

Michigan Color Guard Circuit, Inc.

Judge Coordinator Report 2018
Juno Orefice



This year we started the Guard pre-season with a Clinic at Milford HS with the 4 Local Caption Heads. Thank You to Scott Riemenschneider, Kim Kuhn, Mark Heather and Mark DeDeckere for their involvement. We did the clinic the day after MCBA State Finals and I would recommend that we keep it on that weekend. This was an average attended Clinic and the information shared on this day was extremely valuable for everyone in attendance, many topics were covered and we encourage Guard Directors and Staffs to attend to better suit the needs of the Circuit.

We also did a pre-season WGI Percussion / Winds Clinic with Mike McIntosh. MCGC is very fortunate to have 3 Judges on the WGI list, Marc Whitlock, Dave Pickett and Blair Kuhn. We encourage Percussion Directors and Staffs to attend to better suit the needs of the Circuit. Thank You to Dave for setting up the Clinic.

The MCGJA is at 40 members, 14 Guard, 15 Percussion, 8 Winds and 3 T&P. Some of the judges are qualified in multiple Divisions. The MCGJA currently has 8 Perspectives trialing for Color Guard.

This year we had 1 Judge qualify for Guard, Christina VanDam, Congratulations to Christina.

14 MCGJA Judges, 9 Color Guard and 5 Percussion had the opportunity for greater exposure with their judging in the States of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, New Mexico and California.

As always I tried to get in at least 10 new out of state Judges into Michigan. The response was very positive, I was able to get in 16 new Judges this year, 9 for Guard and 7 for Percussion. We will continue to try and get in new Judges every year.

There were very few concerns this year. Biggest concern remains commentary matching numbers.

This year we continued the Judge Evaluation System at every show, I did receive more responses than 2017 but still not as many as I hoped for. Please fill these out in the future to help with overall growth of MCGC and MCGJA.

There are seasonal WGI T & P Webinars to help resolve issues that come up during the season.

All the Show Hosts did an outstanding job in 2018. Thank You Show Hosts for being very accommodating to the Judge's needs.

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As always it's a real pleasure being a part of this great activity. I look forward to what the future holds and seeing you all again in the very near future.

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Design Analysis 2018

Mark Heather – Caption Head



Congratulations to our State Champions, and to those that went on to compete at the WGI National level.... Michigan was well represented once again in a variety of classes this year with a number of units making it to both the Semi-Finals and the Finals Round!

Our units are still working on developing variety and musicality in their design choices, along with variety. As a circuit, we are still a little behind what we are seeing in depth and quality of excellence training, especially in our younger groups.

Concerns:

Working with the down stairs judges to develop a stronger understanding of the term, "More isn't better, Better is Better". Getting better communication to the units on how to train your members to perform more technically to achieve Excellence on our Design Analysis sheets.

MCGC DA Judges:

We are working on training our current and future judges in recognizing the various Design Elements within our sheets and to balance our comments between the upper box and lower box. MCGC had two prospective judges for DA this year. After consultations, it was decided that Danny Walsh would switch over to General Effect after this season. Danny is a very experienced designer that will assist our members better at this time as a GE Judge. Mike Passmore is still developing along well is refining numbers management and dialog. Mike could be ready next year to do some smaller shows.

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Guard General Effect 2018
Mark DeDeckere – Caption Head



2018 has brought a tremendous amount of growth to the MCGC in terms of performance and production value- this stemmed from some very creative show planning and training from our staff community. Thank you for the hard work and countless hours spent in the gym with your students!

Trialing judges: Killian Weston completed her first year of trialing- she participated by making tapes/trialing numbers at Field Day, Jenison and Stoney Creek shows. A few others have inquired about opportunities to begin this process for next winter. If anyone is interested, please email Juno and myself so we can discuss next steps (online coursework). Anyone interested should plan on participating in the judge's clinic in November.

New Judges: Christina VanDam is the newest member of the General Effect judge community and had an outstanding first season!

Overall, we had an excellent season. Lots of out-of-state judge input within the caption as well as strong valuable information from our local judges. Looking forward to 2019!

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Movement 2018

Kim Kuhn – Caption Head



We continue to have 2 qualified movement adjudicators in our circuit. There was some interest in the movement caption this year and have started working with 4 potential judges. All 4 potential judges still working through the requirements. I look forward to continuing to develop these potential judges and helping them grow to be able to serve our circuit in the future.

Much discussion continues to be had on the e-certify online classes. I really recommend the e-certify classes, levels 100 & 200 not only for all judges, but for staff members as well. The information in those 2 levels would really help membership understand the judging process a bit stronger and provide information that could help the development of their programs. I would also recommend that all judges complete the 300 level in their caption, it will only help us be stronger. I would suggest that it to be mandatory for all new adjudicators.

There continues to be a misconception from membership of what the movement caption is really about (it's not a "dance sheet") More education on this subject would be an asset to membership. It would be great to have more involvement from membership at the meetings and/or clinics so that they are getting the latest information as they start their design/training process. It was a big concern that the adjudication manual was posted so late into the season. Many units came to field day not knowing what "the criteria sheet" was or even where to get it. That information needs to be available to membership before they start their season. Without the manual, staff don't have the latest information to learn the criteria and understand the requirements for each caption.

While Field Day continues to grow and be a great opportunity for performers to get those first season jitters out, it continues to possess challenges. I'd suggest the Board of Directors look at other options for field day to make the day most beneficial for the adjudicator's, staff, and most of all...the students.

I look forward to continuing to help the growth of our movement caption again next season.

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Percussion Music Effect Report 2018
Bill Boswell – Caption Head



All was good for Percussion Effect Music this year. Most of the judge evaluations were positive, with only 2 exceptions. I'll look into those more deeply in preparation for the judges' training in the fall/winter.

Thank you all for a good MCGC season!

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Percussion Music Report 2018

Greg Cole – Caption Head



Not much to report for the Percussion Music Caption.

We had a lot of out-of-state judges this year. They all seemed to be serving our membership the way we hoped they would.

No new trialers.

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Percussion Visual Report 2018 Blair Kuhn – Caption Head



I would like to start off by thanking Juno for his continues support for the caption heads. It's an honor to serve the percussion ensembles in this capacity.

2018 saw some growth in quality within this caption. Ensembles have taken to the 4-sheet system and it reflected in the increased level of detail & production value seen in the groups. With the growing quality of compositions witnessed in the circuit, adjudicators have worked to keep up to date on current trends.

Unfortunate MCGC has only 4 active percussion visual judges. It's my hope that, over the next few years that we can expand this number. I've had some interest in entering the trial program, so will see how that plays out over time.

Suggestions –

1. Look at refining the reclassification system.
 - a. With the growing challenges with copyright and video restriction, MCGC need to investigate adding 2 video cameras to the contest supplies. These cameras would be used to record contests and ONLY used for classification considerations.
2. Look at adjusting the judge evaluation system. As I write this, I've only received 2 judge evaluations for the entire 2018 season. These evaluations are important in focusing our training and future assigning. By not submitting evaluation, it is assumed that everything is perfect.

On Percussion Visual, 10 adjudicators took part in MCGC competitions during 2018. Of these 10 judges, 6 came from the WGI roster.

Thank you once again for allowing to serve in the position of Percussion Visual Caption Head.

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T & P Report 2018

Phil Tanner – Caption Head



MCGC 2018 year was very successful for the T & P judges. We had one judge go out of state in IPA and judge. All three judges trained under the WGI online training. The shows were larger than expected which is good for the circuit. Keep up the good work.

T & P goal was be a “friend” not the bad guy buy still uphold the rules but be friendly on the floor.

This year with competition suite we were able to look back at previous shows to analyze if groups were consistent in penalties. Very helpful. We will continue this practice for 2019.

Good luck to all groups and we will see everyone in 2019.

Thank You