



Membership Meeting May 17, 2015

Attendees:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jonette Dukart – Secretary• Chris Arroyo – proxy for Palmer• Kristina Minton – Sand Creek• Seth Heidemann – Columbine• Angela Furlano – Highlands Ranch• Devin Greenlee – Fairview / Broomfield• Katie Cox – Green Mountain• John Whelchel – RMCGA staff• Rachel Brown – Mesa Middle School• Sydney Cole – proxy for The Creek• Kenny Bailey – Arapahoe / Legacy• Anthony Mondragon – Douglas County / Air Academy / Rampart• Danniell Isaac – Wheat Ridge• Aaron Moss – Monarch• Marissa Keating – Dakota Ridge• Scot McGiveron – Anesidora• Jenn Carrasco – Pomona / Pomona JV / Malachi | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeff Hargis – Bear Creek / Bear Creek JV• Cori Martin – Summit / Doherty• Melissa Abraham – Pisteuo• Michael Malewit – Mesa Ridge / Mesa Ridge High School• Adam Abraham – proxy for Rangeview• Shauna Hodges – Solstice Cadets• Vince Hodges – Solstice• Kendra Whelchel – Contest Director• Tammy Hobson – President• Ashley New – Arvada West / Elizabeth / Rise• Katelyn Kellogg – Arvada West / Elizabeth• Jessica Bruszewski – Vista Ridge / Harrison• Corinne Greenrod – Archetype / Mysterium• Liz Haan - Mysterium |
|--|--|

Old Business:

Approve Minutes of November Meeting

- motion – Vince Hodges
- second – Jeff Hargis

Any other items carried over

- SpinFest – Jenn Carrasco presented information
 - Trying to find a date to host
 - William Chumley would like to help with a master class
 - For members and instructors

Contest Items:

- Review of contests in 2015
 - Secretary will send out comments from the surveys to contest hosts
- Championship Venue – Discussion on Pros and Cons of University of Denver
 - Hang out space was better managed this year
 - The larger black curtain was good
 - Using DUs sound system was better
 - Could the last four awards leave their stuff in the staging area until after retreat?

- Tarp folding schedule was difficult to follow
- Finale took longer this year
 - Long for middle school kids
- DU enjoys having our event there. No concerns from fire marshalls.
- We don't know if the black tarp will be continued. It wasn't discussed at WGI Advisory Board meeting.

Budget Items: (Peggy was unable to attend due to a family emergency.)

- Review Budget from 2015 and discuss options for 2016
 - Judging budget ran over by approximately \$7000

New Business:

- Contest Director and Chief Judge/Judge Coordinator
 - Board has agreed to retain Kendra as the Contest Director and Kevin Morris for Chief Judge/Judge Coordinator with William Chumley assisting
 - Doug Kelly will take over for Kendra when she is fulfilling WGI obligations
 - William Chumley will cover for Kevin
- WGI proposals that may impact our circuit
 - All proposals that would have impacted our circuit failed
- Drums Along the Rockies (July 11) has asked for RMCGA to provide an "All Star" color guard to conduct the opening ceremonies
 - Asking for 1-2 names per unit
 - DATR will provide Tshirts. Wear black shorts of "school appropriate length". You will get a ticket and parking pass.
 - American Flag
 - Rifle/sabre
 - Provide shirt sizes ASAP – by June 5
 - Name, email, mailing address of representative
 - Secretary will post a form on the website
 - Drop off space
 - Bring a flag of your own to represent your unit
 - Write an announcement and/or 30 second promotional video to display on the jumbotron.
 - Jenn Carrasco will see if one of her band parents
 - Approximately 2 hours prior to practice any choreography to be performed
 - Suggestion to have someone choreograph a routine and video tape it, then have everyone learn it before the rehearsal

Judging Items: Kevin

- Judge Planning for next year - budget, WGI usage, overall plans
- Judge Coordinator Position
 - submit names for judges via link on the website
 - Survey to get an overall "feel" from the membership regarding local and guest judges
- Chief Judge Position
- Review Process/Training
- Reevaluating the pay structure for judges to account for their experience level, how many units they are asked to judge, etc.
- Summer judge/instructor trainings will be scheduled – more info will be sent via email, FB and the website

WGI Regional:

- WGI Denver Regional is scheduled for TBD

- We need to start looking at contest venues within 150 miles from Denver.
 - If you know of a site that could host on a Saturday from February 20 – March 12, please notify Kendra ASAP. WGI asks Kendra which weekends we have a site available.
 - RMCGA is the host and pays the fees
 - The site is reimbursed by RMCGA.
 - Needs to seat 1500 - 2000

Proposed Contest Schedule for 2016:

- ~~January 16, 2016 – eval possibility~~
- January 23, 2016 – eval
- January 30, 2016
- February 6, 2016
- February 13, 2016
- February 20, 2016
- February 27, 2016 – regional possibility
- March 5, 2016 – regional possibility
- March 12, 2016 – regional possibility
- March 19, 2016
- March 26, 2016 – Easter is on Sunday, March 27, 2016
- **April 2, 2016** – DU first hold for State Championships
- WGI World Championships – April 7-9, 2016
- voting to hold only 1 evaluation show (33 yes, 0 no)

Elections:

President nominee(s) – ~~Kendra Wheeler~~ (withdrawn by self), ~~Paul Bernardy~~ (has not confirmed nomination), Someone Different, ~~Tammy Hobson~~ (withdrawn by self)

- Nominations from the floor:
 - Tim Lester [7 votes] (daughter in Arapahoe, RMCGA contest staff) – accepted nomination
 - ~~Mark Keating~~ – declined nomination
 - Mike Malewit [12 votes] (Mesa Ridge) – accepted nomination
 - **Vince Hodges** [19 votes] (Solstice, Solstice Cadets) – accepted nomination

Treasurer nominee(s) – **Peggy Sparks**, ~~Tammy Hobson~~ (withdrawn due to conflict of interest), ~~William Chumley~~ (has not confirmed nomination), Someone Different, ~~Lisa Cole~~ – (withdrawn by self)

- Nominations from the floor:
 - ~~Tim Lester~~ – declined nomination

Member-at-Large nominee(s) - Liz Haan [4 votes] (Mysterium, Prairie View), Kenny Bailey [10 votes] (Arapahoe, Legacy), Someone Different, Adam Abraham [7 votes] (Pisteuo), **Anthony Mondragon** [19 votes] (Air Academy, Rampart, Douglas County)

- 1 year term
- Nominations from the floor:
 - none

Current Board members: Jenn Carrasco (VP) – Pomona, Pomona JV, Malachi, Jonette Dukart (Secretary) – no affiliation

- New board positions will take effect July 1, 2015
- Current President and Member-at-Large will work with incoming members until then

2015-16 Board:

- President – Vince Hodges – Solstice, Solstice Cadets
- Vice President – Jenn Carrasco – Pomona, Pomona JV, Malachi
- Treasurer – Peggy Sparks – no affiliation

- Secretary – Jonette Dukart – no affiliation
- Member-at-Large – Anthony Mondragon – Air Academy, Rampart, Douglas County

Discuss and vote on proposals:

Proposal submitted by: Devin Greenlee

Unit(s) Representing: Fairview, Broomfield

Proposal: To limit the amount of time allowed to discuss proposals. The creator would have 2 minutes to explain their proposal and rationale, each person after would have 1 minute to discuss their views, and then the creator has 1 minute to defend/change their proposal before we vote.

Rationale: This would require all proposals to be more focused in order to be explained easily. The membership would also be more responsible for researching the proposals beforehand. This would allow the meetings to run quickly and smoothly. We would no longer spend hours hashing out proposals that get voted down in the end.

Financial Impact: None

Discussion:

- amended to limit discussion regarding proposals to 10 minutes
- effective immediately
- anything going beyond 10 minutes will be voted on or tabled to the board

Motion to vote as amended: Jeff Hargis
2nd – Corinne Greenrod

Yes – 35 - passed

No - 0

Proposal Submitted by: Loren Martinez

Unit(s) Representing: Altitude

Proposal: High School Color Guard should not be allowed to be considered Independent Guards.

Rationale: The purpose of Scholastic and Independent is to keep schools affiliated with school and those who graduate to up their ability and perform in independent.

Financial Impact: None

Discussion:

- per WGI rules, if the unit has a student who does not attend the high school, it cannot perform in scholastic – it must perform in independent
- Loren was not in attendance to discuss this proposal

REMOVED

Proposal Submitted by: Kenny Bailey

Unit(s) Representing: Arapahoe HS SO, Legacy HS SA

Proposal: Eliminate all "National" Classes and any and all previously passed proposals which incorporate these classes or promoted scores to enter these classes.

Rationale: Since the inception of the "National" classes, there has been a lot of swapping of captions and scores between the "National" class and its counter class. This does not help any unit develop the necessary skills for a particular class. There is no different criteria reference than the established WGI classes, therefore the same sheets have been used. Also, when first determined, the "National" classes were supposed to provide a class for more experienced guards that could compete on a "National" level. We do not have this consistency within our Circuit to have separate classes for something that "could happen". As a circuit, we should strive for better quality designed shows within the classes that WGI has provided and defined.

Financial Impact: Helps financially with less awards both for the circuit as well as individual show sponsors.

Discussion:

- outside judges are sometimes confused by the National classes
- any proposal related to the National classes from previous years would be nullified
- we currently have RA – 21 groups, and SA – 14 groups

Motion to vote as written: Corinne Greenrod

2nd – Ashley (New) Cook

Yes – 28 - passed

No - 2

Proposal Submitted by: Adam Abraham

Unit(s) Representing: Pisteuo

Proposal: Clean up the younger training classes by more clearly establishing Cadet, Middle School, and Novice divisions. These divisions will need to have appropriate and specific score sheets.

Novice - The purpose of this class is to help the performers grow in the beginning principles and efforts in handling equipment, movement, and performance. This class emphasizes growth and achievement for new students and new instructors. Units competing in this classification will be judged using "Novice Class" criteria. This class will be open to scholastic guards that are brand new or independent guards that have predominately elementary and middle school aged performers. The goal of this division is train guards for advancement into other divisions within two marching seasons. An exception to the two season rule would be scholastic guards that have greater than an 80% turn over or independent units that continue to fall within the specified age description. Timing rules: Minimum 2 minutes; maximum 4 minutes; interval time 6 minutes and 2 minute equipment time.

Middle School - All members attend the same school, feeder school or school within the same district (if school does not have an active winter guard) with performers ranging from 6th-8th (an exception can be made for inexperienced 9th graders that are not ready for the demands of the high school guard. Timing rules: Minimum 2 minutes; maximum 4 minutes; interval time 6 minutes and 2 minute equipment time.

Cadet – This classification would be for guards that have performers that have children up to 5th grade and is the most basic level of work. Timing rules: Minimum 1:30 minutes; maximum 3 minutes; interval time 5 minutes and 1:30 minute equipment time. (I have scoring sheets from another circuit as a possible jumping off point to create sheets for this division)

Rationale: In the past, at best, we had a handful of Middle School guards that came and went with some regularity. Over the past few years, we have gained more and more guards with younger performers, be it independent groups or middle schools that are staying active with more consistency. Because of the lower numbers of these groups earlier, many changes have been made in an effort to find a place for younger performers to fit. We have redefined Novice class multiple times, we have put independent guards with young performers in a middle school class. And most recently, we have added a cadet class. This proposal is simply an effort to create appropriate spots for these guards and hopefully not have to continue to change or create these classes year to year. It is also an attempt to ensure that these guards have the opportunity to compete legitimately and get proper and useful scores and feedback to help them grow as performers and instructors.

Financial Impact: At most, this should only cost the price of one additional set of medals and a banner for championships because this would be one more division over what there was this year.

Discussion:

- Amendment to require Novice to do the evaluation show
- Novice – 5, Cadet – 3, Middle Schools - 6
- Intent is to streamline scoring for the younger guards
- Cadet – elementary kids; Middle School; Novice
- Ultimately the director's choice

Motion to table to the board: Shauna Hodges

2nd: Kristina Minton

Proposal Submitted by: Kenny Bailey

Unit(s) Representing: Arapahoe HS SO, Legacy HS SA

Proposal: Eliminate the Review Committee

Rationale: After attempting it for a year, it would best suit our circuit for fellow designers to just offer their own services.

Financial Impact: none

Discussion:

- RMCGA judges would now be responsible to review videos of units that were not able to attend the evaluation show
 - Amended to send videos to the Chief Judge
- Regional A and Scholastic A were previously required to attend the evaluation show because of the national classes
 - The purpose of the video submission was to get feedback

Motion to vote as amended: Devin Greenlee

2nd – Corinne Greenrod

Yes – 37 - passed

No - 0

Proposal submitted by: Kenny Bailey

Unit(s) Representing: Arapahoe HS SO, Legacy HS SA

Proposal: Change the current volunteer requirement from 2 to 1. Eliminate the requirement for the regional and only provide volunteers for State.

Rationale: Since our Regional is hosted at a local high school, then that said high school should provide enough workers similar to any locally ran show. In fact, there are a few local shows that have a lot more units attend than what the regional brings in. Also, with approximately 60 units in the circuit, and the amount paid for dues, this should provide plenty of volunteers for the State competition at a College or Arena type venue.

Financial Impact: none

Discussion:

- what happens if the school that is chosen does not have a guard?
- RMCGA is actually the host of the WGI regional, not the school site

- Championships needs about 70 volunteers for a 3 hour window
 - Argus charges \$100 per person that they provide
- Clarify that each unit was to provide 2 volunteers per unit, however some units did not fulfill that requirement (ie. 2 volunteers were provided as an organization, not 4 volunteers for 2 units)
- As contest hosts, it can be difficult to provide parents to volunteer at another venue on top of the local show host
- We previously had RMCGA staff that consistently attended shows to volunteer

Motion to vote as written: Shauna Hodges

2nd: Jenn Carrasco

Yes – 6

No – 29 - failed

Proposal submitted by: Devin Greenlee

Unit(s) Representing: Broomfield, Fairview

Proposal: To always have a contest staff member timing warmup areas.

Rationale: This would allow the contest to better run on schedule. This would also allow each guard to get in and out of warmup at their designated times. A familiar staff member is more reliable than band students/band parents/no supervisor.

Financial Impact: none

Discussion:

- inconsistency with warmups this season – varied amount of time for groups
- Amendment to clarify the job description for the warmup monitor
- Amendment to change “contest staff member” to qualified adult

Motion to table to Board: Jenn Carrasco

2nd: Corinne Greenrod

Proposal Submitted by: Seth

Unit(s) Representing: Heideman

Proposal: We would like for the RMCGA administration to approach schools for hosting contests before waiting for facilities to apply to the circuit.

Rationale: There are many schools in the Denver metro area and surrounding suburbs that have very ample and large facilities for hosting contests. These places are not being utilized

because they are not applying to host, mostly because their music and arts programs are not aware of the opportunity to do so.

For example, Alameda International High School in Lakewood has an extremely large gym, auxiliary gym, and vast amount of front and backside seating for spectators. It is also more centrally located between many participating schools in the circuit. This venue has been used in the past for State Championships because of its ample facilities, but has since fallen out of the circle of communication within the circuit because of faculty changeovers.

We believe it is much more effective for the officials of an established organization like RMCGA to approach the schools' administrations and provide them with the logistics and incentives to host shows, rather than waiting for a good venue to become available.

Financial Impact: The contest hosting application process provides an opportunity for participating schools within the circuit to gain funding for their programs. However, holding a contest at a good facility that may not have winter programs will help gain notoriety and exposure for the activity at that venue and ultimately result in more paid units within the circuit next year.

Discussion:

- Who would be responsible for providing the volunteers?
- Who would get the financial benefits?
- Membership would prefer to have a great venue versus a school that has a program but less stellar venue.
- Winter guards in schools should reach out to other schools in their district to find better venues.

Motion to vote: Devin Greenlee

2nd: Corinne Greenrod

Yes – 9

No – 22 - failed

** The contest packet is on the website. Please contact a board member if you need someone to come with you to talk to your band director/admin.

Proposal Submitted by: Kristina Minton

Unit(s) Representing: Sand Creek High School

Proposal: I propose a change in the Championship format that would allow all units to be able to participate in the full experience. The elimination of the prelim/finals format and going to a single performance.

Suggestions would be;

- 1. Everyone performs on the same day, with a single performance. The show would begin a later in morning, and include a midday retreat for the early classes (Cadet, Novice, RA and NRA) and an evening retreat for the later classes (A class, Open and World). This would give our judges a long dinner break, and create a shorter day for everyone.**

2. Hold state Championships over 2 weekends. First weekend is in a high school and held for (Cadet, Novice, and Regional A Classes). The Gold Medalist from each class is then invited to show their performance the following week at State for the A Class, Open and World Finals.

Rationale: The rationale behind this is to make sure all units share a similar experience on the day. We currently have 60+ units performing at state, and only 20 do not make it into finals. As we continue to develop our younger students, it is important to include them in the whole experience of participating in the circuit. There is also an extreme driver safety issue for those units that participate in the morning and afternoon rounds of championships. Some unit drivers are being asked to drive as early as 6am, returning at 1am the next day if their unit participates in both sides of the day. This is putting our kids at risk of being in a vehicle where the driver is too tired to be driving them.

Financial Impact: The Financial impact would potentially be Judges fees and travel for the judges.

A unit could financially benefit as the host of the school for a split championships.

Discussion:

- having 2 different weekends could reduce the championship “feel” for some guards because of not performing at DU
 - could be a financial impact of not being able to afford hosting at DU
- many kids never saw the upper level guards until state
- having prelims and finals is the first time for all units in a class to compete together and allows for movement in the places
- now that National classes are gone, the Regional and Scholastic classes are larger and would benefit from a prelims/finals
- if we were to have judges that have seen all guard multiple times throughout the season
- if the circuit continues to grow, what would the impact be to the start time for next year

Motion to table: Liz Haan

Motion to vote on option 1 as written: Jenn Carrasco

2nd: Anthony Mondragon

Yes – 5

No – 29 - failed

Other new business:

- we need a new contest announcer
- \$75 per show

Motion to adjourn: Scot McGiveron

2nd: Shauna Hodges