

Proposal #1 - Submitted by: Carrie Short; Seminole High School

Eliminate the number of performers rule in novice, cadet, and B classes. This new rule should state that there might be an unlimited number of performers however only 30 may be on the floor at any given time.

Rationale:

The rule has been enforced in the south Florida area and has allowed feeder guards to expand. We have experienced that with our middle school students that were cut (due to number restrictions) are unwilling to try out again in high school because of being cut in middle school. Because of this, we are experiencing a drought of new members at the high school. We consistently have 50 to 60 try out every year but have to cut 30 people. They become afraid to try out again at the high school level. The change of this rule in developing classes will allow more students to participate and grow both the smaller classes and potentially higher level competitive guards.

Proposal #2 - Submitted by: Carrie Short; Seminole High School

Split the state into two regions. Premiere will happen on the same weekend in both regions and be held on opposite coasts. Championships will be centrally located in the Orlando area.

Rationale:

This rule would force everyone to travel out of their home region at least once a season. I believe the current idea is for championships to move to opposite coasts every year. This will give a definite disadvantage to the west coast guards that will have to pay for travel for premiere and championships, and vice versa next year. Putting premiere on opposite coasts is economically fair to all members of the circuit. It forces all members of the circuit to travel at least once.

Proposal #3 - Submitted by: Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

Create a position of education coordinator. This would be a paid position to coordinate education for circuit members and would sit as a non-voting member of the FFCC Board of Officers. The details of the position to be defined by a committee consisting of the Class Representatives and other Board approved appointees, with input from the membership.

Rationale:

The size of the circuit has grown to the point where once-a-year dissemination of information no longer serves the bulk of the circuit. We need direct on ongoing information for every level of color guard. Those needs have to be defined and a direct plan of action needs to be in place to meet them. This job would require time and dedication and should be a paid position and therefore could not be a voting member of the board. It will also require us to look at the potential of new technology available to us through the Internet on our own web site and through social networking possibilities. Time and the economy make the possibility of physically gathering a challenge and while face-to-face interaction is the best possible learning environment, getting the information to instructors and students should be a priority.

Proposal # 4 – Submitted by: Shelba Waldron; FFJA

Eliminate the policy that all guards are only allowed 3 critiques a season.

Rationale:

This issue is two-fold having to deal with the education of guards and judges. Guards are waiting around to register for their 3 critiques until they find out who will be on the panel. Unfortunately for the local judges, many of the national units don't want to go to critique if they think the panel is a majority non-national panel. This eliminates dialogue on both sides of the table for local judges and instructors. Judges who are less experienced need constant dialogue with all instructors who choose to speak with them. As a judge, there are times when I have wanted to expand on my dialogue with a guard, but didn't have the opportunity because they weren't signed up for critique. I have also heard several instructors talk about the fear of missing or being late to critique for fear of losing their surety bond. Instructors shouldn't feel that they are bound by critique based on a sign up process early in the season. There are times that the decision to go to critique is made the day of the show, based on the individual's personal needs of the guard. Finally, the youngest and newest color guards need as many critiques as they can get so they can be inundated with information and the opportunity to be taught concepts related to the sheets. The FFCC should be offering as many opportunities for guards and judges to collaborate and it should be up to the individual guard to choose to go to as many as they feel like going to, based on the shows they sign up for. Our judges are paid very well and part of their job is to talk with the guards and offer guidance, regardless of how big the show is. We need to open the door to communication and education in as many ways as possible.

Proposal # 5 – Submitted by: Sebastian Clark ; Lake Wales High School

FFCC should organize sectioned Educational Workshops for new/old Guard Directors.

Rationale:

With the large increase of new circuit units, the FFCC would benefit as a whole by offering a variety of director/ designer/ choreographer/ team sponsor / instructor/ adjudication workshops leading up until Premier. This would give new guard directors a chance to invite their local high school band directors and/or school sponsors to explore membership information, performance changes as well as upcoming team requirements. This will also give Class Reps a chance to introduce themselves and well as answer any pre-premier questions. Maybe have 3 in Fall (North, Central, South).

Proposal #6 – Submitted by: Sebastian Clark; Lake Wales High School

FFCC should set up, organize and/or facilitate a Director's Choice room at Championship. This room and/or area would allow Team Director's a chance to display, sell or market any used flags, costumes, floors or props they may want to get rid of.

Rationale:

I understand we have the classified area on the website, but this could be a great (Show and Tell market) to save on new silks or replenish old costumes after the season is over. The FFCC should see it as a Bridges Builder for networking between teams, staff and directors.

Even if there's not a specific area to house props, costumes, floors etc., a small poster can be created with pictures, condition, quantity and contact information for each specific item.

Proposal #7 – Submitted by: Sebastian Clark; Lake Wales High School

FFCC should require each show host to provide additional floor crew that could help each performing team on and off the floor.

Rationale:

Yes, it is the obligation of each team director to provide enough support for their own team on and off the floor. However, this will only provide a back-up crew as a common courtesy for teams who just may not have the ability to provide enough floor support or in the event of an emergency situation. I think it's just a nice gesture...

Proposal #8 – Submitted by: Sebastian Clark; Lake Wales High School

FFCC should require the Circuit Championship Host to provide additional floor crew that could help each performing team on and off the floor. Or the FFCC could require and assign teams to assist other teams at championships.

Rationale:

If the show host provided the extra help; chaperones, parents, staff, director and/or regular floor crew would get the ease of finally being able to watch their team's final performance without floor stress. If each team were assigned to another team, it could cause concerns such as schedules and availability of team. But there could be a new rotation format that avoids this concern as well.

Proposal #9 – Submitted by: Sebastian Clark; Lake Wales High School

FFCC should re-instate the steering committee or explain what happened to it and its purpose?

Rationale:

None Given

Proposal #10 – Submitted by: Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

FFCC Contests will only be required to offer a maximum of 60'x90' of competitive space.

Rationale:

Local show sponsor's resources are taxed now to provide the 60x90 area and following the proposed WGI rule changes would limit potential show sponsors.

Proposal #11 – Submitted by Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

Performing members may only cross the front boundary as part of the set up or break down of props or equipment used in the performance of their program. At no time is it acceptable for performers to enter the front or back stands as part of their set up or break down.

Rationale:

The exposure to possible insurance liability and litigation would be greatly increased if the FFCC followed WGI guidelines.

Proposal #12 – Submitted by Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

In addition to a piece of tape at the front and back boundaries, there will also be a small piece of tape at the front and back to indicate the center line. In cases where a horizontal time line is used there will also be a piece of tape to indicate the horizontal time line.

Rationale:

Units need those indicators to allow them to line up their floors and to know where their interval time starts and stops. The new policy established by WGI does not include these indicators.

Proposal #13 – Submitted by Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

FFCC will provide medals for first, second, and third place winners of each division and class of competition. One medal per performer, additional medals will be available for purchase at cost.

Rationale:

This would significantly reduce the cost of awards at Championships without impacting the recognition of the performers. Based on last year's membership this would represent a potential savings of \$3,368.75.

Proposal #14 – Submitted by Michael Higbe; Fleming Island High School

Create another level of membership for the FFCC. This would be a reduced price membership that would allow greater participation by units with limited budgets. This "A la carte" membership would allow the units to pay only for the contests they want to attend. This rate would be less than the current \$200.00 per show fee for non-member units thus allowing them to attend more shows. If they meet the requirements for championships, they could pay a championship assessment to attend. The "a la carte" membership could be upgraded, as the unit is able to meet that financial responsibility.

Rationale:

In order to keep units active and involved during the next wave of education spending cuts, we are going to have to get creative in order to keep units functioning through tough economic times.

Proposal #15 – Submitted by Trevor Cox; Cypress Creek High School

If a person that is associated with a competing unit is found to be videotaping and refuses to stop when asked by circuit personnel, the units they are associated with shall forfeit their surety bond. The group will not allowed to compete at another FFCC event until their surety bond is paid at the new price.

Rationale:

This will put more responsibility on the directors and staff of guards to communicate with the parents and fans of their organization about the rules of the circuit. There were a number of incidents at Circuit Championships that could have been cause for penalty, even disqualification of a unit, but it is not fair to the kids and performers to be penalized for the actions of the adults and fans of the activity.