

SAPA 2013-2014 Proposals & Results

May 5, 2013

Procedures

Circuit Business

Proposal #1 - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Proposals will be defended and voted upon within a specific time window. The proposer will have a maximum of 4 minutes to explain/defend their proposal. At the end of those 4 minutes, there will be up to 2 more minutes allowed for membership to request clarification or amendment to the proposal. At the end of the two minutes, the proposal will be voted upon by the membership. If the proposer completes their explanation before the 4 minutes are complete, then questions from the membership may begin within the 4 minute window. In the case of 2 or more proposals on the same topic, each proposer will be allotted an equal portion of a 10 minute window. The 2 minute clarification window will remain the same. This proposal will be effective immediately.

Rationale: In recent years, the annual meeting has become excessively long and inefficient, due to unregulated procedures regarding proposal review. To encourage participation and efficiency, such regulation is necessary.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #2 - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: The executive board and contest staff are only to talk to unit directors; not to members and parents of a participating group.

Rationale: In many instances this season, parents and supporting staff have been spoken to unprofessionally.

Financial Impact: None.

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Proposal #3 - Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: All proposals will be published for the Sapa membership at the year end meeting, regardless of whether the board decides it is considered a proposal or "new business".

Rationale: The membership should be able to hear all proposals before we discount them as new business. Getting the entire membership involved provides more transparent decisions.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #4 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: South Forsyth HS Winterguard; Rick Subel

Proposal: If a position within the E-Board or SAPA Staff is abandoned for any reason between or during seasons, the person who resigns and/or abandons that position will not be eligible for re-election or re-hire for the following year.

Rationale: Reinforces the importance of one's commitment to the circuit.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. SAPA By-Laws; Article IV; Section F: "In the event of death, resignation, or incapacity in any other office, the President shall assign said duties to the remaining board members or appoint another individual to the position in question."

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Proposal #5a – Failed on the Floor

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: The Sapa Contest show hosts and schedule will be managed and chosen by the contest director(s). The eboard will not be involved in this process.

Rationale: Having two contest directors choose the hosting schools and schedule will ensure that the circuit schedule is being handled in a fair and consistent manner. The eboard often have ties with schools that are bidding for shows. This is another reason to have two contest directors which will keep that show selection a fair process.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 17 of SAPA Policy Manual: "The SAPA Executive Board has the ultimate responsibility in selecting the sponsor (host) for all SAPA competitions."

Proposal #5b – Amended and Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Ola High School; Cyndi Church

Proposal: The SAPA Contest Schedule and selection of host sites will be determined by the SAPA Contest Director only. This will be a responsibility that the Contest Director is charged with and will be held accountable for the selections. The membership will provide feedback to the Contest Director each season as to their experience at each contest. This along with the Contest Director's direct dealings with the contest host's will provide the Contest Director with sufficient resource in making the selections for the following season. The SAPA Executive Board will not have any participation in the process.

The responsibility of scheduling shows will fall upon the contest director, with the oversight of the Executive board

Rationale: The SAPA Executive Board is made up of members of SAPA and at times contest hosts. By having involvement in the process it blurs lines and creates assumptions. By charging the SAPA Contest Director with this task alone it allows the circuit to hold the Contest Director accountable for the season calendar and contest selection. By allowing for this accountability it also allows for praise for the job being completed by this position.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

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- a. pg 17 of SAPA Policy Manual: "The SAPA Executive Board has the ultimate responsibility in selecting the sponsor (host) for all SAPA competitions."

Proposal #6 - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Collins Hill; Daniel Treuman

Proposal: If a high school student attends a school where a winter guard/indoor percussion program is offered, he or she will only be eligible to participate in an independent program with the expressed and signed-off consent of both the high school band director and high school principal.

Rationale: This issue came up at Collins Hill this season. We had two young ladies interested in participating in an independent group even though we offered two winter guards at Collins Hill. Based on advice from our unit director, I came to believe that SAPA and WGI already had a rule like the proposed one in place and that I would have to consent in order for the girls to be allowed to perform with the independent group. I informed the parents that their students would likely not be allowed to participate in the independent group while also contacting Ginger Armstrong in order to check to specifics of the rule. I then found out that SAPA policy matched WGI policy, and that the WGI rule had been loosened in recent years to simply "discourage" such behavior and not forbid it.

Without this rule, unit directors as well as band directors have no ammunition in the fight against their students being recruited and drawn into an independent groups while still in high school. Obviously, if there is no winter program at any given school, that student should have a chance to march elsewhere. Also, there are always extenuating circumstances where a director might decide a student is better off marching elsewhere. This decision however, should be in the capable hands of band directors and school principals, not 14 to 18 year old students and their parents.

Financial Impact: None.

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Proposal #7 - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: All judges will not be involved in any circuit business, decisions, or financial matters.

Rationale: When judges have dealings with circuit operations and finances, the lines between judge and circuit member becomes grey; and therefore flawed.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- b. pg 6 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "No person actively serving as a judge at SAPA shows is eligible to be elected to the Executive Board"

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Financial

Proposal #8 - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Educational Events that have a high overhead cost may require participating units to pay a fee, in addition to their regular registration fees.

Rationale: Hosting educational events, much like the Day of Colorguard in January 2013, can be very expensive, especially when multiple WGI judges are flown in from around the country. Helping to defray these costs, even with a small fee of \$25 or \$50 per unit will alleviate the financial burden on the show host and SAPA, allowing that money to be utilized elsewhere.

Financial Impact: Savings to show hosts and SAPA. Extra Cost to attending units.

Proposal #9 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: Membership Fees not to exceed \$550, additional units should not exceed \$300.

Rationale: Increased costs of travel for judges and educational events warrant a raise in membership. It doesn't have to go as high as \$550, I just want to propose a cap. Also, if the show sponsor pays a higher sponsor fee to host a show, then the circuit could be responsible for all judges travel and not just the flights.

Financial Impact: Yes, extra cost to membership, show sponsors, and SAPA.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 10 of current SAPA Policy Manual: Currently \$450 per unit, \$300 per additional unit.
- b. pg 4 of current SAPA Contest Handbook: Show Hosts are responsible for Judge's mileage, but SAPA covers hotel and airfare.

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Registration

Proposal #10 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Final Deadline to sign up for championships will be February 15 every year. Penalties for withdrawal or late entry to mirror that of a regular contest

Rationale: This will allow for better planning for SAPA Championships merchandise, contest scheduling, facilities planning.

Financial Impact: Possible savings for SAPA from earlier planning

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 19 of current SAPA Policy Manual: The deadline for entry into SAPA Circuit Championships will be set by the Executive Board and posted on the SAPA website no later than December 1.

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Proposal #11 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: If paperwork AND/OR dues are not received/paid by Friday that is 15 days prior to first show OR a group is a no show at ANY contest during the season, the unit will be removed from selected shows. Once the dues/no show fees have been paid/forms submitted, the unit must re-register for the shows they wish to attend, which may result in their placement on a waiting list.

Rationale: The current policy does not have consequences for not paying by due date--but it is implied annually.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 10 of current SAPA Policy Manual:
 - a. All Membership Applications, Membership Fees, & Contest Entry Fees are due by December 1st.
 - b. Any membership application and membership fees received after December 1st will be considered late and subject to a \$75 late fee per unit, up to \$150 per offense.
 - c. All forms, including Proof of Insurance, Music Licensing, Video Release, Photo Release, & Student Eligibility Letters, must be postmarked or sent electronically to the SAPA Secretary on or before the Friday in January, 15 days prior to the first contest. If forms (Proof of Insurance, Music Licensing, & Student Eligibility Letter) are not received by this date, units will be removed from shows until the paperwork has been collected. NO EXCEPTIONS.

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Staff

Proposal #12 – Failed on the Floor

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: SAPA will interview and employ two contest directors each season. At the end of each season, the directors will be evaluated by the SAPA membership.

Rationale: Two directors would provide the collaborative ability to make the best decisions for the circuit. Having two directors would divide the responsibilities and alleviate the heavy workloads of that position.

Financial Impact: There is no financial impact since the director's salary would be split between two directors.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 8 of current SAPA Policy Manual: See job description on screen/in manual

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Code of Ethics

Proposal #13 – Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: If violation occurs of the code of ethics stated in the policy manual, there will be a process held before the executive board. If the executive board finds there was a violation, they will issue a written warning. If a second violation occurs and the member is found guilty of the violation before the board, the board can assign a consequence. In a severe instance, the Eboard may pass the written warning and move directly to a consequence.

Rationale: In the current policy manual there is not a process when someone is in violation of the code of ethics.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 4 of current SAPA Policy Manual: See code of ethics on screen/in manual

Proposal #14 – Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: The word “instructor” will be removed from the title line of the code of ethics. If the person in violation is a member of contest staff, judges, and/or SAPA executive board, it will be brought to the membership’s attention to be discussed and assigned a consequence by an impartial review board.

Rationale: In the current policy manual there is not a process when someone is in violation of the code of ethics.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 4 of current SAPA Policy Manual: See code of ethics on screen/in manual

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Awards

Proposal #15a - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: All year end Sapa awards including Spirit of Sapa, Hall of Fame, and Most Improved will be voted on by the entire membership.

Rationale: The entire membership was not involved in all of these awards like in years past. This will ensure a more fair and consistent way to honor these awards.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 21 of current SAPA Policy Manual: See Awards Info on screen/in manual

Proposal #15b - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: Hall of fame wording should be included in policy manual that is align with 7.11 (purpose), 7.14 (criteria), and 7.15 (selection) in WGI's policy handbook.

Rationale: Currently there is no reference to Hall of Fame in the SAPA policy manual. Since WGI already has it written out, I suggest to use what they've identified as a good process.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 21 of current SAPA Policy Manual: See Awards Info on screen/in manual
- b. WGI Policy Handbook; Sections 7.11, 7.14, and 7.15

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Policy Changes

Proposal #16a - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: When a question arises that is not clearly answered in the SAPA bylaws, the executive board will request the membership to vote on a resolution to that question.

Rationale: The membership should have the right to have a voice in the resolution of unanswered questions in the bylaws.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 5 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "If a decision needs to be made during the season by the Executive Board regarding a policy change, opinion will be solicited from the general membership before a decision is made."

Proposal #16b - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Ola High School; Cyndi Church

Proposal: If a question arises about an unknown process or a current policy needs to be reviewed/adjusted after the SAPA Membership meeting, the SAPA membership will be notified and given at least 5 days for an online vote or until the next SAPA Membership meeting.

Rationale: Through proposals and circuit wide discussion at the membership meeting policies are adopted, the membership elects an Executive Board and entrusts that these policies will be upheld until the next membership meeting. When issues with a policy arise and clarification or a change is necessary outside of the membership meeting the circuit members should still have a voice in how the policy is rewritten and adopted. The executive board at no point should rewrite policy. I believe this will allow for the membership to understand there are times policies are adopted at the membership meeting that seem to be unflawed but within an actual season adjustments are necessary as well as keep all future executive boards from making policy change without the voice of the membership.

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 5 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "If a decision needs to be made during the season by the Executive Board regarding a policy change, opinion will be solicited from the general membership before a decision is made."

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Policy Manual

Proposal #17 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Since a seeding method is used for scheduling SAPA championships, then the formula/method used to seed needs to be published in the SAPA policy manual.

Rationale: Seeding Formulas should be public knowledge, much like the WGI seeding procedures. How is the projected score calculated, etc?

Financial Impact: None.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 20 of current SAPA Policy Manual:
 - a. All class divisions will be seeded. Seeding for SAPA Circuit Championships will be an average of the last projected score and the highest score achieved during the regular season. Scores used will be from SAPA competitions only.
 - b. All class divisions with at least six (6) units will be a split into blocks using the current seeding process. There will then be a random draw for order of appearance within the class division (or blocks if necessary).

Proposal #18 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Addition to Policy Manual and Contest Handbook - "No show host may charge admission for any spectator under the age of 3."

Rationale: Rarely do children under the age of 3 require seating in the gym/spectator area. It is unfair to charge for a child who will not be utilizing a seat in the gym.

Financial Impact: Possible minor \$\$ loss to show hosts.

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Proposal #19 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Addition to Policy Manual - Unit directors may adjust the class that their group is participating up until two weeks before the first competitive event of the season. After the first competitive event, no unit may move between classes without review by the steering committee, except in the case of promotions made by WGI.

Rationale: This rule has been understood but is not clearly stated in the policy manual.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #20 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Adjust policy manual language to "Membership includes - entry into all shows, provided that registration procedures are adhered to as written, and that show caps allow for attendance."

Rationale: Based on questions that arose during the season of whether a unit could sign up for all shows based on the current language, regardless of registration policies, etc, this language is necessary.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #21 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: If the policy manual needs to be updated, in terms of a type-o, format, or clarification between seasons, the E-board will have the power to make such changes without notice, provided that it does not affect policy or rules in any way.

Rationale: In previous seasons, the policy manual has needed to be re-formatted or a type-o corrected, which could not be done without notifying the entire membership of said changes, which can become cumbersome. If the adjustments to the manual are solely for grammatical, etc clarification and not to adjust any sort of policy, the E-board or a designated committee/person should be able to do so without having to notify everyone.

Financial Impact: None.

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Contests

General

Proposal #22 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: The regular contest SAPA one-day admission price for spectators is \$9.

Rationale: This allows the show hosts to help offset the other costs of hosting a show (judges' fees, show host fee, food, trophies, etc)

Financial Impact: Minor \$\$ increase for spectators, units who require more than the allotted number of staff passes.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 17 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "The approved entrance fees for all SAPA circuit contests are \$8.00 for one day entry"

Proposal #23 - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: One judge shall not monopolize every contest in the circuit. No judge can judge more than two contests if there are other judges available for that contest.

Rationale: There has been miscommunication in the past about the rules. Having several judges would ensure each unit is getting the correct information.

Financial Impact: None.

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Proposal #24 – Tabled to the Fall Meeting

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: SAPA will offer the option to host two day contests. The decision to hold a one or two day contest will rest solely on the participating show host.

Rationale: Providing a two day show promotes bonding and support for that unit, as well as allowing time for teams to develop a healthy competitive relationship with each other. Two day contests have proven to be profitable for show hosts.

Financial Impact: There is a financial impact. SAPA would be paying contest staff for two days instead of one day.

Proposal #25 – Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: Competition day starts no earlier than 10a ends no later than 10p, excluding Championships.

Rationale: Currently it's 9a-11p in the policy manual and 9-10p in the Contest Handbook. However, based how a unit prepares for shows, 9am start time is quite an early day.

Financial Impact: None--unless show capacity is affected. As of yet, we have never done a 12 hour day.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 18 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "For any SAPA regular season contest, the day cannot begin before 9:00 AM and must conclude no later than 11:00 PM for competition among units."
- b. Pg 5 of current SAPA Contest Handbook: "Whenever possible, no event will begin before 9:00am, and all performances must end by 10:00pm."

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Proposal #26 - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Paramount; Andria Foerch

Proposal: If less than 20 color guard and/or 5 percussion by the 15 days prior to the first show, a warning will be sent out to membership that the show (CG or Percussion or both) is in danger of being canceled. Both the E-board and Contest Host will be able to discuss whether or not the show will continue to move forward. All cancellations due to low number of competing units signed up for the show will be determined no less than 4 weeks prior to the show in question.

Rationale: It gives the show sponsor and units competing ample notification to make plans based on low volume of competing Units.

Financial Impact: None. Both parties have the option to discuss this before any action is taken.

Proposal #27 - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: Circuit Championships will be ran by the two contest directors and a hosting or sponsoring school. The high school will work closely with the contest directors much like a WGI regional is ran. The hosting high school will get a portion of the profit.

Rationale: This ensures that many people are involved in making a great championships. Whether the championships are held at a high school or arena, a booster club coupled with the contest directors can cover more ground than one person. More people involved means more connections which could result in getting better prices for items needed to run the weekend. This would also give another school an opportunity to host a show in the contest season.

Financial Impact: The hosting school would get a portion of Championships profit.

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Proposal #28 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Cadet, Novice, SRA, and IRA will be allowed to "premiere" at the third competitive weekend of the season, in addition to the first two.

Rationale: Many Cadet, Novice, and SRA groups struggle with facility access, instruction time, and other issues that put them at a disadvantage to "premiere" so early. Allowing another weekend for them allows for better preparation, which leads to greater success for those units as well. It may also help to encourage units to attend the first show after the first two weekends.

Financial Impact: Possible minor \$\$ losses to the first two weekends, but possible gains for the third weekend.

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 14 of current SAPA Policy Manual: "All Color Guard Classes MUST appear at one of the first two color guard competitive weekends to qualify for SAPA Circuit Championships."

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Classification

General

Proposal #29 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Rockdale Future Heros; Jessica Smith

Proposal: If there is only one classification, it will be neither A nor B.

Rationale: Right now, cadets are CADET B. Every award from last year said that. How can there be a CADET B when there is no CADET A? It gave the impression of going down a class if you were CADET A in the previous year. Realistically if there is only one classification, it shouldn't have a letter suffix. We don't have Novice B.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #30 - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Northgate Winterguard; Ginger Armstrong

Proposal: Reinstate the SAAA class.

Rationale: There was far too wide of a disparity within the SRA class this year because of the dissolution of SAAA. It made the classes too large and created a logistical problem for Championships scheduling.

Financial Impact: Additional medals at Championships.

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Percussion

Proposal #31 – Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Smokey Road MS Percussion Ensemble; Dr. Joshua Boyd

Proposal: The percussion circuit needs to create a new classification to be called "Scholastic Cadet A" or "SCA." This classification should exist for only middle school marching units. The classification will be judged using the same sheets as the Novice classification as the purpose is to prepare middle school units for Novice competition. The main function is educational.

Rationale: As it stands now, a middle school unit can't successfully enter the SAPA marching classifications without being directly in competition with a high school or independent group. Middle School students have different learning characteristics combined with developing physical attributes that place middle school units at a disadvantage in competition. The main focus should be on the educational value of the percussion experience. By having a separate middle school circuit, educators can expose middle school students to the marching world of competition without the stress of competition with high school units and the negative impact of skewed scores that would come from a direct comparison.

Financial Impact: The cost would be involved in the awards. The cadet classification should be awarded the same trophies, plaques, banners, etc. all contest and the final championships. The only additional cost would be in the purchase of these materials. However, the new unit may cause additional middle school students to enter the circuit which would eventually lead to more revenue.

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Proposal #32 - Amended - Passed

Type of Proposal: New Policy

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Chattahoochee Indoor Percussion Ensemble; Nick Garofalo

Proposal: There should be a "Non-Movement" percussion classification. A committee will be created to determine sheets, order of performance, etc.

Rationale: This could help the number of percussion units grow within the circuit. There are groups in the area that are interested in doing indoor marching percussion but (unfortunately) do not have the facility to support a "moving" unit. Also, this could help create more consistent and successful high school indoor marching units, if they use the "non-movement" classification for their respective middle school/feeder programs.

Financial Impact: Trophy/medal costs for SAPA Championships and local contests.

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CG Promotions

Applicable Current Policy(ies):

- a. pg 13 of current SAPA Policy Manual: Please view Current policy on screen or in the manual.

Proposal #33a - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Forsyth Central Crimson; Lauren Harper

Proposal: Adjust the current colorguard reclassification policy to include that "at any given show, any class in which there is a disparaging spread between groups, (3.5 points or more) any and all units within that class that score on the top side of the spread will be reviewed for promotion by the steering committee" and also to include that "Novice may be promoted to SRA and SAA can be promoted to SA at any time from the 2nd premiere weekend to the last regular season contest of the season, as there is no timing adjustment required with the promotion." SRA class promotions will still be limited to the same time limits stated in the policy manual, as a promotion to SAA or SA would require an adjustment to the show length requirements.

Rationale: While the concept of last year's reclassification process (marked for review, reviewed by the SAPA Steering Committee, notification system) is strong, the lack of a numerical value by which to guide the review process, along with limits on dates within which groups could be promoted, the current policy did not support the colorguard division of SAPA in the best way possible. With these adjustments, combined with the review process put in place last year, the promotion process should be much more successfully at placing units within the proper class.

Financial Impact: None.

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Proposal #33b -Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: East Coweta Winterguard; Teddy Sullivan

Proposal: A promotion process will be put into place every season. Novice and Regional A class will be combined as well as AAA an AA for the field day weekends. Each unit will be placed into appropriate class after that units 3rd contest. This promotion process could go til the last weekend depending on each units choice of contest. The two contest directors would be in charge of taking the judges scores and placements for all 3 contest that each unit attended and assign each group based off the average of those 3 contest. Each unit can still be reviewed at any point in the season.

Rationale: There was not an effective promotion process that was put in place by the eboard. The previous process was clearly working for the most part. Going back to the old process with some updated changes proves to be the more accurate way

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #33c - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Northgate Winterguard; Ginger Armstrong

Proposal: Reinstate a "numerical value" for the promotion process to be defined by the SAPA Steering committee and presented to the Contest Director.

Rationale: The intent of the proposal in 2012 was not to do away with the promotion number, but to add an additional process by where judges could also indicate when they though a unit was in the wrong class. Instead of being added to the existing process, the promotion number was removed. Judges are often not comfortable making this sort of decision on their own, as they are not in our circuit often enough to have a broad enough perspective of the entire class. This was never the intent.

Financial Impact: None.

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Proposal #33d - Passed

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Northgate Winterguard; Ginger Armstrong

Proposal: For classes in which there is no timing difference, there should be no deadline for promotions, particularly those made due to making finals at a WGI regional.

Rationale: The ending date for promotions was originally put in place to protect those units who were facing a change in timing requirements. This is not necessary when there is no difference in the requirements.

Financial Impact: None.

Proposal #33e - Withdrawn

Type of Proposal: Policy Amendment

Sponsoring Unit and Unit Director: Ola High School; Cyndi Church

Proposal: Return the promotion process to a system of using a promotion number that is achieved by both an upstairs and downstairs caption. The number would be set after the field day process (same process that SAPA adopted into policy for the 2012 season) and increase as the season progresses. This number will be determined by the Contest Director and kept unpublished. The last competition where promotion is possible will be set 2 weeks prior to SAPA Championships. Any group that is in question of promotion and have not competed within 3 weeks of the promotion cut off will be reviewed using a video process. The committee reviewing these groups would be set at the Spring Membership meeting, by a vote (5 persons, which include the Color Guard VP). If a member of this committee has an affiliation with the class of a group in question, they will remove themselves from the committee. It will be the committees responsibility to keep a close watch on the classes throughout the season and have an excellent pulse on what the make up of the classes are and make arrangements with the circuit to have groups in question video taped.

Rationale: The system put into place for the 2013 season failed the membership and did not keep a purity to the classes of the circuit.

Financial Impact: None.