

Festival Improvement Committee Report  
Summary from meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007

*This year the meeting was held at the State Office in Okemos and featured a new one-day format. The next meeting of the F.I.C. will again be a one-day meeting at the State Office in Okemos in January.*

*There were two items that the F.I.C. Representatives were asked to discuss with the members in their districts. Both are related to the Open Classification Pilot Project and are listed below.*

Discussion Item #1

In the yearbook, under the classification rules, it lists a "First Group" is the ensemble that has the highest grade present. Do you think that means the "First Group" at festival or the "First Group" at your member building?

Discussion Item #2

What do you think about allowing High School Class D bands participating in the Open Classification Pilot Project to choose from an appropriate Junior High List? (No change to the pilot project would occur this school year.)

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Passed Motions from the Meeting:

All page references refer to locations within the 2006-07 blue yearbook.

*This motion grew from discussion surrounding Chamber events at solo ensemble festival.*

1) Motion: On page 19, Section B, item 13, the following sentence be stricken, "Chamber Ensembles shall ... or no rating will be given." and the following be inserted after the fourth sentence, "Chamber Ensembles performing music not appearing on the MSBOA Suggested Chamber Music List shall perform for a minimum of four minutes or no rating will be given. All Chamber Ensembles will be allowed a maximum of 12 minutes."

*The next motion is the result of an email regarding the use of electric pianos at Band and Orchestra festival.*

2) Motion: The word "piano" be added to item 14, page 51, Eligibility Requirements, to read "...or in lieu of these instruments specified by the composer: piano, organ, celeste, harp or harpsichord."

*The next two motions reflect changes to recording media and the implications those changes have for our festivals.*

3) Motion: On page 53, Recording, we omit and replace the following,  
Item 2, Sentence 1, replace "cassette recorder" with "recording",  
Item 2, Sentence 2, strike "using the cassette recorder" and add as the second word of the sentence "recorded",  
Item 2, Sentence 3, strike "cassette recorder" and replace with "recording device", and  
Item 2, Sentence 4, strike "cassette" and replace with "recorded."

4) Motion: In item 1 of Recording, page 53, the word “tapes” be replaced with “recordings.”

*The next motion was the result of discussion on an email requesting we address the difference between copy right rules and MSBOA original score rules. As you know MSBOA Rules allow for using copied scores at festival if accompanied by a letter from the **Publisher**. The state office allowed copies with a letter from Pepper citing that the letter maintained that the scores were purchased and could not be returned. The FIC crafted an addition to current rules that will reflect this past practice.*

5) Motion: The following is to be added to the definition of original score on pages 52 and 19, item a, and as the last sentence, “Letters from a music distributor will be accepted if the letter verifies that the scores have been purchased and are non-returnable.”

Please send me an email with your input on the discussion items regarding open classification or if you have any concerns/questions you would like me to take to the January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Powers  
FIC Representative, District VIII  
[spowers@adrian.k12.mi.us](mailto:spowers@adrian.k12.mi.us)