

2018 BOD Planning Retreat Agenda

Meeting called to order at 7:45 pm, June 9, 2017

In attendance are Brian Liwak, Greg Cole, Dave Pickett, Baron Creutz, Mae Wesolek, Ryan Vaughan, Lindsey Schueller and Laura Goodman

Juno Orefice, and Manjit Gill will be present later in the weekend

Absent for the retreat weekend are Blair Kuhn and Mike Robinson

Those present introduced themselves

Brian requested to be CC'd on emails out from our Board accounts so that he can stay in the loop, and also requested a follow-up email be sent if other forms of communication are utilized

Discussed various applications in use for organization of data. Brian advised the Board that a profile will be created for each Board position in Competition Suite, so that we have access to the announcements, etc.

Brian discussed the expectations of Board members to remind us to think in the best interests of the entire circuit, as well as discussed the expectations of the Contest and Judge Coordinators.

SOPs:

Proposal 15: Form will be made available for member units to submit social media requests for posting.

Proposal 16: There was discussion about information changes (member count, show title, etc.) late in the season. The Board does not want to put a deadline on when units can submit an information change, but we need a guideline to ensure accurate programming, medal counts etc. It will be announced that changes will always be accepted, but that after March 1 changes may not be applied to medal counts, the program, etc.

Proposal 17: Proposal failed.

Proposal 18: Board recognized that the problem this proposal is trying to address is that units are entering warm-up, using the space all the way until the end of their warm-up time, and then beginning to leave resulting in a late exit. It was determined that hosts will be better trained to make sure volunteers in

warm-up will be policing the exit of units more strictly. If units exit their warm-up late, they will be warned the first time and penalized the second time. Laura will come up with consistent wording for the volunteer that will be in the warm-up room and it will be well-publicized.

Proposal 19: Proposal failed.

Proposal 20: Greg will amend in the Rule Book to clarify the randomization of groupings of 3 for Championships.

Proposal 21-24: The Board in conjunction with Contest Coordinator Laura Goodman determined that the best alternative option to our current championship event is to hold a Regional A Championships event at a high school the weekend before Championships, as described in Proposal 21. The Board will explore the possibility of a double panel of judges. This decision allows for EVERY unit to compete in a championships event, without eliminating anyone. Host will alternate east side and west side each year. Details of the event will be added to the Championships SOP in the Rulebook. We will explore the possibility of this event for this year, if possible, but it was determined that we may have to abide by the SOP as written for another year because of time constraints.

Discussion was held regarding using wristbands instead of badges for directors and staff. Around 1000 badges are required. Board voted to keep using badges.

It was decided that we will align with WGI and require all show hosts to have double door access to the performance gym.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:17 am until tomorrow morning at 9 am.

We reconvened at 9:30 am, June 10.

Dave Pickett suggested discussion around reconfiguring our new championships arrangement to have Percussion Championships the weekend before Guard Championships. It was proposed that Percussion Championships happen at a quality high school, with all of the guard performances spread out between Saturday and Sunday at Saginaw Valley. We decided to table the discussion until Juno arrives to get his perspective.

Vice Presidents:

Mae and Blair plan to focus the MCGC Clinic on the regional A groups, with a special focus on separating the education of judges, instructors, and performers. It was specified that clinics will be made more easily accessible to both west side

and east side residents, likely on the same day. There is also a plan to hold the clinic earlier.

We are creating an Education Committee that will be responsible for researching educational opportunities for performers and instructors, specifically focused on guard because that's where the interest seems to be. An email was sent out to the guard membership requesting members to express their interest in being a part of it.

The Percussion clinic will be planned for earlier as well, maybe as late as late August or early September. The focus will be on supporting the WGI-level groups and their education, but it is also a priority to encourage all percussionists at all levels.

Secretary:

Baron discussed potential updates to the website, including cosmetic changes, updating/completing the Hall of Fame and adding the option to see previously posted news items. We also discussed a reformatting of the emails sent from Competition Suite so that the subject is displayed first.

We discussed social media and determined that there will be a series of scheduled posts created for the Facebook page to provide reminders and updates to members. We will also be utilizing volunteers to provide coverage on Instagram for our competitions all season long.

Also presented was a "New Member Guide" which will serve as a new resource to complement the Rulebook and provide an easier review of the Rulebook.

Season Schedule:

August 20: Percussion Clinic
October 8: Fall meeting
November 5: Hands-on Clinic and Judges Clinic
January 13: Field Day
January 27-28: First weekend
March 24: Percussion Championships
April 7-8: Guard Championships
June 3: Spring Meeting

Contest Coordinator:

We will be adding the wording to the video policy indicating that videos taken of a unit on behalf of someone else must be taken with a camera in hand, and only from the staff box. Taking a video from a camera that is attached or somehow secured without human interaction will not be allowed.

There will be a designated staff area at every show, as centrally-located as logistically possible.

Clarification will be added that no unit is guaranteed access to the show site earlier than two hours before the show starts, and no unit is guaranteed access to their assigned room or hallway earlier than two hours before their performance slot.

Laura will try to schedule Board members to run critique at each show ahead of time.

Our rule regarding show award requirements will be communicated to show hosts in the application to host a contest. Some show hosts in the 2017 season did not follow the rule and did not provide appropriate awards.

Laura requested that we do not hold a championships committee meeting at Field Day, the Board was in agreement.

Judge Coordinator:

Percussion critique will have four tables.

The Board of Directors is considering having all MCGJA Judges complete WGI Certify courses 100 and 200 in order to be eligible for the 2018 season. MCGC will reimburse the \$50 cost for the second class after completion, for RETURNING MCGJA judges. Deadlines could be September 1, 2017 for Level 100, and January 1, 2018 for Level 200.

Binders will be made available for judges at shows with placemats, schedule and show titles.

Sanity Post:

FAQ- Potentially create a resource on the website with a series of questions the Board receives often that are easily answered. Will refer to Dan Love for references also.

Requiring registration payments to be submitted on Competition Suite- While this is a desirable option for the future, we do not feel it is logistically possible for all programs at this time.

Review Field Day options- It was determined that the current Field Day experience is the best possible option.

Critique- Still will be called by President, CC and JC

Music Stands or Tables- We will not be providing these to the judges.

Promotions in Regional A and AA- We will maintain the process of promoting units only by committee.

Judges parking at Champs- Manjit will explore possibilities for a convenient location to ensure parking for judges.

Ageouts and Seniors- We will take a moment during awards ceremonies to recognize high school seniors and independent group ageouts.

Live audio feed for meetings- Always offer live feed for MCGC Meetings. We will look into purchasing a mic that will work for this, and for recording future educational lectures.

Adapt Rules Committee to use a task force format with equal representation- We decided to continue with the Rules Committee as it stands.

WGI removing the rule regarding secondary affiliation for color guard judges- We have decided to keep our rule as is, and Juno will consult with the Board in the event of a perceived or questionable secondary affiliation.

Holding online meetings led by Class Representatives- We will look into holding potentially biannual meetings inviting all member units to give input, ask questions, etc. in an open forum format.

Purchases:

Tablets: We will purchase 4 more tablets with Otterboxes and two more power strips

Hot Spots: We will look into the purchase of a higher-capacity hotspot to replace the oldest one

Sound System: Dan King is going to look into quotes for a secondary sound system for the west side competitions.

Microphone: Brian will look into purchasing a microphone for conference-style meetings.

Music Licensing:

We've attempted to secure the music licensing for playing music at shows, but have not received responses from 2 out of 3 of our contractors.

Alliance Media:

We have yet to receive a contract from Alliance Media, but we unanimously decided to renew our relationship with them.

Budget:

Dave Pickett moved to increase the payment allotted to our Judge Coordinator and Contest Coordinator. Baron Creutz seconded. Tabled for discussion pending research into how much similar positions in other circuits are paid.

Baron moved to approve the budget, Mae seconded. Budget accepted.

Championships:

Our first choice is to hold a Percussion Championships at a high school on March 24 or 25. There are limited options for facilities large enough to host the show, so we will conduct research to see if these options are available. If there is a percussion championship on March 25, we will have at least one guard show on March 24, possibly two depending on host availability. If there is a Percussion Championships on March 24, we will NOT offer a guard show on March 25.

If this first choice is not possible, we will revert to a second option which was described in SOP Proposal 21; holding Regional A Championships at a high school on that same weekend. The host school would be required to go through the same bidding process as other schools.

If we cannot secure a quality facility for option A or option B, we would revert to what is currently in the 2017 Rulebook, eliminating a certain percentage of units.

Admission to these events could be \$12, with MCGC receiving \$8 and the host school accepting \$4. Championships at Saginaw Valley will still maintain admission at \$15. Performers at the Percussion or Regional A Championships will be permitted entrance to the side stands at Circuit Championships with their wristband.

Lindsey and Dave will reach out to the percussion and winds membership to determine how they would feel about a Percussion Championships on March 24 or 25, to see if we should continue to look into option A or if we should continue on to option B.

For Option C: The Board will abide by the elimination system UNLESS it would only exclude 2 units. Then they would be permitted to perform in

Championships. If there are three units that would be eliminated, all three will be eliminated.

It was determined that we should avoid scheduling committee meetings during Field Day, because the focus should be on training new judges and contest staff.

I&E:

MCGC will still offer I&E, but we are looking into options to increase attendance and participation.

Scholarships:

We established clearer guidelines for the scholarship committee.

BoD Shirts:

Baron will contact Judi Layne about ordering polo shirts for the rest of the Board (not Brian and Blair).

Voting:

In future meetings we will issue a ballot to each voting member with every proposal and election listed, which they can fill out as the meeting progresses.

MCGJA Operations Manual:

We are adding wording that allows the Board and Judge Coordinator together to make changes to the Operations Manual.

Proposal 25: The Board decided to put in writing that the Chief Judge cannot be a T&P judge.

Baron moved to adjourn, Dave Pickett seconded, and meeting adjourned at 11:51 pm.