

MICHIGAN COLOR GUARD CIRCUIT

2009 SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES – May 16th, 2009

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



OLD BUSINESS

Sharon MacLean called the meeting to order at 1:14pm and brief introductions were made by the Board of Directors and membership as well. Sharon gave her brief synopsis of her President Report. She will only comment on things that affected her as President. Discussion on the late W-4's out to our judges and staff members. They have been late in the past and we need to make sure that going forward, they need to be done on time going forward. She thanks everyone for allowing her to serve on the Board.

Brian Liwak spoke on behalf of the Hall of Fame Committee and he congratulated Juno Orefice and Derek Smith for their induction this year. Some changes may be coming in the future. Cathy Guy asked for all photos' of HOF members for a special photo book she is putting together.

Manjit Gill had to submit her Championships Committee report by memory as she is unable to locate her jump drive. Things went well for the most part. Discussion was help and one question/comment was made regarding special circumstances (weather related) in regards to scheduling at shows be considered in the future.

Sharon MacLean asked for a motion to destroy the election ballots. Blair Kuhn made the motion and Dennis Guy seconded it. Motion passed.

Brian Liwak talked about the new DVR technology and how things went this year. He explained that we are looking towards going to MP3's such as WGI has for next year. That should take care problem regarding the amount of time it took to turnaround judges commentary to Unit Staff. The Board will be talking about this at the summer retreat.

Sharon MacLean then passed the meeting over to the new President, Brian Liwak to conduct new circuit business.

NEW BUSINESS

The office of Treasurer is in need of a new laptop as the old one is very old and the software is out of date. Brian Liwak explained that we have three old laptops with an offer to be sold for \$450.00. Brian asked for a motion from the membership to sell this out of date equipment and purchase a new laptop and software costing no more than \$1,000.00 for the Treasurer's office. Blair Kuhn made the motion and Derek Smith seconded it. Motion passed.

Mike Robinson asked for clarification on the reasoning behind the circuit losing money this year as is apparent on the Treasurer's Report. Brian Liwak explained this was due to so many of our shows losing money this past season and he wanted to assure the membership that the Board will be working at the summer retreat to alleviate this problem for the future. He explained that we are not in the business of making money, but we surely want to break-even. Discussion included looking at the possibility of a tiered fee system based on whether a show host is hosting guard only, percussion only or both. One other option would be to raise unit fees to attend a show. We have to keep in mind that hosting a show for a show host is feasible due to the financial liability they have to hold in order to host.

Brian Liwak updated the membership on the publication of the 2010 WGI Regional Schedule. Color guard in Michigan consists of a February 6th date for Ferndale and he has been informed that they will not be able to host this show this year. Any unit interested in possibly picking up this show should contact WGI as soon as possible. Percussion in Michigan consists of February 14th at Troy Athens HS and no word has been received on whether or not Troy will not be hosting.



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Because of the earlier dates this coming year, MCGC will have to adjust our schedule. As it stands right now, MCGC would have eight weekends for color guard and seven for percussion. Among some of the discussion items was whether MCGC would consider allowing participating at a Michigan regional to count towards a unit minimum show requirements. Yes, this has happened in the past and it would be up to the membership if we want that to happen again, but it is important to note that Michigan show hosts could be affected if this happened.

Dan King spoke regarding the loading and unloading of equipment for the Percussion show at Championships. We need to sit down and have discussion with percussion units regarding how to make this better for everyone. Todd Szalai and Dan discussed having “lanes” or possibly “staging” equipment trucks in another parking lot to better service all units. Anyone interested should contact Greg Cole, Vice President of Percussion if you would like to be included on this discussion.

Peter Eichler brought to our attention that this is the first year that MCGC had finalist in all classes at WGI and it should be commended.

Derek Smith would also like to acknowledge the Board and Committee members for all their hard work this year.

A SHORT BREAK WAS THEN HELD

The meeting reorganized and turned to the work done by the Rules Committee over the past few months in regards to the maintenance of the By-Laws and Rulebook, as well as the presentation of submitted proposals. It was agreed that we would attack the By-Laws first, holding discussions when needed for better clarity, vote to accept or not, and then do the same with the Rulebook portion. All were in agreement to that approach.

Kari Lynn Clark verified who was voting for what unit/office. In total, 38 units were represented and 7 Board Members and Committee Chairpersons were present for a total of 45 votes.

Greg Cole began to present the proposed By-Laws, asking for any discussion after each section. Two items were asked to be tabled for further discussion and approval after the final vote on the By-Laws was taken. Chelley Thelen made a motion to accept the proposed By-Laws minus the tabled items with a second by Ben Clark. Motion passed. Todd Szalai then made a motion to delete one of the tabled items regarding deleting the positions of Directors At Large with a second by Greg Cole. Discussion was then held and the vote called. Motion passed. Greg Cole made a motion to adopt the second tabled item regarding anyone resigning from a Board of Directors position would not be able to run again for a 5 year period with a second by Sharon MacLean. Discussion was held and the vote called. Motion passed (23 for, 20 against and one abstention).

Greg Cole then made a motion that we change whatever is necessary in our By-Laws to be in accordance to the law which applies to proxies voting, with a second by Todd. Discussion was held. Motion passed.

Greg Cole then presented the proposed Rulebook, asking for any discussion after each section. The following item numbers received a motion, had discussion and them were voted on during this time.

- Item 4.10 in the of old Rulebook. Greg made a motion that we remove 4.10 with a second by Sharon MacDermaid. Discussion held and the vote called. Motion passed (24 for, 16 against and one abstention).Item 4.7 in the proposed Rulebook.
- Sharon MacLean made a motion to change from 1 days to 30 days with a second by Ben Clark. Motion passed.
- Greg Cole made a motion to amend item 4.9.A to “percussion units must achieve the reclassification number in their overall score, and also achieve double the reclassification number on the performance analysis sheet in order to be reclassified” with a second by Ben Clark. Motion passed.



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- Greg Cole made a motion that we amend item 5.3 to “the unit must pay the opt out fee and a \$50.00 penalty fee will be assessed. The penalty fee will go to the MCGC Scholarship Fund” with a second by Mike Robinson. Motion passed.
- Greg Cole made a motion that we amend item 5.4 to “if a unit commits to Field Day but fails to appear the circuit will assess a \$125.00 penalty unless the withdrawal is due to special circumstances (subject to the scrutiny of the Board and then \$50.00 will go to the Show Host and \$75.00 will go to the MCGC Scholarship Fund” with a second by Sharon MacDermaid. Motion passed.
- Greg Cole made a motion that we amend item 6.3 to “special circumstances” with a second by Ben Clark. Motion passed.
- Greg Cole made a motion that we amend item 8.3.D to “March 1st” with a second by Sharon MacLean. Motion passed.
- Greg moved that we amend to add 10.2.A to 15 days. Seconded by Dennis Guy. Motion passed.
- Greg moved that we amend to add 10.2.B to 15 days. Seconded by Sharon MacLean. Motion passed.

Greg Cole made a motion to accept the proposed Rulebook with a second by Sharon MacDermaid. Motion passed (38 for, 7 against).

Greg Cole made a motion to allow the Rules Committee to fix any typos with a seconded by Kari Clark. Motion passed.

We then moved to the rule proposals submitted by the membership. Because numbers were not assigned to the proposals, it was agreed that they would be assigned a number and discussed in order as they appeared in the original Rules Proposal pdf file.

Rule Proposal #1 – Mike Robinson made a friendly amendment on behalf of Blair Kuhn to a \$300 late fee. Prior to this amendment, with a \$100 late fee, the Board did not recommend this proposal. Discussion was held. Motion passed as amended.

Rule Proposal #2 - Discussion was held. Motion failed.

Rule Proposal #3 - Discussion was held. Motion failed.

Rule Proposal #4 - Discussion was held. Motion failed.

Rule Proposal #5, 6 and 7 - Motion were all from Sharon MacDermaid and she withdrew them from consideration.

Rule Proposal #8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 – Are all items regarding Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and to be discussed by the Board at the summer retreat.

Rule Proposal #16 – Blair Kuhn’s proposal which was inadvertently left out of the original packet due to an error on the part of the Rules Committee. Discussion was held. Motion passed.

Rule Proposal # 17, 18, 19 and 20 - Greg Cole moved onto the proposals that were received by Ed Warren. He and Brian Liwak advised us that these proposals were received after the thirty day deadline, would affect By-Laws and because we do not have a 2/3 majority of the membership present at the meeting, we cannot consider these proposals at this time.

Brian Liwak thanks Orlando Suttles and Peter Eichler of State of Art for hosting today’s meeting and then asked for a motion to adjourn at 5:41pm. Sharon MacLean made the motion and it was seconded by everyone and of course....passed.

