

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REGULAR SEASON DYNAMICS AND WGI CHAMPIONSHIP DYNAMICS

WGI CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGES

- Using “best practice” approaches to fulfill the purpose of each contest.
- Remaining consistent in judging and application of scoring across longer days and rounds.
- Adapting to the change in quantity and quality of guards from prelims, to semi-finals, to finals.
- Applying sub-caption ranking, spreading and profiling techniques appropriate to the dynamics of each contest.

ALL COMPONENTS OF CONTEST DYNAMICS CHANGE FROM EVENT TO EVENT AT THE WGI CHAMPIONSHIPS

- In addition to the more obvious changes in venue, order of appearance, and purpose of the contest, each progressive contest increases the quality of the guards and decreases the differences.
 - In some cases, the quantity of guards in the contest also increases at semifinals and finals.
- Judging rounds is a different situation with a large number of guards of similar quality spread across hours. You must work to maintain your approach and tolerance across the day remembering the point of the preliminary rounds is to select the semifinalists in your caption. The tendency is to be more restrictive in earlier rounds and more lenient in later rounds. You must be willing to go as high as you need to early and then hold onto that range across the day. Please maintain the same tolerance throughout the day even though this is very challenging.
- Semifinals will contain 20 or 24 teams as one contest.
 - The quality and similarity of guards will be challenging. Use your process to cover the entire caption to differentiate between the teams.
 - Subcaption ties will be more prevalent and you will need to emphasize scoring priorities of spreads within subcaptions and profiling to best reflect the performances you experience.
- Typically, the qualifying score for finals is at the upper edge of high box 4 - Meets ALL of the criteria ALL of the time and SOME of box 5 criteria SOME of the time (85 - 89).
 - At minimum, there are 15 guards in a finals contest. For SA there are 20 in the finals. This means that there are more guards that fit the description for that scoring range than there are points available.
 - Additionally, the differences between the guards are dramatically decreased from what we would see in a regular season contest.
 - Remember, in order for teams to reach middle to upper Box 5, they must have *most or all* the qualities, *most or all* of the time.
 - Scores may be lower in larger contests as the weekend progresses. You need to “let go” of scores given in prelims or semis.
- For this reason:
 - The application of the box thirds in finals contests becomes less important than ranking, spreading, and profiling sub-captions leading to the overall ranking.
 - *The expectation for avoiding sub-caption ties is removed for larger contests.*

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PRACTICE CAN PREPARE YOU FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS CHALLENGES

- Consider your own biases around scoring priorities and work to experience those challenges ahead of time.
- Practice ahead of time to experience numbers and possibilities of spreads and profiling to be more able to apply those skills in the midst of the contest. What will you have to “let go of” to avoid being as stressed in the moment?
- Consider your own needs for the championship week in terms of food, rest, quiet time, and such. When you have your schedule, make a plan that will work for you to be at your best. Speak with your caption manager as you need to assist you in planning and preparing.