

#1 - Classification

Submitted By:	Kyle Albright, Pflugerville HS
Co-Sponsored By:	O.D. Wilson, Pflugerville HS JV
Original Policy:	SCHOLASTIC JV Class Criteria
Proposed Change:	<p>SCHOLASTIC JV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All Members attend the same school or feeder school. b. This class will be judged using the WGI "A CLASS" criteria. c. Only secondary or "JV" high school units are eligible to compete in this class. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To be considered a secondary unit, there must be a TCGC member unit competing in a higher classification. d. This class is for a moderately competitive scholastic unit, which is not ready for the demands of Open or World Class. e. Members and staff of these units have a complete understanding of the basic principles of performance and design. f. These units also occasionally may explore more intermediate concepts that encourage performers and designers to broaden their skills. g. There is moderate rehearsal opportunity and funding to develop this level of competitive program. h. Units may register for national level WGI events "IN SCHOLASTIC A CLASS" during the competitive season as a means to explore.

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Justification:	<p>While I understand the necessity for the JV class, there are a numerous amount of inequities and loopholes as the class stands right now.</p> <p>In it's current state the JV class protects secondary units from having to compete directly against varsity groups who may have more resources to be successful. I think it is valuable to protect these groups from that challenge locally. However, because these groups are judged on a "regional A" sheet, they are allowed to compete in WGI events as a "regional A" guard. The issue with this, is that there is no promotion score out of the JV class. In TCGC we have groups in the JV class scoring well above the promotion score for ""regional A"" at the first show of the season. (In the 3rd week of the season, a group in JV scored almost 10 points higher than the regional A promotion score!) While I understand that TCGC should have no bearing in deciding what class a group performs in at WGI; It is hard to look past the obvious. Units that choose to compete in Regional A throughout the season are being shortchanged when it comes to "exploring WGI events."How can our true Regional A units ever feel successful, when TCGC creates such a loophole for the JV class?</p> <p>Another issue I see, is JV units starting the season in Regional A, and then when promoted, choose to move into the JV class. What did these groups get promoted to? The paradigm is the same for JV and Regional A class, the only difference being that the JV class has a stipulation that you must be a JV unit.</p> <p>Lastly; TCGC is the only circuit in Texas that has "JV Class." Do we not find it unethical that we send some of our JV groups to compete at WGI events in regional A when they are truly A class units? If the the main protection of the JV class is to not have these groups competing directly against Varsity units, why allow them to compete in WGI at all?</p>
Financial Impact:	None

#2 - Classification

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	SCHOLASTIC JV Class Criteria
Proposed Change:	<p>[Dependent on another proposal to add JV Novice, JV RA, JV A classes] SCHOLASTIC JV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All Members of unit attend the same school or feeder school. b. These classes will be judged using the corresponding WGI class criteria. c. Only secondary or "JV" high school units are eligible to compete in JV class. i. To be considered a secondary unit, there must be a TCGC member unit competing in a higher classification. d. Members and staff of these units have an understanding of principles of performance and design for the classification. e. These units also occasionally may explore more intermediate concepts that encourage performers and designers to broaden their skills. f. Units may register for national level WGI events during the competitive season as a means to explore, but must compete in the appropriate WGI classification. g. Units in JV classifications are eligible to perform in Novice-RA and JV class championships only. h. Units in JV classifications are eligible for promotion to the next class of JV competition only; they are not eligible for promotion out of JV class.
Justification:	Many units in this class are beyond "moderately" competitive on the regional A sheets. Adding additional JV classes enables units to be promoted appropriately, but still remain as a JV unit without risk of being promoted to compete against groups that are much more competitive, or being promoted to the same class as their Varsity unit.
Financial Impact:	More medals/awards at Novice-JV championships may be required

#3 - Classification

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	SCHOLASTIC JV Class Criteria
Proposed Change:	Add: SCHOLASTIC JV NOVICE, SCHOLASTIC JV REGIONAL A, and SCHOLASTIC JV A classifications [Plus, change criteria descriptors as indicated on another proposal]
Justification:	Add more classifications based on other proposal submitted.
Financial Impact:	More medals/awards at Novice-JV championships, possibly.

#4 - Classification

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	SA classification (proposed as clarification and for fairness)
Proposed Change:	There will be no promotions from SA to SNA class based on circuit promotion score, double medal promotion, or other circuit-centered rationale. Schools promoted within the season based on WGI regional achievements but that do not attend WGI world championships are allowed to compete in SA class the following season if they so choose.
Justification:	SNA was originally created for units wishing for a more nationally competitive level and feel in the local circuit. Some SA units do not wish to compete at this level, and therefore should not be pushed by the circuit into a nationally competitive classification if their exclusive desire is to compete locally. This proposal does NOT negate the "promotion" into NA based on semis/finals at any WGI regional or championships in the current season.
Financial Impact:	None

#5 - Promotions

Submitted By:	Whitney Stone, Lake Travis HS
Co-Sponsored By:	Heather Lamantia, Cedar Ridge HS
Original Policy:	g. This class may compete at WGI events, however achieving semi-finals or finals will be an automatic promotion to the Scholastic National A class.
Proposed Change:	g. Units may be put up for review after making WGI Regional Finals once. This class may compete at WGI events, however achieving semi-finals or finals at TWO regionals will be an automatic promotion to the Scholastic National A Class.
Justification:	I do not believe that it is necessary to be promoted after making Regional Finals only once. Some Regionals provide more competition than others and I don't believe that if you make it one time, that is grounds for promotion. Some groups simply aren't prepared for the level of competition in National A and would like to find some achievement in the Scholastic A class. Being promoted also means you're choice to "elect to compete against more advanced groups" is no longer a choice. It doesn't provide much in the experience of the students either. A promotion doesn't mean nearly as much to a member as success at any competition. When you promote guards after making finals just once, you essentially are taking away any future success for the members or staff besides knowing that at one time, you were good enough to compete with more successful programs with potentially more resources and experience. I think it would be more fair to review the Units after they make Finals the first time and then if they are consistent enough to make it a second time, then they should be promoted. When there is a review, there is a chance for the unit to be in the class where they belong and where they can find some equality in their competitive range.
Financial Impact:	None

#6 - Critique

Submitted By:	Kyle Albright, Pflugerville HS
Co-Sponsored By:	O.D. Wilson, Pflugerville HS JV
Original Policy:	<p>T. Color Guard Critiques will be offered at a minimum of two shows throughout the competitive season, one on or near the beginning of February, and one on or near the beginning of March.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dates and locations will be determined by TCGC Judge's Coordinator. Critique is optional for units. 2. Critique schedule will be posted when contests schedules are approved. A list will be made available of which shows will offer critique prior to the show's sign up. 3. Units must sign up for critique before the critique date. 4. Units who sign up for critique but then decide not to attend must notify the contest director before critique.
Proposed Change:	<p>T. Color Guard Critiques will be offered at a minimum of THREE shows throughout the competitive season, one on or near the beginning of February, and TWO IN THE MONTH OF March.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dates and locations will be determined by TCGC Judge's Coordinator. Critique is optional for units. 2. Critique schedule will be posted when contests schedules are approved. A list will be made available of which shows will offer critique prior to the show's sign up. 3. Units must sign up for critique before the critique date. 4. Units who sign up for critique but then decide not to attend must notify the contest director before critique.
Justification:	We need more judge feedback during the season. Critique is valuable for all instructors, and should be more available to all members of TCGC.
Financial Impact:	None

#7 - Promotion

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	New
Proposed Change:	Add "Box 6: Exhibits training and/or design beyond the class" with a scoring range of 92 to 95+ to all Novice-Open class judge's scoring sheets
Justification:	<p>Rather than developing arbitrary numbers for promotions, adding this box and criteria would give a clear indication to judges that if a unit appears to exhibit skills at the top of, or beyond the class, they have the ability to score in this range.</p> <p>It would also eliminate "fear of promotion number" for less-experienced units who are on the bubble for promotion and give clear indication that they are ready for the next classification.</p> <p>It also provides clear promotion numbers and indications for "higher level" units to receive promotions into the next higher class.</p>
Financial Impact:	None

#8 - Promotion

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	<p>PROMOTION PROCESS FOR COLOR GUARDS</p> <p>The review committee will convene at the conclusion of the TCGC season to determine if any units are ready for promotion to the next class. In addition, the review committee will automatically promote any unit medaling for three consecutive seasons. Each promoted unit will receive written notification by the the spring meeting before opening of registration for the following season. If championships is held in rounds, the top three scores, regardless of rounds, will be used. This post-season promotion process does not apply to a promotion from Open to World classification.</p>
Proposed Change:	<p>Novice-Open class units achieving a 'Box 6 score' from a majority of judges at any one contest will automatically be promoted during the course of the season.</p> <p>The committee will automatically promote any unit medaling for three consecutive seasons. Each promoted unit will receive written notification at least 2 weeks prior to the spring meeting before opening of registration for the following season. If championships is held in rounds, the top three scores in the class, regardless of rounds, will be used. This post-season promotion process does not apply to JV, Open, or World classes.</p>
Justification:	<p>Giving more specific details/deadlines for promotion through the season and for notification of promotion after the season has ended. Also added JV class to the excluded list of post-season promotion classes. Reduces promotion committee responsibilities at end of season and during the season.</p>
Financial Impact:	None

#9 - Championships

Submitted By:	Whitney Stone, Lake Travis HS
Co-Sponsored By:	Heather Lamantia, Cedar Ridge HS
Original Policy:	New
Proposed Change:	I propose that there should be only one West Championship and one East Championship competition.
Justification:	<p>Combining the two circuits for A-World for only one day does not provide a fair opportunity for competition. Having one competition on each side of the circuit would make traveling to Championships easier and less expensive for almost every unit as they could be more centrally located. It could also be held over a Saturday/Sunday instead of having 17 hour long days for a single Championship event. This would also mean only needing two hosting sites instead of three total. All West side Units could compete over one weekend as would the East side units. Austin/San Antonio and Houston are simply too far away to make it a fair and even playing field for all units. It is not likely for many groups to be able to travel to the opposite side of the circuit to compete on any regular season show day. If we aren't expecting this of the A-World units during the season, why is it suddenly the expectation at Championships? Where is the fairness in this? As far as making the season substantially longer for the Cadet-JV classes, we could simply meet in between the two current competition weekends. One week shorter for A-World and one week longer for Cadet-JV. It is done this way in many other Circuits and I think for a circuit as large as ours, it could be more successful. This would put the Championships events on the weekend of 3/31 for 2018, leaving one open weekend before WGI World Championships.</p>
Financial Impact:	Would potentially spend less on hosting facilities for Championships.

#10 - Championships

Submitted By:	Damon Whitley, Brazosport HS
Co-Sponsored By:	Abel Vasquez, Connally HS
Original Policy:	New
Proposed Change:	TCGC issue plaques at Championships
Justification:	Guards work incredibly hard and spend a lot money to get to championships. This accomplishment should be rewarded. It is offense to the groups not making top three to be left feeling less than. At least with a plaque, groups can feel some sense of accomplishment and can offer something to administration upon returning to their respective schools. Please don't leave these groups out.
Financial Impact:	Cost of plaques which is minimal considering the amount of money groups spend to get to championship, including, championship fee, travel, hotel and considerable costs of extra floor crew.

#11 - Championships

Submitted By:	Michael Vazquez, ATX A
Co-Sponsored By:	Judy Easton, ATX Open
Original Policy:	New
Proposed Change:	NA, IA, SO, IO, W, and IW classes will each compete in a single competitive grouping at TCGC combined championships regardless of the number of groups in each class allowing for only up to 3 medalists in each class.
Justification:	These classes have expressed a desire to have more competitive setting. Based on this competitive nature, there should only be 3 medalists per class to strengthen the competitive nature of these classes.
Financial Impact:	Reduction in cost due to fewer medals/trophies and banners

#12 - Judge's Association

Submitted By:	Charles Brown, TCGJA
Co-Sponsored By:	Doug Henderson, TCGJA
Original Policy:	<p>P&P SECTION 2 - JUDGES ASSOCIATION</p> <p>D. The positions of Director of Education and Chief Judge will be identified by the VP of Adjudication and approved by the TCGC membership at the Spring Meeting. This person will serve a two-year term. If the position becomes vacant, the VP of Adjudication will make a recommendation and seek the approval of the Executive Board, whose decision is final.</p>
Proposed Change:	<p>P&P SECTION 2 - JUDGES ASSOCIATION</p> <p>D. The positions of Director of Education and Chief Judge will be identified by the VP adjudication and approved by the local TCGC judges, that pay annual dues, and make the judges association. Once candidates have been selected, the named persons will be approved by the Executive Board. These persons will serve a two year term and will be reviewed annually by the Executive Board with input from the Task Force. If the positions become vacant, the VP of Adjudication will make a recommendation and seek the approval of the Executive Board, whose decision is final.</p>
Justification:	<p>This move will allow the Executive Board to fully review candidates seeking these positions, review qualifications and conduct interviews. By a unanimous board vote, they can select the most qualified person for the job.</p>
Financial Impact:	None

#13 - Administration

Submitted By:	Jaime Martinez, Circuit Administrator
Co-Sponsored By:	Kim Booher, Color Guard VP
Original Policy:	New
Proposed Change:	eBoard will separate the Policy and Procedure document between Guard and Percussion/Winds following the WGI format for documents.
Justification:	The P&P needs to be updated but for every update, there are issues between guard and percussion. This will allow each division to have their own working document.
Financial Impact:	None

#14 - Administration

Submitted By:	Jaime Martinez, Circuit Administrator
Co-Sponsored By:	Kim Booher, Color Guard VP
Original Policy:	7.E. Performance order at regular season shows for all units will be: By postmark date of unit's membership application fee for the first two required shows.
Proposed Change:	Performance order at regular season shows for all units will be: By postmark date of unit's membership application fee through the weekend of compete-by.
Justification:	Cleaning up the wording
Financial Impact:	None

#15 - Administration

Submitted By:	Stephen Howard, TCGC President
Co-Sponsored By:	TCGC EBoard
Original Policy:	Section 7.E - Competition Structure E. Performance order at Regular Season Contests <i>[sic]</i>
Proposed Change:	<p>ADD 7.E.i</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schedules for regular season contests will be released 2 weeks prior to each event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ With the exception of the postmark requirement for early season contests, all shows will be scheduled the same way as before. ○ If we have pull-outs within the 2 week window, we will make small adjustments to the schedule, however we will not re-randomize or re-seed rounds. ○ For example, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Order in a round might be, Guard A, Guard B, Guard C, Guard D ■ Guard B pulls out day before contest ■ Order becomes Guard A, Guard C, Guard D ■ No changes to the rounds are made
Justification:	This will allow TCGC to release schedules much earlier so that directors can better plan their day. We receive a lot of requests for the schedules to be done earlier, but the current policy as written prohibits us from giving accurate times.
Financial Impact:	None

#16 - Administration

Submitted By:	Stephen Howard, TCGC President
Co-Sponsored By:	TCGC EBoard
Original Policy:	Section 11.D.c - Policy and Procedure Document Proposals will be presented and voted at the Spring Meeting unless tabled.
Proposed Change:	11.D.c - Policy and Procedure Document Proposals will be presented and voted on , unless tabled, at the Spring Meeting on odd years only. On even years, the membership shall be given an opportunity to provide feedback on each policy change and how to better administer those changes.
Justification:	The EBoard, Staff, Judge's Association, and Task Force (Guard and Percussion), have found it increasingly difficult to keep up with the amount of change that happens every year. This would be a great opportunity for our voting members to still have a chance to submit their ideas to better the circuit, as well as afford the EBoard, Staff, JA, and TF two seasons to learn how to navigate these changes and correctly administer policy the way it was intended.
Financial Impact:	Potential to prevent costly mistakes made by all TCGC stakeholders.

#17 - Administration (Bylaws)

Submitted By:	Stephen Howard, TCGC President
Co-Sponsored By:	TCGC EBoard
Original Policy:	TCGC By-Laws, Section 4: Fees, Dues, and Assessments <i>[sic]</i>
Proposed Change:	<p>Rewrite all wording as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Dues for a Color Guard will be \$800.00. Dues may be paid online using a credit card, or by sending check or money order. School Districts must attach a copy of the official TCGC Membership Application, with payment, for proper credit to the unit(s). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dues for multiple guard units from the same parent organization will be \$500.00. Percussion & Winds units are separate and are not included in this discount. There will be no additional charge for a fourth or fifth unit from the same parent organization. b. Dues for Percussion will be \$800.00. Dues may be paid online using a credit card, or by sending check or money order. School Districts must attach a copy of the official TCGC Membership Application , with payment, for proper credit to unit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dues for multiple percussion units from the same parent organization will be \$500.00. Guard & Winds units are separate and are not included in this discount. There will be no additional charge for a fourth or fifth unit from the same parent organization. c. Dues for Winds will be \$800.00. Dues may be paid online using a credit card, or by sending check or money order. School Districts must attach a copy of the official TCGC Membership Application, with payment, for proper credit to unit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dues for multiple winds units from the same parent organization will be \$500.00. Guard or percussion units are separate and are not included in this discount. There will be no additional charge for a fourth or fifth unit from the same parent organization.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Unit dues will be accepted beginning the Monday after the fall meeting, of each year and must be accompanied by official TCGC entry forms. Postmark date will be taken from the envelope containing payment only. Dues are refundable within fourteen days of postmark. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Units paying dues with a postmark date before October 1 will receive a discount of \$200. Units paying dues with a postmark date before November 1 will receive a discount of \$100. e. Separate entry fees are not required for any show. A championships fee may be assessed to each competing unit. f. Dues for an adjudicator to join the Texas Color Guard Judges Association will be \$75.00. g. Dues for a Patron member will be \$25.00. h. A visiting unit may compete in any show sanctioned by the Texas Color Guard Circuit, except Championships, for a fee of \$150.00. They will be scored and ranked as any other unit, and receive appropriate awards. If a new first-year unit wants to become a part of the Circuit after trying one show, they will be allowed to join the circuit late, and have the \$150.00 apply towards their dues. They will not be eligible for Championships (unless all normal Circuit requirements are met).
Justification:	Updating language to include Winds category. Rewrite member dues policy to incentivize early submission, rather than penalize late payment. This also caps max dues payment \$100 less than the previous system.
Financial Impact:	None