

SCGC 2010 Proposals – Both Advisory Boards

Proposal # 2010-01

Title: Director of Finance

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Both Advisory boards

Proposal: Create a Director of Finance position to handle all of the monetary transactions for the SCGC. Duties would be the same as the current Treasurer position. The current treasurer position would be eliminated from all financial duties and would remain a voting member on the board. The Director of Finance would be a staff position with no voting rights. The position would be filled by the Executive Board and would not have a term limit.

Rationale: With the finances of the circuit being so crucial I do not think this position should be a position that turns over every other year. Making this a staff position allows the circuit to be in more control of who is responsible for our finances.

Financial Impact: Salary for this position to be determined by the Executive Board.

Proposal # 2010-02

Title: SCGC Hall of Fame

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Both Advisory Boards

Proposal: Establish the SCGC Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame would consist of individuals who make a significant contribution to the SCGC and have in some way influenced the course of our history. Their contribution may be made through artistic standards, administrative leadership, or adjudication. The Hall of Fame committee would be made up of staff members including: The Scholarship Coordinator, The Contest Coordinator, The Color Guard Education Coordinator, Percussion Education Coordinator, and the Percussion Judge Coordinator. The inductees into the Hall of fame would become members of the committee once inducted into the Hall of Fame. The Scholarship Coordinator would head up the committee and handle all of the nominations and votes. The Hall of Fame Committee would set up the qualifications and rules for the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame would eliminate the current Lifetime Achievement Award given every year.

Rationale: The SCGC has been active for since the early 80's. Many people have influenced the circuit to become what it is today. We need to recognize these individuals for what they have done to make the circuit great and the establishment of the Hall of Fame will help accomplish this.

Financial Impact: Cost of awards and website update.

Proposal # 2010-03

Title: State Representatives

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Both Advisory Boards

Proposal: Change the state representatives from their current role into a mentor role. These representatives would be appointed by the Executive board and would have voting rights on the Board of Directors. They would consist of established instructors from different areas of the circuit that would be willing to mentor the color guards/drum lines of the circuit. The number of representatives would be no more than 3 for the color guard and 3 for the drum lines. These representatives would be available to answer questions about show design, musical choices, and other show related questions as well as answer questions about contest, schedules, rehearsal, new instructors concerns etc... for anything pertaining to the circuit.

Rationale: This proposal will take some of the myriad of questions away from the Contest coordinator and will allow our units to have an experienced member of the circuit to bounce ideas off of. It will hopefully make our newer instructors feel more comfortable as they enter the circuit. It will also allow our instructors to have help early in the design process to eliminate some of the mistakes that they may make.

Financial Impact: None, unless the circuit wanted to supplement the representatives a stipend for their time

Proposal # 2010-04

Title: Chief Judge/ Unit Mentor

Submitted By: Gilles Ouellette/ contest coord

Referred To: Both Advisory boards

Proposal: Create a position called Chief Judge/ Unit Mentor for both the CG and Perc divisions (total of 2 positions). These 2 new positions would replace the existing CG/Percussion Coordinators and CG/Percussion Judge Liaison currently in place in our structure.

Rationale: Combining the efforts of both positions (Coord. & Judge Liaison) under 1 job (1 per division) would help concentrate the responsibilities these individual fulfill. I believe it would also help pin point the needs and weaknesses of our units and adjudicators and serve them better in resolving these weaknesses .Going from 4 to 2 would allow the following:

- Better stipend.
- Communication with the contest coordinator.
- Facilitate the dialogue between units (education) and the judges
- Help put in place strategic plans to grow in areas of weaknesses.

Not in the proposal itself, but I strongly recommend that the following rules be included in the job description.....

- The "Chief Judge/ Unit Mentor " would not have any primary affiliation as described by WGI (**PRIMARY AFFILIATION:** Designer, instructor, or management of the competing unit.)
- Members of the Color Guard/ Perc Advisory Board could not apply for these positions. This would constitute a conflict of interest in dealing with both judge and instructor issues.
- Would report to the President for contractual and Accountability.
- Would work under the Contest Coordinator to assure and facilitate job coordination. It is imperative to take a team work approach with this since all 3 have a direct connection in dealing with units and judges.

Financial Impact: To be evaluated but consider the following: Travel and housing expenses would be cut from 4 to 2. Four stipends could be combined into two (such a position would require a pay increase from what it is now)

Proposal # 2010 -05

Title: Championships spectator ticket price

Submitted by: Damon Padilla, Father Ryan H.S.

Referred to: Both Advisory Boards

Proposal: Evaluate and study to see if Championships ticket prices can be adjusted to encourage more attendance.

Rational: With a flat \$20 ticket price for championships, it seems we are keeping many members of our target market (families and fellow students) from attending. Based on my experience, I had many members of my color guard whose entire families; except for their parents, did not attend due to cost. Additionally, I had many band students who wanted to see their friends perform, but when they discovered the cost, they were also discouraged. If we can make ticket prices more affordable along with offering different pricing options, more people would attend. The increased volume would offset the lower ticket price and result in similar profit margins. Having a larger crowd would make for a more exciting and memorable experience for all of our performers, which according to our mission statement, is our ultimate purpose. I've included a spreadsheet with other circuits for comparison. Based on it, we have one of the highest ticket prices for championships along with no pricing options. I suggest we study this and come up with a solution to best serve all of our performers, their families, and friends.

Financial Impact: Presently unknown

SCGC 2010 Proposals – Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal # 2010-06

Title: Moving On Up!

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Top 3 medalist units in the Novice, SB, Scholastic AAA, and Scholastic AA would be required to compete in the next classification up the following season.

Rationale: Units that have shown the ability to be in the top of the class move to the next class. This promotion process will allow units to prepare for the next season by automatically knowing what class they will be competing in and they will be able to plan accordingly.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal # 2010-07

Title: Name Change

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Change the name of the Scholastic B class and Independent B class to: Scholastic Regional A (SRA) and Independent Regional A (IRA).

Rationale: With the elimination of the Scholastic A Regional class last season and moving to the class descriptors AAA, AA, A. there will be no confusion with the name change. It will also allow us to be more consistent with the actual sheets that the guards are being judged on and to eliminate any confusion that has been caused with incorrect interpretation of the classification.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal # 2010-08

Title: Classification Change

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory board

Proposal: Create an Independent AA Classification and Eliminate the Independent B Classification.

Rationale: The Independent B classification was set up as a beginning independent guard classification. As this class has grown the judges have voiced many concerns that almost all the guards in this class are achieving beyond the Regional A skills level and therefore they are having difficulty judging this class on the Regional A sheet. By placing all of these guards in the Independent AA this will allow the judges to evaluate the units better as well as create a more suitable environment for these units to compete in.

Financial Impact: None (unless we keep the IB Class)

Proposal # 2010-09

Title: Most Improved Color Guard

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Establish an award for the most improved color guard. This award would be presented at championships to the color guard that has grown the most over the season. The award would be determined by the Contest Coordinator, Color Guard Education Coordinator, and the Championship Judges.

Rationale: Every year we have many color guards that begin a little bit behind and through the efforts of the instructors and students come to championships and give a performance of a lifetime. These units may not place in the top of their class but have shown tremendous growth through the year and should be recognized for doing this.

Financial Impact: Cost of a trophy

Proposal # 2010-10

Title: Contest Unit Storage facilities

Submitted By: Dean Payne SCGC Color Guard Coordinator

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Contest sponsors would be required to have designated space for units, not staying over night, to store their equipment, clothes, bags, etc... This should not be a hallway or a high traffic area and should be closed off to all public access.

Rationale: This proposal would allow each unit to have some security over their belongings and allow them to establish an uninterrupted focus time as they prepare for warm up.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal # 2010-11

Title: Lengthen Time of Independent B to match WGI Requirements of Independent Regional A

Submitted By: Caleb Kendrick (Firenze Independent)

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: To change SCGC rules concerning time and requirements to match WGI rules concerning time requirements for Independent Regional A.

Rationale: SCGC rules currently have a requirement of a maximum 4 minutes performance time for Independent B. WGI has a maximum of 4.5 minutes performance time. That extra thirty seconds could prove crucial in the completion of a designer's ideas. Furthermore, if a B unit is promoted to A class that extra time would result in an already prepared and better designed show for WGI purposes.

Financial Impact: none

Proposal # 2010-12

Title: IB to IAA class

Submitted By: Gilles Ouellette/ contest coord.

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Get rid of the IB class and create an IAA class for the 2011 season (to be reviewed annually).

Rationale: Most if not all of our IB units do not really fall into the philosophy of the Regional Class as described by WGI. Many of them are not ready to compete with units competing on a National level. A new IAA would allow for a better transition, growth and facilitate the process of promotion to the IA class. The IAA class would be judged on the A sheet.

Financial Impact: none

Proposal # 2010-13

Title: Minimum timing requirement for CG field day

Submitted By: Gilles Ouellette/ contest coord.

Referred To: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Remove the clause regarding minimum timing requirement for CG field day in the policy manual (p.7, 3rd paragraph)

Rationale: Since we don't give out penalties at both field day shows, this policy is not necessary. We should hold to the timing policy as described in the WGI rule book (the same we use at all other contest). This might encourage units to have even more of their show on for the 1st contest; a practice we need to encourage.

Financial Impact: none

Proposal # 2010-14

Title: Warm-up Areas

Submitted by: Damon Padilla, Father Ryan H.S.

Referred to: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: All contest sites must be able to provide warm-up areas free from the noise and distractions of the performance gym. In addition, equipment warm-up should have plenty of ceiling clearance.

Rational: Being that the first sentence of the SCGC mission statement says we are here first and foremost to provide a positive experience for all participants, I'm not sure all contest sites are set up to do that. 1. It is extremely difficult to warm-up and mentally focus a group when they are not able to hear due to the group performing before them, this is especially true for young scholastic groups which comprise most of our circuit. 2. It is very distracting and unnerving for a performer to hear drops coming from other groups warming up. 3. Performers are not able to confidently execute their show when they can't try their more difficult equipment moments in warm-up due to low ceiling height. We can not expect our groups to perform to their highest potential if we don't first set them up for success.

Financial Impact: None

Proposal # 2010-15

Title: Contest Finish Time

Submitted by: Damon Padilla, Father Ryan H.S.

Referred to: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: All SCGC contests should conclude between 9 - 9:30pm. This includes retreat and awards. (this does not include critique)

Rational: With some past contests ending close to 11:00 p.m.; performers, instructors, and judges are being pushed to where they are no longer operating at their fullest potential. 1. Performers - I would estimate that 95% of our circuit is high school or younger. Asking any of them to be their best at 10:30pm when their daily schedule has them up at 6am or earlier is not educationally sound. 2. Instructors - Most staffs have run all day rehearsals, gotten their group to the site, through their performance, and then would have to wait around for an 11:00pm critique. Everyone knows how productive we are at that point, if we even stay, which many don't for that reason. 3. Judges - Again most of these individuals daily schedules do not usually go past 5:00pm, to expect them to have in-depth intellectual dialog at 11:00 pm is not realistic. Having contests conclude by 9-9:30 would strengthen every aspect of our circuit.

Financial Impact: None for circuit. Possibly less competing units for show sponsor

Proposal # 2010-16

Title: First appearance requirements

Submitted by: Damon Padilla, Father Ryan H.S.

Referred to: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Remove all first appearance requirements

Rational: Every program is different, to force the majority of groups to come out in the first two weeks is not a policy which has each groups best interest in mind. Who better to know how a groups season should progress then their director. With groups starting winter rehearsals anywhere from Oct - Jan and having vastly different goals, what is the benefit for those with a show that isn't near ready and performers who aren't prepared. I know everyone has their own teaching philosophies and for some this is probably a benefit, but we also have to be cautious for those who find this more detrimental. By removing the first appearance requirements we allow groups to progress and grow in as many different ways as there are different programs.

Financial Impact: None for circuit. Possibly less competing units for show sponsor

Proposal # 2010 -17

Submitted by: Damon Padilla, Father Ryan H.S.

Referred to: Color Guard Advisory Board

Proposal: Make the beginning of the contest season the first weekend in February or later. Schedule voluntary weekend clinics the end of January/first part of February when contests used to begin.

Rational: Last years competitive season was between 11 and 13 weeks depending on if your group attended world championships or not. Just for comparison the marching band competitive season in this area runs 6-7 weeks. Attempting to keep groups motivated and excited, especially young inexperienced groups which is 90% of our circuit, is a challenge to say the least. Would it not serve all groups better to start contests later which would allow everyone to come out with more complete shows and with higher excellence, which is the most important thing considering 95% of our groups are on the A sheet. I feel everyone would benefit way more by taking those first weekends and holding judges/director clinics. These could be voluntary and aimed at our younger more inexperienced groups which is probably at least 90% of our circuit. Groups could sign up for 30 min. blocks of time were they could do as little or as much of their show as they wanted. These would not be open to the public and would offer way more one on one help from judges as well as other experienced designers. As the contest season is now, very loooooong, it seems no one is really benefitting. I propose we shorten it and use that time in a much more effective way.

Financial Impact: The cost for judge/designer clinicians.

SCGC 2010 Proposals - Percussion Advisory Board

Proposal # 2010-18

Title: Percussion Scholastic Marching “B” Class

Submitted By: Nick Price-Russellville High School Percussion

Referred To: Percussion Advisory Board

Proposal: To create Percussion Scholastic Marching “B” class within the SCGC Circuit.

Rationale: To encourage young groups, new groups, concert groups, and/or stand still groups to take a step into a movement class. This new class would be used as a **developmental** class. It will give the unit, their director, and staff time to develop ideas, skills, and obtain a better understanding of the activity. It will also allow the units to spend less money if they choose not to have a floor, elaborate uniforms, and/or expensive design elements. **Units that enter the class will only be allowed to compete in it for a maximum of two consecutive years at a time.**

*If the decision is made by the unit director to move out of the class after only one year, the unit may move into any other class of their choice but may not re-enter Scholastic B class for a minimum of two consecutive years.

*If a unit were to compete in the class for only one year and then go inactive for less than two years, the unit must then enter a class **other than** Scholastic B for the first year of their return to competition before being eligible to re-enter Scholastic B class.

*If the unit decides to remain in Scholastic B class for the maximum time allowed (two consecutive years), the unit must then make the choice to move to a different class or classes of their choice for the following two consecutive years. Once the unit participates in a different class for two consecutive years the unit may then be eligible to re-enter Scholastic B class. *(Although ideally upon exiting this class, it is advised that the unit place themselves into a higher marching class.)* The reasoning for this is to ensure that this class be used **ONLY** as a **developmental stepping-stone**. It is not to be taken advantage of.

***To sum up all of the options, units may only be in Scholastic B class for a maximum of two consecutive years at a time. Once time is spent in the class whether it be one or two years, the unit must then be in a different class or classes for the following two consecutive years before being eligible to return to Scholastic B class. If the unit were to be inactive after spending time in the class, a total of two years out of the class (inactive or different class) is required to be eligible to re-enter Scholastic B class.*

The Class would be open to both new and existing units, and would be judged on the current Scholastic A sheets unless other sheets should be created.

Financial Impact: Show Sponsors: Increased amount of awards SCGC: Increased amount of medals at Championships

Proposal # 2010-19

Title: Promotion Procedure for Percussion Units

Submitted By: Nick Price-Russellville High School

Referred To: Percussion Advisory Board

Proposal: To implement a procedure in which to promote percussion units.

Rationale: Although the Percussion Coordinator and Judges have the ability to promote units within the circuit at any time, a promotion procedure should be implemented in an attempt to continue education and push towards excellence in each unit. Here are a few ways to go about this:

1-Promote the units who medal in each class at championships to the next class for the following year.

-Or-

2-Having a promotion score that will increase each weekend. Once that score is achieved by a unit, the unit will be put in the next class beginning the following weekend. This option will need an ending date, for instance, two shows after the premier show, which would give the affected groups the necessary amount of time to make adjustments. This option could be modeled after the color guard method or could be new and completely up to the percussion advisory board.

The units affected by the procedure would be in Concert A and Concert Open as well as Marching A and Marching Open, both Independent and Scholastic.

Financial Impact: None