

Board of Directors: Kendra Whelchel - Circuit Director, Tammy Hobson - Director of Training, Peggy Sparks - Director of Finance, Shauna Hodges - Administrative Director, Phaidra Reed - Contest Director

Unit Representatives Present (allowed a vote):

Michael Malewit - Mesa Ridge, Cori Martin - Sabin MS, Liz Haan - Mysterium, Jeff Hargis - Bear Creek, Jenn Carrasco - Pomona, Darcie Gudger - Evergreen, Jim Zimmerman - Windsor, Anthony Mondragon - Air Academy, Mark Keating - Cherry Creek, Katie Cox - Green Mountain, Devin Greenlee - Broomfield, Danniell Isaac - Wheat Ridge, Kenny Bailey - Arapahoe, Rob Billings - Opus X, Russ Carroll - Legend, Katelyn Kellogg - Arvada West, Kristina Minton - Sand Creek, Jonette Dukart - Palmer, Kelsey Hullinger - Loveland JV, Katie Manhart - Erwin MS, Greg Humphrey - Loveland, Justin Sparks - Fairview, Angela Furlano - Highlands Ranch, Stephanie Totman - Dakota Ridge, Vince Hodges - Solstice, Aaron Moss - Anesidora, Melissa Abraham - Pisteuo

Proxy Votes:

Phaidra Reed for Malachi
McKayla Dolan for Lakewood
Katie Manhart for Erwin
Kelsey Hullinger for Loveland JV
Tim Lester for Solstice RA
Deb Villyard for Archetype
Lyndsey Martin for Doherty
Scot McGiveron for Air Academy
Dave Hurd proxy for Sand Creek N

Announcements Prior to Meeting:

T-shirts and Programs available. T-Shirts are from the Regional, the circuit did pay for them and we need a creative way to get rid of them.

1- Old Business

Approve Minutes from Nov Meeting
Vince Hodges makes motion to approve
Devin Greenlee seconds motion

2- Items carried over from Nov Meeting

None brought up during meeting

3- Contest Items

Proposed Contest Items for 2014
Possibility of Jan 18 as a secondary evaluation show

Looking into locations for State Championships to avoid the same problems we encountered this year
Possibility of Pueblo for Regional - Mar 8 will be WGI Regional
Friday Shows still an option - limited number of guards due to timing with school day

Contests from 2013

4- Budget Report

Broken down more than previously
Peggy submitted report

Peggy made some suggestions -
Suggests that compensation for RMCGA staff is out of sync
Chief judge paid 500, split between 2 people paid 500 each
Marcus pd over 700
Feels Cf Judge needs to be more than 500

Announcer pd 600 yearly

Greg - All pd positions need to be looked at

Raised CD to be 314 monthly
Treasurer 500 yearly
spends a lot of time doing

Salaries need to be examined over the summer
Ask for numbers from other circuits, hard to find circuits similar to ours

6- Judges Report

Chief Judge was Tim Tilley, this position is a yearly position contracted by RMCGA so this position is up for hire again.

Discussion of Tim's Comments - none

Task Force Meeting:
Greg Nominated as Task Force Liaison

Task Force Report

Talked about state, do not want it at a high school
Looking into several locations as ideas

Larger venue for Regional, first look on WGI level helpful if larger than high school

Changing state back to prelim/finals, large classes of more than 8 groups go to prelims

Rework chief judge, clinicians discussed as far as design standpoint early on JAN 25
Rob looking for another designer

instructor workshops to offer training in different areas

Chief Judge - recommended do the board that the task force sets judge panels, CJ handles day to day operations Task Force has more reach than a single person may CJ run judging seminar, CJ runs day to day process, Director of training set up
5 - 8 names from each Task Force member deposited into a pool
Task Force has begun to contact people as well
Kendra and Tammy met with many people, we have to wait for WGI scheduling to take place so we can

5- New Business

Vote of no confidence for Contest Director, proposed by Vince Hodges
Arguments heard based on problems that occurred in 2013

After this was brought up, Phaidra Reed has chosen to resign for the remainder of her position which was through 2014

Instructor Behavior

Behavior towards others got out of hand at times this season. Towards other staff, judges, volunteers, everyone

We all sign code of conduct, code of conduct was limited and will be rewritten

Everyone needs to do nicer to each other, Play Nice!

Protection of members - Members need to be protected over spectators

Board should do a better job of getting news out when events occur regarding police or other issues that not everyone may be aware of.

Replacement of old equipment -

Floor tarp is getting old and will need to be replaced.

We would get better sound out of our speakers if they were to be elevated at shows.

Proposals for Rule Changes

34 Possible Votes

Name: Jeff Hargis

Unit Representing: Bear Creek High School

Proposal: Dismissal of boundary offenses for competition areas of insufficient size. **“Should a competition area fail measure a minimum of sixty feet by ninety feet, boundary offenses will be dismissed from unit penalties and overall scores for the competition.”**

Rationale for Proposal: Some of the competition sites from this past season offered venues of insufficient size, causing units to suffer boundary offenses they would not have received in an adequate sized venue. This occurs even though the contest sponsor packet states that the sponsor must provide, “An area for the contest at least 70 x 100’...” Should gyms not be of the minimum competition area size as defined by WGI, it seems only fair that units not be penalized for this deficiency. Due to few locations offering to host shows and how this may be a major fundraiser for units traveling to WGI Championships, I feel this proposal would be more beneficial to the circuit than not allowing particular schools to host shows.

Financial Impacts: None

Discussion on proposal:

If a school falls short on boundary limits, do not punish schools that have a smaller gym and take shows away from them, allows them to host a show

Was addressed midseason by flipping the tarp

When sound system is on tarp it takes away from size

Penalties assessed to units were the main problem

WGI assesses penalties at more than 70x100

Stay within the WGI Rules, do we need a new rule for this?

Vote

For - 26

Against - 0

Name: Jeff Hargis

Unit Representing: Bear Creek High School

Proposal: Placement of units into competitive classes at evaluation. **“At a unit’s first evaluation, a panel of judges in coordination with the chief judge will determine what class that unit is to compete at the conclusion of the evaluation or contest. If a unit wishes to compete in a higher class, the unit will compete in that class.”**

Rationale for Proposal: This proposal is meant to eliminate the mid-season promotion of several units and lessen the range of aptitude within a class. Evaluation should be utilized to place units into the proper class where they will be successful and an even distribution of experience will exist within the classes.

Financial Impacts: None

Discussion on proposal:

Talked about at Task Force meeting, CJ needs to head up rearrangement of guards within classes, evaluation show was not helpful need good placement of what class to go into

Falls to instructors as well to take the suggestions of the judges as well as to put their group where they need to be

Task Force talked about making an evaluation judged with Task Force members at Jan 18 Evaluation

We’re still trying to figure out what the Evaluation day will be, the Task Force has taken more coordination in the Evaluation day

Action Taken: Defer to task force discussion

Name: Michael Malewit

Unit Representing: Mesa Ridge HS/Doherty HS

Proposal: Add additional classes to the RMCGA Competitive arena.

Rationale: There were 54 colorguards at state this year and 35 were in the lower three divisions. We need to move Novice to a Junior category, the bottom of Regional A should become Novice. Keep Regional A and National Regional A. And perhaps add a Scholastic B division for the guards in National Regional A who are not quite regional A or Scholastic A, especially if we are not going to promote Scholastic A guards.

So the classes could be Junior, Novice, Regional A, National Regional A, Scholastic B, Scholastic A, National Scholastic A, Independent A, Ind and Scholastic Open, Independent and Scholastic World.

Financial Impact would be more awards would need to be purchased.

Discussion on this proposal:

Not having novice seemed unrealistic, there are many schools who do what they do and it is what they're going to do.

Circuit is very heavy on the lower end

Action Taken: Withdrawn by Mike Malewit

Name: Michael Malewit

Unit Representing: Mesa Ridge HS/Doherty HS

Proposal: Add guard representation, representing the different parts of the state on the Board.

Rationale: The circuit is and has been for quite a while been very Denver based even though other parts of the state participate and continue to grow in number of guards. It's time for us as a circuit to stop catering to only a small portion of our circuit.

Financial Impact would be none.

Discussion on this proposal:

Adding Guard Rep from different parts of the state to the board would ensure more units are represented

How would members be added, nominated to these positions?

Members out of the loop from board info, board has agreed to work on communication with members

Action Taken: Withdrawn by Mike Malewit

Name: Michael Malewit

Unit Representing: Mesa Ridge HS/Doherty HS

Proposal: Come up with a more equitable way of selecting task force members.

Rationale: As the task force stands now three members are always the same as they are the only guards competing in their respective divisions. Of the remaining 5 spots, all but one spot are now held by individuals who are members and or are directly affiliated with one guard in the circuit. This leads to one guard dictating the way we select and utilize our judging community.

Financial Impact would be none.

Discussion on this proposal: Withdrawn before discussion

Action Taken: Withdrawn by Mike Malewit

Name: Michael Malewit

Unit Representing: Mesa Ridge HS/Doherty HS

Proposal: Find a universally acceptable way of promoting colorguards by developing a criteria which would be voted on by the entire membership. We could have set scores for each week of the season and when a guard hits that number they are promoted.

Rationale: Guards were promoted this year who maybe should not have been where as other guards who should have been who were not. Additionally, once guards were promoted they were not judges by the same criteria on the same sheets.

Financial Impact: None

Action Taken: Withdrawn by Mike Malewit, asked Task Force to discuss

Name: Shauna Hodges
Unit: Solstice

Proposal: Remove the contest director position from the board and replace that position with a "member at large" / ~~task force liaison~~.

Rationale: As contest director, that person has a paid job by the board and is a part of the board. This is a conflict of interest in and of itself. The contest director should be hired by the board and work for the board and members much like our chief judge/ judge coordinator.

Discussion on this proposal:

This person should probably not be the task force liaison, but someone voted in by the membership (Task Force Liaison is voted on by only the Task Force)
Shauna removed the "task force liaison" portion of this proposal, asking for a "member at large"

Gives members more say on the board, makes the board 4 volunteer members and one paid member (treasurer)

Position should be yearly to allow for circulation of ideas and exposure to the board, keeps board at an odd number to avoid ties in voting

Financial Implications: None

Vote:

For - 32

Against - 2

Name: Shauna Hodges
Unit: Solstice

Proposal: Make the contest director a yearly, contracted position hired by the board of directors and the task force.

Rationale: Makes the contest director a yearly position that can be reviewed/replaced/ etc. by the board and ultimately the membership as needed. Hiring process would be the same as the chief judge/ judge coordinator with submission of resumes, review and hiring by the task force.

Discussion on this proposal:

Allows the membership a voice through their Task Force representative on who is running the circuit shows

Task force would make a recommendation based on applicants yearly, refer to the board for hiring

Financial Implications: None

Vote:

For - 34

Against - 0

Name: Shauna Hodges

Unit: Solstice

Proposal: Change the amount of contests a secondary unit is allowed to attend from half of the contests to any contests.

Rationale: This rule was passed last year and was not enforced or kept track of. Allowing secondary units to only participate in 50% of the competitions does not promote the growth of members in the secondary unit by giving them less performance opportunities.

Financial Implications: Will bring in more money for the show hosts by having more groups at shows, will bring in more money for the circuit, as hosts pay circuit fees based on participating units.

Discussion on this proposal:

Simply cleaning up a rule that was passed that was not enforced or adhered to.

Vote:

For - 34

Against - 0

Name: Shauna Hodges

Unit: Solstice

Proposal: Adopt the festival rating system that WGI is using for Scholastic units at Regional Competitions to give Scholastic groups a rating of a I, II or III.

Rationale: There has been problems in the past with groups going back to their schools excited about scoring a 70 (for example) and having the administration "not get it" because the school does not understand the judging system. This gives the school something else to base progress and award off of (without being similar to a grading system where a 70 is a C)

Financial Implications: None

Discussion on this proposal:

Only added to recap sheets for schools to use if they wish to
Does not add any steps for the tabulator, it is built in to Competition Suite, we simply have to call them and add it, automatically calculated
Some schools do not see the point

Vote

For - 27

Against - 1

Name: Shauna Hodges

Unit: Solstice

Proposal: Rework the lower classifications to provide more separation and room for younger groups-

~~Gadet – Middle School and Younger~~

~~Novice – For young programs and instructors, guards should spend a maximum of two years in this class, after 2 years the group can appeal to the board to remain in this class in cases of extenuating circumstances.~~

Regional A

National Regional A

Independent Regional A - Removes independent groups who may have college age kids from competing against young high schools but gives the independent guards a place to begin without being ready for IA.

Scholastic A

National Scholastic A

Independent A

Scholastic Open

Independent Open

Scholastic World

Independent World

Rationale: Allows more classes for units to break up into, brings back the Novice class for high school groups yet still allows Middle School and younger to remain in a separate class.

Financial Implications: Awards needed for new classes

Discussion on this proposal:

Expanding the lower classes leads to not pushing those groups to grow
Novice high school groups can perform in RA and aspire to move out of RA

Shauna amended the proposal to leaving the classes as they were for 2013 BUT adding IRA for Independent groups not ready for IA, WGI does split RA at regionals into Scholastic RA and Independent RA, so we are following their model by doing so

Vote -
For - 33
Against - 0

Name: Kristina Minton

Unit: Sand Creek HS

Proposal: I propose that the state champion in RA, NRA and SA be required to move to the next class the following season. They have the opportunity to be promoted, but cannot go back to their Championship class for the duration of one year.

Financial Implications: None

Discussion on this proposal:

Units should be reviewed as many things can change in a color guard from year to year

The task force has discussed reviewing the upper scoring guards in these classes to appropriately place them

Action Taken: Withdrawn, with Task Force discussion and oversight on a review process

Discussion Points as asked for by Members

Review of the Videotaping policy - RMCGA has a policy in procedures, no video passes were given this year and it was not held to. With cell phones it is hard to control, ask instructors/ directors to discuss with parents. Be better with video policy and watching the crowd if possible.

Instructor judge communication - Judges are losing interest in judging because of how they are treated, information for the judges should be put through the Chief Judge to be conveyed from there. Judges need to behave appropriately as well in their communications with units. We can come up in updates of code of conduct, board will

be responsible for policing, this includes social media. It was mentioned that WGI has a Facebook/Social Media policy we should view for

State tickets - Tickets were unavailable at Arapahoe when several parents would have liked to purchase them. Consensus was that the board tried their best with the circumstances of this year, but the state ticket issue will be solved by having a larger venue in the future.

Prelims finals for state - With so many RA guards, hard to have only one performance for the younger groups. There is an understanding that the venue was an issue, but in the future we could look into having a qualifying score or other ways to fit in more performances. The task force has discussed having a prelims/finals day and figuring out how to fit everything in.

Crowd Favorite Award - This has been asked for in the past, the board will figure out a way to add this for 2014

Weather policy - Need a good way to communicate day of weather issues with guards. The board posted on Facebook and the website the morning of the bad weather to try to assist as many groups as possible. Remind 101 was suggested for texting the group as a whole, it is free so we will look into setting it up this summer.

Affiliations with judges - Task Force how is communication going to be between units regarding affiliations

- Affiliation rule was dropped to draw more judges, seems to be an issue again, used to be that if you were affiliated you could not judge that class, rule was removed

- Two types of affiliations:

 - primary affiliations - if you accept a paycheck, cannot judge that class at all

 - secondary affiliation - no paycheck, can judge class as long as your guard is not there

Voting for Board Members:

Member at Large:

Nominations: Mike Malewit
 Rob Billings
 Greg Humphrey
 Katie Manhart

Vote: Rob Billings - Member at Large, 1 year term

President/ Circuit Director -

Nominations: Dave Hurd
 Tim Lester

Vote: Dave Hurd - Circuit Director, 2 year term

Treasurer/Director of Finance -

Nominations: Peggy Sparks

Vote: Peggy Sparks, 2 year term

Anyone interested in Contest Director, please submit resume to board and task force

Motion to Adjourn by Jenn Carrasco

Seconded by Darcie Gudger