

**Color Guard Advisory Board Meeting  
 June 9-10, 2023  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION**



**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Proposal #1**

**Amend 4.8 Qualification for World Championship to add: "Groups competing in Independent World and Independent Open must achieve the regional minimum qualifying scores."**

*Submitted by Rosie Queen, Arcadia HS*

**Rationale:** The WGI policy manual lists a chart for qualifying scores for Open & World class groups at a regional and explains that "this is to assure that a minimum level of quality and achievement exists for finals competition" this "minimum level of quality and achievement" should also be true for our World Championships.

With the demand for groups to attend World Championships and the potential for wait-listing groups for these precious time slots, it is important that we are mindful of the quality of groups attending. This year the CG division did have a wait list going into World Championships but eventually were able to accommodate all groups because some had pulled out.

I think this is a point worthy of discussion and also realize it could make things challenging for groups that have to plan travel months ahead of time and might not make a qualifying score mid-season.

Currently the WGI policy manual states:

4.8 Qualification for World Championship: All groups must attend a Regional Contest if their hometown is within 400 miles of any Regional to be eligible to enter World Championships. This requirement will be waived for any ensembles outside North America or any Winds group that conflicts with a school district concert/festival. Groups beyond a 400-mile radius of any Regional or those outside North America must submit a video recording for classification purposes no later than March 15. The Director of Color Guard, Director of Percussion, or Director of Winds will have final approval of any exemption to this policy.

Groups beyond a 400-mile radius must have all required paperwork on file by March 31.

AND

"A minimum score must be reached for all Open and World Class guards to qualify for finals competition at a regional. The purpose of this directive is twofold. It will address the issue of those guards who elect to compete in a class where historically most or all participants are assured advancement to finals regardless of show completion or quality. With many regional contests experiencing an increased number of entries, this will assure that a minimum level of quality and achievement exists for finals competition. The following scale only applies to the Open and World Classes.

	Feb 4-5	Feb 11-12	Feb 18-19	Feb 25-26	Mar 4-5	Mar 11-12	Mar 18-19	Mar 25-26
Qualifying Score	49.5	51.0	52.5	54.0	55.5	57.0	58.5	60.0

**Financial Impact:** Loss of registration fees for those groups not qualifying.

## ADJUDICATION

### Proposal #2

**Eliminate, revise, or affirm the 70/130 weighted "Emphasis on Achievement" for the A Class in both Individual Analysis Captions.**

*Submitted by Color Guard Steering Committee*

**Rationale:** This proposal is a placeholder to ensure a conversation is possible for the incoming A & Open Caucus.

Because this population changes frequently, every other year we give the A/Open caucus the opportunity to decide if the 70/130 practice has outlived its use, needs an update in the percentages, or is fine as is.

If the A & Open Caucus decides no changes are needed, we will withdraw this proposal in the General Meeting.

**Financial Impact:** None

## CLASSIFICATION

### Proposal #3

**Initial reclassification reviews would be done by the Color Guard Education Director, The Director of Color Guard, and the Color Guard Chief Judge. If there is a unanimous decision to reclassify by the three administrators, it would immediately go to the five instructors for review.**

**If three of the five instructors vote to reclassify, then the group is reclassified. There would be no further appeals since the process includes a secondary review.**

**All other current policies regarding the review process would remain. The Director of Color Guard will be the administrator of the review process.**

*Submitted by Randy Nelson, UCF Pegasus*

**Rationale:** This offers a more thorough, multi layered process. It puts the elected instructors in the secondary review rather than the primary review. While it doesn't necessarily make it harder to get reclassified, the process is more thorough. A group would need 6 out of 8 votes to get reclassified which represents a 75% agreement between both review groups.

**Financial Impact:** None

### Proposal #4

**Change 9.1.1 in the Policy Manual to "Appeals will be reviewed by a committee of three individuals not on the original committee, consisting of the Director of Color Guard, Chief Judge and an Adjudication Caption Manager. If the Director of Color Guard broke a tie in the original decision, a second Adjudication Caption Manager will replace the Director of Color Guard.**

*Submitted by Randy Nelson, UCF Pegasus*

**Rationale:** The CEO of WGI should not be distracted from the day to day operations of the organization to participate in reclassification appeals.

**Financial Impact:** None

## Proposal #5

**Any unit attending World Championship that will only be attending one WGI Regional may submit a video for reclassification review prior to attending the Regional. If the review results in a reclassification, the unit must compete in the new class at the upcoming Regional. Video submission must be of a recent performance within two weeks of the anticipated Regional. They would be placed first in prelims within their new classification. This would not apply to teams not attending WGI World Championships.**

*Submitted by Randy Nelson, UCF Pegasus*

**Rationale:** Eliminates having teams attend World Championships to compete in a class they have never competed in and preserves the current seeding process. This was offered to Week 7 teams in 2023 and I feel it should be offered to all teams in 2024 who only compete in one WGI Regional prior to attending WGI World Championships.

**Financial Impact:** None

## Proposal #6

**The top two (2) Scholastic and Independent A Class and the first place Scholastic and Independent Open Class color guards will automatically be reviewed at every Regional.**

**Additionally, any color guards in either of the following circumstances will also be reviewed:**

- any group within .5 of the lowest automatic review score
- or, any group with four (4) higher sub caption scores than the lowest automatic review sub caption scores

**Additional color guards may be reviewed based on the recommendation of the Acting Lead Judge, Chief Judge, Director of Color Guard, or Color Guard Education Coordinator.**

*Submitted by Tim Mikan, Fantasia*

**Rationale:** In addition to the automatic reviews, this rule would add mechanisms in place to help avoid color guards from being overlooked, especially when the differences between groups are deemed 'insignificant'. These additional mechanisms are only to suggest a review, not a reclassification itself. This proposal still leaves that delineation to the steering committee, or whichever review system is in place.

There is certainly wiggle room on the .5 spread, but it seems to be a reasonable starting point as it's the median range of 'insignificant differences'. Additionally, caption specific rankings seems like something that should be taken into consideration.

I'm open to amending the parameters of this rule.

**Financial Impact:** None

## Proposal #7

**Independent multi team organizations will be allowed to repeat a class under the same name after promotion if 95% of the promoted membership does not participate.**

*Submitted by Katie Pacifico, Edge Independent*

**Rationale:** Independent organizations need the opportunity to maintain and enhance the spirit of inclusion, personal development and community of all performers seeking to participate at every level. This allows upward growth inside an organization and not just the singular team of classification.

COMPLIANCE - WGI currently requires all participants to turn in liability waivers. The parent organization will

identify any performer who performed the previous year. Rosters from two consecutive years may be compared for accuracy.

**Financial Impact:** None

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

### **Proposal #8**

**This is a proposal to amend Section 1.23 of the Policy Manual regarding membership on the Color Guard Steering Committee.**

**The Color Guard Steering Committee will consist of 5 Color Guard instructors elected by the CAB and 2 adjudicators assigned by the Color Guard Chief Judge.**

**Instructors and adjudicators will serve two-year terms. Instructor terms will be staggered for continuity.**

**The Steering Committee will be chaired by the Color Guard Education Director.**

**Elected instructors will be voting members and will vote on all issues before the Steering Committee.**

**Appointed Adjudicator Members will be limited to philosophical discussions regarding the adjudication system and discussions relating to general adjudication and will be non-voting.**

**The Color Guard Chief Judge and Director of Color Guard will serve as members in advisory roles for all aspects of the committee and will be non-voting.**

**Color Guard Instructors and Adjudicators must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by the WGI Board of Directors.**

*Submitted by Randy Nelson, UCF Pegasus*

**Rationale:** Background: From the very beginning WGI had judge representatives involved in its structure, governance, and rule-making functions. This is evidenced by the minutes from the first official meeting conducted in 1977 which were recently published in a story on the WGI website. <https://wgi.org/happy-birthday-wgi/> Those minutes reflected that a judge representative was initially part of the first Steering Committee. Later, when those functions were modified into the WGI Color Guard Task Force, that body was made up of instructor representatives, an Education Director, Chief Judge and between two to four judge representatives at various times. When the transition was made from the Task Force to the Steering Committee the group continued to have judge representatives included for several years.

Under the current structure we have two Color Guard Captions Specialists who assist the Chief Judge to coordinate and implement adjudication activities. See Section 1.6 of the Policy Manual. Those Caption Specialists are not a part of the Steering Committee, do not take part in any meetings with the Steering Committee and therefore do not have access to the conversations and specific discussions which they are tasked to later implement. The Steering Committee and the activity could benefit from this change in the following ways:

Having judge representatives present would allow more effective and efficient communication between the Steering Committee instructors, Education Coordinator, Chief Judge, and the panel of working judges.

Having these representatives be part of this Committee would give the Committee the benefit of the knowledge, experience and perspective of working judges who are also responsible for the function of judges within the captions they supervise.

The Steering Committee could benefit in its discussions of philosophy and scoring by the knowledge and

experience of these working judges.

Including judge representatives on the Steering Committee would give a voice to our roster of judges. The judges for WGI, in all divisions, should be recognized as one of the strengths and assets of the organization. This change would go a long way in developing community between the instructors and the adjudication team. It would give them a voice to make a positive contribution to the continued growth of the Color Guard Division

**Financial Impact:** None

## **RULES**

### **Proposal #9**

**Change the maximum number of performers from 40 to 50.**

*Submitted by Michael Lentz, Onyx*

**Rationale:** More options

**Financial Impact:** None

### **Proposal #10**

**To allow all classes the use of plug in power during a performance. Expansion of rule that currently states plug in power in Reg A, A and Open can only be used for amplification purposes.**

*Submitted by Scott Snell, Shenendehowa HS*

**Rationale:** The world class has had access to this option for several years and it has been a smooth transition. It would make sense to now allow all other classes this option. This expands opportunities for design teams to explore enhancements to their shows.

**Financial Impact:** None