

SFWGA
Summer Caucus
8/29/10
JP Taravella Band Room

Meeting called to order @ 2:10 by President Kathy Porter

Opening Remarks

Kathy welcomed everyone back from the summer and introduced Sandi Hagood as new Band Director of Santaluces High School.

Jeff Bridges gave an update on the health status of Jon Kersten and encouraged members to send video clips of student messages to Kathy's facebook account.

Rule Change Proposals

Proposals need 50% +1 of those in attendance to pass. Everyone gets 1 vote. Changes in bylaws go to the voting membership in October for approval. Policy & Procedure proposals are approved at this meeting.

Proposal #1 Change in Championship Seeding Formula - 1
Passed as proposed - 39 in favor

Proposal #2 - Change in Championship Seeding Formula - 2
Discussion:

- Original rule was designed to give advantage to units who attend more shows
- Throw out high & low score and average remaining scores
- If a unit performs at one more than the required # contests, the high & low scores will averaged to get the 4th score
- Units performing at the minimum # contests will not have any scores thrown out
- Placement points will be awarded as before and included in the formula (thrown out, averaged, etc)
- Proposal tabled until the required # of contests is determined later in the meeting
- Placement points will only be applied to member units

Proposal #3 - Buyout of Contests
Discussion:

- Rationale for the proposal is to financially protect show hosts and the circuit while providing a means for units experiencing extenuating circumstances to maintain eligibility for Championships
- Should not be an option for units to buy out of contests for convenience

- Precedent has already been set for the Circuit to waive attendance rules in extenuating circumstances (JPT for Inaugural Parade, Medea for illness)
- The buy out options would only be an option for those units who could afford it.

Proposal #3 defeated

Proposal #4 - Revision Process for Policy & Procedure
No Discussion

Passed as Proposed

Proposal #5 - Revision Process for ByLaws
No Discussion

Passed as Proposed

Proposal #6 - Safety & Legal Compliance

Discussion: The safety & legal compliance statement was originally in the articles of incorporation but was inadvertently omitted when the bylaws were re-written.

Passed as Proposed

Proposal #7 - Staff & Director Passes

Discussion:

- Currently, band directors & principals are given entry passes at contests when requested
- SFWGA admission badges are only good at SFWGA contests (not WGI regionals)
- Band Director to be added to the staff pass sheet of the membership form

Proposal # 7 passed

Proposal #8 - WGI Regional Attendance (Colorguard)

Discussion:

- The S Florida regionals (CG & Percussion) have previously counted as a qualifying contest for Championships in order to encourage local units to attend these events.
- This year there is no S FL CG Regional
- Last year it was decided that the requirements for Championships would be determined each year at the August campus
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Proposal #8 failed as proposed

Proposal #9 - Percussion Attendance

Discussion:

- Withdraw this proposal and include in discussion of requirements for Championships

Proposal defeated

Proposal #10 - Percussion contests

Discussion:

- Percussion contests cannot be determined until show hosts have been awarded
- Those interested in this committee should meet with the Board at the end of the meeting.

Proposal #10 passed

Late Proposals

Discussion:

- Proposals submitted after the deadline of August 15

Motion to consider the proposals submitted after the deadline was defeated.

Proposed 2011 Competition Schedule

Discussion:

- Scott Hughes would prefer an early CG contest on the day of the Boca Regional to encourage attendance (if no CG contest, directors will schedule rehearsal and prevent CG members from attending)
- Difficulty of running an early CG show on an SAT day
- Expand schedule by holding Premier on 1/15
- Conflicts with 1/15: FMEA, semester exams (Broward), MLK
- Circuit cannot afford an 8 contest season

Motion by Scott Hughes to begin the season on January 15

Motion defeated

Motion to adopt proposed schedule:

Jan 29	Premier
Feb 5	Contest #1
Feb 12	Contest #2
Feb 19	Contest #3
Feb 26	No local contest (Orlando CG Regional/Orlando Percussion Regional)
Mar 5	Contest #4
Mar 12	No contest (Pensacola CG Regional/Boca Percussion Regional)
Mar 19	Contest #5

Mar 26 No Contest (Tampa CG Regional)
Apr 2-3 Championships

2011 Competition Schedule passed as proposed.

2 Day Championships

Discussion:

- None of our member units have gyms large enough to accommodate Championships held on 1 day
- All other large venues cost 18-20,000 plus 10% of gate and no concession
- Friday night is difficult for Independent Units & gym availability due to basketball
- Cost increases if we keep CG judges for 2 days. Also, most have to be at work on Monday morning, therefore it makes financial sense to hold CG on Saturday & Percussion on Sunday
- Suggestion to make 3/19 contest prelims and 4/2 finals
- FFCC holds 3 day championships
- Championship decisions must consider financial impact to circuit

Requirement to participate in SFWGA Colorguard Championships:

Discussion:

- Need to make sure that show hosts make money
- Last year's requirement of attending 4 out of 5 local contests had a very positive impact for show hosts
- Need to offer a weekend off for students and staff
- Should attendance at a Florida regional fulfill require toward Championships
- How will the Regional score be factored in to Seeding

Motion

To participate in 2011 SFWGA Championships, colorguard units must participate in Premier plus 4 local SFWGA contests. Units attending 2 or more WGI Florida Regionals may count 1 regional toward the required # of shows to qualify for Championships. For the purpose of seeding, units attending 2 or more WGI Regionals will have the scores averaged.

Motion passed

Requirement to participate in SFWGA Percussion Championships:

Motion

To participate in 2011 SFWGA Championships, percussion units must participate in Premier plus 3 local SFWGA contests. The Boca Regional may be used as one of the qualifying contests for Championships. For the purpose of seeding, units attending 2 or more WGI Regionals will have the scores averaged.

Motion passed

Copyright and Permission to Arrange

Instructors were encouraged to read the information on the SFWGA web site concerning copyright and permission to arrange. These changes apply primarily to Percussion units. Since there is a time frame involved, instructors were encouraged to do this as soon as possible in order to have the necessary permission in time for the start of the season.

All necessary forms are may be downloaded from the web site.

WGI Update

WGI will be hosting several Elite Events this year. These will be 2 day contests in larger venues (Sun Dome in Tampa) and offer 3 rounds for Scholastic A class.

For the Good of the Order

WGI is offering Spinfest on Tour as an educational tool for local circuits. SFWGA is looking in to holding this in conjunction with the December meeting to provide education for our member units in the areas of show design, judges sheets, teaching technique.

The position of Dade County representative is open. Kathy would like this to be a band director or someone knowledgeable about school policy in Dade County.

Dean Broadbent asked that all guards share information regarding attending WGI and the FCAT issue

Johnathon Jadvani suggested adding a novice class to percussion so that there are not 2 classes (A & Nat'l A) within the A class.

Johnathon Jadvani suggested changing the performance order of percussion performances so that all of the A classes perform (concert & marching) followed by all open and then all world. Jeannine Mielke mentioned that the software lists groups this way.

Vic Firth will continue to provide merchandise to reward the class winners at contests.

Kathy would like to speak to the rep regarding contributing toward the scholarship fund.

Premier will begin with percussion followed by colorguard this year.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:32pm

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Hauck
Secretary, SFWGA

