

**Winds Advisory Board Meeting
June 7-8, 2024
Las Vegas, Nevada
PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION**



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Proposal #1

Starting in 2025, I propose that WSA and WIA, should they have 6 units or more each, be provided a Semi-Finals performance at Truist Arena on Saturday evening.

The top 5 units from WSA and WIA, whether from Prelims (if less than 6 registered) or Semi-Finals (if 6 or more are registered) would advance to WWC Finals on Sunday. If exactly 6 groups are registered in a class, only 4 would advance (since it is WGI tradition to never eliminate only one unit).

This reduces the number of A Class units in Finals to a maximum of 10, opening up more space for Open and World class groups to advance.

From a judging standpoint, this would necessitate an increase to four panels. Panels “A” and “B” would evaluate A class units only. They would adjudicate A Class Prelims, Semi-Finals, and Finals. Panels “C” and “D” would evaluate Open and World Class units in Prelims and Finals.

Once we outgrow this model, A Class Prelims would be moved to Friday at an alternate location (even a large local high school gym). Saturday at Truist would consist of Open / World Prelims and A Class Semi-Finals (plus WSA / WIA Prelims if a class has 5 or less units registered).

At some point through massive growth, there would still be “one and done” units...but at that point, we will have evolved past our infancy.

Submitted by Stephen Alia, Submitted by the WGI Winds Steering Committee

Rationale: Currently, the Director of Winds makes annual decisions about how many units from each competitive class advance from Winds World Championships Prelims to Finals in order to stay within the time constraints of the UD Arena for Sunday Finals. This results in a number of groups traveling to Dayton for only one performance. This proposal opens the opportunity for all groups to have at least two performances at Winds World Championships.

Between 2019, 2022, and 2023, 17 units were eliminated from Winds World Championships competition after Prelims. Of those, only 4 (23%) chose to return to Winds World Championships in a future season. In 2024, 10 units were eliminated...I’m concerned about them coming back, as well. Reducing the number of units that we eliminate after only one performance provides a motivation for more groups to make the trip to Dayton.

A side benefit of this is that, due to smaller regionals that are evaluated by WGI Percussion judges, our WGI Winds judges get limited performance reads during any given season. This proposal increases the number of individual performances that would occur, and therefore be evaluated, by WGI Winds judges at WWC.

Here’s how that could have worked out in 2024:

In 2024, WWC Prelims started at 9:00AM and ended at 5:57PM at Truist Arena. WWC Finals started at 9:00AM and ended at 3:41PM at the UD Arena.

WSA Semi-Finals could have begun at 7:00PM. All 15 units could have performed between 7:00PM and 9:30PM (they performed between 9:00AM and 11:30AM in Prelims, so this doubles the 2.5 hour show length). WIA would

not have had a Semi-Finals, because there were only 4 units registered for the class.

With only 9 A Class groups in this imaginary 2024 Finals, there would have been more than enough time for the 4 eliminated Open groups to advance.

Every single unit would have performed at least twice. 5 WSA units would have performed three times.

Financial Impact: An additional panel of judges for WWC and additional hours at Truist Arena. In the longer term, a need for a WWC site for Friday for A Class Prelims.

Proposal #2

Ensure that the top 5 finishers in each winds class advance from prelims to finals.

Submitted by Justin Foell,

Rationale: This would be to line up with WGI's bylaws regarding advisory boards as the top 5 finalists are invited to the advisory board.

Financial Impact: No financial impact, however there would be a logistical impact. It might mean a unit from a different class would be eliminated from prelims to finals to accommodate the top 5 of every class.

Proposal #3

At World Championships, when there are 3 full panels, the Finals panels should include one panel that saw the class in prelims and another panel that is getting a fresh view.

Submitted by Chris Wing, Greenfield Central HS

Rationale: This process will address a couple of things that I feel are important to our continued growth.

First, it will allow all groups to get feedback from every judge at championships. While this new feedback won't be applicable to the current season, it can help drive improvements and growth in the design and planning into the next season. Having that many opinions and thoughts can only be a positive for our groups and instructors.

Second, it will still allow a second read that enables an adjudicator to dig deeper into the productions and give more in depth commentary as they know where and what to look/listen for.

Financial Impact: None

REGIONALS

Proposal #4

At events that have full winds panels, utilize two effect judges, split into Visual Effect and Music Effect. These judges will continue to use the sheets we have, with judges only. At events that do not have full winds panels, maintain the current status of one effect judge, judging the Overall Effect caption as currently exists.

Submitted by Chris Wing, Greenfield Central HS

Rationale: As our groups become more prolific and improve the depth of design, asking someone to actively speak to all aspects of the performance is challenging. Splitting this into 2 people will allow the feedback received to be more impactful, help with the continued growth of the performance quality, and, in turn, help to continue to draw more people into the activity.

This proposal also includes language that will allow us to keep the sheets as currently constructed. When we have enough groups to allow two effect judges, they will use the current sheets and focus their commentary and assessment on either visual or music. Then, at events where only one effect judge is utilized, the sheet remains consistent.

Financial Impact: At the events that are large enough to have full winds panels, the increase would be the cost of one additional judge. This year, that would have been at 6 Regional events and World Championships.

ADJUDICATION

Proposal #5

In the Winds A Classes only, change the weighting of Composition and Achievement in the Music Analysis and Visual Analysis captions to provide greater emphasis on Achievement. Instead of both being credited equally, 35% would go to Composition and 65% would go to Achievement. This effort is intended to credit the compatibility of the written content with the training program of the performers and not reward overwriting of content. The adjudicator would still provide a 100/100 scoring profile as they're used to, but formulas in tabulation will adjust the weighting of each subcaption.

This mirrors the successful effort in the A and Regional A classes in the Color Guard division with IAE and IAM. (70/130)

Overall Effect would continue to be evaluated with Repertoire Effectiveness and Communication Effectiveness provided equal weight for all Classes.

3.1 The elements in Winds to be judged are:

- 3.1.1 Music Analysis = Thirty percent (30%), one judge**
 - Composition = Fifteen percent (15%) [for A Classes, Ten and a half percent (10.5%)]**
 - Achievement = Fifteen percent (15%) [for A Classes, Nineteen and a half percent (19.5%)]**
- 3.1.2 Visual Analysis = Thirty percent (30%), one judge**
 - Composition = Fifteen percent (15%) [for A Classes, Ten and a half percent (10.5%)]**
 - Achievement = Fifteen percent (15%) [for A Classes, Nineteen and a half percent (19.5%)]**

Submitted by Stephen Alia, Submitted by the WGI Winds Steering Committee

Rationale: Content from a composition standpoint seems to be one of the roadblocks to new groups coming to WGI (especially in WSA). By reducing the need to overwrite, the A class should become less about difficulty and more about playing, marching, and performing well through an increased emphasis on compatibility.

Financial Impact: None

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Proposal #6

A Winds unit entering their very first WGI Winds Regional event would have their registration fee for the event waived. This would apply only to units that have never, in the history of the WGI Winds division, participated as a competing unit at any WGI Regional or World Championships contest. Only the

registration fee would be waived. All other expenses related to attendance and participation would be the responsibility of the unit.

Submitted by Stephen Alia, Submitted by the WGI Winds Steering Committee

Rationale: In order to grow the WGI Winds activity, opening Regional contest participation to new units is essential. This provides them with exposure to other WGI Winds units, exceptional adjudication by WGI Winds judges, and the member experience that is second-to-none. Waiving the entry fee for their very first WGI Winds Regional would remove a perceived financial barrier to their participation.

A side benefit is larger enrollment in WGI Winds Regionals, allowing WGI Winds judges to have a greater exposure to more performances, and for Winds groups to have more Regionals adjudicated by WGI Winds judges.

Financial Impact: A loss of entry fees from Regionals, hopefully outweighed by more units at future events.

Proposal #7

Rewrite 8.4.1 (from Policy Manual) – All groups that registers within the first 14 days of the registration window opening will be placed into a random draw for performance order at Regional events. Any groups registering after the 14 days have elapsed will be placed at the top of the performance schedule, with the earliest postmark going last. Winds groups sharing the same postmark after the first 14 days will be randomly drawn within groups with the same postmark.

Submitted by Chris Wing, Greenfield Central High School

Rationale: Most groups will register on the first day the window opens. But, a group that enters on day 2, for a multitude of reasons, shouldn't be punished in regional performance order. We know that some events will be full on day one, and this proposal doesn't change that reality. There is no financial rationale for forcing first day registration, nor should there be a competitive disadvantage for registering on day 2.

The rationale for 14 days is the 7 day early registration for groups attending World Championships. This would allow 14 days for those groups and 7 days for groups only attending Regional events.

This year's registration opened on Monday, September 25th. That would have made the cutoff date for the draw on Monday, October 9th.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal #8

Amend WGI-Policy Manual section 3.0, subsection 3.14(Voting) to add:

- **All proposals must pass with a three-fourths (75%) majority of the Advisory Board.**

Submitted by Wesley Pendergrass, Vaquero Independent World Winds

Rationale: This proposal ensures proposals that pass are overwhelmingly considered to be in the best interest of the division by the administering body. It will also serve to help grow the division by preventing controversial proposals from passing, which are typically proposals that divide opinions on activities/philosophies/strategies, rather than unite. If passed, this amendment can easily be re-examined at a later date when the division transitions from a growth strategy to an innovation strategy.

Financial Impact: None.

RULES

Proposal #9

Change the minimum performance times to 3:00 for A Class, 3:30 for Open Class, and 4:00 for World Class.

Submitted by Steve Aylward, Miamisburg High School

Rationale: This mirrors the change the Percussion Advisory Board put into effect last year. Interval times and maximum performance times are currently scaled by class, minimum performance time should be as well. We are currently asking our most developing ensembles to have a higher percentage of their show on early in the season to avoid a timing penalty. This would also be especially beneficial to groups performing at our Circuit Partner events that use WGI timing rules but tend to run shows before WGI regionals begin.

Financial Impact: None; if anything, it might encourage more participation at early season regionals.

Proposal #10

We should be striving to make entry into our activity as easy as possible for new units. Reducing the minimum performance time for A Class to 3 minutes from the current 4 minutes means that units are able to dedicate less resources in our entry-level class.

In addition, changing the minimum performance time for Open Class to 3.5 minutes from the current 4 minutes means that A class units reclassified into Open Class would have less significant changes to their program to meet their new minimum time.

5.1 Winds groups will be timed to compete at intervals according to class.

**Change A Class Minimum Performance Time to 3 Minutes
Change Open Class Minimum Performance Time to 3.5 Minutes.**

Submitted by Stephen Alia, Submitted by the WGI Winds Steering Committee

Rationale: Reducing the minimum performance time makes A Class entry achievable with less resources, therefore allowing more groups to enter. Changing the Open Class minimum performance time makes it more achievable for units that are reclassified from A Class to Open Class.

Financial Impact: None