

Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit

Post Office Box 1145
Frostproof, Florida 33843

Minutes of General Membership Meeting

May 22, 2005

Held at Lake Mary High School

Board Members Present: Mike Higbe, President; Jim Van Romer, Vice-President; Stephen Alia, Secretary; Sue Taylor, Treasurer; Jim Taylor, Contest Coordinator; Tom Slaughter, Chief Judge; Joe Flynn, Northeast Area Representative; Michele Dershimer, Central Area Representative; Shelba Waldron, Southwest Area Representative

Unit Representatives Present:

Adams, Ben	Sandalwood HS	Lawrence, Sabrina	Gotha MS
Alia, Kellie	Frostproof Cadets	Lower, Chris	Apopka HS
Alia, Stephen	FFJA	Macaluso, Dolly	NON VOTING - Lake Mary HS
Anderson, April	FFJA	McCaig, Shawn	Spruce Creek HS
Augustin, Willie	Bloomingtondale HS	McCue, Lorrie	Keystone Heights J/S HS
Bell, Tim	FFJA	Miller, Barry	Sapphire
Brown, Erin	Freedom HS	Miller, Claudette	Bellevueview HS
Cates, Steve	West Orange HS	Morris, Mami	Umatilla HS
Chapman, Art	NON VOTING - Paradigm	Myers, John	FFJA
Clark, Sam	Gateway HS	Owen, Jay	FFJA
Clemons, Amy	Frostproof HS	Palau, Christina	Suwannee HS
Cole, Mark	FFJA	Patterson, Janel	FFJA
Collier, Stephanie	Cadence	Peck, Bobby	FFJA
Cox, Trevor	The Knights	Porter, Stephen	Lyman HS
Crawford, Nike	NON VOTING - FFJA	Roche, Lisa	NON VOTING - Lake Mary HS
Dershimer, Michele	Greenwood Lakes MS	Roland, Sarah	Colonial HS
Dershimer, Wil	Deltona HS	Sapienza, Bill	27th Parallel
Fenimore, Katie	Seminole HS Sanford	Schimmel, Ben	Lake Mary HS
Fermaint, Hector	NON VOTING - Gateway HS	Sikes, Mary	Fernandina Beach HS
Fields, Cichele	FFJA	Slaughter, Tom	DLP Percussion Co
Florentino, Bob	Celsius	Stump, Sharon	Fahrenheit
Flynn, Joe	Paradigm	Sullivan, Billy	George Jenkins HS
Gulliford, George	FFJA	Tatum, Mark	Lake Howell HS
Hardrove, Robert	FFJA	Taylor, Jim	FFJA
Higbe, Julie	Orange Park HS	Taylor, Susan	FFJA
Higbe, Mike	FFJA	Thompson, Jarrel	St. Cloud HS
Hines, Rhonda	FFJA	Van Romer, Jim	NON VOTING - Fahrenheit
Jorgesen, Dustin	Frostproof HS Percussion	Waldron, Shelba	Chamberlain HS
Karp, Jen	University HS	Watts, Veronica	NON VOTING - Spruce Creek HS
Kenney, Karen	1st Degree	Wilkerson, John	Baldwin J/S HS
Kuefler, Nick	History of Urban Form		

Call to Order: By President Mike Higbe at 2:10 PM

Opening Comments: Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated everyone for their accomplishments of the season.

REPORTS:

Northeast Area Rep – Joe Flynn – clarified as submitted, focusing on congratulating units from the area succeeding at World Championships

Southwest Area Rep – Shelba Waldron – clarified as submitted, focusing on percussion area concerns

Central Area Rep – Michele Dershimer – clarified as submitted, focusing on the movement towards stronger Cadet class units

Chief Judge – Tom Slaughter – clarified as submitted, focusing on the needs to modify structure to handle the growth of the association (FFJA board, etc.)

Contest Coordinator – Jim Taylor – clarified as submitted, focusing on the introduction of percussion, the possibility of purchasing a second sound system and upgrading our current system, finding our missing banner, the possibility of conducting a “contest summit” meeting during the summer to streamline the contest procedure, and the possibility of revamping the Championships volunteer system.

Public Relations Coordinator – Jay Owen - clarified as submitted, focusing on the web site, the yearbook project, and future suggestions.

Treasurer – Sue Taylor – clarified as submitted by Jim Taylor, focusing on the account balances, the desire to create a finance committee, and the desire to create a financial “cushion” for Championships.

Secretary – Stephen Alia – clarified as submitted.

Motion to accept minutes from the September meeting – second - **APPROVED**

Vice-President – Jim Van Romer – clarified as submitted, focusing on the Championships event, sponsorships, and the video project.

President – Mike Higbe - clarified as submitted, focusing on double contest weekends, the yearbook project, outreaching into other circuits, our WGI World Championships results, the growth of percussion, continued education, scholarships, and items that were discussed at the WGI meetings.

Motion to accept Board reports as presented – second - **APPROVED**

OLD BUSINESS:

Quorum was not present to consider an amendment to the FFCC Constitution & By-Laws.

NEW BUSINESS:

2006 WGI Contest Schedule & FFCC Tentative Schedule

Motion to have Premiere dates on January 14 & 21 – Second – **APPROVED**
Motion to have Championships on March 31-April 2 – Second - **APPROVED**

Straw-poll vote to have Championships in Orlando - **YES**

Policy & Procedure Proposals

Proposal #1 (*Any performer that earns a gold medal in a particular category at FFCC Solo/Duet Champs shall not be eligible to compete in that category at future FFCC Solo/Duet Champs.*) – Read and clarified by Nick Koeffler – discussion pro/con – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - NO**

Proposal #2 (*Establish a mailing deadline in advance of the initial membership meeting for those units that mail their registration.*) – Read and clarified by Janel Patterson – discussion pro/con – friendly amendment to change the proposal to “POSTMARKED 7 days prior” – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - NO**

Proposal #3 (*Add independent observers to the random draw process.*) – **WITHDRAWN**

Proposal #4 (*Membership received after the day of the membership meeting will be entered into each contest by order of postmark. Entries with the same postmark will be randomized using Excel.*) – Clarified by “received to end of the meeting” – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #5 (*Member units designate their drawing delegate in writing at the time of membership registration.*) – Read and clarified by Janel Patterson – discussion pro/con – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - NO**

Proposal #6 (*Change pay scale for judges.*) – Clarified by Tom Slaughter - **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #7 (*Show sponsors must submit their hotel selection with their bid, or the bid will be considered incomplete and invalid.*) – Read and clarified by Tom Slaughter – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - YES**

Proposal #8 (*Board of Officers members must receive a projected cash flow statement for the approaching season by December 1st.*) – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #9 (*Board of Officers members must receive reconciled financial statements by the 20th of Dec, Jan, Feb, March, & Apr for the prior month.*) – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #10 (*Board of Officers members must receive a monthly budget report by the 20th of Dec, Jan, Feb, March, & Apr for the prior month.*) – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #11 (*The FFCC will provide the opportunity for a show host to cancel a portion of their contest (perc/guard) at a point 30 days out of the show if at least 6 units are not registered for that portion of the contest.*) - Read by Stephen Alia – Clarified by Tom Slaughter – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - YES**

Proposal #12 (*Any show host that, on their own, cancels their contest less than 30 days before the contest date is responsible for all costs incurred by the FFCC and/or FFJA due to the cancellation, including a \$100.00 fee for each judge and contest director scheduled for the contest.*) – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS** - Recommendation from the membership that show host unit be required to pay the fees before their unit be permitted to perform again in the circuit.

Proposal #13 (*All judges will be provided their own hotel rooms.*) – Read and clarified by Tom Slaughter – amendment offered and rejected – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP – ALL YES EXCEPT 3 NO**

Proposal #14 (*Show sponsors are responsible for hotel accommodations for up to 4 judges and contest staff for their show, for up to 2 nights.*) – Read and clarified by Tom Slaughter – discussion pro/con – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - 20 YES / 10 NO**

Proposal #15 (*Any contest that does not have a full judging panel will not be used to calculate Championships seeding.*) – Read and clarified by Tom Slaughter – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - 16 YES / 8 NO**

Proposal #16 (*The combined AA/AAA class is eliminated from Premiere. Units may only enter AAA class at Premiere if they were in AAA class for the previous year, are moving up from B class, or by petition to the Chief Judge.*) – Clarified by Jim Taylor – **APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Proposal #17 (*Units are restricted from dropping more than one class per season.*) – Read and clarified by Jim Taylor – discussion pro/con – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP – ALL NO EXCEPT 7 YES**

Proposal #18 (*Any performer in a scholastic program may audition and/or perform with an independent unit if they sit out of the activity for a performance year or have a signed release from the scholastic program.*) – Read and clarified by Barry Miller – discussion pro/con – recommendation from the membership that the circuit create a form for this purpose – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP - 21 YES / 24 NO**

Proposal #19 (*Divide the FFCC Solo & Duet Championships into Independent & Scholastic divisions.*) – Presented by the Board – Read by Stephen Alia –
STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP – ALL YES EXCEPT 6 NO

Proposal #20 (*Policy & procedure changes may only be proposed to the board every 2 years, unless the proposal would bring us into line with WGI.*) – Presented by the Board – Read by Stephen Alia – Clarified by Joe Flynn – discussion pro/con – **STRAW POLL OF MEMBERSHIP – ALL NO EXCEPT 6 YES**

Election of 2005-2006 Board of Officers

Discussion was held to clarify the new responsibilities of the Area Reps.

A straw poll vote was held to find out the wishes of the circuit in regards to this representation. Overwhelming majority voted for the system created this morning.

Northeast Area Representative (Cadet-B-AAA)

Nominees – John Wilkerson
Elected Member – John Wilkerson (by acclimation)

Central Area Representative (AA-Non-national participating A)

Nominees – Ben Adams
Elected Member – Ben Adams (by acclimation)

Southwest Area Representative (National participating A-Open-World)

Nominees – Erin Brown
Elected Member – Erin Brown (by acclimation)

Chief Judge

Nominees – Tom Slaughter
Elected Member – Tom Slaughter (by acclimation)

Contest Coordinator

Nominees – Jim Taylor, John Myers
Elected Member – Jim Taylor, 35-18

Public Relations Coordinator

Nominees – Jay Owen
Elected Member – Jay Owen (by acclimation)

Treasurer

Nominees – Sue Taylor, Karen Kenney
Elected Member – Sue Taylor, 30-22

Secretary

Nominees – Stephen Alia
Elected Member – Stephen Alia (by acclimation)

Vice-President

Nominees – Jim Van Romer
Elected Member – Jim Van Romer (by acclimation)

President

Nominees – Mike Higbe
Elected Member – Mike Higbe (by acclimation)

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn. – **APPROVED**