June 14, 2025

WGASC Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Call to Order ..... Gabe Escobedo

- Motion to open meeting by Debby Gibson
- Shawn Hartman (Riverside Poly H.S) seconded the motion
- Meeting opened at 10:24 am
- Quorum Met 180

Review of Agenda and President's Report.....Gabe Escobedo

- Return to Bren Center this year.
- Thank you to show hosts to all committees/board/staff.
- Ticket sales at an all time high this year.

Review of 2024 Minutes.....Gabe Escobedo

- Motion to approve minutes by Sergio Marquez (Vox Winter Guard)
- Homer Lopez (Downey High School) , seconded the motion
- Motion carries; Minutes approved

Reports

Executive Directors Report ..... Michael Stone

- 22k of scholarships which is a record for us.
- Financially doing really well after this season.
- No change in circuit fees.
- WGI and WGASC partnered together for a WGASC percussion show followed by WGI

Winds prelims and finals.

Percussion and Winds Report ..... Rob Sullens and Ferdinand Gasang

- Fan Pledge Program is partnering with WGASC.
- Simplest fundraiser from start to finish. You get 85 percent towards the programs and 15 percent to the circuit.
- It takes 2 hours total.
- Increase in Percussion and Winds groups.

VP of Color Guard Report ..... Carla Hernandez

- Matched nearly 70 instructors over the years with the Mentorship Program.

Board of Directors Report ..... Greg Llacer

- Want to get the instructors and judging committee closer together.
- WGI regional plus shows are a great addition, but will cause judging issues with local circuits in regards to judge availability.
- Thank you for all the hard work of BOD.

VP Finance Report ..... Debby Gibson

- Finances are doing great. Total income 900k and our expenses closely matched it.

Color Guard Caucus..... Gabe Escobedo

WGI Report..... Rosie Queen

- California 18 Scholastic groups.
- Best Practice Guides QR code.
- Regional Plus add on. Improving accessibility across the country.
- Over 25 Regional plus events planned for 2026.
- WGI schedule released.
- WGI rule changes. Rain Plan. Wristbands for people on roster goes to BOD. Open Class age limit raised to 25 years old. WGI warm up penalties.
- Safesport is done.
- WGI studio out this summer, the new version of safesport.
- Sergio Marquez-Johnson elected to the board of directors at WGI.

Operations/Events Report..... Brian Nunez

- Education Clinic thank you to Sarah/Angela/Rosie for all their help.
- This year Dec. 6 in Southern Ca and Dec. 16 in Nevada. September 1st will have

locations decided.
- Design Clinics 20 total participating ensembles this past year.
- 2026 better logistics will be provided.
- Contests: 33 regular season events. Ensemble Registration increased this year. 110 judges used this year.
- 2026 interest forms opened at the end of April. Due June 28 2025.
- Championships 2026 Bren Center is very likely.
- All hosts get the same packet and more info on the directors packets.
- Surveys will go out throughout the season on the shows.
- Asking what is most important for instructors for shows?
    - Close proximity
    - Big floor space/logistics before (floor folding/prop space).
    - Lighting outdoors.
    - Taller stands.
    - More award ceremonies during champs.
    - Ceiling issues.
    - Two different events being hosted at the same school.

Classification Committee Report ..... Joey Valenzuela

- A lot of upward movement this year. 21 moved to the SA sheet.
- 32 Reclassifications
- New video upload requirements for certain classes. Super helpful for decision making.
- First season where the Medalists from previous year had to move up. 63 were moved up a class. 20 percent medaled in their new class. 25 percent made it to their finals.

Guard Proposals ..... Greg Llacer

#1: Policy: Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills HS)

Proposal: Current Seeding: Currently, championship seeding scores are calculated by averaging 70% of highest score and 30% of next highest scores a unit receives throughout the season.
Proposed Change: All colorguards, regardless of class, will be seeded in tournament style rounds for championships using their most recent score increased by 1.5 points each week of the competition calendar through the last seeding weekend of the competition season.

Justification: This change creates a more accurate reflection of a unit's likely performance level at the end of the season by simulating natural growth and improvement. * It alleviates the current pressure for units to compete in two shows during the final seeding weekend.

Financial impact: None Per Author
- Call to move Rosie Queen (Arcadia H.S)
- Seconded the Motion Homer Lopez (Downey H.S)

#1: Rule Proposal

Proposer: Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills HS)

Proposal: Rule Proposal for WGASC Championships Performance Order: Effective Classifications: * Independent A * Senior Independent A * Scholastic Open * Independent Open * Scholastic World * Independent World Proposal Title:Championships Performance Order Seeding for Non-Prelims Classes,
Proposal: Currently, Independent A, Senior Independent A, Scholastic Open, Independent Open, Scholastic World, and Independent World classes do not participate in a prelims round at WGASC Championships. As a result, their performance order on Championships day is randomized. This randomization does not reflect each ensemble's performance level throughout the season. This proposal recommends that for the above classes, the performance order at WGASC Championships be determined by each ensemble's Championship Seeded Score. Groups would perform in reverse order of their Championship Seeded Score (i.e., the ensemble with the highest seeded score performs last, second highest performs second to last, etc.).

Rational: Rationale: Currently, the performance order for the listed classes at WGASC Championships is determined through randomization due to the absence of a prelims round. This method does not accurately represent each ensemble's competitive achievements or performance level leading into Championships. By utilizing each group's Championship Seeded Score to determine performance order, this proposal ensures that the competitive structure remains consistent with the season's scoring outcomes. It maintains competitive integrity by aligning Championships performance order with how ensembles have placed throughout the season, rather than relying on chance.

Financial impact: None per Author

Discussion: Would it make a difference to lots of groups? Just two different models.

New Amended wording:

- Call to move Gary Buckland (Hestia H.S)
- Second the motion Homer Lopez (Downey H.S)

#2: Rule Proposal

Proposer: Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills HS)

Proposal: WGASC Rule Proposal: Access to Recap Prior to Critique
Proposal Title: Recap Distribution Prior to Critique
Proposal Summary: To ensure that unit directors and representatives can engage in productive and informed dialogue during critique sessions, this rule proposes that all units attending critique be provided with their full recap and score prior to entering critique. Regardless of whether awards have been completed. This information may be distributed digitally or in print by the contest director or designated contest staff.
Proposed Rule Language:"All units electing to attend critique must be provided with their complete recap and adjudicated scores prior to entering critique. The recap may be distributed

in either printed or digital format by the contest director or an appointed staff member. The availability of recaps shall not be contingent on the conclusion of the awards ceremony. This measure ensures that unit representatives are able to prepare adequately and engage in meaningful, data-informed discussions with adjudicators."

Rational: Currently, many critiques occur immediately after performances, often before units have access to any scoring or ranking data. This results in unit directors entering critique without essential context, diminishing the value and effectiveness of the dialogue with adjudicators. By guaranteeing access to recaps beforehand, this rule supports more constructive, focused critique sessions, ultimately enhancing the educational value of the experience for all participating units.

Financial impact: None per Author

Discussion: Problems with competition suite. Not supposed to discuss scores. Would this be possible procedure wise. Sometimes tapes are pretty empty, so knowing what box you are in helps.

- Call to move Gary Buckland (Hestia H.S)
- Seconded the motion Sarah Abdulal (Vox H.S)

#3: Rule Proposal

Proposer: Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills HS)

Proposal: Modification of Special Request Consideration for Scholastic A and AA Classes at Championships No Current Rule for this: Currently, directors or representatives of participating units may submit a "Special Request" for WGASC Championships. These requests allow for accommodations to ensure that programs with multiple units do not have performance time conflicts or that a director is able to be present for multiple ensembles. Proposed Change: Special Requests submitted for scheduling accommodations at WGASC Championships shall no longer affect or alter the competitive seeding, performance order, or round groupings for units in Scholastic A and Scholastic AA classes. Special Requests may still be honored in a logistical sense for all other classes, but they will not be used as a basis for reassigning groups or modifying round placements for these two classes.

Rational: The current implementation of Special Requests has a significant impact on the competitive integrity of the Scholastic A and AA classes. Adjustments made to accommodate these requests frequently override seeding based on season-long performance scores, resulting in: * Disruption of fair and balanced round groupings; * Scenarios where high-performing groups are unfairly displaced from finals due to reassignments; By excluding Scholastic A and AA from Special Request-based group realignment, this proposal preserves the merit-based seeding system that is critical to competitive fairness at Championships, while still allowing for some logistical flexibility where appropriate.

Financial impact: None per Author

Discussion:

- Call to move Carla Hernandez (Chino Hills H.S)
- Seconded the motion Chance Webb (Steele Canyon H.S)

Percussion Caucus.....Ferdinand Gasang and Rob Sullens

Advisory Committee

- **Members:** Rob Sullens (Director), Ferdinand Gasang (VP), Adam Steff, Ed Martinez, Jake Harman, Pete Sapadin, Phil Leonelli, Reggie Alaman

- **Roles:**
  - Serve as ambassadors
  - Discuss issues & review promotion recommendations
  - Sunday 7 PM Zooms

- **Apply to Join the Advisory Committee:** 📲 Scan to Apply (Advisory Committee) *(link from QR code)*

Mentorship Program (New for 2026)

- Pair new instructors with mentors
- Direct guidance resource
- Feedback from experienced staff members on how to improve your program
- ***Sign up to be a mentor and/or a mentee!!!***
- **Interested?** 📲 Click to Apply (Mentorship Program) *(link from QR code)*

Review of 2025

- **Directors must add all staff members to CompSuite**
  - Staff members need to be added to CompSuite in case of emergencies that occur at venues
  - All staff members can receive real time updates about the progress of an event when inclement weather or other delays occur

- **Wristband & Badge Policy:** Strict enforcement to prevent abuse; focus on student safety when lifting equipment
  - A staff badge does NOT take the place of a wristband
  - Wristbands are the only item that allows entry into a performance space

- **Class Updates:**

  - New: *Novice* & *Standstill*
  - Defined Regional A/Open/World

    - Junior vs Senior High split

- **Site Issues Raised:**

    - Percussion needs better venues
    - Misunderstanding over “Signature Show” (suggest rename to “Semifinals”/better educate and communicate to membership)
    - Request for percussion and winds reps at sites
    - Championship venue issues due to weather and electronics delay

Looking Ahead to 2026

- **Improvements:**

    - Gym maps, show-site reps, flow coordination
    - Sound engineer consistency and help locating from onsite staff

- **CompSuite Tools:**

    - Staff & Resource tabs
    - Emergency contacts, policy docs, WGI Rules Handbooks Perc/Winds

- **Education Weekends:**

    - Dec 6, 2025 – CA
    - Dec 13, 2025 – NV

- **Show Dates:**

    - Regular: Feb 14–Apr 4, 2026
    - Signature: Apr 11–12, 2026
    - Championships: Apr 25, 2026
        - Potential 2-day format Apr 25 and 26 (all units would advance if this is implemented)

- **Interested in Hosting?** Submit by **June 28**

Proposals for Vote (results will be posted by WGASC)

Proposal #1 – Reclassification Criteria

- Reclassify only after 2 contests with multi-caption concerns
- Submitted by: Timothy McElearney

Proposal #2 – Setup Audio Use & Pre-Recorded Announcements (WGI passed a new rule at the WGI Perc Advisory Board Meeting that would include what is asked of this proposal. See Proposal entry #13)

- Allow setup music after 1 minute; pre-recorded second announcements permitted

- Submitted by: Advisory Committee

Proposal #3 – Signature Show Seeding Based on Highest Score

- Highest season score counts for Signature Show seeding
- Submitted by: Jake Harman

Proposal #4 – Tiered Competition Format (Prelims → Semis → Finals)

- Improve fairness, flow, and audience engagement
- Submitted by: Advisory Committee

2025 WGI Percussion Advisory Board Proposals and results

https://www.wgi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2025-PAB-Proposal-Results.pdf

2025 WGI Winds Advisory Board Proposals and results

https://www.wgi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2025-WAB-Proposal-Results.pdf

Thank you Mike Leitzke and an update:

We at WGASC would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mike Leitzke for his years of dedicated service as the Judge Coordinator for the Percussion and Winds divisions. Mike has been an integral part of the organization's growth and educational development—impacting both our membership and board members alike.

Moving forward, judge assignments for Percussion and Winds will be managed by Rob Sullens and the judge administration team. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a judge or understanding the judge selection process within WGASC, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

WGASC remains committed to selecting the most highly qualified judges—both locally and nationally—to continue providing fair evaluations and educational value to our performers, unit directors/staff, and organizational leaders. If there are specific individuals you'd like to recommend for our judging roster, or familiar faces you'd like to see return to our events, we welcome your input.

Once again, thank you, Mike, for all you have done. We wish you the very best in your future endeavors.

Voting..... Greg Llacer

Nominations and Voting

- VP of Percussion & Winds

○ Ferdinand Gasang
○ No other nominations from the floor
Call for vote Jake Harman (Valhalla H.S)
Seconded Reginald Alaman (El Camino H.S)

● VP of Finance
○ No nominations from the floor
Call to table Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills H.S)
Seconded Shawn Hartman (Riverside Poly H.S)

POSITION VACANT FOR APPOINTMENT

● VP of Colorguard
○ Sarah Abdulal
○ Leticia Alcuran
○ Christian Maqueda
○ Cory Robinson
○ Damian Santana Declines
Call to vote Homer Lopez (Downey H.S)
Seconded Chance Webb (Steele Canyon H.S)

● Board of Directors
○ Walt Omiecinski
○ Richard Kramer
○ Sergio Marquez-Johnson Nominated on floor by Chadd Hartman
○ Call to vote Debby Gibson
○ Seconded Homer Lopez (Downey H.S)

Membership Wide Business..... Greg Llacer

#1 Proposer: Tim McElearney (Workman HS)

Proposal: RECLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA Groups will not be reclassified based on isolated data from one contest. A group shall not be reclassified based on only one caption, but a clear and consistent pattern among two or more captions. If there is a request to reclassify a unit, the unit will receive a report from the requestor with specific criteria for the request and notice of entering a probation period. A unit notified of possible reclassification can dispute the probation before the next contest. A unit can be reclassified after the cutoff date if they had already entered probation, including going into championships.

Financial impact: None, Per Author

Justification: The group will only be reclassified after a second contest where there is a clear and consistent pattern amongst two or more captions. Using two separate contests allows for contest dynamics to be a smaller part of the decision and for the criteria to be considered with more information available.

- Call for end Robert Rodriguez (Huntington Park H.S)
- Seconded Damian Santana (Kaiser H.S)

PROPOSAL FAILS

#2 Proposer: Tim McElearn (Workman HS) WITHDRAWN

Proposal: Director/Staff Wristbands Band director and staff will receive wristbands based on the names listed on competition suite receiving a badge. Students will receive wristbands based on the ensemble size.

Financial impact: unknown, Per author

Justification: Band director and staff now are only given one badge. If there is a problem with abuse of badges (being passed around), this has been mostly remedied by insisting on a badge + wristband policy. You could even request staff provide an employee badge since it is standard

WGASC Fact Check: Staff Wristbands are distributed using the following criteria according to membership level purchased for the season by the ensemble (6, 8 or 10 plus 1 for the Director). Director badges are a courtesy and not a tool used for obtaining a wristband. In addition if a unit needs an additional wristband they may purchase All Access Passes to be used during the regular season.

#3 Proposer: Angela Tousley (El Dorado HS) WITHDRAWN

Proposal: WGASC will send a feedback survey to all units that participated in a WGASC contest over the previous weekend. The survey should be sent on the Monday following the event. The goal is to gather timely and relevant input from participating units to help improve the overall contest experience. The survey should include questions about: facilities, judging, parking, warm-up zones, performance venue, and any additional comments or suggestions.

Financial impact: Minimal, however the proposal does require administrative action.

Justification: Collecting feedback from the units who were directly involved in the event will provide meaningful insight for WGASC administrators and event partners as they continue to refine and enhance each contest.

Voting Results

- Membership voted on paper ballots
    - Board of Directors members collected the votes and counted by Austin

Rico and Daryl Specter

- Results
  - VP of Color Guard : Sarah Abdulal
  - VP Percussion/Winds : Ferdinand Gasang
  - Board of Directors : Richard Kramer and Sergio Marquez-Johnson

#1: Policy: Chadd Hartman (Chino Hills HS)
All colorguards, regardless of class, will be seeded in tournament style rounds for championships using their most recent score increased by 1.5 points each week of the competition calendar through the last seeding weekend of the competition season.

- Call to vote Sergio Marquez-Johnson (Vox Winterguard)
- Seconded Damian Santana (Kaiser H.S)
- 97 YES 8 NO
- PASSES

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- Hollis Arnold (Valhalla H.S)
- Seconded Joey Valenzuela (Gold Winterguard)
- 84 YES 8 NO
- PASSES

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- Call to vote Carlos Vasquez (Rancho Cucamonga H.S)
- Seconded Angela Tousley (El Dorado H.S)
- 83 YES 32 NO
- PASSES

#3 Proposal: Modification of Special Request Consideration for Scholastic A and AA Classes at

Championships No Current Rule for this: Currently, directors or representatives of participating units may submit a "Special Request" for WGASC Championships. These requests allow for accommodations to ensure that programs with multiple units do not have performance time conflicts or that a director is able to be present for multiple ensembles. Proposed Change: Special Requests submitted for scheduling accommodations at WGASC Championships shall no longer affect or alter the competitive seeding, performance order, or round groupings for units in Scholastic A and Scholastic AA classes. Special Requests may still be honored in a logistical sense for all other classes, but they will not be used as a basis for reassigning groups or modifying round placements for these two classes.

- Carla Hernandez (Chino Hills H.S)
- Damien Santana (Kaiser H.S)
- 0 YES 122 NO
- FAILS

#4 Proposal: RECLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA Groups will not be reclassified based on isolated data from one contest. A group shall not be reclassified based on only one caption, but a clear and consistent pattern among two or more captions. If there is a request to reclassify a unit, the unit will receive a report from the requestor with specific criteria for the request and notice of entering a probation period. A unit notified of possible reclassification can dispute the probation before the next contest. A unit can be reclassified after the cutoff date if they had already entered probation, including going into championships.

- Peter Gomez (Chino H.S)
- Tim McElearney (Workman HS)
- 14 YES NO 121
- FAILS

New Business

- Call for new business by Gabe Escobedo.
- Can the Executive committee talk about getting rid of badges?
- Could recaps be posted right after award ceremonies?
    - Sometimes comp suite is down
- Could scores be shown weekly from WGASC
- Can performers not wear wristbands during performances

Adjournment

- Motion by Becky Jensen (Thousand Oaks H.S) to adjourn
    - Motion seconded by Sarah Abdulal (Vox Winter Guard)
- Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm

WGASC Board of Directors/Executive Committee, Staff In Attendance

Llacer, Greg (BOD)	**Nunez, Brian, (Director of Events and Marketing)**
Escobedo, Gabe (President)	**Nelson, Carl (Operations Director)**
Hernandez, Carla (VP of Colorguard)	**Rico, Jessica (VP of Records)**
Rico, Austin (BOD)	**Gibson, Deborah (VP of Finance)**
Gasang, Ferdinand (VP of Percussion)	**Hartman, Shawn (BOD)**
Kramer, Richard (BOD)	**Walt Omiecinski (BOD)**
Daryl Specter (BOD)	**Stone, Mike (Executive Director)**