



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2024 SAPA Spring Membership Meeting Proposals

Policy Proposals

Category: Classification

1 Proposed by: Marie Coffey

Proposal: Steering committee/judge/chief judge, etc. needs to have a role in ensuring all groups that are promoted are competitive in the middle of the class that they are promoted into. If a group is not competitive in the middle of the class they get promoted into they should be permitted to stay in their class until the end of the season. There should be a cut off date for promotions to ensure that all groups have a fair chance in staying competitive during their season. Promotion should not be solely based on scores from a single performance.

Rationale: As groups approach the end of the season they do not have enough time to alter shows in order to compete at a middle level. The requirements that are present as a result of late promotion have the potential impact of creating an unsuccessful end of a season for color guards. In order to keep performers' morale up as well as to promote an interest in the sport and understanding of the pay off for their work, groups should be able to see some type of payout for their superior performance and dedication.

2 Proposed by: Tita Lovell

Proposal: I propose adding language to the Scholastic National A classification indicating that if a unit does not meet the requirements for the classification (of attending at least one WGI regional AND WGI world championships OR two WGI regionals), they will be automatically reclassified to Scholastic A.

Rationale: There have been a few instances where SNA units are unable to attend WGI events for various reasons after the season has started. In an effort to align language with the automatic reclassification from SA to SNA, this language should be added in order to ease the reclassification request process.



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3 Proposed by: Steering Committee

Proposal: There will be no automatic reclassifications in the last two regular performance weekends of the season. Any potential reclassifications will come from steering committee reviews after the unit is flagged by a set promotion number.

Rationale: In the last two weekends of the season we often see higher scores that are approaching Championship numbers. This clarification in reclassification procedure would reduce the potential for a group being promoted due to achievement in the final weeks of the season versus being outside the bounds of the class.

4 Proposed by: Steering Committee

Proposal: All Novice and Regional A class Championship medalists are automatically promoted to the next level of classification at the end of each season.

Rationale: Medalists in any given year have achieved, as performers and staff, the expectations set forth in the class. This policy intends to promote continuous upward movement and growth.

If, in the new season, it is apparent that the group is incorrectly classified in the new class -- there is a process to petition for review to move back down a class.

5 Proposed by: Steering Committee

Proposal: All petitions to change class must occur prior to the fifth contest of the season.

Rationale: Director initiated classification changes, such as moving a group to a new class or across a class (SNA to SA), take time for the Steering Committee to complete, change the contest dynamics of a given class, and require logistical changes for the Contest and Championship coordinators if they are granted. Limiting the petitions to the first half of the season, ensure there is adequate time to appropriately make these changes. This also allows units time in the season to compete in their new classification prior to championships.



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Category: Championships

- 6** Proposed by: Cyndi Church
Proposal: Scores used for seeding rounds at Championships (WGI competitive Classes) should use latest scoring regardless of where that score was received, local contest or regional.

Rationale: Allows for the most recent scoring to be used to seed the rounds as many of these groups attend regionals the latter part of the season.

Category: Contests

- 7** Proposed by: Jenney Kliesrath
Proposal: Contest host sites should be required to have a first aid station at the exit of the performance area.

Rationale: Most injuries are going to happen either during warm up or during the performance and having a first aid station in the immediate area of the performance floor would help performers get aid more quickly. This is especially true at SAPA champ's where the first aid station was located two floors up.

Category: Circuit Business

- 8** Proposed by: Tita Lovell
Proposal: Remove the following language from the policy manual with respect to registration for educational events.
- Education Event Cost per Unit: \$25

Rationale: I propose to remove the language regarding the per unit fee for educational events. For the past few years, we have not utilized the per unit fee for participation in educational events. All educational events offered by SAPA have been open to all and have not been put behind a cost barrier (aside from payment of membership fees). As part of the membership fee, any unit should have access to all educational events without the burden of an additional fee on top of the membership fee.