

**Mid-York Color Guard Circuit**  
General Membership Meeting  
September 25, 2010  
Mt. Markham HS, West Winfield, NY

I. Call to order – M-YCGC President, Daniel Jones called the meeting to order at 1:20PM.

II. President's report – The President thanked CJ Abate and Michelle Inman for hosting this afternoon's meeting. Mr. Jones welcomed everyone and reminded everyone present to be sure they have signed-in. He congratulated all 2010 units on a successful competitive season and championship show. He said there were some issues with social media misconduct with M-YCGC personnel. The issues were with the appropriate individuals during last season. Mr. Jones warned, with the continued popularity of data phones and portable computers and Twitter and Facebook, all members to be careful and responsible for what is posted in regards to comments about the Circuit. He asked all unit directors to give student members and adults reminders about this throughout the season. Jones addressed the continued issue of unprofessional staff behavior in post-contest meetings. Know the criteria for the sheets you are discussing and how they relate to your program! Mr. Jones reminded all unit directors that a M-YCGC Show Host can no longer waive penalties at a show. The Chief Judge the only show official who can issue or waive a penalty. All facility issues (i.e.: single doors, over head obstructions, etc.) must be communicated to all participating units before the start of the contest. It was brought to the Executive Board's attention late in the summer that not all units who achieved a promotion score at the M-YCGC Championship Show were aware of their promotion. Each unit has since been notified. Mr. Jones announced an official letter from the Executive Board will be sent to any M-YCGC Unit promoted during any given season.

III. Vice president's report – M-YCGC Vice President Scott Snell thanked the membership for their patience with the release of the 2012 competitive schedule. He has to wait for the release of the WGI schedule which seems to get later every year. Mr. Snell reported there will be 3 "dual" (M-YCGC/NECGC) shows on the 2012 M-YCGC competitive calendar including; 1/14 Phoenix, 1/21 CNS and 2/11 Liverpool. Any M-Y Show Host interested in hosting a dual show must submit a request to the VP and the request must be approved by the Executive Board. Snell announced that there are 4 unbalanced weekends in the 2012 competitive calendar. He asked units currently booked into shows on these weekends to please consider moving to a different show so bumping procedures do not have to be invoked with the possibility of units sitting home if not selected to participate. The show hosts and weekends concerned include: Feb 11<sup>th</sup> (Laurens and Liverpool) 2 units needed to add into Laurens, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> (ESM and Oswego) 7 units needed to add into Oswego, March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Central Square and Mohonasen) 5 units needed to add into Mohonasen, March 24<sup>th</sup> (Albany and CNS) 10 units needed to add into Albany. Bumping procedures will be instituted at the November meeting. Any unit changes to a M-YCGC contest must be put in writing to the VP and approved by the Executive Board. If your unit has an emergency issue on the day of a contest, please contact the show host and the M-YCGC President. 2012 rosters are due to the VP by 1/1/2012.

IV. Treasurer/Secretary's report – M-YCGC Secretary/Treasurer, James Morton, reported a checking account balance of \$11,107.40. The balance does include the Scholarship funds that will be paid out to the 2011 winners in October. Mr. Morton reported the circuit is in the process of purchasing digital recorders to be used by judges at all M-YCGC sanctioned shows beginning in 2012. Morton polled the members present if they would prefer to receive their 2012 WGI Rulebook and Manual via email with a downloadable pdf, or the traditional hard-copy book. All but 3 present indicated they would prefer the downloadable version.

V. Old Business –

1. 2011 Championship Show – Scott Snell reported the Championship Committee at Shenendehowa felt the show was a success. He did not receive any negative feedback from circuit members.

2. 2011 Additional Show Host Fees – Mr. Morton reported several show hosts still had outstanding fees. The hosts have been contacted. He noted any show host that still had an outstanding fee by the November meeting would have their show removed from the 2012 competitive calendar.

3. Three Annual Meetings proposal (J. Morton, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Wert 3/6/11) – The proposal from our last General Membership Meeting was re-read and discussed. Several valid points for and against the additional meeting were presented. The proposal was called to a vote: 20 yes, 5 no, 0 abs. The proposal passed. The November meeting will be added back into the schedule and will take place on November 13, 2011 in an Eastern location.

4. By-Law/Policy Change proposal (S, Snell, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Tierney) – the proposal stating "any change to a M-YCGC By-Law or Policy cannot retroactively change a decision or ruling, only change future rulings or decisions". The proposal was opened for further discussion. After a short time the proposal was called to vote: 20 yes, 4 no, 0 abstain. The proposal passed

5. Premier Performance Show proposal (S. Bonney, 2<sup>nd</sup> G. Smith) – Mrs. Bonney withdrew her proposal.

6. Other – None

#### VI. New Business –

1. Digital Audio Update – Mr. Jones announced the M-YCGC is purchasing 14 digital audio recorders to be used by the judges at all M-YCGC contests beginning in January 2012. Depending on the exact model of recorder purchased, each M-YCGC unit will be responsible to purchase at least 6 recordable SD cards or micro SD cards that will be used to record judge commentary. They will also need a flash drive (also called thumb drive) that the SD card commentaries will be downloaded onto. Unit directors and staffs need to know they must have a USB device or SD card compatible device (laptop computer, some cell phones) with them at shows to listen to their commentaries prior to post-contest critiques. The process will be very similar to what is currently used by the Field Band Conference.

2. 2012 M-YCGC Hall of Fame Committee will remain the same as last year, including Ron Abate, Shannon Spaulding, Larry Schmidt and CJ Abate. The acceptance of nominations is ongoing. If you would like to join the committee, please contact Dan Jones.

3. 2012 Executive Board Elections – the term of President (D. Jones), Secretary/Treasurer (J. Morton), Executive Board Seats (A. Graziano and N. Dailey) will expire on 5/1/12 and are up for election at the March 2012 meeting.

4. M-YCGC Show Host Responsibilities – Mr. Jones receives many complaints throughout the competitive season regarding M-YCGC contests, the majority which can be avoided if show hosts follow the policies and procedures outlined in the M-YCGC Show Host Handbook. First and foremost, a show host packet must be sent to all units performing at your show, as well as the President, AT LEAST 2 weeks prior to the contest. These packets are very much used and relied upon! Please make sure your cafeteria/concession stand has enough food for late performers. When shows “run out” of food it can force units to have to stop on the road to eat, adding to travel time and more importantly cost! Please utilize polite and professional acting parent and adult volunteers at your show. You must provide the President a video containing the performance of every competing unit at your show the week following your show. The Secretary will be developing a M-YCGC Show Evaluation form that will be placed on mycgc.org prior to the start of the 2012 season.

5. 2011 Unit Promotions – Five M-YCGC Units achieved promotion scores at the 2011 Championship Show and will begin the 2012 season in their new class including: MEUE (from SA3 to SA2), Baldwinsville and Mohonasen (from SA2 to SA1) Amethyst Gold and Laurens (from SA1 to SO). Many congratulations to these units on their growth and success during the 2011 season.

6. Spectrum Color Guard Clinic – the following is an announce and note from Beth Calhoun:

The Spectrum Winter Guard is holding a "Spin Clinic" on Sunday, October 16th at New Hartford HS from 9:30 am-4:00 pm. Classes will be available in dance, flag, saber and rifle, and will be split up so skills at a variety of levels can be taught. Teachers at the clinic come from Spectrum and other top NYS guards and dance organizations.

Teachers for movement/dance will be: Mikey and Amber Perkins, Travis St. Denny, and Jessica Czachowski. This portion will include various stretching techniques, across the floor combinations and 2 movement classes; beginner and advanced. In the classes, they will learn an entire dance feature which will be performed in small groups at the end!

Teachers for equipment will be: Richard Proctor, David Bowen, Gordon Quackenbush, Tanya Thomas, Chris McCarthy, Tyler Stables, Kaitlyn Gullow and Beth Calhoun. During the first part of the equipment section, we will all concentrate on flag. Here we will talk about technique, and show a few ways to improve upon your own tech block. We will teach several new tosses and talk about how to teach them to your students, and end with an all flag feature routine, that we also will separate into small groups and perform.

When that is over, we will move on to the weapon portion. We will run a group technique class on both saber and rifle. Then we will split up into 4 groups. Beginner rifle, advanced rifle, beginner saber and advanced saber. Here they will continue to explore various tosses and techniques, as well as learning a routine written for their specific skill levels. Based on the schedule, students will only have time for one weapon class.

At the same time as the weapon portion, we will offer 2 other flag classes, an advanced class that will provide even more intricate flag tosses and more routines, and a flag class for those that want to continue working on the skills they have already been taught during the day. Here they can get one on one attention to help them master their craft!

Separate from the skills classes, Chris Calhoun will hold a show design class, and separate from the class, Chris will be available to listen to your show concepts and brainstorm ideas with individual designers.

The New Hartford boosters will be selling healthy snacks at the event, and both the New Hartford boosters and Spectrum will have flags and uniforms available for you to purchase for your organizations.

This is an event for students and instructors alike! Instructors can observe or feel free to participate in any of the skills classes. Cost to attend the event is \$15.00 per person if you pre-register, or \$20.00 at the door. For every 5 students who attend from one school/organization, one instructor can attend for free. For more information on how to pre-register, and other event details, please go to the Spectrum website at [www.spectrumwinterguard.org](http://www.spectrumwinterguard.org).

We hope that you can join us, and we look forward to seeing you to both learn and have some fun together!

7. 2012 M-YCGC Championship Show Host – Bids for the 2012 Championship Show are due to the President by Nov. 1, 2011. In following the Championship Show Host rotation of the past several years, this year's Championship Show would rotate to East Syracuse-Minoa. If a more competitive bid with an equally satisfactory facility is submitted by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, the Executive Committee will review each and make an announcement at the November meeting.

8. Other –

a. The NYFCJ, in collaboration with the M-YCGC and NECGC will host a judges and guard instructor clinic on November 20, 2011 at 10:00AM at the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY. Information on the clinic will be posted on mycgc.org.

b. A "Judge's Clinic" Day will be hosted by Phoenix Winter Guard at Phoenix HS on January 7, 2012. Units may participate presenting a complete or incomplete program and given NYFCJ judges feedback. More information will be posted on mycgc.org.

c. A proposal was made by the Executive Board (2<sup>nd</sup> Alison Zwart) to modify the rule that "every prop used in a unit performance must be taped or padded" to "only props that do not sit or move off of the unit's floor mat or are dragged onto and off of the performance floor must be taped or padded". It is felt that props that are carried in and out and sit on or are moved across a floor mat do not need to be additionally taped or padded. The proposal will be voted on at the November 13, 2011 meeting.

d. A proposal was made by Scott Snell (2<sup>nd</sup> D. Jones) the "Score recap sheets will not be distributed until the completion of the post contest critique meeting during the months of January and February". Mr. Snell feels it is important to focus on your own unit's performance when speaking to the judges at post contest meeting. Snell feels it will be a much more productive meeting during the developing weeks of the season not knowing sub-caption break-downs before the meeting. The proposal will be voted on at the November 13, 2011 meeting.

e. A proposal was made by Scott Snell (2<sup>nd</sup> J. Hilbert) for the M-YCGC to adopt the paperless (colored judge's sheet) Judging System currently used by WGI. The paperless system allows judges to hold and adjust scores over the course of several units rather than being trapped with their numbers, possibly creating convoluted or unrealistic profiles or neighborhoods. There was some discussion on the proposal. Discussion will be re-opened and voted on at the November meeting.

VII. Other

VIII. Announcements

1. The next meeting of the M-YCGC will be held on Nov. 13, 2011 at an Eastern location, 1PM
2. The Spectrum Color Guard Clinic will be held on October 16, 2011 at New Hartford HS, 9:30AM-4PM.
3. The NYFCJ Clinic will be held on Nov. 20, 2011 at the George Eastman House, 10AM.

IX. Closing – President Daniel Jones closed the meeting at 2:40PM

Respectfully submitted,  
James A. Morton, Secretary  
Mid-York Color Guard Circuit

