

2014 TECA Proposals

1. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Fred Rodriguez

Proposal: **PASSED AS AMENDED**

Amend current colorguard NOVICE classifications as follows:

NOVICE - All members may or may not attend the same school or feeder school. A unit may compete for a maximum of one year in this classification. A unit must petition the review committee for permission to remain in the class after the one-year period. **Only one one-year petition may be granted to any unit.** Equipment and movement will focus on the training and achievement of the most SIMPLE BEGINNING SKILLS. Recognize which principles are essential at a beginning level and train for the excellent demonstration of these skills. The purpose of this class is to help the performers grow in the very elementary principles and efforts in handling equipment and movement. Many may use props, small swing flags or other pieces of equipment, which can be handled through full arm rotation. Always support proper training and development on whatever piece of equipment or movement choice the unit displays. In the Design Analysis caption compositional qualities should include logic and presentation with good connections and flow from one single idea to the next. Obvious melodic line reflections will be the choice for most groups in reflecting musical structure. Focus on the correctness of the basics of composition. At pulse, in-step and consistent step offs and builds to new sets will be the priorities. In General Effect, design and performance skills will be at a beginning level. As beginners, single efforts and simple responsibilities will occur. The concept of layered skills will probably not exist. Shows will likely “set, move and spin”, presenting one skill at a time. Effect will be generated largely through precision and timing. Achievement of simple beginning skills is the main focus of this class. Units competing in the classification will be judged using the WGI “Regional A Class” criteria.

Rationale:

This would limit participation to only those units who are in the first year of the activity.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

2. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Jeremy Contreras

Proposal: **WITHDRAWN**

Amend current colorguard classifications as follows:

Remove SRAAA and SRAA

SRA - All members attend the same school or feeder school. This class is for a competitive Regional A unit, which is not ready for the demands of the A Class sheet. Equipment and movement will focus on the training and achievement of basic skills. Tosses use a limited variety of release and catch points and typically take place from a stationary position. Weapons will usually toss no higher than a triple. Dimensionality is limited and phrases are often very short(16 to 24 counts) with much built in recovery time. Movement is mostly demonstrated by moving from place to place with a good range of gestural qualities being demonstrated. There is usage of simple turns and leaps and performers occasionally explore level changes around the body. Performers should demonstrate good examples of body awareness (posture, line, shape, weight) with very little change in dynamic qualities. Ensemble Analysis will display a beginning level of artistic effort that focuses on clear staging of the elements, logical progression of ideas (horizontal orchestration) and the basic use of the design elements. The triad is never completely used with elements most often being presented singularly and occasionally presented two at a time. In General Effect, the concept and intent should be clear, consistent and moderately developed. Ideas should move successfully from one to another and the intent of the concept is not totally dependent on the role of the performers. Performer role, character and emotional development is evident but at a basic level with minimal changes. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "Regional A Class" criteria.

Rationale:

This would align TECA with the other major circuits in Texas.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

3. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Jeremy Contreras

Proposal: **PASSED AS AMENDED**

Amend current colorguard classifications as follows:

Remove SAAA and SAA, amend SA and add Scholastic National A

SA - All Members attend the same school or feeder school. This class is for a moderately competitive scholastic unit, which is not ready for the demands of Open or World Class. Guards in this area are at a level where members and staff have a complete understanding of the basic principles of performance and design. Units here may also occasionally explore more intermediate concepts that encourage performers and designers to broaden their skills.

There is moderate rehearsal opportunity and funding to develop this level of competitive program. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria and will be encouraged to maximize the achievement of these criteria. Units registered for **more than one** national/regional level WGI events during the competitive season are not eligible to participate in this class.

SNA – Units that will compete at multiple WGI events in the current competitive season, such as regionals or championships, must compete in this class. The only exception will be in the instance where additional groups from the same school (such as a 'JV' or 'B' groups) who choose to compete at a WGI Regional in the Regional A Class, would not be bound to compete in SNA. Units may also choose to compete in this classification even if they do not compete at national level WGI events. This classification's criterion is the same as the Scholastic A Class.

Rationale:

This would align TECA with the other major circuits in Texas.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

4. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Jeremy Contreras

Proposal: **PASSED**

Split classes with a large number of entries into rounds.

All guard classes with 20 or more entries will be split into rounds.

Rationale:

This will provide greater opportunity for units at or near the top of each competitive class to be rewarded for their achievement.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): Will vary by contest

5. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Jeremy Contreras

Proposal: **WITHDRAWN**

Amend current colorguard classifications as follows:

SCHOLASTIC JV

All Members attend the same school or feeder school. Only secondary or "JV" high school units are eligible to compete in this class. This class is for a moderately competitive scholastic unit, which is not ready for the demands of Open or World Class. Members and staff of these units have a complete understanding of the basic principles of performance and design. These units also occasionally may explore more intermediate concepts that encourage performers and designers to broaden their skills. There is moderate rehearsal opportunity and funding to develop this level of competitive program. This class will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria and will be encouraged to maximize the achievement of this criterion. Units may register for national level WGI events during the competitive season as a means to explore.

Rationale:

This would align TECA with the other major circuits in Texas.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

6. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Fred Rodriguez

Proposal: **FAILED**

Amend current colorguard classifications as follows:

3. SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL AAA CLASS - All members attend the same school or feeder school. This class is designed for the most novice performers of color guard.

Units in this class are characterized by membership of no more than 25% of the total number of performers ever having any dance or guard experience. Show design and the generation of effect are very much less important than the development of primary technical skills and the introduction of expression. This class is reserved to allow these performers a positive emerging competitive experience in color guard, and to allow them to develop entry-level skills in a supportive environment. Only groups who are at the very nascent stages of training should declare this class. Units registered in the Scholastic A class for national/regional level WGI events during the competitive season are not eligible to participate in this class.

4. SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL AA CLASS - All members attend the same school or feeder school. This class is designed for units that may have new performers, but also includes more than 25% of the unit with limited dance or previous color guard training. This class is designed for individuals to be somewhat more competitive than the regional 'AAA' class, but still working on the refinement of entry-level skills. Design and thematic efforts play a more prominent role than in the regional 'AAA' class, but still are at elementary levels. Groups who have had some exposure but limited training should declare this class. Units registered in the Scholastic A class for national/regional level WGI events during the competitive season are not eligible to participate in this class.

5. SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL A CLASS - All members attend the same school or feeder school. This class is designed for units that may have new performers, but may also include a majority of returning performers who have had some previous exposure to dance and/or color guard. For a competitive unit which is not ready for the demands of the A Class sheet. Equipment and movement will focus on the training and achievement of the basic skills. Tosses use a limited variety of release and catch points and typically take place from a stationary position. Weapons will usually toss no higher than a triple. Dimensionality is limited and phrases are often very short (16 to 24 counts) with much built in recovery time. Movement is mostly demonstrated by moving from place to place with a good range of gestural qualities being demonstrated. There is usage of simple turns and leaps and performers occasionally explore level changes around the body. Performers should demonstrate good examples of body awareness (posture, line, shape, weight) with very little change in dynamic qualities. Ensemble Analysis will display a beginning level of artistic effort that focuses on clear staging of the elements, logical progression of ideas (horizontal orchestration) and the basic use of the design elements. The triad is never completely used with elements most often being presented singularly and occasionally presented two at a time. In General Effect, the concept and intent should be clear, consistent and moderately developed. Ideas should move successfully from one to another and the intent of the concept is not totally dependent on the role of the performers. Performer role, character and emotional development is evident but at a basic level with minimal changes. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "Regional A Class" criteria. **Units registered in the Scholastic A class for national/regional level WGI events during the competitive season are not eligible to participate in this class.**

Rationale:

If a unit is competing in WGI on the A sheet, they should be completing in TECA on the A sheet.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

7. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Ruben Alejandro

Proposal: **PASSED**

Altar the colorguard promotion process to include the following language:

RECLASSIFICATION/PROMOTION OF COLOR GUARDS

The purpose of the reclassification process is to ensure units with the same defined characteristics, as described in the Class Descriptors, are identified as competitors within the same classification. The process for determine reclassification is as follows:

1. A unit is considered submitted for reclassification/promotion if:
 - a. The total gross score is 15% higher than the next highest score in the class, or
 - b. At least 3 judges at the contest indicate that a unit should be reviewed as competing out of class.

Rationale:

This is more in line with how the process actually works.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

8. Submitted by Nathan Flynt, second by Fred Rodriguez

Proposal: **PASSED**

Include the following language in the by-laws:

Unit reclassification due to promotion will be considered a lateral slide into the next class, i.e., if a unit's draw is fifth, they will maintain their relative draw position in the new class.

Rationale:

This will provide a written explanation of how the promotion process works with regard to performance order.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None.

9. Submitted by Damon Lionel Whitley, Second by Michael J. Vasquez

Proposal: PROCEDURAL, DOES NOT REQUIRE A VOTE. This action will be implemented beginning with the 2015 competition season.

Announce participating units in performance order not placing during retreat before announcing the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place winner, in order to recognize participants' achievement.

Rationale:

This way we can recognize achievement on all levels during our retreats. No scores or placing announced just unit names. Everyone should get recognized for performing just as they would in a marching contest or a Miss America pageant.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): None

10. Submitted by Richard Lopez, Second by John Deleon

Proposal: PASSED

Units awarded a regular season show will pay the circuit a \$250 hosting fee due and payable on or before the date of the host's show.

Rationale: This fee will help defray expenses incurred by the circuit to maintain, transport, and store equipment owned by the circuit.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): Positive

11. Submitted by Fred Rodriguez, Second by John Deleon

Proposal: PASSED

A unit in violation of any portion of the contest host manual will be charged a fee of \$100 per violation. Any unit in violation will not be allowed to continue competing until the fee(s) are paid in full to the circuit.

Rationale: This will ensure that all contests are run uniformly and consistently throughout the competition season.

Financial impact to the circuit (if any): will depend on fees imposed (if any.)