

Election Nominations

Vice-President (Incumbent Clayton Parker)

Clayton Parker, nominated by Riley Pagett of Wade Hampton HS & Steven Mack of Allurea

Treasurer (Incumbent Riley Pagett)

Riley Pagett, nominated by Ben Hipp of Summerville HS

Secretary – Public Relations (Incumbent Tracy Smith)

Tracy Smith, nominated by Christopher Grant of Mauldin HS

Steven Mack, nominated by Brittany DeSignore of Berkeley HS

At-Large Representative (Incumbent Jeff Bridges, Brian Winn)

Emma Boyce, nominated by Brian Winn of Etude

Christopher Grant, nominated by Cameron Watkins of Hartsville HS

Garry Hilton, nominated by Ben Hipp of Summerville HS

Tom Padgett, nominated by Ben Hipp of Summerville HS

David Shives, nominated by Susan Winfree of Ardrey Kell HS

Susan Winfree, nominated by David Shives of Ardrey Kell HS

Proposals

By-Laws and Constitution

Proposal #1 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Strike the “Judges Code of Ethics” from the organization’s bylaws.

Rationale - This belongs in (and redundantly exists in) the Policies and Procedures manual.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact for this proposal.

Proposal #2 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Strike the “Instructor Code of Ethics” from the organization’s bylaws.

Rationale - This belongs in (and redundantly exists in) the Policies and Procedures manual.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact for this proposal.

Proposal #3 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Strike the “Social Media Guidelines for Instructors and Judges” from the organization’s bylaws.

Rationale - This belongs in (and redundantly exists in) the Policies and Procedures manual.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact for this proposal.

Proposal #4 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Add the following language to Section VIII. Committees:

Item F.: Ethics Committee: Members of the Ethics Committee will be appointed by the President and affirmed by the Board of Directors. This committee shall be chaired by the President and shall also include the Vice President, Chair of the Color Guard Advisory Council and Chair of the Percussion/Winds Advisory Council. Additional at large representatives shall be selected at the discretion of the President. The Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and recommending action to the Board of Directors on ethical complaints, policy violations, code of conduct violations and other related matters. The Committee shall be responsible for reviewing existing policies governing conduct and other related matters and recommending action to the Board of Directors.

Rationale - In 2020, a committee existing of the President, Vice President, Chair of the Color Guard Advisory Council and Chair of the Percussion/Winds Advisory Council was convened by Cody Crawford (current Circuit President). This ad-hoc committee was formed with the purpose of evaluating several violations of the code of conduct policy and recommending action to the Board of Directors. The committee members did an outstanding job of reviewing the issues and recommending appropriate action based on the facts of each situation. This committee is currently active and operating. This proposal would formally create the committee as a part of the organization’s administration.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact for this proposal.

Proposal #5 – Submitted by Ben Hipp, Summerville High School

Remove the Saturday before Thanksgiving Date as a Fall Meeting Date from the CWEA By-laws.

Rationale - This meeting is no longer needed as we can handle all of the administrative tasks online.

Financial Impact – Savings to the circuit.

Proposal #6 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Strike “The following positions will be elected in odd-numbered years: President... At Large Representative” and replace with “The following positions will be elected in even-numbered years: President.... At-Large Representative” from the Terms section of the CWEA Bylaws.

Additionally, strike “The following positions will be elected in even-numbered years: Vice President... At-Large Representative” and replace with “The following positions will be elected in odd-numbered years: Vice President.... At-Large Representative” from the Terms section of the CWEA Bylaws.

Rationale - This change is necessary to correct the term election years due to the issues arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Proposal #7 – Submitted by Cody Crawford & Riley Pagett, Board of Directors

Add the following language under Section VI. Removal and Disqualification:

By two-thirds vote, the Executive Board of Directors may suspend the President with cause before the expiration of his or her term. All voting members of the Board of Directors are required to vote yay or nay and there are to be no abstentions. This action will trigger a vote of the full membership within 30 days, during which the Board of Directors will prepare a statement and evidence supporting the decision. The President may submit a rebuttal through the same channel. A majority vote of the membership may then vacate the office of the President. Should a President be removed, the Vice-President will assume the responsibilities of the President until the next semi-annual membership meeting.

Rationale – The President is currently only able to be removed every two years as part of the normal elections. There is no contingency currently in place should a sitting President need to be removed from their position prior to the election cycle. In the event the President's actions contradict the mission of CWEA, violate state or federal law, or otherwise, the organization must have a method in place to address such egregious violations.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Proposal #8 – Submitted by Riley Pagett, Board of Directors

These proposals enable the planned transition of the circuit from a President-Executive model to an Administrative Staff model, with the President retaining leadership of the Board of Directors and the organization as a whole.

a. Removal of Director of Events from Bylaws

- Chapter VI, Executive Board of Directors, Section B, Strike line 'C. Director of Events' and re-label subsequent items.
- Chapter VI, Terms, strike "C. Director of Events" and re-label subsequent items.
- Chapter VI, Responsibilities, strike "C. Director of Events" and associated responsibilities and re-label subsequent items.
- Chapter VIII, Committees, strike "C. Championships Committee" and re-label subsequent items.
- Chapter VIII, Committees, current section E. "Classifications Committee", strike "the Director of Events" and adjust to read "an appointee of the Executive Board of Directors".

b. Clarification of Executive Responsibilities Under Restructure

Chapter VI, Responsibilities of the Board of Directors:

- Section A, "Board President", adjust item A to read "Leader of the Board of Directors".
- Section A, "Board President", add "Oversees Administrative Staff" and re-label items as necessary
- Section B, "Vice President", strike Item A and re-label as necessary.

Current Section D, "Co-Secretaries", strike item A and re-label as necessary.

- Current Section E, "Treasurer", strike item A, Item C, and Item D and re-label as necessary.
- Current Section E, "Treasurer", adjust current Item F to read "Works with Board President and Administrative Staff to produce the annual budget."

c. Authorization of Presidential Stipend

Chapter VI, Responsibilities of the Board of Directors:

- Section A, "Board President", add item: "Compensated annually as budgeted and approved by the Executive Board of Directors."

e. Merger of Secretary Positions

Chapter VI, Executive Board of Directors, current Section B:

- Current Item d., adjust to read: "Secretary"
- Current Item f., adjust to read: "At-Large Representatives (Three)"

Chapter VI, Terms:

- Adjust "Secretary (Administrative)" to read "Secretary"
- Adjust "Co-Secretary (Public Relations)" to read "At-Large Representative"

Chapter VI, Responsibilities of the Board of Directors, current Section D ("Co-Secretaries"), strike and replace with:

"D. Secretary

- Report directly to the President
- Keep the minutes of the meetings and act as custodian for all official records and correspondence
- Move for approval of previous meeting minutes at each meeting of the Board of Directors
- Post (or direct Executive Staff to post) public meeting minutes on the circuit website following their approval
- Additional administrative duties as assigned by the President
- This is a voting position on the CWEA Board of Directors"

Chapter VI, Responsibilities of the Board of Directors, current Section F ("At-Large Representatives (2)"), adjust to read: "At-Large Representatives (3)"

Passage of this proposal will dissolve the Secretary (Public Relations) position. In a suspension of the by-laws, members will nominate candidates for the third At-Large Representative position from the floor. A vote will take place through CompetitionSuite. Terms for the new positions will follow the by-laws.

Rationale – A presentation at the Spring Meeting will expand on the rationale and mechanics of the change. A summary:

Motivating Factors

- Selection
 - o Running the business of CWEA requires management skills beyond the average volunteer position
 - o Population of willing and able volunteers is minimal
- Philosophy
 - o The business interests of the circuit and the competitive interests do not always align, and there is no function for impartial debate.

- The best intellectual leader for the organization may not necessarily be a capable business manager
- The high-stakes demand on officers subdues interest in running for Board positions
- Capacity
 - The size of the circuit demands multiple managers involved in its operation.
 - Continued growth (geographically, financially, and in stature) is limited by the resources of the President and Board.
 - Good operation of the business has been inconsistent in the past

Guiding Principles

- Separate the business and competitive interests of the circuit, with President as intermediary and final control.
- Select managers in a competitive hiring process. Pay them as well as the budget allows.
- Strive to increase revenue from fundraising and sponsorship, to the benefit of member groups.
- Preserve the identity of CWEA through continued growth.
- Preserve or increase the control of the Board of Directors in holding managers accountable.

Financial Impact – These specific proposals will not affect the financial operation of the circuit. The overall transition will involve major changes to be described in detail at the Spring Meeting.

Organization Administration

Proposal #9 – Submitted by Ben Hipp, Summerville High School

Greater clarity or definition to postings in the CWEA Director Forum.

Rationale – Clearer definition is needed in the Director Forum about what is acceptable and what isn't to help ensure everyone is receiving pertinent information as opposed to overload. Example: Independent Groups should share their audition posts in the group to help spread the word, but repeated posts may be better served on their own Facebook Pages.

Financial Impact – None.

Proposal #10 – Submitted by Ben Hipp, Summerville High School

Increase mass marketing approach of CWEA Shows/ Performances like Battle Squad teams. How can we be cooler than the "cool thing" right now?

Rationale – The circuit could expand its reach into other areas of the pageantry arts and potentially help fill out some of the smaller shows.

Financial Impact – Potential financial gain, could possibly benefit the increased scholarship initiative from last year.

Rules & Policies

Proposal #11 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Strike “groups can only be promoted at a WGI Regional” and replace with “groups can only be promoted by WGI” from Section 3.5.6 WGI Level Promotions from the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Rationale - This is simply a clarification of language.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Proposal #12 – Submitted by Ben Hipp, Summerville High School

Non-member teams must compete in Scholastic AAA or higher.

Rationale - With units entering the circuit and not understanding our classifications nor their process, we have had an increase in non-member teams being misclassified since they are choosing their own classification. I suggest we follow suit with other circuits like the FFCC and pass a minimum classification rule for non-member teams.

Financial Impact – Increase of funds for those teams that may now join the circuit, otherwise no financial impact to change classifications.

Proposal #13 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Suspend the following policy from Section 3.5.2 Choosing a Classification from the Policy and Procedures Manual for the 2022 season only:

“Member groups who competed in the circuit the previous season will automatically be placed in the classification in which they ended the previous season, with the exception of groups in Scholastic Novice who will automatically be placed in Scholastic Regional A for the next season.”

The policy should be replaced with the following:

“For the 2022 season, groups will be permitted to select the classification that they feel is most appropriate for their group considering the age, experience and training of their students. Directors should use their best judgement in selecting a class that is both challenging and appropriate for their group.”

Rationale - Due to the effects of COVID-19, it's unreasonable to believe that groups will be able to pick up where they left off. Allowing groups to self-classify initially will aid the Classifications Committee in their work to ensure that groups are competing in the appropriate classes.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Circuit Championships

Proposal #14 – Submitted by Justin Brewer, Mooresville High School Percussion

I move to change the minimum number of mandatory performances to qualify for CWEA Championships from 3 to 2, but only in the case of one of those events being the attendance of a premiere event. In the event that an ensemble chooses three events (two of these three must be CWEA circuit events) instead of a premiere and single event, that group is still required to submit a video of their production, up to that point, for classification consideration, by the date of the last premiere event (failure to do so should be exclusion from championships). Groups that opt out of a premiere event shall also surrender the opportunity to be in the final three performance seeded slots for the duration of the season to give a further incentive to attend CWEA Premiere events.

Rationale – Due to the every changing nature of school administrations and their tendency to cancel last minute travel, often without regards for the full impact of these decisions, I believe that in some instances, the current policy of mandatory premiere events, often held during the worst weather times of the winter, can deny students important performance opportunities and put unnecessary time commitments on the board to consider appeals. This policy does not seek to incentive those who intend to dodge competition in order to better prepare, avoid exposure to certain judging panels, or avoid classification. All precautions have been put into the wording so that this only affects those ensembles and directors put into certain situations by finances or school administration, which are often outside of their control.

Financial Impact – Minimal.

Proposal #15 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Change the following to the CWEA Policy & Procedure Manual, Section 4.2.5, Performance Order for Color Guards: “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar” to read “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar through the second weekend of March”.

Rationale -

Currently, the Circuit Championships schedule is not released until the Monday prior to the event. Groups will not know their performance times until five days prior to the event which puts them at a severe disadvantage for establishing travel, logistics and other plans for the weekend. Additionally, the circuit administration cannot finalize plans for sites and logistics until the week of the show, which puts an unnecessary strain on the administration. Changing this requirement would help ease the burden of managing Circuit Championships considerably and allow for greater flexibility for groups and circuit administrators.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Proposal #16 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Change the following to the CWEA Policy & Procedure Manual, Section 4.2.6, Performance Order for Percussion: “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar” to read “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar through the second weekend of March”.

Rationale - Currently, the Circuit Championships schedule is not released until the Monday prior to the event. Groups will not know their performance times until five days prior to the event which puts them at a severe disadvantage for establishing travel, logistics and other plans for the weekend. Additionally, the circuit administration cannot finalize plans for sites and logistics until the week of the show, which puts an unnecessary strain on the administration. Changing this requirement would help ease the burden of managing Circuit Championships considerably and allow for greater flexibility for groups and circuit administrators.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.

Proposal #17 – Submitted by Cody Crawford, Board of Directors

Change the following to the CWEA Policy & Procedure Manual, Section 4.2.6, Performance Order for Winds: “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar” to read “increased by 1.5 points each week of the circuit calendar through the second weekend of March”.

Rationale - Currently, the Circuit Championships schedule is not released until the Monday prior to the event. Groups will not know their performance times until five days prior to the event which puts them at a severe disadvantage for establishing travel, logistics and other plans for the weekend. Additionally, the circuit administration cannot finalize plans for sites and logistics until the week of the show, which puts an unnecessary strain on the administration. Changing this requirement would help ease the burden of managing Circuit Championships considerably and allow for greater flexibility for groups and circuit administrators.

Financial Impact – There is no financial impact to this proposal.
