

## KMEA Marching Band Committee

Tim Allen, Chair

February 7, 2018, 2:00 PM

Galt House Suite Tower, Laffoon Room, Louisville, KY

### MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by chair Tim Allen at 2:00 PM. In attendance were
- |                               |                         |                          |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dist. 1 Heather DiPasquale P  | Dist. 5 Patrick Brady P | Dist. 9 Pauletta Smith P |
| Dist. 2 Alan Emerson, proxy P | Dist. 6 Jason Stolz P   | Dist. 10 Curtis Ervin P  |
| Dist. 3 Seth Peveler P        | Dist. 7 Jeff Bayerle P  | Dist. 11 David Jaggie P  |
| Dist. 4 Brian Ellis P         | Dist. 8 Brent Hunt P    | Dist. 12 Mike Arthur P   |
- Also present were KMEA President Terry Thompson, KMEA Vice-President Brad Rogers, and KMEA President-elect, Marching Band Judge Coordinator George Boulden, and KMEA Executive Director John Stroube

- II. Chair Allen asked for an approval of the agenda. JAGGIE/BRADY APPROVED

- III. Chair Allen asked for an approval of the minutes from November 9, 2017 STOLZ/ELLIS APPROVED

#### IV. Reports

- A. Tim Allen, KMEA Marching Band Committee Chair, reported that the KMEA MBC Clinic for 2018 is John Phillips, to be held Saturday at 9:00 AM. Clinicians that had been mentioned to be considered for next year were Nola Jones, Glenn Fuggett, David Starnes, Susan Smith, Gino Cipriani. After discussion, the following action took place:

**MOTION: SUSAN SMITH 1<sup>ST</sup> CHOICE ELLIS/ARTHUR PASSED**

**MOTION: DAVID STARNES 2<sup>ND</sup> CHOICE ARTHUR/BAYERLE PASSED**

Chair Allen said the next meetings would be April 28, 2018, the sanctioning meeting; and November 17, 2018.

- B. George Boulden, KMEA Marching Band Evaluator Coordinator, said that judges are being hired
- C. John Stroube, KMEA Executive Director, SMBC manager gave a 2018 championship update, indicating that UK on October 27 is still a possibility

#### V. Unfinished Business

##### SECOND READINGS

- A. Three rules relating to contingencies

IV.D.2.e *If practical, bands will perform by class in the finals event beginning with Class A, followed by AA, AAA, AAAA, and AAAAA. However, on a given year, the championships manager may change this order to allow sufficient time for bands and spectators to travel to the finals site from a distant semifinals site.*

IV.E.8 If Finals must be cancelled due to inclement weather or any other necessary reason, the scores from semifinals will be used to determine the placement of all sixteen semifinalist bands.

IV.E.9 If Semifinals and Finals must be cancelled due to inclement weather or any other necessary reason, placements will not be awarded.

## **MOTION TO GROUP THE THREE RULES ERVIN/SMITH**

### **VOTE ON ALL THREE RULES APPROVED**

#### **B. Brian Ellis brought proposed changes to judging sheets. Changes were:**

- Elimination of Distinguished and other ratings
- Inclusion of Sub-caption point spread guidelines
- More emphasis on “What” and “How”
- Visual sheet – new sub-caption name and descriptors
- Criteria page includes low and high section for each box, *with number range of each*

### **BRADY/BAYERLE ACCEPTED**

#### **C. Drones:**

KMEA will act congruently with KHSAA regulations regarding drones (which follows FAA regulations). At all KMEA sanctioned marching events there may be no use of drones for any reason, regardless of the seating capacity of the facility. The flight restrictions begin one hour prior to the start of the event and end one hour after the event has concluded. If any of these devices are detected at a KMEA sanctioned event, it is the responsibility of the contest manager to stop the activity, and ensure that any such device is not operating at the facility prior to the resumption of the activity

### **PASSED**

**D. Change SMBC application deadline** to accommodate schools that may be opening in late August per Senate Bill 50-2017:

I.D.1. All bands wishing to participate in the Regional Quarterfinals and beyond must submit an *SMBC Application Part I* to the KMEA office by **September 1** ~~August 15~~.

### **PASSED**

**E. Contest hosts be asked to submit all six judges to better inform band directors and the judge coordinator, as follows:**

II.A.5 All contest hosts must have the following information available to KMEA on the sanctioned contest application, which will be displayed in the online registration system.

- a. Name of the contest
- b. Date and starting time of contest
- c. Whether the contest shall be a single performance or prelims/finals format
- d. Names *and caption assignments* of **the six KMEA-specified** ~~at least four of the~~ judges
- e. List of awards

- f. Whether an electrical outlet, no farther than 50 feet from the front sideline, will be available for the use of the performance zone (*could be either an outlet or an extension cord*)
- g. The participation fee, if any, that will be charged to bands that enroll.

## PASSED

### F. To address possible awkwardness during the transition from preshow to show.

Shift to a BOA-type timing procedure. The band gets four minutes to set up/warm up; at 3'15" into the 4' period is the announced introduction; from the 4' mark the band gets six to eleven minutes to perform, and two minutes to clear the field. Set up may overlap with the previous band's exit. (See BOA Adjudicator Handbook, Section 19; pink attachment.)

## FAILED SECOND READING

Following the completion of the salute, the first note of live music, or the first step or visual move (not including any drum major salute), by a member of the band will start the timing of the performance. The performance must begin within 30 seconds from the completion of the salute, or timing will thereafter begin automatically.

## ERVIN/STOLZ PASSES FIRST READING

### G. Add verbiage regarding bands that are signed up for two contests on the same day, as follows:

#### III.A.6. Withdrawal and cancellation

- a. After a band is entered in a sanctioned event it may not be withdrawn unless the event is cancelled. If an entered band is the only band in its class, within twenty-four hours after the contest deadline the director of the band must email notification that the band will transfer to another contest. ***If a band is the only band in its class, and it is enrolled in a second contest on that same day, the director may withdraw the band without transferring.*** Recipients of the email should be the manager of the contest from which the band is transferring and the KMEA Executive Director. Failure to follow this procedure will result in the band remaining in the contest originally entered.

## PASSED

### H. Specifications for scheduling bands be combined and simplified, yet retain the current intent, as follows:

#### III.B. SCHEDULING BANDS FOR ASSESSMENT

##### ~~1. Scheduling~~

- a. Bands are to be scheduled by classification ~~using one of the following methods:~~
  - ~~i. Classification, with the classifications proceeding from smallest to largest and performance order within classification determined by random drawing.~~
  - ii. Classification, with performance order within classification determined by random drawing. ***It is suggested that classifications proceed from smallest to largest.***

## PASSED

**I. Request to allow an aide for IEP student in the pit. Add the following exception to the rule about adults:**

III.C.1.c. Only band members, band staff and equipment crews will be allowed in the performance area. Once the performance has begun, band directors and staff must leave the performance area.

**d. Allowable exceptions:**

- i.** For the safety of the students, band staff/adults may remain **in the performance area** ~~on the field~~ to secure props, if needed.
- ii.** **If a student has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that specifies a need for assistance, an aide who is fulfilling that need may accompany the student in the performance area during any part of the performance.**

**PASSED**

**J. Rule about adults remaining on the field to secure props strengthened to read as follows:**

III.C.1.c. Only band members, band staff and equipment crews will be allowed in the performance area. Once the performance has begun, band directors and staff must leave the performance area. For the safety of the students, **and with permission of the contest manager,** band staff/adults may remain **in** ~~on~~ the **performance area** ~~field~~ to secure props, if needed. **In emergencies, adults may enter the performance area with no penalty.**

**PASSED**

**K. Rule specifically limiting the placement of speakers, amps, sound board, or any electronic equipment.**

III.C.1.d Props **and other grounded equipment, with the exception of soundboards,** must be situated within the performance assessment event field as defined in II.B.2.

**PASSED**

**L. To refer to III.C.1.f when defining the performance area, rather than II.B.2.**

III.C.1.d. Props must be situated within the performance assessment event field as defined in **III.C.1.f** ~~II.B.2.~~

**PASSED**

**VI. New Business**

**A. Chair Tim Allen presented recommendations for SMBC Better Quality Experience from an SMBC subcommittee that do not require a rule change or additional cost.**

An ethics statement that:

- Will be printed in programs at all KMEA sanctioned marching events.
- Will be read by the announcer at all KMEA sanctioned marching events.
- Will be sent to all band booster presidents.

- Is to encourage audience members affiliated with competing bands to acknowledge and show support (through applause) to ALL competing bands.

**As performers, parents, and directors we must strive to demonstrate our continued support for everyone involved in this activity—it is what makes the marching arts unique as a competitive event. Our support, involvement, and encouragement from the stands impacts the overall environment, and is critical to creating and promoting the best experience for the students, directors, and parents. Additionally, we are expected to support all bands that are performing through our genuine and generous applause. Thank you for being in attendance and serving as a positive role model for every band performing today.**

## **MOTION TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT AND THE STRATEGY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF ITS INTENT STOLZ/BRADY APPROVAL 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

### **B. Chair Allen proposed Host manager responsibilities using current SMBC format**

Staff: All staff working at SMBC event should be issued and wear a KMEA badge for quick identification, and all guides and checkpoint personnel should have a neon-colored vest for quick identification.

Guides for Semifinals and Finals:

- Every band should be assigned a personal guide to be available to the band director from the time the band arrives until the band exits the performance field.
- All Guides should:
  - Have knowledge of the performance schedule, warm-up areas, dressing areas, bus and equipment parking areas, gate entrance, and restrooms.
  - Have the ability to immediately contact (by radio/phone) the site manager, as well as equipment, spectator, and bus parking personnel.
  - Escort the band to the gate
  - Ask the band director, after the band's performance, if he/she needs any further assistance
  - Be helpful in a positive, supporting manner.

Checkpoint personnel

Host site personnel should be staged at strategic checkpoints onsite to guide and aid with buses, equipment vehicles, and spectator parking throughout the event. Checkpoint personnel should also be placed throughout the campus to aid in the control of band personnel, equipment vehicles, and spectator traffic.

Gate Attendants for Semifinals and Finals:

Gate attendants play a vital role in the flow of traffic in and out of the performance area, as well as the atmosphere during a band's arrival at the gate.

In addition to their regular work assignment, the gate attendant should:

- If at all possible, be chosen from among KMEA officials

- Greet the band director(s) and offer a hand shake with a smile and a “Congratulations!”
- Have a calming and reassuring demeanor. This might be something as simple as casual interaction with the director(s).
- If the opportunity presents itself, (and it seems the band director will allow it) share congratulations with band members. (Thumbs up, “Congratulations,” high fives, applaud as they prepare to enter the field, “Have a great run!,” “Proud of you!,” etc.)

Awards presentation for Semifinals:

- Field Commanders/band representatives are called to the field shortly after last performing band has vacated the performance area.
- Packets should already be stuffed and awaiting only the last performing band’s sheets and the composite sheet to be put in each semifinalist’s packet.
- Each Semifinalist plaque should be taken out of its box and set on a table for easy access to presenter.
- Each of the 16 finalists is recognized and presented (in performance order) a semifinalist plaque. A KMEA official meets the field commander (just like finals) and presents the plaque, in person and offers congratulations with a hand shake and a smile.
- Distinguished ratings are announced and bands are recognized (is there a plaque for this? If so, then a KMEA official should use the same process above. If not, then just announce.)
- Before finalists are announced, all semifinalist band packets will be clearly marked, placed in alphabetical order, and displayed on a table at or near the 50-yard line. A KMEA official or staffer will be at the table to assist in distribution of packets to the directors. (I think the current announcer script instructs band directors to come pick up their packets. If not, that will need to be announced).

**Optional: Announce 16<sup>th</sup> place through 5<sup>th</sup> place, then announce 4 finalists. I mention this as optional, because when we discussed this, we did not take into account that once 5<sup>th</sup> place is announced, the finalists immediately know who they are. I think this could be problematic, and that we might need to further discuss this option.**

Overall caption winners for Best Overall Music Performance, Best Overall Visual Performance, and Best Overall Effect to be announced at pre-determined intervals during the course of placement awards. No plaques would be issued for these acknowledgements – just announcements. I think this also needs to be discussed further, based on whether or not we have 16<sup>th</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> places announced.

## **VOTE 8 FOR, 2 AGAINST, 2 ABSTENTIONS**

C. Additional suggestions had been submitted from Patrick Brady, as follows:

1. At the beginning of the season (end of the school year) there would be a letter from KMEA that would come out to the students, and a separate one to the

parents. This would be an overall statement of what kind of experiences and values that KMEA wants and words of encouragement. Many people may not know Dr. Stroube, but this would be a good reminder to everyone that there are tons of other kids working across the state and that we are in this together, to support each other, and to take pride in our activity.

2. Around band camp time a 1-minute video link of encouragement could be sent to each KMEA band. This would be made by Dr. Stroube, Mr. Allen, etc. and would be yet another reminder that everyone is working hard across the state and that Regionals are not far off! This again would be a reminder to the students and STAFF that we are all in this together. I think that this could easily be played in any band room, or could even be uploaded to a band's social media, or the link could be sent out to families via Remind101, etc.
3. The same thing would happen the Monday before Regionals. Again, a great reminder for students, staff, and families to remember that marching education/values learned doesn't end at the end of the season, that we should cheer/clap for everyone!
4. Not sure this could work but I would love to see a person to greet a band as they unload from the bus, as they enter the end zone, and as they enter the opposite end zone after a performance. Words of encouragement like Dr. Tim would give. I believe there are many staff members, retired band directors, etc., who would do a great job at this. Another logistical thing but over time I think it would be easy.
5. Full retreat after regionals and semis. I know this will get some flack due to timing but there is more than ample time to announce each performer groups name and for them to come in from the back sideline to make a block. This would take place of the announcer naming each group and clapping before the results. Olympic style music would help the ambience to this instead of the gut wrenching silence. Asking audience members to stand and clap for each group would be a great thing. We could even invite college drumlines like finals to play a cadence. Doubt it would work, but you never know.
6. Just an idea but we could announce scores and/or placements backwards like BOA/DCI/MidStates. From local contests to finals.
7. At regionals give a sealed certificate from KMEA with each kid's name on it, thanking them for their work, etc. BOA hands this out at award ceremonies. Another time where each student is getting the same experience.
8. Age-out ceremony. Not sure if this would be at Regionals or Semis (I personally think semis) but a card with a KMEA Age-out pin given to seniors thanking them for their service to our activity and the circuit. We could go as far to print their names on a page of the regionals or semis program. They could all come up as a group, given a speech of gratitude, and the hosting school could help pass them

out. Not a perfect idea logistically but I marched one year of DCI and I still have my pin. Again, same experience for every kid.

9. Announce Distinguished ratings at semis? They do at regionals.
10. After a band gives final salute the announcer will read off a script of *Accomplishments of the Band* that would be filled out at the beginning of the season. These would vary from band to band. This would give more applause, less dead silence in the stadium, and an overall better experience. (BOA does this)
11. Do not give recaps after prelims of a regular season show. Also, after the following band concludes their performance, directors of the previous band could pick up their judges feedback/score sheets. Prelims recap would be given that night. MidStates does this. Not sure what they do with a group if they don't make finals. Electronic copy later that night?

**VOTE TO RECOMMEND TO SANTIONED CONTEST MANAGERS THAT THEY COMPLY WITH SECTION #11 PASSED**

12. I think a KMEA Instagram page would be fun. Someone already recognizes bands and is already followed. I think a format to where we could recognize kids more would be great. What kid/band doesn't enjoy a picture of them being recognized? Pretty sure you can turn off comments if you were afraid of insults, etc.
- D.** Trevor Ervin presented the new plan for re-organizing the championships.

Chair Allen asked for a straw vote, with results as follows—

Dist 1 Y  
Dist 2 N  
3 N  
4 Y  
5 Undecided  
6 N  
7 Y  
8 Y  
9 N  
10 Undecided  
11 Undecided  
12 Y

SMBC New Format for last 2 weekends

Weekend #1 - All bands in a class meet in one location rather than East and West Regionals. All bands in a class (app. 21-24) perform in random order. Top 12 scoring bands advance to perform again that night for the same judging panel. Top 6 go on to weekend #2

Weekend #2 - Top 6 in each class perform. Total of 30 bands. (perform within class).  
Class Champions and placements will be awarded. Class champions and next top 7  
scoring band perform in Open Class Finals that evening to crown Overall State  
Champion.

Discussion ensued, including financial implications as estimated by John Stroube.  
Questions were raised as to whether the estimates took the double sessions into account.

VII. Next meeting: April 28, 2018. Elizabethtown. Sanctioning meeting.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
John Stroube, Executive Director