



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2019 SAPA Spring Membership Meeting Proposal List**

Policy Proposals

Category: Registration & Show Logistics

1	<p>Proposed by: SAPA Executive Board & Staff</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remove the first bullet of page 21 of the policy manual. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This bullet point is about registration opening date. This is something that could change yearly and should be decided on by the E-board and staff each year.
2	<p>Proposed by: Erik Mason</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Edit the Policy Manual, pg. 22 under Procedures from "\$9.00 for one day entry" to "\$10.00 for one day entry" <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ticket prices have remained constant for a number of years while costs to hosts have increased.
3	<p>Proposed by: Doug Cowden</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">At each SAPA contest, promotion scores for that show will be placed in a sealed envelope and included inside the unit registration packets. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This policy will give transparency and integrity of SAPA and its judging process to the unit directors and give unit directors a basis to know where their units lie competitively and can prepare for the possibility of promotion if their unit is close to the promotion score during the course of a season. <p>These scores are never shared with the judges, nor anyone other than the directors at the time of unit check-in at any given show.</p>
4	<p>Proposed by: Ginger Armstrong</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Within any class that has enough groups to have rounds at any contest (local or championships), after the midpoint of the season, rounds are generated by score neighborhoods instead of random draw or "snaking" scores. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">With recent changes to classifications, the 2019 season left us with extremely large classes in some cases and without a way for groups of similar skill level to be grouped together in competition. This would preserve the intent of the 2019 changes that dissolved SAAA and SAA while still allowing units to compete in rounds with groups that are in a similar score neighborhood. Also, there have been concerns about promotions from the SRA class to the SA class because of the understood expectation that promotion is appropriate when the group would be competitive in the middle of the next class. This should also alleviate this concern, as score neighborhoods being used as a basis for rounds would give a more appropriate comparison for a group moving up from a lower class.



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5	<p>Proposed by: SAPA Executive Board & Staff</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change page 22 bullet points 5 and 6 to state: <i>For regular circuit shows, all classes with 16 or more entries will compete in rounds as follows using a random draw for performance times.</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 15 or less= 1 round○ 16-30= 2 rounds○ 31-45= 3 rounds○ 46-60= 4 rounds <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This year we had very small round at regular season shows. There were shows that had 4 teams in a round. That just doesn't seem to be reasonable to split a class of 8 into four and four or a class of 7 into four and three. This proposal follows the WGI policy. This would also keep things consistent between our SAPA classes.
6	<p>Proposed by: Kelsey King</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change the last bullet on page 25 Circuit Championships Contest Schedule to read:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Regardless of the number of units in the SAN class, for championships the SAN will be seeded/ranked for championships for the purpose of assigning performance order as done in the SA class and as done by WGI for World Championships.</i>• This means that even if the class is not split into rounds, the higher scoring/ranking groups will perform in the second have of the round/class. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Since WGI seeds and ranks for performance order for world championships, we should follow that same policy. This would make judging a little easier if the groups are performing with like scoring competitors. It would allow for a better comparison between groups especially after a long day/weekend of judging.

Category: Classification

7	<p>Proposed by: SAPA Executive Board & Staff</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Units must compete in the same class or higher if the group finished in the top half of their class in the previous season. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This should encourage units to more appropriately classify themselves which will also allow the students and staff progress through the season with less of a potential for midseason reclassification.
8	<p>Proposed by: Doug Cowden</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A rubric showing the method used to determine promotion scores for each classification shall be included in the SAPA Policy Manual. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The method and process for promoting a unit must be shared with SAPA units to ensure transparency and integrity of the process and to avoid appearance of any possible impropriety.



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9	<p>Proposal by: Cyndi Church</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● All Cadet through SRA/IRA classes adopt the same promotion process procedures. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Currently the promotion process procedure used by all classes with the exception of the IRA/SRA, is once a promotion number is earned the unit is celebrated with a promotion ceremony at that contest. The unit's Director is extended the choice to ask for the promotion to be reviewed by the Steering Committee if they feel this promotion is invalid. The IRA/SRA classes pathway to promotion leaves out the celebration of those student's achievements by instead achieving a Review Status. This prompts an automatic review by the Steering Committee. The pause rather than celebration puts a dimmer cloud over the possible promotion and sets up an already intense moment for the Director to be more fearful and less positive. The pathway used by the rest of the classes already has that safeguard of review and should be consistent amongst all classes. I believe this would help to alleviate some of the fear cloud that surrounds promotions and help to positively celebrate and approach the young performer's achievements and growth.
10	<p>Proposed by: Angela Castro/ Kerry Gaskins</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create a new Cadet class reserved for groups that clearly exceed ALL boundaries of Cadet Class, but are not able to be promoted out of Cadet based on their ages/ grades. Use a higher level score sheet to judge their shows. Name this class Cadet Sr., Novice Jr. , Rising Novice, or something of the like. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The benefit of this is two-fold:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Conventional Cadet class guards can experience a more realistic and attainable goal based on competition with comparably skilled units.2) Guards that consistently beat 2nd place guards by an excess of 8 points or greater obviously exceed the boundaries of a developmental class. By judging them at a higher level, they will be offered the opportunity to further their own goals based on higher and more challenging expectations and will in turn be recognized for their extraordinary achievement.

Category: Miscellaneous

11	<p>Proposed by: Andria Foerch</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Remove "First Appearance Requirements" section entirely from the Policy Manual. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● If a unit pays membership fees, they should be able to attend as many or as little performances as they choose. Additionally, the adjusted time requirements create confusion. This section isn't really pertinent after we eliminated the attendance of one of the first 3 weekends.
12	<p>Proposed by: Andria Foerch</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Add a policy that penalizes a unit for posting any material of a SAPA event that violates Copyright law. If any person is found to have posted material publicly that violates copyright law and they are associated with a SAPA unit, penalty could include up to disqualification for future performances. <p>Rationale:</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• While this sounds extremely severe, the truth of copyright violations threatening the activity is very real. We can provide simple education to our students, parents, instructors on the risks of these violations.
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New Business

1	Proposed by: Cyndi Church Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This is not a proposal, rather a request for discussion amongst membership Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regarding a Judge Liaison, does the membership feel it is a position of value and should be filled?
2	Proposed by: Andria Foerch Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'd like to approach the topic of Member Safety as it relates to under 18 y.o. students. This is meant for a discussion specifically as it relates to Independent units. Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With the new member safety items released by WGI, it has me thinking that we as a community can strive to create safe environments for our students.
3	Proposed by: Andria Foerch Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restructure of the Circuit Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See presentation
4	Proposal by: Cyndi Church Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outline of Steering Committees process for review of promotions Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have the Steering Committee along with Education Committee (prior to season) determine an outline of the steps taken in the process of considering a Director's request to review a promotion. This outline should include avenues for the Steering Committee to be present with the Cadet-IA/SA classes at various contests to see the landscape of these classes first hand. This outline should include discussion points related to the class criteria on the sheets and to the Unit's composition and achievements. This will allow the Steering committee stronger discussions with examples to refer to as this process takes place in determining the units request to have the promotion be reviewed. Having this outline set up will allow for the Steering Committee to give more attention to the review and will also open to the door to a more positive experience for those requesting the review.
5	Proposed by: Ginger Armstrong Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Circuit Championships venue should meet all expectations of local contests, with specific attention to the need for "adequate warmup facilities for body and equipment". Rationale:



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although adequate spectator parking and space for units to store personal belongings are also requirements of local contests that are not met at circuit championships, the equipment warmup area is a significant safety concern and my top reason for the proposal. Even though the equipment warmup area at McKenzie Arena has improved in the last few years, it is still far too small for most units to warm up safely and appropriately. Because of the limited space, students are either given less opportunity to warm up as they have to take turns using the space, or they are put in an unsafe situation. This adds unnecessary stress to young performers prior to the most important performance of their season. In past years when discussions of any changes to the championships venue have been brought up, there has been no consideration because contracts for the following year have already been signed. If there is not a solution for adequate space at McKenzie Arena, my proposal can be amended to add that if a new venue needs to be acquired, a search committee should be utilized throughout the 2020 season so that adequate facilities can be secured for the 2021 season.
6	<p>Proposed by: Andria Foerch</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each venue hosting a show is required to submit details about their venue. I would like for those show hosts to be required to turn in their event packets (it can be basic and updated 2 weeks prior to event) by January 1 (or whatever date deemed appropriate by Contest Director). Additionally, the venue sites should have the dimensions of the performance arena posted (with obstructions) when Show dates are released. This shouldn't be a policy, but I would like for it to be included in the Contest Manual and available to membership during show selection. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We can look at data via the venue survey post season...but units can also make choices on whether or not the venue will meet their own unit needs when they sign up for the show.
7	<p>Proposed by: Andria Foerch</p> <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With the growth in the circuit (yay!) it also created near impossible scenarios for scheduling of Circuit Championships. I would like to propose a discussion about what is best for the Circuit and individual units moving forward:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Can the Steering Committee re-visit the promotion process for the final month of the season. Units will naturally be performing at a higher level of proficiency and will likely be meeting minimum qualifications. Is the promotion process working as intended?2. Can the circuit commit to posting a tentative schedule 1 month prior to Circuit Championships and not sooner? This will give the flexibility of the Contest Director to move classes around as it seems appropriate. Units should not "expect" to be on a specific day as we continue to work through this growth. I'm hesitant to make this "policy" as it will be something we would have to live with for 2 years. <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With the growth in the circuit (yay!) it also created near impossible scenarios for scheduling of Circuit Championships. I would like to propose a discussion about what is best for the Circuit and individual units moving forward.