

Mid-York Color Guard Circuit
General Membership Meeting
New Hartford HS, New Hartford, NY
November 13, 2016

Minutes:

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:05PM.

II. **President's Report** – Ken Dining thanked all in attendance for coming to New Hartford on such a beautiful Fall afternoon. He offered congratulations to all involved with the recently completed NY Field Band Conference.

III. **Vice President's Report** – Scott Snell thanked everyone for their patience with the development of the upcoming show schedule. There are several shows that would benefit having more units at their show including 1/21-APW, 1/28-JE, 2/4-Albany, 2/18-Laurens, 2/25-Mohonasen, ¾-Johnstown, 3/11-Vestal. If you are booked into another show on those weekends and have availability to change, please contact Scott ASAP.

Show performance orders will be drawn the first week of December. Please remember any and all show changes with units at a show (adding into or pulling out of) must be handled through the VP, not individual show hosts. Please be aware there are penalties for pulling out of a show within 30 days of the show (4 weeks prior=\$100 penalty, 3 weeks prior=\$200, 2 weeks prior=\$300, 1 week prior=\$400). When the show schedule is released, please check it carefully in case changes are necessary for your unit.

****Please remember Unit Rosters are due to the VP no later than Jan. 1, 2017. Scholastic units need to submit a roster on school letterhead listing all student names, signed and dated by a School District Administrator. Independent units need to submit a roster listing a member names and birthdates, signed and dated by a Unit Administrator.****

IV. **Secretary's Report** – Jim Morton reminded all unit director or representatives to please be sure they were signed-in to the meeting. On behalf of the M-YCGC, a well deserved congratulations and round of applause was offered to the Shenendehowa Open members and staff on their 2016 WGI Gold Medal performance.

A spread sheet listing all applications, dues and show fees was distributed (attached). Please speak to Jim at the end of the meeting to update the status of your paperwork if your unit is not listed. The 2017 M-Y Scholarship application is posted on mycgc.org. Each unit is encouraged to submit 1 application for a graduating HS senior or current college student to be considered for a 2017 scholarship. The submission deadline is February 24, 2017.

V. **Old Business** –

1. M-Y and NECGC are still in conversation about a Circuit merger. It is the feeling the NECGC will have to dissolve, and then units apply for membership to the M-YCGC. There are other aspects that need to be discussed and polished up prior to completion.

2. New York WGI regional will be held at Auburn HS on 2/11/16 (same as Sherburne-Earlville and Victor shows). Please make every effort to participate or bring your students to watch the Regional competition.

3. In developing the 2017 M-Y show schedule, there was an unexpected weekend with no local shows. Larry Schmidt offered to move the CNS show from their normal scheduled weekend to the open weekend.

4. Trophies-It was decided at the March membership meeting that M-Y would no longer present trophies at individual show. A plaque for each unit will be purchased and show hosts will purchase small sticker plates with the show name, date, class and placement and presented in place of a trophy. The small plate will be attached (by each unit director) to their plaque after each show. At the end of the season each unit will have just 1 plaque showing placement from each show they attended during the season. Research was done over summer and the price of producing the individualized plaques for each unit was far greater than initially thought, as well as plaques that potentially will have just 2 or 3 shows listed. There was some discussion about solutions, a suggestion about using certificates for this season while more investigating was done. No decision was made, Ken will keep unit directors and show hosts updated as the season approaches.

5. The M-YCGC is no longer requiring units to submit music licensing information. The form has been removed from mycgc.org. Do not forward any music licensing to Ken.

6. Ken has asked the webmaster to remove dates from most of the forms posted on mycgc.org to make the more generic and usable year after year.

VI. New Business –

1. Shenendehowa was the only unit to submit a Championship Show bid. The 2017 Championship Show will be held at Shenendehowa HS on April 1, 2017. This year's Championship Show will be a 1 day format. There are currently 53 units registered for Championships. Approximate start times for each class are: Novice-9:30AM, ERA-9:55AM, Cadet-10:15AM, SRA-12:40PM, IRA-1:45PM, SA3-4:00PM, SA2-5:15PM, SA1-7:10PM, SO-8:07PM, IO and SW-8:27PM.

A discussion ensued about running a 2 weekend Championship Show with an RA Championships and an A, O, W Championships the following weekend. This would allow for much later start times for RA Units and earlier start times for A,O,W units. This would also allow schools with small gyms than CNS, ESM and Shen to possibly host an RA Championships. More discussion on the topic is forthcoming

2. New Units-6 new units have applied to the M-YCGC for 2017 including Arlington, Central-Square Cadet, Patriots Too, Rome JV, Victor JV and Union-Endicott Cubs. These units will become voting members of M-Y following their 3 competition with the Circuit.

3. Affiliation rules – The M-YCGC follows WGI guidelines regarding individuals affiliated with your group. If an individual designs, teaches, consults or otherwise helps with your program, they are considered affiliated. No individual affiliated with your group should judge your group during the season they are affiliated. If a NYFCJ judge is affiliated with your group, please contact Ken so he can communicate the information with the judge assigner.

4. Scholastic/Independent Recruitment – School aged students should be encouraged to participate with their own school unit before seeking membership with an independent unit. It is the M-YCGC's policy that Independent Units are not allowed to recruit high school students from a school that has an existing competitive program. There have been situations where individual from a HS with M-Y units have marched with independent groups, but only after all interested parties have been consulted. Christian DelMotte, Director of the Brigadiers, explained his detailed member contract, highlighting involvement by HS members.

5. Judge contracts for the 2017 competitive season are posted on mycgc.org. As soon as the final schedule is posted, show host should immediately complete and submit their contract. Do not forget this important contract!

6. There was some question whether M-Y would re-establish a staff pass for staff/floor crew members. It was decided that the Staff/Crew sign-in sheet was sufficient. Staff and crew members should check-in at the "unit member check-in" table at each show. At regular season shows, units are allowed up to 15 non-paying staff/crew members.

7. The Robert Morse Award nomination form is posted on mycgc.org. Each unit director is encouraged to submit a nomination the week prior to the Championship Show listing the unit they feel has improved the most throughout the season. As difficult as it is, unit directors should seek all opportunities to view as many units as they can throughout the season.

8. Hall of Fame – 1 HOF nomination has already been received for 2017. Please consider individuals, past or present, who have had a lasting impact on your group, or a group you belonged to, for nomination. A list of all members of the M-YCGC HOF is listed on mycgc.org.

9. Judge assignments – A dinner meeting was held between the M-Y, NECGC and NYFCJ Executive Boards was held in June to address judge assignments. The NYFCJ has a goal of initiating more in-house evaluation of scores and critiques week to week among their judges. Also, NYFCJ members who are also WGI judges have been schedule, and made commitments to judge at M-Y shows much earlier than usual. This will result in units competing at the national level will see these folks more throughout the season.

10. The annual Fall Clinic is for NYFCJ only this year and will be held at Victor HS on 11/19/16. If you are interested in attending, you can join the Federation at the clinic.

11. There are thr Executive Board opening com May 1, 2017 including VP (held by Scott Snell) and two Board seats (held by Andrew Graziano and Shannon Spaulding). If you are interested in filling one of these positions, contact Ken Dining. Voting will take place at the March 2017 meeting.

12 Other – 1. Proposition submitted by K. Dining-Current rules allow 1 exhibition prior to intermissions and one following. The proposal would allow show hosts with less than 13 competing units more than 1 exhibition before and after intermission. After a short discussion the proposal was called to vote: 29-yes, 0-no PASSES

2. Proposition submitted by Ken Dining: Current rules do not allow videotaping (Cell phone recording) or flash photography during unit performances. Proposal: Change rule to allow 1 pass will be given to each performing unit director to have an individual record their unit's performance in a dedicated area, to be used for educational

purposes only. A lengthy discussion followed outlining not only the danger of flashes or cellphone lights disrupting performers, but the potential legal ramifications to units if their shows end up on YouTube or other social media. The proposal was called to vote: 37-yes, 0-no PASSED

It was decided a universal statement, possibly containing legal language, will be developed for all show hosts to use in program books and signage.

3. Proposition submitted by K. Dining: Since using Competition Suite it has been common that show dialogue from judges is not properly coming to unit directors and individual judges have been giving unit directors permission to call them for discussion at a later time. Proposal: In the event where show dialogue is not received by a unit director, if ok with the judge, the director may call that judge to speak about their unit's performance at that particular show (only). It will be the judge's responsibility to contact the judge coordinator to let them know the outside-the-show contact is taking place. After a short discussion, the proposal was called to vote: 37-yes, 0-no PASSED.

4. Ken Dining reported he has been contacted by "Q" and alter Ego from NY and Trumbull from Ct about interest in attending M-YCGC shows. He doesn't have any other information at this time.

VII. Open Discussion – The Scholastics A Classes: a discussion of our current 3 tier Scholastic A class. Suggestions of a National A class be established for units competing at WGI Regionals and/or WGI Championships. Other A groups would compete together, or possibly a Local A class and a Novice A class be developed. It was also suggested all regional A and A units compete the first 1/3 of the season unclassified then placed into classes for the last 2/3 of the season. Further discussion on the subject will take place in the future.

Anyone in need of design help/suggestions, in need of costuming/flags/poles should consider reaching out to some of the established unit directors in the Circuit. They can be a wealth of information and resources!

VIII. Other – None

IX. Announcements – Phoenix will once again host a pre-season Preview show that will include several judges providing critique. Show do not have to be performed in completion or full costume. The opportunity for overall early season design commentary can be very beneficial to your units. Nick Gerhling will be sending out more information on the show in December.

The next meeting of the M-YCGC will be held March 5, 2017, 1:00PM at Shenendehowa HS.

X. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
James Morton, Secretary
M-YCGC