



Canadian Baton Twirling Federation

La Fédération Canadienne de Baton Sportif

## Technical Chair Report – 2016 Fall Conference

The 2015-16 season was a bit different for CBTF with the Technical Chair position. Historically, this position has been filled by a veteran Technical Member, usually with significant coaching and/or judging experience. That was obviously not the case this year.

I would like to thank the CBTF Board of Directors for the opportunity to serve in this capacity for the 2015-16 season.

### *Education Committee*

A written Terms of Reference was approved by the Board of Directors in November 2015. This completed the evolution of that Committee from its beginnings as the informal Technical Working Group (initiated in the 2010-11 season). I have attached that Terms of Reference.

The Board also appointed the new Education Committee under that Terms of Reference. Serving on the Education Committee in 2015-16 were:

- Jeff Johnson (Chair)
- Karen Gratton (Secretary)
- Joanne Moser
- Michelle Bretherick

Based on my own experience dating back to the Technical Working Group days, I recommend that the Education Committee Terms of Reference be adjusted as follows:

- Size: Adjust the size of the Committee from 4-6 members to 6-8 members
- Automatic Membership: In addition to the Technical Chair and President, also include the CBTF Coaches' Rep and CBTF Judges' Rep as automatic members

As this is an election year for Technical Chair and I am not standing for re-election, I intend to consult with the Technical Chair-elect before submitting to the Board, by September 30, the list of names to serve on the 2016-17 Education Committee.

### *2016 Competitions*

The 2016 Team Trials were held in Whitby, Ontario. I would like to thank the OBTA members that helped host the competition – we were in a wonderful facility for the athletes and this helped make it an excellent competition.

The 2016 Canadian Championships were held in Edmonton, Alberta. It too was in a wonderful facility for the athletes and we saw some excellent competition. There were a few organizational issues arising

from the event that will be addressed in the Technical and Board meetings. We also tried out a different order of events on the Individual/Duet days and this seemed to be well-received.

The Judge Selection Process was modified slightly at the 2015 Fall Conference. This past season now marks the sixth year of this process – I am very pleased to report that we had a record number of applicants this past year. Seven judges were selected for the Team Trials (1 USTA judge) and twelve judges were selected for the Canadian Championships (2 USTA judges).

At the 2012 Fall Board Meeting, the Board approved a policy requiring all registered M2 and M3 judges to update their certification at least once every four (4) years through any one of the following mechanisms:

- By auditing the course
- By judging at a Provincial or Canadian Winner/Championship
- By attending an approved Provincial or Canadian Winner/Championships Focus Meeting.

Since that motion was passed, only one province has ever sought approval for their Focus Meeting (Ontario, 2015). It is obviously important for judges to update regularly – this policy was approved with the underlying goal of improving our sport’s credibility by ensuring our judges all meet a minimum standard of qualification and training. The Canadians Focus Meeting always serves as a Certification Update – but the Canadian Championships are held in a ‘home province’ for only a few judges each year. So it is very important that provinces make the investment in their own local judges by scheduling sufficient time for their Focus Meetings so they qualify as a Certification Update. I hope more provinces will follow Ontario’s example and make that investment in the future.

### ***2016 World Championships***

The 2016 World Championships were held in Helsingborg, Sweden. The Swedish Federation did an excellent job hosting the event – in particular, their work to LiveStream the event was a significant improvement over previous efforts. The LiveStream was jointly sponsored by Osamu Band and Baton, Star Line Baton Company, the Swedish Federation and the WBTF itself. As of the end of the event, there were over 125,000 views of the different streams from the competition. This is wonderful exposure for our sport, and also a wonderful platform for sponsors to be exposed to the twirling community.

Canada again placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the World Cup standings. Our final athlete placements:

<b>Junior Women</b>		<b>Senior Women</b>		<b>Junior Men</b>	
11 <sup>th</sup> (Semi-Final)	Sophie Lightheart	7 <sup>th</sup> (Final)	Julee Stewart	8 <sup>th</sup> (Prelim)	Yonatan Orlov
15 <sup>th</sup> (Semi-Final)	Amina Egag	15 <sup>th</sup> (Semi-Final)	Jasmine Runge		
16 <sup>th</sup> (Semi-Final)	Danielle Skinner	16 <sup>th</sup> (Semi-Final)	Nicole Johnson		

<b>Junior Pair</b>		<b>Senior Pair</b>		<b>Team</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup> (Final)	Lightheart/Treleaven	6 <sup>th</sup> (Final)	Runge/Stewart	4 <sup>th</sup> (Final)	SOBG-Calambre

### ***2017 International Events***

2017 will be an exciting year for international competition. The year begins with the first-ever Pan-Pacific Cup, to be held in Stockton, CA in January. This event has been designed as an open competition - national qualifiers or selection competitions are not required. Athletes and Judges from Canada, United

States, Japan and Australia will attend. CBTF had previously budgeted to send up to 5 judges, and these judges will be selected based on the results from the 2016 Judge Selection applications.

The 2017 International Cup will be held in Poreč, Croatia. This marks the first year that the WBTF Artistic Group event will be offered at an International Cup – the WBTF Executive Technical Committee is working hard to educate coaches and judges around the world about this new event.

2017 will also see the second IBTF Grand Prix competition, also in Poreč, Croatia. The Grand Prix events are: Solo, 2Baton and Team. This year, the Grand Prix will be held the weekend *before* the International Cup.

### ***2017 International Cup Qualifier***

The 2017 International Cup Qualifier competition will be held in Saskatoon, SK, over the May long weekend (May 19-22). As is now our standard practice, a Contingent Clinic will be held on Monday May 22 along with the Parents'/Guardians' meeting. The WBTF entry deadline is, again, almost immediately after the Qualifier, so all athletes entering the Qualifier must have their paperwork prepared and in order before that competition begins – there will not be time for anyone to complete their Medical Certificate or obtain a Passport in the week after the Qualifier.

I will also draw your attention to the CBTF Policy that was approved at the 2015 Fall Conference regarding WBTF Equitable Competition. What was previously a CBTF Guideline regarding International Cup competition Levels is now a CBTF Policy and it will be enforced. Any and all deviations from that Policy must be requested, in writing, at the same time as the Declaration paperwork is submitted – all requests will be reviewed by the CBTF International Cup Declaration Review Panel and their decision will be final.

### ***2017 Canadians***

The 2017 Canadian Championships will return to New Brunswick but in St. John. Planning is already underway and more information will be presented at the 2016 Fall Conference.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Johnson



**Canadian Baton Twirling Federation**

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**CBTF EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
TERMS OF REFERENCE  
October 2015 – Version 1**

**Committee Name**

CBTF Education Committee

**Type**

Advisory

**Purpose**

The purpose of the committee is to:

- Support the mission and vision of the CBTF.
- To develop and provide educational programs to educate baton enthusiasts generally.
- To develop and enhance educational programs for CBTF-certified course conductors, coaches, judges, adjudicators and athletes.
- To oversee CBTF Course Conductors in their delivery of CBTF courses.
- To establish standards and to develop tools to support judging and adjudication standards.
- To assist the CBTF Executive and Board of Directors in all matters pertaining to the governance, education and ethics of baton twirling professionals.

**Scope / Jurisdiction**

The committee's scope and jurisdiction shall be:

- To develop and enhance programs which support the CBTF Progressional Model. Changes to the CBTF Progressional Model itself must be submitted to the CBTF Technical Committee for approval.
- To develop and enhance programs which support the CBTF Continuing Professional Education and Development (CPED) Program. Changes to the CBTF CPED Program must be submitted to the CBTF Board of Directors for approval.
- The committee shall have the sole authority to determine CPED credits for items that are not already on the approved CPED Program listing.
- To develop enhancements to CBTF judging, adjudication and coaching courses - including Course Conductor Handbooks, Course Manuals and other supporting course material. Major changes to courses or course structure or content must be submitted to the CBTF Technical Committee for approval.
- To recommend changes in Course Conductor status to the CBTF Board for approval including appointments, revocations and any remedial action required.
- To review, from time to time, CBTF and WBTF Role Model video and the CBTF Video Library to ensure the scoring keys reflect current performance standards and event expectations.
- To review, from time to time, any other judging tools that are used as scoring guides.
- To assemble and appoint project teams from time to time to complete work for which the committee is responsible. The committee shall determine the Terms of Reference, work schedules and any deliverable deadlines (interim and final) for such project teams. The committee retains responsibility and oversight for all work assigned to the project team and should review, on a regular basis, the

progress of the project team. The committee shall have the sole authority to determine if the project team work shall be adopted or recommended for adoption.

- To prepare budget proposals required to implement these educational programs. These budget proposals must be submitted to the CBTF Executive or Board of Directors, as determined by the CBTF President, for approval.
- Other such matters consistent with the Purpose of the committee.

### **Membership**

The committee shall consist of a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 members (including automatic members).

Membership in the committee shall be by appointment of the Board of Directors. The CBTF Technical Chair shall, in consultation with the CBTF President and no later than September 30 of each year, present a list of members to the CBTF Board of Directors for appointment.

Appointments to the committee shall be for one year terms. Members may be appointed in consecutive terms.

Appointees must be members in good standing of the CBTF.

The CBTF Technical Chair and CBTF President shall automatically be members of the committee.

### **Meeting arrangements**

Meetings shall be held at least monthly or more often, at the discretion of the Chair, as required.

Meetings shall be held in as cost-efficient manner as possible. Most meetings will be held online. Face-to-face meetings may be held but the cost and expense of any such meetings must be part of an approved line item in the annual CBTF budget.

Meeting quorum shall be a majority of the committee membership.

The Committee Chair shall be selected by the committee itself, at its first meeting after appointment. The Committee Chair shall, in consultation with the committee members, develop a meeting schedule for the season. The Chair shall be responsible for preparing all meeting agendas and with distributing those to all members at least 3 days in advance of committee meetings.

The Committee Secretary shall be selected by the committee itself, at its first meeting after appointment. The Committee Secretary shall be responsible for distributing their meeting notes to all committee members and to the CBTF Executive within 4 days of each meeting.

### **Reporting**

The committee reports to:

- The CBTF Executive on a monthly basis. The monthly report will be a copy of the meeting notes prepared by the Committee Secretary.
- The CBTF Board of Directors and CBTF Technical Committee on an annual basis. A report documenting the work of the committee shall be presented at the CBTF Fall Conference. This report should include a description of all projects completed and in-progress, as well as a list of work still in progress, or work planned but not yet begun.

As required, the committee shall present matters to the CBTF Executive, Board of Directors and Technical Committee for approval. This may be done at any time throughout the season, as schedules and urgency requires.

### **Resources and budget**

The committee does not, itself, have the power to authorize the disbursement of CBTF funds, other than the power the committee members themselves may hold due to their positions within CBTF (e.g. Technical Chair).

Any financial requirements of the committee itself shall be included in the budget for the Technical Chair.

The committee may recommend changes to the CBTF Budget (current or future year), but those changes must be approved by the CBTF Executive or Board, as determined by the CBTF President.

### **Review**

This Terms of Reference shall be reviewed annually, at the CBTF Fall Conference.