



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2015 SAPA May Meeting Proposal List**

Bylaw Proposals

1) Type: New Bylaw

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Erik Mason

Proposal:

- Create Section IV-K in the Bylaws, stating: So long as Winds groups are active in the circuit, either the Vice President for Music or the Music Member at Large must be a representative of a Winds group.

Rationale:

- If Winds units are going to be in the circuit, they need representation on the Board.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Bylaws, pg. 1

2) Type: New Bylaw

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Erik Mason

Proposal:

- Add a Section IV-J to the Bylaws creating a Winds Steering Committee. The body of the section would read as follows:
 - Winds Steering Committee: Responsible to the Executive Board; Provide guidance on Classification of Units; Act as a resource on developing ongoing instructor education; Provide skill and expertise for SAPA Sponsored Educational Events; Recommend or advise on growth opportunities for adjudication within SAPA.
 - Membership: 3 members
 - Music Member-at-Large (if a winds rep)
 - Vice President of Music (if a Winds rep)
 - Music Judging Coordinator (if qualified for Winds)
 - In-Circuit Unit directors as appointed by the SAPA board to fill the panel to three members (if needed)

Rationale:

- Winds units are probably in more need of guidance and help than any other division simply because the activity is new. If SAPA intends to be a home for Winds groups, it is important that we offer them the help and guidance that they need.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Bylaws, pg. 1

3) Type: Bylaw Amendment

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Erik Mason

Proposal:

- Amend By-Laws section IV-A-ii to read "Vice President of Music" and section IV-A-v to read "Music Member at Large".

Rationale:

- With the addition of Winds to the circuit, winds groups need the opportunity to be represented on the board.



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Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Bylaws, pg. 1

- 4) Type: Bylaw Amendment
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: Megan Phillips
Proposal:

- Add a Band Director Member-at-large as a voting member of the executive board.

Rationale:

- The vast majority of membership in SAPA is scholastic groups. As band directors are, in most cases, ultimately responsible for the finances, safety of students, etc., it seems that at least one band director should have a spot on the voting membership of the executive board. Someday in the future, it may make sense for a Vice President of Winds and Winds Member-at-large to be added to the board, if WGI winds continues and grows. At present, a Band Director Member-at-large could likely bring the same voice to the executive board.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Bylaws, pg. 1

Policy Manual Proposals

Category: Awards

- 1) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: Rick Subel
Proposal:

- Implementing a criteria for Hall of Fame nominees--including breadth of work within our circuit-- for those who've made significant impacts within the circuit.

Rationale:

- There are currently no distinguishing criteria for nominees and with an annual influx of nominees, the award could lose some distinguishing value over time.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 34

- 2) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: Cost of badges and lanyards
Proposed By: Rick Subel
Proposal:

- Issue Hall of Fame badges per season for Hall of Fame members. Likewise, updating the website to include honors and recognition for Hall of Fame Members. Currently, there is just a listing of names, along with year of induction.

Rationale:

- There is currently no distinguishing recognition for Hall of Fame members.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 34



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Category: Championships

3) Type: Policy Amendment

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Adam Sage

Proposal:

- For classes with 16 or more entrants, separate divisions will be created for the Circuit Championships Contest. Teams will be assigned divisions based on their ranking in the final championships seeding order with an alternating assignment pattern (i.e. odd number rankings in one division, even number rankings in the other)

Rationale:

- The rationale for this proposal supports the reason for rounds using the same criteria. It allows all guards in that classification to grow at their pace and be given an equal opportunity at championships. This also keeps the class as a whole on the same level without creating a new division. This also creates a procedure that keeps the philosophy of the A sheet the same for all, enables growth, support, camaraderie, and acknowledgement at championships.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 30

Category: Circuit Business

4) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact:

- Positive - those who choose not to participate will have to pay for a spectator ticket at shows they choose to attend. They can also choose to use one of their 7 free wristbands.

Proposed By: Katie Pacifico

Proposal:

- Currently units receive 2 free Directors Badges for the year. This will only be offered to "active" members of the circuit. This means attending 2 of the 3 preseason events SAPA annually offers (May meeting, September meeting, or SAPA Education day).

Rationale:

- The circuit needs to be more involved. We see the same 20 people at the meetings each summer. Inactive members need to be encouraged to attend, participate, and discuss annual membership events. We have not been able to find any other way to do this.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 5

Category: Classification

5) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: Cost of additional medals and trophies.

Proposed By: Brandon Dailey

Proposal:

- The creation of a Scholastic A National Class. The units competing in at least 1 regional AND world championships will automatically put into Scholastic A National Class.

Rationale:

- Units that compete on the national level have a different mentality and budget than those that stay local. Creating this class would give units that stay local the opportunity to be more



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competitive against like units.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 16

6) Type: Policy Amendment

Financial Impact: Little, and would still somewhat be in line with current format

Proposed By: Rick Subel

Proposal:

- Restructure/Rename the Scholastic A classes to more precisely accommodate the array of groups within each.
 - Scholastic A (Elite): comprised of groups who willingly sign up for and participate in national (WGI) events--Regionals or World Championships. These groups have the financial resources, facility resources, support, and talent resources--of student performers, designers, and staff--to compete and be successful at the Scholastic A level in WGI (national) competition. Judged on the A-class sheets. Groups would be promoted from this class to Scholastic Open, if the situation or need arises.
 - Scholastic A: comprised of groups who are competitive, or have been competitive at a WGI-level, but are not choosing to compete on (WGI) national levels of competition--regionals or otherwise. These groups have some form of (strong talent, support, design, staff, etc.) but are not at the level of Scholastic Elite. Judged on the A-class sheets. Groups would be promoted from this class to Scholastic Open, if the situation or need arises.
 - Scholastic AA: comprised of beginner Scholastic A programs, students, or instructional staff(s). These groups may have some experience competing in A class, but are not quite at the level of the Scholastic A or Scholastic A Elite programs. This is a learning class for individuals to understand how to design, teach, and perform in the Scholastic A class. Groups would be promoted from this class into the Scholastic A class (not Scholastic A Elite), if the situation or need arises.
 - Scholastic Regional A Elite

Rationale:

- This may help discern the differences between programs who are A-class caliber but either do or do not compete on a national level. The stress and financial impact of competing at World Championships is a reason some groups "take a year off", and this would allow for them to not have to compete against groups who are going full-out-competitive in a season. This may also help younger instructors not view the current A, AA, AAA breakdown as 3 separate levels of A-class. As all groups would be competing on the A class sheets, in this new breakdown, AA groups would get "their feet wet" in a less established competitive environment.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 16

7) Type: Policy Amendment

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Victor Mooney

Proposal:

- I propose that a committee be formed to reword the classifications section of the handbook. The



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wording should include what skills make up each class and what level of training and experience you should take into account when choosing a competitive class for your team.

Rationale:

- I am a new director in SAPA and was very confused about the classifications. My units were in Novice class and Regional A class. My Novice consisted of 3 first year guard members, 6 band members, and 3 brand new members. 3 members had experience and everyone else started from zero. A true beginning program that spent the season competing against more experienced teams with more intermediate level equipment and movement skills...or lesser experienced teams that were sacrificing training of technique for more difficult choreography. I feel that more thorough wording would help.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 16

8) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board

Proposal:

- Any colorguard unit who wins their class at SAPA Championships should automatically be promoted to the next class up for these classes:
 - Cadet B to Cadet A
 - Novice to SRA
 - AAA to AA
 - AA to A

Rationale:

- Units who win their class the year prior have proven that they are ready to move up to the next classification and should be required to do so the following year.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 16

9) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board

Proposal:

- Any proposal change which adjusts the structure of classifications must not be adjusted for two years after the change has occurred.

Rationale:

- It sometimes takes more than one season to verify whether a change in classification structure will fix the issues the change was meant to fix. This would allow at least two years for the change to go into effect, and allow for ample time for additional changes to be notated for adjustment.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 16, pg. 21

Category: Contests

10) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: All certified Winds judges are WGI judges, so this may change their pay rate.

Proposed By: Erik Mason



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Proposal:

- Shows that have Winds as part of the day must have one Winds certified judge on the panel. In the case of double panels, it should be at least two judges.

Rationale:

- Winds groups deserve the same high level of feedback as all others. In 2015 we got the comment "well, this is my first winds show, so..." from quite a few judges. Many of these judges had great things to say, but we would like to get the best possible feedback at all shows.

Related SAPA documentation: none

Category: Registration

11) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Brandon Dailey

Proposal:

- Units would be assigned performance times based on sign up/payment date. Units that are on a wait list will automatically be assigned at the beginning of the class.

Rationale:

- Currently when you sign up you are put in order of sign up. We need a more transparent way of establishing show order. This would make an incentive to get business taken of on time.

Related SAPA documentation: SAPA Policy Manual, pg. 26

New Business

1) Financial Impact: Cost of judges/designers to be present (flight, hotel, etc.)

Proposed By: Rick Subel

Proposal:

- Create a "preview day" event in the month of November, where groups attend and present their designs/plan for their competitive show and season. Just as "Field Day/Evaluation/Premiere" contests (January/February) attendance is mandatory, create a mandatory event in the month of November where groups attend, talk through concept and design elements and competitive plans of implementation of their programs.

Rationale:

- This would be an education day that offers groups a forum to discuss their plans of design and instruction--accompanied with a (WGI-level) designer or judge to give overview commentary, suggestions, and input. This would help groups have a better head start to a more competitive and successful season by having more planning in production before we even get to Premiere shows. In theory, it should strengthen products early on.