

SPRING 08

Notes

TEXAS
EDUCATIONAL
COLORGUARD
ASSOCIATION

May 17th, 2008

- I. Meeting called to order by President, Ashley Thornton
- II. Roll Call, Marshall HS, New Braunfels HS, Holmes HS, Warren HS, Burbank HS, Performers Academy, ICAP, Martin HS, Westwood HS, Taft HS, Jefferson HS
- III. Acceptance of the Fall 07 minutes
- IV. Treasurer's report by TECA Treasurer, Meisha Hinojosa - TECA is sitting at 1000.00 after all expenditures. Meisha will submit an expenditure list for review on the website.
- V. Committee Reports - None
- VI. President's Report
- VII. Old Business

2008 DVD's Because of the unfortunate circumstance of an absent video company, many units didn't get a chance to obtain a video recording. The Executive Board would like to extend their apologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

VIII. New Business

- A. Fall Meeting Date and Time Saturday, August 9th, 10am Executive Board, 1pm General Membership at Burbank HS
- B. Elections
 - Vice President Nominations - Phil Salas and Nathan Flynt
 - Secretary Nominations - Ed Gonzales
 - Parliamentarian Nominations -Jennifer Hardin and Marissa Trevinio
- C. Proposals:

Submitted by Jennifer L. Kotzur

Second by Robert Beavers

I propose that coaches and/or directors are not allowed to change the the performance order during the day of solo and ensemble contest. This would allow the schedule to continue to flow or to rush performers who are set for a later time. However, If changes need to be made, the director of the contest is notified 48-72 hours in advance, so that contest schedules can be updated the day prior to contest.

Rationale: We are allowing our contests to flow and follow the rules on how performers are submitted in the fall.

Points of Discussion

Does it happen often?

Are performance windows for each organization enough time?

Do slots have to be mandated or spans of time be more flexible?

Would a more strict schedule structure allow for performers who missed their time to perform at the end of the morning times-before units?

These proposals were submitted by Nathan L. Flynt - Jourdanton High School Director
Second by Phil Henry O. Salas - Warren High School Director

1. Solo/Ensemble contest. Eliminate solo/ensemble contests as an official TECA sanctioned event. If a school wants to continue to host a solo/ensemble contest at their local show, they will be responsible for all entry fees, securing, scheduling and paying judges and providing awards.

Rationale: The solo/ensemble contest at some shows is taking upwards of 6 hours to complete. This is causing the units to have to begin later in the day and consequently end later in the day. This creates a burden for guards who have to travel long distances.

Points of Discussion

What was the total income of S&E?

A long contest day is part of being involved with the activity

Capping the entries would allow for a lighter schedule

What can be done about the sponsors of organizations changing the schedules?

Much like chamber music, S&E is a unique and valid performance experience.

Would eliminating a valid performance opportunity be educational?

2. Percussion contest. Move percussion contests to a different venue/day than guard. For example, if A High School hosts a guard contest on Saturday, the percussion contest for that week will be either at B High School in a similar area (San Antonio, RGV, Laredo, etc.) or at A High School on Friday evening.

Rationale: The percussion contest is growing exponentially and we will continue to have to begin earlier and go later in the contest day. This is also in keeping with WGI scheduling policies.

Points of Discussion

How would additional facilities be guaranteed?

What would be the impact on the membership of having multiple performance venues or contest dates (Friday/Saturday)?

A long contest day is part of being involved with the activity. If you are a sponsor of any kind of performance organization, you have control of how many contests in which you participate.

3. Judges, regardless of primary caption, and all board members, will all be trained in timing and penalty for both guard and percussion. A locally created program of training will be developed for this important caption to be completed during the first three (3) weeks of the season.

Rationale: While it is understood that there is no formal training program provided by WGI as for the scored captions, we need to be more consistent in our assessment of penalties in order to maintain the perceived integrity of the circuit and the board.

Procedural, doesn't need to be voted on.

4. Move the percussion championship to a different date/venue than guard championships – specifically the Friday before the last regular season show. Allow champions in each class to perform in exhibition at the guard championships.

Points of Discussion

How would additional facilities be guaranteed?

What would be the impact on the membership of having multiple performance venues or contest dates (Friday/Saturday)?

A long contest day is part of being involved with the activity. If you are a sponsor of any kind of performance organization, you have control of how many contests in which you participate.

This proposal submitted by Phil Henry O. Salas - Warren High School Director
Second by Nathan L. Flynt - Jourdanton High School Director

I would like to propose that the the TEXAS EDUCATIONAL COLORGUARD ASSOCIATION would start to medal the 2nd and 3rd place winning units in each division. colorguard and percussion! I think we are at a point of growth that we can continue to award trophies and medals and still banner each class winner and not loose out financially. With our growth I think it would help us continue to bring in more competing units.

Points of Discussion

Yes, it is educational to hand out more awards. If it is financially feasible to award 2nd and 3rd place medals, then TECA should do it. Currently, TECA spends \$5729.10 on Championship awards.

Submitted by Ed Gonzales, New Braunfels HS
2nd by David Eckert, Holmes HS

Article I – MEMBERSHIP

- I. The membership will consist of Scholastic and Independent colorguard units and Individuals to include all adjudicators.

Proposed amendment: The membership will consist of Scholastic and Independent Color Guard units, Scholastic and Independent Percussion units and Individuals to include all adjudicators, executive board members and associate members.

Rationale: The revised statement will provide a more clear picture of TECA's membership.

- II. Fees

- D. A cancellation fee of \$100.00 will be assessed to any competing unit who does not withdrawal from any contest within 14 days (2 weeks) prior to their participation on the contest date. Continued performance opportunities of any kind will not be allowed to continue until the assessed fee is paid in full to the TECA Treasurer. In addition, units may not add to a contest any later than 14 days (2 weeks) of the scheduled contest date

Rationale: Should have been added to the 2007 update. It never was.

ARTICLE II – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

The Chief Judge shall:

6. The Chief Judge with the approval of the Ex-Board may promote units during the season

Rationale: Should have been added to the 2007 update. It never was.

ARTICLE VI – CLASSIFICATION

Specific Percussion Classifications

1. Scholastic Marching World Class (PSW)
2. Scholastic Marching Open Class (PS0)
3. Scholastic A Marching Class (PSA)
4. Scholastic Regional A Marching Class (PSRA)
5. Scholastic Concert World Class (PSCW)
6. Scholastic Concert Open Class (PSCO)
7. Scholastic Concert A Class (PSCA)
8. Independent Marching World Class (PIW)
9. Independent Marching Open Class (PIO)

Submitted by Fred Rodriguez, Martin HS

2nd by Ashley Thornton

I propose that there be a one time increase in membership fees of 20.00 per unit. The proceeds of the increase to be used to purchase a digital video camera and supplies so that each director is given a copy of their performance at each contest they attend.

Submitted by James Johnson

2nd by Ashley Thornton

I propose that the TECA Circuit invest in a video cam corder and an operator for every unit at every show for review questions and concerns. This will allow ALL on the review board to be able to watch the unit(s) in question. It is hard for executive board members and judges to watch every guard at every show, so this will remedy review members claiming to not have seen the guard in reviews show, and it will also allow the review board to review the tape of their show one last time before making a final decision on the fate of that unit's promotion or demotion.

Submitted by Marissa Trevino

2nd by James Johnson

Amendment 1

Article VI Section A number 2

Currently reads

Texas educational color guard association will be implementing a review scoring system for promotions. This scoring system allows for growth and development for the performers and the instructors instead of "winning to beat a rival unit". These review scores are based on the previous season's weekly scores.

Amend to

2 Circuit Promotion Process: The promotion process will promote units who have surpassed the criteria reference expected for their class at that point in the season. The reclassification will be based on the gross score received by the unit.

- a. The circuit will have two review committees: Color Guard and Percussion.

1 The Color Guard review committee will consist of the Executive Board of the circuit (excluding the Percussion Administrator) and one elected unit representative. The unit representative will be elected by the Circuit membership at the fall meeting, serve a one year term, and must be a color guard unit director in good stand-

ing with the circuit.

2 The Percussion review committee will consist of the Executive Board of the circuit(excluding the Color Guard Judge's Coordinator) and one elected unit representative. The unit representative will be elected by the Circuit membership at the fall meeting, serve a one year term, and must be a color guard unit director in good standing with the circuit.

3 Circuit Promotion scores are set by the review committees. The scores will be published no later than the first contest of the season and will be added to the by-laws under this section.

4 Units will be promoted to the next appropriate classification if:

4.1 The unit receives a gross score equal to or higher than the score promotion score for that weekend. For color guard, the unit must receive a promotion score from three of the five judges in addition to receiving a gross promotion score.

4.2 The Review committee can determine a unit is exceeding the expectations of the unit's current classification

5 A unit which feels a promotion was inappropriate must appeal the decision in writing within three calendar days. Appeals must include supporting rationale to justify reversing the promotion. The review committee will hear the appeal, vote, and return a decision with three days of the receipt of the appeal.

6 Promotions are viable throughout the season, with the exception of the weekend preceding the Circuit Championships. Regional A units promoted two weeks prior to the Circuit Championships will not add time.

7 The Review committees and class representatives will convene at the conclusion of the TECA season to determine if any units are ready to join the next higher classification. The units will be notified in writing that they are under review for promotion and will receive the decision of the committee prior to the circuit's fall meeting. The committee's decision can be appealed according to section a number 5

8 The Class/Division Champion of the following guard and percussion classes will compete in the next higher classification the next season;

Guard: Novice, Scholastic Regional A, Independent Regional A, Scholastic AAA and Scholastic AA. Percussion: Marching Scholastic AA The unit can be appeal this policy to the review committee according to section a number 5

Rationale: The following method creates a means of fair promotions to the members of the circuit with checks and balances in place so that the unit director may state a case unknown to the circuit and so that the primary job of the judges can be to judge and not promote.

Amendment 2

Article VI section A number 3

Currently reads:

Personnel changes (students) render them noncompetitive in the Scholastic Divisions. It is the responsibility of the unit director to inform the President of the Texas Educational Colorguard Association, in writing, of this situation.

Amend to:

As the TECA follows all UIL eligibility rules, a roster listing all eligible performing members in a unit must be turned in by each competing guard at their first performance of the season. This roster must be signed by

the Principal (Scholastic Units) or the guard director (Non-Scholastic Units) and must be updated as unit membership or eligibility changes.

Rationale:

We do not want to punish the members of the color guard who are committed to the success of their unit because individual members decided to quit or became ineligible. We just want to be sure that all standard rules are being followed.

Amendment 5

Article VII Section 1 Letter H

Currently reads

The contest coordinator has the authority to assume the responsibility of Contest Director(host) at the Contest Coordinator’s discretion.

Amend to

The Contest Coordinator has the authority to assume the responsibility of the Contest Sponsor at the discretion of the majority of the Executive Board Present.

Rationale: This allows the Contest Coordinator to assume the responsibility if necessary, but creates a checks and balance system so that no one person can make a decision of that nature on their own.

Amendment 6

Constitution Article IV

Currently reads:

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

I. The elected officers of the Texas Educational Colorguard Association shall be the following:

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Treasurer
- D. Secretary
- E. Parliamentarian
- F. Historian/Webmaster
- G. Educational Director (appointed)
- H. Chief Judge (appointed)
- I. Contest Coordinator (appointed)

II. Two non-elected positions of Judges Trainers will also serve as officers as specified in the By-Laws.

III. The duties and responsibilities of the officers of the Texas Educational Colorguard Association shall be specified in the By-Laws of this association

Amend to:

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

I. The elected officers of the Texas Educational Colorguard Association shall be the following:

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Treasurer
- D. Secretary
- E. Parliamentarian
- F. Historian/Webmaster

II. The non-elected officers of the TECA shall be the following

- A. Educational Director
- B. Chief Judge
- C. Contest Coordinator
- D. Percussion Administrator

III. Two non-elected positions of Judges Trainers will also serve as officers as specified in the By-Laws.

IV The duties and responsibilities of the officers of the Texas Educational Colorguard Association shall be specified in the By-Laws of this association

Rationale: The division between elected and non-elected is to be clear and concise about who and how offices are chosen. The addition of Percussion Administrator is so that Percussion Units have a voice on the board dedicated to only percussion. The rest is so that labeling with in the document will be clear and concise.

After a long discussion, President Ashley Thornton formed 2 different committees - One for Solo and Ensembles and another for the reformation of the current version of the billows and Constitution.

Solo and Ensemble Committee

Ed Gonzales*
Shelly Knight
Jennifer Kotzur
Charlotte Kotzur
David Eckert
Marissa Trevino
Richard Lopez

Constitution and ByLaws Committee

Tom Esperiqueta
Marissa Morrison
James Johnson

D. Possible 2009 Contest Schedule

If you are planning on hosting a contest, your form was due at the Spring Meeting.

Month	Contest Date and Possible Site
January	24th Burbank HS 31st
February	7th - Martin HS, Laredo TX 14th - TMEA 21st 28th (1st score requirement)
March	7th - JHS Jourdanton, Tx 14th - NBHS, New Braunfels, Tx 21st - Edinburg North HS, Edinburg Tx (2nd score requirement) 28th Marshall HS or Brandice HS
April	4th Championships - Site TBA

E. The Code of Ethics

It's been tradition in TECA for every director and adjudicator to sign a "Code of Ethics." The Executive Board feels that two items will be added to the 2008-2009 COE.

Directors: Any inappropriate behavior will immediately end your critique session and will result in forfeiting your privileges to attend any further TECA sponsored critique session for the remainder of the season. Any further correspondence will be directed to the Chief Judge.

Judges: Any inappropriate behavior from any adjudicator will result in, but not limited to, immediate redirection from the Chief Judge and/or Executive Board member, immediate suspension of all adjudicating responsibilities for the remainder of the contest day and/or immediate suspension of all adjudicating responsibilities for the remainder of the season.

VII. Director's comments

VIII. Special Announcements

IX. Meeting adjournment