

Dance Drill Coaches' Association Board Meeting

November 7th, 2007, Woodburn High School- 6:00 - 9:30 pm,

Present: Peggy Schlegel, Pat Keaveny, Sam Gibeau, Karalee Kylo, Caysie Duax, Cori Mingear, Jenny Lunzman, Danielle Cox, Linda Sheron, Sherry Summerville, Sue Anne Williams, Dodi Coreson, Laurel McAfee

Minutes from the Oct. 3rd meeting and minutes from Oct. 7th Membership Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Account balances: DDCA- \$8,815.99; JA- \$2,390.91; Savings- \$6,124.45; CD- \$3,171.69; CD- \$3732.38. Lots of positive feedback on the budget presentation Dodi gave at the Fall Membership meeting. If you have opinions or concerns on our financial status you should feel free to contact your Board representative.

Review Goals and Objectives- Peggy read the Goals and Objectives of the DDCA, and we had a short discussion on focusing on those goals as they apply to each of the teams we represent. (Located on the inside cover of the manual.)

The Board wants to emphasize several of the goals and objectives:

- To participate in school functions and contribute to the spirit and pride of the high school setting.
- To teach physical fitness through activity. To teach emotional fitness through teamwork.
- To teach cooperation, to practice appropriate sportsmanship, accept and give constructive criticism, and encourage support of team members and other teams.

Code of Ethics for Board Members: New members and returning members signed the Board of Directors Code of Ethics and Standards of Personal Conduct Policy (page 17 & 18 in your DDCA manual).

Review the Membership Questionnaire – There were 74 questionnaires collected at conference.

Information collected from the questionnaire is as follows:

- Current System of Pre Qualifying for Second Round at State at Local Competitions: 45 like the system the way it is; 27 would like the system revamped; 2 abstained.
- Restructuring the Board: 29 like it the way it is; 23 want a restructure; 16 have no strong opinion in either direction; 6 abstained.
- "Officiating Fee" (a per school, per season charge assessed at the beginning of the year, suggested \$50 to \$100, monies used would go to the JA): 35 were in favor of paying a fee; 23 were not in favor of this fee; 9 abstained. Several asked questions as a means of submitting opinion such as: How do other sports support and pay for their officials? Can OSSA collect this for us from the *school* instead of DDCA collecting from the *teams*? Can the JA fundraise for themselves? Several would like the JA to make their finances public to the membership.
- Priorities we as *Coaches* face: Gym time; money; support and respect from your school; teamwork/team unity; having the resources (coaches, costumes, transportation, etc.) to be competitively successful.
- Priorities we as an *Association* should be focusing on: fundraising/scholarships; training and keeping quality judges; Educational support for coaches; ensuring quality local events.

What we are doing with that information:

- The last two items were a "finger on the pulse" type question- the priorities for us as coaches and as an association, it was for information gathering only. We want to know what is important to you.
- The Board restructuring idea will be tabled until such time as a viable/sponsor accompanied proposal is submitted to the Board.
- A long discussion about the Officiating Fee and the Pre-Qualifying questions and their responses has resulted in the following action: the issues presented should have been presented in a "one-vote per school" format rather than opinion from the general membership. Both of these issues affect all of the schools in our association individually, and we did not have enough schools present to draw any real conclusions on either issue. Consequently, we

will consider proposals on both subjects to present to the entire membership at the Winter Membership Meeting in January in a “one vote per school” format.

Designate Job Assignments – As we move forward with our new Board, we have reassigned jobs to each of the Board Members. Each Board Member will have specific duties pertaining to their assigned jobs. Job assignments for 2007-2008 are as follows:

- Peggy Schlegel: Chairperson, All State Coordinator, State Fundraising
- Cori Mingear: Chair-Elect, OSAA Representative
- Dodi Coreson: Treasurer
- Pat Keaveny: Membership Coordinator, DDCA Manual
- Linda Sheron: DDCA Sanctioning, OSAA Representative
- Karalee Kylo: Fall Conference Coordinator, Tech Commissioner/Tech Scheduler
- Caysie Duax: Scholarships, DDCA Sanctioning
- Sam Gibeau: Website Content Manager, Phone Tree
- Sue Anne Williams: Drill Down Coordinator
- Jennifer Lunzman: New Coaches Liaison, Service Awards
- Sherry Summerville: Jr High Liaison, Secretary, Fall Conference Coordinator
- Danielle Cox: Marketing, Drill Down Coordinator
- Laurel McAfee: JA Liaison, JA Commissioner

Proposal Review Chart: Check the website soon: Matrix will be updated with the results of the votes taken at the Oct. 7 meeting. No new proposals were submitted. If you have a proposal you want to submit, please download the proposal matrix off the website. Read it to make sure the Board has not addressed your issue in at least two years; read through the “Proposal Life Cycle” at the end of the matrix where you will find instructions on how to submit proposals to the Board. All proposals must have the required number of sponsors to be put on the agenda.

Reports:

Fall Conference Review/Evaluations—Everyone loved the new venue. Karalee will check into availability for future conferences. We are committed to Seaside for next year, but would like to return to Salem in the future. All of the classes were well attended, and good feedback was received. The biggest concern was/is the expense of the new venue as it is far more expensive than anywhere we’ve gone in the last 8 years. The ramifications of a more expensive conference were discussed. It is the general feeling of the Board that we will do what we can to keep conference affordable. We will look into a change of venue for next year and see what the ramifications might be if we were able to go back to Salem.

Judges Training Workshop- 31 Judges attended the JA Workshop. We as an association are reaching a crisis level with the small pool of judges that we have. We need immediate ideas and action to build up our pool of judges. If you know former dance team students (four years out) that would be interested in being trained, please put them in contact with the JA.

Competition Report— The JA has staffed competitions through December. They are very shorthanded and in many cases have staff doing double duty. Please be active in an effort to recruit qualified individuals to rebuild our judging pool.

Tech Report – It is your responsibility, as a coach, to know the rules as they pertain to: stunting, safety, choreography, music, costuming, and timing. As per OSAA: Penalties for stunting and safety are in full effect this year at locals. The instant Appeal process has been removed; instead you will receive a “Warning” for your first offense in costuming/music/choreography, there are no “warnings” for stunting/safety, or timing.

Please understand that the Tech process, in its entirety, is about education - education about safety, stunting, and appropriateness. Please take any “Suggestions” a Tech Judge might give you seriously as they are trying to help you avoid penalties. If both Tech judges did not see an “issue” they can only give “Suggestions” to you. Many times suggestions that you receive will be the result of only one judge seeing

the dropped item/misplaced hand in a stunt/or hear an inappropriate lyric. Please take the suggestion seriously and fix whatever the issue was to avoid a penalty to your team in the future.

If you receive a “Warning” for an issue, this will be tracked for Tech Judges to refer to from competition to competition as are violations. If you do not fix the issue you were “warned” about, you will receive a penalty, with no grounds for appeal.

A Plea to the Membership: A discussion about how some coaches treat our judges (both performance judges and Tech judges) took place.

We as an association must face a few facts together: our “sport” is artistic in nature lending itself to inconsistencies in judging. Our judges are human and they see/interpret things differently. Mistakes happen; we, as coaches, should set the example in sportsmanship for the students that we coach.

How can we, as coaches, expect students to follow our rules and code of conduct when we do not set the example for them? There is nothing to be gained by being disrespectful to a judge, except hard feelings. No coach should approach a judge for the purpose of confrontation. If you are unhappy with the results you have received at a competition there is a paper process that you can/should follow- the “Evaluation” process. You can submit a written evaluation to the JA in regard to your performance judges (paperwork is in the packets with your score sheets, and the form is also on-line), and you can e-mail an evaluation/comment about your Tech Judges to the Tech Commissioner at karaleejk@aol.com . Let’s raise the bar and treat our judges with the respect they deserve for doing a service job for us.

Email Groups- Peggy encouraged us to make contact with our e-mail groups and keep communication a priority of this Board. If you have any questions please contact your Board Representative. If they can not answer your question, they will get to someone that can.

Web Update – Sam is developing a list of priorities for the website based on the needs of the membership; we will continue to work with Kurt Jull to create our site. To discuss on 12/5.

New Business:

Fund Raising Ideas – Clothing, Penny Jars, Dance Clinics- lots of ideas starting to come in from the membership to help raise scholarship monies. The Board will continue to investigate these ideas as they come in, and keep the membership informed. If you have any ideas on how we can raise scholarship money, please submit your idea to your Board Representative.

Getting to Know Members – Website Profiles, the idea has been submitted to have a “get to know” you section on our website. Brief profiles of our members would be compiled and posted in a special section. Nikki Vanderzanden, an assistant coach at Westview will head up this activity. More details to come in January.

Note to coaches on using the website for information- be sure to check our website often; this is a very valuable tool for us to share information with each other. As we get deeper into our season, more and more information will be posted there.

Next Meetings:

Dec. 5th –Christmas Dinner Meeting – LaBella Italian Restaurant - Wilsonville
January 9th /Woodburn High School
January 20th – Winter Membership Meeting – Woodburn High School