

OIPA ANNUAL DIRECTORS MEETING
May 6, 2018

Units Present:

Middletown HS

Middletown Juniors

London HS

Matrix World

Matrix Open

Cap City Percussion

War Eagle

Wapakoneta HS

Movimiento Expressivo

Vermilion HS

Phoenix Independent A

Phoenix Independent Open

Shockwave

New London HS

Maumee HS

Gahanna Christian Academy

Revere HS

St. John's Jesuit HS Color Guard

St. John's Jesuit HS Percussion

Meeting called to order at 11:12am by OIPA President Chad Clum.

Motion to suspend Robert's Rules submitted by Brian Sheehe, 2nd by Stephanie Miller

Motion to accept minutes from last year's annual meeting made by Rob Ferguson;
second by Tim Martin

Treasurer Report (Chad Clum for Dave Stinson): in the **GREEN!!** Changes in 2018 included switching to perpetual plaques which will show savings in 2019 as trophies and plaques do not need purchased; better planning for judges' flights will lead to savings as well. Stephanie Miller moved to accept Treasurer Report; Rob Ferguson second.

Percussion Education Report (Rob Ferguson): Growth in OIPA percussion evident on a national level. Slightly increased difficulty booking judges, often seeing WGI judges double booking themselves in error. Bookings started with Circuit Championships, then worked back. Successful clinic weekend early season. Continued focus to educate younger staff, as well as prepare OIPA units for future possible move of WGI World Championships to new location.

Color Guard Education Report (Chad Clum): Received much more feedback from judges and from instructors this season than previously. Helps make future decisions. Led to increased review of judges' commentary based on instructor concerns. Judges commented on strength of OIPA units. Several new judges were used; good feedback from them regarding OIPA experience. Focus continues to be on bringing in high quality judges for our units, which is an ongoing process. Judges had concerns about line units and how to judge them (further discussion during proposals today).

President Report (Chad Clum): Congrats to our national finalists: Middletown HS, Artistry IN BLUE, Amherst Winds, New Philadelphia, Cap City, and Matrix World. Congrats to Matrix Open for bringing home **GOLD!!!**

OIPA was down approximately 10 units in 2018. Room for growth. Would like to get unit numbers back to 75-80 units for 2019. Most shows flowed very well with minimal complaints.

Show Staff will need volunteers to fill spots for 2019: PLEASE if you have an age-out, or a parent that is very involved and attends all shows (or can attend all shows) please send them our way to help with show administration in 2019.

(END OF REPORTS)

DISCUSSION #1:

Increase show host fee \$200 (from \$2900 to \$3100) and give show hosts a \$200 credit if they arrange and handle the transportation of the OIPA equipment from the previous show host to their event. For first contest host of the year, this would be from the off-season storage space to their site.

Rationale: Equipment transport is the hardest logistical issue we face each season, and this would either put this on the show hosts to handle or give the circuit the funds to cover this task.

Financial Impact: Positive for the circuit.

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

Result of Discussion: Motion to discuss by David Wolfe; second by Lauren Holloway. Can OIPA purchase a trailer? Concern of theft when trailer is sitting at a hotel or at a school. The Board did look at trailers/quotes but agreed that having a trailer doesn't solve the problem of getting the equipment moved; cannot always find someone to pull a trailer, expense of liability/insurance. Good news: the "big black box" is GONE. Equipment will be more modular and placed into bins that should be easier to move. Question about storage between weekends: Who is liable?? Needs to be determined. Everyone agreed that getting rid of the "big black box" is a plus. Rob Ferguson discussed sponsorship opportunities for company that helps with this issue. Stephanie Miller moved for vote; 2nd by Rob Ferguson.

<i>Middletown HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Wapakoneta HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Middletown Juniors</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Movimiento Expressivo</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>London HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Vermilion HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Matrix World</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Phoenix A</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Matrix Open</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Phoenix Open</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Cap City</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>Shockwave</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>War Eagle</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>New London</i>	<i>FOR</i>

<i>Maumee HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>St. John's Jesuit Color Guard</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Gahanna Christian Academy</i>	<i>FOR</i>	<i>St. John's Jesuit Percussion</i>	<i>FOR</i>
<i>Revere HS</i>	<i>FOR</i>		

PASSED 19-0.

PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL #1:

Performance Gym will remain closed to spectators until 30 minutes before the first performance unless OIPA Show Staff lets host know it can be opened earlier.

Rationale: At some events spectators are entering the gym hours before first performance when the setup is still in process.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Barry Artis (Wadsworth)

Discussion Opened; Motion to Vote/second. **PASSED 19-0**

PROPOSAL #2:

Amend bylaw (Article V, Letter F. All officers shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and of a current unit on the advisory board.) to read: F. All officers shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and of a unit who has held full membership in OIPA in the past 3 seasons and is not currently a full member of another circuit.

Rationale: From time to time units find it out of their control to take a season or even two off to restructure/rebuild and we shouldn't punish strong members (or potential members) of the board during that time.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

Discussion Opened; Motion to Vote/second. **PASSED 19-0**

PROPOSAL #3:

Eliminate Article V - Administration, Letter E. There is a maximum of 4 consecutive terms for any individual in the office of President.

Rationale: My rationale is that it has been difficult to get people interested in serving on the Board, many positions are elected unopposed. If the membership has a President who is doing a good job, then the membership should be allowed to keep that person in office as long as that person is interested in serving. If the membership is unhappy with the performance of the President, the annual election serves as the means to replace the President. By placing a term limit on that one office, we run the risk of putting someone in the office of President who isn't truly and fully invested or interested in serving OIPA. I believe this office is much too important to allow for that possibility.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Barry Artis (Wadsworth)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second. **PASSED 18-0-1**

PROPOSAL #4:

In **Article VIII – Vacancies:** I would suggest we eliminate the specific reference to “zoomerang” and replace with “...midseason election by online survey of membership”.

Rationale: Listing a specific website could make the process more difficult if that site is no longer available or becomes cost prohibitive.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Barry Artis (Wadsworth)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second. **PASSED 19-0**

(PERCUSSION DIRECTORS EXIT FOR BREAK-OUT SESSION)

PROPOSAL #5:

Change the age restrictions of our Junior classes to 9th grade and below.

Rationale: Changing the age restrictions to include 9th graders will give the junior groups a larger population to get kids from.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Stephanie Miller (Middletown Colorguard Director & OIPA VP)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second. **PASSED 13 – 0 (Color Guard Directors)**

PROPOSAL #6:

I would like to see the creation of a class between JRA and SRA/IRA (call it Regional B class?)

Rationale: This class would be for guards falling into one of three possible scenarios:

1. A school or independent organization trying to establish a winter guard program in an area in which mostly middle school students are interested in being in the guard, with one or two high school students also wanted to join as guard members.

2. For those schools or organizations that have established an established but newer guard that consisted of all middle school students who now finds that one or two members will be going into high school next year after a couple seasons, and there is NOT enough high school students interested in guard to create a high school guard. A class like Regional B would allow a director to retain those high school students without having to turn them away. I would hate to see guard members lost to something that is an easy fix. I would still want JRA to remain for students 8th grade and younger.

3. For those schools or organizations that have a well-established guard program, consisting of at least two different guards, who has a high school student show interest in becoming part of the guard as a junior or senior (could be the student moved into the area from a school system without a winter guard). The said student would not be able to pick up the skills that have been developed by the other high school students who have been participating for multiple years. Regional B class would allow this high school student to be placed with the JRA guard for that year, and the JRA guard would move to Class B for that season, allowing the guard member to be part of a performing guard.

It might not be feasible for these small number of high school students to find an independent guard to join, even if one is in the area of the students' residence. The

financial cost might not be within the family budget, and the student might not have the transportation to practices. This class would eliminate the need to search elsewhere.

Other circuits have grouped newer guards and guards growing in their skills into a category with other ones having similar skills. Scholastic A, Scholastic AA, Scholastic AAA are options in other circuits, to level the playing field out a little bit. As it stands, any guard in one of the above-mentioned scenarios would have to make a tough decision either by not allowing the student to be part of the team or by including the one high school student and moving the JRA group up to a higher class.

We have some very good guards in SRA, and that was noted by one of the judges this year (Greg Marquis). It would be very tough to have a guard made of mainly middle school kids (ages 10 and 11) with one 14-year-old freshman to compete against guards made of mostly or all high school students (ages 16 and 17). Even if the 16-year-old starts guard the same day as a 10-year-old, the maturity and development level between the two will be great. Very few guards would have success transitioning into the higher class, though not impossible (London is an example of a successful transition). Class B would even out the field a little bit by having performers closer to skill level compete against other similar groups.

OIPA is a great circuit for guards and percussion/winds groups. I would like to see us as being leaders, finding creative solutions to situations and challenges, even before they arise. There are many benefits to being in guard, life-long skills that can be used in everyday situations such as hard work, team work, and the like. This class would give us another thing to offer guards looking for a circuit as a home or guest performance.

I would suggest the parameters of this group be the timing for a Regional A guard (3 1/2 to 5 minutes performance time) with the judging criteria of a JRA guard since most performers would be middle school age anyway. I would not put a time limit on how many seasons a guard can be in this class, as those scenarios might crop up three or four years in a row. Guards that excel in this class by mid-season could be asked to move up to a higher-class level. A JRA guard that is having an exceptionally great year and is way ahead of the other guards in JRA could move into this category mid-season as well. Any JRA guard that has to move to regional B for a year or so would still be eligible to drop back to JRA once the high school performers are able to handle the more demanding skills of SRA/IRA or a higher class.

Financial Impact: A banner for the champions at states (annually) and perhaps a one-time purchase of a traveling trophy. A plaque if it is a new guard (that would be purchased anyway).

Submitted by: Derek Wise, director of Gahanna Christian Academy's Skyward Dynasty and Brice Christian Academy's Flames of Truth winter guards

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second; **FAILED 0-12-1** (*Color Guard Directors*)

PROPOSAL #7:

Eliminate all the Line Classes: Jr. Flag, Sr. Flag, Jr. Rifle, Sr. Rifle. Jr. Dance, Sr. Dance.

Rationale: These classes are limited to a few circuits across the country and many of our judges are not familiar with the judges' sheets for these classes. The structure we use for the line division does not encourage units to grow and progress up through the classes. A new division is being proposed to offer these units a class that better suits growth and supports our judges experience and knowledge.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second; **PASSED 14-0** (*Color Guard Directors plus one Color Guard/Percussion Director*)

PROPOSAL #8:

Create the Following New Guard Classes (All classes would now fall in the reclassification rules spectrum)

Flow Chart to show promotion progression of all classes at bottom of the proposal.

Novice and Novice Jr Classes - This class would use the rules and sheets for the Reg.

A Class with a 50% score bump (Takes the given score and multiply by 1.5 to get final posted score)

Give the Jr. Reg. A Class (which uses the Reg. A Sheets) a 25% score bump (Takes the given score and multiply by 1.25 to get final posted score)

Rationale: Currently we give the judging panels the direction to be more relaxed with the numbers for this class and that can leave things up to judge interpretation, this new rule will allow them to stick to the sheets criteria and not give these groups scores in the 30's-40's

Additional Proposal #8: Create a Class for Scholastic Units between Sch. Reg. A and Sch. A Class. Whether this uses the Reg. A sheet or the A sheet is up for discussion at the directors meeting. Name of class dependent on sheet that gets utilized.

AMENDED: Class will be called Scholastic AA and will use the Scholastic A Sheet.

Rationale: The need for a growth class between these two classes has become increasingly evident over the past few seasons. The line between our current Sch. Reg. A class and Sch. A Class has become very blurred and this class will help all units in their growth and development as they progress through the classes.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second. **PASSED 14-0**

PROPOSAL #9:

No Performer can spend more than 3 seasons in a Novice Class Program.

Rationale: The point on the Novice class is to allow young staffs and young performers a class to develop their skills. Units who have been established long enough to have veteran members starting their 4th season should no longer be in this class. But this

rule does not prohibit feeder programs who still belong in the Novice class from remaining in this class.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

PROPOSAL RESCINDED BY AUTHOR.

PROPOSAL #10:

Adjust the Review/Reclassify process and scores as follows:

Automatic Review Score:

67.0 Week 1	68.5 Week 2	70.0 Week 3	71.5 Week 4
73.0 Week 5	74.5 Week 6	76.0 Week 7	77.5 Week 8
79.0 Week 9	80.5 Week 10	82.0 Week 11	83.5 Week 12

AMENDED: Review Scores for the new Scholastic AA Class will be 10-pts lower than above scale.

Week 1 is considered the first week of OIPA Contests (including Premiere) and the review number will increase weekly regardless if OIPA hosts a show on that week. Promotion process would include all guard classes regardless of whether or not the unit at OIPA Championships or in another circuit, unless a unit is attending WGI Worlds.

When a program hits a reclassification review score, the Education Director or their designee will confer with the Panel of the show the score was received as to that groups readiness for the next class. If a reclassification is needed, the timing of the teams move to the higher class will be determined by Education Director or their designee after conferring with team director.

End of Season Promotions: Units who reach the Review Score at Championships based on the above Weekly Review Numbers will be reviewed for promotion to next class the following season regardless if they have been reviewed during the season or not. If a Unit would like to be re-evaluated prior the start of the following season they may submit a video to the Education Director 3 Weeks prior of Week 1 to be reviewed by a selected panel of judges.

Rationale: Current System has become outdated an ineffective. This new system will better suit the circuit's needs.

Financial Impact: None

Submitted by: Chad Clum (Phoenix Independent)

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second; **PASSED13-0-1**

Proposal #11 (added at time of meeting):

Color guard and percussion units who join OIPA from out-of-state may pay annual membership dues and compete in two (2) circuit contests PLUS one WGI Regional to qualify for OIPA Circuit Championships. Out-of-state units NOT competing at a WGI

regional would still need to compete in three (3) circuit contests to qualify for Circuit Championships. Winds units, regardless of location, will remain at two (2) required OIPA contests to qualify for Circuit Championships regardless of location.

Rationale: several groups have expressed interest in attending OIPA contests and championships but are deterred by the 3-show requirement due to costs associated with travel and/or limitations for travelling out of state. This would lead to possible increase in units for OIPA.

Financial Impact: Increased annual membership dues.

Submitted by: Rob Ferguson

Discussion Opened; Motion to vote/second. **PASSED 19-0**

ELECTIONS:

President: **Chad Clum** **ELECTED** (Unopposed)

1st VP: **Stephanie Miller** **ELECTED**
Donnie Ross
Tim Martin
Thomas Sparling
Barry Artis

2nd VP: Thomas Sparling
Tim Martin **ELECTED**
Donnie Ross

Treasurer: Brian Sheehe Declined
Dave Wolfe Declined
Derek Wise Declined
Paul Miller
Julie Meyer **ELECTED**

Secretary: **Barry Artis** **ELECTED** (Unopposed)

At-Large: **Donnie Ross** **ELECTED**
Thomas Sparling **ELECTED**
Dan Meehan
Lauren Holloway **ELECTED**
Brian Sheehe
Paul Miller
Lisa Carbone

Meeting Adjourned at 2:05pm.