



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2017 SAPA Spring Membership Meeting Proposal List**

Policy Manual Proposals

Category: Awards

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| 1) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> SAPA Staff</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Only induct new members into the Hall of Fame every 2 years.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Hall of Fame should be regarded as a very prestigious award which recognizes those who have had an important impact on the entire SAPA organization. Increasing the time between inductions to every other year will allow for a larger pool of qualified applicants each induction year.</p> |
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Category: Registration

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| 2) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Eliminate any and all policies related to show removal for forms and roll requirement into same category as fees. Include receipt in late fee structure.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Most groups register on time and pay fees to enter contests at the first possible opportunity. If all requirements are included with entry and fees, then it will increase efficiency of groups submitting the proper information, and attach late fee to failure to produce. This would eliminate the logistics that accompany these items.</p> |
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Category: Classification

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| 3) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> SAPA Staff</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Units in all classes may be promoted throughout the entire season. When Regional A class units are promoted, all timing penalties will be waived for 2 weeks following the promotion.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Since there are different timing requirements between the Regional A sheet and the A sheet, a grace period should be granted to allow promoted groups to adjust their show accordingly if needed without penalty. This grace period would extend to SAPA championships if a Regional A unit is promoted within 2 weeks of the championships date.</p> |
| 4) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> Copper Atwood</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Clarifying the process of promotion and reclassification, not the number but the elements of the equation and make the process known to the directors and instructors.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
As directors, we should be able to be prepared for what is to come in terms of promotions and reclassification. As educators, we should be able to inform our students of the basics of promotion so that they will be better prepared in our rehearsal settings.</p> |



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Category: Contests

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| 5) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Eliminate ALL first appearance requirements for colorguards, including education requirements.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
The decision of when a group should come out should be left to the director of the group, not the circuit. This policy dates to days when shows in early season were sparsely attended, and not consistent to today, where shows are quite large. The emphasis should dwell in producing quality, robust events that compel units to attend as many shows as possible for educational and/or competitive purposes. It also eliminates logistic efforts that can be transferred to more vital areas.</p> |
| 6) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Consider adding a cross circuit opportunity to be included in championships requirement.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Currently, there are shows within areas that may be sponsored by another circuit. In the event that this happens, groups should be allowed to enter those shows and still receive credit toward Championships. This is both goodwill to other circuits as well as to groups participating in SAPA. Coordination with circuits would be required, and we work toward options for limiting or eliminating additional fees that might be associated. It will take coordination to make this happen.</p> |

Category: Championships

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| 7) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> SAPA Staff</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
For SAPA championships, eliminate the use of seeding in classes of 10 or fewer units. Order of appearance will be determined by randomizing the entire group together. Seeding will be done for classes of 11 or more.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Randomizing 6-10 units in 3 groupings, per the current model in the policy manual does not result in much of a randomization at all and seems to "slot" groups into a suggested finishing position. The judges can judge 6-10 groups without seeding.</p> |
| 8) | <p><u>Proposed By:</u> SAPA Staff</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u>
Eliminate the Spirit of SAPA and Sportsmanship championship awards.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u>
Very few people seem to care about these awards. Every year very few nominations are made and/or people ignore the instructions to provide a rationale for their nomination, so the nomination is not considered. There have been several years that recipients have received the awards by default by being the only nominee.</p> |



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Category: Circuit Business	
9)	<p><u>Proposed by:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u> Eliminate all language related to requirements to receive the two membership badges.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> The current policy is difficult to enforce and creates unnecessary logistics on the administration end of the circuit. Furthermore, the two badges should be inclusive of membership.</p>
10)	<p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u> Remove all language about judge pay/mileage from policy manual.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> It should exist in the contest guidelines.</p>
11)	<p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u> Eliminate the following language from the Executive Board portion of the policy manual: No person actively serving as a judge at SAPA shows is eligible to be elected to the Executive Board.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> Seems unnecessary and out of place to exist in manual, and given current policies for E-board election.</p>
12)	<p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens & Jessica Smith</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u> Eliminate music division and all pertinent policy language and positions associated.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> Brian - With limited interest and participation in our music division, and a clearly viable, desirable circuit that shares our geographic area, we should focus singularly on our colorguard division. Continued growth in numbers each year, combined with neighboring geographic areas' increased interest in our organizations, our focus here is the right direction for SAPA. Jessica - It is economically impractical for the circuit to continue to allocate money for classifications that do not exist in our circuit any longer. All our previous percussion and winds members have gone over to GIPA (35 members, most previously members of SAPA.)</p>
13)	<p><u>Proposed By:</u> Brian Giddens</p> <p><u>Proposal:</u> Add position to the Executive Board to be called Vice President - SAPA. Makeup of E-board to be President, Vice-President, Vice President-Colorguard, Colorguard At-Large, and Secretary</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u></p>



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When SAPA re-organized the Executive Board in 2016, a position was eliminated, creating an even number. The Executive Board should be made up of an odd number of members for efficient, successful decision-making. Eboard will work to create job description for the position in summer of 2017, reporting back at the Fall meeting.

New Business

1) Proposed By: Cynthia Church

Proposal:

This is not necessarily a proposal as it is wanting to bring up a topic for discussion within our community. My hope is that this is a chance for real discussion, non-judgement, and possibly a group of like-minded individuals coming together to set a higher standard for ourselves so we can do better, be better examples to those we impact.

Rationale:

Most of us are in positions with the potential for impacting/influencing the students we teach as much as their family and friends and so I have thought a lot about this over the past season. Can we BE better? Can we DO better? Can we come together as a community and inspire change in each other? Often at contest this season I pondered over this and feared discussing openly with peers. We are asking our students to be highly physical, perform with confidence and ease, placing them in a competitive environment while ensuring them that winning is not the goal. However, many of us walk around with unhealthy habits impacting our ability to be very physical, we stress out trying to find that perfect live performance that is nowhere in existence, and talk about the activity as if there is a "real" retirement in our future. (I don't know of many programs offering a retirement benefits package) I feel like as a community we do not represent what we say is of importance. Again, my hope is that at this meeting we take the time to discuss the important business of the circuit but that we also take this opportunity as a community to come together to inspire each other to do better. I absolutely love this activity, it truly has raised me from a very shy 9 year old but as an adult I am sad to see that too often those of us in love with the activity and grow old giving back to this activity end up expecting more from our students than we do in ourselves.

2) Proposed By: Copper Atwood

Proposal:

If we are going to have an educational day we need to know the format of what to expect in that day. Also keep educational consistent from contest to contest. With that educational the extended critique should be a two-judge critique verses a one judge, example one upstairs judge and one downstairs or one downstairs and the overview judge of the day.

Rationale:

If educational days are meant to assist directors on improving their programs we need to have a broader spectrum of information. Having two judges from the upstairs caption and the downstairs caption will give us the ability to grow our production and get maximum feedback.

3) Proposed By: Copper Atwood

Proposal:

To counteract a potential problem for directors not being aware of specific policies in the WGI manual, a document be created that has excerpts from the manual that is circuit specific.

Rationale:



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<p>This is to assist the young instructors be aware of rules that maybe in the WGI manual. Directors and Instructors that do not have a WGI competitive program may not read the manual as it is a very large and lengthy and can be cumbersome to digest. This can inhance the educational aspect of our circuit.</p>
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