



***Winter Rules Addendum
Winds
2017***

(Excerpt from WGI Rulebook)



Contents

1.	General Information	3
2.	Eligibility	4
3.	Classifications.....	5
4.	Competition Area.....	6
5.	Equipment.....	7
6.	Timing	9
7.	Entry.....	10
8.	Announcement Procedure.....	11
9.	Exit	12
10.	Penalties.....	13

1. General Information

The NWAPA follows Winter Guard International (WGI) contest rules in regard to:

[Eligibility](#)

[Classifications](#)

[Competition Area](#)

[Equipment](#)

[Timing](#)

[Entry](#)

[Announcement Procedure](#)

[Exit](#)

[Penalties](#)

[Timing and Penalty Scoring](#)

This NWAPA Rules Addendum document contains an excerpt of the WGI winds Adjudication Manual and Rule Book that contains this information. A complete copy of the WGI Rule Book is available to WGI members at WGI.org. However the information that is specifically pertinent to NWAPA members can be found here.

2. Eligibility

- A. Winds groups in the Independent Class may compete with performers of any age.
- B. All performers of any winds group competing in any scholastic class must be approved for participation by the principal of the sponsoring school. If participating at a WGI event, each scholastic winds group shall submit a WGI Scholastic Eligibility Certification Form signed by the authorizing school principal or administrator listing all approved participants of that school's winds group.
 - i. Winds groups may combine students from multiple schools within their district provided the winds group competes under the name of a single school or the school district name. The purpose of this exception is to encourage smaller districts to combine students to create a Winds group, not for larger districts to create multiple groups. Winds groups may not combine names or use any other fictional name. Combined scholastic Winds groups may only use students that are in their district and/or home-schooled students that would be zoned for those schools. Winds groups combining students from different schools may be asked for additional information on reasons for combining students.
 - ii. If participating in a WGI event, the WGI Scholastic Eligibility Certification form provided by WGI must be signed by each principal of the schools involved and filed with the WGI office.
 - iii. If participating in a WGI event, a letter on district letterhead from the District Superintendent that allows combining students from multiple schools within the district must be filed with the WGI office. Content of letter will be provided by WGI.
- C. Winds groups must have a minimum of ten (10) members on the floor of competition at any time including the optional student conductor.
 - i. NWAPA winds units that are not competing at a WGI regional may have these minimum performer numbers waived.
- D. Winds groups may use one optional student conductor positioned in the competition area.

PENALTY: Disqualification – any ensembles violating any requirements in the ELIGIBILITY section shall be disqualified from that contest and must forfeit any scores, placements or awards

3. Classifications

- A. **Scholastic/Independent A** – A class is where we see ensembles that are exploring basic concepts and achieving basic skills. At the programming level, success is seen in choices that lead the performers understanding and achievement of excellence.
- B. **Scholastic / Independent Open** - Open Class is where we see the growth in performer’s ability. We will expect to see this impact all captions, further separating these guards from their A Class counterparts. This shift in opportunity will challenge not only the students but designers as well. Open class is where we see ensembles that are performing intermediate concepts and working to maximize intermediate skills.
- C. **Scholastic / Independent World** – These ensembles are competing at the very highest level. They have strong defined personalities and are highly creative and unique; striving to set new standards in achievement and design. Programs are designed to showcase advanced concepts and skills. Their depth of training and skills are strong and push the limits as this class strives to set new standards.

4. Competition Area

- A. For the purpose of interpretation, the “competition area” shall measure a minimum of sixty feet by ninety feet (60’ x 90’) and does not include entry ramps, hallways, bleachers or seating area. Winds groups are permitted to utilize the entire designated competition area for their performance. All performers must be in the designated competition area when performance time begins. Depending on the performance venue, WGI or the NWAPA (as appropriate) will authorize additional competition area space whenever possible and include that information in the diagram (footprint) to be made available to all competing winds groups to identify the competition area. While the competition area will be increased whenever possible, all winds groups must be prepared to perform within a minimum sixty foot by ninety foot (60’ x 90’) competition area.
- B. All WGI contest sites must have a minimum of seventy feet by one hundred feet (70’ x 100’) to accommodate a “safety zone” of five (5) feet from any spectator seating. If no spectators are seated on the sides, then the safety zone may be measured from the left and right walls of the competition area. This will ensure the minimum sixty foot by ninety foot (60’ x 90’) competition area within the minimum seventy feet by one hundred feet (70’ x 100’) of the contest site. The NWAPA will do their best to provide a similar experience but it is not guaranteed.
- C. Once performance timing begins, no performer may enter the safety zone. All equipment and props (including all sound equipment) must be grounded within the competition area except during setup and teardown. No props or equipment may be staged within the safety zone and no choreography outside the competition area, including the safety zone, is allowed.
- D. The front boundary line shall be considered to extend the full width of the competition area and shall be clearly marked at a minimum of five (5’) feet from the first row of spectator seating.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty shall be assessed for each member for each boundary violation of the competition area

- E. At WGI contests, the center of the front boundary line shall be marked by a six (6”) inch taped line at the front and back of the competition area. The outer edges of the competition area shall also be marked by six (6”) inch taped lines at the corners to designate the safety zone. The NWAPA will do their best to provide a similar experience but it is not guaranteed.
- F. All floor coverings (tarps) must fit in the designated competition area at each particular contest site and cannot enter the safety zone.
- G. 110-volt grounded power sources shall be available at the front and back of the center line of the competition area. Ensembles must provide their own extension cords. Power specifications will be available on the competition area footprint for each event.
- H. Power sources must be dedicated for ensemble use only and have no other electrical devices using designated power sources.

5. Equipment & Instrumentation

- A. For the protection of the wooden competition floors, all equipment must be properly taped or otherwise be prepared to assure that damage to the floors will not occur. Inspection will occur at all contests. Any damage to the floor that may occur (dragging the timpani, wheels on carts locking, etc.), will be the responsibility of the ensembles and is subject to penalty.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty to Disqualification at the discretion of the Timing and Penalty judge.

- B. Definitions of authorized equipment:

- a. Instruments typically utilized and recognized as part of a band or orchestra, including electronic instruments, are allowed as well as visual only performers such as color guard.
- b. Winds groups may manipulate their soundboard by using a remote-controlled wireless device through a self-supplied wireless network. WGI will provide an area in or near the upstairs judging area for one designated staff member to adjust the mix using wireless technology. The soundboard must remain in the competition area. A performer in the competition area must control all lighting.
- c. Any sound generating source, computer, synthesizer etc must be located in the competition area. The triggering/controlling/playing of this equipment must be performed by a performing member of the group who is in the competition area.
- d. Winds groups may use any electrical device within their program deemed safe by the Contest Administrator. The Contest Administrator has the ultimate decision regarding safety of any device in consultation with the Director of Winds and/or Executive Director. Groups should consult with the Director of Winds prior to using any equipment not specifically defined in these rules. Group will assume any liability for issues arising out of the use of said electrical devices.
- e. Battery operated devices using common off-the-shelf flashlight batteries (AA, AAA, AAAA, C, D, N, 9V and button cells) are allowed. Devices using dry-cell secondary "rechargeable batteries", including cell phones, cameras, MP3 players and computers are also allowed. Car and/or truck batteries are not permitted.

- C. Definitions of prohibited equipment:

- i. No pyrotechnics, discharge of arms, pressurized canisters, dangerous materials, flammable liquids or gas will be permitted in or around the competition area. Smoke machines and/or compressed air apparatuses will not be permitted.
- ii. Gasoline, electric or manual powered generators will not be allowed.
- iii. Use of lasers and flashcubes (electrical and chemical) will not be permitted.
- iv. Use of live animals is not permitted.

- v. Use of powder, dirt or any other substance that lingers in the competition area past the interval time of the winds group shall be strictly prohibited.
- vi. Use of helium, including helium-filled balloons, shall be strictly prohibited.
- vii. No motorized vehicles will be allowed except for motorized wheelchairs used by disabled performers.
- viii. Use of drones or any remote-controlled airborne devices.
- ix. Hoverboards

PENALTY: Ten point (10.0) penalty to Disqualification for use of any prohibited equipment

- D. Props built and/or used, including drum major podiums, that measure over six feet (6') high and are used in such a way that result in a participant whose feet are more than six feet (6') above the competition area must have appropriate safety railings in place. Participants are prohibited from jumping or leaping off any prop that exceeds six feet (6') in height unless protective padding is in place or other adequate safety precautions are taken.

PENALTY: At the discretion of the Contest Administrator, including (but not limited to) prohibition of the use of the overheight/unsafe prop(s) or disqualification.

6. Timing

A. Winds groups will be timed to compete at intervals according to class.

Class	Interval Time	Minimum Perf Time	Maximum Perf Time
World Class	11 minutes	4 minutes	8 minutes
Open Class	10 minutes	4 minutes	7 minutes
A Class	10 minutes (NWAPA) 9 minutes (WGI)	4 minutes	6 minutes

- B. Interval time will include entrance, setup, performance, exit and removal of all performers, props, floors and equipment from the competition area.
- C. Each winds group, with all competing performers, shall remain in the competition area and be judged in all captions for a minimum of four (4) minutes.
- D. The end of the maximum performance time is at the obvious conclusion of the show. All captions will be judged until the obvious conclusion of the show.
- E. Winds groups cannot be required to perform before the time set in the most recent contest schedule.

PENALTY: Five-hundredths of a point (.05) penalty per second for any timing violation

- F. Any winds group unable to make their scheduled performance time will be rescheduled to perform during the next most logical performance slot in their class. Schedule adjustments will be made at the discretion of the Contest Administrator.

PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty for each class interval time of delay.

7. Entry

- A. All performers must enter the competition area through the designated entry door, tunnel or ramp. Prior to the actual start of the performance time, winds groups may utilize the competition area for setup and pre-show preparations.

PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty per performer for failing to use designated entry door, tunnel or ramp

- B. All props must be able to fit through designated entry door, tunnel or ramp. No timing exceptions will be made for oversized props. Props will not be allowed in the competition area before the ensemble's performance time.
- C. Any ensemble creating a delay in the schedule will be subject to penalty.

PENALTY: Five-hundredths of a point (0.05) penalty per second of delay up to 10 points.

- D. The ensemble will line up at a ready line to be designated by the Contest Administrator to enter the competition area.
- E. Authorized equipment and/or props may be placed anywhere in the competition area by ensemble performers or anyone prior to the start of the performance. Any non-performers involved in set up must exit the competition area prior to the start of performance time.

PENALTY: One tenth of a point (0.1) penalty for each non-performer failing to exit competition area prior to performance time

- F. Ensembles may include a playing entrance as part of the performance following introduction. Groups may warm up as part of the floor set-up.
- G. Timing for the "maximum performance time" will begin with the first step of body movement, first move of equipment, or the first note of music whichever comes first after the announcement ends. Judging will also begin at this time.
- H. Once the performance begins, performers must remain in the designated competition area for the entire performance.

PENALTY: Five tenths of a point (0.5) penalty for each performer failing to remain in competition area for the entire performance

- I. The front boundary line is inviolate at all times except for performers involved in entrance set up or tear down at the end of the performance. Boundary line violations (including first aid cases) do not constitute permanently leaving the floor. No penalties shall be assessed for broken sticks, mallets, or hardware falling over the front boundary accidentally.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty for each member per front boundary violation

- J. Floor coverings (tarps) may not cover the front boundary line at the beginning of performance time.

PENALTY: Two point (2.0) penalty

8. Announcement Procedure

A. For WGI contests, units will experience the following announcement, start and exit:

- i. Prior to the ensemble entering the floor to setup, the Timing and Penalty judge will announce the start of the interval time. During this time, music will be played through the PA system.
- ii. As the ensemble is setting up, the Timing and Penalty judge will periodically announce the setup time to the director. The Timing and Penalty judge will also monitor the judges to be sure they are ready for the start of the performance. During this time, music will be played through the PA system.
- iii. If at any time the judges are not ready, the interval time will be suspended and the ensemble will be notified of the suspension of the interval time by the Timing and Penalty judge.
- iv. If the ensemble has any pre-show music, the house music will be faded out at the start of the pre-show music.
- v. When the ensemble is ready, the director will notify the Timing and Penalty judge and he/she will cue the announcer. The music will be faded out and the announcer will say: "Please welcome from (city and state/country), (name of ensemble). <Pause> Performing their program (program title), WGI Sport of the Arts is proud to present (name of ensemble)"
- vi. At the conclusion of the performance, the announcer will say, "(Name of ensemble) from (city and state/country), under the direction of (director's name)." Music will fade in as the ensemble leaves the floor. The WGI announcer will make no other announcements.
- vii. Ensembles must plan on this announcement as part of their interval time at WGI contests.

B. For NWAPA contests, units will experience the following traditional announcement and start:

When the unit crosses over the competition area the announcer will say, "Please welcome from (unit location), (name of unit)". The unit will begin set-up. When the ensemble appears set-up, the T&P judge will signal the announcer, who will say, "Are the judges ready?" When the judges acknowledge they are ready, the T&P judge will signal the announcer who will say "Is the ensemble ready?" Performers or staff will indicate the ensemble is ready via salute or other short music or visual signal. The T&P judge will signal to the announcer that the unit is ready. The announcer will then say, "Performing their program (name of show), the NWAPA is proud to present (Name of Unit)!"

9. Exit

- A. Exit may be over any line at the conclusion of the performance.
- B. All performers must exit the competition area through the designated exit door, tunnel or ramp.

PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty per performer for failing to use designated exit door, tunnel or ramp

- C. All personnel, equipment and/or props must clear the vertical or horizontal center-line at the conclusion of interval time. The timing line shall be for visual use by the Timing and Penalties judge and not designated by tape.
- D. For purposes of timing, equipment and props are considered removed when they cross the vertical or horizontal centerline. After crossing the timing line, all equipment and/or props must continue to make forward progress out of the competition area in a timely manner or receive a penalty at the discretion of the Timing and Penalty judge.

PENALTY: Half of one tenth of a point (.05) penalty per second

- E. There will be no flying of tarps (also known as “ballooning”) to clear floor at the conclusion of an ensemble’s performance.

PENALTY: Disqualification

10. Penalties

- A. Timing and Penalty judges will assess all penalties for infractions that take place in the competition area. Contest Administrators may not waive competition area penalties. An ensemble has a right to challenge any penalty in consultation with the Chief Judge but any final decision regarding penalties will remain with the Timing and Penalty Judge.
- B. Any ensemble violating any rule of part of a rule, breaching standard contest etiquette, or failing to comply with directions from contest personnel for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each such violation, not less than 0.1 point up to disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Judge, Contest Administrator/Coordinator, Director of Winds or Executive Director.
- C. All timing penalties shall be 0.05 points per second. All boundary penalties shall be 0.1 points per offense.
- D. During a performance, adult or non-performing student personnel may not coach, cue, etc., any performers or control any wireless lighting events outside the competition area.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Timing and Penalties judge.

- E. All programs, soundtracks, thematic and costuming choices must reflect the qualities that would be acceptable for performance at a scholastic venue or suitable for marketing to sponsors on a national level.

PENALTY: Denial of performance or possible disqualification as determined by the Executive Director in consultation with the Director of Winds at a WGI contest or the Contest Coordinator in consultation with the Winter Vice President Winds and Board President at an NWAPA contest.

Winds Timing & Penalty



Timing Requirements

	Minimum Performance Time	Maximum Performance Time	Maximum Interval Time
World Class	4 minutes	8 minutes	11 minutes
Open Class	4 minutes	7 minutes	10 minutes
A Class	4 minutes	6 minutes	9 minutes

Number of Performers
Minimum of 10 members

Minimum Performance Time

Total Performance Time _____
 Total Undertime _____
 Total Seconds Undertime _____ x 0.06 = _____

Maximum Performance Time

Total Performance Time _____
 Total Overtime _____
 Total Seconds Overtime _____ x 0.06 = _____

INTERVAL TIME – Total Time in Competition Area

Total Overall Time _____
 Total Overtime _____
 Total Seconds Overtime _____ x 0.06 = _____

TOTAL SET UP TIME

Boundary Lines

Time in Show? Point of occurrence? Who?



Total 0.1 per occurrence _____

Penalty Summary

Minimum Performance Time _____
 Maximum Performance Time _____
 Total Time in Competition Area
 Interval Time _____
 Boundary Line _____
 Unit, Equipment, Personnel _____

 Other _____

Total

Approved _____
 Chief Judge

JUDGE SIGNATURE _____

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