



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

Bylaw Proposals

- 1) Type: Bylaw Amendment
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board
Proposal:
 - Amend Article V, Section A, part i of the Bylaws to read:
i. Election of Officers and Policy Changes, to be held within 60 days of the last day of WGI World Championship competition.Rationale:
 - This change would allow us roughly 3 additional weeks to schedule the spring (summer) meeting. In 2016 proposals were due in only 5 days after the last of our groups competed. This limits the amount of time that membership and the Executive Board have to think through and properly develop policies.

- 2) Type: Bylaw Amendment
Financial Impact: None.
Proposed By: Katie Pacifico
Proposal:
 - Currently reads "60 days".
Change wording to have meeting within "90 days" after end of the year competition.Rationale:
 - In an effort to be aligned with WGI, delaying our meeting will allow us to make decisions based on current discussion and topics that are important to WGI. Specifically trying to elect a date after the WGI Advisory Board Meeting has been held.

- 3) Type: Bylaw Amendment
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board
Proposal:
 - Amend Article IV, Section A, line vii of the SAPA Bylaws to read:
vii. Music Member at LargeRationale:
 - The growth of the Winds Division means that there are more qualified people to serve in the MAL role if the title is changed.

- 4) Type: Bylaw Amendment
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board
Proposal:
 - Amend the current structure of the SAPA Executive Board as follows:
i. President
ii. Vice President - Colorguard
iii. Vice President - Music
iv. Secretary
v. Colorguard At Large
vi. Music At LargeRationale:



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

1. Currently, the Eboard as a whole considers matters across divisions, serving SAPA as a whole. By restructuring in this way, and eliminating so many division distinctions, it not only opens up possibilities for those that might serve in the future, but also streamlines the focus of board members in general.
 2. Balance of board participation to membership is more equal.
 3. Percussion VP and Winds VP would be phased out and folded into the Music VP position. The Percussion-at-Large would be phased out and folded into Music-at-Large. Music-at-Large would be up for a 1 year term for this meeting. Elections for Music-at-Large would occur in odd years. All current terms will remain in effect and the Music VP will be up for election in even years.
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Policy Manual Proposals

Category: Classification

- 1) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: Brian Giddens
Proposal:
 - Eliminate the following language: *“All Colorguard Classes MUST appear at one of the first two colorguard competitive weekends to qualify for SAPA Circuit Championships.”*
Amend to read: *“All Colorguard classes MUST appear at three SAPA events to qualify for SAPA Circuit Championships. One of those events must be a SAPA education event or the mid-season focus show”*Rationale:
 - Increased flexibility on the part of directors with regard to their programs and for the organization to provide tailored educational opportunities appropriate to the premiere weekend designation.

- 2) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: SAPA Staff
Proposal:
 - In SA class and lower, all medalists must register the following season in the class in which they medaled or a higher class.Rationale:
 - This should cut down on the number of promotions during the season as groups will be more likely to begin the season in the appropriate class.

- 3) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None
Proposed By: SAPA Staff
Proposal:
 - Groups that were promoted during the previous season but did not medal at championships may register the following season no more than one class lower. (Example: If a group finished the season in SA they may only drop to SAA next season.)Rationale:
 - This should reduce the number of promotions during the season as groups will more likely begin the season in the appropriate class.

- 4) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact:
Proposed By: Joey Taylor
Proposal:



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List

- There should be a rubric for each Classification... ie AA, AAA, etc. This would detail what exactly is expected for each class.

Rationale:

- The aforementioned classes are not WGI recognized. By having outlined explanations for these classes, judges coming into our Circuit, as well as current circuit directors, would know what is expected when judging/designing their shows for these classes. Furthermore, units exceeding the boundaries of any class should be reclassified to the appropriate class according to the rubric. This is also a follow up for a proposal that was voted on, and passed, last summer.
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5) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Andria Foerch

Proposal:

- Add a Winds Classification section to the Policy manual to reflect current Winds Classifications set by WGI and SAPA

Rationale:

- To create a consistent manual that is accessible to all members in SAPA.
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Category: Contests

6) Type: Policy Amendment

Financial Impact: Potential hosts will see increase. Positive financial impact for SAPA

Proposed By: Brian Giddens

Proposal:

- Increase franchise fee to host a SAPA show to \$1250

Rationale:

- Currently, SAPA provides the following: (need list from Ahmed)...By increasing the amount required to host a show, SAPA will be better able to provide for membership in ways that are more beneficial as the cost of providing these items is significant. When expenditures SAPA provides were decided upon, there was much more uncertainty with regard to show viability. Now, with an increased number of groups, increased participation on the part of units, and higher numbers across the season, our host's profit potential is being realized, while SAPA's ability to provide for membership is being limited. Doing this will offset and balance the financial responsibilities/benefit membership without having to increase member fees.
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7) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: Minimal. Originally, it was discussed that directors signing up for this option could pay a reasonable fee to help offset the cost of the event.

Proposed By: Ginger Armstrong

Proposal:

- At least one weekend in January and one weekend in February, an educational opportunity should be offered on Sunday after a Saturday show

Rationale:

- This was originally proposed and passed in 2012 and has never taken place. The original proposal and discussion involved bringing in a highly qualified panel (at least 3 years of WGI experience) and offering the opportunity to sign up for "extended critique" sessions on Sunday. Directors could bring in videos, etc. to get more thorough feedback and input than is possible in 5 minute critique rounds. The time frames would allow groups to have enough on the floor to receive valuable feedback while still enough time left in the season to make significant changes in design if needed.
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8) Type: New Policy



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: SAPA Executive Board

Proposal:

- Create a Show Selection committee made up of the three division Vice Presidents to assist the Contest Director with the selection of sites. The first job of the committee would be to create and publish a Show Selection Rubric and guidelines to be used going forward. The final selection of show hosts would still be the decision of the SAPA Contest Director.

Rationale:

The creation of clear guidelines for the selection of show hosts allows for greater transparency to the membership when sites are announced. This will also help applicants to know in advance what things are important in the site selection process. Having the feedback of additional people in the selection process helps to ensure that the SAPA Contest Director is hearing more direct feedback about locations as well as lessening the burden and pressure of having only one person make the selection.

9) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Katie Pacifico

Proposal:

- Show contest will be selected by the contest director following a “Contest Requirements, Conditions, and Rotation” rubric

Rationale:

- In an effort to be critical and consistent for show selection, having a rubric to define the process in the policy manual would be a positive. I believe Nora would be the best choice to help create such a document for our manual. There is no current system of “rotation” for repeating show hosts or those not awarded shows. There could also be clearer feedback in this process for show hosts who do not receive shows as to how and when they would be awarded a show in the future. Obviously this is situational as to how many apply per year when discussing this as a membership.
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10) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Brandon Dailey

Proposal:

- Premiere Day should just be a qualifier for championships and not scored.

Rationale:

- With football seasons running longer and winter seasons starting earlier, this would provide units the opportunity to not be pressured to be complete so early. We consistently have great judging at premiere and they question why shows are not complete. This would help alleviate some of the confusion for the judges and allow them to give proper feedback. It would also help alleviate some of the pressures felt by staffs and members to have a complete show by such an early date. Many circuits follow this format.
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11) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None

Proposed By: Brandon Dailey

Proposal:

- Promotion scores should be provided at the time of check in for each show.

Rationale:

- This provides an opportunity of transparency for the promotion process. Other circuits provide this information and helps keep everyone in the know.
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**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

Category: Championships

- 12) Type: Policy Amendment
Financial Impact: none--or a positive impact
Proposed By: Andria Foerch
Proposal:
- Update the current policy on page 33 to read:
The number of medals provided at retreat to each unit will be the total number of marching members. If additional staff medals are needed, they can be requested after retreat at the award table by a representative from your unit. Extra medal request will not exceed 8 additional medals per unit.
- Rationale:
- It is impossible to have an exact amount of medals for top 3 prior to Championships as each group has a different number of performers. To make sure each performer has a medal at Championships, and to make sure staff has a medal for their groups this method should be able to provide that. Not every unit uses the additional 7 or 8 provided today, while some units use every one of them.
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- 13) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None.
Proposed By: Andria Foerch
Proposal:
- Final contest Schedule for Championships will be posted no later than 5 days prior to the first day of competition for Championships.
- Rationale:
- This allows for the Contest Admin to provide ample time to check the schedule following the last regular competitive show. The "mock" schedule will be available 60 days prior to Championships.
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- 14) Type: New Policy
Financial Impact: None. These can be volunteer positions.
Proposed By: Joey Taylor
Proposal:
- There should be a separate championships committee, made up of representatives of the membership, that will work in tandem with the championship coordinator.
- Rationale:
- This will allow the actual teaching membership to have a voice in our Circuit Championships. In having a committee to work with our coordinator, this will also allow the Championship Coordinator and the board to possibly hear more options and ideas prior to making a final decision.
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Category: Circuit Business

- 15) Type: Policy Amendment
Financial Impact: None.
Proposed By: Andria Foerch
Proposal:
- Add Steering Committee to the Administration section of the Policy Manual.
- Colorguard And Percussion/Winds Steering Committee: Two separate Committees. To be appointed for a two-year term by membership and 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 consists of 6 members: 4 INSTRUCTORS – To encompass both scholastic and independent members of SAPA. At least one instructor will be associated with an
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**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

independent group and at least 2 of the instructors will be associated with a scholastic group when possible, depending on nominations by membership. (The Steering Committee will have full voting rights); The SAPA EDUCATION COORDINATOR (votes only in event of a tie); Vice President (non-voting, ex-officio).

Remove SC from Bylaws and replace with a Committee Section that is similar to WGI Bylaws to account for other necessary need in committees: The Executive Board may establish one or more committees, each committee to consist of at least three (3) voting Directors appointed by the President. The President may appoint one or more of its At-Large Members as alternate members of any such committee who may take the place of any absent member or members at any meeting of such committee. Each such committee shall fix its own rules governing the conduct of its activities and shall make such reports to the Executive Board. The President and Vice Presidents are ex-officio members of all Committees. The designation of a committee and the delegation of authority to that committee do not relieve the Executive Board or any Director of any responsibility imposed upon the Executive Board or any Vice President bylaw.

Rationale:

- The CG Steering Committee has existed for the past 3 years. And Percussion SC has existed longer in the current fashion. A Steering Committee should be a membership voted on position to help drive the direction of the circuit within Steering Committee roles. This recommendation is similar to WGI set up, with some minor adjustments to make it work within SAPA. In addition, it has been mentioned several years in a row that there needs to be a committee to address a specific issue/topic. I believe the e-board should have the flexibility to create a committee ad hoc to address any issue that might warrant one to provide fairness, visibility, and valid commitment to the topic in question.

For this voting season only there will be two separate voting sessions. The current Steering Committee has been in effect for 2 years. In order to not have a complete turnover, If the current Committee members would like to participate again there will be one vote by membership on those 4. The top 2 would REMAIN on the Steering Committee and their position would be up for re-election in 2017 annual meeting. Then there would be a second vote for the two additional steering committee members. The remaining two from this year can run in that election as well in addition to any new nominations.

16) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None. Current money allotted for each position would be reallocated to each respective person.

Proposed By: Joey Taylor

Proposal:

- No member shall hold more than one paid position within the circuit.

Rationale:

- By spreading the positions out there would be more focus on the individual positions. The responsibilities of each position would receive equal attention. By spreading the paid positions out, there would also be a sense of accountability should responsibilities of any position slide.

Category: Other

17) Type: Policy Amendment

Financial Impact: None.

Proposed By: Amy Pearce

Proposal:

- Altering the "one per unit" rule for scholarship applications
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**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

Rationale:

- The current scholarship criteria-- that directors must select a single member to submit as an applicant-- is problematic and, in many ways, undermines the larger educational/personal growth goals of the circuit and activity.

It puts instructors in an incredibly uncomfortable position-- do we chose the student who is perhaps most deserving of the scholarship, even if her family is well off and does not need the money? Or do we choose the student who could desperately use the money and may not otherwise be able to march out of high school? Being forced to pick and choose between our own students, especially seniors, whom instructors have established a long relationship with, is not only unpleasant, but jeopardizes and, in some cases, ruins that relationship. To have that relationship jeopardized publicly, on finals night, when the team should be nothing but cohesive, excited, and happy-- is especially distressing.

For this reason, I haven't submitted any students for the SAPA scholarship since the "one per unit" policy was put in place, and will not unless that policy changes. This is such a pity, because there have been so many deserving students who have passed through my programs-- but I'm not willing to risk their relationship with one another, with me, or with my program for \$1000. SCGC asked for volunteers from directors to read through scholarship applications, which I did a number of times; despite the fact that (to the best of my knowledge) there was not a "one per unit" rule in place, the applications were not so overwhelming in number that it was problematic. I'm sure a number of directors would be happy to aide in sorting through scholarship applications in the future.

18) Type: New Policy

Financial Impact: None.

Proposed By: Andria Foerch

Proposal:

- A representative who is named as Proxy for the annual membership meeting should be limited to 1 Proxy vote in addition to their own unit(s) they represent.

Rationale:

- In an effort to have the most participation by membership, this proposal would limit the number of Proxy votes to 1 per person in addition to their own represented unit(s). Often proposals are discussed at the meeting and the discussions have prompted proposals to be amended in the meeting. The person who is voting via Proxy is determining the decision for another member. There have been instances of multiple votes via Proxy with one person which may not be the best representation of the circuit membership based on potential amendments during the meeting.
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New Business

1) Type: Circuit Business

Financial Impact: None.

Proposed By: Ginger Armstrong

Proposal:

- An accountability tool/system should be developed for use with all paid and elected positions.

Rationale:

- As in any non-profit organization, the staff and executive board are accountable to the membership for all aspects of the organization. We have no system in place for checks and balances at this time.
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**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2016 SAPA May Membership Meeting Proposal List**

2) Type: Contests

Financial Impact: Minimal. The circuit should purchase a video camera and tripod for use at each show. Each contest sponsor would be responsible for providing a volunteer to manage the camera during the contest. Memory cards could be switched out each time voice recorders are switched out, and videos could be uploaded along with commentary for each unit.

Proposed By: Ginger Armstrong

Proposal:

- Unit directors should receive a high camera video of their unit at each contest through Competition Suite, including circuit championships.

Rationale:

- Competition Suite already offers the option for video uploads to be made available to the primary account holder for each unit at no additional cost. This negates any concern for copyright issues for the circuit, as one educational copy is being provided directly to the unit director. At that point, the unit director assumes all responsibility for any copyright problems related to reproduction, etc.
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3) Type: Circuit Business

Financial Impact: Increased budget line items to be decided

Proposed By: Brian Giddens

Proposal:

- Immediately form committee to investigate and make recommendations

Rationale:

- In our current setup as an organization, the Executive Board is tasked with overall operation of the circuit. In many circuits, our roles are absorbed, from an operational perspective, by a central admin, that is most often a paid position. While it is quite uncomfortable for this body to bring this for consideration, it seems to be the first step in either determining IF pay is appropriate, or if we utilize funds to create another position or increase responsibilities and/or adjust titles of positions we already have at our disposal.
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