

Mid-York Color Guard Circuit
General Membership Meeting
Central Square Jr. High School
Central Square, New York

September 24, 2006

MINUTES:

Call to order 12:50PM

1. President's Report

President Daniel Jones began the meeting with a thank you to Andy and Tammy Graziano for hosting the meeting at Central Square Jr. High School. Mr. Jones then thanked Bruno Zuccala and Robert Reader for this morning's clinic. The clinic's focus was incorporating elements of your unit's basic technique program in developing and enhancing *choreography*. (Bruno pointed out that choreography is the new word to replace vocabulary on the newly developed and looking WGI score sheets.) Mr. Jones opened the floor to comments from the body regarding the clinic. Comments included:

- The Circuit must be mindful to videotape all clinics for future reference.
- I loved the emphasis on the relationship of equipment to body!
- All instructors need to emphasize that basics and technique blocks at the beginning of rehearsal is not just a "warm-up", but an important building block of success.

Mr. Jones reminded all show hosts that 2007 Championship Show bids are due by November 1, 2006. Please refer to the M-YCGC Manual or contact a previous host for the bid format and ideas. There was a concern raised that Nov. 1st is too late for bids to be submitted.

On the Championship issue, the Executive board is going to again start an initiative to find an independent site to hold championships, to be run by the circuit. If there is an appropriate venue in your community, please contact Dan.

A letter from a school superintendent was received stating his concern on the Circuit running the Championship Show on a Sunday. He feels the circuit should run the show in one day like the WGI regional held at CNS last year. The Exec. Bd. replied stating the championships are steered by the body of the circuit, who continues to support a two day format, however any host is welcome to submit a one day bid.

2. Vice President's Report

Vice President Scott Snell thanked all who have paid careful attention to the show pick deadline. He has been working hard with many unit directors to even out the 2007 competitive schedule. There are still a couple of weekends that need balancing. Mr. Snell went through the list and appealed once again for units to move into shows that

have not yet been filled. Much progress was made, and Scott thanked those that rearranged their schedules for their flexibility.

Mr. Snell announced that because of the streamlined schedule, many shows are much larger than normal. Please stay on top of your show scheduling. Although all M-YCGC Show retreats must start before 9PM, please consider earlier start times.

If you need to make any changes to your unit's competitive schedule, contact Scott ASAP. Keep in mind there are financial penalties for units that pull out of a show within 30 days of that show.

3. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Jim Morton thanked all unit directors for their diligence in communicating membership and payment/PO information to him. To date there are 56 units registered for the 2006/2007 season. Some unit directors have expressed concern that their school districts have only sent purchase orders and not a check. Mr. Morton explained that the purchase orders are contracts to pay. He will contact each director as the checks are received.

4. Old Business

4.1 2005 Championship report

Gibs Flock was not able to report on the 2006 Championship show, as he was on an out of town trip with his Marching Band. Many people spoke up on how successful the weekend went, and how very well organized the ESM Booster Group was for the Show. One concern was raised that a unit director was not allowed front side access to view a feeder guard's performance. It was explained that this was the policy of the Championship Show host. Communication with the show host in advance of the show is your best course of action for special requests.

4.2 2006 Competitive Calendar

Covered under V.P. Report. When the calendar is complete it will be issued.

4.3 M-YCGC Required Meeting Reps.

At the February 06 General Meeting a proposal passed requiring all unit directors to submit a list of people who may represent and or vote for a unit in the absence of the unit director. A form was issued (and will be attached to the bottom of these minutes). Please submit this form to Jim Morton (14 McMartin St., Johnstown, NY 12095) or e-mail a list before the November 19, 2006 meeting.

4.4 M-Y Director's Manual Update.

Jim Morton and Carrie Abate met over the summer to update the show host manual section of the M-YCGC Unit Director's Manual. It is geared toward the many new unit director's and show hosts in the Circuit, and a reminder/refresher for the veteran members.

4.5 Attendance at the NYFCJ Clinic.

A reminder that a M-YCGC Unit Director (or a specified unit representative) may receive credit for required clinic attendance by attending one of the two clinics offered by the Circuit or attending the annual NYFCJ clinic. (The next M-YCGC AND NYFCJ Clinic will be held on Nov. 19, 2006 at the George Eastman House in Rochester, featuring WGI Clinician Michael Gray.)

4.6 Other

none

5.0 New Business

5.1 Announcement/Introduction of New Units

Mr. Jones introduced the new units that have applied for membership to the M-YCGC. They include: ME-UE Sr., West Canada Valley HS, Binghamton HS, and Shenendehowa HS Novice.

5.2 2007 Championship Bids.

Mr. Jones again announced that bids to host the 2006 M-YCGC Championship Show must be sent to him by **November 1, 2006**.

5.3 2006/2007 Class Representatives

Class caucuses will be held at the November 19, 2006 meeting to elect Class Reps. Veteran unit directors are encouraged to consider serving as liaison to the Executive Committee for your class. Class reps also serve as the Circuit Review Committee for class changes of a unit during the season.

5.4 Unit Staff First Aid Training

Mr. Jones received a request for the Circuit to possibly provide some type of first aid training for unit staff members. Mr. Jones polled members present, and very few are required any type of such training by their school district or unit sponsor. Tom Miller (Saranac Lake Var. and JV) identified himself as a certified Red Cross First Aid instructor and offered his services to the Circuit. More information will be shared at the November meeting.

5.5 Balance of Classes

The uneven balance of classes at the 2006 Championship Show was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee last April. Because unit directors of the M-YCGC choose their competitive class and promotion scores are part of the Circuit by-laws, the Executive Board decided to wait until unit applications were received to address the issue. Due to promotion scores being achieved at the 2006 Championships, and self promotion, it is felt the classes are more evenly balanced than last year.

5.6 Combining M-YCGC and NYSPC Shows

With the number of competitive winter percussion ensembles growing within schools and programs that also have M-Y guard programs, can dual shows be run? At this time it is felt this would be an in house issue for booster groups that host both shows, but worth exploring as a Circuit in the future.

5.7 Show Recaps

Dan Jones made a proposal that:

M-YCGC Show Score Recaps will not be issued to unit directors until their unit has completed the post-contest judges meeting for the first half of the competitive season (Jan. 6th-Feb. 11th).

Rationale: It is felt that M-YCGC Directors and staff must focus on their own program, without comparison to other programs, during the early part of the season. Since unit directors already have their own scores prior to the Post-Contest Meeting, they have all information needed.

After a short discussion, the proposal was called to vote yes-11, no-27, abs-0.

The proposal was defeated.

5.8 Your Unit Members and Chat Rooms

School Districts are beginning to develop policies regarding the posting of inappropriate content and chat transmissions on the internet. Two units within the M-YCGC already have such policies in place (Laurens and Shenendehowa) and will share those policies with the Circuit for informational purposes.

5.9 Manual wording changes proposal

Scott Snell made three practices and procedure proposals:

1 Section B, Article 2 (2nd R. Morey)

In A, B, and C remove the language 2 Novice units will count as 1 unit in the show count.

Reason: With only running 2 shows a weekend at this point it really does not affect the Novice guards as much as it used to. We used to worry about Novice guards not having the money to travel so allowing them to have more freedom in shows with only counting as .5. That is not as much the case now.

After a short discussion the vote was called: yes-38, no-0, abs-0 **Passed.**

Item 2 Section B, Article 3 (2nd R. Morey)

D. Change the date for show picks being due to VP to September 1st. We have been using this date for a few years but do not have it officially changed in the manual.

Reason: This has worked well as it has given us a few weeks prior to the September meeting to work out problems with the schedule which has allowed us to have a schedule in place earlier so we can hand out show packets at the November meeting, thus saving the circuit money.

After a short discussion the vote was called: yes-39, no-0, abs-0 **Passed.**

Item 3 Section B, Article 3 (2nd B. Callard)

E. Change the wording to “When a show is “overbooked” on a 3 show weekend, the SHOW HOST will select seven (7) units and the Contest Coordinator/VP will select three (3) of the participating units in each Circuit contest from the list of applicants.”

Add a letter stating: “When a show is “overbooked” on a 2 show weekend, the SHOW HOST will select ten (10) units and the Contest Coordinator/VP will select five (5) of the participating units in each Circuit contest from the list of applicants.”

Reason: We need to be specific on 2 show weekends as well as 3 show weekends as both could occur in our schedule.

After a short discussion the vote was called: yes-39, no-0, abs-0 **Passed.**

5.10 Other
none

6.0 Announcements

6.1 The next meeting/clinic will take place on November 19, 2006 at 10AM at the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY. The M-YCGC Meeting will take place during the clinic lunch break (please pack a lunch). The clinician is Mr. Michael Gray, WGI Ensemble Analysis Caption Coordinator.

6.2 Other

Beth Wunderlich announced Laurens Jr. Jaguars are hosting a non-competitive clinic/performance opportunity on January 6, 2006. The format will be very educational and performer friendly. Each participating unit will be given a block of time to perform their program (complete or incomplete) in front of a panel of NYFCJ members who will verbally evaluate and work with the unit and staff on the early season development of the program. An exhibition performance of all participants will take place during the evening. Contact Scott Snell or Beth Wunderlich if you are interested in participating in this educational event.

Adjournment was at 2:05PM

Respectfully submitted 9/27/06
James Morton, Secretary, M-YCGC