

Hello All!

I hope this finds you all hitting your stride and working towards a successful back third of the season!

Last week's Webinar, "**Power Regional Prep**" is now on the Educational Player! It was a long one, but the conversations with **Andy Toth and Beverly Brahan** were both helpful and insightful. There were some really good questions answered too! The documents and slides used that night are posted on the Articles Page!

Many of you are getting ready for **Power Regionals**. Here is a quick list of reminders!

- When you go in to do the sound-check, (YES, you ARE going to do a sound-check!) try to have your performers in there with you. This way they hear the sound, look at the gym and the audience, and check out the lights for tosses. This will eliminate a bit of "discovery" upon entering and gives them a sense of familiarity as they walk in to perform.
- Make sure you have someone at the sound table! 5 times this season, a penalty has been issued for overtime, because the staff member was in the stands and not at the sound table.
- Have that back-up device ready for any problems with music
- You control the focus of your group at all times! Be careful of the well-intended derailment that can come from your support team! Do not let your success be sabotaged!
- Make sure your soloists are bulletproof! If they cannot be a superstar (9 out of 10 times in a show setting), take the toss down a rotation. Confidence is key!
- It's time to do strategic editing for any poor percentage events. You must deliver more solid proofs of achievement and less 'evidence' of hopeful success. Your pride as a choreographer is in your ability to create compatibility. The writing doesn't count if its not delivered!
- Detail your setting! This is your floor and the equipment around the floor. If we have to see the equipment, make sure it is minimized and blending in as much as possible. Fold those flags or tuck them! If they can passively contribute to the static design, ...'All the better!
- Equipment Changes should be choreographed by now! No squatting unless it is only for an instant. (You can still shape it though). This speaks to your ability to detail and to stick within your own choreographic aesthetic.
- You constructed your program by linking phrases and connecting ideas. Now is the time to make sure your seams are covered! No exposed process! We should not see moments of awkward stillness, re-sets, or defaulting to common carry positions as you connect ideas. Cover your compositional seams
- Any functional re-sets for tosses are a window into poor crafting.

- World and Open-Detail your carry and starting positions- Tuck/ Slam/ flat/cradle all represent the extent of your creative choreographic opinion. Is that ok for you?
- Any additions at this point should be strategic. What will set you apart? Get those 'style points' that 85% of your competitors are ignoring. (This is true in all classes) Style can be a deal-breaker!
- World and Open-Detail you individual events! If they're holding at port or flat and then waiting to dip for a toss, you are missing a connection! At the very least, face them back and let them face front on the dip or decorate the holding position. Or better yet, a simple 4-count prep would make the connection better. Remember where they fall in the hierarchy of events as they prep. Then, after their solo moment, all eyes are still on them. They must show us where to look next or actively fade away! We don't just stop looking at them because they caught! Quite the opposite! This is another seam!
- Critique is your time! Have a plan and be strategic. Don't get derailed by emotion! This is your time to educate the judge and state your case for Championships! Let them know you want to be "Class President!"

I'm Excited for All of You!
Be Brilliant!
Karl