

**Colorado Bandmasters Association
Marching Band Committee Meeting**

December 15, 2012

9:00am-3:00pm

Meeting called by Ken Ovrebo, Marching Chair

Attendees: Ken Ovrebo, Marching Chair
Sara Wynes, Cherry Creek
Steve Martin, D'Evelyn HS
Stoney Black, Air Academy HS
Keith Bisailon, Harrison HS
Matt Drase, Windsor HS
Tammy Ahmed, Bear Creek HS
Orlando Otis, Legend HS
Darren Dukart, Woodland Park HS
Phil Olivas, Mesa Ridge HS
Ryan Crabtree, Fruita Monument HS
Clay Stansberry, Legacy HS
Paul Farus, Bethoud HS
Melanie Hawthorne, Recording Secretary

Distribution of Minutes and Committee Report

- Previous minutes were approved at the All-State Band Marching Committee meeting
- Approval of April 13th meeting minutes
 - Motion made by Clay Stansberry to approve the April 13th Marching Committee minutes, seconded by Sara Wynes, and approved by all committee members. Motioned carried.
- Marching subcommittee packet given to attending members.
 - Summary: Given the stadium issues, geography, travel, etc., the system we are using now is working, and the committee is okay with what is being done currently, but will be open-minded to alternatives.
 - Ken Ovrebo will put this packet on the CBA marching website. Other directors should be referred to this document.
 - Questions, comments and discussion from committee
 - The possibility of going back to having two locations for state quarterfinals and semi finals
 - This was discussed in depth and approved at a previous meeting when it was being done and it was decided that it was a bad idea because of the following: the cost of four stadiums and two sets of staff is not economical, it is difficult to find two or more stadiums to use simultaneously, the groups that don't make it out of quarterfinals don't get the experience of the "state" stadium.

Financial Report

- Checking Account Balance \$56,086.08
- Marching Savings Account \$40,367.83
- Credit Card Balance \$34.07
- Net \$96,419.84

- Attending members received a budget summary
 - There is still some revenue to come in such as sponsorship, entry fees, and a Jolesch rebate estimated at \$2,000-\$3,000.
- A year ago a savings account was created for marching band in case of an emergency with the goal of \$50,000.
- Update on insurance – Clay Stansberry
 - CBA has insurance through the non-profit organization, can Sara Wynes look into getting this for marching band events?
 - We need to develop the number (amount of money) we need if marching does go broke to sustain for a year.
- Profit, what to do with \$ (numbers)
 - Keep 20 for other activities in checking account.
 - 20-26 into marching saving account
 - 10/11 give to CBA
 - Motion made by Clay to give \$10,000 to the CBA general fund, \$20,000 to keep in the marching checking account, and \$26,000 to savings, seconded by Darren Dukart, approved by all board members.
 - The committee’s recommendation is to meet a goal of \$75,000 and then \$5000 increases after that. The committee will reassess this.
- State report was given to all attending members
 - Gate admissions profit has increased significantly.
 - Taking into account credit card fees on gate is \$6,000-\$7,000.
 - Gate admission results: 4A and 5A had 30%, and 1A, 2A, 3A had 18% of sales by credit cards. CBA Marching will continue using credit cards.
 - A pro to credit card using: zero checks returned, one credit card transaction denied, and we get the money instantly.
 - Locations versus cost of stadium balances out (see CBA Dec. 2nd minutes)
 - The handout given to all attending members reflects changes made at the December 2nd CBA board meeting.
 - Stadium fee versus rental fee
 - Stadium: trash, lights, security, etc.
 - Rental: “rights fee,” CSU does not charge for this, but the Air Force Stadium does (includes a lot of needs).
 - The Air Force Stadium is a flat fee of \$15,000.
- CBA Parade
 - Loss of \$875.
 - This parade needs to be re-evaluated by the committee.
- CBA Regional Rebate
 - Rebates totaled 10% of gross gate receipts, totaling \$3,839.80.
 - Breakdown: South \$819, North \$1,133, West \$504, Metro 2A and 5A \$511, and Metro \$872.
- CBA State Festival

Committee Members Responsibility

-Solicit input for decisions regarding policy, changes, etc. Report to area directors. Conduct meetings at district events, honor bands, etc.

2013 Marching Season

- Proposal: CBA should discontinue the State Parade Championship.
 - Rationale: there is no qualifying for this event, number of participating bands does not create a true contest, there is not representation of all parts of the state, and CBA does lose money on this event.
 - Argument for maintaining the parade: 25% of the competing bands do not participate in field show events, and this is the only CBA marching band activity they participate in. Financially CBA does not lose a significant amount of money.
 - Discussion
 - There are more bands that participate in 4A and 5A so there is not representation from all parts of the state.
 - For some marching bands this is the only marching activity they do (all but three bands that do the parade do a field show as well).
 - The parade is a lot of work, is it worth it? Working with the Harvest Festival can be very last minute.
 - For the bands that are outside of Denver it is not a viable event to attend.
 - Not all state champions are there, so it is not really a state champion parade.
 - The parade is worth keeping because cancelling it makes it assumed that it is not important.
 - Would a location change help? Not call it the State Champion CBA Parade?
 - Cancelling the parade will affect so few bands, in contrast cutting field shows or concert band would affect a lot more statewide.
 - One of the main issues is calling it the State Champion Parade.
 - It was originally created to provide footage to have to submit for national competitions, (Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, etc).
 - Out of ninety-two marching bands in the state, only twelve attended the parade this previous year.
 - Suggestions
 - Cancel the parade for a year and reassess feedback; what was a season like with out it?
 - Add CBA sanctioned parades, but not cost effective.
 - Keep it the way it is because benefiting even a few programs is worth it.
 - Take championship title off of it this coming year and re-evaluate next year.
 - Contact participating bands and ask if removing the word "championship" from the title would affect their participation.
 - Ken Ovrebo will speak with directors and the committee will revisit this topic and make a decision in the spring based on collected information.
- Sanctioned Contest Dates
 - September 24, Jeffco Marching Festival
 - September 28, Legacy Marching Festival
 - October 5, Colorado West Marching Festival & Pomona Marching Festival
 - Other contests to be scheduled-
 - Arapahoe Invitational is trying to get dates from stadium manager,

Douglas County Marching Invitational, Woodland Park Marching Festival has a possibility of October 12.

- Other marching events
 - Clinic/Show in Delta possibly September 21st. The previous clinic received great feedback.
 - Delta will host this year.
 - Clinic/Show in southern Colorado at Harrison on September 21st
 - Keith asking to partner with CBA for south clinic/show.
 - Would like to start something in the north, committee should pursue directors and locations in the north. We need to have three fields to use simultaneously to make this work, one of them being the stadium.
 - Allan Mills from CSU Pueblo is interested in doing another.
- Proposal: Regional week will be from October 14-18.
 - Motion made by Sara Wynes to approve the dates of October 14-18 for marching regional, seconded by Phil Olvas, and approved by all committee members.
 - Proposal: State Dates- October 25 and 26 for 4A and 5A as first choice, November 1 and 2 as second choice, Oct 28 for 1A, 2A, 3A in Grand Junction.
 - Motion made by Orlando Otis to accept proposed state dates, seconded by Tammy Ahmed, and approved by all committee members.
- Location for the 4A and 5A State contests
 - CSU is the first choice; the Air Force Stadium is the second choice.
 - If both stadiums are available, the date takes the priority.
 - Suggestion of the possibility of two years at each location because 4A and 5A rotate who goes first, and by doing only one year, the same groups goes first at the same location every other year. A two year rotation would solve this.
 - Motion made by Clay Stansberry to approve a two-year rotation at the same stadium, seconded by Matt Drase, approved by the majority of the committee. Not approved by one member. Motion carried.
- This upcoming year 4A and 5A bands will go first in quarter finals and semi finals.
- Regional sites (bids and procedure for determining regional host)
 - Bid applications due Dec. 19. Decision made prior to CMEA by marching chair, chief judge and one marching committee member from that region. Regionals up for bid are Western & Southern.
 - Western Regional
 - Central High School re-bid and was the only bid in as of December 1.
 - Southern Regional
 - Three bids: CSU Pueblo/Pueblo South High School, La Junta High School, and Rampart High School. CSU Pueblo pulled out because the only day they can do it is Monday.
 - Stoney Black and Darren Dukart will speak with all of the southern directors about CSU Pueblo and the possibility of a Monday regional.
- Regional site issues

-At Northern Regional there was no percussion warm up and must be provided this next year as well as body warm up and two music sites. Ken/committee members will visit site to evaluate.

-The grass field, no track where the stands start causes the opinion that it impacts judging.

-Orlando: the noise bleed from percussion is an issue as well as there not being enough space away from the stadium to rehearse. The solution is that the right and left field will be one space. The construction from this previous year is over. There will not be a paved area at the back of the stadium that will be used for color guard. Ken and the committee will visit to evaluate. Bands will flow from body to music on the same field to keep two groups going at the same tie. The pit will either be on a mini road between the two stadiums with lights or there will be a new paved road for pit or color guard.

-Classification numbers

-These will be set and sent out in January after the October count is received.

Scheduling for Regionals

-Should scheduling for regionals be done by a completely blind draw or by blind draw in groups of four? Recommendation is blind draw in groups of four, including previous year champion in blind draw.

-Previously this was done by groups of four based on the previous years finish and the champion in each class always goes last.

-There were concerns received from directors that would like to discuss the possibility of doing groups of six instead of four.

-The reason for this is so that the middle of the road bands can possibly shift out of the same time frame.

-There is concern that the middle groups may not be getting the best read.

-Discussion: the larger the opening the worse the read because the time frame of separation makes it more difficult for the judges to place.

-Discussion: the need for similar bands to perform near each other makes it easier for judges to compare and score.

-The previous year's champion should be included in the blind draw.

-Motion made by Darren Dukart to keep the draw at four bands, seconded by Tammy Ahmed, approved by the majority of committee members. Not approved by four members. Motion carried.

Scheduling for Quarterfinals

-Should 4A/5A quarterfinals scheduling be in reverse order of seeding from regionals or revert back to blind draw in groups of four? Recommendation is to go back to draw in blocks of four. Directors feel it is fairer, 2012 state judges could not tell it was a reverse order seeding.

-The purpose of regionals is to get the correct bands to move on to state.

-There are concerns with the chance of dropping or moving significantly in quarterfinals.

-The possibility of removing automatic qualifying because it adds time. This has been discussed in the past and was voted down.

-There are concerns with what happens during regionals in one year will affect the following year.

-The feedback from the directors this year is that they do not like reverse order.

-Motion made by Darren Dukart to continue one more year with the format that was used this fall during quarterfinals seeding in reverse order from regionals and will be re-evaluated next year, seconded by Matt Drase, approved by majority of the committee. Not approved by one member.
Motion carried.

Two-year decisions

-Motion made by Darren Dukart to make all decisions last two years.

-Discussion: this should be a recommendation, not a motion because there are too many variables such as tickets sales, etc.

-Motion tabled.

Proposal: Regional hosts should be allowed to raise ticket prices by \$2.00 to \$10 for adults, \$6 for students, seniors, and/or military. Rationale: ticket prices have not increased for at least four years. Costs are going up (increase in mileage, adding color guard and percussion judges, etc.). Four out of five regional hosts support this increase.

-Regional hosts take over financial end of running regional and are not bringing in much money.

-Motion made by Clay Stanberry to approve the \$2 increase, seconded by Sara Wynes, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

Proposal from Chuck Stephen: should CBA events have a color guard judge and a percussion judge?

-Members received a handout.

-This would help color guard/percussion get better, be held accountable, and help instructors be able to evaluate.

-Issues/Discussion:

-Different results between “best” color guard and percussion section versus the actual state champion band

-Scores would not be published but used only as a tool for instructors.

-This would be at sanctioned shows and regionals only, not state.

-The cost of hiring an additional judge.

-The separation of “winning drumline” versus being the tenth place band can affect programs.

-There is concern that a general judge may second-guess themselves commenting on color guard or percussion if there is a color guard or percussion judge as well.

-It would be okay to have the judge do comments only on percussion and color guard.

-Motion made by Clay Stansberry for a judge and comments only for percussion and color guard, no ranks or scores, required at all regional events and recommended for sanctioned shows, seconded by Stoney Black, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

Chief Judge Report

-Most of discussion tabled due to the chief judge not being present.

-Judging sheet will be paperless in 2013.

- This is so that the judge can have more flexibility during shows to make sure numbers are ranking the bands correctly. The goal of this is to manage the numbers better, get the correct spread, and make the judging more precise.
- An issue is the trouble with the wireless internet connection, this will need preparation in advance.
- Judge Consistency ie. Regionals
 - There is a need for CBA judges to be involved in a private contest prior to regionals.
 - Regional judges for Wednesday or Thursday should attend another regional earlier in the week.
 - Judges need experience during the season.
 - Sanctioned shows will be asked to add two to three judges from regionals.
 - The opportunity was provided in the previous year for regionals judges to shadow other judges at sanctioned and regional shows but was not taken advantage of.
 - It was suggested that regional judges be asked to read, not judge, another show prior to their regional.
 - This is tabled but Ken and W.L. will discuss.
- 2013 Judge Salary Scale
 - All members received a handout.
 - The pay increase has been made to be closer to the national average of judges' pay.
 - Motioned made by Ken Ovrebo to approve the pay scale change, seconded by Steve Martin, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.
- Judge and Director Training
 - The training will be moved closer to the start of the marching season. TBA depending on the times and locations available.

Proposal from Tammy Ahmed – Should CBA not allow competing band directors to judge each other's bands? The adjudication training sessions have been growing each year. Use members who have attended these sessions and who have completed the required training to adjudicate and alleviate the need for competing directors to adjudicate.

- All members received a handout.
- Issue: is it difficult to judge peer's bands in the same class?
- Discussion:
 - If we eliminate peer judging, we eliminate a lot of great judges.
 - There is not evidence of problems with rankings.
- Motion made by Tammy Ahmed to not allow peer judging in the same class, not seconded, full committee opposed to motion, does not carry.

Proposal from Tammy Ahmed – Should CBA give the option to perform for comments only? In order to serve all of the bands and students in Colorado, CBA should allow bands to choose to perform for comments only. Bands would still be required to pay the contest entry fees. This may serve as a positive growth arena for some bands.

- The director needs to be a CBA member.
- Suggestion that those bands should go on first, but this would affect the time schedule for all of the other bands.
- The concern that this would cause inconsistency with judging, but it would not affect judging because they are not worried about ranking.

-The judges should know, that way they aren't focusing on numbers, they get to just focus on comments.

-Motion made by Clay Stansberry to give an option for bands to perform for comments only, seconded by Darren Dukart, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

-Tabled on the issue of how this will work. After we know how many bands are interested, host can make decisions. The possibility of putting in the right to say where and when they go? Or not because they pay the same amount?

Proposal from Tammy Ahmed – All Metro area bands in the same class compete on the same night.

-A situation in 2012 came up because the regionals were made more balanced by shifting three bands. It created the issue that directors felt they were pushed to a different regional because they were out of the ranking.

-An issue is if three bands are removed from a regional the hosts lose money.

-This is tabled for further discussion.

Proposed Rule Changes

-All members received a handout.

-5.07

-Changes: All performers and any objects used during the Performance must be entirely within the Performance Field. Any performer or object that crosses a boundary line or is placed across a boundary line is out of bounds. A performer in contact with any out-of-bounds object is considered to be out of bounds. Exceptions: Student conductors are exempt from boundary line restrictions. Drum major (student conductor) podiums may be placed anywhere in or out of the Performance Field. If a performer or object is forced across a boundary by wind or other act beyond the control of the performer it is not a boundary line violation and no penalty will be assessed. If a podium is partially or completely out of bounds it may not be contacted by any performer other than student conductors.

-Motioned made by Paul Farus to accept the changes, seconded by Steve Martin, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

-5.08

-Time and penalty changes: 0.2 per 6 seconds of fraction thereof but with a 1.0 minimum penalty.

-Motioned made by Sara Wynes to accept the changes, seconded by Orlando Otis, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

-6.01

-The final paragraph is a duplicate of rule 6.03 and should be deleted.

-Motion made by Steve Martin to accept changes, seconded by Clay Stansberry, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

-6.03

-Soundboards may be controlled remotely by electronic devices for the purposes of adjusting the volume levels only.

-Motion made by Clay Stansberry to accept changes, seconded by Paul Farus, approved by all committee members. Motion carried.

Timing and Penalty Issues

-Concerning controlling soundboards remotely, see changes to rule 6.03.

CBA Workshops and Educational Opportunities

- Student workshops
- Issues with 2012: location, space, too many kids with different ability levels. Future workshops will be made for coaches, captains, and advanced ability level students only.
- Visual workshops
 - Huge success.
- Look into the possibility of moving to a southern school, possibly Colorado Springs area to attract more interest.
- Continue the Western slope workshop.
 - More input needed as to what to do with new clinics and workshops.
 - Director clinic
 - Show planning workshops in the spring.

Adjournment of Meeting

- Motioned made by Ken Ovrebo to adjourn the committee meeting, seconded by Darren Dukart, approved by all committee members. Motion carried at 2:47pm.