

DRUM CORPS INTERNATIONAL
RULES PROPOSAL FORM

This form must be filled out thoroughly and succinctly. All critical information should be included to maximize the understanding of the rule and its consequences by all involved in the rule adoption process. This form should stand on its own as a summary of your proposal. Incomplete forms will be returned. If you wish to attach further supporting information you may enclose attachments.

TITLE OF PROPOSED CHANGE:

An eligible marching member must operate the sound board (2009 Implementation)

DESCRIPTION:

If a corps elects to use amplification and a sound board, the operation of the sound board must be conducted solely by eligible marching members of the corps.

PURPOSE: (Why make this change-what are the benefits?)

This activity is judged, and it is the performance of the marching members that is judged. The current rules permit the sound board to be operated by someone other than marching members, which removes an element of control over the members' performance (e.g., balance of the front ensemble relative to the brass and field percussion) from the members themselves. In all other captions, the members' performance rests solely in their hands. In fact, external influences (i.e., direct coaching or direction from staff) are expressly prohibited. By restricting operation of the sound board to eligible marching members, a corps' performance would once again be solely within the control of the members.

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT: (How does this benefit the students educationally?)

A member (or members) of the corps may have to learn how to operate the sound board equipment. In many marching band circuits, amplification equipment is permitted and sound boards may be used, but operation of the sound board is limited to members of the marching band. As a result, there may be members of the corps that already have experience operating a sound board. This proposal would provide these members with the opportunity to further enhance these skills as they perform in a larger number of competitions and operate the sound board equipment in diverse venues (i.e., large and small stadiums, indoor and outdoor stadiums, etc.). Lastly, this proposal would more closely align the rules of DCI with many of the marching band circuits in existence today.

CREATIVE IMPACT: (How does this affect the creative aspects of the activity? How does this affect designers/instructors?)

There is no creative impact resulting from this proposal. Given that the member limit has been raised to 150 for the 2008 season, operation of the sound board could be performed by one of these additional eligible members. This would still permit an increase in the number of members on the field without taking away from the existing member count.

FISCAL IMPACT: (How does this financially affect individual corps and the DCI organization?)

There is no financial impact to the individual corps or the DCI organization resulting from this proposal. As noted above, many marching band circuits already require members to operate the sound board, so corps may already have members that are experienced sound board operators. As a result, there would be no incremental cost associated with member operation of the sound board. If members did require training on the use of the sound board, the staff members that are currently the operators of the sound board could provide this training. This should not result in any incremental expense to the individual corps.

AUDIENCE IMPACT: (How will this affect our audience and their perceptions of the activity?)

I would expect that the audience would view this change favorably. Adjudication of the member's performance would once again be based exclusively on the member's performance, without the external influence of a staff member or designated sound board operator.

SHOW PROMOTER IMPACT: (How will this affect the show promoters-financially and logistically as it relates to contest production?)

There is no impact on the show promoters at all resulting from this proposal.

LOGISTICS IMPACT: (How will this impact the operations of the individual drum corps and the DCI organization?)

There should be no impact on the DCI organization; however, there could potentially be an impact on the individual drum corps. Corps would have to recruit a member or members to operate the sound board equipment, and they could potentially have to train them on how to use the sound board. Given that many marching band circuits already restrict operation of the sound board to members, I believe that that the individual drum corps should be able to recruit members that either know how to operate the sound board equipment, or are willing to do so. Additionally, since the rule permitting the use of sound boards was passed, the individual corps have already had to identify someone that can operate the sound board, or train a staff member to operate the equipment. Training a member to perform the same task should not result in any incremental training beyond what is already required. Lastly, if a corps were unable to either identify a member to operate the sound board or properly train them to operate the equipment, the corps could simply elect to not use the sound board, which would further reduce the logistical burden.

JUDGING IMPACT: (How does this impact the adjudication process and individual judge?)

There should not be any impact on the adjudication process or any individual judges as a result of this proposal. The balance of the ensemble is something that is already supposed to be captured in the judging. Whether a member or a non-member operates the sound board, the judging criteria should not be impacted in any way.

Representing:

Submitted by: Timothy Kviz

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Corps: <u>Blue Stars</u>
<u>Brad Furlano</u>
Director's Signature

Judge Caption Head Signature