



# North Carolina Jazz Region - West

Drew Stiles, Chairman  
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## Meeting Minutes from the 2008 Jazz Clinic Directors Meeting

**Chairman Stiles called the meeting to order at 10:09am.**

Introductions of directors in attendance:

Drew Stiles - St. Stephens  
Sandy Boone - North Buncombe  
Matt Liner - Ronald Reagan  
Ted Neely - Foard  
Ron Payne - Alexander Central  
Tim Hamilton - South Point  
Lauren Williams - Charlotte Catholic  
Richard Priode - South Mecklenburg

### Old Business:

- **NCJR-W Jazz Festival**

The West Region Jazz Festival will be held on April 25 & 26 at Grandview Middle School, Ted Neely & Jerry Lowe - co-chairs, Richard Holmes - site host. The registration forms and fee of \$150.00 are due to the co-chairs on or before Tuesday, March 25, 2008. Benjy Springs (Greensboro College) and Will Campbell (UNCC) will be two of the three adjudicators.

### New Business:

- **2009 NCJR-W Jazz Band Auditions**

- A) Date and Location

Motion made by Ted Neely - "Auditions for membership in the NCJR-W All-Region Jazz Bands will be on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at a school in the greater Hickory area." - Second by Jerry Lowe. Discussion ensued.  
The motion was unanimously approved and passed.  
Chairman Stiles volunteered to secure a site for the auditions.

- B) Chairmen

Region Chair, Drew Stiles, will contact Jeff Reynolds to see if he would be interested in serving as the auditions chair again for next year's auditions.

- C) Judge's Prompt

Motion made by Ted Neely - "A prompt listing all the requirements and details about judging the NCJR-W All-Region Jazz Band Auditions is to be developed by the 2009 auditions. This prompt is to be distributed to all the judges at the meeting held prior to the start of auditions. The prompt will be verbally reviewed by the auditions chair at that time." - Second by Ron Payne. Discussion ensued.  
The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

- D) Judge's Prompt cont.

Sandy Boone motion - "The judges prompt should read "For the improvisation portion of your audition we will now listen to you play two choruses in a "B flat" blues. (Once completed) We will now listen to you play two choruses in a "F" blues."" - Second by Ted Neely. Discussion ensued.  
The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

- E) Scales

Motion made by Ted Neely - "All students are to play all five scales/progressions listed on the official scale sheet." - Second by Jerry Lowe. Discussion ensued.  
The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

F) Scale Order

Motion made by Ted Neely - "Students are to play the scales/progressions in the order listed on the official jazz scale sheet. During the audition, the judge will ask the student to "play their scales." The student will then proceed to play the scales/progressions in the order listed on the audition scale sheet." - Second by Ron Payne. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

G) Solo

Motion made by Ted Neely - "Since students are required to play the required solo with CD accompaniment (as stated in the section Constitution), students are to perform the entire solo as part of the auditions." - Second by Ron Payne. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

H) Sight-reading

Motion made by Ted Neely - "Students will be given sixty (60) seconds to look over each sight-reading selection before being asked to give their performance. During that sixty (60) seconds the student may use any procedure needed to help them study the sight-reading selection (such as "tizzeling" or "clapping"), except play their instrument or ask someone to help them with the selection." - Second by Jerry Lowe. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

I) Audition Order

Motion made by Ted Neely - "students will audition in order according to the audition number on their name tag. If a student misses their assigned slot, that student will be heard following the completion of the numerical order. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the order. If a student misses their slot and is moved to the end of the order, it is the student's responsibility to be ready at the audition door when the numerical order is finished." - Second by Ron Payne. Discussion ensued. The motion was approved by majority and passed.

J) Pages for Auditions

The following was recommended from the floor: "There should be an announcer in the warm up room and pages outside the auditions rooms in order to make the audition process more efficient."

• **2009 NCJR-W Jazz Band Clinic**

A) Chairman

Sandy Boone accepted the position of chairman for the 2009 clinic.

B) Date and Location

Motion made by Sandy Boone - "The NCJR-W All-Region Jazz Clinic will be held on February 13 & 14, 2009. Based on availability, the clinic will be held on the campus of Lenoir-Rhyne College, Sandy Boone- chairman, Dr. Chris Negrelli - site host. - Second by Ted Neely. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved and passed.

C) Clinicians

Nominations for clinicians were taken and voted on and will be contacted in the following order:

1) Dr. John Entzi - UNCA, 2) Ira Wiggins - North Carolina Central, 3) Ed Kiefer - Pfeiffer, 4) Matt Olson - Furman, 5) Dr. Wayne Gallops - Radford, 6) Dr. David Wilkins - UNCA.

• **2009 NCJR-W Jazz Festival**

A) Chairman

Ted Neely & Jerry Lowe accepted the positions of co-chairmen for the 2009 festival.

B) Date

Motion made by Ted Neely - "The 2009 NCJR-W Jazz Festival will be held on May 1 & 2, 2009" - Second Jerry Lowe. Discussion ensued. Motion was unanimously approved and passed.

C) Location

Motion made by Ted Neely - "The 2009 NCJR-W Jazz Festival will be held on the campus of Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory and Dr. Chris Negrelli will be the site host. If Lenoir-Rhyne is not available the festival will be held on the campus of Grandview Middle School and Richard Holmes will be the site host." - Second by Jerry Lowe. Discussion ensued. Motion was unanimously approved and passed.

## News and Announcements

- **2008 NC Jazz Section All-State Jazz Band Auditions**

Auditions will be on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at East Davidson High School in conjunction with the NCBA honors band auditions. All students from the region "A" band will be able to audition for the all-state band.
- **2008 NC Jazz Section All-State Jazz Band Clinic**

The NC Jazz Section All-State Jazz Band Clinic will be held on April 4 & 5, 2008 at a site TBA. Jerry Lowe (past state-chair) is the chairman of the clinic. Clinicians have not been announced.
- **2008 NCMEA Annual In-Service Conference**
  - A) Dates

The NCMEA Annual In-Service Conference will be held at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem, NC on November 8-11, 2008.
  - B) Applications for Performance

Applications to perform at the 2008 NCMEA Annual In-Service Conference are due to section chair, Andy Carter, on or before May 2, 2008. The applications must include a written description of the school's jazz program and a CD sampling of the ensemble. There is no required length for the CD but it should demonstrate the ensemble's ability to perform different styles. Conference performances are 45 to 50 minutes in length and the last portion of the written application should provide a description of the applicants ideas for their convention performance.
  - C) Clinic Concepts

Ideas for clinics to be presented at NCMEA conference should be communicated to the section chair.
- **Elections**
  - A) Section Chair

Directors were reminded that the jazz section will elect the president-elect who will serve as the president of the jazz section for 2011 & 2012 during the general meeting that will be held at next fall's NCMEA Annual In-Service Conference.
  - B) Region Chair

Directors were reminded that the region will elect a new region chairman at the directors meeting to be held during next year's region clinic.

## Concerns of the Region

- **Director Professionalism**

There have been a few situations where the professionalism of region directors has been questionable. Specifically, directors have allowed their students to audition for membership in the region jazz band and later withdrawn those students from membership in the region clinic so that they could participate in another event. In the future the region chairman will directly address these directors.
- **NCJR-W Website**

Directors expressed an interest in the establishment of a NCJR-W website. Some region members had concerns that information on region events, necessary forms and other items were not posted in a timely manner. It is the opinion of some directors that the duties of uploading regional information should not be placed on the section webmaster. Their idea was that the jazz section website should be setup similar to that of the NCBA website with separate sites for the regions that would be linked to the section website.
- **Section Chair Duties**
  - A) NCMEA Representation

The directors of the West region were informed that the jazz section was not represented at the winter meeting of the NCMEA Executive Board. The directors expressed concerns that the section chair did not attend the meeting or contact someone to represent the jazz section in his absence.

B) NCMEA Magazine

The directors of the West region expressed concerns that the jazz section was not represented in the fall or winter issues of the magazine. If the submission of a jazz section news article for each issue of the NCMEA journal is the duty of the section chair then Article I, Section I of the section by-laws should list this duty. The directors were encouraged to compose articles for submission and publication in the journal.

• **All-State Jazz Band**

A) Auditions

- The directors of the West region are concerned about the lack of communication regarding the registration process and deadline for all-state auditions. The section constitution states that the past president will chair the all-state jazz band clinic, but Article I of the by-laws does not address who is responsible for chairing the auditions.
- Some wonder if anyone has been communicating with the NCBA honors band auditions chairs and site hosts to arrange rooms for auditions and an audition schedule.
- If the NCBA and NCJ auditions can occur at the same time, how will judging assignments be coordinated with the NCBA auditions chairs? However, if they cannot occur at the same time then that would mean that the all-state jazz band auditions would need to commence at the conclusion of the NCBA honors band auditions. Some directors were concerned that those students and directors who reside in the extremes of the state may be returning very late, or worst case scenario, may need to secure accommodations and make the auditions an overnight event.
- Has the professional rhythm section that is needed for rhythm section auditions been hired?
- Will there be a fee for the all-state jazz band auditions? If so, what will that fee be?

B) Clinic

- Where will the all-state jazz band clinic be held?
- Who is the clinician for the all-state jazz band?
- When will the clinic schedule be announced?

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.**

These minutes were respectfully submitted by Matt Liner on 2/17/2008.