



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR PERFORMANCE ARTS
2019 Spring Meeting Minutes
Sunday, April 28th

Meeting Date: Sunday, April 28th

Meeting Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton Atlanta Kennesaw Town Center

Meeting Start Time: 1:18pm

Attendance: 46 units were in attendance in person, 8 units were represented via proxy, and 15 units were represented digitally (see attached sheet for specific units represented)

A welcome to the meeting was given by the SAPA Executive Board and SAPA President Brian Giddens. Immediately after the welcome, SAPA Secretary Tita Anderson Lovell provided a brief overview of the 2018 Fall Membership Meeting minutes for approval. A copy of the minutes can be found at the following link: http://www.sapaonline.net/system/files/1_5693546947_2018-sapa-fall-mtg-minutes.pdf
The minutes were approved by a majority show of hands.

A presentation of reports from each position occurred next. A copy of the presentation containing all the reports can be found at the following link: http://www.sapaonline.net/system/files/1_2691373580_2019sapaspringmeeting.pdf

- President & Vice President of SAPA Report, presented by Brian Giddens & Andria Foerch
 - A financial update on the circuit was presented.
 - 501c3 status has been finalized!
 - Replacing the position of CFO has been a CPA firm this year. The CFO position will be removed from the policy manual.
 - A finalized budget vs. expenditures report will be available at the Fall Meeting due to a few accounts still waiting to close for the 2019 season.
 - Judging Update
 - Judge Administrator responsibilities were shared between Andria & Brian this season. Through completing the Judge Administrator position, they determine additional structural items that are needed to help complete the role. We will be posting the Judge Administrator position to be filled in a few weeks.
 - Circuit Structure
 - The goal of looking at circuit structure is to determine what operational responsibilities could be better served by a non-voted staff position. Since executive board members have two-year terms and are voted in to the position, there is a loss in efficiency since the new board members have a steep learning curve to complete these responsibilities. Having some annual responsibilities given to the staff members would better free up the board members to focus on other projects.
 - Recommendations for Future
 - Move Mentor/Mentee program to Education Director
 - Colorguard-at-Large: Serve as back-up to the Vice President of Colorguard & provide multiple check-ins with directors and units throughout the season
 - Educator-at-Large: Serve as back-up to the Vice President of SAPA
 - Executive Board to meet twice annually in person
 - Steering Committee to meet once annually in person
 - Education



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- Education Director will be filled by Megan Phillips as Rick Subel is stepping down to pursue other ventures.
- Vice President of Colorguard Report, presented by Ira Jenkins
 - Presentation about the growth of the membership
 - A timeline showing all of the in-season promotion that occurred
 - Discussion of promotion process
 - Currently using a hybrid model where scores from Individual Analysis caption & Design Analysis caption to determine promotion scores
 - Scores are not announced to prevent possible favoritism by judging through scoring
 - Concerns based on promotions:
 - How can we better educate groups so they are more appropriately placed at the beginning of the season?
 - Level of communication to membership regarding the promotion review process from the SRA to A class
 - Cadet & Novice sheets will be posted to the website to allow membership to understand what criteria their groups are being judged by. Sheets were sent to judges in the 2019 season but not to the membership in error.
- Education Director Report, presented by Megan Phillips
 - Education Events summary
 - If we increased the number of these type of events, would the interest wane over time?
 - Peer Checkpoints
 - If you have topic of interest, expertise, or other items related to this new video series, please let Megan know.
 - Create a recruitment video for our circuit: Why SAPA?
 - Ongoing items:
 - Distribution of WGI items and updates
 - Judge recruitment
 - Mid-season Education Event
 - What should this event look like?
 - Scheduled at end of February into beginning of March
 - Attend training and participate in discussions to help grow into the future. Participate in the learning community of SAPA.
- Championships Coordinator Report, presented by Ahmed Al-Shabibi
 - Discussions of statistics for event in terms of number of performers, units, spectators, and other financial items
 - Discussion of warm-up concerns was held during this report.
 - The Championships Coordinator is looking at ways to improve warm-up. There might be a possibility of using the gym across the street from the UTC McKenzie Arena as the warm-up facility depending on schedule.
 - Another warm-up option would be similar to the tent at WGI Championships, but the largest factor preventing this from becoming the option is cost.
- Contest Director Report, presented by Nora Lowery



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- Statistics for unit attendance breakdown for each local contest was provided to the membership.

After the presentation of reports, the membership took a break between 2:34pm and 2:42pm prior to the start of proposal discussion and voting. Please see the list below to see the policy number and the voting outcome. For specifics on each proposal and the vote breakdown, please refer the proposal results document (Link: http://www.sapaonline.net/system/files/1_8882573681_2019-sapa-proposal-list-results.pdf)

1. Approved
2. Approved as amended
3. Failed
4. Failed
5. Approved as amended
6. Approved
7. Approved
8. Failed (requires follow-up)
9. Approved (requires follow-up)
10. Failed
11. Approved as amended (requires follow-up)
12. Withdrawn

Executive Board elections were held next. The positions available were: Vice President of Colorguard, Educator-At-Large, and Secretary. The results of the elections are below:

- Vice President of Colorguard – Ira Jenkins by acclimation
- Educator-At-Large – Ian Lewis by acclimation
- Secretary – Tita Anderson Lovell by acclimation

Elections were also held to fill the positions vacated by the outgoing members of the Colorguard Steering Committee. Two positions were available for a 2-year term. The results are listed below:

- Rebekah Chadderdon
- Cyndi Church

The membership took a break from 4:12pm to 4:18pm prior to discussing new business.

New Business

- Member Safety
 - There should be an awareness about the individuals participating in independent groups regarding member safety practices.
 - Each independent unit should have ethical practices and specific allowances stated to the membership in writing.
 - Staff background checks are extremely important and should be a part of the hiring process for all units.



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- A town hall meeting was discussed as an option for independent and national A groups to discuss matters related to safety.
- Outline Steering Committee process to review promotions
 - What are the steps taken to review and what does the review process look like?
 - Steering Committee will discuss how to make this process better as it hit some concerns in the 2019 season.
 - Is the promotion process working as intended at the end of the season?
- Circuit Championships should meet all expectations of local contests in terms of venue
 - What can we do for solutions to allow enough space for units to warm-up?
- Show Host deadlines for information packets
 - Dimensions with floor obstructions are needed by increasing numbers of units as group expand the boundaries of the performance floor.
 - Improve this for next year as there were concerns with the lateness in which certain packets were posted prior to the contest.
- Circuit Championships schedule
 - There was discussion around having a tentative agreement to have a draft schedule prepared at least one month in advance of event to better allow units to prepare.
 - It is important to note that as the circuit grows, we will have to start looking at creative options to run championships. Some options discussed:
 - Starting on Friday
 - Running a prelims/finals
 - Having prelims on one weekend and finals on another weekend
- Fall Meeting will be combined with an Educational Event – SAPAFest
 - The meeting would be a part of a larger educational event day. Meeting would be at the beginning of the day and then attendees could choose various tracks of sessions to attend.
 - Please contact Ira if you are interested in seeing the sample event schedule or if you have interest in helping prepare the event.
- TV screens at South Forsyth warm-up
 - The screens running at South Forsyth with the timing for warm-up made units experience warm-up in a more positive manner.
 - There is interest from the membership in the circuit purchasing screens to provide the same experience at all warm-ups for next season.
- Young unit directors connecting with SAPA
 - There was a concern expressed for how to allow younger unit directors to participate in some way with SAPA.
 - Please contact Tita if you are interested in participating in the SAPA Snapchat Takeover.
 - Tita will be communicating with the membership about a shareable Instagram account to help provide content over the course of the season and beyond.

Meeting Adjournment: 5:11pm

The meeting minutes were prepared by Tita Anderson Lovell.



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Meeting Attendance

In Person

Cambridge HS
Chattahoochee HS A
Chattahoochee HS Novice
Cherokee HS
Chimera
Creekview HS
Creekview JV
Douglas County HS
Flowery Branch HS
Flowery Branch JV
Harrison Winterguard
Johns Creek HS
Kell HS
Lakeside HS Winterguard
Lakeside Independent
Lanier HS
Lanier JV
Lassiter HS
Marietta HS
McEachern HS
Mill Creek A
Mill Creek Cadet
Mill Creek Open
Milton HS
Milton HS JV
North Cobb Cadets
North Gwinnett Cadets
North Gwinnett HS A
North Gwinnett JV
North Paulding Cadets
Northgate Crimson
Northgate Silver
Paramount Open
Paramount World

Peachtree Ridge HS
Pickens HS
Reverie A
Reverie Open
Rome HS
Sequoyah JV
Sequoyah Varsity
Sprayberry Cadets
Sprayberry JV
Sprayberry Open
University of Georgia
Walton HS

Proxy

Central Carroll Winter Guard
East Coweta Cadet
East Coweta JV
East Coweta Varsity
Georgia State University
Locust Grove HS
Pope HS
West Cobb Cadets

Online

Cleveland HS
Dalton HS
Decatur HS
Hillgrove Cadets
Hillgrove HS
Hoover HS
LaFayette High School Visual Ensemble
Oconee County HS
Pope HS
Soddy Daisy HS
Soddy-Daisy HS JV
Whitewater HS