

Mid-York Color Guard Circuit
General Membership Meeting
Albany, NY
November 11, 2018

Minutes:

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:330PM.

II. President's Report: Scott Snell explained the Executive Board met over the summer to review and begin the implementation of the many changes that will affect the units and show hosts of the M-YCGC. Policies and procedure changes are being developed at WGI regarding the safety and security of performing members and staff members. As the M-YGCG operates under WGI rules, we too, will makes these changes. WGI has begun a One on One program to help in the development of show concepts and writing. For a \$34.95 fee, you can get a show read and feedback (via video) from a WGI judge. For a \$75.00 fee, you can get a design consultation from a high-level designer. Go to WGI.org for more information. If you need an electronic copy of the WGI Color Guard Rule Book, contact Jim Morton and he will email it to you.

III. Vice President's Report: Larry Schmidt attended to WGI Circuit Partner's Conference in New Orleans in September. He learned WGI is committed to stay on top of the abuses issues that have arisen in the pageantry arts over the past year. WGI is mandating a signed master list of Mandatory Reporters for all unit staffers that attend a WGI competition. WGI is strongly suggesting all unit partners require background checks of directors and judges, as well as volunteers traveling with circuit units. This is already required with individuals teaching school children in NYS, but not necessarily volunteers or adults working with independent units. Scholastic directors: make sure you know your school district policy when bringing in outside help for your programs and allowing volunteers to travel with your students. Please consider implementing background checks with your own unit.

Show Hosts-Please get your show start time to Larry as soon as possible. He has had some inquiries as directors have begun scheduling busses to competitions. The 2019 performance is largely done (as you have all seen from the spreadsheet Larry has been sending). He is still waiting on show picks from a couple units and hopes to have a permanent schedule, with performance order picks by 11/30/18. Larry will be registering your unit into the 2019 Competition Suite software. Each M-Y Director will bet an email from Competition Suite saying your unit is entered. IT IS THEN THE UNIT DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILI TO COMPLETE THE COMPETITION SUITE ACCOUNT SET-UP. If you miss this important step, you will get to your first competition and your staff will not be able to access judge commentary. Show Hosts: there is an extra Competition Suite fee when adding outside groups to your show, they cannot just be entered in the software by your tabulator. Be sure to communicate to Larry if units outside the M-YCGC are competing at your show.

Unit rosters are due to Larry by 1/1/19. Scholastic units must submit a roster on school district letterhead, signed by a school administrator verifying each performing member is enrolled in the school. Independent units must submit a roster including names and birthdates of all performing members, signed by a unit administrator.

IV. Secretary's Report: Jim Morton announced a checking account balance of \$10, 627.62. He distributed a list of units with current dues payments. He is missing some unit applications. Every M-YCGC must submit a signed unit application declaring competing class and adherence to WGI and M-YCGC rules each season.

V. Old Business:

1. The M-YCGC Class Steering Committee will include members of the Executive Board, Karen Seamans (CNS), Shannon Spaulding (Baldwinsville), Jen Dormio (New Hartford), Melody Wildrick (ESM) and Krysta Ganey (Liverpool). This is the group that will review yearly classification requests, those units attaining target numbers for class movement, and requests for class movement or consultations. There are many, many years of instruction and success represented within this committee. The quality of design and performance is growing exponentially within the M-YCGC. Please rely on this group to continue that progress. Contact Scott or Larry if you would like a unit consultation from the committee.

2. The M-YCGC/NECGC consolidation is still being discussed with the Executive Committees of each Circuit. It is not known at this time whether it will happen.

3. WGI Circuit Partnership Conference – covered in VP report.

4. Standardized Music Services – The M-YCGC is in the works with BMI and ASCAP to procure music licensing privileges. Each licensing company will cost the circuit about \$250 plus a percentage of ticket sales at each individual show. Show Hosts must keep an accurate count of the number of tickets sold at your show and report it to Jim Morton the week following your show. There will be guidelines regarding this new procedure throughout the season.

5. In partnership with the NYFCJ, the M-YCGC will continue the Judge Incentive Program again this season. Any NYFCJ Judge who completes the WGI Certify Levels 1 and 2 programs will be paid an additional \$20 at each M-Y show they adjudicate. Fees are collected by the Federation at each show. Part of the Incentive program also includes bringing outside WGI judges to M-YCGC show. Four shows were selected by the Federation that will include an outside WGI judge this year. M-YCGC directors and staff members are also encouraged to complete these WGI trainings for better insight and understanding of the judging process (and perhaps begin your own path in becoming a judge). The courses are online based and cost about \$75.

6. Other – none

IIV. New Business

1. The 2019 M-Y Championship Show will be held at C-NS HIGH SCHOOL (not the middle school as in past years). If you are attending a regular season show at C-NS (also being hosted at the High School), please let Larry know if you have facility concerns so they can be addressed before the Championship Show.

2. There are three new units who have applied for membership to the M-YCGC: Dare TBD, directed by Tess Armondi, Southern Tier IA, directed by Danielle Conner and Southern Tier ERA, directed by Tara Adele. These Units will become full voting members of the M-YCGC Circuit following their 4th competition.

3. Judge Contracts are available on mycgc.org. Show Hosts please return your completed contract to Dick Fishette as soon as possible.

4. Gibs Flock is the Committee Chairperson for future championship sites. He has researched the Syracuse ON-Center, the SRC at Onondaga Community College and the NYS Fair Grounds Arena. All sites are a far stretch for our circuit finances. Gibs is going to reach out to the NY Percussion Circuit to see if there is any interest in sharing a same day site to lessen this financial burden.

5. Each M-YCGC Show Host is being encouraged to develop an Active Shooter Plan at their show site. The plan should include identifying outside exits and hiding/barricade areas near home rooms, warm-up areas, cafeteria and gymnasium. It is important to share the plan with your show host volunteers. Show announcers should point out safety exits inside the gymnasium. Unit Directors: be vigilant about identifying escape exits for your students when traveling to each show site.

6. All show hosts must now have a clearly labeled **gender neutral bathroom/changing site for performers** at your show.

7. Social Media Professionalism has become an ever-present concern. WGI has updated their code of conduct for units. It is the responsibility of unit directors to practice and clearly communicate internet responsibility to your student and staff members. It is prohibited to post disparaging comments about other units and prohibited to post video of any unit, other than your own.

8. The NY WGI Regional will be held at Troy HS in February. (It is being hosted by the Shenendehowa Winter Guard Boosters and is called the “Albany Regional” on the WGI website.)

9. Other:

1. The Executive Board has been contacted by a school district about concerns allowing visiting unit access to school classrooms. The main concern is the computer and technology learning equipment in the classrooms. Directors: please vigilantly monitor your assigned classroom and express to your students the importance of hands-off classroom equipment!

2. The Executive Board will be developing consequences for units who do not adhere to application and payment deadlines. These will be presented at the Spring Meeting.

3. The 2019 M-Y Scholarship applications are due to Jim Morton by March 3, 2019. Each unit may submit 1 application for a graduating Senior or current college student in their unit.

4. Hall of Fame nominations are due to Scott Snell by March 3, 2019.

5. The Phoenix Preview/Field Day will be held on January 5, 2019 at the Middle School. Nick Gerling will be getting information out about the event in the near future.

VIII. Announcements- 1. The Spring Meeting will be held on March 3, 2019 at C-NS High School at 12:30PM.

2. The NYFCJ Clinic will be held on Nov. 18, 2018 at the George Eastman Museum in Rochester, NY at 10:30AM. All M-Y directors and staff have been invited to attend.

IX. Closing at 2:20PM (1st-L. Rood, Oxford 2nd- J. Dormio, New Hartford)

Respectfully submitted,
James Morton, Secretary
M-YCGC