WINTER GUARD & PERCUSSION of Oklahoma

Contest Rules and Procedures Manual

Updated Summer 2026

www.wgpoklahoma.org

I. Contest Host Applications

A. Preview Show and Regular Season Contest

1. Location
    a) 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) to help offset travel distances for all units.
2. WGPO sanctioned contests are hosted by member units.
3. Members can apply to host a contest by completing the following by the deadline specified by WGPO:
    a) Application Form
    b) The site information requested
    c) Applicants must include all information requested on the contest host application in order to be considered.
4. WGPO Executive Board 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.
5. All units requesting to host a contest must:
    a) Be a WGPO member with no outstanding debt to WGPO or WGI
    b) Have a competing unit during the season they wish to host the contest.
6. Units that return their application first and meet all of the requirements will be given first consideration.
7. Preference will be given to sites that have an open performance area.
8. A tentative contest schedule will be presented at the Summer WGPO Circuit Meeting
    a) Any changes and/or additions to the show schedule will not be made after December 1st.
        (1) This rule may be suspended in emergent cases.
9. Contest hosts shall pay an administrative fee according to the number of guards that attend the contest.
        (1) For the **Preview Show**, this fee will be invoiced the day after the contest at a rate of **$32 per competing unit.**
        (2) For **regular season contests**, this fee will be invoiced the day after the contest at a rate of **$40 per competing unit.**
        (3) Units that withdrew or did not compete will not be included in the invoice total.
        (4) Contest host fees are due in full no later than **30 days** after the date of their contest.

(5) A **late fee of $100** will be assessed for payments made after 30 days.
(6) Late payment may result in a contest host forfeiting their right to host a **WGPO-sanctioned contest** in the following season.

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10. Contest Hosts must include a letter signed by the site principal, school administrator and athletic director (or the person in charge of scheduling facilities) guaranteeing that specified facilities are available and that there will be no other conflicting events scheduled in the facility during the WGPO event. In the event that the school/host can not uphold their commitment to WGPO, a cancellation fee of $150 will be assessed to the school. (This does not include WGPO controlled cancellations due to weather or other circumstances.) The school/host is also subject to a suspension of hosting abilities the season following a cancellation. This will be assessed by the Executive Board on a case by case basis.

II. Preview Show and Regular Season Contest Hosts Requirements:

A. A 60'x90' performance area along with a 10' "safety zone" border around the performance area, this should not include walkways for spectators.
B. A **BLACK** performance floor covering a 60' X 90' (or larger) area. This must be approved by the Contest Director prior to the contest date.
    1. The contest host may provide their own BLACK floor covering or they may choose to use the circuit regulation floor for a $100 fee.
    2. Any unit utilizing the circuit regulation tarp must…
        a) Pick up the circuit regulation floor from the previous competition site on their side of the state (ex: East/West).
        b) Communicate with other hosts in order to easily facilitate the transportation of the circuit floor.
        c) Fold the circuit regulation floor appropriately and ensure it is safe for transportation by the next unit.
    3. The circuit regulation tarps can be utilized by other organizations for events outside of WGPO competition.
        a) The requesting organization must submit a formal request to the contest director and treasurer at least 14 days prior to the date the tarp is needed.
        b) If WGPO has a contest on the same weekend as the requested event, the WGPO contest will be given preference for the circuit

tarp for that side of the state (unless the host has chosen to provide their own via the rules above.)

c) The requesting organization will receive a response no later than 7 days prior to the requested event date letting them know which tarp is available and contacts for pickup/drop off.

d) There will be a $100 use fee assessed to the requesting organization for use of the circuit regulation tarp. This fee is to be paid promptly and no later than 30 days past the date of use.

e) The requesting organization must arrange pick up and return of the circuit regulation floor they will be utilizing from the previous competition site.

f) The circuit regulation floor must be folded appropriately and ensured it is safe for transportation by the next unit.

4. Coordinate with the WGPO Treasurer and Contest Director to secure all WGPO regulation plaques for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each class
5. A working sound system that is equipped with the capability to use external devices such as phones and or laptops.
    a) A variable speed adjustment is a plus but not required.
    b) An adult or a student from the host site with adult supervision is needed to operate said system.
    c) A back-up sound system should be available.
6. An adult to be the announcer.
    a) This person should have experience based on the needs of this position.
7. Dressing facilities for all performers that shall be separate from the public restrooms
8. A Directors' Hospitality Room
9. A Judges' Hospitality Room/Area for critique separate from the Directors' Hospitality Room.
    a) The Judges' Hospitality must be equipped with adequate food for the length of the day's activities.
    b) The food source must not be limited to Contest Concessions.
    c) If the contest lasts later than 7pm, a fresh dinner for the judges and WGPO contest staff must be provided.
10. A Warm-up A and B for guard combined Body and Equipment warm-up.
11. Outdoor percussion warm-up areas are first come, first served.
    a) There should be no steps, curbs, or doorposts between warm-up areas and the performance area for percussion.
12. Two (2) inclement weather Warm-up Areas for percussion.

a) There should be no steps, or doorposts between warm-up areas and the performance area for percussion.

13. Prop/equipment storage area
    a) This **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.
    b) It is recommended that the host provide a separate storage area for guard props & percussion equipment/props.
14. A first aid station and someone who is qualified to administer first aid if necessary.
    a) The location of this station needs to be communicated to the Contest Director prior to the start of the contest day.
15. For contests that include percussion, provide a grounded 110 volt outlet centered on the front and back of the performance floor
16. All workers necessary:
    a) Gate
    b) Unit check-in
    c) Two Judge runners that will remain in the judges' area at all times of the contest day
    d) Time monitors for warm-up areas
    e) Ushers to keep spectators out of judging areas and keep people from moving around during performances.
    f) Extra workers to offer direction in order to keep things running smoothly
    g) The contest host must have a building engineer on duty during the event to control all structural, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing issues.
    h) A designated adult who is capable of picking up judges from their local hotel or airport and returning them after the conclusion of the contest day.
        (1) 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/Chief Judge's responsibility.
17. 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.

18. All contest volunteers and staff must be clearly identifiable as such. The host site may provide their own identification (apparel that says VOLUNTEER, badges, Hi-Vis Vests etc). WGPO will have a set of volunteer badges available upon request that must be returned to the contest director at the conclusion of the contest

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19. Contest Booth
    a) The contest host will be allowed to sell souvenir/fundraising items at contests.
        (1) Any contest fundraiser utilizing announcements or taking place during interval times should be regulated by the contest host and shall not delay the start of a performance or awards. For example: if a contest offers air-grams/shout-outs they should limit the number announcements per unit so they can all be read during that units allotted interval time.
    b) Units wishing to sell items at any contest they are not hosting must coordinate that with the contest host prior to the contest day.
    c) Other units must be allowed to sell their merchandise.
    d) Non-hosting units must pay a $25 booth rental fee to the contest host.

III. WGPO East/West Championship and Circuit Championships Host Requirements

A. The sites for the Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma Circuit Championships as well as the East/West Championships shall be determined through a bid process.

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1. Prospective host sites should submit a bid at the annual summer meeting.
2. The Executive Board will meet to consider each of the proposed sites and submit a recommendation at the annual fall meeting.
3. The final decision will be by a vote by the membership at the fall meeting.
4. 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:
1. Facilities (map of arena and warmup areas)
2. sound system
3. support staff
4. accommodations
5. restaurants
6. seating capacity of the arena.

C. The WGPO Circuit Championships host and East/West Championship hosts should provide all of the items specified in section II (Regular Season Contest Hosts must provide the following) of this handbook with the following exceptions:

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1. The WGPO Circuit Championship host is exempt from the circuit tarp fee.
2. WGPO shall provide trophies, banners and medals (when financially possible.)

D. The WGPO Circuit Championships and East/West host site should also be responsible for programs, and T-shirts (the host school/site would receive profit from these items.)

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E. The host site of Circuit Championships and East/West Championships shall submit to the WGPO Treasurer a check for 50% of the gate revenue

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F. This is due no later than 30 days after the WGPO Championship contest.
G. 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.

IV. WGPO Contest Provisions

A. WGPO shall provide the following for all sanctioned contests:
    1. Judges Coordinator, Percussion Coordinator, Certified Judges, Contest Director, and Competition Suite.
    2. All judges' sheets and digital recorders.
    3. Liability Insurance for all performing, floor crew, and staff members at the event.
        a) 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.
    4. Unit spiel sheets and musical selections through Competition Suite (via WGPO iPad or laptop)
    5. 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
    6. WGPO will have a set of volunteer badges available upon request that must be returned to the contest director at the conclusion of the contest

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V. Contest Admission Fees

1. The price of admission for the WGPO Preview Show shall be $8 per person with children under the age of 5 being admitted for free.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
    a) This shall be known as a 'group discount admission', which applies only to non-members of the circuit.
    b) 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.
    c) 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.
    d) During the contest, the announcer should welcome the student group to the audience.

VI. Contest Procedures

A. Contests should follow WGPO standard format:

1. All regular season contests start times and the order of performance is at the discretion of the Contest Director.
2. The WGPO Contest Director shall facilitate the scheduling of units.
    a) Unit performance times for regular season contests shall be randomized with the following considerations:
        (1) Unit distance from the host site
        (2) Contest start time
        (3) Unit staffing needs (e. g., directors with multiple units competing at the same contest)
    b) 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.
3. 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.
4. If necessary, prelims/finals format will be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Board.

B. Unit directors must verify the following before every contest:
    1. 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.)
    2. 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.
    1. The additional 10 free admissions can include:
        a) Equipment crew
        b) Secondary units assisting with floor/equipment that are not performing on that day
        c) Instructors
        d) Parents
        e) Designers
        f) All other exceptions as defined per WGI manual[1]
    2. School administrators will be allowed one (1) free pass with a valid OSSAA Pass.
D. All guard/percussion/winds equipment/props will be taken to the assigned storage area(s).
    1. Make sure to keep equipment neatly stacked in the areas provided.
    2. Storage areas are a privilege – be prepared to store equipment, props, and belongings in your transport vehicle(s) if necessary.
    3. The contest host will assign dressing rooms.
    4. Performers may NOT use the restrooms designated as public/spectator restrooms as changing rooms.
E. All units must be ready to perform at the assigned time.
F. All equipment will be subject to inspection for proper taping and padding..
    1. This includes any props that come in contact with the floor of the performance area.
    2. Please refer to the WGI Color Guard[2], Percussion[3] or Winds[4] manual for more details.
G. Warm-up time shall be twice the maximum authorized interval set for each class by WGI.

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[1] WGI Policy Manual Page 26
[2] WGI Color Guard Equipment Rules (page 4)
[3] WGI Percussion Equipment Rules (page 4)
[4] WGI Winds Equipment Rules (page 3)

1. The way in which this warm-up time is divided is at the sole discretion of the Contest Director.
2. 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

H. All regular performance contests will conduct "Captains Only" retreat ceremonies.
   1. "Full" retreat ceremony will only occur at WGPO Circuit Championships.

I. Awards will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for all classes (except Middle School and Novice) at all contests.
   1. In the event of a tie, Olympic trophy standards will apply.
      a) 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).
   2. 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.
   3. Middle School units will receive a certificate at each contest they participate in.
   4. Middle School units will receive a plaque at Circuit Championships.
   5. Novice Units will receive a plaque at Circuit Championships.

J. Timing

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	4 minutes	5.5 minutes	3.5 minutes
Open	9 minutes	4 minutes	6.5 minutes	3.5 minutes
World	10 minutes	4 minutes	7.5 minutes	3.5 minutes

1. **Color Guard Times:**
2. **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	3 Minutes	6 Minutes
Open	10 Minutes	3.5 Minutes	7 Minutes
World	11 minutes	4 minutes	8 minutes

Classification	Interval Time	Minimum Performance Time	Maximum Performance Time
A Class	9 Minutes	4 Minutes	6 Minutes
Open Class	10 Minutes	4 Minutes	7 Minutes
World Class	11 Minutes	4 Minutes	8 Minutes

3. **Winds**

K. Cancellation Policy

1. If a unit withdraws from a contest, it must do so at least seven (7) days prior to the contest. The Contest Director and Treasurer must be notified via email at contest@wgpoklahoma.org and treasurer@wgpoklahoma.org

2. Late withdrawals from any contest will be charged a penalty of **$100.** This fee must be paid by the withdrawn unit to **WGPO** before the unit will be allowed to compete again.
   Of this amount, **$50 will remain with WGPO** to cover the judges' fee, and **$50 will be credited to the contest host's invoice.**

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3. In the case of extreme circumstances, the WGPO executive board may decide to waive the late fee.
4. 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.

5. If a contest is canceled (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 canceled contest shall 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.

VII. Contest Etiquette

A. Signs and noisemakers (e. g., air horns, vuvuzelas, whistles) are not permitted in the gym during performances, unless sanctioned by WGPO.
B. There will be no entering and exiting the spectator seating during a performance.
C. Under no circumstances shall the following occur: (Violation could result in removal from the performance area or contest location.)
    1. Offensive language exclaimed by performers or directors at a contest
    2. Unprofessional behavior during massing
    3. Booing performers, directors, judges, or fans during score announcements
    4. Inflammatory or derogatory posts on social media
    5. Making derogatory comments or yelling at a judge or a contest staff member at any time
    6. Vandalism of any kind on school property
D. Performers shall follow contest staff instructions in regards to seating in the performance gym.
E. All spectators, performers and staff shall adhere to all announcements made by the contest staff.
F. No one outside of contest staff will cross into the judge's areas under any circumstances.
G. Video Recording and Photography Policies
    1. No video cameras will be allowed in any contest venue and no authorized space will be provided for groups to record their performance.
    2. 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.
    3. No video passes will be issued
    4. 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.
    5. Unit Directors, Instructors, Designers, and Managers are strongly encouraged to help inform their members' family and friends of this policy.

H. Any unit violating any rule or part of a rule, breaching standard contest etiquette or failing to comply with directions from contest personnel for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each such violation in accordance with the WGI Contest Rules.[5] [6] [7]

VIII. Disqualification

A. Grounds for Disqualification

1. Unit does not meet the minimum number of performers as outlined in their corresponding WGPO Rule Book.
2. Unit has used a prohibited item, as outlined in the WGI Rule books, in their performance[8] [9] [10]
3. Unit has allowed members to perform in an unsafe manner regarding over height/unsafe props.[11] [12] [13]
4. Flying of tarps (also known as "ballooning") to clear floor at the conclusion of a group's performance.[14] [15] [16]
5. Egregious violation of the established Contest Etiquette.

B. Disqualification Procedure:

1. In the event of a unit being considered for disqualification, the Timing & Penalties Judge and the Contest Director must be in agreement.
    a) The Chief Judge will be the tie-breaker if necessary in the instance of a split-decision.
    b) The contest director will be responsible for informing the unit in question as soon as the decision has been made.
    c) Depending on the nature of the disqualification, the unit(s) and/or staff member(s) in question may be asked to leave the premises following disqualification.

IX. "Judges' Critique"

A. Judge's Critique shall be offered for all WGPO sanctioned regular season contests with the following conditions:

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[5] WGI Color Guard Rules page 9
[6] WGI Percussion Rules page 8
[7] WGI Winds Rules page 8
[8] WGI Color Guard Rules page 5
[9] WGI Percussion Rules pages 4-5
[10] WGI Winds Rules pages 3-6
[11] WGI Color Guard Rules page 6
[12] WGI Percussion Rules page 6
[13] WGI Winds Rules page 5
[14] WGI Color Guard Rules page 9
[15] WGI Percussion Rules page 8
[16] WGI Winds Rules page 7

1. 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.
    a) Training must include Timing & Penalty specific training.
2. 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.
3. All unit directors wishing to participate in critique MUST sign up for a critique time online via Competition Suite by 9:00pm CST on the Friday before the contest.
    a) Exceptions may be made in extreme circumstances at the discretion of the Executive Board.
4. All unit directors wishing to participate in critique MUST listen to their judges' tapes PRIOR to meeting with a judge for critique.
5. Critique shall begin 15 minutes after the last competing group and will run in an orderly fashion as directed by T&P judge.
6. Guard Critique shall be three (3) minutes per table: Equipment/Movement, Design Analysis, General Effect.
    a) Color guard groups are to have no more than three (3) representatives per unit in critique.
    b) The Timing and Penalty Judge will start the timer when all participants are seated and allow sufficient time to travel between the captions.
7. Percussion/Winds critique shall be five (5) minutes per caption for a total of fifteen (15) minutes.
    a) Percussion/Winds groups are to have no more than three (3) representatives per unit in critique
    b) The Timing and Penalty Judge will start the timer when all participants are seated and allow sufficient time to travel between the captions.

X. Competitive Season Overview

A. The maximum number of units permitted for registration at any single regular-season contest shall be capped at 55 units.

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B. The **Winter Guard and Percussion of Oklahoma (WGPO)** shall facilitate a **Preview Show** and a minimum of **six (6)** regular-season contests beginning on the third, fourth, or fifth Saturday in January, as determined by the Contest Director, and continuing through the WGPO Championship Series.

C. The **Preview Show** shall be a non-judged event and is not required for participation in the competitive season, **except as specifically noted below**.

When applicable, this event may serve as training for local judges, who may be compensated for mileage..

1. Units requesting **reclassification** from the previous season are required to attend the Preview Show.
2. Units registering under a generic **"Regional" or "Scholastic" classification** must attend the Preview Show to receive their official classification for the first competitive contest.
3. If a unit or director is uncertain which classification to select, the unit may register as "Regional" or "Scholastic." These units will receive an official classification either at the Preview Show or through the normal promotion/demotion process.
4. **New units and/or new directors** are strongly encouraged to attend.

D. The regular season contests shall be divided at minimum as follows
   1. Segment 1 (2 weekends/3 contests): East/West sites available one weekend. No timing or equipment penalties; safety/sportsmanship penalties apply.
   2. Segment 2 (3 weekends/4 contests): East/West sites available one weekend
   3. Segment 3: East/West Championships.

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XI. Championship Eligibility Requirements

A. In addition to placement criteria established at the **Championship Qualifier**, each guard unit must compete in **at least one (1) contest per segment**, for a total minimum of **three (3)** contests during the competitive season to remain eligible for Championship participation.

B. **Percussion/Winds groups** must participate in **at least one (1)** contest during the current competitive season to be eligible for Championships, due to the reduced number of Percussion/Winds events.

C. Units in the **Middle School classification** must perform in **one (1) contest during the second segment** and **one (1) contest during the third segment**, for a total minimum of **two (2)** contests, to be eligible for Championship participation.

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XII. Championship Structure and Qualification Procedures

A. The WGPO Circuit Championships shall be conducted over two weekends to ensure fair access and competitive balance across the circuit.

1. Weekend I – East/West Championships

a) All competitive classes (Scholastic Regional B through Independent World) shall participate in a regional championship.

b) Regional championship events shall occur simultaneously at two geographically designated sites — East and West.

c) Each unit shall register for the championship site geographically

closest to its school. The Contest Director will verify all assignments.

d) The top two-thirds (2/3) of each class, with a minimum of five (5) units and a maximum of twenty (20) units per class from each site, will advance to Circuit Championships. Classifications with less than five (5) units will advance to Circuit Championships. No more than twenty (20) units from the combined classes from each site will advance to the Circuit Championships.

e) In the rare event that two units tie for the last qualifying placement in their class, both units will advance to Circuit Championships

2. Seeding Procedure for East/West Championships

a) The Contest Director will be responsible for scheduling East/West Championship seeding.

b) All units will be seeded using their most recent contest score, increased by 1.5 points for each week between that contest and the East/West Championship.

c) Units will be ranked according to their adjusted scores, with the highest score seeded last.

d) Classes will be divided into staggered rounds consisting of six (6) to eight (8) units whenever class size permits.

e) Units will be placed into rounds according to their seeded ranking so that units with similar scores compete within the same round.

f) Performance order within each round will be determined by a completely random draw.

3. **Weekend II – Circuit Championships**

a) Circuit Championships shall take place on the regularly scheduled Championship weekend.

b) b) The number of rounds for each class will be determined by the total number of advancing units from the East and West Championship sites.

c) c) Advancing units from each East/West Championship site will be divided proportionally among the Circuit Championship rounds.

4. **Seeding Procedure for Circuit Championships**

a) All advancing units will be seeded using their East/West Championship scores.

b) Units from the East and West sites will be ranked according to their respective East/West Championship scores.

c) Units from each site will be distributed proportionally among the Circuit Championship rounds as follows:

d) If a class consists of three (3) rounds, the advancing units from each site will be divided into thirds.

e) If a class consists of two (2) rounds, the advancing units from each site will be divided into halves.

f) If a class consists of one (1) round, no division by placement tier will occur.

g) When multiple rounds are required, units will be grouped according to competitive placement so that the highest-ranked units from East and West are placed together, the middle-ranked units from East and West are placed together, and the lowest-ranked units from East and West are placed together.

h) Performance order within each round will be completely randomized.

i) If a class consists of only one (1) round, all advancing units from East and West will be combined and the entire performance order will be completely randomized.

j) In cases of emergency scheduling conflicts can be addressed per the Contest Director with Executive Board approval.

5. Middle School and Novice Divisions
    a) Middle School and Novice units shall present their final performances at their designated East/West Championship event.
    b) Awards shall include plaques, end-of-season recognition, and a full massing ceremony.

B. The Circuit Championship schedule will be made available on the official WGPO website at least six (6) days prior to the event.

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XIII. Compliance and Conduct

A. All participating units must maintain good financial standing with WGPO and comply with all organizational rules, classification procedures, and codes of conduct.

B. Failure to meet eligibility or attendance requirements may result in **disqualification**, **forfeiture of performance times**, or other disciplinary actions

as determined by the Executive Board.

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XIV. 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. Solo and Ensemble Competition is to be attached to a contest date with the fewest unit entries. (Most likely in the morning before the regular contest)
    1. This date would be determined after registration closes and announced in mid January.

C. All entry forms and fees must be postmarked 15 days prior to the scheduled Solo and Ensemble contest date.
    1. No late entries will be accepted.
    2. All fees must be turned in with the entry forms.

D. Classifications for Solo & Ensemble Contest will be as follows:
    1. Middle School Solo/Duet/Ensemble
    2. Scholastic Solo/Duet/Ensemble
    3. Independent Solo/Duet/Ensemble.

E. Outstanding soloists and ensembles are invited and encouraged to perform during the Circuit Championships. This will be scheduled by the Contest Director.

F. The judging panel will consist of one Judge.

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    1. The judge will score the competitor with a I (Superior) through V (Poor) rating, with Olympic scoring.
        a) Scoring for all solos and ensembles will be based upon correct and consistent completion of various fundamentals and standards for each level of classification.
        b) As the levels of achievement and completed standards increase, the possible score criteria will increase as well.
        c) Solo and ensemble adjudicators shall serve exclusively for the solo and ensemble event and will not serve on the main contest day judging panel.

**Added Summer 2026*

G. Performances will happen in two spaces on the same campus simultaneously

**Added Summer 2026*

H. Performance time shall be a minimum of 1 minute and a maximum of 2 minutes.

I. A student may enter a maximum of three (3) events.

1. 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.

J. All equipment used must be padded.
    1. Hard sole shoes must also be padded

K. Music must be provided via the delivery method indicated on the registration from.

L. Fee: Solos - $15.00; Ensemble - $10.00 per member. Solo and Ensemble entry MUST be completed online 15 days prior to the scheduled event.

M. The WGPO Executive Board will have the final decision on all matters regarding solo and ensemble.

XV. Guard Solo and Ensemble Equipment Requirements

A. Solo Color Guard categories are Flag, Rifle, Sabre, Movement, and Mixed-Equipment.

B. Flag, Rifle, and Sabre performances must use authorized equipment as defined in the current WGI Color Guard Adjudication Manual and Rulebook.

C. Mixed-Equipment is defined as a performer using multiple pieces of equipment as defined in section 3.0. Movement is not considered a piece of equipment.

D. A flag, rifle, sabre, or mixed-equipment solo or ensemble must consist primarily of equipment-based choreography. Movement may be incorporated; however, it should not constitute the majority of the performance.

**Added Summer 2026*