

**LMCGPC 2017 Spring Meeting Agenda**  
**May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

I. Call to order

By Craig Byers

II. Reading of the Fall Meeting minutes

Dispensed by Deon, seconded by Rhonda

III. Board of Directors report

1. Executive Director

Craig: Thank you for taking time out of your schedule to come today. Thank you for a successful season and lastly, thank you for participating in the survey at the end of the season. It was very eye opening for the Board of Directors. We understand that venues are always not ideal. We do our best to try to get the best facilities but unfortunately we don't have other options some times. Wait times: we try our best at adjusting times when we have drop outs or run behind. We apologize if you had to wait before you perform. We try to and always make up for lost time at our breaks. Please practice entrance and exit with your students-- this was the main issue with timing. Other circuits build in 1 interval time for each class if there are more than 5 units to have some wiggle room. It will lengthen the show by a few minutes, but it wont be a problem. Scott Geiger: if we can train volunteers to speed up the process to get tarps out to the timeline before you start? James- we should be aware of this as instructors and should take action. Charlie- there needs to be an urgency to get in and out of the performance venue.

2. Treasurer

Cortney: Thank you, most paid on time. Make sure to send in the form when you send in your checks. It's very hard to tell whom the check is from when it's from a parish. Or even write in your unit name on your check. Make sure your bookkeepers have the correct address. We are still getting checks at old Treasurer's addresses. Flights are very expensive. Scholarships are left to be paid and a balance of our competition suite and

copyright. We are still in the red. Our balance right now is \$19,000 in the black. We spent \$4500 on a trailer this year. We spent more than we took in this year. We are looking at less shows for monetary purposes. The only thing we will have to buy in the future are tablets. We will be waiting until WGI has all the kinks figured out.

3. Secretary

Clayton: Proxy's for West Monroe and Northwestern go to Stephanie

When voting, you get one vote per school.

4. Colorguard Rep.

Stephanie: We had a great year. We are still growing. Congratulations to our groups who performed at WGI regionals and championships, we had a good showing.

5. Percussion Rep.

John: I was very proud to be a part of our circuit at World Championships. WGI is eliminating box 6. They have given the opportunity for Scholastic Concert A to World Championships. A staff member can text a student during the performance with sound issues. We are going to standardize our middle school sheets and standstill sheets. We will use WGI sheets for everything. Every one liked championships on Sunday and I&E.

6. Winds Rep.

Willie: We will be looking at possibly 15 groups next year. Projected that puts us as the largest Winds group in the nation

7. Contest Director

Randy: Please read all of your emails. We know they are lengthy, but we send them because they have vital information you need. Please read before you reply, most of the questions I got were answered in the email. Please respond directly who I tell you to respond to. Don't hesitate to ask if you do have questions, just make sure you read all of your options first. When you sign up for shows next year, check your calendars. December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline is your show sign up. But the number of changes after December 1<sup>st</sup> is becoming unnecessary. Check ACT dates, Religious dates, dance dates, etc. Do this for the show hosts, so show hosts can prepare accordingly. We

understand last minute circumstances that couldn't be avoided. We will be strict this year who gets in to hospitality. We ask show hosts to have a volunteer at the door to be checking badges. We're asking you as directors, to make sure only staff, buss drivers, and instructors go in to hospitality. We received a lot of comments this year about judges. We understand that there are judges you aren't happy with, but we don't have any control over who judges. Fred Feeney, the chief judge of the Gulf Coast Judging Association decides. We share our judges with 5 other circuits. At the end of the season, if we have several complaints about a judge, we send them in to Fred. Show selection will be done differently this year. If we start January 20<sup>th</sup>, there are 9 available shows this year. We had 10 shows this past year, with little participation at most shows. We will be cutting down shows. Someone will not get a show. Show hosts: rather than giving us your first 3 choices ranked, we will ask you to just send us the dates you absolutely cannot host for various reasons. We will then choose from the dates left open. We will divide the state in to 4 quadrants like our bylaws state, and distribute shows regionally calendar wise. This is my 12<sup>th</sup> year as contest director, and I have never worked with a board of directors that have been more sufficient, congenial, and on the ball. Especially Craig and Cortney. They have gone above and beyond.

#### IV. New Business

##### 1. Issues with Championships venue and dates

Craig: WGI Guard championships is the weekend of April 14<sup>th</sup>. April 7<sup>th</sup> the Thibodaux Civic Center is not available that weekend. Southeastern is available, it is 3 times as expensive. Our other option would to hold Championships March 24<sup>th</sup>, since Easter is April 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. We looked at April 7<sup>th</sup>, the problem with that is that it is spring break and most schools go on band trips that week. That might eliminate a lot of units for championships. Having 2 shows on a day was a lot of extra money and hassle, so we are suggesting to not have that again.

Championships will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> voted on. Possibly have a send off for groups going to WGI on April 7<sup>th</sup> with some judges.

2. Possible absorbing of LMBC

Craig: The LMBC circuit is folding. It coincides with what we do in our circuit with critique, and judges and etc. We could incorporate judges seeing us in the fall and winter. It would be just like indoor, we would host the shows. 3 judge panel for band, a guard judge, and a percussion judge. Geiger: if we are having financial difficulties, why would we absorb something to spend more money on? Willie- show hosting for marching band is much different. Flights should be done by the show host. We will use a judging association and sheets. James- I think the problem is that it lacks the support of band directors. Central Judges don't necessarily come judge Winterguard. How do we take it to a new direction to improve? Craig- it would be a great idea to rebrand. Possible to look in to the future. There needs to be a willingness by all parties to take a chance and rally together. This wont necessarily happen next year.

3. New implementation of show host evaluation form after the competition

Advisory board discussed this. This is something the show host would be responsible for. Everyone would get feedback and benefit in the end.

V. Proposals

1. There should be an indoor tuning room at each location where winds are able to go inside to tune. (Willie Martin)

Willie: That was something we were able to experience at world championships. It makes sense to be inside when you perform inside with air-conditioning.

Rhonda motions, Thomas seconded. Motion passes.

2. A reserved area for electronic controls near judging. (Willie Martin)

John: This should happen for percussion already.

Clayton motions, John seconded. Motion passes

3. If an ensemble is registered to compete in a contest that only has the minimum units (guard:20, percussion:7, winds:5) and the ensemble drops that show, an extra penalty fee on top of

the pull fee will be owed to the circuit. The deadline without penalties is January 1<sup>st</sup>. The price (without the original pull fee) will be \$300. This excludes emergency situations at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (John Dunlap)

John: We got to the point where people pulled just to have rehearsal. Show host expenses are becoming an issue.

Motioned failed. Tabled for the fall for discussion and wording.

4. Independent Ensembles must have a band director and principal approval letter to allow students to join an independent unit even if that school does not have an ensemble. (John Dunlap)  
Tabled for the fall.
5. Independent Ensembles can appeal for unusual circumstances regarding band director/principal approval letter. (John Dunlap)  
Tabled for the fall.
6. Use digital award certificates instead of paper (WGI format) for circuit championships. (John Dunlap)  
Geiger motions, Thomas Seconded. Motion passes
7. Start Saturday Guard Championships earlier to allow the first retreat to be longer. Starting time depends on unit participation that season. (John Dunlap)  
Dwight motions, Deon seconded. Motion passes
8. Eliminate scores at contest #1 and #2. (Art Kilchrist)  
Tabled for the fall.
9. Update classification system. (Art Kilchrist)  
Tabled for the fall.
10. Implement the “first 2 shows” rule for ALL competing units in the circuit. (Patrice Turner)  
Tabled for the fall for schedule purposes.
11. Units medaling in SRA should be required to compete in SRAA the following year regardless of their score for the split. (Patrice Turner)  
Tabled for the fall.
12. To coincide with the minimum ensembles for a show host, winds should have a minimum of 5 ensembles at a competition. (Willie Martin)

Dwight motions, Thomas seconded. Motion passes

13. Amend the current rule: If there are more than 6 units in a class: it will be split in half or thirds depending on size, with a random draw of top scores and a random draw of bottom scores, or mid scores. Returning champion would not be guaranteed last performance spot. Scores will be averaged from the entire season, INCLUDING Regional scores. If there are less than 6, it will be seeded as normal. (Clayton Benoit)

Thomas motioned, seconded by no one. Proposal fails

14. Outside food should not be brought in to any competition site. (Board of Directors)

Motioned by Carly, Seconded by Geiger. Motion passes

15. Staff names should be turned in by January 1<sup>st</sup> so badges can coincide with staff member names. Each competing unit gets 2 badges. (Board of Directors)

Motion by Geiger, seconded by Thomas. Motion passes

16. School hosts who are relying on the Circuit to pay for judges first have to repay the Circuit prior to the day of the competition. (Cortney Lyon)

Doesn't need to be voted on.

17. Implement all dues must be paid in full by the due date. (Cortney Lyon)

Doesn't need to be voted on

18. Dues should increase \$50 per unit. (Cortney Lyon)

Thomas motions, seconded by Stephanie. Motion passes

#### VI. Election of Board of Directors

Executive Director: Craig is nominated and unopposed. Craig Byers is Executive Director.

Secretary: Clayton is nominated, Amy Triche is nominated and declines, Crystal is nominated. After voting: Clayton Benoit is secretary

Treasurer: Cortney is nominated and unopposed. Cortney Lyon is treasurer.

Winds Representative: Willie is nominated and unopposed. Willie Martin is Winds Representative.

Percussion Representative: John is nominated and unopposed. John Dunlap is Percussion Representative.

Colorguard Representative: Dwight is nominated, James Cork is nominated. After voting: Dwight Hollingsworth is Colorguard Representative.

VII. Next meeting date

September 10<sup>th</sup> at Denham Springs HS

VIII. Adjournment

Motioned by Clayton, seconded by Stephanie.