



Color Guard Rule Changes for 2016

- Rule 1.1 amended to read: "International independent color guards are not bound by any age limit." This change was to accommodate international scholastic groups attending world championships.
- Addition of Rule 1.1.1: "U.S. Military veterans may be granted one (1) year of eligibility immediately following their end of active service. To qualify, individual must have enlisted prior to their 19th birthday, served for no less than four (4) years, and must have been honorably discharged or medically separated. Veteran must submit a copy of their discharge papers and separation documents to WGI prior to December 1 to qualify."
- Rule 1.5 deleted: No color guard may use music on the "Restricted Music" list as published on the WGI website. Directors are responsible to verify music eligibility.
- Rule 4.1 amended to read: "The bottom of all props, flats and scenery that could cause possible damage to the performance area must be padded or taped while being used, set up or removed."
- Rule 4.4.8 amended to read: "Use of glass objects that may break and/or leave shards of glass in the competition area."
- Rule 4.4.9 added to prohibit use of "Drones or any remote-controlled airborne device."
- Addition of following to prohibited equipment section: "Directors are encouraged to contact the Director of Color Guard to inquire about the use of particular equipment or materials when its permissibility under this section or at a specific site may be in question."

The Contest Administrator, Chief Judge or Director of Color Guard shall at all times have the authority to prohibit the use of any prop or equipment that presents an unreasonable or unacceptable risk of injury or harm to participants or others or potential danger to a venue or its property."

- Rule 4.5 amended to read: "Props built and/or used, including drum major podiums, that measure over six feet (6') high and are used in such a way that result in a participant whose feet are more than six feet (6') above the competition area must have appropriate safety railings in place or protective padding around prop to prevent any injury. Participants are prohibited from jumping or leaping off any prop that exceeds six feet (6') in height unless protective padding is in place or other adequate safety precautions are taken."

Color Guard Policy Changes for 2016

- Seeding process for world championships has been changed. Please see Page 138 in rulebook.
- World Championships seeding in rounds has been changed to randomized order in halves instead of thirds (see Page 138 in rulebook).
- Groups that are promoted, either by review or by medaling in the A or Open Class, must remain in the promoted class the following season or the next time they attend WGI Championships unless they did not make semi-finals in the prior season.



Percussion Rule Changes for 2016

- Rule 1.1 amended to read: "International independent percussion ensembles are not bound by any age limit." This change was to accommodate international scholastic groups attending world championships.
- Addition of Rule 1.1.1: "U.S. Military veterans may be granted one (1) year of eligibility immediately following their end of active service. To qualify, individual must have enlisted prior to their 19th birthday, served for no less than four (4) years, and must have been honorably discharged or medically separated. Veteran must submit a copy of their discharge papers and separation documents to WGI prior to December 1 to qualify."
- Rule 1.5 deleted: No percussion ensemble may use music on the "Restricted Music" list as published on the WGI website. Directors are responsible to verify music eligibility.
- Rule 4.3.8 amended to read: "Use of glass objects that may break and/or leave shards of glass in the competition area."
- Rule 4.3.9 added to prohibit use of "Drones or any remote-controlled airborne device."
- Addition of following to prohibited equipment section: "Directors are encouraged to contact the Director of Percussion to inquire about the use of particular equipment or materials when its permissibility under this section or at a specific site may be in question."

The Contest Administrator, Chief Judge or Director of Percussion shall at all times have the authority to prohibit the use of any prop or equipment that presents an unreasonable or unacceptable risk of injury or harm to participants or others or potential danger to a venue or its property."

- Rule 4.4 amended to read: "Props built and/or used, including drum major podiums, that measure over six feet (6') high and are used in such a way that result in a participant whose feet are more than six feet (6') above the competition area must have appropriate safety railings in place or protective padding around prop to prevent any injury. Participants are prohibited from jumping or leaping off any prop that exceeds six feet (6') in height unless protective padding is in place or other adequate safety precautions are taken."

Percussion Policy Changes for 2016

- All World Class marching classes will have a Semi-Finals.



Winds Rule Changes for 2016

- Addition of Rule 1.2.1: "U.S. Military veterans may be granted one (1) year of eligibility immediately following their end of active service. To qualify, individual must have enlisted prior to their 19th birthday, served for no less than four (4) years, and must have been honorably discharged or medically separated. Veteran must submit a copy of their discharge papers and separation documents to WGI prior to December 1 to qualify."
- Rule 1.5 deleted: No marching winds group may use music on the "Restricted Music" list as published on the WGI website. Directors are responsible to verify music eligibility.
- Rule 4.3.8 added to prohibit use of "*Drones or any remote-controlled airborne device.*"
- Addition of following to prohibited equipment section: "*Directors are encouraged to contact the Director of Winds to inquire about the use of particular equipment or materials when its permissibility under this section or at a specific site may be in question.*"

The Contest Administrator, Chief Judge or Director of Winds shall at all times have the authority to prohibit the use of any prop or equipment that presents an unreasonable or unacceptable risk of injury or harm to participants or others or potential danger to a venue or its property."

- Rule 4.4 amended to read: "Props built and/or used, including drum major podiums, that measure over six feet (6') high and are used in such a way that result in a participant whose feet are more than six feet (6') above the competition area must have appropriate safety railings in place or protective padding around prop to prevent any injury. Participants are prohibited from jumping or leaping off any prop that exceeds six feet (6') in height unless protective padding is in place or other adequate safety precautions are taken."

Winds Policy Changes for 2016

- Revise Classification policy (page 17 of the WGI Winds Manual) to read: *Should a group be competing in the wrong class, the Director of Winds will advise the ensemble director. A group may be reclassified to any class. For those groups who are clearly competing in the wrong class at a Regional or World Championship event, it will be the decision of the Winds Administration to reclassify the group at that Regional or World Championship final contest. Reclassification may also be done between Regional contests up to and including the World Championship event. Ensembles that are clearly competing in the wrong class may be reclassified between prelims and finals at any event if the Contest Administrator can modify the performance schedule. If a group is asked to produce a current performance video for evaluation, the group has seven (7) days to deliver the media to the Director of Winds or the reclassification will automatically be made. If the ensemble does not agree with this ruling of reclassification, the ensemble has the right to appeal this ruling by contacting the Director of Winds within forty-eight (48) hours. The appeal will then be reviewed by the Director of Winds and Steering Committee. The final decision will be made within ten (10) days of this appeal.*