

WGI Caption Meetings - Key Takeaways 2025

Being Authentic

- You are enough!
- Bring your uniqueness to the teams.
- Do your studying ahead of the contests and then you can have a dialogue with the teams and channel the criteria through your files.
- Look for the unique elements in each team and what they are doing that gets the most points and where they could improve to potentially attain more points.

Class Standards

- Read the score sheet, top line expectations, and also the rule book, for class standards.
- The emphasis of compatibility (on every score sheet) is to ensure training supports the designer choices and that appropriate safety considerations are in place for completing all skills presented.
- Completion of skills speaks to the designer choices matching the compatibility of the performers with the show elements.

Box Thirds - Paradigms

- For the top third of Box 4, the teams will meet “all of the criteria all of the time.” This means that scores may be lower than in previous years during the early season shows and ahead of world championships.
- Be authentic and if you “don’t see” proof of all points of comparison, say it.

World Commentary

- There was a video sent on this topic with some strategies shared with you.
- Trust yourself and your view and your experience and your understanding of what virtuosic means.
- Consider your tone of voice and approach as a critic for the World teams.
- Remember that asking questions about sections and points of comparison could be very helpful.

World Class Expectations

- Independent World Class guards demonstrate virtuosic and standard-setting qualities in repertoire and performance. Sophisticated challenges emphasize the physical and mental capabilities of these more mature performers. (from the top of the score sheet)
- This expectation applies throughout Box 4 and virtuosity is a hallmark of the World Classes.
- Engagement and creating interest is expected in all of the classes but especially the World Classes.
- We ask that all judges consider their breadth of experience and look for true application of the class standards at the higher ends of the criteria for the World Classes.

Diversity of Captions and Judges

- It is built into the system that each caption focuses on the performance of the day through its own lens.
- Strengths and vulnerabilities should be seen through variations in the subsections of each sheet and between the captions (if appropriate).
- We encourage you to apply your unique skills and background to your judging and how you reward the teams. You are the only one in your “seat” viewing and crediting that performance from that vantage point.
- Especially in General Effect, variations in rankings may occur. This is expected rather than seeing “pretty recaps.”

Karl Educational Videos

- You received four videos from Karl via email - let your caption manager know if you can’t access them.
- We recommend you watch these videos one at a time each week to best absorb them.

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- There will be three videos coming from your caption managers along with an accompanying document for review. If you take time to process and incorporate prior to the season, we think that will help you integrate and apply the information.
- Additionally, these will be valuable references for review at any time.