

2019 MHSAA/MBA State Marching Championship Advisory Board Meeting
Natchez, MS State Band Clinic
December 12th, 2019

- I. The meeting was called to order by MBA President, Jerry Pickering
- II. Information about the make-up of the advisory board.
 - A. Rules for voting were discussed.
 1. Mr. Pickering stated that anyone can attend the meeting even if they don't participate in the championships or not a member of the advisory board.
 2. Anyone in the organization can present a proposal but they cannot vote. Only the advisory committee can vote and then it goes to the executive board for approval followed by the MHSAA. The MHSAA has final say on the proposal.
- III. Financial reports (on website)
 - A. After previous balance, deposits and withdrawals, our current balance of finances is 69,015.85.
 - B. The financial report was approved by the advisory committee by standing.
- IV. Approval of Minutes (on website)
 - A. Discussion about the recording of last year's minutes. Since the hard drive was lost the championship rules were not updated.
 - B. The executive board was able to piece together the minutes and update.
 - C. Updates are reflected on the minutes that are on the website.
 - D. Minutes were approved by raising of hands.
- V. Rules for last year's championship are also on the website (the green highlighted section was omitted in the manual)
- VI. Discussion about bands that made excellent ratings were included in the championships.
 - A. MHSAA recommended the MBA to include the band that requested to be added to the championships even though they made excellent ratings.
 - B. All bands that received excellent were called and asked if they wanted to be included in the championships. With the corrected manual, excellent bands will not be allowed to participate in the future. Band selection - Section 4 states the current rules for participating bands.
 - C. Mr. Yates questioned about the future of excellent bands performing in the championships.
 - D. Mr. Pickering talked about the cost of all-day passes, rules for coaching during a performance and entering the performance area.
 - E. Corrected bylaws were read which stated the current rules that were added including coaching, costuming, field entrance time, American flag codes.

VII. Championship Wrap-Up Survey

- A. 1a,2a,3a,4a and 5a will be a finals only format.
- B. 6a will have prelims and finals format.
- C. Discussion about online surveys.
- D. Judging coordinator- Dr. Jones was introduced as the judge coordinator and her qualifications for the job were discussed. She stated that she will take into consideration the concerns of the body and will address those issues when selecting judges for next year. She also talked about how to contact her and that she was very interested in the concerns of the members. The goal is to have quality judging at all sites and providing a great opportunity and experience for our students.

VIII. New Business

- A. **1st Proposal** regarding staging and prop safety. The rule was taken from the BOA site stating that the maximum height of 12 feet for a prop. The prop should not be over 6 feet tall without safety rails.
- B. Mr. Pickering called for a Motion to discuss the proposal. 2nd by Mr. Joyce.
- C. Ms. Allen recommended that we keep only the 2nd paragraph.
- D. Mr. Cannon expressed safety concerns about moving props across campuses because of electrical wires.
- E. Mr. Joyce moved to amend the current proposal to have only the last paragraph.
- F. Mr. Pickering restated the new proposal. Clarification was given about what qualifies as safety equipment. The information about the drum major podium will not be removed.
- G. Mr. Rowan stated the recommendations advised by the NFHS in regards to props, staging and safety equipment.
- H. Mr. Cannon suggested that we adopt the policy of the NFHS considering that we are governed by this body and they are responsible for liability insurance.
- I. Mr. Pickering closed the discussion.
- J. Voting for the first amended proposal that was taken from BOA rules. The proposal failed.
- K. Mr. Rowan read the NFHS proposal. The NFHS proposal was amended by the executive board to read: "When using staging over four (4) feet in height it is recommended that appropriate safety equipment be used. At six (6) feet or higher you must use safety equipment including guard rails for drum major podiums. Maximum height for a performance platform is twelve (12) feet." The advisory board voted to pass the motion of the amended NFHS safety and prop height proposal. No discussion.
- L. **2nd proposal** submitted by Mr. Cox regarding ranking from each of the districts for the purpose of determining a performance order. No second was given so there is no discussion.
- M. Mrs. Wigginton discussed whether or not on-field judges should communicate with the student performers based on an occurrence that happened at their championship performance. She asked for clarification of the judges

responsibilities. Mrs. Jones agreed this was inappropriate and not encouraged. She stated that she would discuss this with the future judging panel. Mr. Forsythe also asked for clarification of judges responsibilities. Dr. Jones discussed how the process of communication and bullet points works with the judges. Mr. Pickering requested that the body be informed of what is discussed in the judge's meeting.

- N. Mr. Pickering addressed the comments and concerns about the 6A site. Mr. Pickering talked to the principal about parking and getting the children in and out. The site would like to continue hosting the State Championships. Mr. Crawford was excited about the opportunity to continue to host the event. Mr. Crawford continued with the discussion and reiterated what Mr. Pickering discussed.

IX. ADJOURN