

East Tennessee



Performing Arts Association

2017 Proposals

Proposal 1:

Leza Carver, Heritage High School and ETPAA SRA/SA Representative

Proposal Provide future details in classification to more precisely accommodate the ability level within Novice Class.

Rationale This may help discern the differences between programs who are Novice and A-class caliber. Novice is for the true beginning guard member or staff entering into the winter season. Creating the opportunity to be more competitive against like units. This would work to properly group, foster competition, and growth.

Novice Class (NOV) – The novice class is designed for the newest ensembles to our activity. Performers in the class will display ***purely introductory skills with regards to vocabulary, technique and conceptual design.***

Evaluation for the Novice class will be based on the Regional A Criteria. Color Guards performing in the Novice class are eligible for promotion to the Scholastic Regional A class.

Proposal 1 (revised 5/2/2016):

Novice class performers will be defined as having basic, rudimentary, elementary, or simple skills.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 1 as revised/amended.

Score sheets specific to Novice class (and below) are in development for ETPAA. Language will be added to the ETPAA Handbook further defining expectations of the Novice class.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Minimal.

Proposal 2:

Leza Carver, Heritage High School and ETPAA SRA/SA Representative

Proposal Restructure/Rename the Scholastic A classes to more precisely accommodate the array of groups/ability level within each.

Rationale This may help discern the differences between programs who are A-class caliber but either do or do not compete on a national level. The stress and financial impact of competing at World Championships is a reason some groups choose not to do so or "take a year off," and this would allow for them to not have to compete against groups who are going full-out-competitive in a season. As all groups would be competing on the A class sheets, in this new breakdown, SRA groups would get "their feet wet" in a less established competitive environment.

Units that compete on the national level have a different mentality and budget than those that stay local. Creating these classes would give units that stay local the opportunity to be more competitive against like units. A class has the largest range of abilities and this would work to properly group, foster competition and growth.

Scholastic National A (SNA): comprised of groups who willingly sign up for and participate in national (WGI) events--Regionals or World Championships. These groups have the financial resources, facility resources, support, and talent resources--of student performers, designers, and staff--to compete and be successful at the Scholastic A level in WGI (national) competition. Judged on the A-class sheets. Participants in this class should have beginning/intermediate vocabulary, programs, achievement levels, and are incorporating beginning intermediate concepts. Evaluation will be on the WGI A Class criteria. Nationally competitive teams (teams competing at WGI Regionals or World Championships in the A Class shall compete here).

Groups would be promoted from this class to Scholastic Open, if the situation or need arises (Promotion from

WGI).

Scholastic A (SA): comprised of groups who are competitive, or have been competitive at a WGI-level, but are not choosing to compete on (WGI) national levels of competition--regionals or otherwise. These groups have some form of (strong talent, support, design, staff, etc.) but are not at the level of Scholastic National A. Judged on the A-class sheets. Participants in this class should have beginning vocabulary, programs, achievement levels, and have a low to mid incorporation of intermediate concepts. Evaluation will be on the WGI A Class criteria. Nationally competitive teams (teams competing at WGI Regionals or World Championships in the A Class shall compete here).

Groups would be promoted from this class to Scholastic National A, if the situation or need arises.

Scholastic Regional A (SRA): comprised of beginner Scholastic A programs, students, or instructional staff(s). These groups are new or may have some experience competing in A class, but are not quite at the level of the Scholastic A or Scholastic National A programs. This is a learning class for individuals to understand how to design, teach, and perform in the Scholastic A class. Participants in this class should have beginning vocabulary, programs, achievement levels, and have progressed beyond the introductory level, but are not yet ready to begin incorporating intermediate concepts. Evaluation will be on the WGI A Class criteria.

Groups would be promoted from this class into the Scholastic A class (not Scholastic National A), if the situation or need arises.

Proposal 2 (revised 5/2/2016):

A new classification will be created to bridge the gap between Scholastic Regional A (SRA) and Scholastic A (SA). The class will be called Scholastic Regional AA (SRAA) and will use Scholastic Regional A (SRA) score sheets.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 2 as revised/amended.

Language will be added to the ETPAA Handbook further defining expectations of the SRAA class.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Minimal.

Proposal 3:

This proposal was withdrawn.

Proposal 4:

Jana Hanson, Maryville High School and ETPAA Executive Secretary

Proposal Create a new class for scholastic winterguards.

Rationale The new class would be devoted to bridging the gap between those groups in Scholastic Regional A (SRA) and those in Scholastic A (SA). The new class would use the Scholastic A class sheets at the local level.

This proposal was consolidated into Proposal 2.

Proposal 5:

Jana Hanson, Maryville High School and ETPAA Executive Secretary

Proposal Restructure class representatives on the Board of Directors. Provided a new Scholastic A class is added, the following classes should be represented on the ETPAA Board of Directors:

- Cadet/Prep
- Novice
- Scholastic Regional A (SRA)
- New winterguard class
- Scholastic A (SA)
- Independent winterguards
- Percussion

Rationale Restructuring the class representatives on the Board of Directors would provide opportunity for others to volunteer time or expertise to the benefit of our circuit.

Proposal 5 (revised 5/2/16):

The following classifications will have elected one-year term representation on the Board of Directors:

- (1) Cadet/Prep/Novice;
- (2) Scholastic Regional A (SRA)/Scholastic Regional AA (SRAA)
- (3) Scholastic A (SA)
- (4) Independent winterguards
- (5) Percussion (all classifications)

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 5 as revised/amended.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Minimal.

Proposal 6:

Vic Truscelli, Karns High School and ETPAA Judge & Contest Coordinator

Proposal Cadet, Prep, and Novice Class units should be scored on a Novice class sheet focusing on basic, elementary skills.

Rationale Many of our Novice Class units this past season seemed to have exceeded the criteria for basic/elementary skills. Score sheets specifically designed to reward this skill level would be more appropriate for these classes. There needs to be a clearer distinction between Novice Class and Regional A class.

This proposal was consolidated into Proposal 1.

Proposal 7:

Vic Truscelli, Karns High School and ETPAA Judge & Contest Coordinator

Proposal The Contest Director/Chief Judge should receive a fee for attending each contest, similar to a judge's fee.

Rationale This role is as demanding as any judging position. Vic may not be able to attend all contests. There may be times when others need to step in. It would be appropriate for whoever serves in this capacity to be reimbursed for their efforts. This fee may be added to the list of judges fees supplied to each host.

Proposal 7 (revised 5/2/16):

The Contest Director/Chief Judge should receive a fee, similar to a judge's fee, to be paid by the Show Host. The Contest Director/Chief Judge position will be filled by Board members when Vic Truscelli is unavailable.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 7 as revised/amended.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Miminal.

Proposal 8:

Vic Truscelli, Karns High School and ETPAA Judge & Contest Coordinator

Proposal The honorarium that is currently paid to our ETPAA Executive Secretary should be raised to \$1000.

Rationale This position has required an enormous amount of time and effort throughout the year. Knowing the demands of the position, I believe an honorarium reflective of the exceptional work that has been done should be considered.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 8 as written.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate.

Proposal 9:

Katie Eaton, Farragut High School

Proposal That guard and percussion alternate who performs last at ETPAA Championships.

Rationale Both groups want to perform last at Championships, and the fair way to accomplish this is to alternate each season.

Board Recommendation: Proposal 9 needs further discussion, both by the Board of Directors and with the general membership.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Minimal.

Proposal 10:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal ETPAA should expand the color guard classification system to include the SAA classification to serve units that have matured to a point where their program is ready to be evaluated on the WGI Scholastic “A” sheets but may not be ready to compete regionally or nationally.

Rationale Institution of this class will provide an interim step for the several units in the circuit that have proven to be viably evaluated on the “A” sheet and can be challenged to mature against that criteria. This would also allow the Novice classification to be more authentic and reserved for units that are truly at the Beginner level.

This proposal was consolidated into Proposal 2.

Proposal 11:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal The Board should develop a method to effectively recruit corporate partners to benefit the operation of ETPAA.

The Board should develop materials to assist in the recruitment of corporate partners. Those materials should establish partnership opportunities at a variety of levels (i.e., Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze...).

Partners would be recognized on the circuit website and some partnerships levels could include season-long recognition at all events.

Those members who volunteer to use their contacts and leverage to sign local, regional or national businesses into the partnership with ETPAA would receive 50% of the proceeds TO BENEFIT THE EXPENSES AND OPERATIONS OF THEIR UNIT (Checks would only be issued to the sponsoring organization – not to individuals).

Rationale Many ETPAA members have the contacts to develop partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the organization and the unit. While not all of the units are in a position to host shows, this program would allow any unit to raise funds on behalf of the unit and for the good of the organization.

Board Recommendation: Further instructions or guidelines concerning

Proposal 11 will be discussed at the Fall 2016 meeting.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate to Significant.

Proposal 12:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal ETPAA should avail its membership to embrace and support educational events that are directly related to the development of performing arts in the area of ETPAA influence.

ETPAA staff and members would be availed to help with development and staffing of events to the extent the hosting organization requested.

Sanctioning, advertising, and other operational assistance would be cooperatively developed with the presenting unit and ETPAA would receive 10% of the proceeds for services rendered.

Rationale ETPAA members have the expertise to develop and present excellent training opportunities for all levels of performers in the region.

ETPAA should broaden its reach by helping units develop cooperative, educational events that benefit the local performers while providing a positive fiscal impact for the presenting unit and the ETPAA organization.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 12 as written. The Board will accept proposals for ETPAA sanction of events and will review on a case by case basis.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate

Proposal 13:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal A method should to be developed for the equitable consideration of sites for the qualifying competition.

An application should be developed that includes all information pertinent to presenting a successful event.

Final selection would be determined a committee appointed by or a subset of the Board and would be based on a list of criteria to be determined which might include considerations such as membership longevity, facility characteristics, traditional show dates, geographic location, post-mark date / date received, etc.

The selected applicant should immediately post a non-refundable show host fee of \$500 to the circuit that will become part of the operational budget for the circuit and services provided by sanctioning the event.

This fee should not offset any other costs to the host nor will the fee be refunded should a selected site later decide that the event could not be held.

Exception: the fee would be refunded should ETPAA take an action to cancel the event, such as inclement weather.

Rationale The circuit needs to move toward a more structured system of selecting and scheduling shows.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 13 as written. A comprehensive set of show host guidelines and application is in development and will be available by Fall 2016.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate.

Proposal 14:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal A method should to be developed for the equitable consideration of sites for competitions throughout the competitive season.

An application should be developed that includes all information

pertinent to presenting a successful event.

The proposal may include up to three potential dates (while only one date required...) in the announced season's schedule.

Final schedule would be determined a committee appointed by or a subset of the Board and would be based on a list of criteria to be determined which might include considerations such as membership longevity, facility characteristics, traditional show dates, geographic location, post-mark date / date received, etc.

Selected applicants should immediately post a non-refundable show host fee of \$200 to the circuit that will become part of the operational budget for the circuit and services provided by sanctioning the event.

This fee should not offset any other costs to the host nor will the fee be refunded should a selected site later decide that the event could not be held.

Exception: the fee would be refunded should ETPAA take an action to cancel the event, such as inclement weather.

Rationale The circuit needs to move toward a more structured system of selecting and scheduling shows.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 14 as written. A comprehensive set of show host guidelines and application is in development and will be available by Fall 2016.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate.

Proposal 15:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal The location of the Championship show each year should be awarded to a member guard with an adequate facility that presents ETPAA with the highest bid for hosting the show.

Specifications of requirements for an adequate facility should be determined by the Board (or a committee appointed by the Board) and

submitted to the membership before bidding.

The Board shall also establish a minimum bid. The minimum should be adequate to cover the actual costs of presenting the Championship event + 10%.

Further, the Board should consider reserving some fund raising activities at Championships. Those might include souvenir sales of commemorative items such as event wear, patches, or videos.

Rationale The circuit is maturing quickly and has proven that it is capable of presenting a Championships event that has the potential to be significantly profitable for the hosting unit(s).

At the same time, the circuit is not yet mature enough to undertake the presentation of the Championships event without the assistance and underwriting of one of the member units.

Board Recommendation: Pass Proposal 15 as written. A comprehensive set of host guidelines and show host application are in development and will be available by Fall 2016.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Moderate.

Proposal 16:

Jim Idol, Farragut High School and ETPAA Colorguard Coordinator

Proposal The promotion system needs to be clarified in regard to both methodology and implementation.

For instance, promotions occurring on the last promotion date of the season should either not be allowed to be appealed or if appealed; should carry forward to next competition that the unit attends even though the official date for promotions has ended.

Rationale Operational clarity and consistency.

Board Recommendation: Proposal 16 needs further discussion. Language

related to appeal of promotion will be added to the ETPAA Handbook.

Financial Impact to the circuit: Minimal.

Proposal 17:

This proposal was withdrawn.

Proposal 18:

Keith Clupper, Farragut High School and ETPAA President

Proposal Divide current board position of “Judge & Contest Coordinator” creating two new board positions, “Judge Coordinator” and “Contest Coordinator” that will evenly redistribute current responsibilities under the appropriate title.

“Judge Coordinator” description of position and responsibilities:

- hired by the Board of Directors; fees are defined under contract
- is a non-voting member
- secures commitments with judges and/or judging associations
- serves as a liaison between judges and ETPAA
- acts as a resource for member questions on philosophy, education, and classification
- assists in assessing the need for education sessions for circuit members and planning of same
- communicates with all judges regarding travel, lodging, and payment
- educates judges on use of ETPAA-specific sheets

“Contest Coordinator” description of position and responsibilities:

- hired by the Board of Directors; fees are defined under contract
- is a non-voting member
- maintains yearly contest schedule
- coordinates with contest hosts on show-day procedures,

- staff, and equipment needs
- 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
 - is responsible for setting up and maintaining tabulation and media delivery systems throughout the contest day

Rationale As Judge & Contest Coordinator, Vic Truscelli has been gracious to take on the heavy burden of wearing both "hats" to help us begin the circuit. Being that the circuit has experienced healthy growth, it is now time to divide the long list of responsibilities among two persons thus allowing Vic to focus on building our judging community while removing the arduous task of also running circuit contests.

This proposal was consolidated in Proposal 7.