

Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma

Fall Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2025

Call to Order

President **Nicole Bayliss** called the fall membership meeting to order at **1:09 p.m.** She outlined the meeting agenda, which included officer reports, WGI updates, and new business discussions. Members were reminded to complete the attendance form and update their Band App biographies with school affiliations.

Michael Clark (Zephyrus & Jenks) inquired about proxy voting procedures, and WGPO confirmed that all proxies had been properly handled prior to the meeting.

Roll Call

Roll was taken, and proxies were accounted for by **Boss Richards**, Secretary.

Officers Present:

- **Nicole Bayliss** – President
- **Angel Clark** – Vice President
- **Casey Noel** – Treasurer
- **Boss Richards** – Secretary
- **Jeremy Ball** – Judges' Coordinator
- **Adam Wiencken** – Percussion Coordinator
- **Kristina Cobler** – Director of Education
- **Kyle Myers** – Contest Director

Officers Absent:

- **Marketing Director** – Absent
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Units Present:

- **Rebekah Henderson** – Del City Middle School and High School
- **Sandra Coleman** – Adair High School and Middle School
- **Sherri Stewart** – Okarche High School
- **Becky Freeman** – Pryor High School
- **Benjamin Spreiter** – Catoosa High School and Junior High
- **Lauren Showman** – Coweta Varsity & JV
- **Annette Shaw** – Chickasha High School
- **Hailie Eaves** – Carl Albert High School and Middle School
- **Adam Wiencken** – Broken Arrow High School Percussion
- **Randy Buckner** – Stilwell High School
- **Ashley Hackler** – Checotah (3 Guards and 1 Percussion)
- **Benjamin Spreiter** – Verdigris High School
- **Manny Ruiz** – Mustang Middle School, JV, Varsity
- **Nicole Allen** – Cleveland High School
- **Christian Morse** – Piedmont Indoor Percussion
- **Ryan Denny** – Southmoore High School
- **Nicole Bayliss** – WGPO President

- **Manny Ruiz** – Westmoore JV, Varsity, and Middle School
- **Jessica Tinsley** – Broken Arrow HS Winter Guard / Broken Arrow MS Winter Guard
- **Manny Ruiz** – Carl Albert High School and Middle School
- **Casey Noel** – Haskell
- **Dawson Leffingwell** – Muskogee Varsity and Muskogee Junior Varsity
- **Bruce Hulsopple** – Yukon Middle School, Yukon JV, Yukon Varsity
- **Morgan Replinger** – Piedmont Winter Guard
- **Emily Eary** – Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU)
- **Adrienne Gaddy** – Owasso
- **Abby Ferguson** – Skiatook High School
- **Vordi** – Putnam City Schools
- **Kaydyn** – Shawnee
- **Kristina Cobler** – Chouteau
- **Kayla Wood** – Oologah

Proxies:

- **Michael Clark** – Zephyrus Winter Guard
 - **Jenks Varsity** (proxy)
 - **Jenks JV** (proxy)
 - **Jenks Middle School** (proxy)
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Board Reports

President – Nicole Bayliss

Ms. Bayliss delivered key updates from the **WGI Circuit Partner Symposium**, noting:

- The **Independent Open** class for color guard increased to 25 members.
 - **Body-only warm-up penalties** outside designated times were removed.
 - Groups are now required to **announce strobe lighting effects** in performances.
 - For percussion, WGI emphasized **power distribution safety**, avoiding power strips, and ensuring **proper grounding** for equipment.
 - WGI is exploring **carpet decking** at the UD Arena.
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Vice President – Angel Clark

Ms. Clark discussed the **Director Scholarship Award**, presented to **Lauren Fort**, who attended the **Music for All Summer Symposium**. She praised the symposium's sessions on director wellness and marching health and encouraged continued investment in educational opportunities for staff and directors.

Treasurer – Casey Noel

Mr. Noel presented the **proposed 2026 budget**, highlighting allocations for judging fees, airfare, and hotels. The budget also included funding for required attendance at the WGI Circuit Partner Symposium.

He reported that the circuit remains in strong financial standing, with membership size and participation levels exceeding those of comparable circuits nationwide.

Secretary – Boss Richards

Boss Richards summarized the **minutes from the previous summer meeting**, which included financial updates, officer elections, and the approval of color guard and percussion coordinators.

A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by **Casey Noel** and seconded by **Michael Clark (Zephyrus & Jenks)**. The motion carried unanimously.

Judges' Coordinator – Jeremy Ball

Mr. Ball reported that the **guard judges roster** has expanded to approximately **30 judges**, allowing greater adjudication diversity and professional development.

He plans to ensure that semi-final panels include judges with prior WGPO experience and at least one first-read judge on finals panels to prepare ensembles for WGI-level adjudication.

Percussion Coordinator – Adam Wiencken

Mr. Wiencken noted that **percussion judge assignments** for upcoming WGI regionals are expected soon and that panels will be finalized rapidly once received.

He confirmed continued **cross-over adjudication** opportunities between guard and percussion.

Director of Education – Kristina Cobler

Ms. Cobler reported on WGI safety, training, and circuit development initiatives. She highlighted WGI's emphasis on participant protection and circuit accountability, sharing updates on required training and background checks for staff by 2028.

She also discussed feedback from the WGI Partner Symposium regarding local implementation of safety procedures, advising that new volunteer training and host safety requirements will be introduced this season.

Contest Director – Kyle Myers

Mr. Myers reviewed the **2026 season schedule**, including:

- **Preview Show** at Cleveland High School
- **Regional Contests** hosted at various Oklahoma sites
- **State Qualifiers and Middle School Novice Championships** at Union and Mustang High Schools

He requested a host for the **February 21 guard-only show** (preferably on the west side) and mentioned outreach to Deer Creek as a potential host.

Mr. Myers outlined **new contest protocols**:

- Separate areas for **campsites and spectators**

- **Checkpoint areas** with badge verification
 - Enhanced **safety measures** for students and staff
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Marketing Director – Absent

No report provided.

Old Business

Badge Policy Amendment

Treasurer **Casey Noel** introduced a revised **badge proposal**. Two named badges will be issued per registration, one for the director and one for the assistant director, aligning with WGI and other circuits' safety standards.

Additional staff members will be covered under the “**marching members plus ten**” wristband rule. Units with multiple ensembles will receive ten additional wristbands per unit registered.

Motion carried following discussion and clarification by **Boss Richards**, Secretary.

New Business

Wristband Policy Clarification

Mr. Noel clarified that each unit will receive:

- **Two front access wristbands** (director/assistant)
- **Eight back sideline wristbands** for staff

This mirrors WGI's current practice.

Manuel Ruiz suggested additional front access wristbands for band directors, but Mr. Noel reiterated that these are placeholders for badges.

Badge Issuance Confirmation

Two badges per registration will be issued to the **director and assistant director** listed on the official registration form. Units with multiple registrations may receive up to four named badges.

Proposal Six, which previously allowed the purchase of additional badges, was amended to

limit badges to two per registration, with further needs fulfilled through wristbands.

After discussion, the **amended Proposal Six passed with 48 votes in favor and 4 opposed.**

Voting Procedures

Ms. Bayliss reminded attendees without a competing unit in the prior season to **abstain from voting.**

Boss Richards instructed voters to include their **name, unit, and proxy** on their forms for accurate tallying.

Ashley Hackler clarified that all color guard and percussion programs from the same school should cast a single consolidated vote.

Action Items

Tarp Sourcing and Quotes

Mr. Noel presented comparative **tarp quotes** for circuit use:

- **Flash Visuals:** 70x100, 18oz vinyl, approx. **\$15,000** (including shipping).
- **Drill Comp:** 50x70, 8oz, two required, approx. **\$7,000** (including shipping).
- **Billboard Tarps:** 20oz vinyl, **\$3,100** + \$605 shipping.

Kristina Cobler explained that Billboard Tarps repurpose old billboards, offering affordability but heavier weight.

Kyle Myers expressed concern over the 20oz tarp's weight, suggesting a split tarp configuration to ease transport while maintaining floor protection.

Consensus was reached to further evaluate tarp options before final purchase.

WGI Safety and Training Protocols

Ms. Cobler elaborated on WGI's new **safety initiatives**, including:

- **WGI Studio** for member training access.
- **Participant protection webinars** for staff.
- Circuit-level background check requirements to be implemented by **2028**, extending to all units regardless of WGI affiliation.

Staff are encouraged to collaborate during virtual sessions due to limited capacity.

Adjournment

With no further business, the **Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma Fall Meeting** adjourned at **2:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Boss Richards

Secretary

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