

Dance Drill Coaches' Association Spring Membership Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2009, Woodburn High School, 10:00 AM

Present: Cori, Dodi, Syndie, Pam, Jenny, Jessica, Danielle, Amanda, Shammra

Absent: Caysie, Sherry, Karalee

Guest: Robin Gruver **Roll Call: sign in**

Review minutes from Winter Meeting – no amendments

Reports:

Treasurer's report- Dodi

- Dodi presented the balances of all of our accounts, monies made during the season on various fundraising efforts, as well as some projected numbers for next season. She gave a financial report of our competition season, judge's paid, and monies collected from locals for our scholarship fund.

Fundraising- Amanda

- Amanda and Hillary presented multiple shirt designs for next year's shirt. Screen printers have been researched and the design will be announced shortly. Orders will be taken this spring for fall delivery. Proceeds will go to the DDCA scholarship fund.

Scholarships – Jessica

- We gave 21 scholarships at \$550 each. 4-dance, 17- academic Applications for the academic scholarship were up significantly this year! The academic scholarship GPA requirement will be raised to 3.75, as the lowest GPA that has received a scholarship in the last 3 years was a 3.89.

DDCA Awards – Jenny

- The Survey monkey process of voting seemed to go smoothly, Jenny and the board will investigate online nominations as a potential for next year.

Competition Rules/Sanctioning- Cori

- Sanctioning: Hosting teams need to review Sanctioning criteria closely before hosting a competition. The form needs to be completed within 7 days of the competition and accounts with DDCA need to be settled ASAP. Failure to follow through with your sanctioning guidelines may result in loss of the competition date, and or a fine.
- OSAA rules do not permit Club or Junior High Teams to compete against high school teams. They must be in their own division, this includes drill down. They must also follow all rules of DDCA and OSAA, specifically technical rules (stunting, music, costumes etc) when attending DDCA/OSAA sanctioned competitions.

Judges Affiliation

- Competition Hosting Applications were collected for the 2009-10 season. If you would like to host a competition and did not apply yet, please contact Shammra Smith at jascheduling@comcast.net

OSAA State Review – Robin, Laurel, Cori

- **OSAA Report:** Cori
 1. State next year: State next year may look different from year's past, due to economic constraints. One change for sure is out of state judges will only be hired from Washington, California, and Idaho. Other changes may be coming as the economic picture for OSAA becomes clearer.
 2. OSAA State Championship Committee will be meeting this year (they meet every 4 years) to examine ALL OSAA Championships. Dance will be looked at seriously as it has not made a profit in two consecutive years, we are going to be very proactive and meet with the committee to work on potential issues with the hope that we will be able to maintain the "status quo" of our event.

- **Competition Directors: Robin**
 1. Event recap- the two events went smoothly. Robin is concerned that 9 teams dropped from January, wondering what may be some of the factors involved, and why the event is shrinking in general. The team rooms continue to be an issue. She is going to investigate an online reporting system for your plans to use team rooms.
 2. Coaches seating may not be available next year as they are "prime seats" and are empty for a majority of the evening.
- **Judges Director: Laurel**
 1. Judges were happy with State this year.
 2. Michelle and Laurel reminded the membership that Judges Evaluations are necessary for Judge Education
 3. Some coaches had concerns about the score sheet. Discussion about revisiting the score sheet took place. Any feedback or concerns should be sent to your board representative and/or the Judges Affiliation Leadership team.
 4. Concern was expressed about the low scores all season long. The fact that for the second or third year in a row there were no teams advancing that had not pre-qualified, was again discussed. The general feeling that the judges relying on previously issued scores, other judge's scores, or even score tracker is the reason team's scores are not growing throughout the season. The concern that we are not being judged "fresh" every time our teams take the floor was discussed. Lots of opinion, not sure there is a clear direction for anyone to move in yet.

Website- Jessica

A forum monitor was found. New Business Membership recruiting is going out this spring to help pay for the website and gain advertising. The goal would be to make the website pay for itself and hopefully begin to bring membership fees for coaches down. If you volunteered to contact a business, please let Jessica know how that conversation went.
elliottj@nclack.k12.or.us

Membership-

- Staffing changes? Make sure DDCA information gets passed on.

Category Finals- Cori

- December 19th

Division Breakout sessions: see document that follows minutes. If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to send in you opinion on the questions asked, please send comments to Cori at coachcori@aol.com.

New Business

Cultural Sensitivity- If you choose a theme that depicts a culture, please be sure that you do your research; be sure that what you are depicting is accurate, and that you are not insulting another culture's beliefs.

Announcements from the floor

- **Jeri from Glencoe:** Reminder to be careful about what is posted on Facebook and Myspace Accounts. She suggested not being "Friends" with current students and/or parents
- **Banks, Marist and other schools are looking for coaches.**
- **Robin Gruver-** Would like to meet with several coaches to discuss supporting the growth of the DDCA and competing teams. She collected names and will be in contact with the group she formed with the intentions to identify the biggest obstacles that today's team's face.

Fall Conference- New Information coming, dates, times, location, all to bring you the best conference ever!!

Next Board Meeting: June 3, 2009- 6:30 PM, Woodburn High School

Division Breakout sessions 09

- 1A/2A/3A- Syndie (no report given)
4A/5A – Pam and Cori
6A- Danielle
Show- Jessica and Amanda

Schools Represented:

Scappoose, Sherwood, Thurston, South Albany, The Dalles, Churchill, Woodburn, Tigard, Lake Oswego, Gresham, Centennial, Tualatin, McNary, Sheldon, Clackamas, Canby, West Linn, Rex Putnam, David Douglas, Glenco, Hillsboro

State Concerns:

- 4A/5A- Concern was expressed about the fact that teams are getting discouraged by the outcome of State: not pre-qualifying and not advancing. Wondering if in the big picture this discouragement is leading to smaller teams and fewer teams.
- 6A- Discussed possibly changing the time limits on routines, making them shorter. Concerned about engaging the audience, keeping them entertained, suggested adding a single prop to dance/drill. Linear scale needs to be reevaluated, suggested a scale of A, B, C, D. Expressed a desire to have Score Tracker removed.
- Show- N/A; pregnant coaches should get to park close. ☺

Goals and Objectives: future-cast, long term goals, team growth, participation, judging, fundraising, educational opportunities. What should we be focused on? Any ideas?

- 4A/5A- Suggested that by having shorter routines there would be a ripple effect in many different areas: Events would be shorter in general, lessen the burden on judges, coaches and choreographers would be able to focus on quality not always quantity, audience would remain engaged during shorter routines. Want to focus on Participation Vs. Competition. Quality above all, but more room to grow young teams. Get rid of Score tracker!
- 6A- Concern was expressed that we need to survive above all else and increase our numbers. Would like to have SQS better defined for each classification. Should 1A have to meet the same criteria as 6A? And what criteria are required to meet SQS? Suggested that teams that struggle year after year might be assigned a “mentor”.
- Show- Continue to grow; we need to embrace teams that don't compete.

Judging crisis: we do not have enough judges. Why? How do we fix it? If we have to rely on our own judges for state next year, guaranteed we will be in front of 6 person judging panels, instead of 9.

- 4A/5A- Maybe to make the State event easier itself, use multiple panels of judges for different divisions on the same night. So that no judge is having to judge 40 + routines at a State event.
- 6A- The general feeling is that: for the money- it's not worth it. Don't like the score sheet and are not willing to learn it. The score sheet doesn't work for dance/drill. Don't understand the score sheet, need to separate content and technique. Suggested that if we used the WA score sheet we could pull from their judge's pool.
- Show- They don't get paid, and they aren't appreciated.

What do you think the biggest issues your division faces? What are the biggest issues you face as teams?

- 4A/5A- shrinking or disappearing teams. Improved, increased judging pool.
- 6A- Team sizes at State. The difference in team sizes in the Large division is unrealistic, the difference between a team of 14 and a team of 44 is significant! Only being able to divide into Large and Small, there is not a lot of options as far as making it right.
- Show- number of teams in division.