

East Tennessee



Performing Arts Association

## **2018 PROPOSALS**

## **BYLAWS**

### Amendment of current Bylaws and/or policy

#### **Proposal 1**

*From:* Clint Juday, ETPAA Percussion Coordinator & Heritage Indoor Percussion

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Reword the Bylaws covering performance bond stating that if a performance bond penalty is assessed, then that unit must post another \$50 performance bond before its next scheduled ETPAA competition. Failure to do so will result in disqualification until the performance bond is paid.*

*Rationale:* Clarification

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 1 as originally written.

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#### **Proposal 2**

*From:* Tim Hudnall, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Create a Scholastic AA class*

Cadet

Prep

Novice

Scholastic Regional AA

Scholastic Regional A

Scholastic AA

Scholastic A

*Rationale:* The creation of the AA class would allow for better placement and promotion thru the season of those guards who may be in one or two captions on the A sheet but not ready to be fully competitive on the A sheet. This promotion can be driven by an appropriate number or panel recommendation for promotion.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 2 as originally written.

Current circuit membership does not warrant the creation of a new colorguard class at this time. This issue could be revisited for 2019, dependent upon the circuit's growth in 2018.

### **Proposal 3**

*From:* Tyler Dieterich, Powell High School

*Financial Impact:* Unknown (confidential contract agreement)

***Proposal: Split the job of "Judge and Contest Coordinator" into "Chief Judge" and "Contest Director"***

*Rationale:* Currently, the job of "Judge and Contest Coordinator" has a lot of responsibilities before, during, and after shows. Splitting these responsibilities would allow each person to focus on their respective tasks (Judges and the Contest). Chief Judge would be a paid by the circuit. Contest Director would be paid by the show host.

#### Chief Judge Responsibilities

- maintains yearly contest schedule
- non-voting member
- secures commitments with judges and/or judging associations
- serves as a liaison between judges and ETPAA
- educates judges on use of ETPAA-specific sheets
- communicates with all judges regarding travel, lodging, and payment

#### Contest Director Responsibilities

- hired by the Board of Directors; fees are defined under contract
- non-voting member
- coordinates with contest hosts on show-day procedures, staff, and equipment needs
- is responsible for setting up and maintaining tabulation and media delivery systems throughout the contest day
- assures flow of information regarding judges' travel, hotel, meals, and payment arrangements
- maintains flow of the contest and ensures continuity for competing units
- assists the Board of Directors with problem-solving issues as they arise, such as travel delays, weather complications, etc.
- acts as a backup for any job function that needs assistance on contest dates
- other responsibilities can be discussed as they come up

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 3 as originally written.

The Board suggests amending the Bylaws to split the above tasks between two positions: Judge Coordinator and Contest Coordinator.

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### **Proposal 4**

*From:* Tyler Dieterich, Powell High School

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: "Chief Judge" should not be affiliated with a competing ETPAA group***

*Rationale:* The role of Chief Judge should not be affiliated with a competing ETPAA group. This will allow for the chief judge to focus on their tasks and responsibilities for the circuit. It will allow for the chief judge to represent our circuit without bias.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 4 as originally written.

The Board suggests the role of Chief Judge be assigned to one of the judges at each contest. The Chief Judge will be the go-to person at each contest for judging concerns. The assignment will vary from contest to contest. This is the only way for the Chief Judge to not be affiliated with a competing ETPAA group without financially impacting the circuit.

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**Proposal 5**

*From:* Jim Idol, ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: ETPAA Handbook has several sections (such as unit timing and classification descriptions) that are taken directly from the associated WGI manuals. While these afford some continuity within the handbook, they are duplicative and require additional unnecessary editing. Proposal is to eliminate all such material from the ETPAA Handbook and replace with a reference to the appropriate WGI Handbook citation.***

*Rationale:* Redundancy in the documents offer leads to confusion when WGI changes a policy and that change does not get picked up in the ETPAA Handbook.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 5 as originally written.

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**Proposal 6**

*This proposal was withdrawn.*

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### **Proposal 7**

*From:* Mark Bowling & David Smelser, Karns Middle School

*Financial Impact:* Unknown (moderate would be a good guess)

#### ***Proposal: Creation of PMSM and PMSS Classifications***

*Rationale:* The transition from Middle to High School marching percussion has currently the widest gap and learning curve. Providing an opportunity and path for middle school students to begin adapting to and developing the skills necessary for High School and beyond can only strengthen the community of performers throughout the circuit and then ETPAA's national presence.

Example:

Added verbiage of classifications: Percussion Middle School Marching (PMSM) is for those scholastic percussion sections through the 8th grade who would like to concentrate on the percussion element with minimal drill design and visual presentation. Instrumentation will be the same as a marching ensemble. Movement will be graded on achievement of basic drill maneuvering and visual skills to allow for better presentation of musical and visual performance. This is a marching Class.

Age Limit: All members must attend the same middle school.

Max. Performance Time: 4.0

Min. Performance Time: 1.0

Interval Time: 8.0 <Additional interval time for potential mat and props>

Percussion Middle School Standstill (PMSS) is for those scholastic percussion sections through the 8th grade who would like to concentrate on the percussion element only. Instrumentation may be the same as a marching ensemble but can be considered concert. Movement will be permitted to allow performers to change equipment or to allow for better presentation of musical and visual performance. This is NOT a marching Class.

Age Limit: All members must attend the same middle school.

Max. Performance Time: 4.0

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 7 as originally written.

## **BYLAWS**

### New policy

### **Proposal 8**

*From:* Tyler Dieterich, Powell High School

*Financial Impact:* None

#### ***Proposal: "Judge and Contest Coordinator" should not be affiliated with a competing ETPAA group***

*Rationale:* The role of Judge and Contest Coordinator should not be affiliated with a competing ETPAA group. This will allow for the judge and contest

coordinator to focus on their tasks and responsibilities for the circuit. It will allow for the judge and contest coordinator to represent our circuit without bias.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 8 as originally written.

This proposal is related to Proposal 3. The Board believes splitting the Judge & Contest Coordinator position into two positions (Judge Coordinator and Contest Coordinator, respectively) will eliminate any potential bias.

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### **Proposal 9**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Every performing ensemble will receive judges commentary no less than one hour before critique. Every performing ensemble will receive a full recap of scores no less than ten minutes before critique. If commentary and recaps are not delivered by the start of critique, critique will be moved later until commentary and recaps are delivered.*

*Rationale:* Judges' commentary and recaps are instrumental in preparation for critique. This is already standard practice in most circuits across the country including WGI. Withholding recaps until after the critique gives the perception that the circuit is shielding the judges from being accountable for their scores.

*This proposal was consolidated into Proposal 14.*

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### **Proposal 10**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* Moderate (to Significant for ETPAA and Show Hosts)

**Proposal:** *Current/Prospective judges for the ETPAA circuit must be certified by the Marching Roundtable Judges Academy. Five years experience judging in a comparable circuit, considerable impact in the WGI/BOA/DCI community or one year judging in WGI is an acceptable substitution. Judges must also have an extensive background in the caption they are assigned.*

*Rationale:* A circuit cannot be healthy and grow without the member ensembles' trust in the qualifications of the judging community. The quality of

the member ensembles this season was astounding. This includes multiple WGI Regional Finalists, multiple WGI World Championship Semi-Finalists and multiple WGI World Championship Finalists. The judging community must nurture the growth of these groups to continue their push to be the best in the world.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 8 as originally written.

The Board believes this proposal would not be financial feasible for any show host as show hosts are responsible for judges' fees (base fee, plus mileage and/or transportation and housing).

## **POLICY: CLASSIFICATION** Amendment

### **Proposal 11**

*From:* Alex Rector, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Remove color guard promotion numbers from A to Open class.*

*Rationale:* Promotion from A to Open or Open to World should only occur at the WGI level. This is a common practice for most circuits since WGI now requires groups to compete at the same level nationally as they do in their circuit. If the circuit promotes a guard into Open class, that guard would then have to compete in Open on the national level as well. Additionally, I believe the Open class promotion numbers created an artificial "ceiling" for scores, especially early in the season.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 11 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 12**

*From:* Katie Eaton, Farragut High School

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Remove maximum performer limit from Cadet and/or Prep Classes*

*Rationale:* The goal for the middle school classes is to get students involved and grow the activity. It would be unfortunate for a group to be forced to turn

students away at such a young level. At the middle school level I don't think there are any negative consequences of removing the maximum number of performers.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 12 as originally written.

## **POLICY: CONTESTS**

### Amendment

#### **Proposal 13**

*From:* Tim Hudnall, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Amend Rules and Regulations Performance times to align with WGI times.*

*Rationale:* Currently ETPAA Open class interval time is 8 minutes rather than 9 minutes. Max performance time should be adjusted to 6.5 minutes instead of 5.5 minutes. World class interval and performance times should be adjusted /increased by 1 minutes as well.

*This proposal will be consolidated into Proposal 5 and made moot when the Bylaws are amended to line up with WGI timing rules and regulations.*

## **POLICY: CONTESTS**

### New

#### **Proposal 14**

*From:* Tim Hudnall, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Commentary shall be provided before critique*

*Rationale:* The commentary is what should drive the critique and with a limited amount of time, most instructors would prefer clarification on specific commentary rather than a rehash of the commentary already provided. The commentary would allow for a focused, more productive dialogue.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 14 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 15**

*From:* Chuck Brock, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: Make recaps available for directors and instructors at critique.***

*Rationale:* This allows the directors to be prepared for critique. It lets the directors and staff have the right questions ready for the judges. This is also a common practice for WGI events. We should align with WGI in everything we do, in order to prepare the membership for the regional and national level.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 15 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 16**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: Scheduling of the ETPAA Qualifier Clinics will be amended as follows. Percussion Scholastic A/Open/World clinic performances and Percussion Independent A/Open/World clinic performances will take place at the A venue. Scholastic A/Open/World Winterguard and Independent A/Open/World Winterguard clinic performances will take place at the A venue. Cadet/Novice/SRA/SRAA/IRA Winterguard clinic performances will take place at the B venue. Percussion Novice Class performances will take place at the B venue. Percussion Scholastic and Independent Concert A/Open/World clinic performances will take place at the B venue. Scholastic and Independent Winds clinic performances will take place at the B venue. (To be reevaluated as concert percussion and winds class grow)***

*Rationale:* The A venue should be reserved for groups that are either competing at the same level as, or in WGI performances. The performance venue at the B site last year was so limited that judges had to evaluate percussion groups standing behind the front ensemble and in many cases actually on the floor with the members. It is vital to the groups that are continuing on to WGI Championships to get productive feedback at the qualifier.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 16 as originally written.

The Board believes this proposal would severely limit potential show hosts and would not be a positive step for the growth of our circuit.

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### **Proposal 17**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Every member ensemble at the ETPAA Qualifier, regardless of participation in the clinic, will receive a critique after the Qualifier.*

*Rationale:* Many groups at last year's qualifier received no critique. The clinic commentary was specifically tailored and meant for the students. Because of this, much of the critique commentary was centered around students' performance quality. Designers need the opportunity for a constructive critique that is focused on design. Show construction issues should have been addressed at the qualifier.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 17 as originally written.

The Board suggests the financial impact of this proposal could be Moderate to Significant for show hosts.

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### **Proposal 18**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Show hosts will be required to provide an outdoor unloading/warmup area for percussion ensembles. This area must be roped or zoned off from the automobile traffic of contest spectators.*

*Rationale:* Percussion ensembles are always going to choose to warmup outside (weather permitting). The qualifier last year was dangerous for performing members. There was traffic weaving in and out of percussion unloading and warmup. The safety of the members must be top priority.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 18 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 19**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* None

**Proposal:** *Every show host must provide the ensembles an entrance/exit for the performance area that is separate from the spectator entrance/exit.*

*Rationale:* Entering and exiting the performance area last year was stressful to say the least. At some shows, spectators were entering the gym through the same entrance as the performing ensembles. Our groups work very hard practicing setting up and breaking down in the allotted time. Allowing spectators to enter through the same entrance adds a chaotic variable to the set up.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 19 as originally written.

The Board believes this proposal would severely limit potential show hosts and would not be a positive step for the growth of our circuit.

## **POLICY: CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### New

### **Proposal 20**

*From:* Tim Hudnall, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None (but financial gain for ETPAA)

**Proposal:** *Circuit Championships shall be held by the circuit. The host school that provides the facility will take concessions but have no financial responsibility. ETPAA will collect fees from the gate and vendors as well as other means contracted by the board*

*Rationale:* This is a financial gain for the circuit and will allow for ETPAA to begin the process of providing monies for circuit education, judge education, scholarships, and other ventures that will help with the growing needs of the circuit.

**Board Recommendation:** The Board does not recommend Proposal 20 as originally written.

Until such time as ETPAA Championships are held at a neutral site, the Board believes this proposal would limit those schools interested in hosting Championships.

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### **Proposal 21**

*From:* Dusty Del Moro, Halls High School

*Financial Impact:* Moderate

***Proposal:*** *The ETPAA Championship judging panel will be increased in size to be a double panel for percussion/guard/winds championships.*

*Rationale:* Increasing the number of judges at championships will result in a more fair championships experience. This would align our circuit with how WGI/CIPA/CWEA currently operate. A double panel will eliminate one judge "calling" the show.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 21 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 22**

*From:* Jim Idol, ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

*Financial Impact:* Moderate to Significant

***Proposal:*** *Propose that judging of the Championship Competition be double paneled.*

*Rationale:* If ETPAA is to actually mirror WGI practice, all Championship and Power Regional Finals are double-paneled. This affords the most input for the units continuing to WGI championships, helps allay the issue of a single judge controlling the competition, and is more inclusive of broader judge community. If WGI has seen the wisdom of affording this for higher stakes competitions, then ETPAA should prioritize following suit for its units.

*This proposal was consolidated with Proposal 21.*

## **POLICY: CIRCUIT BUSINESS**

### Amendment

#### **Proposal 23**

*From:* Jim Idol, ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

*Financial Impact:* Moderate to Significant (for member units)

***Proposal: Increase unit membership dues to \$300 per unit (\$400 unit after the December meeting).***

*Rationale:* This proposal would add approximately \$2500-\$3000 to the circuit economy which must be escalated if other proposals such as training seminars are to be funded by the circuit.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 23 as originally written.

## **POLICY: CIRCUIT BUSINESS**

### New

#### **Proposal 24**

*From:* Tim Hudnall, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None except associated with its function

***Proposal: Form or create the ETPAA Education committee***

*Rationale:* This committee would be charged with the function of creating educational opportunities for the instructors and/or students within the ETPAA circuit following one of the founding tenants to provide those opportunities. This could also be expanded to include the working judges/trial judges/interested judges or be deferred to a separate committee such as the Judges task force.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 24 as originally written.

### **Proposal 25**

*From:* Alex Rector, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: A complete budget and financial report will be distributed in written form at all circuit meetings.***

*Rationale:* Allows for a more informed discussion of circuit policies and decisions. Provides the "why" when the circuit has to make difficult choices.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 25 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 26**

*From:* Alex Rector, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: Release draft schedules 13 days prior to a contest and final schedules 6 days prior to a contest (both on Sunday). Release all final schedules for the remainder of the season, including Championships, the Monday following the last contest where promotions take place.***

*Rationale:* Since performance order is determined before the season begins, it is reasonable to expect that show schedules be released by a certain time. Once the season begins, the only variable other than groups removing themselves from a show should be promotions, which were very rare this past season. This would allow directors to communicate plans more effectively as well as coordinate transportation.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 26 as originally written.

## **POLICY: OTHER**

### **New**

### **Proposal 27**

*From:* Alex Rector, Hardin Valley Academy

*Financial Impact:* None

***Proposal: Create a Judge Task Force that can help oversee the promotion process, set promotion scores, and respond to judging concerns when necessary.***

*Rationale:* This would consist of a small group of experienced instructors/directors (maybe 2-3 people total, plus the judge coordinator) who could help lighten the workload for the judge coordinator. This would allow a group of people representing multiple member units and classifications to come to a consensus regarding promotions and address any concerns raised by member units.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 27 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 28**

*From:* Tyler Dieterich, Powell High School

*Financial Impact:* None

#### ***Proposal: Creation of a Social Media Team***

*Rationale:* This would be a group of people whose job at shows is to update and maintain our various social media accounts. Social media is such a crucial part to our students' lives, and they love to see themselves on Instagram, Twitter, and SnapChat. Currently, it is too much of a responsibility for one person to handle. It also makes it very difficult to get every group their 15 seconds of fame on the various accounts. The creation of a social media team will allow every group to be posted on the accounts throughout the entire contest day. This group could be a collection of volunteers who each can post throughout the day from various accounts. This will be unpaid.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 28 as originally written.

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### **Proposal 29**

*From:* Jim Idol, ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

*Financial Impact:* Unknown

#### ***Proposal: Propose that Show Host fees be deducted from monies owed to Contest Sponsors at the time of the event.***

*Rationale:* Eliminates the unnecessary passing of funds between organization and eliminates duplicity in accounting. Also eliminates the need for Show Hosts to post Show Host fee prior to the event.

**Board Recommendation:** Pass Proposal 29 as originally written.