

SCMEA Orchestra Division
February 23, 2008

Chris Selby, orchestra division president, called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM. He welcomed everyone to the business meeting. One change will be made to the agenda.

Officer Reports

- Review and Approval of Minutes, Stacey Burnette
 - Motion was made by Tim Bennett, second made by Colleen Marcou. Minutes from February 9 meeting were approved. They, along with committee meeting minutes from the 2008 state convention will be posted on the orchestra division web site. Chris Selby explained how committee meetings at convention were very beneficial, and hopefully will continue at every convention.
- Treasurer's Report, Sharon Doyle
 - Balance as of today is \$43,377.05. We have settled all bills from conference. This figure includes the deposit for concert festival. We will start paying for concert festival and solo and ensemble.
- Conference, Amy Strahm
 - Amy Strahm is not present to discuss the conference. On her behalf, Chris Selby said for suggestions for convention to be sent to her via email. Sharon Doyle encouraged everyone to send in tapes for the next year's convention. It's the orchestra division's turn to perform for the general session. He will set up a listening committee, and orchestra division has a better chance of being selected.
- Concert Festival, Ginger Greer
 - If you have not gotten your scheduled time, you should be hearing from your region chair soon. The new rubric will be posted online, but it was put into the fall issue of the handbook. Please familiarize yourselves with the rubric-it is very different from anything that has been used in the past. Contact Ginger with any problems or questions.
 - Paul Buyer asked about a piece number requirement. Ginger Greer replied saying that you have 20 minutes for entry, warm-up and two pieces. Sarah Fitzgerald asked about performing a symphony movement that lasts 15 minutes? Ginger Greer advised to contact region chair, and possibly discuss with the judge(s). Lynn Auman asked about performing multiple movements. Ginger Greer advised to talk to your region chair.
 - Sight-reading music is graded two levels lower than what you specified on your form. (i.e. grade 3 group will sight-read grade 1) In the sight-reading room, you have 15 minutes to talk to students. No noises can be made with instruments: no pizzicato or arco allowed. There was a question about exact amount of time to learn the music in the sight-reading room. The fall 2007 issue of the South Carolina Musician states "25 minutes

will be allowed for sight-reading. The site chairman will ensure that an adequate number of assistants are available to keep the time spent handling music to a minimum. The time is divided as follows: 10 minutes-entry, seating, tuning; 10 minutes-music study; 5 minutes-performance.” Lynn Auman asked if room switches are involved will 10 minutes should be enough time. Chris Selby remarked that all of these discussions would be great to bring up at committee meetings.

- Both superior and excellent ratings will receive a trophy or plaque. This is one justification for the fee going up (\$100 next year). Chris Selby suggested that if you are fearful of being rated with the new rubric, you can choose to do comments only. This is a new option this year. Ginger Greer asked for all of the chairpersons to see her for their trophies and plaques.
- Solo & Ensemble, Christine Hallett
 - Local chairpersons need to see her for certificates.
 - Rating sheets will be put on the web site. Certificates will be given out for superior, excellent, and good ratings. Make sure to gather up all judges’ vouchers forms and send to Sharon. Phillip Pagal announced that on his school web site, www.rvhs.org, he has posted an excel spreadsheet to easily enter data for Solo and Ensemble. This is what the Richland County site is using, but it can be used by other regions. It was suggested to make sure to fill out forms completely (especially email addresses).
- Region Orchestra, Johanna Pollock
 - Next year’s audition and event hosts have not changed. Region 1: Susan Baier (Dorman HS): audition, Marsha Gross (Rock Hill HS): event host, Region 2: Brian Gencarelli: auditions, Diane Atkins: host, Region 3: Colleen Marcou: audition, Johanna Pollock: host, Region 4: Sarah Fitzgerald: audition and host site. See Johanna Pollock for recommendations for conductors.
- All-State Orchestra, Melissa Martin and Chris Cordé
 - Thanks to David Warlick and Christian Williams for all of their hard work this weekend. Question: Is there a social this evening? No. Question: are there complimentary tickets for parents? There are no tickets and we will not charge for tickets.
 - Conductors for next year who have been contacted are Peter Boonshaft, Andrew Dabcyz, _____. These are all very tentative right now. In case they are not able to come, we need to nominate other conductor candidates. The following names were added to the lists: Gary Robinson (senior), Bill Scott (senior), Fritz Stansell (senior) (founder of blue lake fine arts camp), Sarah Black (junior), Rebecca McCleod (6-8, 9-10), and Sandy Goldie (junior). For each orchestra level column, put your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.

- Question: Should candidates from Bob Jones University be considered? Yes-invitations should be extended to everyone. Jay-Martin Pinner was put on the list. Ballots need to be dropped at the front of the room.
- Christian Williams made suggestions for the program next year: please spell your children's names correctly, please put full school name down on registration forms. Whatever membership sends in on registration forms is what is put on the program.
- All-State Auditions, Paul Buyer
 - Thank you for your patience with the weather issues.
 - What's going to happen in the future: Plan A: everyone shows up on correct day. Starting next year, please put down both two dates (one at USC, alternate date will be at a high school in Columbia). If one school cancels events, whole state event is cancelled completely. Plan B: the alternate date. If neither plan works, event will be cancelled for that year.
 - 9th grade scores cannot be determined through region scores-it's just not fair. It was mentioned that the band division has never cancelled an all-state event.
 - As of right now, the \$5 fee is non-refundable. This may be up for discussion as being waived next year.
 - We will not use tapes again next year. Thanks to everyone who helped with us. The emails were horribly mean-please act as the contact person for your students-the board should not have to communicate with your students' parents.
 - There are holes to fill. Barry Lumpkin was with us, but this year, we had to recreate everything from scratch. We need 85 people to run this event. 8 cards were left out in the 11/12 group. The night at convention, Paul Buyer printed out a list 6 of the 8 were obviously all-state level. No one was bumped out of all-state. We are going to pay for an upgrade for the program. (i.e. the 1001 was used three times). We are going to work out the assignments-we need more people on the job running cards. Committee meeting for all-state: difficulty level for region orchestra will be brought down a little. Keeping same cello piece for this rotation. Ann Buttimer: violin excerpts have been approved for next year. Thank you for the "kudos" letters.
 - Rosa Kelly: we need to work on the check-in process. They come in early with the intention of practicing. Paul Buyer: we can't compel students to play early. When it comes, don't push students in when they're not ready. Chris Selby: if their time has come, they go to the audition. Rosa Kelly: they should be allowed to rest, hold on to their ticket, and come back 30 minutes to check in.
 - It was proposed that a no-show list be created. If you know for certain, email Paul Buyer ahead of time, so he can bring a list of no-shows. Some will not know about beforehand, but some we can anticipate. Gene Epting: We need to have the judges verify all numbers.

Dominique Geer: Give judges in their packet a blank form, and judges record card number. Judges don't leave until they are reconciled. In the band division, if judges leave early, their student(s) are disqualified. Martha Brons: I'm concerned about the number of scales for junior celli. John Kvasnicka: Is there an all-state committee? We have one- perhaps we should take all suggestions and discuss them at that committee meeting.

- Who has the attendance sheet? Please fill out your info. Also, there are copies of business meeting minutes and all-state scores (for teachers' eyes only). Ranking is one thing, numbers are another thing.
 - Question: Can we have the kids' scores who didn't make it? Email Paul Buyer-he'll get them to you. Paul Buyer will pass out patches at rehearsals tonight.
 - Laura Tomlin: Described a situation where there was snow in Atlanta, but not in Savannah. Kids didn't check web site before they left, and there was much confusion. Please check the web site always-it's updated. Paul Buyer took off the picture of the girl on the web site. If you'll send him pictures of kids, he'll post a new picture of kid of web site.
 - Chris Selby: The sponsor has to check the web site-it is the sponsor's job to make sure they inform their kids of changes. A Small executive board can't be responsible for getting info out to everyone-please take action for your own kids. Chris Selby: When we have all all-state results posted, we have nothing about students who didn't make it. This may be up for discussion, but a suggestion is to post 4-digit ID numbers of the students who didn't make it. This way they can see where their score was, and how far they were down. This protects their identity. Final proposal: there will be a waiting period (i.e. 3 days). Something could be said like "these are the unofficial results as of right now. This way, we will have some time to view problems before the kids see it. Question: Can it be password protected? We're working on it-solution is coming soon.
 - Sharon Doyle: Read an update from the state legislature that would possibly eliminate the state superintendent position as an elected position. Contact Sharon Doyle at sdoyle@scorchestra.com for complete proposal.
- New Business:
 - David Warlick: If you were in a sectional room, please make sure stands are brought back downstairs. There has been a fair amount of t-shirts problems. The extra small t-shirt is way too small. If your child ordered an extra small, bring shirt back to him, and he'll get them another size. Extras are available-he'll place an order for more, if there is enough interest. T-shirt form is still in registration packet. Someone suggested making it easy, and offering the extra t-shirt sale at the concert tomorrow.
 - Sarah Fitzgerald: We need to revisit issue of not having seating auditions at all-state. It is obvious that kids aren't looking at the music. The younger kids need to be pushed-they have to practice their music. Lynn Auman: Can we put anything in writing about sponsors getting students ready for all-state? Sometimes it's pushed off on private

teacher. Paul Buyer: I agree with Sarah- the 9-10 celli were great, let's look at this in committee meeting. Sarah Fitzgerald: Is it equitable to audition only the 6-8 kids?

- Sarah Rose: I thought it was discussed that 6-8 would have one piece that was full orchestra, and 9-10 would have one string only piece. I think it's beneficial for the 6-8 kids to have the full orchestra experience. Otherwise, all-state is a "glorified region experience." Would it work out for them to be able to play one piece with winds/brass/percussion? Susan Baier: Not having a commissioned work every year might allow this addition of a full orchestra piece into the 6-8 orchestra to happen.
- Christian Williams: Please come help stuff programs! Colleen Marcou: Are we still having the fall meeting at Irmo? Yes. Paul Buyer: Thank you for hosting Colleen.
- New Business
 - Motion to end meeting was made by John Kvasnicka. The second was made by Colleen Marcou.
 - Meeting was adjourned at 4:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Stacey M. Burnette