Monday in November) Includes:
 1. Unlimited MCCGA festival attendance
 2. Voting privileges at General Meetings
 3. One WGI Adjudication manual
 4. All circuit mailings—email and postal mail
 5. An additional fee of \$75 will be assessed to attend MCCGA Championships
- B.** Non-member entrance fee is \$275 per show. Payment is due prior to festival.
- C.** All fees are due no later than the second Monday in December

Rationale: Membership fees have not increased in several years although the costs of running the circuit including but not limited to judge travel and hotel expenses, judges' fees, Competition Suite fees etc. have. The increase will help to offset the increase in our costs.

Proposal 2: Badges **FAIL 6 Yes/54 No/8 Abstain/14 No response**

Submitted by: Colton Hatfield, Fort Zumwalt South HS

Proposal: Allow units to be able to purchase one "STAFF" badge for the season that will function as a limited version of the "DIRECTOR" badges.

Rationale: Many groups in our circuit have multiple staff members. When these staff members take up a Volunteer pass, this takes it away from the dedicated friends, family members, & Bus Drivers who give their time to help performers, requiring at least one person to pay for entry when they would otherwise not have to do so. In many cases, these staff members are required by their

employment with a unit to attend contests, and should therefore not have to take up a volunteer wristband in the place of someone acting in a true volunteer role. This could also help Directors with multiple units by giving them another adult recognized as a Unit Representative by MCCGA who can be with a unit when the Director may not be able to.

Additional Info:

How it Works:

How to Obtain: When registering for the season, units that register as Full Members will have the option to select YES or NO to the option of purchasing a “STAFF” badge.

-> The cost of the badge will be added to the unit’s TOTAL on their registration invoice.

-> Only one (1) “STAFF” badge will be allowed per unit.

Appearance: To ensure “STAFF” badges are recognizable but are not confused with “DIRECTOR” badges, they will have a different design. They will be single-toned, in a color to be determined by the Board of Directors, with three main visual elements:

->The “MCCGA” Circuit logo at the top.

->“STAFF” in large, bolded font in the middle.

->Unit Name at the bottom.

Function & Limitations:

A “STAFF” badge **WILL** allow the holder:

-> Entry at any MCCGA contest including Circuit Championships.

A “STAFF” badge will **NOT** allow the holder:

-> To check a unit into any MCCGA event, including regular season festivals and Circuit Championships. Only the “DIRECTOR” badge may do this.

-> Entry to any WGI Events, including Regionals & World Championships.

-> Entry to Judges Critique without the presence of a “DIRECTOR” badge.

-> Any extra votes at the annual MCCGA Director’s Meeting. Regardless of the purchase of a “STAFF” badge, units will still only be allowed the standard one vote per unit on all rule proposals and elections.

Cost Determination: Given the “STAFF” badge allows access to all MCCGA festivals and Circuit Championships, and given that each Region, on average, hosts around to two to three festivals, the cost of this badge for a given year will be determined by the following formula:

[Cost of 1 Adult Admission to regular season festival x 3] + [Cost of 1 Adult Admission to Circuit Championships] + [Production fee of \$10 to cover printing, laminating, & postage]

Example (Based on 2024 Season): [$\$9 \times 3 = \27] + [$\$15$] + [$\10] = $\$52.00$

This formula ensures that any revenue lost from one less volunteer purchasing admittance to a festival or Championships is recouped by the cost of the badge.

Color Guard Rulebook

Proposal 3: Addition of Scholastic National A Class FAIL 9 Yes/51 No/4 Abstain/18 No response

Submitted by: Ashley Garoutte, Reeds Spring High School

Addition of Scholastic National A Class

Any unit competing in two or more WGI events in the Scholastic A class must compete in the Scholastic National A Class at MCCGA contests. WGI events include Regionals, World Championships and Virtual Events.

The Scholastic National A Class would be judged on the WGI A Class sheet, and have all the same timing and penalty rules imposed as other A-Class groups at MCCGA events.

Rationale:

Quoting the MCCGA Rulebook, specifically Section IV, Subsection C:

The MCCGA classification strategy has one main goal: Provide a consistent and fair grouping of units achieving a similar level while encouraging their future development.

And further, paragraph 2 of that same section:

Provide incentives for guards to move into the higher levels of classification.

The trend for MCCGA groups has not been following a progression of competing at higher levels of classification in accordance with the spirit of the rules of the organization. Since 2018, we've seen 53 groups compete in a higher classification than they did the previous year. However, the average group only stays in a higher classification for an average of 1.8 years before moving back down to a lower classification. During that same time, the circuit has also seen a 16.9% increase in the number of groups competing in Regional A or lower. This indicates that reclassifications and promotions are not providing enough incentive for guards to move into the higher levels of classification and stay there.

In the spirit of providing incentives for guards to move into the higher levels of classification, I propose a new Scholastic National A classification for those groups who compete on a national level. I believe this will provide a more consistent and fair grouping of units that are achieving at a similar level and at the same time leave room for local groups to grow into higher levels of competition.

An analysis of 40 circuits nationwide shows that adding this class will keep us in line with other circuits of similar size as well. Across the country, my analysis shows that on average, circuits have 2 Scholastic Regional A Classes and 2 Scholastic A classes, with 20% of circuits already offering a Scholastic National A Class.

Furthermore, 20% of circuits nationwide have 120+ Members – including MCCGA. Among this group, there is an average of 3 Regional A Classes and 3 Scholastic A Classes, with 50% of these circuits offering a Scholastic National A Class.

