

**WINTER
GUARD &
PERCUSSION
of Oklahoma
Handbook**

Updated 11/02/2023
www.wgpoklahoma.org

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I. Organization, Purpose, and Affiliation

- A. The name of this organization shall be Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma (referred to as WGPO.)
- B. WGPO is a Circuit Partner of Winter Guard International (referred to as WGI).
- C. The mission of Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma is to provide young performers with a chance to display their unique skills in regulated competitions with their peers; to provide continual education to color guard, percussion, and/or winds instructors; and to promote growth of the indoor marching arts within the Oklahoma region.
- D. WGPO will function as a 501(c)(3) organization.

II. Officers and the Executive Board of Directors

- A. The elected officers of Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma shall be:
 - a. President- Two year term, elected in **ODD** years
 - b. Vice President- Two year term, elected in **EVEN** years\
 - c. Secretary- Two year term, elected in **EVEN** years
 - d. Treasurer- Two year term, elected in **ODD** years
 - e. Judges Coordinator- Two year term, elected in **ODD** years
 - f. Percussion/Wind Coordinator- Two year term, elected in **ODD** years
 - g. Education Director - Two year term, elected in **EVEN** years
- B. These officers shall form the WGPO Executive Board of Directors. Each officer shall receive one Executive Board vote unless they are representing a current circuit unit. Election of the officers shall be at a regular meeting following the WGPO Circuit Championships.
- C. The duties for each officer shall be:
 - a. The **President** shall:
 - i. Be the chief executive officer of Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma and shall preside over all meetings.
 - ii. He/she shall appoint committees and officers with the executive board's approval, and is the executive officer member of all standing committees.
 - iii. He/she shall oversee the representation of WGPO to other organizations (add footnote: OBA, OkMEA, OSSAA).
 - iv. He/she will serve as the primary circuit membership recruiter. Committees and special appointments (e. g. Appointed Officers) may be made by the President and approved by the Executive Board as needed to carry out the policies, decisions, and needs of the organization.
 - b. The **Vice President** shall
 - i. In absence of the President, preside at all meetings of this organization

- ii. The Vice-President shall also serve as scholarship coordinator. He/she shall serve as the primary contact for other organizations (add footnote: OBA, OkMEA, OSSAA).
 - iii. The Vice-President shall also perform such other duties as usually pertained to the office or those assigned to them by the President of the Executive Board.
- c. The **Secretary** shall:
 - i. Keep documentation of all meetings, and shall publish meeting notices and agendas prior to meetings.
 - ii. The Secretary of WGPO shall promptly certify to the Director of Winter Guard International the names and contact information of the newly elected officers.
 - iii. This person shall oversee all sources of communication for all correspondence concerning WGPO.
 - iv. The Secretary shall also perform such other duties as usually pertained to the office or those assigned to them by the President of the Executive Board.
- d. The **Treasurer** shall:
 - i. Present a budget to the Executive Board for the next fiscal year, collect all fees and monies, and disburse all monies as directed by the Executive Board and General Membership meetings.
 - ii. During his/her officer report at all general membership meetings the Treasurer shall present a detailed financial statement (footnote referencing a form) at the summer meeting and a budget proposal, with input from the Executive Board, for the upcoming season during the fall meeting.
 - iii. Maintain all records and reporting requirements necessary to maintain WGPO's 501(c)(3) status with the IRS.
 - iv. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as usually pertained to the office or those assigned to them by the President of the Executive Board.
- e. **The Judges' Coordinator** shall:
 - i. Assign color guard judges as needed for each contest.
 - ii. Provide local judges for contest panels.
 - iii. Provide WGI judges on the local contest panels when feasible and affordable in conjunction with the approved budget.
 - 1. Work in conjunction with the Treasurer to ensure that judges' travel costs are kept at a minimum.
 - 2. The Judges' Coordinator may NOT make any travel purchases without the expressed consent of the Executive Board.

3. When applicable, be on hand at each contest. If not, shall appoint a Chief Judge (delegate) in their absence to clarify any contest rules or regulations.
 - a. In the event that a Chief Judge is appointed for a contest, the Chief Judge shall:
 - i. Ensure all judges' materials necessary for the day's events are distributed.
 - ii. Be present in the stands and performance area to view as many of the guards as possible.
 - iii. Assign and adjust the judging panels as necessary due to travel problems or illness.
 - b. He/she will work in cooperation with the Color Guard Education Director and Percussion Coordinator on the education and training of prospective judges.
- f. The **Color Guard Education Director** shall:
 - i. Coordinate and oversee the education of the guard directors of WGPO.
 - ii. Organize and conduct various clinics throughout the year. This shall include, but not be limited to, design clinics, movement clinics, equipment clinics, etc
 - iii. Be on hand at each contest, or appoint a delegate in their absence, to clarify contest rules and regulations.
 - iv. Be in charge of general education for color guard instructors.
- g. The **Percussion Coordinator** shall:
 - i. Be the liaison between the executive board and all participating percussion units.
 - ii. Oversee all percussion contest issues.
 - iii. In collaboration with the Judges Coordinator, assign percussion judges as needed for contests where percussion units are competing.
 - iv. Be on hand at each contest, or appoint a delegate in their absence, to clarify contest rules and regulations.
 - v. Be in charge of education for percussion judges and instructors.
 - vi. Work in conjunction with the Treasurer to ensure that judges' travel costs are kept at a minimum.
 - vii. The Percussion Coordinator may NOT make any travel purchases without the expressed consent of the treasurer.
- D. The appointed officers of Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma shall be:
 - a. Parliamentarian: appointed as needed
 - b. Historian: appointed as needed
 - c. Marketing Director: appointed as needed

- d. Contest Director: appointed as needed
- E. Appointed officers shall not receive an Executive Board vote.
- F. The duties for each appointed officer shall be:
 - a. The **Parliamentarian** shall:
 - i. Ensure that all business meetings run in an orderly fashion
 - ii. The latest edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall be parliamentary authority of all matters specifically designated in this handbook.
 - b. The **Marketing Director(s)** shall:
 - i. Be responsible for promotion and marketing for the organization with guidance/support from the E-board. T
 - ii. The President shall serve as the liaison in all of these areas for assistance and guidance.
 - iii. Maintenance and use of WGPO logo/branding, as assisted by the Secretary
 - iv. Work with the WGPO Webmaster as to the Appearance/Image of the WGPO Website
 - v. Create all promotional materials/handouts pertaining to WGPO activities, as assisted by the Secretary
 - vi. Confirm/coordinate all media production (photos/video, etc.) pertaining to WGPO website and activities including Photo/Video contracts for championships.
 - vii. Attend OBA/OMEA conventions/meetings/clinics, as assisted by the Vice President
 - viii. Promotion of WGPO Judges and Instructors Clinics, as assisted by the Color Guard Education Director, Judges’ Coordinator and Percussion Coordinator
 - ix. Promotion of all events, with emphasis on WGPO championships, as assisted by Contest Director
 - x. Coordinate Championship Awards presentation ceremony, as assisted by the Vice President
 - xi. Create, implement, solicit, and manage all corporate sponsorships, as assisted by the Treasurer
 - c. The **Historian** shall
 - i. be responsible for documenting and maintaining the organization's history, as assisted by the Secretary. This position shall be a non-voting member of the Executive board and shall be appointed as needed by the active circuit President. The duties of the Historian include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ii. in collaboration with the WGPO Webmaster, ensure the website's archives are complete and up to date. This includes end of season awards, scholarship winners, and HOF inductees.
- iii. With the assistance of the E-Board and/or WGPO Hall of Fame members, locate historical photos and records to share on the WGPO website.
- iv. Work with the Marketing Director and Education Director to promote the understanding of the history of the organization among the current membership.
- v. Under the guidance of the Secretary, ensure an accurate and complete record of meeting minutes is maintained, making sure to highlight important events for the historical record (e. g. the establishment of new scholarships, new classifications, etc.)

G. The hired positions of Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma shall be

a. **The Contest Director: shall**

- i. be in charge of scheduling contest dates, setting performance schedules for all WGPO participants, and coordinating the solo/ensemble competition. He/she shall fulfill any and all duties as assigned in the Rules and Regulations Manual and those designated by WGI and the E-board. This office is to be appointed yearly by the Executive Board. The WGPO Contest Director is the link between WGPO, the Sponsor and the competing units during the contest season. Communication must be ongoing and equally open to every unit during the event. The duties of the WGPO Contest Director include, but are not limited, to the following:
 - 1. Serve as a source of information for units and sponsors.
 - 2. Maintain current awareness of rules and interpretations.
 - 3. Assure that all contests are run in a similar manner to benefit the units
 - 4. Assure competing units are aware of any conditions or problems that may arise at the area contests.
 - 5. Serve as an employee of the E-board and will not be a voting member of the E-board.
 - 6. Obtain permission from the E-board on all actions regarding the Contest Staff
 - 7. Bring all necessary Tabulation Table equipment for the day's events, which includes, but not limited to, computers, printers, and digital recorders.
 - 8. Appoint and schedule circuit Tablet Manager for each contest throughout the season.

9. Order and manage the circuit regulation plaques, banners and medals in cooperation with the circuit Treasurer.
 10. If the contest director is to be absent for a predetermined conflict or illness it is up to one of the E-board members to take over duties for the designated contest(s.) A fee of \$150 will be paid to the sub from the Contest Director's predetermined compensation package of \$4,000. The Contest Director must also fulfill his/her duties prior to the contest start time and date.
- H. Removal from office: Any officer may be removed from office for just cause by a vote of two-thirds of all members of the general membership. Whenever there appears to be sufficient cause for such action, the President shall give the said officer immediate notice of the situation. Consideration shall be given to the facts and reasons why the office should be declared vacant. The officer shall be afforded the opportunity at such time to explain or refute the allegations brought against him/her. In the event that the general membership finds that the alleged facts to be true, the general membership shall have the power to declare such office vacant.
- I. Vacancy of an office: In the event of vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall become President. In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the President will nominate a replacement, which is to then be approved by the Executive Board.
- J. The duties of the Executive Board shall be to manage the business and to determine the policies of the circuit; to determine the nature and content of color guard and percussion activities in conjunction with input received from competing units; to plan and pursue guard recruitment and development, to maintain an operating budget and oversee the disbursement of funds, and to perform other duties deemed necessary by the organization; not inconsistent with the ideals and objectives of Winter Guard International.

III. Membership

- A. WGPO Membership Fees will be:
- a. \$700 for the primary color guard unit AND primary percussion unit- due prior to the unit's first competition.
 - b. Any Oklahoma based guard or percussion unit that has not fielded a primary WGPO in the last 5 years (i.e. 2018-2022) or that have never fielded a primary winter unit can register for a full membership at a reduced price of \$500 for their first year.
 - c. Beyond any school or organization's first unit(s), a cost of \$400.00 for the second ensemble of the same nature, and \$300.00 for each additional unit of the same nature will apply.
- B. Deadlines
- a. Membership Fees/Forms will be accepted at the beginning of November

- b. Deadline for Registration will be December 6th. A late fee of \$100 will be assessed to any entry form postmarked or submitted online after December 6th.
 - c. The final day for registration will be December 20th.
 - d. All fees due must be paid in full prior to a unit's first performance. PO payments must be fulfilled via check prior to a unit's first performance (at the board's discretion).
- C. WGPO Membership benefits include:
- a. PDF copy of WGI Rule Book
 - b. Unlimited WGPO contest participation
 - c. WGPO Championship Entry
 - d. Voting Privileges at WGPO Circuit Meetings
 - e. Admission to WGPO Educational Clinics
 - f. All Circuit Correspondence
 - g. Access to Competition Suite throughout the season.
- D. A visiting unit (defined as any unit that is not a member of the WGPO circuit) may compete in any show sanctioned by WGPO, except Championships, for a fee of \$150.00 per show. They will be scored and ranked as any other unit, and receive appropriate awards. If a new, first-year unit wants to become a part of the Circuit after trying one show, they will be allowed to join the circuit late, and have the \$150.00 per show applied towards their membership dues. They will not be eligible for Championships unless all normal Circuit requirements are met.
- E. Non-member/visiting units may perform in exhibition at any WGPO sanctioned contest for a fee of \$100.00. Payment is due to WGPO prior to the contest.
- F. Dues for members of the WGPO Judges' Association will be 10% of the pay level. All judges that are members of WGPO Judges' Association will pay dues. WGPO Judges' Association dues include the annual purchase of a current WGI adjudication manual and WGPO Education/Training clinics. This amount will be deducted from the judge's first paycheck.
- a. WGI judges and judges that are members of other judges' associations do NOT need to pay these dues.
 - b. It is the Judges' Coordinator's responsibility to communicate with the Treasurer which judges are members of WGPO Judges' Association, and which judges maintain membership with other Judges' Associations.
- G. Independent Member Units must provide a certificate of insurance from an insurance group or school district, listing WGPO as an additional insured. Deadline for all insurance documentation will be January 15th. Units will not be allowed to compete until proof of insurance has been received. This requirement is only applicable for independent units. All scholastic units are exempt from these insurance requirements.

- H. WGPO Circuit Membership participation extends to groups in Oklahoma and all surrounding states.
- I. Annual WGPO Membership and Single Contest Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE once submitted. The following exceptions apply:
 - a. Withdraw from the circuit no later than 30 days before the unit's first scheduled competition – 100% refund.
 - b. Withdraw from the circuit no later than 30 days before the unit's second scheduled competition – 50% refund.
 - c. Withdraw from a single contest no later than 30 days before the unit's scheduled competition – 100% refund.”

IV. Meetings and Seminars

- A. All scheduled meetings shall consist of the following order: (1) Call to order, (2) Roll Call, (3) Correspondence, (4) Officer Reports, (5) Executive Board Report, (6) Old Business, (7) New Business, (8) Announcements, and (9) Adjournment.
- B. The official membership shall consist of one representative from each member guard or percussion unit in good standing.
- C. The WGPO Circuit Meetings will be:
 - a. The fall meeting will be held during the (2nd) Sunday in September.
 - b. The summer meeting and workshop will be held on a Saturday in June following the WGI Advisory Board Meeting.
 - c. Winter meetings may be held AS NEEDED during the regular WGPO competitive season. ***Exact locations and times will be e-mailed along with meeting reminders at least one week prior to the meeting. This information will also be posted on the website.
- D. A quorum shall consist of 25% of those units active and in good standing with Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma
- E. If a Circuit member cannot attend the Circuit meeting, a proxy vote may be given to another Circuit member that will be in attendance at the meeting. However, each attending person may only bring the proxy votes of ONE school in addition to his or her own vote(s). The unit director requesting a proxy must submit all proxy votes in writing to the secretary.

V. Revenues

- A. The fiscal year for WGPO, (the period of time membership is valid before fees must be paid again), shall extend from July 1st, to June 30th.
- B. Revenue may be derived from other resources in such a manner as may be determined by the Executive Board. Any lottery, raffle, drawing, or games of chance so approved, must not contradict any laws, customs, or traditions of the country, state or county in which the

fundraising activity is to be held. The organization shall not directly or indirectly engage in any activity, which may reflect unfavorably on the good name of WGPO or WGI.

VI. WGPO Scholarships

- A. WGPO is pleased to offer a number of scholarship opportunities to its participants who could benefit from financial aid in the pursuit of higher education, continuing education and participation in the Marching Arts. All scholarships are 1-time awards, and a new recipient will be selected each year. Recipients will be acknowledged at the massing of WGPO Circuit Championships.
- B. Scholarship Award Review Process - The WGPO Vice President will review all applications and recommend the top five (5) candidates for final consideration to the Scholarship Committee consisting of the Executive Board (Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Judges Coordinator, Director of Education, and Percussion Coordinator) minus the President, and five (5) volunteers from current unit directors/assistant directors or techs. In the case of a draw between two (2) candidates, the WGPO President will select the winner.
- C. **Sport of the Arts Scholarship** - awarded to applicant(s) who wishes to participate in a WGPO unit within the state of Oklahoma but may not be able to participate due to financial constraints. Scholarship monies will be sent directly to the WGPO unit. WGPO will award a minimum of \$250 one time scholarship to at minimum to one (1) Candidate.
 - a. Eligibility Requirements: Student must be an active member of a WGPO competing unit for the current season
 - b. Application: Application to be emailed to WGPO Vice President at vicepresident@wgpoklahoma.org by February 20th at 11:59 pm central time:
 - c. Letter of Need from the guard director, band director or school representative addressing the candidates need for financial assistance to continue participation in their unit.
- D. **Higher Education Scholarship** - awarded to an outstanding applicants(s) attending college, university, or vocational school in the summer or fall following the current season WGPO Championships. Scholarship monies will be sent directly to the higher education institution of the scholarship awardees. WGPO will award at minimum \$1000 one time scholarships at minimum to two (2) candidates.
 - a. Eligibility Requirements:
 - i. current high schools seniors Or students currently attending college, university or vocational school
 - ii. Active member of a WGPO competing unit for the current season
 - b. Application to be emailed to WGPO Vice President at vicepresident@wgpoklahoma.org by March 20th at 11:59 pm central time:

- c. 500+ word essay response to “How has participation in Winter Guard Percussion/Winds affected my life?” Please include the following in your essay.
 - i. *Academic progress*: includes grade point average, class load, challenges that you've overcome in your academic endeavors.
 - ii. *Extracurricular activities*: Including all specific scholastic, recreational and civic activities. Please identify specific roles, accomplishments, and responsibilities for these activities. Include the number of seasons (color guard, percussion, winter guard, or winter percussion).
 - iii. *Future plans*: What are your plans and goals for post-high school education, both in academics and career focus. Where do you want to be in five years?
 - iv. 2 Letters of Recommendation from non-family member.
 - v. Current High-Res Photo
- E. **Marching Arts Scholarship** - awarded to help pay corps member dues while the recipient participates in any of the Drum Corp International (DCI) member corps during the summer season following WGPO Championships. Scholarship monies will be sent directly to the DCI unit of the scholarship awardees. WGPO will award at minimum \$500 one time scholarship at minimum to one (1) candidate.
 - a. Eligibility Requirement
 - i. Application to be emailed to WGPO Vice President at vicepresident@wgpoklahoma.org by March 20th at 11:59 pm central time:
 - ii. 500+ word essay response to “How has participation in WinterGuard/ Percussion/Winds affected my life? How will I carry these experiences into the rest of my life?” Please include the following in your essay:
 - 1. *Financials*: Total financial responsibility for your DCI season, including DCI fees, transportation costs, additional expenses.
 - iii. Copy of your DCI contract
 - iv. 2 Letters of Recommendation from non-family members
 - v. Current High-Res Photo
- F. **Director Continuous Education Scholarship** - awarded to help pay professional development fees while the recipient participates in any professional development or training. Please note: Recipients will be required to present to the full membership about their time and things they learned at the training. Scholarship monies will be sent directly to the professional development organization of the scholarship awardees. WGPO will award, at minimum, a \$500 one time scholarship at minimum to one (1) candidate.
 - a. Eligibility Requirements:
 - i. current head director, assistant director, or tech of a WGPO competing unit for the current season.

- ii. Application to be emailed to WGPO Vice President at vicepresident@wgpoklahoma.org by March 20th at 11:59 pm central time:
 - 1. Name, email, and phone number
 - 2. Professional Development event you would like to attend, total cost, location, dates, purpose of the training and why you want to attend.
 - 3. Current High-Res Photo (of you coaching would be amazing)

VII. Hall of Fame

A. Purpose

- a. The mission of the Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma Hall of Fame is to honor excellence and preserve our evolving history
- b. The WGPO Hall of Fame was formed to recognize the individuals in the winter color guard and winter percussion activity whose extraordinary efforts and accomplishments have enhanced the WGPO organization, broadened the appeal of these activities and whose lives and accomplishments serve to inspire, educate, and be role models for all those who participate in WGPO
- c. The WGPO Hall of Fame ceremony is hosted annually at the WGPO Circuit Championships to honor individuals that have achieved the highest level of success and admiration by the entire activity

B. Background

- a. The WGPO Hall of Fame was established in 2023 by the WGPO Executive Board of Directors

C. Responsibility

- a. The WGPO Hall of Fame Committee is responsible for the award, with the support of the WGPO Vice President. This Committee will consist of the WGPO Director of Education (odd numbered years), Percussion Coordinator (even numbered years), Secretary, and Judges' Coordinator along with three active WGPO members chosen at the annual WGPO Fall membership meeting. When applicable, Hall of Fame Members may serve as advisors to the committee.

D. Criteria

- a. The WGPO Hall of Fame recognizes individuals in the winter guard or winter percussion activities that have contributed most significantly to the standards and direction of WGPO. Selection to the WGPO Hall of Fame can be achieved as a designer, a director or other administrative position, an adjudicator, a WGPO employee, or as a volunteer. The following criteria will be used when evaluating potential Hall of Fame members:
 - i. DESIGNERS/INSTRUCTORS
 - 1. Meritorious contributions
 - 2. Influence on WGPO

3. Depth and length of service
4. Program Success
5. Role in WGPO educational programs and committees
6. Service to the WGPO Executive Board of Directors
- ii. ADMINISTRATIVE & GROUP DIRECTORS
 1. Meritorious contribution
 2. Influence on WGPO
 3. Depth and length of service
 4. Program Success
 5. Role in WGPO educational programs and committees
 6. Service to the WGPO Executive Board of Directors
- iii. ADJUDICATORS
 1. Meritorious contributions
 2. Influence on WGPO
 3. Depth and length of service
 4. Success in design or improvement of judging system
 5. Role in WGPO educational programs and committees
 6. Service to the WGPO Executive Board of Directors
- iv. WGPO VOLUNTEERS
 1. Meritorious contributions
 2. Influence on WGPO
 3. Depth and length of service
 4. Support to WGPO in all areas
- v. WGPO EMPLOYEES
 1. Meritorious contributions
 2. Influence on WGPO
 3. Depth and length of service
 4. Support to WGPO in all areas
 5. Success in program development
- b. While listed in several areas of criteria, it should be noted that length of service should be combined with other areas of achievement for an individual to be considered for selection to the WGPO Hall of Fame. Individuals should be evaluated through time for their achievements. It is important to consider only the merits of the criteria.

E. *Selection Process*

- a. Up to three (3) individuals will be added to the Hall of Fame in any year
- b. The names of persons who are nominated for election, but who are not elected to join the Hall of Fame, shall not be disclosed at any time to any person (including those who are nominated) other than to members of the WGPO Hall of Fame

Committee and WGPO Executive Board Members. No member of the WGPO Hall of Fame Committee or any other person shall disclose to any person how any member of the Selection Committee voted on the election of any candidate (including the details of the balloting)

- c. Voters will be asked to rank the candidates in their order of preference. The three individuals with the lowest total scores will be elected to the WGPO Hall of Fame

F. *Voting*

- a. All members of the WGPO Hall of Fame and sitting members of the Executive Board of Directors have voting rights in all elections. If a person is a member of both, they may only vote once
 - i. Only complete ballots will be considered
 - ii. After the WGPO Hall of Fame Committee has completed all balloting for election into the Hall of Fame, the President of the WGPO Executive Board of Directors or an alternate person designated by the Executive Board shall then release the names of those elected for general publication
 - iii. When a person is honored as a Hall of Fame Member, the name of such person shall be duly certified by the Secretary of WGPO Executive Board of Directors for official enrollment into WGPO Hall of Fame Membership and all necessary action shall be taken for induction of such person at the next Annual Induction Ceremony

G. Ceremony

- a. Recognition of each year's recipients will occur at WGPO Circuit Championships

VIII. Incorporation

- A. If permitted by state, provincial, or national law, Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma may incorporate as a non-profit organization.

IX. Disciplinary Action

- A. All Participating units in WGPO must abide by the WGPO Code of Conduct: "One of the hallmarks of our activity is to promote good sportsmanship. WGPO believes that our participating members learn good sportsmanship from their fellow members of the activity including directors, staff, judges, family, and friends. The positive, professional and competitive environment that WGPO strives to create cannot exist without good sportsmanship by all WGPO participants. We must lead by example. It is the responsibility of the adults in this activity to teach and stress good sportsmanship to students. Good sportsmanship should occur in warm-up, during performance, and retreat. It should also occur in critique, in the stands, on social media, and in all communication between staff and judges. We (instructors and judges) must all remember to adhere to the Code of Ethics set by Winter Guard International."

- B. Competitive units displaying unsportsmanlike conduct may be subject to sanctions by the WGPO Executive Board. Some examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include:
 - a. Offensive language exclaimed by performers at a contest.
 - b. Unprofessional behavior during massing
 - c. Booing performers, judges, or fans during score announcements.
 - d. Inflammatory or derogatory posts on social media
 - e. Making derogatory comments or yelling at a judge at any time.
 - f. Vandalism of any kind on school property
- C. Sanctions for unsportsmanlike conduct may include: an official written warning, removal from critique, suspension of the winter guard for a certain time, or forfeiture of a title of ranking as determined by the WGPO Executive Board. Units will be held financially liable for any destruction of school property (accidental or purposeful) committed by any person(s) associated with that unit. (Staff, student, or parent).
- D. Signs and noisemakers (e. g., air horns, vuvuzelas, whistles) are not permitted in the gym during performances, unless sanctioned by WGPO.

X. Changes or Additions to the WGPO Handbook

- A. These Rules and Regulations should be reviewed annually. An amendment procedure requires a TWO-THIRDS vote of those present at any regular meeting. Copies of the Handbook should be distributed to all members of the organization annually or when changes occur.
- B. The Rules and Regulations in the most recently updated WGPO Handbook supersede any other document that pertains to the circuit.
- C. Any proposed changes to the handbook must be presented at the June membership meeting.
- D. Any member having new business to present to the membership must submit the proposal in writing to the Circuit President one-month prior to the June meeting. The proposal must be distributed to the membership two weeks prior to the meeting in order for the proposal to be discussed. Unscheduled proposals will not be discussed at WGPO meetings.
- E. Any Rules or Regulations not explicitly addressed in this document shall be those established by Winter Guard International.

XI. Adoption of WGI Rules and Regulations

- A. WGPO has adopted the WINTER GUARD INTERNATIONAL rules and regulations for its contest rules, code of ethics, competition procedures, definitions of eligibility, and adjudication standards. The WGI rules shall work in conjunction with the WGPO rules and regulations. WGPO will utilize the score sheets and judging standards established by WGI.

- B. After becoming a member of WGPO, all units will receive a copy of the WGI Guard or Percussion Rule Book and agree to abide by these rules, regulations and procedures. It is the responsibility of the member units to be knowledgeable of the contents of the WGPO Handbook, the WGI Adjudication Manual and Rule Book, The WGI Procedure Manual and communicate these contents to staff members, performers and supporters.

XII. Contest Host Applications

- A. WGPO will schedule shows to help offset travel distances for all units who participate. The WGPO Executive Board will make every effort to rotate show sites each weekend between different parts of the state as needed (Oklahoma City area vs. Tulsa area, or eastern Oklahoma vs. western Oklahoma).
- B. WGPO sanctioned contests are sponsored by member units. Members can apply to sponsor a contest by fully completing an application and returning it, along with the site information requested, by the deadline specified by WGPO. All units requesting to host a contest must be a WGPO member with no outstanding debt to WGPO or WGI and have a competing unit during the season they wish to host the contest. The WGPO executive board reserves the right to visit any contest site prior to final scheduling of the contest season. The WGPO Executive Board reserves the right to suspend this rule to ensure a full competitive season.
- C. Units that return their application first and meet all of the requirements will be given first consideration.
 - a. A tentative contest schedule will be presented at the Summer WGPO Circuit Meeting
 - b. Any changes and/or additions to the show schedule will not be made after December 1st.
 - c. Contest sponsors shall pay a sponsorship/administrative fee according to the number of guards that attend the contest. This fee will be invoiced the day of the contest at a rate of \$35 per unit competing. Contest sponsor fees (Including Championships sponsor fees) are due no later than 30 days after the date of their contest. A late fee of \$100 will be assessed for payment made after 30 days. Late payment may result in a contest host forfeited their right to host a WGPO sanctioned contest in the following season
- D. Applicants must include all information requested on the contest host application in order to be considered. WGPO reserves the right to visit any and all potential contest hosts in order to ensure that the best facilities for our activity are chosen each season.
- E. Regular Season Contest Hosts must provide the following:
 - a. Provide a 60'x90' performance area along with a 10' "safety zone" border around the performance area, this should not include walkways for spectators. Preference will be given to sites that have an open performance area.

- b. Provide a BLACK performance floor covering an 60' X 90' (or larger) area. This must be approved by the Contest Director prior to the contest date.
 - i. The contest host may provide their own BLACK floor covering or they may choose to use the circuit regulation floor for a \$100 fee.
 - ii. Any unit utilizing the circuit regulation tarp must...
 - 1. Pick up the circuit regulation floor from the previous competition site on their side of the state (ex: East/West).
 - 2. Communicate with other hosts in order to easily facilitate the transportation of the circuit floor.
 - 3. Fold the circuit regulation floor appropriately and ensure it is safe for transportation by the next unit.
 - iii. Coordinate with the WGPO Vice President and Contest Director to secure all WGPO regulation plaques for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each class
 - iv. Provide a working sound system that is equipped with the capability to use external devices such as MP3 players and/or iPods. A variable speed adjustment is a plus but not required. An experienced individual with adult supervision is needed to operate said system. A back-up sound system should be available.
 - v. Provide an adult to be the announcer. This person should have experience based on the needs of this position.
 - vi. Provide dressing facilities for all performers that shall be separate from the public restrooms
 - vii. Provide a "Directors' Hospitality Room"
 - viii. Provide a "Judges' Hospitality Room/Area for critique" separate from the "Directors' Hospitality Room." The Judges' Hospitality must be equipped with adequate food for the length of the day's activities. The food source must not be limited to Contest Concessions. If the contest lasts later than 7pm, a fresh dinner for the judges and WGPO contest staff must be provided.
 - ix. Provide "Warm-up A and B" for guard combined Body and Equipment warm-up(if applicable). Provide two (2) inclement weather "Warm-up Areas" for percussion. There should be no steps or doorposts between "Warm-up Areas" and "Performance Area" for percussion. Outdoor percussion warm-up areas are first come, first served.
 - x. Provide prop/equipment storage area (CANNOT be in ANY Warm-Up Area unless it is clearly separated by some kind of partition in order to avoid distraction for competing units.). It is recommended that Host provide a separate storage area for guard & percussion.

- xi. Provide a first aid station and someone to administer first aid if necessary.
- xii. For contests that include percussion, provide a grounded 110 volt outlet centered on the front and back of the performance floor
- xiii. Contest Booth
 - 1. The contest host will be allowed to sell souvenir items at contests.
 - a. Units wishing to sell items at any contest they are not hosting must coordinate that with the contest host prior to the contest day.
 - 2. Other units must be allowed to sell their merchandise.
 - 3. Non-hosting units must pay a \$25 booth rental fee to the contest host.
- xiv. Provide all workers necessary:
 - 1. Gate
 - 2. Unit check-in
 - 3. Two Judge runners that will remain in the judges' area at all times of the contest day
 - 4. Time monitors for warm-up areas
 - 5. Ushers to keep spectators out of judging areas and keep people from moving around during performances.
 - 6. Extra workers to offer direction in order to keep things running smoothly
 - 7. The contest host must have a building engineer on duty during the event to control all structural, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing issues.
 - 8. A designated adult who is capable of picking up judges from their local hotel and returning them after the conclusion of the contest day. The Contest Host must coordinate with the Judges' Coordinator, Percussion Coordinator (if hosting a percussion contest), and the WGPO Contest Director in order to ensure a smooth experience for judges. This transportation is not the Judges Coordinator's responsibility.
- xv. WGPO reserves the right to do a contest site walkthrough at least 1 hour prior to the start time of any contest. This will be at the sole discretion of the WGPO Contest Director.

F. WGPO shall provide the following for all sanctioned contests:

- a. Judges Coordinator, Percussion Coordinator, Certified Judges, Contest Director, and Competition Suite.
- b. All judges' sheets and digital recorders.
- c. Liability Insurance for all performing, floor crew, and staff members at the event.

- d. In addition to these provisions, in the event that there is any property damage to the Contest Host's facilities, WGPO will ensure that the responsible parties will be held financially responsible for any and all damage committed accidentally and purposefully.
 - e. WGPO will also ensure that any units that do not perform at the sanctioned event without a seven (7) day written notice will pay the Contest Host a \$100.00 cancellation fee.
 - f. Unit spiel sheets and musical selections through Competition Suite (via WGPO iPad or laptop)
- G. WGPO Circuit Championships:
- a. The site for the Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma Circuit Championships shall be determined through a bid process. Prospective host sites should submit a bid at the annual summer meeting. The Executive Board will meet to consider each of the proposed sites and submit a recommendation at the annual fall meeting. The final decision will be by a vote by the membership at the fall meeting. In order to qualify to host the championships, the prospective host should have hosted a previous circuit contest and be a member of the current competitive season.
 - b. The bid from each prospective site should include: Facilities (map of arena and warmup areas), sound system, support staff, accommodations, restaurants, and seating capacity of the arena.
 - c. The WGPO Circuit Championships host site should also be responsible for programs, and T-shirts (the host school/site would receive profit from these items.) WGPO shall provide trophies, banners and medals (when financially possible.)
 - d. The host site of Circuit Championships shall submit to the WGPO Treasurer a check for 50% of the gate revenue and is due no later than 30 days after the WGPO Championship contest.
- H. Contest Admission Fees
- a. The price of admission for the WGPO Season Preview shall be \$8 per person with children under the age of 5 being admitted for free.
 - b. The price of admission for all regular season WGPO contests shall be \$10 per adult and children under the age of 5 will be admitted for free.
 - c. The price of admission for the WGPO Circuit Championships shall be \$15 per person with children under the age of 5 being admitted for free.
- I. Contest Hosts must include a letter signed by the site principal or school administrator guaranteeing that specified facilities are available and that there will be no other conflicting events scheduled in the facility during the WGPO event.

XIII. Contest Procedures

- A. Contests should follow WGPO standard format:
 - a. All regular season contests shall begin at 12:00 p.m., and the order of performance is at the discretion of the Contest Director. If performances take place after 7pm, with regularly scheduled breaks, it is up to the Contest Director (with approval of the WGPO executive board) to move performance start times as early as 9am
 - b. Unit performance times will be by a draw and done as per the Circuit Manager Registration site.
 - c. If necessary, prelims/finals format will be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Board.
 - d. The WGPO Contest Director shall facilitate the scheduling of units.
 - e. Units performing at WGPO contests shall not be required to perform before the time stated in the latest schedule published by WGPO, no later than the Thursday prior to the contest. If a unit arrives late to a competition and does not check in with enough time to perform at their regularly scheduled time, then the Contest Director shall decide if the unit may perform competitively or in exhibition only at that contest.
- B. Unit directors must verify the following before every contest:
 - a. Unit music track has been uploaded to Competition Suite (music must be uploaded no later than the Thursday before the competition at 11:59pm CST.)
 - b. Unit spiel sheet should be up-to-date on Competition Suite and any other pertinent information submitted no later than the Thursday before the competition at 11:59pm CST.
- C. Marching members plus TEN (10) will be admitted free. All others must pay admission. This includes equipment crew, instructors, parents, designers, etc. as defined per WGI manual. School administrators will be allowed one (1) free pass with a valid OSSAA Pass.
- D. All guard/percussion equipment/props will be taken to the assigned storage area. Make sure to keep equipment neatly stacked in the areas provided. The contest host will assign dressing rooms. Performers may NOT use restrooms designated as public restrooms as changing rooms. Storage areas are a privilege – be prepared to store equipment, props, and belongings in your transport vehicle(s) if necessary.
- E. All units must be ready to perform at the assigned time.
- F. All equipment will be inspected for proper taping and padding prior to warm-up. This includes any props that come in contact with the floor of the performance area. Please refer to the WGI manual for more details.

- G. Warm-up time shall be twice the maximum authorized prop time set for each class by WGI. The way in which this warm-up time is divided is at the sole discretion of the contest director.
- H. All regular performance contests after the conclusion of Segment 1 will conduct "Captains Only" retreat ceremonies. "Full" retreat ceremony will only occur at WGPO Circuit Championships.
- I. Circuit Championship Seeding: Performance order will be determined by the following procedures;
 - a. All units will be seeded for Circuit Championships using their most recent contest score increased by 1.5 points each week of the regular contest calendar.
 - b. Once units are sorted, with the highest score performing last, classes will be divided into groups of three for a random draw. All units must be included in the random draw. If necessary, classes may be divided into groups of three and two to ensure all units are included in the random draw. For example, a class with 7 units would be divided into groups of 3, 2, and 2. Color guards with identical scores will be randomly assigned to a sorting group.
 - c. Any unit competing in a WGI regional during the third segment of the WGPO contest calendar can substitute their score for Circuit Championship seeding.
 - d. The contest director will be responsible for determining Circuit Championship seeding. The Circuit Championship schedule will be made available on the official WGPO website by midnight, the day following the last contest scheduled in the third segment.
- J. Awards will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for all classes (except Middle School and Novice) at all contests that take place after the conclusion of Segment 1. In the event of a tie, Olympic trophy standards will apply. For example, if there is a tie for first place in a class, the next highest score would receive the THIRD place trophy. (There would be NO second place award in this instance). Awards for circuit championships will be determined by the contest director with the consideration for class champion medals, banners, and the current financial situation of the organization. Middle School units will receive a certificate at each contest they participate in and those units that receive a superior rating at the Circuit Championships will receive a superior rating plaque.
- K. Disqualification Procedure: In the event of a unit being disqualified or denied performance, the Timing & Penalties Judge and the Contest Director must be in agreement. The Judges' Coordinator will be the tie-breaker if necessary in the instance of a split-decision. The contest director will be responsible for informing the unit in question as soon as the decision has been made.
- L. "Judges' Critique" shall be offered at the local level for all WGPO sanctioned regular season contests with the following conditions:

- a. All unit directors wishing to participate in critique MUST sign up for a critique time online via the link provided on www.wgpoklahoma.org by 9:00pm CST on the Friday before the contest. Exceptions may be made in extreme circumstances at the discretion of the Executive Board.
 - b. All unit directors wishing to participate in critique MUST listen to their judges' tapes PRIOR to meeting with a judge for critique.
 - c. Critique shall begin 15 minutes after the last competing group and will run in an orderly fashion as directed by T&P judge.
 - d. Guard Critique shall be three (3) minutes per table: Equipment/Movement, Design Analysis, General Effect. The Timing and Penalty Judge will start the timer when all participants are seated and allow sufficient time to travel between the captions.
 - e. All unit directors wishing to participate in critique MUST attend WGPO directors'/judges' training or complete the WGPO online training and pass the training assessment prior to attending critique. Training must include Timing & Penalty specific training.
 - f. Color guard groups are to have no more than three (3) representatives per unit in critique.
 - g. The offering of critique on extended contest days will be left to the discretion of the Executive Board. Critique will always be offered at the 1st trimester contests, regardless of contest length.
- M. Percussion critique shall be five (5) minutes per caption for a total of fifteen (15) minutes.
- a. Critique is not required, but highly recommended for all units.
 - b. The offering of critique on extended contest days will be left to the discretion of the Executive Board. Critique will always be offered at the 1st trimester contests, regardless of contest length.
 - c. Percussion groups are to have no more than three (3) representatives per unit in critique
- N. Any group of students not otherwise participating in WGPO shall be admitted to any contest for \$2.00 per person when accompanied by a teacher/instructor. This shall be known as a 'group discount admission', which applies only to non-members of the circuit. The teacher/instructor shall notify the Contest Director of their intent to bring a group of students to a contest at least 1 (one) week prior to the event. The group must arrive at the Spectator Entrance together accompanied by the teacher/instructor and admission fees should be paid preferably at one time by the teacher/instructor. During the contest, the announcer should welcome the student group to the audience.
- O. Music may only be used during the last half of each unit's scheduled warm-up time in a shared space at a reasonable/respectable volume

XIV. Video Recording and Photography Policies

- A. There is to be no video recording of any WGPO competitive event. No video cameras will be allowed in any contest venue and no authorized space will be provided for groups to record their performance.
- B. Any liability associated with unauthorized recordings will rest with the individual or organization making the recording. WGPO does not condone, nor accept any liability for, any unauthorized recordings.
- C. No video passes will be issued
- D. In order to protect the safety of our performers, absolutely NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY is allowed during any performance. Anyone that violates this policy may be asked to leave an event without a refund of entry fee. Photography without flash is acceptable.
- E. Unit Directors, Instructors, Designers, and Managers are strongly encouraged to help inform their members' family and friends of this policy.

XV. Cancellation Policy

- A. If a unit withdraws from a contest, it must do so at least seven (7) days prior to the contest. The Contest Director must be notified via email at wgpokla@gmail.com.
- B. Late withdrawals will be charged a penalty of \$100.00. This fee must be paid to the contest host before the unit will be allowed to compete again.
- C. In the case of extreme circumstances, the WGPO executive board may decide to waive the late fee.
- D. A contest/show will be canceled if no more than twelve (12) units are participating. The Contest Director will notify the host site to allow them to campaign for more units for AT LEAST one week. If no more units enter, the contest will be canceled. The Contest Director will notify the host site one week following the entry deadline if the contest is in jeopardy.
- E. If a contest is cancelled (and will not be rescheduled at a site on the same side of the state) after the season has begun (i.e. after the preview contest), units that were scheduled to perform at the cancelled contest should be given credit for attending that contest and not required to attend another contest in its place. Their scores from the remaining contests in the season will be averaged out for placement at Championships.

XVI. Eligibility

- A. Winter Guard or Percussion units should be composed of members not over the age of twenty-two (22) as of 12:01AM on May 1st. This age rule applies to all units except those entered in Independent World Class. Independent World Class may compete with members of any age.

- B. All students residing within a school district may compete with a scholastic color guard or percussion ensemble as long as the principal of the sponsoring school approves their participation.
- C. Each scholastic unit **MUST** comply with eligibility requirements set forth by its respective activities association and school district.
- D. No guard member may perform in more than one (1) winter guard from the same sponsoring organization. Please note that WGI rules will apply if your unit is performing at a WGI Regional Contest. Performers and directors should be aware of any state or local activities association’s rules, which may not allow this.
- E. No color guard unit may perform with less than five (5) or more than forty (50) members on the floor of competition at any time, including commanding officer(s). This does not apply to the Middle School Class, as there is no member limit in the middle school class.
- F. Percussion units do not have any restrictions in regards to the number of performers
- G. For guard units, the use of recorded music and/or live musical instruments is optional. Proficiency of playing shall not be judged. Musicians’ ages and eligibility must be consistent with WGPO rules.
- H. Independent units may not utilize membership from a high school that has an established competitive winter guard or percussion program that was a WGPO member the previous year without the expressed written consent of a Parent/Legal Guardian. A copy of the written and signed release must be kept on file by the unit with which the member performs and WGPO. All release forms will be due at the time the Independent group registers.
- I. Timing for each classification shall be as follows:

Color Guard Times:

Classification	Interval Time	Minimum Performance Time	Maximum Performance Time	Authorized Equipment Time
Middle School	7 minutes	2.5 minutes	3.5 minutes	2.5 minutes
Novice. SRB, SRA, IRA	7 minutes	3 minutes	4.5 minutes	3.0 minutes
SB, SA, IA	8 minutes	3.5 minutes	5.5 minutes	3.5 minutes
Open	9 minutes	4 minutes	6.5 minutes	3.5 minutes
World	10	4 minutes	7.5 minutes	3.5 minutes

	minutes			
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Percussion Times:

Classification	Interval Time	Minimum Performance Time	Maximum Performance Time
Scholastic Regional Concert	9 Minutes	2.5 Minutes	6 Minutes
B Class, A Class	9 Minutes	4 Minutes	6 Minutes
Open	10 Minutes	4 Minutes	7 Minutes
World	11 minutes	4 minutes	8 minutes

J. For any questions regarding eligibility not addressed in this section, please refer to the WGI adjudication manual.

XVII. Eligibility to Compete in WGPO Circuit Championships

- A. WGPO shall facilitate a “Preview Show” and six (6) regular season contests beginning on the third, fourth or fifth Saturday in January (at the discretion of the Contest Director) and continue until WGPO circuit championships.
- B. The “Preview Show” shall be a non-judged event and will not be required. The WGPO Judges Association shall use this event as judges’ training for local judges (judges may be paid mileage for this event.) Any unit seeking reclassification from the previous season **MUST attend this event.**
- C. The six regular season contests shall be divided as follows:
 - a. Segment 1: two contests , no penalties to be given
 - b. Segment 2: two contests
 - c. Segment 3: two contests
 - d. To be eligible to compete in WGPO Circuit Championships, each guard unit must compete in AT LEAST one contest per Segment for a total of at least three contests.”
- D. One (1) WGI Regional score may be substituted for ONE (1) regular season contest score.
- E. Percussion groups are required to attend two (2) contests throughout the season as they are offered in order to be eligible to attend championships. They are not required to attend a contest in each Segment as percussion contests are not made available each week as they are for guards.

- F. Units in middle school classification will only be required to perform in two contests during the second and third segments to be eligible for circuit championships.

XVIII. Solo and Ensemble Competition

- A. Color Guard/Winter Guard performers are eligible to compete in WGPO solo and ensemble contests regardless of circuit affiliation.
- B. All entry forms and fees must be postmarked 15 days prior to the scheduled Solo and Ensemble contest date. No late entries will be accepted. All fees must be turned in with the entry forms.
- C. Classifications for Solo & Ensemble Contest will be as follows: Middle School Solo/Duet/Ensemble, Scholastic Solo/Duet/Ensemble & Independent Solo/Duet/Ensemble.
- D. Outstanding soloists and ensembles are invited and encouraged to perform during the Circuit Championships. This will be scheduled by the Contest Director.
- E. The judging panel will consist of an Effect Judge, Equipment Judge and Movement Judge. Each judge will score the competitor with a I (Superior) through V (Poor) rating, with Olympic scoring. Scoring for all solos and ensembles will be based upon correct and consistent completion of various fundamentals and standards for each level of classification. As the levels of achievement and completed standards increase, the possible score criteria will increase as well.
- F. Performance time shall be a minimum of 1 minute and a maximum of 2 minutes.
- G. A student may enter a maximum of three (3) events. No person may perform on like equipment or in any like solo or ensemble. Example: A student may perform a solo on rifle and a solo on flag but not a solo on rifle and a solo with mixed rifle and flag equipment.
- H. All equipment used must be padded. Hard sole shoes must also be padded
- I. Music must be provided on a mp3 player or CD. If an mp3 player is used, then the unit must provide a representative to operate the device during the performance.
- J. Fee: Solos - \$15.00; Ensemble - \$10.00 per member. Solo and Ensemble entry MUST be completed online 15 days prior to the scheduled event.
- K. The WGPO Executive Board will have the final decision on all matters regarding solo and ensemble.

XIX. Unit Classification

- A. The WGPO classification strategy has one main goal: “Provide a consistent and fair grouping of units achieving at a similar level while encouraging their development”
- B. This goal can be met by doing the following:
 - a. Provide unit management and staff with clear descriptions of the qualities of performing ensembles in each class.

- b. Provide incentives for performing ensembles to move into the higher levels of classification.
 - c. Provide mechanisms for the circuit to ensure consistent and fair groupings.
 - d. Provide an appeal process for performing ensembles that feel they are unfairly classed.
- C. When units are deciding a classification they must consider the following WGPO policy:
- a. Each unit chooses their own classification at the start of each season.
 - i. If the director does not know what classification their unit belongs in, they will place the unit in the generic "Regional" or "Scholastic" classification when registering. That unit **MUST** appear at the preview show for classification. If the unit cannot attend the Preview show, video of the unit's performance must be submitted to the circuit before the date of the Preview Show.
- D. Classification in WGPO will consist of the following divisions, each reflecting a stage in the learning process: "Discovering, Exploring, Knowing and Applying".
- E. A returning unit requesting to be moved down in classification must compete in the same class as the previous season at the Preview Show, and then must send a letter to the Executive Board requesting to be moved down.
- F. **GUARD CLASSIFICATIONS:**
- a. **Middle School Class:** This class is restricted to units with members attending junior high/middle school and all from the same school district (Units with members from multiple junior highs within a district will be accepted). It is recognized that Middle School Class is designed for training for younger members, and exposure to the Winter Guard activity. Units will not be eligible for reclassification from within this classification. This class will be judged on a rating system rather than a ranking system (I = Superior, II = Excellent, III = Good, IV = Fair, V = Poor). Ratings will reflect the following:
 - i. Division I (Superior) A first rate performance for the event and the class of participants being judged. A top performance, with few technical errors exemplifying a truly excellent expression. Worthy of the distinction of being recognized as being among the best.
 - ii. Division II (Excellent or Above Average) An unusual performance in many respects but not worthy of the highest rating due to minor defects in performance or ineffective interpretation. A commendable performance showing a high standard of musical accomplishment.
 - iii. Division III (Good or Average) An average performance lacking in many essentials, skills, training, precision, expression, etc. The performance shows accomplishment and marked promise.

- iv. Division IV (Fair or Below Average) Below AVERAGE performance and not worthy of a higher rating because of basic weakness in most of the fundamental factors. Performances suggest lack of training or rehearsal time and a need for greater emphasis on fundamentals.
- v. Division V -- (Poor) An ineffective performance indicating major deficiencies in quality, training, skills, and musical expression. The fundamentals of a good performance need careful attention. The director or student should check his methods, training, etc. with those of a more mature organization. This performance has major problems and has much room for improvement.

b. Novice Class Unit

- i. Members must attend high schools in the same school district.
- ii. Unit members must be either in their first or second year of participation of the director/instructor is in their very first year teaching guard, not their first year at a new school teaching guard. They must be a beans-new teacher/director
- iii. This classification aims to take units from the beginning fundamental steps towards participation in Scholastic Regional Classes.
- iv. They will be judged using the Scholastic Regional A sheet from WGI and will receive both scores so that they are made aware of their future placement or ranking in SRB/SRA when they are reclassified or for the next season.
- v. The eboard and color guard review committee will decide all scoring changes and rubrics when appropriate or needed.

c. Scholastic Regional B Class

- i. Unit members must attend schools from the same school district.
- ii. The purpose of this classification is to take units through the intermediate steps towards the participation in Scholastic Classes.
- iii. This class will be judged on a Regional A sheet.

d. Scholastic Regional A Class:

- i. Unit members must attend schools from the same school district.
- ii. The purpose of this classification is to take units through the final steps towards participation in the "Scholastic B" class. This class will be judged on a Regional A sheet.

e. Independent Regional A Class:

- i. Every member must not attend the same school. This class is for a competitive Regional A unit which is not ready for the demands of the A Class sheet.

- ii. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI “Regional A Class” criteria.

G. For ALL units judged on a Regional A sheet: (SRB, SRA, and IRA) Equipment and movement will focus on the training and achievement of the basic skills. Tosses use a limited variety of release and catch points and typically take place from a stationary position. Weapons will usually toss no higher than a triple. Dimensionality is limited and phrases are often very short (16 to 24 counts) with much built in recovery time. Movement is mostly demonstrated by moving from place to place with a good range of gestural qualities being demonstrated. There is usage of simple turns and leaps and performers occasionally explore level changes around the body. Performers should demonstrate good examples of body awareness (posture, line, shape, weight) with very little change in dynamic qualities. Ensemble Analysis will display a beginning level of artistic effort that focuses on clear staging of the elements, logical progression of ideas (horizontal orchestration) and the basic use of the design elements. The triad is never completely used with elements most often being presented singularly and occasionally presented two at a time. In General Effect, the concept and intent should be clear, consistent and moderately developed. Ideas should move successfully from one to another and the intent of the concept is not totally dependent on the role of the performers. Performer role, character and emotional development is evident but at a basic level with minimal changes.

a. Scholastic B Class

- i. This classification is the intermediate level of Class A competition.
- ii. Unit members must attend the same school district.
- iii. Members and instructors in the class have shown their experience as seasoned performers or directors at the intermediate level and are ready for more advanced involvement in the activity.
- iv. This class will be judged on a Class A sheet.

b. Scholastic A Class

- i. This classification is the highest level of competition in Class A.
- ii. Unit members must attend the same school district.
- iii. Members and instructors in this class have shown their experience as seasoned performers or directors at the advanced level and are ready to be compared with all WGI Scholastic A guards.
- iv. This class will be judged on a Class A sheet.

c. Independent A Class

- i. Units in this classification must meet all WGI requirements regarding A Class and Independent membership.
- ii. Units in this class will be competing, and compared with the WGI Independent A guards.

- iii. This class will be judged on a Class A sheet.
 - d. **Scholastic Open Class**
 - i. Students range in age from 14 to 18 years.
 - ii. Unlike the SA guards, these groups have a stronger personality and are not similar to one another.
 - iii. Depth of training and skills are consistent to one another, and are more challenging.
 - iv. Most groups are not as physically mature as their counterparts in Independent Open. However, their programs are often freshly unique and original.
 - v. This class will be judged on the WGI Open class sheet
 - e. **Independent Open Class**
 - f. Units in this classification must meet all WGI requirements regarding Open Class and Independent membership.
 - g. Units in this class will be competing, and compared with the WGI Independent Open guards.
 - h. This class will be judged on the WGI Open class sheet.
- H. PERCUSSION CLASSIFICATIONS: (All percussion classifications may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) units in each classification.)
- a. **Marching Classification**
 - i. **Scholastic Marching Middle School Class**
 - 1. All members attend the same Middle school or feeder Middle school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria.
 - ii. **Scholastic Marching B Class**
 - 1. All members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria.
 - iii. **Scholastic/Independent Marching A Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. WGI age limit for Independent groups applies.
 - 3. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria.
 - iv. **Scholastic/Independent Marching Open Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. WGI age limit for Independent groups applies.
 - 3. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "Open Class" criteria

- v. **Scholastic/Independent Marching World Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. WGI age limit for Independent groups applies.
 - 3. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "World Class" criteria.
- b. **Concert Classification**
 - i. **Scholastic Concert Middle School Class**
 - 1. All members attend the same Middle school or feeder Middle school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria.
 - ii. **Scholastic Concert A Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "A Class" criteria.
 - iii. **Scholastic Concert Open Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "Open Class" criteria.
 - iv. **Scholastic Concert World Class**
 - 1. All Scholastic members attend the same school or feeder school.
 - 2. Units competing in this classification will be judged using the WGI "World Class" criteria.

XX. Rules Applying to Reclassification

- A. In the competitive season (excluding championships), reclassification, appeals from reclassification, and requests for reassignment must be made NO LATER THAN 15 days prior to Circuit Championships.
- B. Reclassification
 - a. A unit placing first, second, or third in Regional A at WGPO Circuit Championships is promoted to the Scholastic class for the following season. Any unit that is promoted at the end of a competitive season MUST compete at that higher classification for at least the Preview Show during the following season.
 - b. A unit will be promoted to the next higher classification of competition if 3 of 5 judges assign that unit a score that is equal to or greater than the designated reclassification score for the week. The effect of the reclassification is notification by the Judges' Coordinator and/or Contest Director at Critique or via email by 11:59pm on Sunday following the contest.
 - c. Reclassification scores will be published on the circuit's website, www.wgpoklahoma.org.

- C. Any unit, so promoted, may choose to appeal that reclassification so that it may remain in its current classification.
- D. The Color Guard Classification Review Committee will consist of the Executive Board of the circuit (excluding the Percussion Coordinator) and three elected unit representatives. The unit representative will be elected by the Circuit membership at the fall meeting, serve a one year term, and must be a color guard unit director in good standing with the circuit.
- E. The Percussion Classification Review Committee will consist of the Executive Board of the circuit (excluding the Color Guard Judges' Coordinator) and three elected unit representatives. The unit representatives will be elected by the Circuit membership at the fall meeting, serve a one-year term, and must be a percussion unit director in good standing with the circuit.
- F. The appealing unit will provide video of the performance earning the reclassification scores to each member of the review committee. The video must be emailed to wgpokla@gmail.com no later than Wednesday 11:59pm of the week following the contest at which the reclassification scores were earned. The appealing unit's director may not have any other contact with the classification review committee. This prohibition extends to any member, associate, or representative of the appealing unit. By the following Friday at 11:59am, the review committee is to review the video, confer, and report their decision to the contest director and to the judges' coordinator/percussion coordinator. The Contest Director or Secretary will report decisions to the appealing unit's director.
- G. Request for Reassignment to a lower classification: Should a director find his/her unit is in a higher classification than appropriate for his/her group, the director may request reassignment to a lower classification. The director and unit may seek reassignment only once during the competitive season, and may not seek reassignment if the unit has met the criteria for reclassification as previously outlined.
- H. Timing and Procedure for Requesting Reassignment: To seek reassignment to a lower classification, the director must make a formal request to the contest director and judges' coordinator/percussion coordinator. Procedures for reviewing the request follow approximately the same steps and timeline indicated for reclassification. The classification review committee will be the same as listed above. If a quorum of the review committee is present, the contest director will inform the unit director that videos of the unit's most recent performance are not required. The contest director will convene the committee who will review the request for reassignment. If a quorum of the review committee is not present, then the appealing unit is responsible for providing video of the unit's most recent competition performance to the WGPO Review Committee via the WGPO email address. The video must be emailed no later than Wednesday at 11:59pm of the week following the contest at which the reclassification scores were earned. The

requesting unit's director may not have any other contact with the classification review committee; this prohibition extends to any member, associate, or representative of the appealing unit. By the following Friday at 11:59am, the review committee is to review the video, confer, and report their decision to the appealing unit's director, to the contest director, and to the judges' coordinator/percussion coordinator. The Contest Director or Secretary will report the Review Committee's decision to the appealing unit's director. The decision of the review committee is final and takes effect immediately, and will be implemented at the next competition in which the appealing unit is entered.

- I. If necessary, timing requirement issues due to movement between classes will be addressed by the E-Board on an individual basis.

XXI. WGPO Judges' Association

- A. The Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma Judging Association (WGPOJA) operates as a part of the circuit and plan to fulfill all requirements to become bona fide by WGI.
- B. Anyone judging any WGPO show must hold credentials with WGPOJA, WGI, or a judges association, which is currently bona fide by WGI.
- C. The WGPOJA Advisory Committee will consist of: The Color Guard Judges' Coordinator, the Percussion Coordinator, the Guard Education Director, the appointed Color Guard Representative, and the appointed Percussion Representative. The committee will report to the WGPO Executive Board.
- D. The Judges' Coordinator, the Director of Education, and the Percussion Coordinator will be responsible for recruiting and the training of judges. They will set the curriculum and organize training sessions for the Circuit's judges. They will keep all records pertaining to training and will report to the WGPO E-board.
- E. Instructors may judge, except in the class in which they have an affiliation. They must join the judges' association, make all required training sessions, and complete the workbook in the appropriate caption.