

Mid-York Color Guard Circuit
General Membership Meeting
November 13, 2022
West Genesee HS, Camillus, NY

Minutes:

- I. Opening – The meeting was called to order at 12:30PM by President, Scott Snell.
- II. President’s Report – Mr. Snell began his report with a thank you to Pam Gavenda for her presentation to the membership on Recognizing and Dealing with Stress Under Pressure and Professionalism. Snell remarked that we are all passionate about our students and programs and remaining calm and professional during the heat of competition and in critique is very important. Constructive communication with our students, staffs, fellow staff members and judges is paramount in keeping shows and the circuit running smoothly. Scott then offered a thank you to Kelly Mosher-Vogler and the West Genesee School District for hosting today’s meeting. Snell announced that James Branche moved out of state and resigned his position as a Board Member. The Executive Committee appointed Kelly Mosher-Vogler to the Board until the term expires on May 1, 2023. James is going to continue his role of Social Media Coordinator remotely. Derek P. is going to create a link on our website for directors to upload pictures, videos and information they are interested in sharing on social media.
- III. Vice President’s Report – Mr. Pooley reported 44 units currently have submitted purchase orders or dues to the treasurer. The deadline for dues or purchase order submission is November 15, 2022. Please get either to the treasurer by the deadline to avoid the penalty of your unit performing first in your class at all 2023 circuit shows! Derek announced he is creating a Google document for all unit directors to submit program write up information. Once all of the units have submitted all of their information, the write-up will be placed on the Director page of mycgc.org. Derek also announced he will remain the contact person for the circuit mentor program. If any director would like mentorship in any avenue of their program, at any point during the season, Derek will put you in contact with someone that can assist you.
- IV. Treasure’s Report – Mr. Morton reported since our last meeting in March, the circuit incurred expenses of \$7, 544.76 and received income of \$9,350.00. The current account balance stands at \$27,226.96. This balance is a direct result of the yearly dues increase over the past two years and continuing through the 2025 season. Morton explained the income will increase over the next few weeks, as school districts honor their purchase orders with a check. The Executive Board is working on several initiatives that will require significant funds in the coming years.
- V. Old Business:
 1. New Units – Scott introduced Andrea Leduc as the director of Johnstown HS who has been inactive for the past two seasons. The Black Nights are adding a 2nd unit to their program and Greece HS has joined the circuit for the first time.
 2. The 2022 Championship Show was a great day for the M-YCGC! Not only were the performances exciting and of great quality, but the audience was also electric and supportive! From a host standpoint, Scott said the day went extremely well administratively and procedurally. Thank you, Scott, Shen students and parents!

3. All classes will be following WGI show and equipment timing guidelines. Please refer to the WGI Handbook or the M-YCGC Handbook if you are unfamiliar with the guidelines.
4. WGI has changed the maximum number of performers on the floor for competition from 30 to 40 for all classes this year. If you are considering a higher number of performers on the floor, please keep safety in mind. Keep those kids safe!
5. Last year's M-Y COVID form will no longer be available. Pulling out of a show due to performers sick with COVID will not be allowed. The M-Y policy for a unit pulling out of a show within 4 weeks of a show carries a penalty of \$100, 3 weeks prior-\$200, 2 weeks prior-\$300, and 1 week prior-\$400. Please review the M-YCGC Handbook for this policy. (Reminder: this year's password for the director page of mycgc.org is **toss23**.)
6. Established last year, Show Host directors MUST send their show host packet containing all pertinent information for units attending their show 3 WEEKS prior. A copy must also be sent to the Vice President. Derek is going to create a Google form for directors to submit the public information about your show (start time, ticket prices, etc.) to be posted on mycgc.org. Mr. Snell asked that directors please DO NOT send a blanket email to the entire circuit with your show packet, just those attending your show.
7. Hall of Fame nominations are due to Scott Snell by Jan. 1, 2023. The Executive Board will review the nominations and choose any inductees by mid-February. This is a bit different from the past when inductees were announced at the Championship Show. This will allow inductees more time to make arrangements to attend the Championship Show where they will be honored.

VI. New Business:

1. All M-Y show critiques will follow show order, unless exceptions are made to the VP prior to the show. Same day exceptions to critique order will not be honored. New this year: unit directors will have to sign-up for critique 1 week prior to the show they are attending via Google Doc on mycgc.org. The Google doc will go live on Jan. 1st, directors can sign up for critique for all shows they are attending at that point, but no less than 1 week prior. Individual exceptions to a change in critique order may be made at this time. Derek will email show hosts the units attending critique and critique order the Wednesday before your show. He will also post it on the Director page. A reminder, the M-YCGC no longer prints recaps at shows. Critique begins at the conclusion of a show. There is no longer a lag time. Make sure your staff is at the critique room or you will be skipped and miss out on your critique time. Host units will always be scheduled last at critique.
2. Social Media is NOT the place to air your grievances with other units, staff members or judges! WGI has a strict social media Policy which we follow in the M-YCGC. It will not be tolerated. Please develop a code of conduct with your own units and include a social media policy.
3. Be respectful of the procedures outlined in your show host packets. As unit director, you can not make up your own rules at someone else's show. If you are directed to follow a certain pathway or stay out of an area, respect your show host. The procedures were put there for a reason, whether you agree or not. If you, as director, have a problem with procedures at a show, email the President the next day.
4. The 2023 Championship Show will be held at ESM High School on April 1, 2023. It will be a 1 day Championships. Marcie DeRito will be sending information to all unit directors in January.
5. The Executive Board is developing an outside judge initiative. The circuit is looking to take control of our own achievements and develop the best programs possible for our units. Currently, the M-YCGC contracts with the NYFCJ for adjudication at our shows. Assignments

are made by the Federation. The Federation has warned us for years, the pool of judges gets smaller each year. They have pleaded with our membership to join the Federation and begin the judge training process. There has been little response. The Board will be making a proposal in the coming months to take the problem into our own hands. The first step of the initiative will be to hire a M-YCGC Judge Coordinator who will work for the circuit. That person will be tasked with securing judges for our shows using the best trained judges from our local area AND outside our area or State. This will, obviously come at great expense to the circuit (paying the coordinator, paying judge fees, hotel rooms, meals, etc.) The Board is working to meet these financial obligations, some of which will come from unit dues payments. This initiative will force us to change our current format of two shows per weekend to one show per weekend. Shows will be much larger each week, as many as 35 units. Show sites will have to be large enough to hold all of the units, as well as a larger audience. Regional equity is vey important. Show sites will be secured throughout each region of the circuit. The initiative is not a dig to the NYFCJ, their executives have been made aware. Unit co-hosting may become a real and expected possibility.

6. The Executive Board made a proposal (2nd D. Abraham) to cap the M-Y Show Admission Fee at \$10 (instead of the current \$8) for this season. There was little discussion about the proposal. It was called to vote, Yes-37, No-0, Abstain-0. The proposal passed. 2023 start
7. The Executive Board made a proposal (2nd A. Preston) to purchase 7 Unit Staff Badges for each unit. These badges will be dated with the current year. If a unit needs more than 7 Staff Badges, they can be purchased at a price of \$15 each. Also, to purchase 8 Unit Crew Badges for each unit. Theses badges will not be dated and will have to be returned to the circuit at the Championship Show to be reused next year. Units will not be allowed more than 8 Crew Badges and they will not be available for purchase. If a unit does not turn in all 8 Crew Badges at Championships, they will be billed for each missing or lost badge at \$15 each. Both the Staff ad Crew Badges will get the bearer into the show for free and allowed back side seating only. (Side note, individuals DO NOT need a crew badge to help their unit on and off the floor.) Also, purchase 100 Hall of Fame Badges to be presented to all inductees. The Hall of Fame Badge allows free entrance to Hall of Fame members at all M-Y events. The purchase of all badges is expected to cost between \$800-\$1,000. There was little discussion on the proposal. It was called to vote, Yes-37, No-0, Abstain-0. The proposal passed. 2023 start
8. The Executive Board made a proposal (2nd A. Graziano) to take control of the Competition Suite management at all circuit shows. Three or four individuals will be needed and 2 will travel to the shows each week. The circuit Competition Suite Managers will be paid \$100 and mileage at the federal rate each show they work. Of the \$100 fee to be paid, \$50 will be paid by the circuit, \$50 will be paid by the show host. Show hosts will be billed by the circuit in January and the \$50 fee will have to be paid to the circuit before your show. The circuit will issue the CS Managers a check, not the show host. There was little discussion. The proposal was called to vote, Yes-38, No-0, Abstain-0. The proposal passed. 2023 start.
9. The Executive Board made a proposal (2nd D. Mataruga) that the sound system used at all M-Y shows will be provided and run by Bob English (or his employee). There was some discussion about the proposal, concerning cost. The proposal was split into two parts, an initial vote for interest, and 2nd a vote via internet after a flat fee price can be secured from Bob English (to be paid by the show host). The first vote was called, Yes-38, No-0, Abstain-0. After Scott secures the fee with Bob, a 2nd vote will be called
10. The Executive Board made a proposal (2nd D. Abraham) that each Executive Board Member be paid mileage at the federal rate to and from M-Y business events (meetings and to a show if their only reason to be there is to review a unit performance). There was little

discussion. The proposal was called to vote, Yes-37, No-0, Abstain-1. The proposal passes. Start immediately.

11. The Executive Board has appointed Allen Buell to be the announcer at all M-Y Championship Shows. His knowledge of the activity and announcing experience at the WGI level and past M-Y shows creates a level of energy matched by few.

VII. Other-Executive Board positions held by D. Pooley, L. Schmidt, and K. Mosher-Vogler will expire on May 1, 2023. Elections to fill these positions will be held at the next General Membership Meeting. If you are interested in one of these positions, contact Scott.

VIII. Announcements-The next General Membership Meeting will be held on March 5, 2023, at 12:30PM at East Syracuse-Minoa HS.

IX. Closing-The meeting ended at 2:10PM

Respectfully submitted,
James Morton, Secretary