

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS



2014-2015 Policy Manual

Revision Date 8/14/2014

SAPA Mission Statement

The Southern Association for Performance
Arts serves to provide pageantry
organizations with fair and quality
competitions that foster growth and enrich
its members, participants and spectators.

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Introduction

The Southern Association for Performance Arts (SAPA) is a local circuit based in the metro Atlanta area that sponsors competitive and educational events for all types of indoor pageantry arts (colorguard, percussion, and winds) based out of Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. SAPA offers a variety of competitive classes ranging from cadet units to world class units. SAPA adheres to all Winter Guard International (WGI) rules and policies, in addition to SAPA's own policies and procedures. Contests are judged by both local and national judges trained to use WGI's adjudication criteria. The competitive season begins in January and culminates with circuit championships at the end of March/beginning of April.

With the 2014-2015 competitive season being the first for Winds, SAPA will be following the rules and policies set forth by WGI. SAPA-specific Wind policies will be discussed and implemented at the 2015 May Meeting for the following 2015-2016 season. Please refer to WGI for details on performance requirements and other specifics regarding Winds. Circuit-wide policies, such as deadlines and costs, will be applicable to any units which are involved with SAPA.

Code of Ethics

All representatives of the Southern Association for Performance Arts (SAPA) are expected to behave in such a manner as to be exemplary examples for the young people we serve. Courtesy, language, standards, appearance, and personal conduct in and around all SAPA events should be beyond reproach. If undue and unfair pressure is applied to judges or contest staff through inappropriate behavior, then this places the competitive experience at risk. Examples include, but are not limited to: Instructors raising their voices to judges or contest staff in public, inappropriate conduct of any instructor while accompanying the performing unit onto the contest floor, inordinate and unauthorized telephone calls to judges. There is also a growing concern about disruptive behavior in the warm up areas and rude behavior from the performers and/or staff of one group towards another or to the contest staff. Behavior of this type is intolerable and will result in the loss of privilege that has been violated. For example, instructors could be barred from the arena floor, contest venue, or critique or lose the right to utilize the warm up venue(s). Addressing this important issue must be a priority for every performing unit. The managing administrator of the situation will determine the application of the action.

The managing administrator in judging issues will be the Chief Judge. The designated Contest Coordinator is the administrator in situations pertaining to contest personnel. In matters of poor sportsmanship and inter-unit issues, the Education Director and the Executive Board will act as the managing administrator.

Social Media Guidelines for Staff, Instructors, and Judges

Social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, discussion forums, blogs, wikis, virtual worlds or any other form of user-generated media, are powerful informational engines for our activity. SAPA recognizes the value and potential of these tools to generate excitement for our activity. Everyone is encouraged to share enthusiasm with friends, family, and the general public. Adherence to the following guidelines ensures the integrity of the adjudication and administrative services SAPA provides to all indoor performance activities.

Guidelines for Using Personal Social Media

- All parties should be aware of your association with SAPA in online social media streams. Use common sense, professional judgment and caution.
- No communication is allowed privately or publicly on any social media streams with any director, instructor, judge or performer about any competitive aspect of a unit. This type of communication is strictly prohibited by the rules without the express written permission of the Chief Judges, Vice Presidents of SAPA or the SAPA President.
- SAPA staff and judges should never comment on an individual group's anticipated or actual performance or anything of a competitive nature, however positive. Such postings create openings for questions from anyone reading the post. What seems an innocent comment can be easily misconstrued.
- SAPA staff and judges should change personal settings on any personal social media to allow review and approval of any post visible to the public. Use to caution on "liking" any post regarding any individual group or SAPA.
- SAPA staff and judges should use caution in posting or "tagging" photos or videos of any unit on your personal social media streams.

It is important to remember that anything posted on the Internet is permanent. Although it can be "taken down", it may well exist somewhere for years to come and often reach large numbers of people quickly. If misinterpreted or open to misinterpretation, such postings can do incalculable damage to the reputation of individuals, organizations and SAPA.

SAPA will use these guidelines to determine whether an employee or contractor has been appropriate in their public online behavior with respect to their SAPA-related responsibilities. Those employees and contractors associated with SAPA must represent appropriate conduct for a competitive, scholastic-based activity. Violation of these guidelines can lead to disciplinary action including suspension and/or termination.

Membership

Definition

- The Membership of the Southern Association for Performance Arts will be comprised of those units that have met all financial obligations for the current season.
- Membership is open to any pageantry unit, scholastic or independent.
- Duties and Responsibilities include:
 - Election of Officers and Board Members
 - Participate in the Annual Meeting
 - Present proposals for changes in policy and procedure of SAPA activities
 - Approve policy for the organization
 - Act as a sounding board and resource for new ideas and concepts which can further improve the organization
 - Provide support to the Executive Board and Staff of SAPA
 - Entry into all circuit shows, provided that registration procedures are adhered to as written and that show caps allow for attendance

Costs and Deadlines

- Membership Applications: Will be published in September/October for units that have shown an interest in participation in the Southern Association for Performance Arts
- Membership Fees:

Current Member	\$525
Additional Unit from Same Sponsoring Organization	\$300
Non-Membership 1 st Performance Fee	\$100
Non-Membership 2 nd Performance Fee	\$200
Premiere Weekend Education Event Cost per Unit	\$25

- Please note – a convenience fee of 3% of the total due will be added to all transactions completed through PayPal.
- If you choose to send a payment via mail, please mail payment to:
Southern Association for Performance Arts
10719 Alpharetta Hwy #2147
Roswell, GA 30077
- Winds units will not be allowed to register for events on a per-performance basis. Winds units must register as a full member for the 2014-2015 season.
- If a colorguard or percussion unit chooses to enter a circuit contest without becoming a member, they will be restricted to only two performances per season. If the unit

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chooses to enter a third contest, they will be required to become a circuit member. See pay-per-performance costs above for details on cost per show. Non-membership will not be allowed to register for events until January 1st

- All Membership Applications, Membership Fees, & Contest Entry Fees are due by December 1st. Units will not be allowed to register for shows until membership fees have been paid in full. Show registration for fully paid unit members will begin on October 1st.
- **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.**
- All forms, including Proof of Insurance, Music Licensing, Video Release, Photo Release, & Student Eligibility Letters, must be submitted electronically on the SAPA website on or before December 15th. If forms (Proof of Insurance, Music Licensing, & Student Eligibility Letter) and/or dues are not received by this date, **units will be removed from shows until the forms/fees have been collected. Units will not be allowed to re-register for shows until all forms/fees have been submitted. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Percussion Permission to Arrange forms must be received 1 week prior to Championships.
- Membership includes:
 - Entry into all regular season SAPA competitions
 - Entry into SAPA championships (provided all criteria are met)
 - Seven (7) Staff passes (responsibility of Individual Contest Sponsor)
 - Two (2) Directors passes (responsibility of SAPA)
- Units may purchase additional staff badges with their registration. The price of each additional badge will be \$8 multiplied by the **TOTAL** number of shows for the season, plus \$5 for the actual cost of each badge. \$5 from the sale of each badge will go to the circuit for the cost of making the badges, and the remaining amount will be divided evenly among all show hosts.
- One band director from each competing scholastic unit will be allowed in to contests with their school-issued identification card. A list will be given to show hosts, and band directors will be able to receive a pass at Unit Check In at each local show.
- Units may pay a fee of \$85 at the time of registration to secure 7 additional passes at SAPA Championships.

Annual Meetings

- The Membership of the Southern Association for Performance Arts will convene a meeting within sixty (60) days after the end of the competitive year. Said meeting shall be referred to as the Annual Meeting and the following items shall include, but not be limited to:
 - Election of Officers and Board Members
 - Selection of Committees and their members
 - Proposals presented to the Membership for change or adoption
 - Administrative matters presented to the Membership by the Board

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- Member units shall appoint one person to represent them at the Annual Meeting. Only duly appointed representatives shall be allowed to vote for units at the Annual Meeting. A unit can authorize another person to vote in proxy for them if the duly appointed representative cannot attend the Annual Meeting. Any proxy authorization must be submitted to the Secretary in writing, by the announced deadline prior to any meeting at which the proxy is to act.
- All proposals must be received by the Secretary in writing two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. All proposals sent within the specified time window will be presented at the meeting for discussion.
- Each proposal (or group of proposals if more than one covers the same subject) will be read and discussed by the membership. The membership will then vote on the proposal(s). The vote will be final and issues may not be reintroduced.
- 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.

Policies

- If the policy manual needs to be updated due to formatting, grammatical, or spelling errors, the Executive Board has the ability to make changes without notice provided it does not affect the policy or rules in any way.
- 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.
- Any legal binding statements requiring the signature of unit directors should be presented and signed individually.
- If there are technical issues beyond the unit's control as determined by the Contest Coordinator, and the unit has completed more than 50% of their interval time, the unit will be able to perform at the end of the class or at the next scheduled break within their class.
- If a violation of the code of ethics occurs, the Executive Board will issue a written warning to the offending person(s). If a second violation occurs and the person(s) is/are found to be at fault, the Executive Board will determine a consequence for said member(s). In the case of a severe violation of the code of ethics, the Executive Board has the discretion to immediately assign a consequence without an initial written warning.

Administration

Executive Board

- The Executive Board of the Southern Association for Performance Arts will consist of the President, Vice President of Color Guard, Vice President of Percussion, Secretary, Color Guard At Large Member, and Percussion At Large Member.
- Individuals selected for the Executive Board will come from the Membership and shall be elected for two year terms. On even years, the President, Treasurer, Percussion Vice President and Color Guard At Large member will be elected. On odd years, the Secretary, Color Guard Vice President and Percussion At Large member will be elected.
- No person actively serving as a judge at SAPA shows is eligible to be elected to the Executive Board

President

- Purpose: To plan, direct, and review the activities and operations of SAPA. Coordinate SAPA activities with outside organizations. Function as the Representative of the Executive Board to the Membership.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Preside over all official meetings pertaining to SAPA
 - Act as Primary Contact with the Chief Financial Officer
 - Convey Board Policy
 - Appoint committees as needed
 - Ex-Officio Member of all SAPA Committees
 - Act as the official interface to SAPA for all external organizations
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Secretary

- Purpose: To serve as the chief official in the maintenance of all records of SAPA, its committees, and its meetings.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Assure the maintenance of all minutes of official meetings and activities of SAPA
 - Provide for distribution of reports, minutes, policies, and procedures to the membership in a timely manner
 - Maintain ongoing communication with the Web Master
 - Assist and keep records of all correspondence of the SAPA organization
 - Collect and maintain all records of committees
 - Assist in the development and distribution of the agenda for the Annual Meeting
 - Serve as point of contact for WGI

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- Other duties as deemed necessary

Vice President of Colorguard

- Purpose: To plan, direct, and review the overall activities of the Color Guard division of SAPA. Coordinate and implement the adjudication and training of the SAPA Color Guard activity.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Carry out the duties of the President in their absence
 - Advance, promote and manage the Color Guard Division of SAPA
 - Maintain ongoing communication with WGI on issues of the Guard community
 - Maintain ongoing communication with color guard units and sponsors aiding in the development of the Color Guard community
 - Assure that all communication reflects WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy
 - Plan, prepare, and execute Color Guard training activities
 - Work with the Contest Coordinator and Championship Coordinator to insure proper Color Guard competition arrangements
 - Serve on the Color Guard Steering Committee as outlined in the SAPA Bylaws
 - Provide a report at the Annual Meeting
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Vice President of Percussion

- Purpose: To plan, direct, and review the overall activities of the Percussion division of SAPA. Coordinate and implement the adjudication and training of the SAPA Percussion activity.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Carry out the duties of the President in their absence
 - Advance, promote and manage the Percussion Division of SAPA
 - Maintain ongoing communication with WGI on issues of the Percussion community
 - Maintain ongoing communication with percussion units and sponsors aiding in the development of the Percussion community
 - Assure that all ongoing communication reflects the WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy
 - Plan, prepare, and execute Percussion training activities
 - Work with the Contest Coordinator and Championship Coordinator to insure proper Percussion competition arrangements
 - Serve on the Percussion Steering Committee as outlined in the SAPA Bylaws
 - Provide a report at the Annual Meeting
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Colorguard at Large Member

- Purpose: To serve as a representative of the Color Guard division of SAPA to the Executive Board
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Serve as the representative of the Overall Color Guard community of SAPA
 - Assist the Vice President of Color Guard with the maintenance of the Color Guard division, including SAPA-sponsored educational opportunities
 - Assist with the disbursement of accurate information pertaining to the Color Guard division
 - Organize and maintain a mentorship program for the Color Guard Division
 - Reaching out to schools that do not have units and/or new members to SAPA, actively recruit new units and market SAPA
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Percussion at Large Member

- Purpose: To serve as a representative of the Percussion division of SAPA to the Executive Board
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Serve as the representative of the Overall Percussion community of SAPA
 - Assist the Vice President of Percussion with the maintenance of the Percussion division, including SAPA sponsored educational opportunities
 - Assist with the disbursement of accurate information pertaining to the Percussion division, including circuit school
 - Assist with the disbursement of accurate information pertaining to the Percussion division
 - Organize and maintain a mentorship program for the Percussion Division
 - Reaching out to schools that do not have units and/or new members to SAPA, actively recruit new units and market SAPA
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Staff (Hired Positions)

Contest Director

- Purpose: To coordinate and implement the administration, scheduling, and operation of all SAPA competitions.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Manage all SAPA contests including all aspects of contest selection and contest administration
 - Maintain ongoing communications with the Executive Board, Judge Administrators, and Championships Coordinator to assure coordination of all areas of joint responsibility
 - Maintain common awareness of changes in procedures, policies, and/or problems to all SAPA contests
 - Maintain communication with Media Technician to coordinate database and all functions of Competition Suite
 - Work with the Championship Coordinator to insure proper competition arrangements in regard to scheduling
 - Assure that all ongoing communication reflects the WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy
 - Communicate with Chief Judges and Judge Administrators regarding adjudication issues
 - Keep the Executive Board advised of significant operational issues and/or concerns as they occur
 - Maintain the Contest Handbook each season to include all necessary updates, subject to review by the Executive Board prior to the awarding of shows
 - Communicate all changes to Contest Handbook mandated by WGI to all contest hosts throughout competitive season
 - Provide a report at the Annual Meeting
 - Be available for weekly conference calls (may not be required each week)
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Championship Coordinator

- Purpose: To plan, direct, and review the overall activities of the championship contest event of SAPA
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Advance, promote, and manage the SAPA Championship Event
 - Responsible for Championships merchandising
 - Designs subject to approval by Executive Board
 - Responsible for acquiring hotel accommodations and maintaining logistical arrangements for Championships judges
 - Maintain ongoing communications with the Executive Board, Judge

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Administrators, and Contest Coordinator to assure coordination of all areas of joint responsibility

- Provide quotes to Executive Board for approval for amounts over \$1500
- Provide receipts to CFO on a periodic basis as requested
- Provide status updates to the Executive Board regarding planning and expenses to date as requested
- Provide and/or review contracts with the Executive Board prior to execution
- Maintain common awareness of procedures, policies, and/or problems regarding SAPA Circuit Championships
- Work with the Contest Coordinator to insure proper Championship competition arrangements in regard to scheduling
- Insure promotion and communication with units and sponsors/vendors in regards to Circuit Championships to aid in the development of unit activities
- Assure that all ongoing communication reflects the WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy
- Provide a report at the Annual Meeting
- Be available for weekly conference calls (may not be required each week)
- Other duties as deemed necessary

Chief Financial Officer

- Purpose: To serve as the chief official in the receipt, care, and disbursement of funds for SAPA.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Act as the Chief Financial Officer for SAPA
 - Collect and deposit all revenues of SAPA
 - Maintain a complete ongoing record of all funds received and disbursed by the organization
 - Provide financial reports for both the Executive Board and Membership of SAPA
 - File necessary tax returns and information
 - Assist the Judge Coordinators in arranging transportation for adjudicators when necessary
 - Provide a complete report at the Annual Meeting
 - Be available for weekly conference calls (may not be required each week)
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Education Director

- Purpose: To work closely with both the Color Guard and Percussion divisions within SAPA on educational programs for SAPA instructor and students educational opportunities.
- Duties include but are not limited to:

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- Work with SAPA VP Color Guard and SAPA VP Percussion to plan and organize SAPA sponsored educational events.
- Stay abreast of all WGI Educational opportunities to provide information to SAPA members.
- Works with SAPA Contest Coordinator and SAPA Executive Board to enforce the SAPA Instructor's Code of Ethics
- Works with SAPA Judge Administrators to help facilitate educational events that bring a higher understanding of the judging process to the SAPA membership
- Implement the WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy

Percussion Judge Administrator

- Purpose: To assign and oversee all Percussion Adjudicators when necessary.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Assign adjudicators for all SAPA contests
 - Assist the CFO and Vice President of Percussion in arranging transportation for adjudicators when necessary
 - Provide the Contest Coordinator with a list of assignments of adjudicators in a timely manner
 - Supervise or assign judges to supervise SAPA competitions as Chief Judge
 - Implement the WGI and subsequent SAPA Philosophy
 - Provide training and mentorship for adjudicators working for SAPA
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Colorguard Judge Administrator

- Purpose: To assist in planning and reviewing the overall activities of the Color Guard division of SAPA in conjunction with the Vice President of Color Guard.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Oversee the assignment of quality adjudicators for all SAPA contests
 - Acquire and maintain current contact, preference information for active judges
 - Arrange transportation and housing for adjudicators when necessary
 - Coordinate and communicate logistical information for adjudicators for all SAPA contests
 - Provide the Contest Coordinator with a list of assignments of adjudicators in a timely manner
 - Facilitate, coordinate, and support training and mentorship for adjudicators working for SAPA
 - Deliver on promised goals pertaining to judge assignment and quality throughout the competitive season
 - Other duties as deemed necessary

Sound Technician

- Purpose: To provide the sound system and consistent running of said system for all SAPA competitions.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Transport, assemble and disassemble the sound system at SAPA competitions.
 - Be available for speed checks before competitions and during breaks.
 - Provide a week-to-week consistency on the running of all recorded media
 - Store the SAPA sound system between contests and between seasons

Media Technician

- Purpose: To provide transfer of the scores and judge commentary for each unit to Competition Suite.
- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Transport the laptop to all SAPA competitions.
 - Upload commentary and scores into Competition Suite during the course of all SAPA contests
 - Provide access to Competition Suite for SAPA Judge Coordinators and Education Director
 - Provide assistance to SAPA members if there are complications accessing their commentary through Competition Suite
 - Confidentiality of any comments made by judges is expected and any violation will not be tolerated.

Rules and Adjudication

Rulebook/Adjudication Manual

- Color Guard: All circuit competitions will abide by the competitive rules set forth in the WGI Color Guard Adjudication Manual and Rule Book.
- Percussion: All circuit competitions will abide by the competitive rules set forth in the WGI Percussion Adjudication Manual and Rule Book.

Rules

- SAPA will adopt and follow all competitive rule and system changes of WGI. These rules and systems will be proposed and approved at the WGI Color Guard and Percussion Advisory Board Meetings in odd years (2015, 2017, 2019, etc.) and implemented in even years (2014, 2016, 2018, etc.)
- All policy will be set on a yearly basis by the membership at the Annual Meeting

Insurance

- All Independent Units must provide proof of insurance, both General Liability and Accidental Medical. This must be postmarked or sent electronically to the SAPA Secretary on or before December 15. Units will not be allowed to perform without this on file.
- General Liability: Each Independent unit must provide proof of \$1,000,000 general liability coverage per organization. This coverage protects your unit, instructors, directors, and officers against claims of bodily injury liability, property damage liability, and the litigation costs to defend against such claims. This coverage will also allow any unit to rent rehearsal facilities as most require proof of coverage. Further information can be obtained on the WGI website (www.wgi.org).
- Accidental Medical: Each Independent unit must provide proof of \$10,000 accident medical coverage per organization. This covers all injuries (instructors and performers) at all activities sponsored and supervised by the unit (rehearsals and performances) as well as travel as a group and travel individually from member's home. Further information can be obtained on the WGI website (www.wgi.org).

Adjudication Assignments

- Color Guard Adjudicators: All Color Guard adjudicators will be placed by the Gulf Coast Judges Association and the SAPA Color Guard Judge Administrator. Judges are assigned based on eligibility, location, qualification, and any other standard(s) deemed appropriate by the Color Guard Judge Administrator.
- Percussion Adjudicators: All Percussion adjudicators will be placed by the Percussion Judge Administrator.

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- Judges are assigned based on eligibility, location, qualification, and any other standard(s) deemed appropriate by the Percussion Judge Administrator.

Adjudicator Compensation

- WGI-affiliated adjudicators: \$350 or \$8 per unit, whichever is higher
- Adjudicators with no WGI affiliation: \$300 or \$7 per unit, whichever is higher

Adjudicator Mileage Allowance

- Mileage: \$.55 per mile, not to exceed \$200 (paid by show host)

Colorguard Classifications

All competitive classes are required to appear at one of the first two color guard competitive weekends and two additional competitions to qualify for SAPA Championships. Cadet, Novice, SRA, and IRA will be allowed to premiere at the third competitive weekend of the season, in addition to the first two. If official school activities prevent a unit from being able to comply, the Unit Director may petition the SAPA Executive Board for exemption from this requirement.

****All units must compete in the same class within SAPA as registered with WGI.****

Exhibition

- This class is offered to both the Color Guard and Percussion divisions.
- Participants must be a member of SAPA and complete the necessary paper work and fees by the membership deadlines outlined in the 2013 Policy Manual.
- There are no limitations in regards to a units competitive or design level for this classification.
- Units in this class are not eligible for Championships.
- No scores will be given for this class, judge commentary only.
- No critiques will be offered to participants of this class.
- Timing requirements will be the same as the Cadet class.

Cadet A

- Any unit in which every member is an 8th grader or younger.
- Promotion out of this class is not possible.
- The WGI Regional A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Units in this class are not recommended to attend any WGI Regional or national competition.

Cadet B

- Any unit in which every member is an 8th grader or younger.
- Promotion to Cadet A Class will occur if a unit exceeds the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI Regional A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Units in this class are not recommended to attend any WGI Regional or national competition.

Novice

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- Promotion to Scholastic Regional A Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI Regional A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.

Scholastic Regional A

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- Promotion to Scholastic AAA Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI Regional A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.

Independent Regional A

- Members do not have to attend the same school or feeder program to said school.
- Promotion to Independent A Class will occur if design and/or achievement exceeds the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI Regional A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.

Scholastic AAA

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- Promotion to Scholastic AA Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic AAA Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition. Understand there will be a difference in the WGI ability levels for this class.
- Any unit in the Scholastic AAA Class that is named a finalist at any WGI Regional will be automatically reviewed for promotion to the Scholastic A Class.

Scholastic AA

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- Promotion to Scholastic A Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The WGI A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic AA Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition. Understand there will be a difference in the WGI ability levels for this class.
- Any unit in the Scholastic AA Class that is named a finalist at any WGI Regional will be automatically reviewed for promotion to the Scholastic A Class.

Scholastic A

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic A Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent A

- Any unit in which every member has not reached their 23rd birthday on March 31st.
- The WGI A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent A Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Open

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI Open Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Open Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent Open

- Any unit in which every member has not reached their 23rd birthday on March 31st.
- The WGI Open Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent Open Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic World

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI World Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic World Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent World

- The WGI World Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent World Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Colorguard Reclassification and Review Process

- **Who can be reclassified?**
 - Any Novice, SRA, IRA, or SAA unit can be reviewed for possible reclassification if they attend a WGI regional and make finals at that WGI regional, and/or if they achieve the reclassification score as determined by the Steering Committee.
- **When can units be reclassified?**
 - Reclassification for Novice, SRA, IRA, SAAA, and SAA units will begin on the Sunday of the 2nd Premier Weekend of the season. Units within SRA can be reclassified up until the 1st Saturday in March, in accordance with the below

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process. Units within Novice, SAAA, and SAA can be promoted at any time, regardless of date.

- Reclassification for SRA, IRA, or SAAA, and SAA units can be promoted based on a WGI regional finals performance, regardless of date.
- **What is used to determine classification/reclassification?**
 - Units will be reviewed for reclassification based upon their competitive score. The reclassification score for each contest will be determined by the Steering Committee.
- **How will I know if my unit is reclassified?**
 - If a Novice, SRA, IRA, SAAA, or SAA unit is reclassified, the Director of the unit will be notified at the awards ceremony following the contest where the reclassification score was achieved or exceeded.
- **What if I think my unit is misclassified/I want to appeal the classification/reclassification?**
 - If a unit feels they are misclassified, the unit directors may adjust their unit's class up until two weeks prior to the first competitive event of the season.
 - After the first competitive event of the season, if a unit feels they are misclassified or the reclassification was inappropriate, there is a specific process to follow:
 - The Unit Director must present a written statement (petition) to the SAPA Colorguard Steering Committee, supported by the Unit Director's reasons for appeal. This written statement must be received by the SAPA Steering Committee within 24 hours of being notified of reclassification (Sunday Evening).
 - Based on information received from the Unit Director, the SAPA Colorguard Steering Committee will make a final determination, in combination with the other factors utilized to reach the original decision. Careful consideration will be given to the written appeal from the Unit Director in determining the final result of the appeal.
 - A written rationale will be communicated to the Unit Director submitting the petition for appeal within 48 hours of the SAPA Colorguard Steering Committee's receipt of said petition (Tuesday Evening). This written statement will provide a clear explanation of the criteria used to determine the final classification of the unit.

First Appearance Requirements

- All Color Guard Classes MUST appear at one of the first two color guard competitive weekends to qualify for SAPA Circuit Championships. Cadet, Novice, SRA, and IRA will be allowed to premiere at the third competitive weekend of the season, in addition to the first two.
- All Percussion Classes MUST appear at one of the first two percussion competitive weekends to qualify for SAPA Circuit Championships.

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- The minimum timing requirements for the first two competitive weekends are:
 - **CADET, NOVICE, and Scholastic Regional A**
 - Minimum Authorized Equipment Time: 1.0 minute
 - Minimum Performance Time: 1.5 minutes
 - **AAA, AA, A, Open, and World**
 - Minimum Authorized Equipment Time: 2.0 minutes
 - Minimum Performance Time: 2.5 minutes
- For all classes, failure to meet these requirements will result in under time penalties from the Timing & Penalties sheets using the above parameters.

Colorguard Timing Requirements

CLASS	MAX. PERF. TIM	MIN. AUTH. PROP TIME	MIN. PERF. TIME	REQ. EQUIP. TIME	INTERVAL TIME
EXHIBITION, CADET A, B	4.5 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	7.0 MINUTES
NOV, SRA, IRA	4.5 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	7.0 MINUTES
SAAA, SAA, SA, IA	5.5 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	3.5 MINUTES	8.0 MINUTES
OPEN	6.5 MINUTES	5.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	3.5 MINUTES	9.0 MINUTES
WORLD	7.5 MINUTES	6.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	3.5 MINUTES	10.0 MINUTES

Percussion Classifications

All competitive classes are required to appear at one of the first two percussion competitive weekends and two additional competitions to qualify for SAPA Championships. If official school activities prevent a unit from being able to comply, the Unit Director may petition the SAPA Executive Board for exemption from this requirement.

****All units must compete in the same class within SAPA as registered with WGI.****

Exhibition

- This class is offered to both the Color Guard and Percussion divisions.
- Participants must be a member of SAPA and complete the necessary paper work and fees by the membership deadlines outlined in the 2013 Policy Manual.
- There are no limitations in regards to a units competitive or design level for this classification.
- Units in this class are not eligible for Championships.
- No scores will be given for this class, judge commentary only.
- No critiques will be offered to participants of this class.
- Timing requirements will be the same as the Cadet class.

Scholastic Cadet A

- Any unit in which every member is no older than an 8th grader.
- Promotion to Novice Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The SAPA approved Novice Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.

Novice

- Any unit in which every member is no older than a 12th grader.
- A unit can compete for a maximum of two consecutive years in this classification. A unit must petition the review committee for permission to remain in the class after that two year period.
- Promotion to Scholastic A Class will occur if units exceed the boundaries of this class.
- The SAPA approved Novice Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.

Non-Movement

- SAPA offers the Non-Movement Classes as a way to involve Programs that may have situations that limit them from having a Marching Unit or when Non-Movement Classes maybe a better fit for that Program.
- Any unit in which every member is no older than a 12th grader.
- Percussion Scholastic Non-Movement A Class is not offered as a WGI class. Units wanting to compete at WGI Regional/Championships should enter Scholastic MARCHING A Class.

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- Instrumentation Must be oriented to the marching percussion idiom (Battery and Front Ensemble). Ensembles that do not have a marching percussion instrumentation will be moved to Concert class (at the discretion of the Vice-President of Percussion and the Percussion Member-At-Large).
- Movement will be allowed only in order for the performers to change equipment or for better presentation of musical performance only one student conductor is allowed.
- Unit will be judged on the SAPA Non-Movement Criteria and credit will be given to Musical Elements only.
- The General Effect judge may award credit if visual components of playing an instrument add to the Overall Effect of the performance (e.g. back-sticking, or drum-to-drum, etc). Props, uniforms, back-drops, etc. may be used and rewarded if they add to the Overall Effect of the production.
- Without the Visual Component, Non-Movement Units must find Creative and Fresh ways to create Effects using Music and Audio. This will be rewarded in the Overall Effect Scores.
- All Non-Movement Classes will perform before the Marching Classes begin (regardless of class).
- The Percussion Timing Requirements will be the same as Scholastic A Marching.

Scholastic Concert A

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- One non-student conductor is allowed in this class.
- The WGI Scholastic Concert A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Concert A Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Marching A

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI Percussion Marching A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Marching A Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent Marching A

- Any unit in which every member is no older than 22 by March 31st.
- The WGI Percussion Marching A Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent Marching A Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they chose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Concert Open

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy

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manual.

- One non-student conductor is allowed in this class.
- The WGI Scholastic Concert Open Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Concert Open Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Marching Open

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI Percussion Marching Open Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Marching Open Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent Marching Open

- Any unit in which every member is no older than 22 by March 31st.
- The WGI Percussion Marching Open Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent Marching Open Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Concert World

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- One non-student conductor is allowed in this class.
- The WGI Scholastic Concert World Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Concert World Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Scholastic Marching World

- Unit must meet the Scholastic Eligibility requirements specified in the WGI Policy manual.
- The WGI Percussion Marching World Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Scholastic Marching World Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Independent Marching World

- Any unit in which every member is no older than 22 by March 31st.
- The WGI Percussion Marching World Class sheet will be the adjudication tool.
- Independent Marching World Class units may attend any WGI regional or national competition if they choose and are encouraged to do so.

Percussion Reclassification and Review Process

- **Who can be reclassified?**
 - Any Novice, A, or Open Class unit can be reviewed for possible reclassification.
- **When can units be reclassified?**
 - Reclassification will begin on the Sunday of the 2nd Premier Weekend of the season. Units can be reclassified up until the 1st Sunday in March, in accordance with the below process.
- **What is used to determine classification/reclassification?**
 - If a unit is chosen for review, the SAPA Percussion Steering Committee will take into consideration the unit's scores, judge's feedback, video performances, and live performances throughout the season up to the point of review.
- **How will I know if my unit is reclassified?**
 - If a unit is reclassified, the Director of the unit will be notified by the Sunday evening following the show at which the unit was marked for review.
- **What if I think my unit is misclassified/I want to appeal the classification/reclassification?**
 - If a unit feels they are misclassified, the unit directors may adjust their unit's class up until two weeks prior to the first competitive event of the season.
 - After the first competitive event of the season, if a unit feels they are misclassified or the reclassification was inappropriate, there is a specific process to follow:
 - The Unit Director must present a written statement (petition) to the SAPA Percussion Steering Committee, supported by the Unit Director's reasons for appeal. This written statement must be received by the SAPA Steering Committee within 24 hours of being notified of reclassification (Monday Evening).
 - Based on information received from the Unit Director, the SAPA Percussion Steering Committee will make a final determination, in combination with the other factors utilized to reach the original decision. Careful consideration will be given to the written appeal from the Unit Director, in determining the final result of the appeal.
 - A written rationale will be communicated to the Unit Director submitting the petition for appeal within 48 hours of the SAPA Percussion Steering Committee's receipt of said petition (Wednesday Evening). This written statement will provide a clear explanation of the criteria used to determine the final classification of the unit.

Percussion First Appearance Requirements

- All Percussion units **MUST** appear at one of the first two competitive weekends where percussion is offered (Percussion Premiere Weekends) to qualify for SAPA Championships.
- During Percussion Premier Weekends, under time penalties will be suspended for

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percussion units.

Percussion Timing Requirements

CLASS	MAX. PERF. TIME	MIN. PERF. TIME	INTERVAL TIME
CONCERT CLASSES	8.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	11.0 MINUTES
NOVICE	5.0 MINUTES	3.0 MINUTES	8.0 MINUTES
A MARCHING	6.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	9.0 MINUTES
OPEN MARCHING	7.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	10.0 MINUTES
WORLD MARCHING	8.0 MINUTES	4.0 MINUTES	11.0 MINUTES

Circuit Contests

Entry Procedure

- Registration and contest entry will be open to membership on the SAPA website in October of each year.
- Entries must be completed on the website by the stated deadline. Contest Entry Deadline will be three (3) weeks prior to each contest date.
- Entry limits may be set according to facility specifics for each show. Units entering after a contest has been closed will be placed on a waiting list for that contest.
- Units entering any scholastic class must complete a Scholastic Eligibility Form, signed by the school principal to demonstrate that participating students of the unit are enrolled students at said school or meet the WGI scholastic eligibility requirements by December 15th.
- All Independent units must provide proof of liability and accidental medical insurance for each member by December 15th.

If a unit enters or pulls out of a circuit contest after its Contest Entry Deadline Date, said unit must pay a \$75.00 fee within the two weeks prior to the show date or \$150 fee within the one week prior to the show date before the unit can participate in any other SAPA competition. Under extenuating circumstances, this fee may be waived by the Contest Coordinator.

- In order to have a withdrawal fee waived due to circumstances surrounding “weather,” all withdrawals from registered events must be accompanied by a letter from the principal of the school on school letterhead stating the students will not be allowed to travel and attend the event. The requirement for the official letter from the principal can be met if the unit’s school district is closed on the Friday prior to the event in question.
- If a unit owes a fee, they will have 5 business days to pay the fee prior to being placed on a waiting list for all remaining registered events.

Sponsorship

- The SAPA Contest Director has the ultimate responsibility in selecting the sponsor (host) for all SAPA competitions.
- Sponsorship of a SAPA competition can only be held by a member unit of SAPA.
- Contest Sponsorship Applications will be posted on the SAPA website no later than August 1.
- Units wishing to sponsor (host) a SAPA competition will be required to complete the Contest Sponsorship Application and post a refundable \$500.00 Franchise Fee by the deadline established by the Executive Board. An initial deposit of \$250 is due with the show bid, with the remainder due at the time of the show.
- Applications will be reviewed by the SAPA Contest Director, who determines where shows will be held for the season. Factors that will be considered in

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the determining schedule include but are not limited to:

- o WGI Regional Calendar
- o Dates available to host
- o Facility statistics
- o Past performance as a Show Sponsor
- o Ability to host Percussion and Color Guard shows

Supervision Responsibilities

- The SAPA Contest Coordinator is the ultimate responsible party to both the Show Sponsor and the Southern Association for Performance Arts.
- Each Show Sponsor will have a Contact Person that will serve as the Chief Liaison to the Contest Coordinator.

Procedures

- The SAPA Contest Coordinator shall handle all entries. After the Show Sponsor finalizes information, the SAPA Contest Coordinator is responsible to provide that information to units and adjudicators.
- If less than 20 color guard and/or 5 percussion units are registered by the 15 days prior to the first show, a warning will be issued to the membership that the show (color guard, percussion, or both) is in danger of being cancelled. All cancellations due to low number of competing registered units will be determined no less than 4 weeks prior to the show in question.
- Regular season circuit contest performance times will be determined by a random draw within each class. In the event of a large number of entries, the contest day may be split up with retreat ceremonies for each competition block.
- The official draft schedule and contest packet will be posted on the SAPA website no later than one (1) week
- before the contest date.
- The approved entrance fees for all SAPA circuit contests are:
 - o \$9.00 for one day entry
- No show host may charge admission for any spectator under the age of 3.
- Regular season SAPA Color Guard contests will be adjudicated by a six (6) person panel:
 - o One (1) Individual Analysis- Equipment Judge
 - o One (1) Individual Analysis- Movement Judge
 - o One (1) Design Analysis Judge
 - o Two (2) General Effect Judges
 - o One (1) Timing and Penalties Judge
- Regular Season SAPA Marching Percussion Contests will be adjudicated by a four (4) person panel:
 - o One (1) Visual Analysis Judge

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- One (1) Music Judge
- One (1) General Effect Judge
- One (1) Timing and Penalties Judge
-
- Regular Season SAPA Concert Percussion Contests will be adjudicated by a three (3) person panel:
 - One (1) Music Judge
 - One (1) Artistry Judge
 - One (1) Timing and Penalties Judge
- In the event the respective judging communities cannot provide full panels, the final scores will be adjusted by a formula provided by the Contest Coordinator.
- Score sheets, recap forms, tote sheets, schedules, and general information will be provided by SAPA through the Contest Coordinator.
- The WGI Tabulation Programs will be used at all SAPA competitions.
- Minimum Trophy/Plaque requirements for all SAPA competitions shall be as follows:
 - Trophies:
 - First Place: 18 inches
 - Second Place: 15 inches
 - Third Place: 12 inches
 - Plaques:
 - First Place: 8 inches by 10 inches
 - Second Place: 7 inches by 9 inches
 - Third Place: 6 inches by 8 inches
- Exceptions to the Minimum Trophy/Plaque Policy must be cleared by the Contest Coordinator.

Work Day for Contests

- Saturday:
 - For any SAPA regular season contest, the day cannot begin before 10:00 AM and must conclude no later than 10:00 PM for competition among units.
 - Judges should report no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of a contest and no critique will continue any later than 12 midnight.

Photography & Video

- Photographs and video made at local shows and championships will be used for promotional use by SAPA and may be sold at the discretion of the companies that SAPA hires.

Circuit Championships

Entry Procedure

- Entry for the Southern Association of Performance Arts Circuit Championships will be done through the same process of regular season SAPA competitions.
- The deadline for registering for SAPA Championships is February 15.
- If a unit enters or pulls out of SAPA Championships after February 15, said unit must pay a \$75.00 fee within the two weeks prior to the show date or \$150 fee within the one week prior to the show date before the unit can participate in any other SAPA competition. Under extenuating circumstances, this fee may be waived by the Contest Coordinator.

Sponsorship

- The Southern Association for Performance Arts Circuit Championships will be sponsored by the Southern Association for Performance Arts.
- The SAPA Executive Board has the ultimate responsibility in selecting the sponsoring site (host site) for the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- Potential Sites will be reviewed by the Executive Board with one selected. Factors that will be considered in the determining schedule include but are not limited to:
 - o WGI Regional Calendar and WGI International Championships
 - o Facility statistics
 - o Past performance as a Championships Site Sponsor
 - o Cost to SAPA.

Supervision Responsibilities

- The SAPA Championships Coordinator is the ultimate responsible party to both the Show Sponsor and the Southern Association for Performance Arts.
- The SAPA Championships Coordinator is the ultimate authority for all operational aspects for the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- The Championships Show Sponsor will have a Contact Person that will serve as the Chief Liaison to the Championships Coordinator.
- The Championships Coordinator shall recruit and/or select key staff personnel to assist with the SAPA Circuit Championships. These positions may include but are not limited to: Event Coordinators, Unit Check-In Monitors, Unit Starters and Movers, Announcers, Ticket Sellers, Merchandise and Video Sellers, Judge Security, Ushers, Sound Technicians, Video Technicians, Headquarters Operations, Housing Coordinators, Awards, and Local Media Coordination.

Judging Assignments

- All assignment of Color Guard Adjudicators will be made by the Color Guard Judge Administrator.
- All assignment of Percussion Adjudicators will be made by the Percussion Judge Administrator.
- If the need arises, double panels may be used. This will be subject to Adjudicator availability.
- Semi-Finals and Finals will be implemented when deemed necessary by the Executive Board. Semi-Finalist and Finalist units will have at least 50% of their respective panels comprised of judges from their previous performance (Prelims or Semi-Finals).

Adjudicator Compensation

- WGI: \$350 or \$8 per unit, whichever is higher
- Non-WGI: \$300 or \$7 per unit, whichever is higher

Circuit Championships Contest Schedule

- SAPA Circuit Championships shall be held on the first, second, or third weekend in April depending on when Easter and Passover falls and shall be approved by the Executive Board.
- The contest will be held no earlier than Friday Morning to no later than Sunday Evening.
- All participating units must meet the minimum requirements for performance at Circuit Championships including payment of all outstanding fees.
- Any class with entries totaling 20 or more will be split into divisions as follows:
 - o 20-29 units: Two (2) divisions
 - o 30-39 units: Three (3) divisions
 - o 40+ units: Four (4) divisions
- Order of performance for all classes with 5 or less units will be determined by random draw.
- All classes with 6 or more units will be seeded using their most recent score, increased by 1.5 points for each week of the contest calendar if the most recent score was not achieved at the last regular contest of the season. The resulting “ranking list” will be divided into three groups according to ranking (highest ranking, next highest ranking, etc.) There will then be a random draw for order of appearance within each grouping. Lowest ranked grouping will perform first in the class, middle grouping in the middle, highest ranked at the end of the class.

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- Example:

Unit	Adjusted Score	
Unit 1	72.54	} Random draw between these units
Unit 2	73.64	
Unit 3	74.23	
Unit 4	76.06	
Unit 5	76.70	} Random draw between these units
Unit 6	77.50	
Unit 7	78.45	
Unit 8	78.99	
Unit 9	80.38	} Random draw between these units
Unit 10	80.49	
Unit 11	80.75	
Unit 12	81.86	

- Any class with entries totaling 20 or more units will be split into divisions as follows:
 - 20-29 units: Two (2) divisions
 - 30-39 units: Three (3) divisions
 - 40+ units: Four (4) divisions
- If class divisions are necessary, the above seeding process will apply within each division.

Championships Awards

- Plaques and/or trophies will be presented to all participants in all divisions.
- The top three (3) places in each division will be presented medals:
 - First Place: Gold
 - Second Place: Silver
 - Third Place: Bronze
- The number of medals will be the total number of marching members plus seven (7). In the event that the band director is not included in the seven, one additional medal may be requested. If additional staff medals are needed, they can be requested after retreat.
- Medals will be awarded to the individual medalists through their staff at a ceremony during the Circuit Championships Retreat.

Photography & Video

- Photographs and video made at local shows and championships will be used for promotional use by SAPA and may be sold at the discretion of the companies that SAPA hires.

Program/Yearbook

- The Championships Coordinator will be responsible for the selection of a vendor to provide the SAPA Circuit Championships Program/Yearbook.
- The Championships Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating or delegating the following responsibilities and duties concerning the Circuit Championships Program/Yearbook:
 - o Content, layout, production, and delivery
 - o Promotion, billing, and accounting of advertising
 - o Marketing and retailing

Merchandise Sales

- The sale of merchandise (both official SAPA products and otherwise) will be the responsibility of the Championships Coordinator.
- The Championships Coordinator will be responsible for securing the best price for all official SAPA products.
- Items that are sold at SAPA Circuit Championships will be the responsibility of the Championships Coordinator.

Non-Competitive Awards

Sportsmanship Award

- One (1) award will be given for the competing units at the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- Each unit participating in the SAPA Circuit Championships will have one (1) vote.
- Voting will be done prior to Circuit Championships with a deadline of 12:00 midnight EST the Tuesday prior to Circuit Championships.
- Criteria will include but is not limited to:
 - Unit must be a member of SAPA
 - Unit must participate in championships that season
 - Unit has demonstrated helpfulness and support to other member units of SAPA during the regular season.
 - Unit has demonstrated the highest standards of sportsmanlike conduct throughout the entire season.

Tony Stoker Spirit of SAPA Award

- One (1) award will be given for the Southern Association for Performance Arts at the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- Each unit participating in the SAPA Circuit Championships will have one (1) vote.
- Nominations will be made by the membership with a deadline of three weeks prior to Circuit Championships.
- Voting will be done prior to Circuit Championships with a deadline of 12:00 midnight EST the Tuesday prior to Circuit Championships.
- Criteria will include but is not limited to:
 - Type of service
 - Length of service
 - Dollar impact on the SAPA organization
 - Individual personal sacrifices

Most Improved Award

- One (1) award will be given for the Color Guard Division and One (1) award will be given for the Percussion Division at the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- Each unit participating in the SAPA Circuit Championships will be eligible.
- Voting will be done prior to Circuit Championships with a deadline of 12:00 midnight EST the Tuesday prior to Circuit Championships. Votes will also be taken from judges that have adjudicated at least three different weekends of competition during the regular season.
- Criteria will include but is not limited to
 - Gains made over the season in design, execution, and performance.
 - Maturing of performers of the unit over time.

Fan's Favorite Award

- One (1) award will be given for the Color Guard Division and One (1) award will be given for the Percussion Division at the SAPA Circuit Championships.
- Each unit participating in the SAPA Circuit Championships will be eligible.
- Voting will be done at the SAPA Circuit Championships. A ballot will be enclosed in the Championships Program/Yearbook. Ballots will be returned to an announced location close to the Spectator Entrance. Deadline for acceptance of ballots will be at the end of the interval time for the final unit in competition.

Hall of Fame

The mission of the SAPA Hall of Fame is to honor excellence and preserve our evolving history. The SAPA Hall of Fame was formed to recognize the individuals in the winter color guard and winter percussion activity whose extraordinary efforts and accomplishments have enhanced the SAPA Organization, broadened the appeal of these activities and whose lives and accomplishments serve to inspire, educate, and be role models for all those who participate in SAPA. Selection for the SAPA Hall of Fame can be achieved as a unit director or designer, an administrative position, an adjudicator, from amongst SAPA employees or as a volunteer.

Selection Process

- One (1) individual will be added to the Hall of Fame in any year.
- Any person who is active in SAPA (i.e., a unit director or performing member, an adjudicator or SAPA employee) may nominate a candidate for Hall of Fame.
- The Hall of Fame Selection Committee shall consist of all current members of the SAPA Hall of Fame and sitting members of the SAPA Executive Board. If a person is a member of both, they may only vote once.
- The names of persons who are nominated for election shall not be disclosed at any time to any person (including those who are nominated) other than current members of the SAPA Hall of Fame, the sitting members of the SAPA Executive Board and the SAPA Contest Director. No member of the SAPA Hall of Fame Selection Committee or any other person shall disclose how any member of the Selection Committee voted on the election of any particular candidate (including the particulars of the balloting).
- Voters will be asked to rank the candidates in their order of preference. The individual with the lowest total score will be elected to the Hall of Fame.
- The SAPA Contest Director will receive all nominations, distribute ballots and tally the votes. Recognition of each year's recipient will occur at SAPA Championships.

Summary of Policy Manual Revisions

- Format of document has been updated for ease of viewing and indexing. In addition, the summary of revisions section has been added for quick review of document/policy changes.
- Removed Programs section of manual. Placed original “SAPA Membership” sub-caption and contents under Membership section, and renamed section as “Costs and Deadlines.” Placed “Rule Book/Adjudication Manual” and “Insurance” sub-captions and contents under Rules and Adjudication section. Moved sections to assist in ease of finding pertinent information.
- Made adjustments to “Costs and Deadlines” sub-caption of Membership section. Changes include:
 - Amendment of policy to indicate all units must pay before registering for shows and show registration open date of October 1st.
 - Amendment of policy to indicate all forms must be completed and turned in by December 15th.
 - Amendment of policy to indicate pay-per-performance can be limited to only two shows. In addition, fee structure of pay-per-performance changed and units who are not registered as members of the circuit cannot register for shows until January 1st.
 - Amendment of policy to reflect deadlines for additional fees throughout the season.
 - Added new policy of 3% convenience fee to PayPal transactions.
- Made adjustments to Colorguard Classification section. Changes include:
 - Addition of Cadet B classification.
- Made adjustments to Circuit Contests section. Changes include:
 - Addition of new policy in regards to waiving fees for withdrawals due to weather.
- Created new Social Media Guidelines section modeled after similar policy by WGI
- Created an introduction section describing SAPA and adding language to indicate SAPA’s policies and rules for Winds this season
- Revision date 8/14/2014 by Tita Anderson Lovell