

**Color Guard Advisory Board Meeting
May 19-20, 2017
Las Vegas, Nevada
PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION**



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Proposal #1

Return A Class Finals back to UD Arena on Friday night with the following provisions:

- **Friday Semi-finals ticket will now allow entry into the A Class Finals Friday evening at UD Arena (eliminate separate ticket for A Finals)**
- **Keep the same number of semi-finalists and finalists that is currently established**
- **Eliminate non-finalist tickets for both A & Open Class Finals.**

Submitted by Ron Nankervis, Executive Director

Rationale: By eliminating a separate ticket for A Class Finals on Friday evening, there is enough time to have the same number of A Class finalists as 2017. In past years, the arena would be cleared after World Semi-finals. Without having to pause to clear the arena, there is enough time on Friday to return A Class Finals at UD Arena without giving up the additional semi-finalists and finalists. The elimination of non-finalist tickets for A & Open Finals is an effort to increase attendance to those class finals.

Financial Impact: Reduction of income from A Finals tickets (public & non-finalist) as well as Open non-finalist tickets. However, expenses from creating second finals site at Nutter Center Saturday morning would be saved.

Proposal #2

World Championships A Class Structure Limit A Class entries to 120 participants. Preliminary seeding is based on the current model between three (3) sites, 40 units at each site, with a single panel of judges during the day on Thursday. Top 16 units at each site, total of 48 units, advance to Friday morning semifinals, held at a single location (i.e. Nutter Center). Seeding, again, utilizes current model based on preliminary score. Double panel of judges will be used for semi-finals. Top 20 scoring units in semi-finals advance to Friday evening Finals at UD arena. Double panel of judges utilized for finals competition.

Submitted by Brian Dutton, Bentonville HS

Rationale: The SA class has always been separated between two sites. Why not three? This model allows the judging panel to focus their numbers and spreads with a limited 40 units versus 64 like this past year. The seeding method still works with this model with the additional site. This still creates an equally balanced show at all three locations with less pressure on the judges to "get it right" since they can now concentrate on a smaller contest and manage their numbers over a smaller period of time. Seeding into semifinals from the three sites remains the same as this past year. 48 semifinalists with a double, if not a triple panel on Friday morning to narrow down the finalists. With a slightly smaller semifinals amount compared to last year, there is now time to finalize this contest and allow units to migrate over to UD Arena for Friday evening semifinals. This is the same layout as we see during the season at regional contests with two shows on the same day. Does 20 A Class finalists allow UD to be used Friday evening if SW and IW start earlier in the day? Does it need to go all the way back to 15 for time purposes?

Financial Impact: The cost of the third SA judging panel at the third site and possibly during the semifinals contest if three are used instead of two. With the smaller contests, other classes could utilize the same site before or after which should not require the addition of a new site based on the sites used this past season.

Proposal #3

Sell an all access finals ticket to units attending WGI World Championships. Ticket will give you access to A, Open, and World Class finals.

Submitted by Enrique Perez, FIU Winterguard

Rationale: With audience attendance lacking in the A and Open class, (especially A) Non-finalist units will be able to attend all finals shows and not have to choose between A, Open, and World. This may be a temporary solution to the very serious issue of A and Open class finalists not performing to an adequate audience. Will also be educational for non-finalists to watch the class they competed in.

Financial Impact: Not sure. The current price for a World class finals ticket for units is \$30. This could be raised by \$5 or \$10 to cover whatever loss there is for an A and Open class finals ticket. Might even be more profitable.

REGIONALS

Proposal #4

At regional events, A-class finalists will be half of the number from prelims, score based.

Submitted by Micheal Maselli, Spanish River HS

Rationale: With the classes escalating in skill levels, this could give more opportunity to "younger" groups to have a better chance at performing in a larger scale arena.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #5

Allow 100% of Open class guards who make minimum score, to compete in regional and Power regional finals.

Submitted by George Maloney, Brookfield Independent

Rationale: These are groups who are taking a chance by moving up a class. By moving to the Independent open class we also provide an opportunity for our loyal members to spin for a few more years. The scholastic groups are encouraging their students to compete on a higher level. They deserve to compete more than once at a regional.

Financial Impact: Zero. Maybe a few more minutes of time at most events.

Proposal #6

Eliminate critique at all regional events

Submitted by Ed Meckes, Warren Central High School

Rationale: Instructors are already receiving a critique within each judge's commentary file. The current critique structure does not allow enough time for judges and staff to engage in proper dialogue that offers any more than a repeat of what was already said on the commentary recordings. Furthermore, regional prelims schedules are very congested. Elimination of critique could afford performance opportunities for wait-listed units. If there is a commentary concern, then instructors could be permitted to submit a question or concern through their judge review/write-up that can be forwarded to the judge or caption manager for a response.

Financial Impact: Additional entry fee revenue by way of more performances

Proposal #7

No longer publish complete finals schedules for regionals, just publish general start times.

Submitted by Dale Powers, WGI Director of Color Guard

Rationale: This will allow for Finals times to be adjusted to allow for no shows and units not qualifying. On many occasions we have empty gaps in the finals schedule because we have to adhere to the published times. This allowance will not change any performance times more than 15-20 minutes but allow for a consistent flow to the show and allow for a later start or earlier end time depending on flights etc.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #8

Add to Policy Manual 4.17 Regional Contest - Entry Procedures Non-finalist tickets do not need to be purchased by schools that bring multiple units to a regional event where one unit advances to finals and the other unit(s) do not. (i.e. SO unit advances but SA unit is eliminated)

Submitted by Brian Dutton, Bentonville HS

Rationale: If a school is bringing multiple units to a regional contest there is the possibility of one of those units not advancing into finals competition. It is illogical for a director to keep one unit at the contest and take the other non-advancing unit home and try to get back in time for the other unit, especially if a lengthy drive is involved. As a community, we want the non-advancing unit to stay and support their sister unit. If this scenario plays out, a director is now forced to pay for finalist tickets for the non-advancing group so they can enter the contest to simply be a floor crew for their sister unit or watch from the back side, which is standard seating and does not take away from spectator seating. Many multiple unit schools use their JV as a Varsity floor crew and vice versa and now need a ticket just to help them on and off the floor. If a single unit group does not advance, they have the option to buy finals tickets or leave the contest. The multiple group schools do not get this option.

Financial Impact: Loss of non-finalist ticket revenue at contests only for multiple unit schools.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Proposal #9

The Color Guard Advisory Board shall be composed of one representative from each Independent World and Scholastic World finalists and the top five (5) finalists from all other classes of competition who are not automatically promoted for the following year at the preceding world championships for the term of year (1) year.

Submitted by Ron Nankervis, Executive Director

Rationale: The color guards automatically promoted into the next class due to their achievement at world championships are no longer in the class they represent on the current year's advisory board. In order to achieve true representation for the color guards who are eligible to compete in their respective classes for the following year, only those color guards who are not automatically promoted should represent those classes on the advisory board.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #10

The Color Guard Advisory Board shall be composed of one representative from each Independent World and Scholastic World finalist and the top five (5) finalists from all other classes of competition at the preceding world championships for the term of two (2) years.

Submitted by Larry Harper Jr, Legacy Independent pres. by Carolina Gold

Rationale: The role of the Advisory Board should be one that, although allowing for change, should give its focus to overarching issues, resisting the urge to be reactionary, and as a result, necessitates a more stable membership than happens when only one-year terms are served in the 'non-World' classes. Given that those placing in the top five of the A and Open classes are not likely to achieve 'top five' or 'World finalist' status in the first year of advancing to the higher class, we currently have a system that is set up to work against this notion of a stable Advisory Board membership.

Financial Impact: Financial impact is limited, given that it only affects the additional number of badges issued to Advisory Board Members.

Proposal #11

Provide groups that fall under the World Championships 400 Mile Rule with their seeding score and the full judging panel's commentary. The seeding score would be incorporated and published, along with all other Regionals scores, in the Color Guard Standings ranking located on the WGI website.

Submitted by Susan Segawa, Mililani High School

Rationale: Currently, all groups must attend a Regional contest if their hometown is within 400 miles of any Regional in order to compete at Championships. Groups beyond the 400-mile radius are required to submit a recording for classification purposes no later than March 15th, however are currently not provided with their seeding score nor judge's commentary. This disadvantages those groups who are unable to reasonably participate in a Regional due to their location since they are not provided with the same level of feedback as those groups that are able to attend a Regional. Providing the seeding score and the full judging panel's commentary to such groups would give them access to the same type of feedback that is currently being provided to all other groups and allow them to further develop and enhance their show. In addition, incorporating these groups into the Color Guard Standings would provide the most thorough seeding information to all groups competing at World Championships.

Financial Impact: Minimal financial impact, since all video recordings are already being viewed by a panel of judges for classification purposes.

Proposal #12

All color guards (including A class and Open Class) will be given the opportunity to submit a 140 character show description (including title) through Competition Suite. This description will then appear on the judges tablet for their personal reference. This also gives WGI the opportunity to display the description on the monitors at world championships to give the audience a clear view of each program.

Submitted by Arthur Juhl, CGT Fort Worth

Rationale: The color guard activity is expanding in creativity and complexity. Designers often face the dilemma of crafting a true artist vision, or a lesser version that is more clear from a judging perspective. If groups were allowed to offer a description on what is being presented, not only will creative be unrestricted, it will also offer judges the ability to clearly judge what they see, rather than them trying to figure out what they see. Often times a large portion of critique is spent clarifying an individual judges interpretation, over the true meaning of a program. This has been a frustration in the activity for quite sometime now, and can be easily remedied with modern technology.

Financial Impact: TBD by Competition Suite.

[Proposal #13](#)

Provide one circuit partner VIP badge to each circuit to be utilized at Regionals and World Championships.

Submitted by Brian Giddens, President-SAPA,

Rationale: One of the primary goals of our particular circuit is to have a strong national focus. While I'm sure that is the case with many of the other circuit partners, that means that we fully commit to promoting WGI through philosophy, policy, and education of our units. We encourage our units to attend regionals, and if possible, World Championships. Because of this level of commitment, we have experienced a steady increase in not only participation, but also the level of our units. With this kind of focus, the obvious follow through would be the support from the primary circuit administrator. This, obviously, comes at a great cost. With that in mind, WGI could offset this cost somewhat by recognizing each circuit by providing one VIP badge per circuit partner. It is the belief of this particular circuit administrator that this would go a long way and provide a great deal of relief to circuits that make it priority one to push units toward WGI level competition.

Financial Impact: Quite certainly, there would be some financial impact with regard to the badge vs income from ticket sales. However, it might be worth surveying circuit partners to determine how this might impact future participation on the part of those organizations. The quick data provided via the survey would better enable decision-makers to see not only that it is a worthy, logical investment, but how extensive as well. I'm quite hopeful that the Executive Board would see this for what it is on it's face, and that is a return on investment to the circuit partners.

[RULES](#)

[Proposal #14](#)

Lift the age limit for all independent winter guard classes.

Submitted by Sean Wimberley, Florida State Winter Guard

Rationale: Not everyone who is over the age of 23+ is at the World Class level. Lifting the age limit for all independent classes would help grow the activity. Also guards outside the US are not held to the age restrictions. This should be consistent across the board.

Financial Impact: This will increase the interest and participation in the activity, thus potentially increasing revenue.

[Proposal #15](#)

Lower the interval time for all classes Championship classes by 1 minute (does that include Regional A) A class interval will be reduced to 7 minutes, Open will be 8 minutes, World will be 9 minutes. Performance times will not change.

Submitted by Dale Powers, WGI Director of Color Guard

Rationale: This will allow us to start regionals later NOT add units. Right now units who perform at 8:30 or 9am have check in times just after 7am and that means rehearsal and travel begins at 5am or earlier. In addition, judges are at their worst when they start judging Open and World finals based on fatigue. This hour will allow staff and judges one additional hour to rest since many arrive between 10pm and midnight. The later start time will help them, the A class units, and not hurt the event partners by reducing the number of units.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #16

All props must be able to fit through a "double door" with the center bar removed at all WGI Regionals and World Championships.

Submitted by Rosie Queen, Carmel H.S.

Rationale: It seems like most WGI events already are making sure that double doors are available to all participants. Even a tarp that is not folded properly on a tarp cart would be difficult to push through a single door. The WGI Policy Manual and WGI Rule Book have 2 different standards. I am just trying to make them the same. Here are the current policies/rules... 4.14 Site Requirements Regional Events Doors with center bar removal or double doors for easy access and/or exit of equipment and carts (Six feet in width). (Page 35 of Policy Manual) 6.2 All props must be able to fit through a standard size (36") single door. No timing exceptions will be made for oversized props. Props will not be allowed in the competition area before the color guard's performance time. (Page 129 of the Rule Book) I am proposing that we change the "Rule book" to match the "Policy Manual"

Financial Impact: None known.

Proposal #17

Change rule 4.2.2 - to include simulated weapons (rifles)

Submitted by Dale Powers, WGI Director of Color Guard

Rationale: Use of simulated rifles is more commonplace as schools are requesting to their color guard to not use simulated rifles. We have seen increased use in the outside world recently on the Super Bowl and the TV show Glee. We should change the rule to allow the choice.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #18

Modify rule 4.3.1 to say: Color guards may manipulate their soundboard or any other device by using a remote-controlled wireless device through a self-supplied network. WGI will provide an area in the stands with a direct line of sight to the competition area for one designated staff member to adjust the mix or control any device using wireless technology. A & Open class devices must be battery operated as per rule 4.3.3. The soundboard / controlled device must remain in the competition area.

Submitted by Dale Powers, Director of Color Guard

Rationale: Just updating this rule to include devices and lighting to be controlled from the stands.

Financial Impact:

Proposal #19

Modify rule 5.6 to read: Competing color guards cannot be required to perform more than 30 minutes before or after the time set in the published contest schedule. The schedule will be finalized on the Monday preceding to the contest.

Submitted by Dale Powers, Director of Color Guard

Rationale: This will allow the office to adjust event schedules to allow for withdrawals in the weeks leading up to the event.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #20

Change the penalty for rule 6.3 so that the penalty aligns with rule 5.7, both which deal with delays.

Submitted by Dale Powers, Director of Color Guard

Rationale: 5.7 Any color guard unable to make their scheduled performance time will be rescheduled to perform during the next most logical performance slot in their class. Schedule adjustments will be made at the discretion of the Contest Administrator. PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) for each 3 seconds or fraction thereof for any timing violation 6.3 Any color guard creating a delay in the schedule will be subject to penalty. PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty for each class interval time of lateness or part thereof up to the conclusion of the class and/or contest

Financial Impact: None