

**2022-2024  
RULES, BY-LAWS  
& CONSTITUTION**



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# National High School Rodeo Association, Inc.



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## **NHSRA Mission Statement**

- Promote the sport of rodeo and the highest type of conduct and sportsmanship, and expose its positive image to the general public;
- Preserve the Western Heritage;
- Offer a privilege of family bonding;
- Offer an opportunity of continuing education;
- Maintain the highest regard for the livestock.

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**THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC.  
A South Dakota Non-Profit Organization**

**ARTICLE I  
PURPOSES AND AIMS**

1. To maintain order and standards set up by the National High School Rodeo Association among members at their functions. The National High School Rodeo Association, Inc. is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.
2. To promote high school rodeo on a National and International scale and work toward this by bringing national recognition to this activity for students who are under 20 at the first of the National High School Rodeo year and are or have been enrolled in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade the year just preceding the National High School Finals Rodeo the contestant is entering, as long as they have met their grade requirements, even if they have graduated in the middle of the year, or have attended school on half-days, they will be eligible to compete in the National High School Rodeo through National High School Finals Rodeo. And to allow for students in a junior high division who are under the age of 16 at the first of the NHSRA year and are or have been enrolled in the 5th, chute, 7th or 8th grade the year just preceding the National Junior High Finals Rodeo the contestant is entering, as long as they have met their grade requirements, they will be eligible to compete in the Junior High Division of the NHSRA and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. Any student attending schools which apply to High School or Junior High School credits (or if homeschooled, complying with state/province requirements) is eligible for membership if he/she meets the National High School Rodeo Association grade and conduct qualifications. For international contestants, the Executive Committee of the Board of National Directors shall determine the equivalent school grades.
3. To promote the highest type of conduct and sportsmanship at the various rodeos by setting up standards to be met to reach this end.
4. To keep the Western Heritage alive in North America.
5. To promote closer relationships among the people interested in this activity and the organizations they represent.
  - a. To promote humane treatment of animals.
6. To increase and maintain interest of the high school student in rodeos and other functions of the nation.
7. It is the intent of the National High School Rodeo Association to encourage any student to continue in school as a regularly enrolled student and improve his/her education.

8. To assist and work in cooperation with other rodeo/equine associations and organizations as the corporation deems appropriate.
9. To encourage other States/Provinces and countries to have High School Rodeos and Junior High School Rodeos and to provide protection for States/Provinces, Qualifying and National High School Finals Rodeos and National Junior High Finals Rodeos, decide on the new members and protect the old members by allowing only the winners recognized by their rodeos to participate in the National High School Finals Rodeo and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo.
10. To decide on the site where the National High School Finals Rodeo and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo will be held each year.
11. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene in, including the publishing or distribution of statement(s), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these By-laws, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on:
  - a. By a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law); or
  - b. By a corporation contribution to which are deductible under Sections 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)
12. In the event of dissolution of this non-profit corporation, any assets belonging to the National High School Rodeo Association after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the corporation will dispose of assets of the corporation inclusively for the purposes of the corporation and in such manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Law) as the board of this corporation shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed by the Court of the County in which the principal office of the corporation has been located, as said Court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATIONS**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

1. There are 20 Charter Members. The original Charter members were organized and incorporated in 1961. The Charter members are Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
2. State/Provincial High School Rodeo associations/organizations may be recognized as member associations upon approval of a majority of the National Board of Directors pursuant to the Constitution and By-laws of the Association. State/Province bylaw change proposals must be submitted to the NHSRA office for approval by the Executive Committee. State/Province bylaws can only be changed as outlined in the current state/province bylaws. The National High School Rodeo Association, Inc. is sometimes referred to herein as the National High School Rodeo Association, the National Association, the Association, the NHSRA and the corporation. The term "State/Province", "State/Provincial" or terms of similar import shall be construed to also include other countries. For purposes of these By-laws, the term "Constitution" means the Articles of Incorporation or similar organizational document.
3. There may not be more than one-member high school association and one member Junior High Division association from any one State/Province and they must be part of the same association. All member associations must be state or province wide or country wide. All member associations will be governed by the Constitution and By-laws of the State/Provincial, or District, or Regional parts thereof. The National Secretary shall issue a "Certificate of Membership" to the member association after final approval by the Board of National Directors.
  - a. States/Provinces requesting membership must:
    - (1) Submit a written request for membership.
    - (2) Submit to the National Secretary a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Constitution and By-laws consistent with the National Association's Constitution and By-laws except as otherwise determined by the Board of National Directors.
    - (3) Send a duly elected representative who must attend at least one National meeting.
    - (4) Membership will be established on a probationary basis. The State/Province must complete two years probationary period, which shall include two State/Provincial High School Rodeos and two inspections by the National Association representatives.

- (5) Before permanent membership is granted the State/Province will be required to pay current dues during probationary period.
  - (6) State/Provinces under probationary status may send contestants to National High School and National Junior High Finals Rodeos if State/Province rodeo passes inspection. Dates for State/Province rodeos and inspection will be mutually agreed upon by both National Association inspectors and State/Province Association. During the two-year probationary period where inspections of the finals rodeo are required, all events for that state/province will be held during the state/province finals rodeo so they may be witnessed by the national inspection team. The cutting and portions of the queen contest cannot be held earlier than the finals rodeo to facilitate the inspection process.
  - (7) A State/Province will be allowed to nominate a National Director after permanent membership has been granted.
4. A State/Province Member Association, which fails to comply with the Rules, By-laws and Constitution or Policy Statements of the Association or for other cause deemed sufficient may be disqualified as a Member Association from, and no contestant from such Member Association shall be allowed to participate in, any National High School and National Junior High Finals Rodeos, and its State/Province rodeo may also be disqualified, by the majority vote of the Board of National Directors or of the Executive Committee.
- a. A State/Province Member Association may be placed on probation or expelled from membership in the National Association by the Board of National Directors or the National Executive Committee on sufficient evidence that this member association is marring the good name of National High School Rodeo Association by dishonesty or other such similar and equally undesirable acts, is failing to comply with the Rules, By-laws and Constitution or Policy Statements of the Association or upon the recommendation of the Inspection Team. A majority vote of the National Board of Directors is required to drop and expel a Member Association from the National Association.
  - b. The state/province at the outset of probation shall be informed in writing of the reasons for its being placed on probation and what must change before being taken off probation.
  - c. A state/province placed on probation shall require at least one (1) inspection by a designee(s) of the President prior to being taken off probation.
  - d. States/Provinces under probationary status may send contestants to National High School Finals Rodeo and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo if the State/Province rodeo passes inspection.

- e. Dates for State/Province Rodeo and inspection will be mutually agreed upon by both National Association inspectors and State/Province Association.
5. A State/Province Member Association, which has been disqualified, may be reinstated by a majority vote of the Board of National Directors or of the Executive Committee.
6. Dues:
  - a. The annual dues from the member State/Province Associations shall be set by the Board of National Directors payable in advance and postmarked on or before September 1 of each year.
  - b. All State/Province Associations shall submit their dues, a list of all adult directors, and officers of the State/Province Association, and the name of their queen chairperson, to the National Office by September 1.
7. Failure to pay dues and registration:

If the State/Province Association dues are not postmarked by September 1, of each year, no contestant from said State/Province shall be qualified to participate in the National High School Finals Rodeo or the National Junior High Finals Rodeo for said year, until dues with penalties are paid. A \$50 per day late fee will be charged to the State/Province Association for each day the State/Province dues are late. Late will be defined as postmarked any time after September 1.
8. Each State/Province Member Association in good standing shall be entitled to nominate one National Director pursuant to Article III, Section 2 of the By-laws. The Membership Associations shall not have any voting rights.
9. Membership:
  - a. Any member of a State/Province Association in good standing shall be a non-voting member of the National High School Rodeo Association and shall be entitled to the benefits of that association. Membership in a State/Province Association shall be a requirement for membership in the National High School Rodeo Association.
  - b. Any and all membership rosters which may include, but are not limited to, names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and/or schools are to be kept confidential and may not be shared except as part of a contractual agreement with a pre-identified and specific purpose for use. It is understood that the Association may send its members materials, including advertising materials, from its sponsors, provided the members' confidential information is not made available to the sponsors.
  - c. NHSRA card numbers must remain with the same contestant until contestant has completed eligibility in said division.
  - d. The National High School Rodeo Association, through its Executive Committee, Arena Director(s), Rodeo Coordinator, Judges, National Director(s), and the State/Province Association

shall have the right and responsibility to enforce the rules of the National High School Rodeo Association. Action taken may include disqualification, censure, probation, removal suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary action shall be authorized against any member, contestant, parents or guardian of members or contestants, or any member of the public attending a national, state/province rodeo or function. A Member or contestant may be subject to all disciplinary procedures due to action of parent or guardian.

- e. No state or province association will institute a ground rule that directly conflicts with the National Rule Book unless the ground rule is implemented to allow the state or province to comply with any local, state or provincial ordinances, statutes, regulations or laws. All state/province association ground rules will be submitted to the National Rules Committee Chairperson and will be subject to the Rules Committee approval.
10. Disciplinary Action(s): Any member of a State/Province Association, student or adult who: a) fails to comply with the requirements and standards for members contained in the Rules, By-laws and Constitution or Policy Statements of the Association as adopted by the National Board of Directors or National Executive Committee; b) engages in acts of insubordination, serious misconduct association with alcohol, narcotic or other non-medicinal drugs or acts which are detrimental to the reputation, principles and interests of the Association; c) engages in conduct constituting grounds for disqualification from any event or function as provided in the NHSRA Rules; or, d) any other acts specified hereafter, shall be subject to the Disciplinary Action as provided below. Violation of any of the provisions of the Rules, By-Laws and Constitution of the NHSRA by the parents or guardians of a student member of the NHSRA will subject the student member to all levels of Disciplinary Action provided herein.
  11. Levels of Disciplinary Action: The State/Province Associations, or if the acts occur during an NHSRA Event, the National Executive Committee, may by at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State/Province Association Board or the National Executive Committee, take such Disciplinary Action as they deem appropriate. Disciplinary Action shall be initiated by Complaint as described below.
    - a. Censure: Censure may occur, without formal hearing, by written reprimand to the member from the State/Province Association or National Executive Committee. Censure shall not involve a loss of membership benefits, but the Censure shall be made a part of the member's Membership file and may be considered in the event of a subsequent Disciplinary Action.
    - b. Probation: Probation may be imposed, without formal hearing for up to one (1) year with no loss of benefits of the Association.



Conditions may be imposed as a part of the Probationary Action. The Probationary Action shall be made a part of the member's Membership file and may be considered in the event of subsequent Disciplinary Action.

- c. Removal: Removal from elected office or relinquishment of any title, position or crown may be imposed, after formal hearing.
  - d. Suspension: Suspension of all membership rights may be imposed, after formal hearing, for a period of one (1) year.
  - e. Expulsion: Permanent Expulsion may be imposed, after formal hearing. A member shall be permanently expelled in the event that at hearing it is determined that the member has: i) been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, or, ii) engaged in acts of fraud, dishonesty, collusion, concealment or misrepresentation of facts involving judges or events.
12. Procedures for Disciplinary Action: The following procedures shall be followed by the State/Province Association or National Executive Committee, as the case may be, for all Disciplinary Actions:
- a. Initiation: Complaints shall be in writing and may be initiated by State/ Province Association Board Members, National Directors, Chaperones of Events, Judges or the Executive Director of the NHSRA. The Complaint shall set forth the date, time and description of the conduct which gives rise to the Disciplinary Action. The Complaint shall be filed with the State/Province Association Secretary or, the Executive Director of the NHSRA, if the acts complained of occurred during an NHSRA Event.
  - b. Service and Response: The Complaint shall be sent by regular mail to the member at the address shown in the membership records. The member shall have seven (7) days from the date of mailing of the Complaint to file a response in writing with the State/Province Association Secretary, or, the Executive Director of the NHSRA, if the acts complained of occurred during an NHSRA Event.
  - c. Association Action: Upon receipt of the member's response, the State/Province Association, or the National Executive Committee may: i) without hearing take no action, issue a letter of censure or impose Probation as set forth above, or ii) set the matter for hearing.
  - d. Hearing: In the event the matter is set for hearing, the hearing date shall be scheduled at the earliest possible time to determine the truth or falsity of the allegations set forth in the Complaint. The member shall be given notice of the hearing by regular mail dated at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing date. The member shall have the opportunity to appear at the hearing and present a defense to the allegations contained in the Complaint. In the event the member does not appear, the State/ Province Association or National Executive Committee may

proceed to a determination in the member's absence. If travel to the place of hearing will cause undue burden to the member, the member may request a hearing by telephone, which may, in the reasonable discretion of the State/Province Association or National Executive Committee (where applicable), be granted or denied.

- e. Representation at Hearing: The member may request that his or her District/Region Director or State/Province National Director appear with him or her at the hearing. If the request is made, the hearing shall be held at a time when the Director can be present in person or by telephone. No parents, guardians, attorneys or other representatives can appear at the hearing with the member.

13. Appeal Procedure for certain State/Province Association Disciplinary Actions:

- a. Any member may appeal from a decision of the State/Province Association, which involves Removal, Suspension or Expulsion, by filing a written request for review of the State/Province Association action, describing the decision being appealed and the factual basis for review, with the Executive Director of the NHSRA, within ten (10) days after being notified of the decision being appealed. The member must also submit, with the appeal request, a nonrefundable appeal fee of \$500 (US Funds) made payable to the NHSRA, Inc., by certified check or money order. The National Executive Committee shall conduct a review of the State/Province Association decision based upon a summary of the hearing provided by the State/Province Association and any additional information, which may be provided by the member, National Director or State/Province Association. The National Executive Committee shall only review issues involving interpretation or application of the Rules, By-Laws and Constitution of the Association. The National Executive Committee upon review of the decision of the State/Province Association may affirm, modify or reverse the decision, and the member shall be notified of the ruling in writing.
- b. This appeal procedure shall not apply to or supersede the procedure for contestant disqualifications as defined in the NHSRA Rulebook, nor to the decisions of judges, flagmen, or timers in contest events.
- c. Any action or decision of the National Executive Committee, whether by way of Disciplinary Action arising from acts occurring at NHSRA Events or appeal from a State/Province Association decision, shall be binding upon the member and shall not be subject to appeal to any higher board, tribunal or court of law.

14. Any member who initiates litigation against the National High School Rodeo Association and does not prevail in the litigation by

recovery of all relief requested, shall be liable to the Association for all its attorney's fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other expenses incurred by the Association arising from or in connection with such litigation.

15. NHSRA membership associations shall have the authority to require duly elected members of their Boards of Directors to sign an oath of confidentiality that applies to confidential, legal, financial, proprietary and intellectual information of the association, as a requirement to serve on the Board of Directors.
16. NHSRA membership associations shall have the authority to require signature agreements to Social Media Policies for student and adult members, as a requirement of membership. The purpose of said policies is to protect the membership association and its official representatives from inaccurate, detrimental, threatening, harassing and derogatory information, as well as from creating unauthorized websites and social media accounts utilizing the association name, whether directly or indirectly.

### **ARTICLE III BOARD OF NATIONAL DIRECTORS**

1. There shall be a Board of National Directors of the Association which shall consist of the same number of Directors as there are State/Province Member Associations belonging to the National Association.
2. One National Director will be nominated by each member State/Province organization to serve on the National Board of Directors. Nominations for National Director will be made at the Annual Meeting and nominees will be certified as National Directors, with voting privileges, at the next Mid-winter Board of National Directors meeting. To be certified, a nominee must receive a majority vote of the National Board of Directors.
3. A State/Province Member Association will certify a nominee for National Director of their association to the Secretary of the National Association, who shall act as Secretary of the Nominating Committee, twenty (20) days before the National High School Finals Rodeo. If no certification from State/Province Member Association is received, then the nominating committee shall select an individual from said State/Province to serve for that meeting only. The chairperson of the nominating committee shall report to the Annual meeting, the names of individuals so certified as nominees by the State/Province Member Association, for National Directors, and the names of individuals selected by the nominating committee in the absence of such certifications.
4. The initial term of the National Director shall be for two (2) years

- and succeeding terms shall be for five (5) years. A vacancy on the Board of National Directors because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise will be filled by the Board of National Directors by majority vote, regardless of whether the National Directors remaining in office constitute fewer than a quorum.
5. Each National Director will be required to furnish complete contact information to include mailing and shipping addresses, telephone numbers, FAX numbers, e-mail addresses and any other contact information to the NHSRA Executive Director at the National High School Finals Rodeo Meeting.
  6. Special meetings of the Board of National Directors may be called by the President on ten (10) days' notice to each National Director either personally, by mail, telephone or email, and shall be held at such time and place as is specified in the notice thereof.
  7. A majority of the Board of National Directors shall constitute a quorum to do business and the act of a majority of the Board of National Directors present at any meeting of the Board of National Directors at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of National Directors (except as provided herein to amend the By-laws).
  8. The Board of National Directors shall:
    - a. Transact the general business of the Association which includes the negotiation and execution of various forms of contracts, including but not limited to stock contracts, leases, commercial contracts and sponsorship contracts. The terms and conditions of those various contracts shall remain confidential. While each National Director may be asked to approve by vote of the Board of Directors the contract, it will be considered a breach of the Director's fiduciary duty to disclose any term or condition of the contract to any outside party and will be grounds for immediate dismissal for violating that fiduciary duty.
    - b. Establish major administrative policies governing the affairs of the Association and devise measures for the Association's growth and development.
    - c. Provide for the maintenance of national headquarters and for making such office the center of activities of the Association including such work of the officers and committees as may be deemed expedient; provide for the proper care of materials, equipment and funds of the Association, for the payment of legitimate expenses and for the annual auditing of all books of account by a certified public accountant.
    - d. Act upon applications for membership in this Association.
    - e. Have the power to fill all vacancies on the Board of National Directors. In the event a National Director misses two unexcused consecutive National meetings he or she will be replaced. A National Director must notify the National President of his or her reason for the absence and the President will make

- the determination whether or not the absence is excused or unexcused.
- f. Alternates may be seated for informational purposes only, but their State/Province shall not have a vote.
9. Each State/Province Member Association shall be responsible for their National Director, Junior High and High School or designee's legitimate expenses while attending National meetings including the NHSFR and the NJHFR.
  10. National Directors duties on the State/Province Level:
    - a. To monitor the State/Province Association to ensure all governing rules are followed, proper business and finance procedures are conducted.
    - b. To include acting as coordinator in all State/Province sanctioned rodeos. Any flagrant abuse will be brought to the attention of the National Director. State/Province Member Associations are encouraged to resolve all problems at the State level. If a problem cannot be resolved with the National Director and the problem prevents the rodeo from being held, an emergency conference may be invoked with the National President or designee. At such a conference a State/Province Member Association designee and the National Director shall be present. Executive action may be required and a contestant or the entire State/Province rodeo may be disqualified. It is to the best interest of Rodeo, contestant, and spectator to resolve problems as soon as possible, and to continue with a performance. Judges, arena directors and board members should cooperate with National Directors in all matters, except for emergency problems as noted above. The decision reached by a National Director shall remain final unless reversed by the National Executive Committee whose action will come before the National Board at the next regular meeting.
    - c. Each National Director may appoint or select a Junior High Director for his/her state/province to handle some of the duties of the junior high division. The Junior High Director would report to the National Director as well as the State/Province Board of Directors. The National Director would have the same authority within the Junior High Division for that state/province as is outlined in the duties of a National Director in the NHSRA By-Laws and Rulebook.
  11. National Directors Responsibility at the National High School Finals Rodeo:
    - a. Must check in with the National President (or his/her appointed representative) before the contestant check-in deadline. Each National Director has the privilege of selecting an Assistant National Director for the Finals.
    - b. Be responsible for his/her State/Province contestants, and

- be responsible for, but may delegate actual checking of each room and each camp site prior to and following occupancy for damages.
- c. May be housed with their State Delegation and be responsible for their contestants' and parents' conduct or designate an adult to assume their responsibility.
  - d. Must meet with Executive Committee upon call or have designated an adult to assume his/her responsibility in any matter involving his/her State/Province's contestants.
  - e. Assume any duties assigned by National Board of Directors.
  - f. Any National Officer's correspondence with a State/Provincial Secretary or National Director requires an answer within time specified.
12. National Directors are National officials. A State/Province Member Association may not remove a duly elected National Director. Removal of a National Director shall be by the Board of National Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association should be served thereby.
  13. National Directors will serve on their respective State/Province Junior High Division Board of Directors with a vote if the state/province has a separate board for the Junior High Division.
  14. If State/Province Member Association determines it is in their best interest to replace the seated National Director during the term, the procedure for doing so will be as follows:
    - a. At a duly noticed meeting of the State/Province Association where one hundred percent of the State/Province Member Association's certified voting board members must be in attendance and cast a vote for or against the removal of the National Director. At least two-thirds majority of the certified votes in favor of removal is required to further pursue the removal process.
    - b. State/Province Member Association must send certified delegates to the next regularly scheduled National Meeting, either the Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting or the Annual Meeting.
    - c. The certified delegates must include the State/Province President and at least two other voting members of the State/Province board of directors and their nominated National Director to be seated in place of the director they are requesting to be removed.
    - d. The State/Province Member Association must post a \$1,000 bond by cash or certified funds to the NHSRA, Inc. and then appear in front of the National Board of Directors to present their case for removal of the National Director. If State/Province loses the decision to remove their National Director, no further appeal will be allowed and they will forfeit the \$1,000 bond to the NHSRA, Inc. to cover the costs of the proceedings. If State/Province is

successful in removing their National Director, the \$1,000 bond will be returned to the State/Province Association.

15. National Directors will serve on their respective State/Province Board and State/Province Executive Committee and will be a voting member of said board and committee.
16. National Directors when in an official capacity shall be in western attire.
17. Members of the Board of National Directors or any Committee thereof may participate in any meeting of such Board or Committee by means of teleconference or similar communications equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by a Board or Committee member in a teleconference constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

1. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President and 2nd Vice-President, elected by and from the Board of National Directors, an Executive Director, who shall be elected by the Board of National Directors but shall not be a member of the Board of National Directors, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by the Board of National Directors and also shall not be a member of the Board of National Directors. The Executive Director shall serve as the National Secretary of the Association. Any two or more officers may be held by the same person, except the offices of President and secretary.
2. The officers of the Association shall perform the duties prescribed by these By-laws.
  - a. The President shall be the Chairperson of the Board of National Directors and an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Committee on Nominations.
  - b. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of President, the Vice-President shall serve as President until the next annual election of officers.
  - c. The Executive Director shall be the chief executive officer of the Association; he or she shall be responsible for the management of the corporation and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the National Board of Directors are carried into effect. Except as otherwise expressly provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these By-laws, he or she shall have the power to execute such contracts, including but not limited to stock contracts, leases, commercial contracts and sponsorship

contracts, as shall be authorized by the Board of National Directors.

- d. The National Secretary or designee shall keep complete minutes of all meetings of the Association and the Board of National Directors meetings. A copy of minutes must be sent to all National Directors within 30 days. The Secretary shall preserve all documents of the Association. The Secretary shall issue membership certificates to all member associations.
  - e. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all dues and funds of the Association and shall deposit such funds in the bank or banks designated by the Board of National Directors and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned to him or her by the Board of National Directors or the Executive Director.
3. The terms of office of all officers elected at any annual meeting shall commence at the adjournment of the convention and they shall serve until adjournment of the next annual convention at the National High School Finals Rodeo.
  4. Neither the President, the Vice President nor the Second Vice President shall be elected to the same office for more than one consecutive term.
  5. Removal. Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of National Directors may be removed by the Board of National Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association would be served thereby.
  6. Vacancies. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of National Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.
  7. Powers and Duties. In addition to the powers and duties specified in these By-laws, the several officers shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may from time to time be specified in resolutions or other directives of the Board of National Directors. The Executive Director and Treasurer shall report to the Board of National Directors.
  8. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of National Directors, composed of the President, who shall serve as Chairperson of the Executive Committee, Vice President, Second Vice President, Immediate Past President, and five (5) National Directors elected by the Board of National Directors at the annual meeting of the National Directors. At the annual meeting of the National Directors on even years there will be two (2) directors elected for a two (2) year term and on odd years there will be three (3) directors elected for a two (2) year term. Vacancies will be filled by the Board of National Directors for the unexpired portion of said term. This committee shall have all the power of the Board of National Directors to transact business of an emergency nature between the Board of National Directors meetings and on



other matters as stipulated by the Board of National Directors. All transactions pursuant to the power granted by the preceding sentence shall be reported in full at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of National Directors. The Executive Committee shall also perform the duties delegated to it by these By-laws. The Executive Director/National Secretary shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. The position of Rodeo Coordinator for the National High School Finals Rodeo is the NHSRA's 1st Vice President and the position of Rodeo Coordinator for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo is the NHSRA's 2nd Vice President, to serve as a responsible agent between the National High School Rodeo Association and the National High School Finals Rodeo, or the National Junior High Finals Rodeo, Host Committee, Stock Contractors and all other interested parties pertaining to the staging of the National High School Finals Rodeo and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. The Rodeo Coordinator reports to the Executive Committee/National Board of Directors for final approval.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **CONTESTANTS, NATIONAL OFFICERS AND DELEGATES**

1. All NHSRA and NJHSR Contestants shall be members of the National High School Rodeo Association.
2. Those contestants from each State/Province qualifying for the National High School Finals Rodeo shall elect four contestant delegates to represent their State/Province at the National High School Finals Rodeo.
3. Contestant delegates will hold a meeting Sunday prior to the contestant meeting, to elect contestant event directors.
4. They shall elect one director for each event held at all rodeos. Event directors at qualifying, district/regional, state/province rodeos are elected by and from the contestants. Event directors at the National High School Finals Rodeo are elected by and from the contestant national delegates representing each State/Province. The elected event directors shall be knowledgeable of both the rulebook and his/her respective event. Event directors elected at the National High School Finals Rodeo shall be of the same gender for which the event they represent is sanctioned, i.e. girl's event directors for girl's events and boy's event directors for boy's events. The duties of the event director shall be to answer contestant questions on their event and to work with the Arena Director and Adult Executive Committee. They shall be within the arena during their event at all performances with the only exceptions being cleared through the Arena Director.
5. The State Contestant Delegates shall elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary to preside over the activities of the

- contestants for the coming year.
6. A vacancy in any contestant office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled if determined necessary by the National Executive Committee. If found necessary to fill the position, the position will be filled in the following manner for each of the offices:
    - Contestant President - Contestant Vice-President will assume the duties of the Contestant President.
    - Contestant Vice-President - The position of Contestant Vice President will be offered to the contestant receiving the next highest number of votes for that position at the contestant officer election held at the National High School Finals Rodeo just prior to the term of office.
    - Contestant Secretary - The position of Contestant Secretary will be offered to the contestant receiving the next highest number of votes for that position at the contestant officer election held at the National High School Finals Rodeo just prior to the term of office.
  7. Procedure for election of officers to conform to Robert's Rules of Order on Parliamentary Procedure.
  8. Four Delegates from each State/Province will have one vote between them. If state/province is not present for roll call at the first delegate's meeting, said delegates will not have a vote for the remainder of the Finals.
  9. Any competing Member is eligible to hold a National Office but must have one or more years of eligibility in High School Rodeo left.
  10. All nominations for contestant office will be submitted to the NHSRA Contestant Secretary by the close of the Delegate Meeting prior to the first performance of the National High School Finals Rodeo. All candidates will be issued a badge for the permitting of accessibility to campaigning areas. No campaigning in arenas or work areas.
  11. The election of contestant officers will be held before the Short Go. The time and place will be posted 24 hours prior to election by National Secretary.
  12. At the election, ballots will be tabulated and winners announced at that meeting. The newly elected officers will be introduced at that meeting. The newly elected officers will be introduced on horseback during the pre-rodeo at the Friday Performance PM Pre-Rodeo.
  13. The newly elected officers are not obligated nor expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, immediately following their being elected.
  14. There shall be representation of NHSRA Contestants at the Board of National Director's meetings.
  15. The Contestant Officers shall continue in office through the following National High School Finals Rodeo and the Annual Meeting. The new Contestant Officers will take over their duties at the close of the Annual Meeting.

16. At the next National High School Finals Rodeo, following the Contestant Officers being elected, a contestant number will be issued whether competing as a Contestant or not.
17. Contestant Number One will be issued to the Contestant President, Contestant Number Two will be issued to the Contestant Vice President, Contestant Number Three will be issued to the Contestant Secretary and Contestant Number 10 will be issued to the National Queen.
18. The Contestant Officers shall attend the Mid-Winter Meeting, Annual Meeting and take such other trips and appearances as the Youth Advisory Committee and/or Executive Committee may direct. When making official appearances and attending official functions on behalf of the NHSRA, the Contestant Officers and Queen will be subject to the same rules of conduct and disciplinary action as outlined in the NHSRA By-Laws and Rulebook. Violating any NHSRA rules while on official business may result in dismissal from their position.
19. They shall also collect and receive information and requests for changes in the conduct of the National High School Finals Rodeo and pass these requests on to the Adult Association officers.
20. Contestant Officers expenses will be reimbursed by Nationals, when on business designated by the National Executive Committee.
21. The expense to attend the National High School Finals Rodeo will be reimbursed if Contestant Officers are in attendance through entire Annual Meeting.
22. Receipts for expenses are required for reimbursement; these expenses will be for travel to and from, lodging and food.
23. At all Board of National Directors meetings, the officers representing the Contestant Delegates and the National Queen shall each have a vote with a total of four votes. Even though they are not National Directors, they shall be subject to the same confidentiality requirements as National Directors.
24. The National Contestant Officers will be in western attire (hat optional) at Mid-Winter and Annual National High School Rodeo Association Board Meetings. At all National High School Rodeo Association and Guest Host Committee Social Functions, Contestant Officers will be in full western attire.
25. Those contestants from each State/Province qualifying for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo shall elect four contestant delegates to represent their State/Province at the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. Four Delegates from each State/Province will have one vote between them. If state/province is not present for roll call at the first delegate's meeting, said delegates will not have a vote for the remainder of the Finals.
26. Contestant delegates will hold a meeting the day before the first performance, to elect contestant event directors. They shall elect one director for each event held at all rodeos. Event directors will

- be selected in the same manner as the NHSRA event directors at qualifying, district/regional, state/province rodeos and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo, and they will have the same duties and responsibilities as event directors in the NHSRA.
27. The State/Province Contestant Delegates shall elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary to preside over the activities of the contestants for the coming year. The procedure for election of officers is to conform to Robert's Rules of Order on Parliamentary Procedure.
  28. A vacancy in any contestant office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled if determined necessary by the National Executive Committee. If it is necessary to fill the position, the position will be filled in the same manner as the NHSRA Contestant Officers.
  29. Any Contestant Member is eligible to hold a National Office but must have one or more years of eligibility in the Junior High Division left and must have competed at Contestant's District or State/Province Finals just prior to running for office.
  30. All nominations for contestant office will be submitted to the NHSRA Contestant Secretary by the close of the Delegate Meeting prior to the first performance of the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. All candidates will be issued a badge for the permitting of accessibility to campaigning areas. No campaigning in arenas or work areas. The election of contestant officers will be held before the Short Go. The time and place will be posted 24 hours prior to election by National Secretary.
  31. The Contestant Officers shall continue in office through the following National Junior High Finals Rodeo. The new Contestant Officers will take over their duties at the close of the Finals Rodeo. At the next National Junior High Finals Rodeo, following the Contestant Officers being elected, a contestant number will be issued whether competing as a Contestant or not. Contestant Number One will be issued to the Contestant President, Contestant Number Two will be issued to the Contestant Vice President and Contestant Number Three will be issued to the Contestant Secretary.
  32. The Contestant Officers of the National Junior High Division shall attend such meetings, functions and take other trips and make other appearances as the Executive Committee may direct. When making official appearances and attending official functions on behalf of the NHSRA, the Contestant Officers will be subject to the same rules of conduct and disciplinary action as outlined in the NHSRA By-Laws and Rulebook. Violating any NHSRA rules while on official business may result in dismissal from their position.
  33. Expenses for travel will be reimbursed by the NHSRA if directed to attend by and approved by the NHSRA. Receipts for expenses are required for reimbursement; these expenses will be for travel to

and from, lodging and food. The National Contestant Officers will be in western attire (hat optional) at NHSRA Meetings. At all National High School Rodeo Association, National Junior High Finals Rodeo and Guest Host Committee Social Functions, Contestant Officers will be in full western attire.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **ANNUAL AND MID-WINTER MEETINGS**

1. The Annual meeting of the National Board of Directors of the National Association shall be held at the place where the Finals is held the day after the end of said rodeo contest.
2. Each State/Provincial Member Association shall be entitled to two delegates and one National Director, which delegation shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote, which must be cast by the National Director, for said State/Provincial Association, providing that the State/Province is in good standing with the NHSRA. The member State/Provincial Association must certify the names of their official delegates to the National Secretary within five (5) days following their State/Province Finals Rodeo and said certifications may also contain the names of alternates to serve in the absence of the delegates. Votes may only be cast in person and not by proxy.
3. Notice of the Annual meeting shall be given by the National Secretary at least thirty (30) days and not more than sixty (60) days before the Annual meeting and notice of any amendments to the By-Laws proposed by any State/Provincial Association will be included in said notice. Said notice shall also direct that the State/Provincial Associations must notify the National Secretary as to the names of their delegates and alternates within five (5) days following their State/Province Finals Rodeo.
4. The order of business at each Annual meeting shall be fixed at the beginning of the meeting and shall include, among other things:
  - a. Roll call by states
  - b. Address of the president
  - c. Minutes of previous meeting
  - d. Report of Board of National Directors
  - e. Reports of Officers
  - f. Reports of standing committees
  - g. Report of special committees
  - h. Election of National Directors & officers
  - i. Miscellaneous business - old and new
  - j. NEW BUSINESS discussed and passed on by the delegates will be placed on the agenda for the Mid-winter Directors Meeting for final action (and will not be adopted unless approved at such meeting).

5. The meetings will be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.
6. Most of the Board of National Directors shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Directors meeting and the Mid-winter Directors meeting. A quorum must be in attendance at a meeting for any official legal transaction of business and the act of a majority of the Board of National Directors present at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of National Directors (except as provided herein to amend the By-laws).
7. A regular meeting of the Board of National Directors shall be held in Mid-winter of each and every year and notice of this meeting shall be given in the same manner as provided for in the Annual meeting of the National Board of Directors.
8. In the intervals between meetings of the Board of National Directors the President of the Association may refer and submit by mail, telephone, or email to the members of the Board of National Directors definite questions relating to the affairs of the Association which in the opinion of the President, require immediate action on the part of the Board of National Directors. The result of such a referendum, which requires a majority vote of the members of the Board of National Directors, shall control the action of the Association and of its Board of National Directors, officers, sections, committees, agents and employees.

## **ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES**

1. Standing Committees:
  - a. Each committee shall consist of at least three members who must be National Directors, and the members shall be notified of their appointment by the President. Committee chairpersons and members are to be appointed by the officers and Executive Committee at a meeting to be held after or during the National High School Finals Rodeo and approved by the Board of National Directors at its annual meeting. If three or more board members dissent on the appointments to said committee, then a referendum shall be conducted.
  - b. Non-National Directors may be assigned to committees, for advisory and/or information purposes only, but they shall not have a vote.
  - c. All Committee expenses to NHSRA should be itemized and be a part of each Committee Report.
  - d. The Association shall have the following standing committees:
    - (1) Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is constituted and has the powers set forth in Article IV, Section 8. The Executive Committee shall meet when necessary as

determined by the President. This Committee shall also be responsible for providing job descriptions for Executive Director in regard to the operation of the NHSRA office and other duties, establish annual written performance evaluation for the Executive Director, and review salaries, benefits, and establish and maintain a formal written schedule for same. The Executive Committee will accept and review sealed stock bids at the NHSRA one (1) year prior to the following NHSFR and the NJHFR. The bids will be opened the Thursday prior to the annual Meeting and presented with a recommendation to the full Board of Directors for approval. Stock bids are to be for two-year contracts.

- (2) Nominations Committee. The purpose is to prepare a slate of candidates for office. The Nominating Committee will convene at the Mid-winter Board of National Directors meeting to consider nominees for national officers and executive committee. A National Director must have served through completion of his probation two (2) years of his/her first full five (5) year term to be eligible for consideration. Nominations shall be made by National Directors. The Nominating Committee shall consider all possible candidates. At the National High School Finals Rodeo the Nominating Committee will interview prospective nominees and present a slate of candidates to the National Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for any office will be accepted from the floor at the time of elections.
- (3) Public Relations. The purpose of this committee is to monitor and assist in the representation of the association in all promotional efforts and to assist in obtaining sponsorships for awards and scholarship programs. Promotional efforts include, but are not limited to, the NHSRA Times, the NHSFR & NJHFR Official Program, NHSFR & NJHFR signage and any brochures and videos designed to improve public awareness and increase membership. The committee shall not only act as an advisory committee to the NHSRA staff regarding promotions but shall also attempt to assist in providing financing for awards and scholarship programs by contacting existing and potential sponsors. The committee shall approve all awards given at the NHSFR & NJHFR.
- (4) Rules and By-Laws Committee. This committee will meet prior to the Mid-winter meeting. Any rule changes from the state/provincial level must be submitted in writing, first through the state/province board. If approved by the state/province board, it must be submitted to the state/province national director for submission to the rules committee, at least 30 days prior to their meeting. All Queen Contest Event rule changes will go

to Queen Committee for their recommendations before being considered and acted upon by the Rules Committee. These proposed changes will be considered and acted upon by the Rules Committee. These proposed changes will be mailed to all National Directors prior to the Mid-Winter meeting. Final Action will be taken at that meeting. The rulebooks will be revised bi-annually on even years and delivered prior to the first of September each year.

- (5) Budget and Finance Committee. The purpose of this committee shall be to establish and oversee the annual budget of the association, direct and review the annual audit, review all financial procedures and accounting of the association. The committee will monitor all the funds, expenses, properties of the association and advise the NHSRA staff pertaining to any investments.
- (6) Insurance Committee. At the direction of its chairman and working in conjunction with the NHSRA Insurance Broker, this committee assumes the responsibilities for the placement and continuity of the NHSRA Insurance Program.
- (7) Youth Advisory Committee. This Committee is to assure that the students and student officers are represented on a national level. The committee will handle all elections of National Student Officers and Finals Event Directors. The committee will organize student delegate meetings and direct all student officers' meetings and organize all promotional trips.
- (8) National High School Finals Rodeo Approval Committee. This committee will prepare and provide forms for any city anticipating hosting the National Finals Rodeo to report to this committee on facilities available for producing the Rodeo. The form to include stalling, camping, grandstand seating capacity, arena size and number of chutes, all arena facilities, other contestant accommodations, spectator accommodations, office space, shooting ranges and meeting space available. This committee always maintains approved sites four (4) years in advance.
- (9) Contestant Entertainment. This Committee is to provide and supervise entertainment for contestants.
- (10) Rodeo Personnel Committee. This committee is to research and acquire resumes from prospective personnel for the annual National High School Finals Rodeo. Committee will pick a roster of personnel by the Annual Meeting to be voted on and approved by the full Board for the following years finals to be reaffirmed at the Mid-Winter Meeting and to have contracts signed by that time. Personnel is to include all judges, flaggers, timers, secretaries, announcers, bull fighters and one pick-up man.
- (11) Rodeo Safety Committee. This Committee will develop and



promote Rodeo Safety. Responsibilities includes checking all arenas and holding pens at each National Finals assuring the safety of livestock and contestants. The committee will work with the NHSRA staff as needed for the promotion of safety to all members and production of safety videos and literature.

- (12) Queen Committee. This Committee will submit for approval by the full board, at the Mid-Winter Meeting, names of the Queen Judges for the upcoming Queen Contest. The committee will recommend to the National Board, for approval, what travel and commitments the Queen may be allowed, to represent the National High School Rodeo Association. The committee will handle all scheduling of travel arrangements, chaperoning and expense reports with the Queen and the National Office. This committee will consider proposed Queen Contest Event rule changes and will recommend to Rules Committee what course of action the Queen Committee would prefer.
- (13) Animal Welfare Committee. This committee is charged with the mission of ensuring humane treatment of livestock including performance horse, timed event and cutting cattle, goats and rough stock used in high school rodeo.
- (14) Livestock Inspection Committee. This committee is to inspect all livestock prior to Rodeo for their breed, size, weight, horns, health and physical being as to meeting all livestock event requirements, and then daily for health and physical being.
- (15) New States/Provinces Admission Committee. The Executive Committee will serve as this committee. The duties of this committee shall be to investigate the facilities, capabilities and character of those applying, and accepting or rejecting. It is suggested that at least two (2) of the committee members investigate by personal inspection. A decision may be made by correspondence. Upon their approval, the new State/Province shall be admitted on a temporary basis for 2 years and a National Director seated for informational purposes; that State/Province will then become a full member with a vote after approval by the Board of National Directors at their Annual Meeting, following the temporary period. If that State/Province is rejected by the Board of National Directors it shall no longer be a member on any basis. New States/Provinces on temporary approval may participate at National High School Finals Rodeo and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo if their State/Province finals are approved by the inspection teams, and a representative has attended one National meeting. Expenses for the Inspections will be NHSRA's.
- (16) Planning and Steering Committee. The purpose of this committee is to set out goals and directions for the NHSRA. The committee will act only in an advisory capacity, and as

a committee will have no decision-making authority. This committee will present to the NHSRA a five to ten-year plan of growth and expansion. The committee will also act as a resource base for the Board and upon direction of the Board will give advice and opinions. The committee will be comprised of all Past Presidents, in good standing, whether they are active National Directors, or retired National Directors, and three active National Directors. Former National Directors, in good standing, of the non-Past President's status could be invited by this committee for their input as needed. A past president of the Association shall chair this committee. All committee members shall have a vote on this committee; this is an exception to Article VII (1b). The non-National Directors shall not have a vote on the NHSRA Board.

- (17) Grand Entry Committee. The purpose of this committee is to set guidelines for grand entries at the National High School Finals Rodeo. This committee will address safety issues concerning the grand entries, guidelines for conducting the grand entries, make recommendations to the Rules Committee concerning any grand entry rules and appoint personnel to assist with organizing and staging the NHSFR grand entries. This committee will also make decisions on any special themes and color schemes for the grand entries as well as any flag presentations and opening ceremonies.
  - (18) Membership Development Committee. This committee is charged with the mission to enhance membership in the National High School Rodeo Association, to develop ways to promote membership, develop and explore additional categories of membership in the NHSRA and evaluate membership benefits.
  - (19) Crisis Fund Committee. This committee shall have charge of the NHSRA Crisis Fund including setting all guidelines for assistance, eligibility, payment and other considerations. This committee will also be responsible for fund raising for the Crisis Fund, determining and approving sources of income for the fund as well as approve all investments and how the fund is managed financially. The committee will be responsible for approving the application for assistance, reviewing all applications received and approving any assistance the fund can provide a member and his/her family.
  - (20) Shooting Committee. The purpose of this committee is to set and monitor procedures established for the NHSRA shooting program.
2. Other Committees:
- a. Other committees not having and exercising the authority of a Board of Directors in the management of the Association may be designated by the President. Any member thereof may be

removed by the person or persons authorized to appoint such member whenever in their judgment the best interests of the Association shall be served by such removal.

## **ARTICLE VIII CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, GIFTS**

1. **Contracts.** The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association, in addition to the officers so authorized by these By-laws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.
2. **Checks, Drafts, or Orders.** All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the National Board of Directors.
3. **Deposits.** All funds of the Association shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Association in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the National Board of Directors may select.
4. **Gifts.** The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for any purpose of the Association.

## **ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION**

1. **Directors, Committee Members and Officers.** The Association shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that that person is or was a director, committee member or officer of the corporation, or who, while a director, committee member or officer of the corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, fiduciary, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation or of any limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise, or employee benefit plan, pursuant to the procedures set forth in, and to the fullest extent authorized by, South Dakota law as the same exists or may hereafter be amended. The right to indemnification provided

- herein shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by the corporation in accordance with South Dakota law for expenses incurred in advance of any proceeding's final disposition.
2. Insurance. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance for itself and on behalf of any person who is or was a director, committee member or officer of the corporation or who, while a director, committee member or officer of the corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, fiduciary, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation or of any limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise, or employee benefit plan against any liability asserted against or incurred by him or her in any such capacity or arising from his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability.
  3. The foregoing rights of indemnification and insurance shall not be exclusive of, or in any manner limit, other rights to which any director, committee member or officer may be entitled as a matter of law, or to the extent not prohibited by law, by a contract approved by the National Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE X STATE CONTEST

1. All State/Provincial Association High School Finals Rodeo and State/Province Junior High Finals Rodeo contests shall be conducted under the same rules and regulations as set forth in the National High School Rodeo Association Rule Book, and if they are not, contestants from State or Province shall not be qualified to enter the National High School Finals Rodeo or the National Junior High Finals Rodeo.
2. Each State/Province Member Association shall conduct a State/Provincial High School Finals Rodeo each year and if the State/Province Association is a member of the NHSRA Junior High Division they must hold a State/Province Junior High Finals Rodeo each year.
3. If state/provincial association cannot host a state/provincial finals due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, including, but not limited to acts of nature, acts of public enemy, animal diseases, riots, flood, or communicable diseases, the nhsra executive committee has the authority to approve an alternate method or plan, submitted by the state / province, to create a structure for the states / provinces to qualify to the national high school and/or junior high school finals rodeo.
4. The minimum State/Provincial High School Rodeo which will qualify contestants in the first four places in each event in the average for the National High School Finals Rodeo shall be a two-go-round with

an average or a one go-round and a finals, in which at least the top ten go. The minimum State/Provincial Junior High School Rodeo which will qualify contestants in the first four places in each event in the average for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo shall be a two-go-round with an average or a one go-round and a finals, in which at least the top ten go.

5. Rodeos are to be open to all students in that State/Province attending schools, which apply to High School or Junior High School credit (or if homeschooled, complying with state/province requirements) if he/she meets all other requirements. Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this Article X also apply to Mexico and Australia and Mexican and Australian rodeos shall comply with these sections.
6. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold on the grounds during any high school or junior high school rodeo held in the United States or Canada.

## **ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

1. These By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the National Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the National Directors present, at which meeting a duly constituted quorum is present.

## **NHSRA RULEBOOK GENERAL RULES FOR CONTESTANTS**

1. All NHSRA contestants shall be members of the National High School Rodeo Association. As members and before any competition, the contestants shall have signed all the appropriate forms furnished by the national and state/province organization, including the minor's release signed and notarized by the contestant's parents or legal guardian.
2. Contestants must sign in and receive their number before the deadline to be eligible to compete in a National High School Finals Rodeo.
3. In case of emergency, the National Secretary must be contacted before registration closes at National High School Finals Rodeo Office.
4. Telephone number will be found on National Finals entry blanks.
5. All contestants will be required to attend a meeting with the judges and arena directors before the first performance of the National Rodeo High School Finals Rodeo for the purpose of explaining all the ground rules.
6. All contestants shall observe ground rules set by the National High

School Rodeo Association.

7. Only contestants will be allowed to register complaints, and these must be placed first through the Contestant Event Director, National Director or Arena Director before the end of the performance or slack in which the question arose.
8. No person shall be allowed in the arena during a rodeo performance unless entered in an event or as an assistant. This rule shall be enforced by the Arena Director, National Director and Rodeo Officials.
9. Each contestant will be allowed one, and only one assistant in the arena and only one assistant behind the chutes when he or she is contesting except in the cutting horse contest where two turn-back and two holders are permissible and in the steer wrestling event where a contestant needs a hazer and a pusher. Assistant helping barrel racers and pole benders will not be allowed to go past the plane of the main arena gate when they are entering the arena.
10. In roping timed events and steer wrestling, the contestant is allowed a helper in the box to assist in settling the horse and keeping the horse in the corner of the box. When the contestant calls for the animal, no further assistance can take place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the animal. The helper may have his hands on the horse at such time that the contestant calls for the animal but if the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the contestant's scoring process, the contestant will receive a no time.
11. The contestant is allowed a running start. If the gate is centrally located, contestant must keep forward motion toward the first barrel/pole. If a side or corner gate is used, a single spin or pivot is acceptable in either direction or by the Arena Director's approval. Failure to comply will be a no time. Contestant must be mounted when entering the arena.
12. All contestants will leave the arena immediately after contesting or assisting.
13. Contestant helpers must leave the arena immediately after they have assisted.
14. The decision of any judges, flagmen or timers will be final, and no protest by contestant will be permitted, except first through the contestant event director, or a National Director or Arena Director. Such protest shall be made before the end of the performance or slack in which the question arose. If the National Director or Arena Director determines that the protest is based upon a possible misinterpretation of an event rule, the National Director or Arena Director shall, at the first convenient opportunity, describe the protest and the interpretation of the rule upon which it is based to the judge. If the judge agrees that an erroneous ruling was made and that the error is correctable, then the judge shall modify the ruling accordingly. Otherwise, the decision shall stand.

15. No contestant may talk to a judge or timer in any way while an event is going on.
16. Questions may be addressed to the judge no sooner than at the end of the event for that performance.
17. Any contestant violating this regulation may be disqualified by the judges or the arena director.
18. All contestants are required to read the rules carefully, particularly those relating to the contests or events in which they enter.
19. Failure to understand rules will not be accepted as an excuse.
20. Contestants will not be allowed in the arenas between performances after the start of the first go-round, except for approved activities.
21. Western Shirt–wrist length sleeves shirt with collar and cuffs. Shirts must be tucked in.
22. Western boots must be worn and sneaker type “sport shoes” are not acceptable footwear.
23. No sweatshirts, T-shirts, or pullovers allowed.
24. Cowboy Hat–2 1/2-inch minimum brim; five (5) inch minimum crown. Helmets may be worn in lieu of western hats while in competition.
25. No electrical devices may be used by a contestant or on his horse.
26. In rodeo events a complete go-round must be finished before any contestant can compete on his next head of stock or timed event.
27. No contestant may compete on the same head of stock twice at any one rodeo in the same event, except for re-rides or reruns.
28. Rodeo Judges, Arena Directors and/or National Directors may inspect any contestant’s equipment before, during or after a rodeo performance for safety and rule infractions.
29. No strap or seat belt apparatus may be used to secure contestant in the saddle, unless given approval by the governing body of the State/ Provincial Association or person with a handicap disability. The State/ Province will advise the National Office of all exceptions to this rule.

## **JUNIOR HIGH DIVISION GENERAL RULES FOR CONTESTANTS**

The National High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division is modeled after the National High School Rodeo Association, therefore, will follow all rules, by-laws, and constitution including the rules added in the section below. Since the junior high division members are members of the NHSRA they will adopt and adhere to all NHSRA rules and by-laws including but not limited to the general rules for contestants, contestant qualifications, contestant disqualifications, point systems, animal welfare regulations, equipment, stock requirements, finals requirements, position draws and stock draws. All of the previous categories are specifically detailed in the existing NHSRA Rulebook. If

there is not a specific rule pertaining to the junior high division than it will automatically be referenced to high school rules.

The following two paragraphs have been changed from the NHSRA Rulebook. Their parent paragraphs can be found in the NHSRA Rulebook under "*Specification and Rules for Conduct of State and National Finals: 2. c & d*".

National Junior High Finals Rodeos are not to accept any contestant from a State/Province Junior High Finals Rodeo unless said contestant has placed 1st, 2nd 3rd OR 4th in the event which he or she entered at that State/Province Junior High Finals Rodeo or the top four (4) accumulative point winners in each event which must have competed at their State/ Province Junior High Finals Rodeo and not been disqualified from those finals.

A contestant having won, one of the first four positions in any event, will be eligible to enter that event. Ties for the Fourth Position will be eligible to enter that event. If, in any case of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for "finals", for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National Junior High Finals in the event they qualified in, of that year, with certificate of approval from the National Director.

The following events are to be held at each National Junior High Finals Rodeo and each State/Provincial Junior High Finals Rodeo and Junior High qualifying rodeos. One (1) Contestant constitutes an event. A contestant can enter an event one time at any rodeo. All events must be offered for all State/Provincial qualifying rodeos.

### **BOYS OFFICIAL ABBREVIATIONS**

Junior Bull or Steer Riding	BR
Tie-Down Roping (no breakaway)	TD
Breakaway Roping (no Tie-Down Roping)	BBK
Goat Tying	BGT
Team Roping (open to girls or boys)	TR
Ribbon Roping (one girl & one boy)	RR
Chute Dogging	CD
<u>Junior High Bareback Riding</u>	<u>JHBB</u>
<u>Junior High Saddle Bronc Riding</u>	<u>JHSB</u>

### **GIRLS OFFICIAL ABBREVIATIONS**

Clover-Leaf Barrel Race	BA
Pole-Bending Race	PB
Breakaway Roping	GBK
Goat Tying	GGT
Team Roping (open to girls or boys)	TR
Ribbon Roping (one girl & one boy)	RR



## CONTESTANT QUALIFICATIONS

1. Students in the high school division must be in good standing; not ruled undesirable for misconduct at school. Students must be under 20 at the first of the National High School Rodeo year (Aug. 1), and are or have been enrolled in the 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade the year just preceding the National Rodeo the contestant is entering as long as they (minimum requirements) have made passing grades in at least 70% of the classes taken or meet the minimum proficiency requirement of the state/province in which they are members. If they have graduated in the middle of the year or have attended school on half-days, they will be eligible to compete in National High School Rodeo through the National High School Finals Rodeo if he/she has not participated for more than 4 years. Any student attending schools which award high school credits, is eligible if he/she meets all other requirements. Students attending home school, private school, religious school, or correspondence school are eligible for membership if the school is recognized and approved by the State/Provincial or National Board of Education in the state/province the member is applying for membership. The contestant would need to show proof that the school they are attending is accredited and that they have met the grade requirements. If the school the student is not attending is not accredited by the State/Provincial or National Board of Education, the student shall demonstrate composite grade-level academic proficiency on any State/Provincial Board or National Board of Education recognized achievement test or other instrument as provided for in State/Provincial or National Board of Education rules. The home school form is available on the NHSRA website and requires proof of proficiency. Additionally, a student shall be eligible if they achieve a minimum composite score or survey test score within the average or higher than range as established by the test service utilized on any nationally normed test. Demonstrated proficiency shall be used to determine eligibility for the current rodeo season. A graduate of High School is not eligible for membership of NHSRA after the completion of the National High School Finals Rodeo immediately following their graduating from High School. A contestant may finish the rodeo year by showing a GED completion certificate. This certificate would not that the contestant has received a GED and would be considered graduated.
2. Students in the Junior High Division must be in good standing; not ruled undesirable for misconduct at school. Students must be under 16 at the first of the National High School Rodeo year (Aug. 1), and are or have been enrolled in the 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade the year just preceding the National Junior High Finals Rodeo the contestant is entering as long as they (minimum requirements) have made passing grades in at least 70% of the classes taken or or

meet the minimum proficiency requirement of the state/province in which they are members. If they have finished the 8th grade in the middle of the year or have attended school on half-days, they will be eligible to compete in the National Junior High Finals Rodeo if he/she has not participated for more than 4 years. Any student attending schools, which award junior high school credits, is eligible if he/she meets all other requirements. Students attending a home school, private school, religious school, or correspondence school are eligible for membership if the school is recognized and approved by the State/Provincial Board of Education in the State/Province the member is applying for membership. The contestant would need to show proof that the school they are attending is accredited and that they have met the grade requirements. If the school the student is attending is attending is not accredited by the State/Provincial or National Board of Education, the student shall demonstrate composite grade-level academic proficiency on any State/Provincial or National Board of Education recognized achievement test or other instrument as provided for in Sate/Province or National Board of Education Rules. The Home School form is available on the NHSRA Website and requires proof of proficiency. Additionally, a student should be eligible if they achieve a minimum composite score or survey test score withing the average or high than average range as established by the test service utilized on any nationally normed test. Demonstrated proficiency shall be used to determine eligibility for the current rodeo season. A graduate of the 8th grade is not eligible for membership of NHSRA Junior High Division after the completion of the National Junior High Finals Rodeo immediately following their graduating from 8th grade.

In the junior high division, first time 2020-2021 6th graders are limited to 3 years of eligibility; first-time 2020-2021 7th graders are limited to 2 years eligibility; and the first -time 2020-2021 8th graders are limited to 1 year of eligibility.

3. The following clause must be included in all entry blanks for certification by students' principal, superintendent, or designee, or National Director.

"I certify that this student meets National High School Rodeo Association's GRADE AND CONDUCT qualifications.  
(Current grade and conduct requirements only)."

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Supt., Principal, Designee, or National Director)

The following clause must be included in all State/ Provincial entry blanks for the signature of the contestant's parents or guardians.

“We, the parents or guardians of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of contestant)

give the: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of local hospital)

Hospital and the Physicians on the Medical Staff of the  
Hospital permission to administer NECESSARY EMERGENCY  
treatment for injuries he or she may incur while participating  
in the: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Rodeo. We understand that each contestant must  
be and is covered by medical insurance.

We hereby release the: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of local hospital)

the (local) Hospital, physicians on the Medical Staff, and  
the Rodeo Sponsors from all Liability except for negligence.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or guardian must sign for each event entered,  
regardless of age of contestant.)

4. A contestant attending high school in a State/ Province other than his or her home State or Province; he or she shall be eligible to enter in one of the two, State/Province Rodeos of their choice. A contestant living and going to school in a State or Province, which has a High School Rodeo Association, must compete in that State/ Province Finals, unless they have transferred to another state/ province. A contestant who wishes to rodeo in another State/ Province, may rodeo in another State/Province with written approval from the two involved State/Province Associations, both National Directors and NHSRA. If contestant decides to return to home state said contestant must fill out transfer with permission from both state/province, National Director and NHSRA. If a contestant in the junior high division transfers to a state other than his/her home state, contestant must fill out a transfer when moving to high school if contestant wants to continue competition in same state. A contestant living and going to school in a State or Province without a High School Rodeo Association may rodeo in another State or Province providing the Host State/Province Rodeo Board accepts the contestant.
5. The following clause must be included on the National High School

Finals Rodeo entry forms:

“Membership in the National High School Rodeo Association by the student and as authorized by the mother, father or guardian, hereby grants permission to use the student’s name, photograph, picture, likeness, and physical depiction to be used by such persons, firms, or corporations as may be approved and selected by the NHSRA and will abide by the terms and conditions of any agreement between the NHSRA and such persons, firms or corporations regarding advertising and promotional issues.

6. To enter an approved High School Rodeo, at any level, a contestant must have enrolled in an insurance plan approved by the National Board of Directors; must have submitted a MINOR’S RELEASE FORM; and must have paid the National membership dues and insurance premium, as set by the National Board of Directors, a portion of which will apply toward a subscription to the NHSRA Times, the official publication of the NHSRA, plus state dues, which are to be assessed by the State/ Province Charter Association.
7. Eligible students may enter on a one-time basis and must pay a one-time insurance fee set by the insurance company. One-time members are eligible to enter a rodeo for a weekend only, then after such time, they may join the state/province and national association as set in the guidelines above.
8. Students must include a copy of their current high school grade and age certificate with their application for membership in a State/ Provincial organization.
9. National High School Rodeo Association contestants may belong to and participate in professional or non-professional organizations.
10. A State/Province Association may impose requirements on its student members as deemed necessary by the State/Province Board of Directors, to aid in fundraisers and other projects for the purpose of financial assistance to said State/Province.

## **CONTESTANT DISQUALIFICATION’S**

1. Contestant can be disqualified by judges, executive committee (or at a State/Province Rodeo, by the State/Province Governing body), arena director, or National Director, for any offense listed under this section.
2. Contestant shall be notified as soon as possible by the person or persons disqualifying the Contestant.
3. In case of contestant disqualification under this section the contestant is entitled to a hearing with the executive committee (or state/province governing body).
4. The contestant must have his or her State/Province National Director with him or her at the meeting. Parents and guardians are

not allowed at the hearings.

5. All disputed calls must be settled in the arena, at the completion of the event or performance, by the arena director, event director, and judges, provided the contestant has followed the required procedure of such dispute.
6. Any contestant will be disqualified from an event for any of the following offenses. If they are disqualified for any of these offenses, they may be disqualified from all events at the Rodeo, at the discretion of the Executive Committee (or state/province governing body). Depending upon the severity of the disqualification, the Executive Committee may allow a Queen Contestant to lead her Association during the Grand Entry only.

a. ATTIRE:

- (1) Contestants, parents, adults, helpers, and assistants must wear western attire: western hat, long sleeved shirt (must be wrist length sleeved shirt, with collar and cuffs. No sweatshirts, T-shirts or pullover sweaters allowed), western boots, and western trousers at all times during a performance while in the following areas:
  - (a) All competition arenas
  - (b) Chute areas.
  - (c) Stock working areas.
  - (d) Any contestant in any seating area, whether competing or not.
- (2) Shirt sleeves must be rolled down.
  - (a) The only exception to this rule will be in bareback riding and bull riding; a rider may roll up sleeves as necessary to eliminate either a hang up or to accommodate necessary wrapping and/or support for the elbow. After competition, contestant must adhere to attire rules.
  - (b) Violators of this rule will be disqualified upon the discretion of the judges or the arena director.
- (3) Contestants must wear numbers on their backs and number must be visible at all times while competing in their events, when at rodeo or rodeo grounds or any rodeo function and at the motel.
- (4) All Contestants must have shirttails tucked in at start of their competition.
- (5) Western attire per dress code is required for contestants for all NHSRA approved activities to include rodeos, safety and instructional clinics, meetings.
- (6) No tobacco or alcohol patches, stickers or advertising allowed on contestant's attire or equipment.

b. STOCK:

- (1) Contestant will be disqualified for being in a pen with the

livestock at any time except when accompanied by stock contractor, arena director, or a judge, or when assigned to work in those pens.

(2) Mistreatment of Rodeo Stock or contestant's horse.

c. RODEO:

(1) Refusing to contest during a performance on an animal drawn for him.

(2) Any contestant that scratches an event after registration that he signed in for at registration.

(a) A contestant may drop out of any event due to injury to him or herself or horse. A doctor's or D.V.M.'s excuse must be presented to the rodeo secretary to release the contestant.

(b) Contestant must notify Rodeo Secretary and Arena Director for authorization.

(c) A contestant with a visible injury or illness may turn out of any event at a rodeo without a doctor's written excuse provided notification of such turn out is authorized by a judge or National Director at that given rodeo. If a contestant has drawn out with a visible injury, he/she must have a doctor's release to resume competition.

(d) Any contestant that has been injured and has received medical care at a hospital or urgent care facility must have a doctor's release before the contestant is allowed to resume competition. If a contestant has presented a doctor's release to draw out, he/she must present another doctor's release to resume competition.

(3) Not being ready to compete when called upon.

(4) All contestants of the High School Rodeo must make an effort when competing in the arena.

(5) If an effort is not made, it shall result in disqualification.

(6) Contestants will be disqualified for failure to follow instruction on Grand Entry in and out of the arena. Violation of this rule shall be reported to the Board of National Directors by the judge or Arena Director involved.

(7) Contestant's number must be visible when contestant is competing.

7. Any contestant or member will be disqualified from the rodeo, NHSRA Event or other function for any of the following offenses. If they are disqualified for any of these offenses, they will be disqualified from all events or other participation in the rodeo, NHSRA Event or other function.

a. CONDUCT:

(1) Having any association with alcoholic beverages, vaping, marijuana products, tobacco products, and narcotic or

other non-medicinal drugs while in attendance at any approved High School Rodeo, whether at a motel or on rodeo grounds or going to or from the rodeo or at any rodeo function. Contestants will be disqualified for the use of those products.

- (2) Rowdiness, quarreling or fighting in the actual domain of the arena at any time, or any place during the duration of the Rodeo.
- (3) Conduct or speech of any kind detrimental to the best interests of the National High School Rodeo Association or the sport of rodeo while in attendance or coming to and going home from a rodeo.
- (4) Motel or property damage by contestants or their associates; damage must be reported to their State's/Provinces National Director and if damage is not reported, contestant will be banned from High School Rodeo Association permanently and reported to law authorities for prosecution.
- (5) Contestants will be disqualified for vandalism at any place or any time.
- (6) Cheating or attempting to cheat.
- (7) Any contestants or parents attempting to fix, threaten, bribe, influence, harass or coerce any rodeo official at any time between opening and closing of a rodeo.
- (8) Missing any mandatory meeting, safety seminar or equipment check.

b. CENSURE:

- (1) Censure may occur, without formal hearing, and effective notice will be provided in the most expeditious manner given the existing circumstance to member, and/or parent of guardian of a member or contestant, from the State/Province Association or National Executive Committee. Censure shall not involve a loss of membership benefits, but the Censure shall be made a part of the member's Membership file and may be considered in the event of subsequent Disciplinary Action.

c. PROBATION:

- (1) Probation may be imposed, without formal hearing for up to one (1) year with no loss of benefits of the Association. Conditions may be imposed as a part of the Probationary Action. Effective notice will be provided in the most expeditious manner given the existing circumstance to member, and/or parent or guardian of a member or contestant. The Probationary Action shall be made a part of the member's Membership file may be considered in the event of subsequent Disciplinary Action.

d. REMOVAL:

- (1) Removal from elected office or relinquishment of any title, position or crown may be imposed, after formal hearing.

e. SUSPENSION:

- (1) Suspension of all membership rights may be imposed, after formal hearing, for a period of one (1) year. Effective notice will be provided in the most expeditious manner given the existing circumstance to member, and/or parent or guardian of a member or contestant.

f. EXPULSION:

- (1) Permanent Expulsion may be imposed, after formal hearing. Written notice to be provided to member and/or parent or guardian of a member or contestant after said hearing. A member, parent or guardian of a member or contestant, shall be permanently expelled in the event that hearing it is determined that the member, parent or guardian of member or contestant, has i) been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, or, ii) engaged in acts of fraud, dishonesty, collusion, concealment or misrepresentation of facts involving judges or events.

## **SPECIFICATION AND RULES OF STATE AND NATIONAL FINALS**

The National High School Finals Rodeo will be hosted in an authorized member State/Province Association.

1. Guidelines

- a. Each NHSFR Host Committee will have a written contract with the NHSRA. The said contract shall cover all specifications and guidelines as have been set forth and adopted by the Board of National Directors.
- b. The said contract, as negotiated, must be passed on by the NHSRA Board of Directors and signed at the National High School Finals Rodeo two (2) years prior to the anticipated rodeo.
- c. The specifications as set forth will be subject to change, to be revised at least one (1) year prior to the rodeo, with the approval of the Host Committee and the NHSRA.
- d. The NHSRA will be the producer of the National High School Finals Rodeo.

2. Rules for Conduct of State/Province, National Finals Rule Book must be followed.

- a. Any State Hosting the National High School Finals Rodeo shall agree to have all events approved by the National Association. (Recommendation only; the top twenty (20) contestants to go in the Finals in all events except the cutting, in which the number



- of contestants to go in the final go will not exceed twenty (20) including all ties, with three arenas going simultaneously.)
- b. There will be an optional entry fee assessed and a cash pay off at the National High School Finals Rodeo. (This is optional to any contestant who wants to jackpot.) The assessment of entry fees and/or cash pay offs is optional at each State/Province High School Finals Rodeo. Office fees, stall fees and stock charges may be assessed.
  - c. National High School Finals Rodeos are not to accept any contestant from a State/Province High School Finals Rodeo unless said contestant has placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th in the event which he or she entered at that State/Province High School Finals Rodeo or the top four (4) accumulative point winners in each event which must have competed at their State/Province High School Finals Rodeo and not been disqualified from those finals.
  - d. A contestant having won, one of the first four positions in any event, will be eligible to enter that event. Ties for the Fourth Position will be eligible to enter that event. Example, a two-way tie for first place in an event will be two of the four positions per event eligible to compete in that event. If, in case any of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National High School Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for "finals," for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) and/or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National High School Finals Rodeo in the event they qualified in, of that year, with a certificate of approval from the National Director.
  - e. The management assumes no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property, or stock of any owner, contestant, or assistant. Each participant by the act of his entry waives all claims against the management for any injuries he or his property may sustain. Designated contestants must participate in all downtown parades and grand entries.
  - f. A medical doctor and DVM (other than a National Director) must be available to the grounds at all times during a National High School Finals Rodeo. Two ambulances must be on the grounds at each performance of a National High School Finals Rodeo.
  - g. The Arena Finals Directors will decide whether to continue the rodeo due to inclement weather or arena conditions. Postponements will be decided by the Board of National Directors of that rodeo.
  - h. Every state/ province sanctioned rodeo shall have a safety plan in place which is appropriate for such rodeo. Such plan shall be reviewed annually. At a minimum, such safety plan recommends

that the rodeo have on-site an AED (automated external defibrillator) and first aid supplies (including those to treat airway emergencies), and one dedicated individual trained in emergency medical response. The safety plan shall identify the nearest community emergency responder (with telephone number) and the location of the nearest hospital. Each location shall have a reliable landline or cell phone service with a good signal. State/Province shall submit plan to the NHSRA National Office.

- i. National Sponsor Flags, Banners, and Announcements.
  - (a) The NHSRA requires States and Provinces to put up national sponsor banners in the competition arenas at all sanctioned events when those banners have been provided by a NHSRA national sponsor.
  - (b) When a State or Province conducts a grand entry at a sanctioned event, they must carry national sponsor flags into the arena when they have been provided by a NHSRA national sponsor.
  - (c) When a State or Province has an announcer at a sanctioned event, the announcer must read national sponsor scripts that have been provided by the national office.
- j. The following events are to be held at each National High School Finals Rodeo and each State/ Provincial High School Finals Rodeo. One (1) Contestant constitutes an event. A contestant can enter an event one time at any one rodeo. All events, with the exception of the Queen Contest, must be offered for all State/ Provincial qualifying rodeos.

### **BOYS (8) OFFICIAL ABBREVIATIONS**

Tie-Down Roping	TD
Bareback Bronc Riding	BB
Steer Wrestling	SW
Bull Riding	BR
Saddle Bronc Riding	SB
Cutting Horse Contest	BC
Dally Team Roping	TR
Reined Cow Horse	RCH

### **GIRLS (8) OFFICIAL ABBREVIATIONS**

Clover-Leaf Barrel Race	BA
Pole-Bending Race	PB
Breakaway Roping	BK
Cutting Horse Contest	GC
Goat Tying	GT
Queen Contest	QC
Dally Team Roping	TR
Reined Cow Horse	RCH

3. Specifications and Rules for State/Province Rodeos and National High School Finals Rodeo
  - a. All State Provincial Sanctioned, District and State/Provincial Finals Rodeos must be approved by National Director and National Executive Director. Approval shall be applied for at least 30 days prior to the rodeo.
  - b. There will be an optional entry fee assessed and a cash pay off at the National High School Finals Rodeo. (Optional to any contestant who wants to jackpot.) The assessment of entry fees and/or cash pay offs is optional at each State/Province High School Finals Rodeo. Office fees, stall fees and stock charges may be assessed.
  - c. Any prizes awarded below National levels would be left up to the sponsoring committees. Year-end ties will be flipped for, worked off, or duplicated by State/Province at their option. States/Provinces which award year end event awards based on predetermined number of their total rodeo's will break ties with the tied contestants adding an additional rodeo.
  - d. Emergency medical facilities and transportation will be readily available at all High School Rodeo approved rodeos, clinics, rodeo schools and practices.
  - e. District rodeo, qualifying rodeo, and a sanctioned rodeo are defined as rodeos designated by the Charter Association.
  - f. The State/Province Charter Association will be responsible for setting the guidelines of the rodeos, which will be governed by the National High School Rodeo Association rules.
  - g. No state/province will adopt ground rules that conflict with the National Rule Book unless the ground rule is implemented to allow the state or province to comply with any local, state or provincial ordinances, statutes, regulations or laws.
  - h. Approval must be made by the State/Province Charter Association and insurance forms executed.
  - i. Students not qualified by current grade and conduct requirements, are not qualified for National High School Rodeo competition.
  - j. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold on the grounds during any high school rodeo.
  - k. No accumulative points will be awarded at rodeos held after a state/provincial final, until the completion of the National High School Finals Rodeo. (OPTIONAL) Any state/province who wishes to commence their rodeo year earlier than the commencement of the new high school year may do so if they comply with the following:
    - (1) Submit their annual state/province dues application and check BEFORE their first scheduled rodeo of the new year.
    - (2) Any and ALL participants wishing to have points count for

state/province and national awards must comply totally with all membership requirements for the new year.

- l. (OPTIONAL) State/Provinces may conduct part(s) of their Queen Contest in advance of their State/ Province Finals Rodeo. Final qualification, however, would come from the State/Province Finals.
- m. States/Provinces may hold joint rodeos. Points from joint rodeos will count toward State/Province points, ONLY if approved by each individual State/Province Boards involved. The hosting State/Province must have rodeo approved and list the States/ Provinces involved. States/Provinces, however, must have a designated representative in attendance. Points earned in joint rodeos can be awarded as points are earned per state/province placing or per rodeo final placing. The option must be decided by each state/province board upon approval of rodeo. Both team roping partners must be members of same State/Province Association when competing for points.
- n. Unscheduled performances (slack) will be conducted the same as scheduled performances - position, draw, stock draw, order of events, etc.
- o. Contestants cannot carry with them their points to another district/state/province when they move.
- p. All animal welfare rules that apply to cutting events, reined cow horse events, timed events and rough stock events and those respective arenas will also apply to all practice and jackpot arenas held in conjunction with any approved high school rodeo. The flagmen and/or judges in the practice and jackpot arenas are to enforce these rules.

## **POINT SYSTEMS**

### **State/Province Point System**

1. There will be three (3) point system options allowed for qualification to Nationals from sanctioned qualifying, district and final rodeos.
2. No other point system to be used by a State/Province unless authorized by the National Board of Directors.
3. One (1) contestant constitutes an event.
4. The number of points which could be earned per event at a sanctioned qualifying rodeo would be evenly distributed through 10 places.

a. Points per event:

Places 1-10	Points
1st .....	10
2nd .....	9
3rd .....	8

4th.....	7
5th.....	6
6th.....	5
7th.....	4
8th.....	3
9th.....	2
10th.....	1

Total 55 Points offered in each event.

5. Where two (2) go-rounds are held at sanctioned qualifying rodeos, the points may be distributed in the go rounds, average or both.
  - a. In States/Provinces that sanctioned qualifying rodeos have two (2) go-rounds and an average, it may be the State/Province option to give points in each go-round and the average. In order to use this option, all rodeos must be average rodeos.
6. In options I and II, the All-Around Cowboy and Cowgirl would be determined for the year by total points earned in all events, plus points earned at Finals, regardless of whether they have entered those events in their District/State/Province Finals, provided they have entered their District/State/Province Finals.
7. A Rookie Cowboy and Cowgirl will be chosen on points the same as All-Around except contestant must be first year competing member in NHSRA.
8. Each contestant in team roping will receive points earned of same value as contestants of other events. Any points earned in team roping will belong to the contestant. Partner's points shall be added together to form a team at District/State/Province Finals. Champions will be high point team. If either partner is disqualified, both are out of team roping.
9. At qualifying, District/State/Province Rodeo's first place ties will be flipped for, worked off, or duplicated by State/Province at their prerogative. In case of first place ties, first and second place points will be added together and split evenly. All ties will be settled in the same way.
10. State/Province Associations that are carrying points in, are allowed to select the number of rodeos a contestant may carry points from - to their State/Province Finals Rodeo.
  - a. The basic formula, however, would be to offer ten (10) more points at State/Province Finals, than a contestant can carry into their State/Province Finals.

Example:

9 rodeos – maximum of 90 points earned – 100 points for State/Province Finals

13 rodeos – maximum of 130 points earned – 140 points for State/Province Finals

15 rodeos – maximum of 150 points earned – 160 points for State/Province Finals

- b. Each contestant points will be totaled from the maximum number of rodeos allowed in each event. The total points from these maximum rodeos will be carried to State/Province Finals.
  - c. State/province associations are allowed to select the number of rodeos a contestant may carry points from to their state/province finals rodeo. A contestant can use different rodeos for each event to get maximum rodeos with highest points. If you drop a rodeo or event from a rodeo, you drop all-around points, as well as event points.
11. In options I and II, all points earned at State/Province Finals, together with points carried in will determine National Qualifiers.
  12. The accumulative point system can be used by States/Provinces as an eliminating point system through the Go-Rounds at District/State/Province Finals to determine top position to compete in final go-round.
  13. Contestant must enter their event at the state/province finals. A contestant with enough points or scores, using the accumulative point system, but because of injury cannot compete in the state/province finals, will maintain his/her position through the average and will receive points and awards for their final placing in the event. Contestant MUST have medical documentation and must be present for the entirety of the finals unless the medical condition so prohibits.
    - a. A contestant must compete in every go-round to qualify for the average.
  14. For States/Provinces using the National qualifying accumulative point system for qualification to Nationals: Each State/Province Finals may have the option of working from the last qualifying position down to the first qualifying position in all go-rounds.
  15. National Qualifiers – The following Point System formulas must be used by all states/provinces. State/Province must choose which option prior to the start of the qualifying rodeo season.

#### Option I

- a. Points carried in plus points at Finals would be added to this total up and through each go-round. Finals average points would be added to this total and then high point would be awarded average bonus points.
- b. Points to be offered in go-round and average must total 10 points more than maximum points allowed to be carried in.
- c. The amount of the points, which will be offered per go-round and average, is the State/Province option.

Example:

Total 10 more than maximum points allowed to be carried in:  
 Total Points Carried In + Points 1st Go + Points 2nd Go + Points Final Go + Points Final Average + Points Total Point Average (Bonus) = National Qualifiers

## Option II

- a. Points carried in plus points at Finals would be added to this total up and through each go-round and average points on two. This would determine the qualifiers for the qualifying round. Finals qualifier points would be added to this total and then bonus points would be awarded based on high point total.
- b. Points to be offered in go-round, average, qualifier round and bonus must total 10 points more than maximum points allowed to be carried in.
- c. The amount of the points, which will be offered per go-round, average, qualifier round and bonus, is the State/Province option.  
Example:

Total 10 more than maximum points allowed to be carried in:  
Total Points Carried In + Points 1st Go + Points 2nd Go + Points Average (on two) + Points Qualifying Round + Bonus Points = National Qualifiers

## Option III

- a. Any State/ Province that competes in separate districts/ regions to qualify their contestants for their State/ Province Finals, shall have the option to qualify their National team using only cumulative times and scores generated during their State/ Province Finals.
- i. For example, if a State/ Province Finals is made up of two long rounds with a finals (short) round, the fastest aggregated times or highest aggregated scores on three runs or rides shall be used to identify the top four finishers in every event and those contestants will be identified as the State's / Province's National Team.
- b. All-Around awards shall be based on a cumulative point system with points generated during the State/ Province Finals Rodeo only.

Example:

A) No Points Carried in + 1st Go + 2nd Go + Short- Go + Average = Qualifier

B) No Points Carried in + 1st Go + 2nd Go + Short- Go + Average + Region = Qualifier

16. State/Province Association must submit to the National Office which Option they plan to use for the season by September 1 of the rodeo year.
17. No accumulative points will be awarded at rodeos held after a state/province final, until the completion of the National High School Finals Rodeo.
  - a. (OPTIONAL) Any state/province who wishes to commence their rodeo year earlier than the commencement of the new high

school year may do so if they comply with the following:

- (1) Submit their annual state/province dues application and check BEFORE their first scheduled rodeo of the new year.
- (2) Any and ALL participants wishing to have points count for state/province and national awards must comply totally with all membership requirements for the new year.

### **State/Province Optional Point Systems for All-Around Cowboy & Cowgirl:**

1. An All-Around Cowboy or Cowgirl will be chosen on high point. The high point contestant placing in two or more events will have precedence over one who places in one event for all-around. In the event no one places in two events, high point contestant who competed in two or more events will have precedence over one who competed in one event for all-around.
2. A Rookie Cowboy and Cowgirl will be chosen on points the same as All-Around except contestant must be first year competing member in NHSRA.

#### **Option A:**

1. 500 Points added for an event, plus five (5) points for each contestant.  
1st – 29% of added points = pay  
2nd – 24% of added points = pay  
3rd – 19% of added points = pay  
4th – 14% of added points = pay  
5th – 9% of added points = pay  
6th – 5% of added points = pay
2. In case there are not six (6) contestants with a score, the remaining points will not be awarded toward All-Around. In order for points to be awarded they must be earned.
3. For team roping event, add 1000 points for event, plus five (5) points for each contestant. Header is to get 1/2 and heeler is to get 1/2.

#### **Option B:**

4. In each event 450 points will be offered by the Association, either State/Provincial. From this, Secretary will deduct 150 points to be paid for the Finals. This is to be done on one go-round and a finals and on two go-rounds and a finals. To the remaining 300 points will be added ten (10) points for each contestant entered in that event. These totals are the points to be split for the go-round and average.
  - a. On two head of stock the average will be the same as go-round a.  
On two head of stock the average will be the same as go-round points in all events. The total points to be divided by three when there are no finals.



- b. On three head of stock the average will be one and one-half times the go-round points in all events.
- c. On one go and a finals, the average and go-round points will be equal.

In order to receive points in a go-round, finals or average, a contestant must earn a place by making a qualified score or time in that event. Points not earned will not be awarded. All go-rounds, finals and average points are to be split based on 40% for 1st; 30% for 2nd; 20% for 3rd; and 10% for 4th. The contestant qualifying on the most head of stock will have point precedence in placing in the average over the contestant who qualified on less head of stock, regardless of total scores.

### **National High School Finals Rodeo Point System**

1. In each event 2100 points in twenty (20) places for each go-round and average will be offered. Except Queen Contest - 2100 points in twenty (20) places one time will be offered.
2. The contestant qualifying on the most head of stock will have point precedence in placing in the average over the contestant who qualified on less head of stock, regardless of scores.
3. Example:

Event – Places 1-20 Number of Points	
1st .....	200
2nd .....	190
3rd .....	180
4th .....	170
5th .....	160
6th .....	150
7th .....	140
8th .....	130
9th .....	120
10th .....	110
11th .....	100
12th .....	90
13th .....	80
14th .....	70
15th .....	60
16th .....	50
17th .....	40
18th .....	30
19th .....	20
20th .....	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2100 Points offered each</b>
	<b>Go - Each Event (except Queen Contest)</b>

4. Team Roping Points
  - a. Any points earned in the Team Roping event will belong to the contestant.
  - b. Each contestant in Team Roping will receive points earned of same value as contestants of other events toward All-Around.
  - c. Each State/Province earning points in Team Roping will receive points of same value as same placing of other events.
5. A contestant with enough points or scores to finish in the Top 20 but because of injuries cannot compete in the short go, will maintain his/her position through the average and will receive points and awards for their final placing in the average of that event. Contestant must have a medical release.
6. The maximum number of points which could be earned per event at a two go-round, Finals and average would be 800 points.
7. An All-Around Cowboy or Cowgirl will be chosen on points won in go-rounds, Finals and average. The high point contestant placing in two or more events will have precedence over one who places in one event for All-Around. In event no one places in two events, high point contestant which competed in two or more events will have precedence over one who competed in one event for All-Around. No points toward the All-Around shall be allowed from the Queen Contest.
8. A Rookie Cowboy or Cowgirl will be chosen on points the same as All-Around except contestant must be first year competing in NHSRA.
9. State/Province Team Champions will be team with highest total points from their contestant's events. No additional team points will be given to team for All-Arounds or Rookies.

## **RODEO OFFICIALS STANDARDS FOR JUDGES, TIMERS AND SECRETARIES**

### **Arena Directors:**

1. Purpose of arena directors is to assure that the rodeo is conducted in accordance with NHSRA Rule Book to the best interest of the contestant.
2. Arena Directors will be responsible for carrying out the duties stated herein.
  - a. Management of their respective arenas before and during the rodeo.
  - b. Carrying out NHSRA rules and responsibilities as stated in rulebook.
  - c. Stock Contractors and host committee will abide by the arena director's decisions.

- d. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestant competes on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
- e. Timed Event Stock will be inspected two (2) weeks prior to the rodeo.
- f. At NHSFR when it is determined by the timed event arena director before stock draw that the draw herd is uneven, the herd will be divided into a light/morning draw herd and heavy/night draw herd.
- g. Any undesirable conditions will be ruled on by the Arena Director.
3. All judges will meet with Arena Directors before the rodeo and discuss their respective events, and judging procedure.
4. An Arena Director may declare particular animals unsatisfactory. Upon notification, either written or verbal, stock contractor shall eliminate such animal from competition draw.
5. Arena Directors are to be approved by the National Board of Directors at the Mid-winter meeting before the coming National High School Finals Rodeo (rough stock arena, timed events arena, cutting arena, and reined cow horse arena.)

**Rodeo Secretary:**

1. No one except the National and State/Province Secretaries or Central Entry will be allowed to accept entries at the state or national finals rodeos.
2. All positions will be drawn by National and State/ Province Secretaries before the livestock draw.
3. Receptacle containing order of position numbers to be drawn must be held above the drawing secretary's head and numbers shaken between each number drawn. Numbers as drawn will be assigned to list of contestants. List to be in non-alphabetical random order. At State/Province Rodeos and the National High School Finals Rodeo the Secretary may have the option of using a computerized random draw for positions.
4. Positions must be drawn in all events for the first go-round.
5. Order to be reversed for Second Go, and for the finals worked from the last qualifying position down to the first position. Optional: Each district/state/province and at the National High School Finals Rodeo may draw for positions in Barrel Racing and/or Pole Bending in the short go-round only.
  - a. Positions will be drawn for Cutting final go-round.
6. There will be no trading out by contestants in any event, except in conflicting events due to multiple arena situations and high school graduation.
7. If contestant is in two or more events, the secretary will draw for events then draw for working order in each event.

8. Rodeo secretary is required to post information as to when and where draw will be held.
9. The draw at all rodeos shall be posted where the contestants can examine it.
10. Rodeos that have slack stock to run before or after scheduled performances shall post the order of events and the draw on the bulletin board.
11. Contestant is privileged to see the records of all contestants in any event in which he takes part at the end of each go-round, at a reasonable time so secretary and judge may be present.
12. Judges' score sheets will be turned in to the Rodeo Secretary and posted after each performance.
13. Markings must be totaled by the judges and checked by the secretary in the presence of the judges.
14. Scores will not be changed once turned in, except for an obvious mathematical error, and judges, only, will make these changes.
15. Judges and secretaries shall make exact copies of each judge's book and post the copies on the bulletin board at the end of each go-round.
16. Master score sheets will not leave the office, except with the approval of the National Secretary.
17. Rodeo results must be audited within five (5) days after qualifying rodeo to check for errors.
18. No scores, positions, or prizes will be changed after five (5) days from National High School Finals Rodeo performance.
19. State secretaries are required to fill out the NHSR Association result sheet and submit it to the National High School Rodeo Association's office including the contestant's high school status with each winner's name.
20. Results must be submitted to the National High School Rodeo Association Secretary within received within five (5) days after the State High School Finals Rodeo or the State/Province Cutting Finals.
21. All qualifications forms (National Entry Blanks) must be submitted to the National High School Rodeo Association secretary within five (5) days following each respective state/province finals rodeo in order for entries to be accepted and processed for the National High School Finals Rodeo.
22. Central Entry: The following rules only pertain to the states/provinces using the central entry system:
  - a. Under no circumstances will the rules in this section apply to any state/province not using central entry.
  - b. Contestant will be allowed to ask for performance preference. Once rodeo is drawn, no changes will be allowed.
  - c. Members of the same family and team roping partners will be given preference on the buddy system allowing them to compete at the same performance.

- d. Position must be drawn for, and under no circumstances will a trade out be allowed in the position draw.
- e. Performance with slack will be considered the same performance and a contestant must compete in the position he or she draws up in whether in the slack or performance.

**Timers: Personnel:**

1. Timers must have prior experience with electric timers.
2. Timers must work from the same position in all performances of that go-round.
3. Management must provide a place for official timers and announcers to work without obstruction or interference.
4. Management must position timers at a place that will facilitate for good communications with the Arena Director, judges and announcers.
5. Timers for the go-round may not be changed after the first performance except for sickness or injury, or by the request of an Association official because of timer's incompetence, or through agreement of the rodeo committee and Association officials.

**Timers: Equipment:**

1. Electric Timers:
  - a. Equipment necessary: Twin units of battery-power electric eyes with one electric-power digital clock and one battery-power digital clock and two (2) hand-held battery-power digital watches in hundredths shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric eye timers, or, if necessary, the average of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time. (Optional at State/Provincial level).
  - b. When the electric eye fails to work for one or more contestants during a performance, the manual back-up time will be used for those electronically missed. The electric eye-controlled times will remain unaltered.
  - c. Complete electric timer must be backed up by a flagman. One timer will record the times that appear on the electric eye-controlled readout. Two timers will operate the digital watches and record the average time which is shown thereon. These two timers will operate from the flagman's signals.
  - d. Permanent markers should be put in the ground for the electric eyes. Electric eyes should be placed on the starting line no closer together than the width of the first two barrels and for the electric eyes to be centered on the pattern for each performance.
  - e. Line on fence for flagman should be well marked. These markers should be checked every performance along with the barrel markers and re-staked if pulled out. A record of these measurements shall be kept.

- f. Set timer beforehand in the same height and position and lock the legs.
- g. Barrels are not to be used as stands for the electric eye timer devices.
2. Electronic Timer Failures:
  - a. The battery digital clock will be the first backup time and digital hand-held watches to be second back up time.
  - b. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director.
3. Events with 30 second/one-minute time limit may have penalties which will exceed the 30 second/one-minute time limit.
4. Lap and Tap – No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
5. All riding events shall be timed for eight (8) seconds, that time to start when the animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute. Junior High Bareback Riding & Saddle Bronc Riding is timed for six (6) seconds, that time will start when the animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.
6. Tie-Down Roping, Breakaway Roping, Team Roping, and Steer Wrestling: These events shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.
7. Timing of Stock Timed Event: Time should be taken with the average of two times at all rodeos.

### **Judges – General:**

1. Judges and flagmen for State/Province rodeos shall be chosen with regard to their integrity, ability and availability.
2. Judges and flagmen may officiate an event at a qualifying state/province rodeo in which a member of their immediate family or household is contesting.
3. All judges will meet with Arena Directors before the rodeo and discuss their respective events, and judging procedure.
4. Queen Judges will meet with the Queen Chairman.
5. Judges must read and be knowledgeable of the NHSRA rule book before judges' meeting with Arena Directors and officials.
6. Any problems or infractions not covered by the NHSRA Rule Book will be referred to current PRCA Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and Rules, provided their rules cover the event in question.
7. No barrier judge, field flag judge, or riding judge may be changed during the course of a go-round, except in the case of sickness or incompetence and then by the request of an Association official in agreement with rodeo committee.
8. Judges must check all equipment two (2) hours prior to the first Rodeo performance in his respective arena.

9. Judges must be present and supervise drawing of stock and changing of positions.
10. Judges must remain available at all times.
11. Executive Committee and Judges will meet and discuss problems encountered during any event.
12. Judges must remain available to the rodeo office until the rodeo secretary has made a final check of the rodeo books.
13. The decision of any judges, flagmen or timers will be final, and no protest by contestant will be permitted, except first through the contestant event director, or a National Director or Arena Director. Such protest shall be made before the end of the performance or slack in which the question arose. If the National Director or Arena Director determines that the protest is based upon a possible misinterpretation of an event rule, the National Director or Arena Director shall, at the first convenient opportunity, describe the protest and the interpretation of the rule upon which it is based to the judge. If the judge agrees that an erroneous ruling was made and that the error is correctable, then the judge shall modify the ruling accordingly. Otherwise, the decision shall stand.
14. A judge shall conduct himself in a manner fitting and proper to one afforded the honor of officiating at any NHSRA approved contest.
15. Any misconduct on the part of the judge at any NHSRA approved rodeo, such as drinking immediately prior to or during the contest, or use of abusive language, showing obvious favoritism to, or discrimination against, either an individual or a horse performing in the contest, or any misconduct unbecoming to one in his position, will make him subject to a complete and impartial hearing of the cause of the complaint before the appropriate committee.
16. If one judge is injured and cannot score a ride, the other judge's score will be used as other score.
17. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestant competes on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.

#### **Judges – Scoring:**

1. Judges are required to keep a record book and mark all penalties, no-times, and any change or working order of contestants in all events they are judging.
2. After each performance, judge will check his records with the recording secretary in the events he or she is judging and make necessary changes if error has occurred.
3. Judges score sheets will be turned in to the Rodeo Secretary and posted after each performance.
4. Markings must be totaled by the judges and checked by the secretary in the presence of the judges.
5. Scores will not be changed once turned in, except for an obvious

- mathematical error, and judges only will make these changes.
- Judges and secretaries shall make exact copies of each judge's book and post the copies on the bulletin board at the end of each go-round.
  - Judges are required to mark on their books any turned out stock and report it to the Rodeo Secretary and the Arena Director.
  - Judge's may use a half point scoring system

**Bullfighters:**

- There must be a minimum of two (2) bullfighters at any sanctioned NHSRA rodeo.

**Officials – National High School Finals Rodeo Only:**

- Only one judge can come from a Host State/Province or any one State/Province except in the Queen Contest.
- All personnel contracted are subject to approval by the National Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting and to be reaffirmed at the Mid-Winter Meeting.
- All judges and flagman for the National High School Finals Rodeo, except the Queen Contest, must be PRCA/CPRA judge in good standing, and must have attended an NIRA or judging seminar, sponsored by the PRCA, prior to judging a NHSRA Finals.
- Cutting Horse Event Judges must be certified NCHA judges to be eligible to be a judge of the Cutting Horse Event and Reined Cow Horse Judges must be certified NRCHA judges to be eligible to judge the Reined Cow Horse Event at the National High School Finals Rodeo.
- The NHSRA will obtain the announcers, bullfighters, all judges, timers and secretaries. This shall be the financial obligation of the NHSRA. Salaries will be covered by contract.
- Any problems or infractions not covered by the NHSRA Rule Book will be referred to current PRCA Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and Rules, provided their rules cover the event in question.
- Arena Directors, Judges, Timers, Host Committee, National Directors, or Assistant National Directors, Secretaries and other officials will meet one day prior to the National High School Finals Rodeo.
- Judges (including Queen Judges) and Flagmen shall not officiate an event at the National High School Finals Rodeo in which a member of their immediate family or household is contesting.

## **RODEO LIVESTOCK**

**Requirements:**

- The National Board of Directors has the right to declare any stock



unsatisfactory, and any stock so declared will be taken from the draw.

2. Stock requirements to be based on the number of contestants entered in that event, Rough Stock – 60% acceptable livestock, Timed Events – 50% acceptable livestock. Goat Tying – 100 acceptable goats at National High School Finals Rodeo and 200 goats for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. The percent of acceptable goats is at the option of State/Province Association. The percent of acceptable rough stock and timed event stock is at the option of the state/province association.
3. Each State/Provincial High School Finals Rodeo, district or regional rodeo will obtain the highest caliber of stock available.
4. Any stock declared by the State/Province High School sponsoring group as unsatisfactory, must be replaced.

### **Inspection:**

1. The stock will be inspected on arrival at the site by the Livestock Inspection Committee. All rough stock must be run through and shown the exhaust gate prior to the rodeo.
2. Timed Event stock will be inspected two (2) weeks prior to the rodeo.
3. An Arena Director may declare particular animals unsatisfactory.
4. Upon notification either written or verbal, stock contractor shall eliminate such animal from competition draw.
5. Payment will be withheld on any stock rejected, and replacement costs shall be the responsibility of the stock contractor.

### **Numbering:**

1. All rodeo livestock must be numbered by hot iron, no duplicate numbers shall be permitted, including team roping cattle. Any exceptions must be approved by specific Arena Directors.
2. If numbers are blurred or haired over, they must be clipped or renumbered so as to be readable at all times.
3. When numbering timed event cattle, the dogging cattle shall be numbered on the left side and the roping cattle on the right side, thus cattle with numbers on both sides may not be used in the steer wrestling.
4. Both riding event and timed event stock shall be identified by numbered brand.
5. In timed events, leased calves or steers may be numbered with plastic ear tags in each ear.
6. In riding events painted numbers may be used on tryout stock.
7. Tryout stock shall be used only twice with painted numbers.
8. Goats will be numbered with plastic ear tags in each ear. Optional painted numbers on each side at State/Province Rodeos.

### **Stock Contractor Requirements:**

1. Stock Contractor may be required to have enough stock for go-round in each event. The amount of stock to be based on the number of contestants the previous year, plus ten percent (10%). The ten percent (10%) being the cut to even up the stock.
2. In the event of short stock, the contractor will be fined as follows:
  - a. 1st offense – \$50.00 – each animal short
  - b. 2nd offense – \$100.00 –each animal short
  - c. 3rd offense – \$200.00 – each animal short
3. Stock Contractor is required to make available the exact stock that contestant has drawn and cannot substitute unless due to injury or death. In that case the Arena Director and Judges will make the decision of the replacement. Violation of this rule will result in a \$500.00 fine per occurrence.

### **National Finals Livestock Requirements:**

1. PRCA/CPCA approved stock contractor to be used at National High School Finals Rodeo.
2. Stock requirements to be based on anticipated entries, 60% acceptable livestock for rough stock, 50% acceptable livestock for timed events and 50 goats for Goat Tying.
3. It is suggested that the NHSRA contract for 480 head of fresh cattle for cutting events and 80 head of fresh cattle for the cutting finals (based on the number of contestants entered in this event).
4. Any unacceptable livestock will be replaced by the stock contractor or by the NHSRA at the stock contractor's expense.

## **DRAWING STOCK**

### **Drawing Rough Stock:**

1. All stock is to be numbered with each head of stock's unique number and drawn for by such numbers. Paper chips cannot be used.
2. All stock in contest events must be drawn by number by a judge.
3. There must always be as many as four exact copies made of the draw, one to be posted, one copy for each judge and one or more copies for the Secretary's records.
4. Receptacle containing numbers to be drawn must be held above the drawing judge's head and numbers shaken between each number drawn.
5. Drawing must be conducted so any Event Director may witness the draw.
6. No more than two feature animals allowed for each performance of go-round.
7. In case stock is sick, crippled or already shipped, replacement

will be drawn from re-ride animals. The contractor must have the consent of judges and Arena Directors to remove any stock from the grounds.

8. No pens of stock may be drawn for more than one go-round in advance.
9. Pens of stock shall be drawn by the judge and secretary shall provide judge with an exact copy of the draw.
10. Stock will be drawn for contestant until he has actually been disqualified or turned stock out.
11. All stock used in the finals at all rodeos must be approved by Arena Directors, Judges.
12. Stock drawn for final go-round will be drawn from the first qualifying position to last qualifying position.
13. No contestant may compete on the same head of stock twice at any one rodeo in the same event, except for re-rides or reruns.

### **Drawing Stock – Optional Rules – In Riding Events:**

1. All animals including re-rides will be put in the draw.
2. Two head of feature animals per performance may be held out if used that performance.
3. Pens of stock may be drawn in order to allow stock contractors time to get livestock to the arena.

EXAMPLE: There are 30 contestants and 3 performances to complete go-round. The decision is to buck 10 head a performance. You will need a total of 33 head. Ten per performance plus one for re-rides. You feature a total of 6 head, 2 head per performance. Put 24 head in the hat and draw 8 head for the first performance, and then add the two feature animals in the draw to make the necessary 10 head. Follow the same procedure for each of the following go-rounds. Two hours before a performance you draw stock for the contestants who have drawn positions for that performance. Stock may be drawn sooner if management desires.

### **Drawing Stock – Re-rides:**

1. Stock for re-rides must be drawn before go-round and must be posted.
2. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
3. Feature animals may be held out of re-ride draw then returned to the draw for the go-round.
4. Any stock in original draw that is turned out – this means not bucked or con-tested on – automatically goes into the re-ride if needed.
5. Any animal drawn for a re-ride but not used in that go-round may be held out of the draw for re-rides in the following go-round along with feature animals then will be returned for the go-round draw

- after the re-rides have been drawn.
6. Re-rides may be drawn before end of event in which re-ride is given.
  7. An animal can be drawn for a re-ride only one time in a go-round.
  8. If an animal marked to go the last performance of the go-round is drawn in the re-ride stock, that animal's position must be traded with one marked to go the first performance before the go-round is drawn.
  9. After drawn re-rides and those animals that are turned out are used for re-rides, all stock out that go-round except feature animals and animals already doubled back will be put in the hat and additional re-ride for that go-round drawn.
  10. Stock out the last performance of a go-round may be held out of the draw for additional re-rides if it becomes necessary to draw back at all animals out in the go-round to get enough re-rides.
  11. Re-rides in the Bull Riding contest at all rodeos shall be drawn from all animals in the draw with no more than five feature animals excluded.
  12. Feature animals equaling one-half of the number of final riders may be held out of the re-rides draw.
  13. If re-ride is given on an animal twice in a row, animal will automatically be declared unsatisfactory and must be replaced and taken from the draw.

### **Timed Event Stock:**

All timed event stock shall be run through event chutes and through arena previous to start of contest, where conditions permit.

### **Drawing Timed Event Stock:**

1. All stock is to be numbered with each head of stock's unique number and drawn for by such numbers. Paper chips cannot be used.
2. All stock in contest events must be drawn by number by a judge.
3. There must always be as many as four exact copies made of the draw, one to be posted, one copy for each judge and one or more copies for the Secretary's records.
4. Receptacle containing numbers to be drawn must be held above the drawing judge's head and numbers shaken between each number drawn.
5. Drawing must be conducted so that any Event Director may witness the draw.
6. After the draw is made in case stock is sick, crippled or already shipped, replacement will be drawn from the extras. The contractor must have the consent of judges and Arena Directors to remove any stock from the grounds. If an animal drawn in a pen in a timed event becomes sick or crippled before it is out that time, a judge must pass on the animal's inability to be used before it can be shipped or

- replaced in the draw. This is in case of no extra cattle being available.
7. No pens of stock may be drawn for more than one performance in advance.
  8. Pens of stock shall be drawn by the judge and secretary shall provide judge with an exact copy of the draw.
  9. Stock will be drawn for a contestant until he has actually been disqualified or turned stock out.
  10. All stock used in the finals at all rodeos must be approved by the Arena Directors, Judges and Livestock Inspection Committee.
  11. Contestant must compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
  12. Stock in timed events shall be drawn by either judge of that event not more than three (3) hours before the performance and posted not more than two (2) hours before performance at arena.
  13. In timed events, no drawn stock can be held over from one performance to the next or overnight.
  14. When calves are not fresh, reruns will always be drawn from the whole herd used in the draw, not from those calves that are missed.
  15. When calves are fresh, reruns shall be drawn from missed calves when reruns amount to less than ten percent of the contestants entered at the rodeo. These reruns will be drawn from calves which are missed for that go-round up to the performance that ends the go-round, provided there are enough of these calves.
  16. If there are not enough calves which are missed in that go-round up to the performance that ends the go-round, the reruns will be drawn from all calves being used except for any drawn for the performance that ends the go-round.
  17. All cattle in the draw will be run one time before any cattle will be run twice. When due to a split performance this procedure becomes impossible, the draw will include cattle remaining that have been run the least number of times. Immediately after a split performance the draw will then revert to the cattle that have been run the least number of times. In Case of reruns all cattle in the draw will be run one time before being run twice. Any animal drawn and not competed on shall be considered run and if there are no reruns, animal shall be used for first extra.
  18. FOR FIFTEEN FINALISTS
    - a. In timed events eighteen head of stock will be drawn from the 30 head competed on by the 15 finalists in the first two go-rounds. Fifteen head will be drawn from these 18 head for the 15 finalists.
    - b. The extra three head will remain for possible reruns.
    - c. All State/Province Finals which use as accumulative point system will have the option of selecting the timed event stock for the final go-round from the fastest times in the qualifying go-rounds at that rodeo.

## 19. FOR TWENTY FINALISTS

- a. In timed events twenty-four head of stock will be drawn from the 40 head competed on by the 20 finalists in the first two go-rounds. Twenty head will be drawn from these 24 head for the 20 finalists.
  - b. The extra four head will remain for possible reruns.
  - c. In Goat Tying, twenty-four (24) goats will be drawn from the goats competed on by the 20 finalists in the first (1st) two (2) Go-Rounds. Twenty head will be drawn from these twenty-four (24) head for the 20 Finalists.
20. Stock drawn for final go-round will be drawn from the first qualifying position to last qualifying position.
21. No contestant may compete on the same head of stock twice at any one rodeo in the same event, except for re-rides or reruns.

### **Drawing Stock – Misdraws:**

1. In case of crippled stock that are in after the draw is made, stock will be re-drawn from the position of the crippled stock on down the list. This is the case of no extra cattle being available.
2. If more than three head are misdraws, use the following procedure.
  - a. All stock shall be put back in the draw box and all redrawn.
  - b. If three head or less are misdrawn, first draw positions for misdrawn stock 1 through 3. Then place all stock numbers back in the draw box. Then draw stock for the first contestants on the list that had a misdraw. He keeps that number. The contestant who had that number takes first number of stock on the misdraw stock position list and so on until all first draws are corrected.
  - c. In case the number of stock is not equal to the number of contestants up in that draw, stock will be moved up to match number of contestants and shall go in that order.
  - d. In case a misdraw is discovered after the start of a performance:
    - (1) If an extra(s) is available, the contestant involved will automatically be assigned the extra, regardless of a possible difference in runs on the cattle.
    - (2) If no extra is available, the contestant involved will not compete as scheduled, but later in the performance or immediately after. A replacement animal will be drawn from all animals left in the run.

## **DRAWING POSITIONS**

1. Position must be drawn in all events.
2. Riding stock will be placed before the draw.
3. Receptacle containing order of position numbers to be drawn must be held above the drawing secretary's head and numbers shaken

between each number drawn. Numbers as drawn will be assigned to list of contestants. List to be in non-alphabetical random order. Positions may be computer drawn.

4. All positions are to be drawn by the secretary before the livestock draw, to allow time for program to be drawn up.
5. Rodeos closing entries five or more days in advance shall draw positions at least 48 hours before the first performance.
6. There will be no placing of contestants.
7. There will be no trading of positions except for double arena conflict.
8. Rough stock arena has precedence over other arenas; timed event arena is second, cutting arena is third, reined cow horse arena is fourth.
9. If a contestant is unable to be at a rodeo due to sickness or injury, he may be held until later in the go-round, with written consent of Rodeo Secretary and Arena Director. If a position change is necessary in the first go-round, contestant will remain in that position change for the second go-round.
10. In all rodeo events, sick or injured contestant shall not be held back past the end of the go-round.
11. In the timed events, sick or injured contestant shall not be held back past the original end of the run on the cattle. If the timed events are back-to-back, no contestant may be held back due to injury beyond the end of the original pen in which he/she was drawn.
12. Stock contractors shall bring at least three head of stock in the timed events into the chute according to position drawn at the start of each go-round unless contestants are riding the same horse.
  - a. In this case, first man in position not riding this horse shall be moved up to the position to be split.
  - b. This pertains to scheduled and unscheduled performances.
13. In timed events, positions will be drawn for the first go-round and the positions reversed from the second go-round. Optional: each State/Province Finals may use the option of working from the last qualifying position down to the first qualifying position in all go-rounds.
14. In the Cutting event, working order positions within the predrawn performance of the second go-round will be randomly drawn.
15. In the final go-round, positions will be worked from the last qualifying position down to the first position. Optional: Each district/state/province and at the National High School Finals Rodeo may draw for positions in Barrel Racing and/or Pole Bending in the short go-round only.
  - a. Positions will be drawn for Cutting final go-round.
  - b. Optional: Each State/Province Finals may use the option of working from the last qualifying position down to the first qualifying position in all go-rounds.

16. If positions were drawn: If a go-round ends and the next one begins in the same performance, contestants finishing the go-round will be dropped off and start the next performance for their next work.

## **LIVESTOCK INSPECTION**

1. The NHSRA will have the authority to inspect all livestock prior to the go-round draws and take out any animal that is not physically suitable.
2. These animals can only be replaced in the draw with a veterinarian's approval.
3. It is the responsibility of this committee to see that any injured animal is re-moved and/or cared for at the earliest possible time.
4. The committee will have available the name and location of the nearest facility for emergency large animal treatment.
5. There will be daily inspection of all livestock.

## **ANIMAL WELFARE**

1. No locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or sharpened spurs may be used on bareback horses or saddle broncs. Spur rowels must have five or more points.
2. A neck rope must be used on a horse. If horse stops and calf hits the end of rope in such a manner that calf busts himself, roper will not be responsible. Contestant must adjust rope and reins in such a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf. Rope to be removed from calf's body as soon as possible after "tie" is completed. Roping calves shall weight at least 180 pounds each and be strong and healthy.
3. All chain, metal and wire tie-downs, nosebands and bosals must be completely covered where it comes into contact with the horse's skin.
4. The placing of fingers in eyes, lips, or nose of steers while wrestling same is forbidden.
5. Animals for all events will be inspected before the draw, and no sore, lame, sick, or injured animal, or animals with defective eyesight shall be permitted in the draw at any time. Should an animal become sick or be injured between the time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled to be used in competition, that animal shall not be used in competition and another animal drawn for the contestant as provided in the NHSRA rule book. An official veterinarian should be available at all events.
6. No animal shall be beaten, mutilated, or cruelly prodded. Standard cattle prods shall be used as little as possible. In the rough stock



- events, once an animal is in the chute, no cattle prods will be allowed except in the case of a bareback riding or saddle bronc horse that stalls and only with the agreement of the contestant, stock contractor and judge. Cattle prod will only be used when the horse turns head out of the chute and then it can only be used on the hip or shoulder area. Prods will not be used on bulls once they are in the chute except to move bull from chute to chute.
7. A conveyance must be available and used, if possible, to remove animals from the arena in case of injury. Animals removed from the arena pursuant to this section shall be placed in a situation as isolated and comfortable as possible to reduce stress.
  8. No sharp or cutting object in cinch, saddle girth, or flank straps shall be permitted. Only sheepskin-lined flanking straps shall be used on bucking horses and shall be of the quick-release type. Sheepskin-lined flank straps shall be placed on the animal so the sheepskin covered portion is over both flanks, and the belly of the animal. No bull tails will be allowed under flank straps.
  9. No "loose ropes" allowed in bareback bronc riding.
  10. No stimulants or hypnotics to be used or given to any animal used for con-test purposes.
  11. Chutes must be constructed as to prevent injury to stock. Maintenance men and equipment shall be stationed at chutes to assist in removal of any animal should it become caught. The arena shall be free of rocks, holes and obstacles.
  12. Bullfighters are not to abuse stock in any fashion.
  13. No small animal or pets allowed in arena where restraint is necessary or subject to injury or attack by another animal.
  14. Livestock to be removed from arena after completion of entry in contest.
  15. Use of fireworks to fight animals prohibited.
  16. Contestant will be disqualified for any mistreatment of Stock.
  17. No stock should be confined in vehicles beyond a period of 28 hours with-out being unloaded, properly fed, and watered. When animals are carried in conveyances in which they do have proper food, water, space, and opportunity to rest, the provisions for unloading shall not apply.
  18. Any animal that becomes excessively excited so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly, or tries repeatedly to jump out of the chute, or in any way appears to be in danger of injuring itself, should be released.
  19. No foreign objects or ropes may be attached to the horns or any part of the bull after loaded in the chute except in the case of assisting a chute fighting bull and then the rope must be arranged so that it removes itself once the bull is released from the chute.
  20. Any Stock contractor or rodeo personnel, guilty of mistreatment of livestock may be fined by the Board of Directors with a fine not to

exceed \$500.00.

21. All NHSRA animal welfare rules are to be enforced on the entire grounds of any approved high school rodeo including but not limited to the practice and jackpot arenas, stall areas, warm-up areas, etc.
22. The NHSRA makes every effort to ensure that all contestants, contractors, and committees are fully aware of rules regarding humane treatment of all rodeo livestock.

## **GIRLS' EVENTS**

### **CLOVER-LEAF BARREL RACING**

#### **I. General Rules:**

1. Starting lines in clover-leaf barrel racing will be subject to ground rules.
2. A clearly visible starting line shall be provided.
3. There shall be a minimum of 75' allowed for stopping, from starting line in barrels back to arena fence as arena conditions allow.
4. The barrels and the starting line will be permanently marked for the entire go-round.
5. The horse's nose will be timed as it crosses the starting line.
6. A barrel horse shall not be ridden by more than one contestant in this event at any one rodeo.
7. During barrel racing events, the arena will be dragged at regular intervals, to be determined by the management. Turnouts and releases must be included in the count.
8. Following barrel racing events, the pattern will be dragged or leveled.
9. A contestant may enter the arena at the speed of her choice.
10. Arena gate must be closed immediately after she enters the arena and kept closed until pattern is completed and her horse is under control.
11. Contestant may change horses in this event.

#### **II. Time Limit:**

Contestant will be allowed legitimate time from the time she enters arena gate until her time starts by Field Flagger or electric eye.

#### **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to girls only.
2. The barrels must be twenty (20) feet, at least, from the arena fence.
3. The arena conditions will enable you to determine the distance that the barrels can be apart, provided they are at least 20 feet from the fence.
4. The clover-leaf pattern is the only approved pattern in this event.
5. Touching barrel is permitted by horse or contestant.
6. The front two barrels shall be twenty (20) yards (60 feet) from the

starting line as required by arena conditions.

- a. The maximum distance between the two front barrels shall be thirty (30) yards (90 feet) arena conditions permitting. The maximum distance between the two front barrels and the back barrel shall be 35 yards (105 feet) arena conditions permitting.
  - b. The contestant may start on either the right or left barrel.
    - (1) When starting on the right barrel there will be one right turn and two left around the barrels.
    - (2) When starting on the left side, there will be one left and two right turns around the barrels.
7. Diagram of pattern (See diagram in the back of this rulebook).

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
2. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
3. Knocking over a barrel is a five (5) second penalty, per barrel. Should barrel be knocked over and it sets up on opposite end, the five (5) second penalty will be assessed.
4. Not following the clover-leaf pattern will receive a no time. A broken pattern shall be defined as breaking their forward motion to retrace their tracks to finish the pattern and/or passing the plane of the barrel on the off side. Example: Should a contestant run by a barrel and have to back up or turn around and retrace their tracks, this would be considered a broken pattern.
5. Judge will determine legitimate problem for prestart time.
6. If horse re-crosses starting line at any time before the pattern is completed, pattern will be considered broken and run will receive no time.
7. If contestant's horse breaks timer light, by backing through before starting pattern, time will be considered started.
8. If the arena requires an alleyway to meet the 75' requirement to start and stop, it is considered part of the arena and all rules apply to that alleyway.
9. A five (5) second penalty will be assessed if the contestant enters the arena without her hat on her head.
10. When the electric eye fails to work for one or more contestants during a performance, the manual back-up time will be used for those electronically missed. The electric eye-controlled times will remain unaltered.
11. Assistant helping barrel racers will not be allowed to go past the plane of the main arena gate when they are entering the arena or the contestant will receive a no time. Optional at state/province qualifying rodeos only, not state or national finals: When using the alleyway and closing the back gate on alleyway for stopping, assistant can offer assistance to riders up to the main arena gate, at the discretion of the arena director.

12. The contestant is allowed a running start. If the gate is centrally located, contestant must keep forward motion toward the first barrel. If a side or corner gate is used, a single spin or pivot is acceptable in either direction or by the Arena Director's approval. Failure to comply will be a no time. Contestant must be mounted when entering the arena.
13. Contestant must run in the order drawn. Failure to do so may result in a no time at the discretion of the judges and arena director.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
2. The battery digital clock will be the first backup time and digital hand-held watches to be second backup time. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and Arena Director, plus any penalties.
3. Contestants will carry any penalties with them if they are granted a rerun. If the barrel racing is moved, postponed or rerun for safety reasons due to ground conditions, reruns will be penalty free.

#### **VI. Equipment:**

1. Western type equipment, including saddle, must be used.
2. Use of a hackamore or other types of bridles is the optional choice of the contestant.
3. Judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment that he may consider severe.
4. Equipment necessary: Twin units of battery power electric eyes with one electric power digital clock and one battery power digital clock and two (2) hand held battery power digital watches in hundredths shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric eye timers, or, if necessary, the average of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time. (Optional at State/Province level).
5. Complete electric timer must be backed up by a flagman. One timer will record the times that appear on the electric eye-controlled readout. Two timers will operate the digital watches and record the average time which is shown thereon. These two timers will operate from the flagman's signals.
6. Permanent markers should be put in the ground for the electric eyes. Electric eyes should be placed on the starting line no closer together than the width of the first two barrels and for the electric eyes to be centered on pattern for each performance.
7. Position on fence for flagman should be well marked. These markers should be checked every performance along with the barrel markers and re-staked if pulled out. A record of these measurements shall be kept.

8. Set timer beforehand in the same height and position and lock the legs.
9. Barrels are not to be used as stands for the electric timer devices.
10. Barrels to be 55 U.S. gallon light steel drum with both ends intact.

## (JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)

### **I. Refer to the NHSRA Clover-leaf Barrel Racing Rules.**

## **POLE BENDING RACE**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Starting lines in pole bending will be subject to ground rules.
2. A clearly visible starting line shall be provided.
3. No two girls may ride the same horse.
4. The horse's nose will be timed as it crosses the starting line.
5. A pole horse shall not be ridden by more than one contestant in this event at any one rodeo.
6. There shall be a minimum of 75 feet allowed for stopping, from starting line in poles back to arena fence as arena conditions allow.
7. The poles and the starting line will be permanently marked for the entire go-round.
8. During pole bending events, the arena will be dragged at regular intervals, to be determined by the management. Turnouts and releases must be included in the count.
9. Following pole bending events, the pattern will be dragged or leveled.
10. A contestant may enter the Arena at the speed of her choice.
11. Arena gate must be closed immediately after she enters the arena and kept closed until pattern is completed and her horse is under control.
12. Contestant may change horses in this event.

### **II. Time Limit:**

Contestant will be allowed legitimate time from the time she enters arena gate until her time starts by Field Flagger or electric eye.

### **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to girls only.
2. The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles.
3. No flags to be used on poles.
4. Poles to be colored red, white and blue by six-inch strips as these are the colors of the National High School Rodeo Association.
5. The distance from the starting line to the first pole shall be 21 feet

- and spacing between poles shall be twenty-one (21) feet apart. End pole must be twenty (20) feet, at least, from fence.
6. Poles shall be set on top of the ground, six (6) feet in height, and with no base larger than fourteen (14) or less than twelve (12) inches in diameter.
  7. Poles must be straight in line.
  8. Touching poles is permitted by horse or contestant.
  9. A horse may start either to the right or left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly.
  10. Diagram of pattern. (See pattern diagram in the back of this rulebook)

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
2. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
3. Knocking over a pole is a five (5) second penalty, per pole.
4. Not following the pole bending pattern will receive a no time. A broken pattern shall be defined as breaking their forward motion to retrace their tracks to finish the pattern and/or passing the plane of the pole on the off side. Example: Should a contestant run by a pole and have to back up or turn around and retrace their tracks, this would be considered a broken pattern. Also, if a pole is knocked down and the contestant does not follow the weave pattern around the original base position of the fallen pole, it is considered a broken pattern.
5. If horse re-crosses starting line at any time before the pattern is completed, pattern will be considered broken and run will receive no time.
6. If contestant's horse breaks timer light, by backing through before starting time, time will be considered started.
7. A five (5) second penalty will be assessed if the contestant enters the arena without her hat on her head.
8. When the electric eye fails to work for one or more contestants during a performance, the manual back-up time will be used for those electronically missed. The electric eye-controlled times will remain unaltered.
9. Assistant helping pole benders will not be allowed to go past the plane of the main arena gate when they are entering the arena or the contestant will receive a no time. Optional at state/province qualifying rodeos only, not state or national finals: When using the alleyway and closing the back gate on alleyway for stopping, assistant can offer assistance to riders up to the main arena gate, at the discretion of the arena director.
10. The contestant is allowed a running start. If the gate is centrally located, contestant must keep forward motion toward the first barrel/pole. If a side or corner gate is used, a single spin or pivot is

acceptable in either direction or by the Arena Director's approval. Failure to comply will be a no time. Contestant must be mounted when entering the arena.

11. Contestant must run in the order drawn. Failure to do so may result in a no time at the discretion of the judges and arena director.

#### **V. Re-Runs:**

1. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
2. The battery digital clock will be the first backup time and digital hand-held watches to be second back up time. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and Arena Director, plus any penalties.
3. Contestants will carry any penalties with them if they are granted a rerun. If the pole bending is moved, postponed or rerun for safety reasons due to ground conditions, reruns will be penalty free.

#### **VI. Equipment:**

1. Western type equipment, including saddle, must be used.
2. Use of a hackamore or other types of bridles is the optional choice of the contestant.
3. The judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment that he may consider severe.
4. Equipment Necessary: Twin units of battery power electric eyes with one electric power digital clock and one battery power digital clock and two (2) hand held battery power digital watches in hundredths shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric eye timers, or, if necessary, the average of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time. (Optional at State/Province level).
5. Complete electric timer must be backed up by flagman. One timer will record the times that appear on the electric eye-controlled readout. Two timers will operate the digital watches and record the average time which is shown thereon. These two timers will operate from the flagman's signals.
6. Permanent markers should be put in the ground for the electric eyes.
7. Position on fence for flagman should be well marked. These markers should be checked every performance along with the pole markers and re-staked if pulled out. A record of these measurements shall be kept.
8. Set timer beforehand in the same height and position and lock the legs.
9. Barrels are not to be used as stands for the electric eye timer devices.
10. Poles used for this event must have rubber bases.

## (JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)

### I. Refer to the NHSRA Pole Bending Race Rules.

## BREAKAWAY ROPING

### I. General Rules:

1. Contestant may change horses in breakaway roping.
2. Roping Box – shall be part of arena during roping events.
3. Refer to Score Line Diagram at the back of this rulebook.
4. Once score line has been set in timed events, it will not be changed in that go, nor can length of box be changed.
5. Lap and Tap – No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
6. The pigtail of the barrier should not exceed 10 inches in length.
7. Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier,) or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten-second fine. Otherwise, this will not be considered a broken barrier.
8. If automatic barrier does not work, but time is recorded, contestant will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.
9. If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock is qualified on in the field, therefore entitling contestant to a rerun without penalties.
10. If automatic barrier fails to work, and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.
11. If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestant tries the animal, she accepts the animal. If contestant pulls up, she will receive the same animal back.
12. Calf belongs to contestant when she calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
  - a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any loop used.
  - b. In case of mechanical failure.
  - c. If, in the opinion of the line judge, contestant is fouled by barrier, contestant shall get her calf back, providing contestant declares herself by pulling up. A contestant's rope cannot be fouled by the pull rope.



13. A contestant must be on her horse and her horse must break the plane of the barrier with her draw breaking the plane of the score line before she is allowed to compete.
14. Time to be taken between two flags.
15. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestant competes on the stock drawn for her. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
16. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National High School Finals Rodeo.

The judge will determine legitimate time allowed before contestant calls for animal.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to girls only.
2. Two loops will be allowed if two ropes are carried. Once second loop is pulled, first loop is no longer in play.
3. Ropes are to be tied to the saddle horn with nylon string. A knot must be at the end of the rope with the string tied at the knot. There will be no tail. A solid color (no pattern/printing) white flag that is visible to the flagman or judge must be attached at the knot end of the rope.
4. Rope must be tied to the horn with a nylon string and may not be run through bridle, tie-down, neck rope or any other device.
5. String will be provided and will be inspected by designated official before each contestant competes.
6. The second rope must remain tied until used and must not be broken away from the saddle horn.
7. At the National High School Finals Rodeo only, a contestant can carry only one loop in the first two go-rounds.
8. A dropped or fallen rope that must be recoiled and/or rebuilt shall be considered a thrown rope.
9. **ONLY A SOLID COLOR CLOTH (NO PATTERN) MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE ROPE AT THE SADDLE HORN SO THE JUDGE CAN TELL WHEN THE ROPE BREAKS FROM THE HORN.**
10. The calf's head must pass through the loop. The loop must draw up on any part of the calf's body behind the head.
11. Rope must be released from contestant's hand to be a legal catch.
12. In case the field flag judge flags out a roper that still legally has one or more loops coming, the judge may give the same calf back lap

- and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalty.
13. Ropers must be mounted when time is taken.
  14. In case the field judge flags out a roper that still legally has one or more loops coming, the judge may give the same calf back, lap and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalties. If time was not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any loop used. Contestant to only get to use remaining loop.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
4. There will be a ten-second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.
5. Roping calf without releasing loop from hand will disqualify catch.
6. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of calf or her horse.
7. The contestant will receive no time should she break the rope away from the saddle horn by hand. However, if the rope should dally around the horn, the contestant may ride forward, un-dally the rope and then stop her horse to make the rope break away.
8. If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the calf releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.
9. No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for her. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.
10. When the contestant calls for the calf, no further assistance can take place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the calf. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, contestant will receive a no time.
11. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.
2. During any performance if an animal escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by the contestant, or if an automatic barrier fails to work and the stock is brought back, that animal will be returned by the arena director and the labor crew during or at the end of that performance in the same manner he was originally worked or brought to the pens for contesting. At least several head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-

penned by itself. Decisions will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.

3. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
4. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.
5. A calf must be rerun before it is used by another contestant.
6. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.
7. In breakaway roping, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the breakaway roper remains behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.

#### **VI. Optional Rules:**

1. At any rodeo in any roping event, State/Province Associations may implement a ground rule limiting breakaway roper to one loop. Not to apply to State/Province or National Finals.
2. Electric timers are option at State/Province level.

#### **VII. Equipment:**

1. Cattle neck ropes on calves must be tied with string or rubber bands.
2. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on cattle neck ropes in the break-away roping event.
3. Adjustable slide shall be used on all cattle neck ropes for cattle used in break-away roping event.
4. Western type equipment must be used.
5. A mechanical barrier must be used.

#### **VIII. Livestock Requirements:**

1. Calves must be uniform in weight and breed.
2. Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
3. If horned, calves horn size: Tipped to a dime and no longer than two inches
4. Girls' breakaway calves weight recommendations:
  - a. Minimum weight 180 pounds.
  - b. Maximum weight 350 pounds.

## **IX. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.
2. A third official may be used to help determine legal catches or any infractions of the rules. This official need not be mounted.
3. Flag judge will make final decision.
4. Once a contestant has been flagged out, she will receive no stock back.
5. Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of next contestant.
6. Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants each performance.
7. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.
8. Barrier Judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
9. Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.

## **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

### **GIRLS BREAKAWAY ROPING**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Breakaway Roping Rules.**

### **BOYS BREAKAWAY ROPING**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Breakaway Roping Rules with the following addition:**

1. Under the General Rules subheading add rule #17 to read:
17. If contestant is entered in the breakaway roping he will not be allowed to enter the Tie-Down Roping.

## **GOAT TYING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Starting lines in goat tying will be subject to ground rules.
2. A clearly visible starting line shall be provided.
3. The stake and the starting line will be permanently marked for the entire go-round.
4. A contestant may change horses in this event.
5. A contestant may enter the arena at the speed of her choice.
6. Arena permitting, the gate will be in the center between the two goats allowing each contestant the same length run at the goat.

(Optional at state/provincial rodeos)

7. Arena gate must be closed immediately after she enters the arena and kept closed.
8. Time to be taken between two flags.
9. Time will start when the horse's nose crosses the starting line. Goat Holder must release the goat when the flag starts the time.
10. Have collars the same and snug. Ropes the same length. Goats the same size and weights. Collars should be tightened to have approximately one (1) inch of slack. Collars must be nylon or leather; no chains may be used as a collar in the event.
11. Flagmen stand in identical places each performance.
12. For NJHFR and NHSFR: One goat to be tied in the center of the arena. All goats used in the draw to be tied a maximum of five (5) runs before another run on the goats can begin. (Optional at state/provincial rodeos)
13. During Goat Tying, the arena will be dragged at regular intervals, to be determined by the Arena Director.
14. Goat handlers must stand directly behind goat. Judges and directors will position themselves, so they are able to have a clear view of the goat rope and horse.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National High School Finals Rodeo.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to girls only.
2. There should be at least a 15-yard starting line.
3. Starting line will be 100 feet from stake.
4. The goat should be tied to a stake with a rope ten (10') foot in length.
5. Stake should be completely under the ground so that no part of it is visible or above ground.
6. The contestant must be mounted on a horse when entering the arena and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount from her horse, throw the goat by hand, cross, wrap and tie by hand, at least three (3) feet together with a leather string, pigging string or rope. No wire is to be used in the goat string.
7. If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, goat must be elevated high enough that it has the opportunity to regain its feet and then stand clear of the goat when the tie is finished.
8. Legs must remain crossed and secure for 6 seconds after completion of tie. While the judge is performing the 6-second procedure, the contestant will make no gestures, motions or noises to distract the goat. This will be considered trying to take an unfair

advantage and will result in a disqualification. Contestant must clear the goat immediately after the tie had been flagged.

9. To qualify as a legal tie, there will be at least one complete wrap around at least three legs, and a half hitch, hooey or knot. The contestant must tie the goat by hand with no pre-made wraps, coils, knots, hooeys or half hitch.
10. Time will start when the horse's nose crosses the starting line.
11. Time will stop when she signals the completion of the tie.
12. The contestant must move back three (3) feet from the goat before the judge will start the six (6) second time limit on the tie - for the goat's legs to remain crossed and tied. If contestant gets rope that is holding goat wrapped around her leg, she may ask the judge if she can remove it. After getting permission from judge, removing rope and moving back three (3) feet her six (6) second time limit will start.
13. Qualified persons other than goat tying contestants will be used as goat holders.
14. If a goat is injured, the contestants involved with the injured goat will automatically be assigned the extra goat regardless of the possible difference in runs or ties on the goat.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
2. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
3. The tie will be passed on by a field judge and if it is not secure for six seconds, the contestant will receive no time.
4. Contestant will receive a no time for touching the goat or tie string after signaling she is finished.
5. If the contestant's horse crosses over the rope or goat, or if the contestant's horse comes in contact with the goat or rope prior to the contestant signaling for time, a ten (10) second penalty will be assessed.
6. If the goat should break away because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will receive no time between flags.
7. A five (5) second penalty will be assessed if the contestant enters the arena without her hat on her head.
8. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.
9. Assistant helping the goat tying contestant will not be allowed to go past the plane of the main arena gate when they are entering the arena or the contestant will receive a no time.
10. The contestant is allowed a running start. If the gate is centrally located, contestant must keep forward motion to the goat. If a side or corner gate is used, or two goats, a single spin or pivot is acceptable in either direction or by the Arena Director's approval. Failure to comply will be a no time. Contestant must be mounted when entering the arena.

## **V. Reruns:**

1. No run will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
2. If the goat should break away, it will be left to the judges' discretion whether she will get a rerun.
3. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any penalties.
4. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.

## **VI. Optional Rules:**

Electric timer and at least two (2) digital watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer, or, if necessary, the average of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time. Optional at State/Province Level.

## **VII. Equipment:**

1. Leather thong, pigging string or rope. (Pigging string—a piece of rope used for securing animals).
2. Western type equipment must be used.

## **VIII. Livestock Requirements:**

1. Goats shall be uniform in size and breed with a weight limit of 40 to 60 pounds per goat. Pigmy goats are not allowed to be used in the goat tying event.
2. Sharp horns shall be tipped.
3. If you are holding a single performance rodeo and the entire goat tying contestants are run at one time, you must have an extra goat in case one of the other goats get injured. Extra goat must be drawn for.

## **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

### **GIRLS GOAT TYING**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Goat Tying Rules.**

### **BOYS GOAT TYING**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Goat Tying Rules with the following addition:**

- a. Boys will be required to tie goats with a piggin' string only.
- b. Contestant must string front leg first and then cross and tie any three legs with a piggin' string. There must be at least one wrap around all three legs and finished with a half hitch or hooley. A

hooley is a half hitch with a loop, the tail of the string may be partly, or all the way pulled through.

## **BAREBACK RIDING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant is not to use sharp spurs.
2. Fall – If chest or brisket, belly, side or rump contacts the ground animal will be considered fallen. Knee is not considered fallen.
3. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
4. Contestants may pull riggings from either side.
5. Contestant must compete on stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.

### **II. Time Limit:**

1. Horses must be ridden for 8 seconds.
2. Time to start when the animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.

### **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. To qualify, the rider must have spurs over the break of the shoulders and touching horse when horse's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute.
3. Contestants will have the right to call judges to pass on whether or not horse is properly flanked and cinched.
4. Rigging must lie flat on horses back while rigging is being cinched.
5. Stock contractor may call on judge to pass on whether rigging is being set or cinched in a manner that might hurt horse's back.
6. Judges may require contestant to take his hand out of rigging after a horse is cinched. If handhold is too tight, rigging will be declared illegal. Stock contractor may request to take such action.
7. One arm must be free at all times.
8. The judge on the latch side of the chute gate shall serve as a back-up timer in the bareback riding event or a person assigned by the Arena Director may serve as the back-up timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn, whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for a time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is eight seconds or more on the judge's watch, the



contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the eight seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Ride and animal to be marked separately.
2. Mark the ride according to how much the contestant spurs the animal.
3. Figures used in making the riding events shall range from 1 to 25 on both bucking animal and contestant and use the full spread.
4. If a horse stalls coming out of the chute, either judge may tell contestant to take his feet out of the horse's neck and first jump qualification will then be waived.
5. Contestant shall receive no score for not following judges' instructions to take feet from neck of horse stalled in chute.
6. If the rigging comes off horse, touching anything with free hand or if contestant is bucked off, contestant will receive a no score.
7. In the opinion of the judges, if a contestant is riding with rowels too sharp or riding with locked rowels, he will receive a no score.
8. Contestant will be disqualified for taking any kind of finger tuck, or finger wrap.
9. Judges may disqualify contestant who has been advised he is next to go if he is not above the animal with his glove on when previous horse leaves the arena.

#### **V. Re-rides:**

1. The matter of re-rides shall be decided by the judges.
2. Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time.
3. If re-ride is given, judge shall inform the contestant immediately of his marking and an option of a re-ride.
4. Contestant may refuse re-ride and take his marking.
5. Contestant must make his decision immediately.
6. No re-ride will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
7. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in the same go-round, the contestant with the animal drawn will take it before the man who draws the animal for a re-ride.
8. If animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in a later go-round, the contestant with the re-ride in the prior go-round will take the animal first.
9. When a final head is to be ridden in the riding events, at least two additional head of stock will be available for re-rides.
10. Re-rides may be given only when stock fails to break, stops, or fouls the rider.
11. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts to

get out on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride drawn for.

12. Contestants who are fouled at chute and declare will be entitled to re-ride at judge's discretion, or the spurring out rule may be waived.
13. If animal falls down out of chute, contestant will be entitled to a re-ride at the discretion of the judges.
14. If animal loses flank, fails to break, stops, or fouls rider, rider may take same animal back, providing stock contractor is willing, or he may have re-ride drawn.
15. If an animal that runs off is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must take the animal already drawn.
16. If that is the second consecutive time the animal has run off, he must be taken out of the draw and an animal drawn for the contestant out of the re-rides.
17. If the pickup man or horse comes in contact with bucking horse before qualified time has elapsed, re-ride will be given on same animal drawn. Only exception to this rule is if it is that rodeo's last day. The last day, contestant may have same animal back if stock contractor is willing, or re-ride drawn if requested. If stock contractor is not willing, re-ride will be drawn.
18. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off.

## **VI. Equipment:**

1. Riding to be done with one-handed rigging and contestant must supply own rigging.
2. Rigging shall be leather and shall not be more than ten (10) inches in width at the handhold and not over six (6) inches wide at the "D" ring. Latigo cannot be blocked in the "D" ring. Riggings will use a standard "D" ring to be set to sit flat on horses back when cinched. No freaks will be allowed. Only rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold. There will be no rawhide restrictions with the exception of no rawhide may be within one (1) inch of the back of the rigging body excluding the "D" ring wrap which may be no more than two (2) inches up from the bottom of the body. The rigging body must also be spread nine (9) inches apart at the back of the rigging four (4) inches down from the center. The handle bars under the rigging body must be tapered down to at least one-fourth (1/4) inch at the end of the handle bar.
3. Rider may have a single layer of leather under handhold which will extend at least one inch on both sides of the center of the handhold not to be skived and shall be glued down.
4. No metal will be allowed in riggings or hand-holds. Only leather or rawhide is allowed for hand-hold, with a maximum of three-fourths

(3/4) inch of rawhide allowed. Flat-head rivets and/or screws and “t” nuts are allowed to secure hand-hold. The only other metal allowed will be in the “D” rings.

5. Quick release buckle is optional on bareback rigging.
6. Cinches on bareback riggings shall be made of mohair or neoprene and shall be at least eight (8) inches in width at the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch “D” or rings. Latigos may be of leather or nylon.
7. Required bareback pads are to completely cover the underside of the riggings and are to extend a full two inches behind the rigging.
8. Pads used under riggings must be leather covered on both sides. No hair pads will be allowed. If a foam pad is used, it must be high density foam at least 3/4 of an inch thick. In addition, the pad must have leather over the bars one-eighth (1/8) inch thick extending at least one-half (1/2) inch on either side or the back of the handlebars.
9. In addition to the pad, a piece of leather a minimum of 1/8 inch thick and 4” square must be glued or sewed to the pad and centered in comparison to the total body length of the rigging. This piece of leather shall be placed so that 1/2 of it extends behind the rigging and the remaining 2” is under the rigging.
10. The rider’s glove will be a plain glove with no flaps, rolls, wedges or gimmicks. An extra piece of leather may be used at the base of the little finger only. It must be on the inside of the glove and is not to extend out from the seam more than 5/8 inch and can be no more than 5/8 inch thick. On the outside of the glove, there are to be no horizontal cuts from the second knuckle back. On the inside (palm side), only vertical cuts or slits allowed on fingers only. See photo in the back of this rulebook.
11. A palm piece may be used in glove which will be at least once inch wide and three inches long and will be glued in.
12. There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on rigging or on rider’s glove. Benzoin may be used.
13. Stock contractors will have the right to have judges pass on whether riggings are objectionable. Judges are to decide on all riggings and pads.
14. All contestants must wear an Athletic Protective Mouthpiece while contesting. Mouthpiece may not be trimmed any smaller than the size required to cover all teeth.
15. All contestants must wear a vest designed to protect the chest and back while contesting in the Bareback Riding Event. The vest shall be one manufactured for rodeo/equestrian events and sold by retailers.
16. No locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or sharpened spurs may be used on bareback horses or saddle broncs. Spur rowels must have five or more points.

**(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**  
**JUNIOR HIGH BAREBACK RIDING**

**I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant is not to use sharp spurs.
2. Contestant will have the right to call judges to pass on whether or not animal is properly flanked to buck the best of his ability.
3. Fall – If chest or brisket, belly, side or rump contacts the ground animal will be considered fallen. Knee is not considered fallen.
4. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
5. Contestants may pull riggings from either side.
6. Contestant must compete on stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
7. Steers or heifers weighing 600 – 900 lbs. should be used for this event. Horns must be tipped to at least the size of a half dollar. Bulls are not to be used. Option at state/province level, quarter ponies may be used.

**II. Time Limit:**

1. Animal must be ridden for 6 seconds.
2. Time to start when the animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.

**III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. To qualify, the rider must have spurs over the break of the shoulders and touching animal when animal's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute.
3. Contestants will have the right to call judges to pass on whether or not animal is properly flanked and cinched.
4. Rigging must lie flat on animal's back while rigging is being cinched.
5. Stock contractor may call on judge to pass on whether rigging is being set or cinched in a manner that might hurt animal's back.
6. Judges may require contestant to take his hand out of rigging after an animal is cinched. If handhold is too tight, rigging will be declared illegal. Stock contractor may request to take such action.
7. One arm must be free at all times.
8. The judge on the latch side of the chute gate shall serve as a back-up timer in the bareback riding event or a person assigned by the Arena Director may serve as the back-up timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn,

whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for a time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is six seconds or more on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the six seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Ride and animal to be marked separately.
2. Mark the ride according to how much the contestant spurs the animal.
3. Figures used in making the riding events shall range from 1 to 25 on both bucking animal and contestant and use the full spread.
4. If an animal stalls coming out of the chute, either judge may tell contestant to take his feet out of the animal's neck and first jump qualification will then be waived.
5. Contestant shall receive no score for not following judges' instructions to take feet from neck of animal stalled in chute.
6. If the rigging comes off animal, touching anything with free hand or if contestant is bucked off, contestant will receive a no score.
7. In the opinion of the judges, if a contestant is riding with rowels too sharp or riding with locked rowels, he will receive a no score.
8. Contestant will be disqualified for taking any kind of finger tuck, or finger wrap.
9. Judges may disqualify contestant who has been advised he is next to go if he is not above the animal with his glove on when previous animal leaves the arena.

#### **V. Re-rides:**

1. The matter of re-rides shall be decided by the judges.
2. Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time.
3. If re-ride is given, judge shall inform the contestant immediately of his marking and an option of a re-ride.
4. Contestant may refuse re-ride and take his marking.
5. Contestant must make his decision immediately.
6. No re-ride will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
7. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in the same go-round, the contestant with the animal drawn will take it before the man who draws the animal for a re-ride.
8. If animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in a later go-round, the contestant with the re-ride in the prior go-round will take the animal first.
9. When a final head is to be ridden in the riding events, at least two additional head of stock will be available for re-rides.

10. Re-rides may be given only when stock fails to break, stops, or fouls the rider.
11. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts to get out on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride drawn for.
12. Contestants who are fouled at chute and declare will be entitled to re-ride at judge's discretion, or the spurring out rule may be waived.
13. If animal falls down out of chute, contestant will be entitled to a re-ride at the discretion of the judges.
14. If animal loses flank, fails to break, stops, or fouls rider, rider may take same animal back, providing stock contractor is willing, or he may have re-ride drawn.
15. If an animal that runs off is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must take the animal already drawn.
16. If that is the second consecutive time the animal has run off, he must be taken out of the draw and an animal drawn for the contestant out of the re-rides.
17. If the pickup man or horse comes in contact with bucking animal before qualified time has elapsed, re-ride will be given on same animal drawn. Only exception to this rule is if it is that rodeo's last day. The last day, contestant may have same animal back if stock contractor is willing, or re-ride drawn if requested. If stock contractor is not willing, re-ride will be drawn.
18. A contestant will have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant has completed a qualified ride up to the point of the flank coming off.

## **VI. Equipment:**

1. Riding to be done with one-handed rigging and contestant must supply own rigging.
2. Rigging shall be leather and shall not be more than ten (10) inches in width at the handhold and not over six (6) inches wide at the "D" ring. Latigo cannot be blocked in the "D" ring. Riggings will use a standard "D" ring to be set to sit flat on horses back when cinched. No freaks will be allowed. Only rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold. There will be no rawhide restrictions with the exception of no rawhide may be within one (1) inch of the back of the rigging body excluding the "D" ring wrap which may be no more than two (2) inches up from the bottom of the body. The rigging body must also be spread nine (9) inches apart at the back of the rigging four (4) inches down from the center. The handle bars under the rigging body must be tapered down to at least one-fourth (1/4) inch at the end of the handle bar.
3. Rider may have a single layer of leather under handhold which will extend at least one inch on both sides of the center of the handhold not to be skived and shall be glued down.

4. No metal will be allowed in riggings or hand-holds, resin handle bareback rigging to be used in the Junior High Bareback Riding events only. Only leather or rawhide is allowed for hand-hold, with a maximum of three-fourths (3/4) inch of rawhide allowed. Flat-head rivets and/or screws and “t” nuts are allowed to secure hand-hold. The only other metal allowed will be in the “D” rings.
5. Quick release buckle is optional on bareback rigging.
6. Cinches on bareback riggings shall be made of mohair or neoprene and shall be at least five (5”) inches in width at the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch “D” or rings with no knots, tongues or pins tied or taped back. Latigos may be of leather or nylon.
7. Required bareback pads are to completely cover the underside of the riggings and are to extend a full two inches behind the rigging.
8. Pads used under riggings must be leather covered on both sides. No hair pads will be allowed. If a foam pad is used, it must be high density foam at least 3/4 of an inch thick. In addition, the pad must have leather over the bars one-eighth (1/8) inch thick extending at least one-half (1/2) inch on either side or the back of the handle bars.
9. In addition to the pad, a piece of leather a minimum of 1/8 inch thick and 4” square must be glued or sewed to the pad and centered in comparison to the total body length of the rigging. This piece of leather shall be placed so that 1/2 of it extends behind the rigging and the remaining 2” is under the rigging.
10. The rider’s glove will be a plain glove with no flaps, rolls, wedges or gimmicks. An extra piece of leather may be used at the base of the little finger only. It must be on the inside of the glove and is not to extend out from the seam more than 5/8 inch and can be no more than 5/8 inch thick. On the outside of the glove, there are to be no horizontal cuts from the second knuckle back. On the inside (palm side), only vertical cuts or slits allowed on fingers only.
11. A palm piece may be used in glove which will be at least once inch wide and three inches long and will be glued in.
12. There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on rigging or on rider’s glove. Benzoin may be used.
13. Stock contractors will have the right to have judges pass on whether riggings are objectionable. Judges are to decide on all riggings and pads.
14. All contestants must wear helmets approved for rodeo events.
15. All contestants must wear an Athletic Protective Mouth Piece while contesting. Mouth piece may not be trimmed any smaller than the size required to cover all teeth.
16. All contestants must wear a vest designed to protect the chest and back while contesting in the Bareback Riding Event. The vest shall be one manufactured for rodeo/equestrian events and sold by retailers.

17. No locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or sharpened spurs may be used on animals. Spur rowels must have five or more points.

## **VII. Optional Rules:**

1. Junior High Bareback Riding may be optional at state/province qualifying and district qualifying rodeos.
2. All states/provinces will hold a minimum of three (3) at qualifying level.
3. If optional is approved, points may be used for an award for the All-Arounds for that qualifying rodeo.

## **SADDLE BRONC RIDING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant must wear single stitch, leather sole boots.
2. Contestant is not to use sharp spurs.
3. Fall – If chest or brisket, belly, side or rump contacts the ground animal will be considered fallen. Knee is not considered fallen.
4. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
5. Contestants may pull riggings, and cinch saddle from either side.

### **II. Time Limit:**

1. Saddle bronc riding shall be timed for eight (8) seconds.
2. Time to start when animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.

### **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. Either stock contractor or contestant has the right to call the judges to pass on whether or not horse is properly saddled and flanked to buck its best.
3. Riding rein and hand must be on the same side, rein cannot be wrapped around hand.
4. Horses to be saddled in chute.
5. Rider may cinch own saddle.
6. Saddles shall not be set too far ahead on horse's wither.
7. Middle flank belongs to rider but contractor may have rider put flank behind curve of horse's belly.
8. Flank cinch may be hobbled.
9. To qualify, rider must have spurs over the break of the shoulders and touching horse when horse's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute.
10. One arm must be free at all times and must not touch animal with



the free hand.

11. The judge on the latch side of the chute gate shall serve as a back-up timer in the saddle bronc riding event or a person assigned by the Arena Director may serve as the back-up timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn, whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for a time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is eight seconds or more on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the eight seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Ride and animal to be marked separately.
2. Mark the ride according to how much the contestant spurs the animal.
3. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from 1 to 25 on both bucking animal and contestant and use the full spread.
4. If a horse stalls coming out of the chute, either judge may tell contestant to take his feet out of the horse's neck and first jump qualification will then be waived.
5. Contestant shall receive no score for not following judges' instructions to take feet from neck of horse stalled in chute.
6. A rider will be given a no score for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Being bucked off.
  - b. Changing hands on reins.
  - c. Wrapping rein around hand.
  - d. Pulling leather.
  - e. Losing stirrup.
  - f. Touching self, animal, saddle, rein, etc., with free hand.
  - g. Riding with locked rowel or rowels that will lock on spurs.
7. Anyone using any foreign substance other than dry resin on chaps and saddle shall be disqualified. The judges will examine clothing, saddle, rein and spurs and exception be made if local rules make it necessary for the covering of spur rowels.
8. Judges may disqualify bronc rider who has been advised he is next to go if he is not above the animal with his glove on, if used, when previous horse leaves arena.

#### **V. Re-rides:**

1. The matter of re-rides shall be decided by the judge.
2. Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time.

3. If re-ride is given, judge shall inform the contestant immediately of his marking and an option of a re-ride.
4. Contestant may refuse re-ride and take his marking.
5. Contestant must make his decision immediately.
6. If halter comes off, rider must have re-ride providing contestant has made a qualified ride up to the time the halter comes off. Rider must re-ride or take no score for that ride.
7. No re-ride will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
8. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in the same-go-round, the contestant with the animal drawn will take it before the man who draws the animal for a re-ride.
9. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in a later go-round, the contestant with the re-ride in the prior go-round will take the animal first.
10. When a final head is to be ridden in riding events, at least two additional head of stock will be available for re-rides.
11. Re-rides may be given when stock fails to break, stops, or fouls the rider.
12. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts to get out on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride given.
13. Contestants who are fouled at chute and declare will be entitled to a re-ride at judges' discretion, or the spurring out rule may be waived.
14. If animal falls down out of chute, contestant will be entitled to a re-ride at the discretion of the judges.
15. If animal loses flank, fails to break, stops, or fouls rider, rider may take same animal back, providing stock contractor is willing, or he may have re-ride drawn.
16. If rider takes same animal back, he must take that marking given on re-ride.
17. If an animal that runs off is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must take the animal already drawn.
18. If that is the second consecutive time the animal has run off, he must be taken out of the draw and an animal drawn for the contestant out of the re-rides.
19. If the pickup man or horse comes in contact with bucking horse before qualified time has elapsed, re-ride will be given on the same animal drawn.
20. The last day, contestant may have same animal back if stock contractor is willing or re-ride drawn if requested. If stock contractor is not willing, re-ride will be drawn.
21. If in the opinion of the judges, a saddle bronc deliberately throws himself, the rider shall have the choice of that horse again or he may have a horse drawn for him from the re-ride horses.

22. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off.

## **VI. Equipment:**

1. Riding to be done with a plain halter, one rope-rein and committee saddle and contestant must supply own saddle.
2. Standard halter must be used unless agreement is made by both contestant and stock contractor.
3. Stock contractors may furnish their own halters and contestants may use them. If contestant borrows halter, he accepts the equipment as his own.
4. Dry resin may be used on chaps and saddle.
5. Contestant saddle specifications:
  - a. Rigging:
    - (1) 3/4 double-front edge of "D" ring must pull not further back than directly below center point of swell.
    - (2) Standard E-Z or ring type saddle "D" must be used and cannot exceed 5 3/4 inch outside width measurement.
  - b. Swell Undercut:
    - (1) No more than two inches—one inch on each side.
  - c. Gullett:
    - (1) Not less than four inches wide at center of fork of covered saddle.
  - d. Tree:
    - (1) Saddles must be built on standard tree.
    - (2) Specifications:
      - (a) Fork – 14" wide.
      - (b) Height – 9" maximum.
      - (c) Gullett – 5 3/4" wide.
  - e. Cattle:
    - (1) 5" maximum height.
    - (2) 14" maximum width.
  - f. Stirrup leather must be hung over bars.
  - g. Saddle should conform to the above measurements with a reasonable added thickness for leather covering.
  - h. No freaks allowed.
  - i. Front cinch on bronc saddle shall be mohair or neoprene and shall be at least eight (8) inches in width at the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" or rings. Latigos may be of leather or nylon.
6. All contestants must wear an Athletic Protective Mouth Piece while contesting. Mouth piece may not be trimmed any smaller than the size required to cover all teeth.
7. All contestants must wear a vest designed to protect the chest and back while contesting in the Saddle Bronc Riding Event. The vest

shall be one manufactured for rodeo/equestrian events and sold by retailers.

8. No locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or sharpened spurs may be used on bareback horses or saddle broncs. Spur rowels must have five or more points.

**(JUNIOR HIGH DIVISION)**  
**JUNIOR HIGH SADDLE BRONC RIDING**

**I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant must wear single stitch, leather sole boots.
2. Contestant is not to use sharp spurs.
3. Contestant will have the right to call judges to pass on whether animal is properly flanked to buck the best of its ability.
4. Fall - If chest or brisket, belly, side or rump contacts the ground animal will be considered fallen. Knee is not considered fallen.
5. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
6. Contestants may pull riggings, and cinch saddle from either side.
7. Steers or heifers weighing 600 750 – 900 lbs. should be used for this event. Horns must be tipped to at least the size of a half dollar. Bulls are not to be used. Option at state/province level, quarter ponies may be used.

**II. Time Limit:**

1. Animal must be ridden for six (6) seconds.
2. Time to start when animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.

**III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. Either stock contractor or contestant has the right to call the judges to pass on whether or not animal is properly saddled and flanked to buck its best.
3. Riding rein and hand must be on the same side, rein cannot be wrapped around hand.
4. Animal is to be saddled in chute.
5. Rider may cinch own saddle.
6. Saddles shall not be set too far ahead on animal's shoulder.
7. If a back cinch is used, it belongs to the rider and can be buckled around livestock's belly, and if a britchen strap/ rope is used, it must be under 1" (one inch) in diameter under tail.
8. Contestant has option of connecting rein to horns or neck.
9. To qualify, rider must have spurs over the break of the shoulders and touching animal when animal's front feet hit the ground on its

- initial move out of the chute.
10. One arm must be free at all times and must not touch animal or rein with the free hand.
  11. The judge on the latch side of the chute gate shall serve as a back-up timer in the saddle bronc riding event or a person assigned by the Arena Director may serve as the back-up timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn, whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for a time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is six seconds or more on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the six seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Ride and animal to be marked separately.
2. Mark the ride according to how much the contestant spurs the animal.
3. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from 1 to 25 on both bucking animal and contestant and use the full spread.
4. If a animal stalls coming out of the chute, either judge may tell contestant to take his feet out of the animal's neck and first jump qualification will then be waived.
5. Contestant shall receive no score for not following judges' instructions to take feet from neck of animal stalled in chute.
6. A rider will be given a no score for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Being bucked off.
  - b. Changing hands on reins.
  - c. Wrapping rein around hand.
  - d. Losing stirrup.
  - e. Touching self, animal, saddle, rein, etc., with free hand.
  - f. Riding with locked rowel or rowels that will lock on spurs.
7. Anyone using any foreign substance other than dry resin on chaps and saddle shall be disqualified. The judges will examine clothing, saddle, rein and spurs and exception be made if local rules make it necessary for the covering of spur rowels.
8. Judges may disqualify bronc rider who has been advised he is next to go if he is not above the animal with his glove on, if used, when previous animal leaves arena.

#### **V. Re-rides:**

1. The matter of re-rides shall be decided by the judge.
2. Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time.

3. If re-ride is given, judge shall inform the contestant immediately of his marking and an option of a re-ride.
4. Contestant may refuse re-ride and take his marking.
5. Contestant must make his decision immediately.
6. No re-ride will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
7. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in the same go-round, the contestant with the animal drawn will take it before the man who draws the animal for a re-ride.
8. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in a later go-round, the contestant with the re-ride in the prior go-round will take the animal first.
9. When a final head is to be ridden in riding events, at least two additional head of stock will be available for re-rides.
11. Re-rides may be given when stock fails to break, stops, or fouls the rider.
12. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts to get out on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride given.
13. Contestants who are fouled at chute and declare will be entitled to a re-ride at judges' discretion, or the spurring out rule may be waived.
14. If animal falls down out of chute, contestant will be entitled to a re-ride at the discretion of the judges.
15. If animal loses flank, fails to break, stops, or fouls rider, rider may take same animal back, providing stock contractor is willing, or he may have re-ride drawn.
16. If rider takes same animal back, he must take that marking given on re-ride.
17. If an animal that runs off is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must take the animal already drawn.
18. If that is the second consecutive time the animal has run off, he must be taken out of the draw and an animal drawn for the contestant out of the re-rides.
19. If the pickup man or horse comes in contact with bucking animal before qualified time has elapsed, re-ride will be given on the same animal drawn.
20. The last day, contestant may have same animal back if stock contractor is willing or re-ride drawn if requested. If stock contractor is not willing, re-ride will be drawn.
21. If in the opinion of the judges, a saddle bronc animal deliberately throws himself, the rider shall have the choice of that animal again or he may have an animal drawn for him from the re-ride animals.
22. A contestant will have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant has completed a qualified ride up to the point of the flank coming off.

## **VI. Equipment:**

1. Riding to be done with a one bronc rein and committee saddle and contestant must supply own saddle.
2. Dry resin may be used on chaps and saddle.
3. Contestant saddle specifications:
  - a. Rigging:
    - (1) 3/4 double-front edge of "D" ring must pull not further back than directly below center point of swell.
    - (2) Standard E-Z or ring type saddle "D" must be used and cannot exceed 5 3/4 inch outside width measurement.
  - b. Swell Undercut:
    - (1) No more than two inches – one inch on each side.
  - c. Gullett:
    - (1) Not less than four inches wide at center of fork of covered saddle.
  - d. Tree:
    - (1) Saddles must be built on standard tree.
    - (2) Specifications:
      - (a) Fork – 14" wide.
      - (b) Height – 9" maximum.
      - (c) Gullett – 5 3/4" wide.
  - e. Cattle:
    - (1) 5" maximum height.
    - (2) 14" maximum width.
  - f. Stirrup leather must be hung over bars.
  - g. Saddle should conform to the above measurements with a reasonable added thickness for leather covering.
  - h. No freaks allowed.
  - i. Front cinch on bronc saddle shall be mohair or neoprene and shall be at least five (5") inches in width at the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" or rings with no knots, tongues or pins tied or taped back. Latigos may be of leather or nylon.
4. All contestants must wear helmets approved for rodeo events.
5. All contestants must wear an Athletic Protective Mouthpiece while contesting. Mouthpiece may not be trimmed any smaller than the size required to cover all teeth.
6. All contestants must wear a vest designed to protect the chest and back while contesting in the Steer Saddle Bronc Riding Event. The vest shall be one manufactured for rodeo/equestrian events and sold by retailers.
7. No locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or sharpened spurs may be used on animals. Spur rowels must have five or more points.

## **VII. Optional Rules:**

1. Junior High Saddle Bronc Riding may be optional at state/province qualifying and district qualifying rodeos.

2. All states/provinces will hold a minimum of three (3) at qualifying level.
3. If optional is approved, points may be used for an award for the All-Arounds for that qualifying rodeo.

## **BULL RIDING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant is not to use sharp spurs. No part of spur may have sharp edges including rowels and wire locks.
2. Fall – If chest or brisket, belly, side or rump contacts the ground animal will be considered fallen. Knee is not considered fallen.
3. No contestant will ride two head in the same event during a performance except for re-rides.
4. Contestants may pull ropes from either side.
5. Contestant must compete on stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.

### **II. Time Limit:**

1. Bull will be ridden eight seconds.
2. Time to start when the animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute.

### **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. Bell must be under belly of bull.
3. Riding is to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without handhold.
4. No split finger wrap, no knots or hitches to prevent rope from falling off bull when rider leaves him.
5. No more than two men may be on the chute to pull contestant's rope.
6. The judge on the latch side of the chute gate shall serve as a back-up timer in the bull riding event or a person assigned by the Arena Director may serve as the back-up timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn, whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for a time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is eight seconds or more on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the eight seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.



#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. Ride and animal to be marked separately.
2. Mark the ride according to how much the contestant spurs the animal.
3. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from 1 to 25 on both bucking animal and contestant and use the full spread.
4. No bell – no marking.
5. If contestant makes qualified ride with any part of rope in riding hand, he is to be marked.
6. Contestant will receive no score for any of the following offenses.
  - a. Being bucked off.
  - b. Touching animal, equipment or person with free hand.
  - c. Using sharp spurs.
  - d. Placing spurs or chaps under the rope when the rope is being tightened.
7. Judges may disqualify a bull rider who has been advised he is next to go if he is not above the animal with his glove on when the previous bull leaves the arena.

#### **V. Re-rides:**

1. The matter of the re-rides shall be decided by the judges.
2. Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time.
3. If re-ride is given, judge shall inform the contestant immediately of his marking and an option of a re-ride.
4. Contestant may refuse re-ride and take his marking.
5. Contestant must make his decision immediately.
6. No re-ride will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
7. If animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in the same go-round, the contestant with the animal drawn will take it before the man who draws the animal for a re-ride.
8. If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride is already drawn for another contestant in a later go-round, the contestant with the re-ride in the prior go-round will take the animal first.
9. When a final head is to be ridden in riding events, at least two additional head of stock will be available for re-rides.
10. Re-rides may be given only when stock fails to break, stops, or fouls the rider.
11. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts to get out on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride drawn for.
12. Contestants who are fouled at chute and declare will be entitled to a re-ride at judges' discretion.
13. If animal falls down out of chute contestant will be entitled to a re-ride at the discretion of the judges.

14. If animal loses flank, fails to break, stops, or fouls rider, rider may take same animal back, providing stock contractor is willing, or he may have re-ride drawn.
15. If an animal that runs off is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must take the animal already drawn.
16. If that is the second consecutive time the animal has run off, he must be taken out of the draw and an animal drawn for the contestant out of the re-rides.
17. If the pickup man or horse comes in contact with bull before qualified time has elapsed, re-ride will be given on the same animal drawn. Only exception to this rule is if it is that rodeo's last day. The last day, contestant may have same animal back if stock contractor is willing, or re-ride drawn if requested. If stock contractor is not willing, re-ride will be drawn.
18. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off.

#### **VI. Equipment:**

1. Rope must have bell. Bell must be in good shape, cannot be broken. No bell, no marking.
2. Hooks or posts shall not be used on bull ropes.
3. Quick release buckle is optional on bull rope on the off-side.
4. All contestants must wear helmets approved for rodeo events, including both high school and junior high bull riders.
5. All contestants must wear an Athletic Protective Mouth Piece while contesting. Mouthpiece may not be trimmed any smaller than the size required to cover all teeth.
6. All contestants must wear a vest designed to protect the chest and back while contesting in the Bull Riding Event. The vest shall be one manufactured for rodeo/equestrian events and sold by retailers.

#### **VII. Livestock Requirement:**

1. All horned bulls must have horns tipped to at least the size of a half-dollar, cut back or kept out of the draw. This is the responsibility of the stock contractor at the discretion of the Arena Director and the judges.

### **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Bull Riding Rules.**

#### **II. Livestock Requirement:**

1. Refer to NHSRA Rulebook with the following change:
  - a. Bulls and/or Steers may be used
  - b. All horned bulls must have horns tipped to at least the size of

a half dollar and steers must have horns tipped to the size of a dime, cut back or kept out of the draw. This is the responsibility of the stock contractor at the discretion of the Arena Director and the judges.

## STEER WRESTLING

### I. General Rules:

1. Contestant may change horses between Go's in Steer Wrestling.
2. Dogging Box – shall be part of the arena during dogging events.
3. Refer to Score Line Diagram in the back of this rulebook.
4. Once score line has been set in timed events it will not be changed in that go, nor can length of box be changed.
5. Lap and Tap – No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
6. The pigtail of the barrier should not exceed 10 inches in length.
7. Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier, but the staples are pulled or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten-second fine. Otherwise this will not be considered a broken barrier.
8. If automatic barrier does not work but time is recorded, contestant will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.
9. If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock is qualified on in the field, therefore entitling contestant to a rerun without penalties.
10. If automatic barrier fails to work and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.
11. If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestant tries the animal, he accepts animal. If contestant pulls up, he will receive the same animal back.
12. Steer belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
  - a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
  - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
  - c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by barrier, contestant shall get his steer back, providing contestant declares himself by pulling up.

13. Time to be taken between two flags.
14. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
15. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National High School Finals Rodeo.

The judge will determine legitimate time allowed before contestant calls for animal.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. This event should not follow girl's pole bending event or barrel racing in the same arena. If so, arena must be dragged before steer wrestling event.
3. Contestant must furnish own hazer and horse.
4. Anyone jumping from the off side in the steer wrestling must notify the rodeo secretary when entering, and if possible, the barrier should be arranged on the off side for such contestants.
5. Hazer must be an NHSRA member or adult. They are subject to contestant rules if acting as a hazer, a violation of rule by hazer will disqualify the contestant they are helping.
6. Hazer must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer.
7. Contestant is considered working with steer when steer leaves the box.
8. Steer must be caught from horse.
9. If contestant jumps at steer, he accepts him as sound.
10. If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer.
11. After catching steer, wrestler must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down.
12. If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown down before being brought to a stop or is thrown by wrestler putting animal's horns into the ground, it must be let up to all four feet and then thrown.
13. Steer will be considered thrown down only when it is lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head straight.
14. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged.
15. Contestant and hazer must use the same horse they leave chute with.

16. Hazer will be allowed to catch dogger's horse.
17. Dogger is entitled to only one jump in the thirty (30) second/one-minute time limit. A jump will be considered to have taken place if the steer wrestler has dismounted his horse.
18. Contestant is required to turn steer's head so that he can get up.
19. A steer falling in the opposite direction the steer wrestler is attempting to throw him (dog fall) the contestant may choose to turn the steer's head to correspond with the leg position to make this a legal fall.
20. A steer falling in the opposite direction the steer wrestler is attempting to throw him (dog fall) the contestant may choose to turn the steer's head to correspond with the leg position to make this a legal fall.
21. In case the field judge flags out a wrestler that still legally has one jump coming, the judge may give the same steer back, lap and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalties. If time was not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump used. Contestant to only get to use remaining jump.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
4. There will be a ten second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.
5. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of steer or his horse.
6. Any violation of any rule by hazer will disqualify the contestant they are helping.
7. Hazer must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer. Failure to observe this rule will receive no time.
8. If hazer bats steer, or contestant's horse, contestant will receive no time.
9. A ten second penalty will be assessed in any case in which barrier judge rules that dogger's feet touch the ground before flag line is crossed.
10. If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the steer releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.
11. No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.
12. When the contestant calls for the steer, no further assistance can take

place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the steer. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, contestant will receive a no time.

13. Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts in any way to tamper with steers or chute.
14. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. In any timed event if an animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.
2. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
3. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.
4. A steer must be rerun before it is used by another contestant. Fresh steers may be added to the herd after they have been bulldogged from horseback and thrown down. It is the responsibility of the steer wrestlers to throw the cattle, at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.
5. If fresh steers are missed in the steer wrestling, any steer missed in competition must be thrown down immediately following the performance or section of slack in which the steer was drawn. Such steer shall be thrown down by a person appointed by the Steer Wrestling Event Director. Each steer missed in competition is to be thrown no more than one time.
6. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.
7. In steer wrestling, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the steer wrestler and hazer remain behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.

#### **VI. Optional Rules: Electric timers are optional.**

#### **VII. Equipment:**

1. Cattle neck ropes on steers must be tied with string, or rubber bands.

2. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on cattle neck ropes in the steer wrestling event.
3. Adjustable slide shall be used on all cattle neck ropes in steer wrestling event.
4. The steer wrestling chute must have at least 30 inches clearance inside the chute and at the gate when in an open position.
5. In steer wrestling the score may be no longer than the length of the steer wrestling box, minus six feet, unless other arrangements are approved by the arena director.
6. Length of box to be measured from center of back end of box to center of barrier.
7. 5. A mechanical barrier must be used and there must be at least a 12-foot box.

### **VIII. Livestock Requirements:**

1. Cattle used for steer roping, cutting or other events shall not be used for steer wrestling.
2. Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
3. No cattle can be held over from one year to the next for use in the Steer Wrestling at the National High School Finals Rodeo.
4. Fresh steers added to bunch that have not been used must be bulldogged from horseback and thrown down. It is the responsibility of steer wrestlers to throw the cattle at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.
5. When fresh cattle are used, any fresh steer not thrown down during competition will be thrown down after completion of go-round. Contestants will be responsible to throw down such steers under the supervision of the arena director.
6. Contestant will not be required to compete on a crippled steer or steer with broken horn.
7. During any performance if a steer escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by the contestant, or if an automatic barrier fails to work and the stock is brought back, that steer will be returned by the arena director and the labor crew during or at the end of that performance in the same manner originally worked or brought to the pens for contesting. At least several head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-penned by itself. Decisions will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.
8. Boys Steer Wrestling Cattle
  - a. weight recommendations:
    - a. A minimum weight of 450 lbs.
    - b. A maximum weight of 550 lbs.
  - b. Horns to be tipped to the size of a dime

## **IX. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.
2. A field flag judge must ask contestant if he wants a second jump. Once a contestant has been flagged out, he will receive no stock back.
3. Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of next contestant.
4. Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants each performance.
5. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.
6. Barrier judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
7. Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.
8. The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the judges, and their decision will be final.
9. Field flagger is required to watch contestant and steer until animal is turned loose.

## **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION) CHUTE DOGGING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Chute shall be part of the arena during dogging events.
2. Once score line (gypsum line) has been set it will not be changed in that go.
3. Score line will be parallel to chute. It will be set at ten (10) feet in front of chute or ten (10) feet in front of straightaway chute. The measurement will be made with chute gate in the closed position.
4. The line (barrier) judge will flag the start when the animals' nose crosses the score line.
5. Steer belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
  - a. In any timed event, if animal escapes from the arena, field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap and tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run.
  - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
  - c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by chute, contestant shall get his steer back, providing contestant declares himself by pulling up.
6. Time shall be taken between two flags.



7. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
8. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.
9. All steers shall be turned out in the same direction and the same chute will be used.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National Junior High Finals.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. At all junior high rodeos, a straightaway chute may be used in lieu of a bucking chute. The chute must have a gate with at least thirty-six inch (36") clearance. It should be at least six foot in length (6'). Ideally it will also have a side entrance gate for dogger to enter. The straightaway chute will be used at all National Junior High Finals Rodeos. If bucking chute is used it must be left delivery and all chute dogging runs must be made from the same chute.
3. With steer loaded in chute, dogger gets beside steer with hand and arm in front of shoulder of steer, or behind shoulder if dogger desires, and can wrap under neck. When dogger calls for steer the chute gate will be opened. Dogger must maintain his arm and hand position without impending forward progress of steer. If forward progress is impeded by choking or any other means, dogger will receive a no-time. Should dogger grab horn or ear, a 10- second penalty will be assessed. Steer must cross score line before being thrown or starting to slow the steer's forward progress to start throwing process. If steer is thrown before crossing line, it will result in a disqualification since time has not started. Dogger cannot do anything to start throwing process until time has started in the field.
4. It is the contestant's responsibility to check for broken horns.
5. There will be a designated helper assigned by the Arena Director. The helper cannot pass the plane of the chute gate.
6. Contestant is considered working the steer when the steer leaves the chute.
7. If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer.
8. After crossing the start line, wrestler must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down.
9. If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown before being brought to a stop or is thrown by wrestler putting animal's horns into the

- ground, it must be let up to all four feet and then thrown.
10. Steer will be considered thrown down only when it is lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head straight.
  11. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged.
  12. Contestant is required to turn steer's head so that he can get up.
  13. A steer falling in the opposite direction the steer wrestler is attempting to throw him (dog fall) the contestant may choose to turn the steer's head to correspond with the leg position to make this a legal fall.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
4. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of steer.
5. Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts in any way to tamper with steers or chute.
6. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all rodeos.
7. Dogger will be disqualified if animal is thrown before start line.
8. If steer falls on its own before nose crosses line, steer must be let up and not thrown until steer's nose crosses line.
9. There will be a 10 second penalty added if dogger moves right arm to the right horn (throwing position) before start line. This will be referred to as breaking the barrier.

#### **V. Reruns:**

Refer to Steer Wrestling section of NHSRA Rulebook with the following change: 1. A steer must be rerun before it is used by another contestant. Fresh steers may be added to the herd after they have been released from the chute and thrown down. It is the responsibility of the steer wrestlers to throw the cattle, at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.

#### **VI. Optional Rules:**

1. A whistle may be used to signal when the steer has crossed the start line.
2. The same judge can be used to flag the start and the finish.

#### **VII. Equipment:**

- E. Chute Dogging: Refer to NHSRA Steer Wrestling Rulebook with the following exceptions:
  1. Chute will be used to release steers.
  2. Gypsum, baby powder, chalk, etc. will be used to mark start line in front of chute.

### **VIII. Livestock Requirement:**

1. Refer to the NHSRA Steer Wrestling Rulebook with the following exception:
  - a. Fresh steers added to bunch that have not been used must be bull-dogged from the chute and thrown down. It is the responsibility of steer wrestlers to throw the cattle at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.
  - b. Chute Dogging Cattle Weight Recommendations:
    - a. a minimum weight of 350 lbs.
    - b. a maximum weight of 475 lbs.

### **IX. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.
2. The fairness of the catch and throw will be left to the judges, and their decision will be final.
3. Field flagger is required to watch contestant and steer until animal is turned loose.
4. Barrier judge will stand on the start line on right side of the steer and flag when the animal's nose crosses the line indicating the start of the run.
5. Field flagger will flag when the animal is legally thrown indicating the end of the run.

## **TIE-DOWN ROPING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant may change horses in Tie-Down Roping.
2. Roping Box – shall be part of the arena during roping events.
3. Refer to Score Line Diagram in the back of this rulebook.
4. Once score line has been set in timed events it will not be changed in that go, nor can length of box be changed.
5. Lap and Tap – No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
6. The pigtail of the barrier should not exceed 10 inches in length.
7. Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier, but the staples are pulled or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten second fine. Otherwise, this will not be considered a broken barrier.
8. If automatic barrier does not work but time is recorded, contestant will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.

9. If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock is qualified on in the field, entitling contestant to a rerun without penalties.
10. If automatic barrier fails to work, and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.
11. If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestant tries the animal, he accepts animal. If contestant pulls up, he will receive the same animal back.
12. Calf belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
  - a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
  - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
  - c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by barrier, contestant shall get his calf back, providing contestant declares himself by pulling up. A contestant's rope cannot be fouled by the pull rope.
13. A contestant must be on his horse and his horse must break the plane of the barrier with his draw breaking the plane of the score line before he is allowed to compete.
14. Time to be taken between two flags.
15. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
16. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National High School Finals Rodeo.

The judge will determine legitimate time allowed before contestant calls for animal.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is open to boys only.
2. A neck rope must be used. Contestants must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent the horse from dragging the calf.

3. Calves may be pushed out by contestant's assistant providing they are ready.
4. Two loops will be permitted. Once second loop is pulled, first loop is no longer in play.
5. If roper intends to use two loops, he must carry two ropes.
6. A dropped or fallen rope that must be recoiled and/or rebuilt shall be considered a thrown rope.
7. At the National High School Finals Rodeo only, a contestant can carry only one loop in the first two go-rounds.
8. Contestant cannot receive any assistance after crossing starting line.
9. Contestant must rope calf, dismount, go down the rope and throw the calf by hand. Must cross and tie at least three legs.
10. Any catch is legal, catch as catch can rule.
11. A contestant will receive a 5 second penalty for the run if they bring the animal over backwards (between 10 and 2 on a standard clock) with the animal landing on his back or head with all four feet in the air.
12. If calf is down when roper reaches it, calf must be stood on at least three feet. (Calf must be elevated high enough that it has the opportunity to regain its feet) and calf must be re-thrown.
13. If roper's hand is on calf when calf falls, calf is considered thrown by hand.
14. Rope must hold calf until roper gets hand on calf.
15. The contestant will not make unnecessary gestures, motions or noises after the tie or before remounting at the judge's discretion. Contestant will receive a no-time.
16. To qualify as a legal tie, there shall be at least one complete wrap around at least three legs, and a half hitch or hooey (A hooey is a half hitch with a loop, the tail of the string may be partly or all the way pulled through).
17. The tie must hold six (6) seconds, and three legs must remain crossed until passed on by the judge.
18. Six (6) second time will start when roper has remounted and his horse has taken one step forward.
19. If roper's rope comes off calf as roper starts to work with tie, the six (6) second time will start when roper clears the calf.
20. Rope will not be removed and rope must remain slack until field judge has passed on tie.
21. In case the field judge flags out a roper that still legally has one or more loops coming, the judge may give the same calf back, lap and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalties. If time was not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any loop used. Contestant to only get to use remaining loop.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.

2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
4. There will be a ten-second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.
5. Roping calf without releasing loop from hand will disqualify catch.
6. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of calf or his horse.
7. Any intentional dragging of calf regardless of distance will result in a no time. Intentional dragging shall be defined as caused by contestant. Excessive dragging of calf will receive a no time. Excessive dragging shall be defined as moving the calf six or more feet after the contestant has called for time. However, if in the opinion of the judge, the dragging was caused by something outside of the control of the contestant, the judge may give the contestant his time. Dragging the calf while the contestant is tying the calf will not be considered excessive dragging.
8. Roper will be flagged no time for touching calf, or string or by touching rope to train his horse after giving finish signal, or by dragging calf after he remounts horse. Judge may request a contestant to cut or remove his rope to prevent injury to the animal if the horse is fouled or tangled in the rope.
9. If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the calf releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.
10. No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.
11. When the contestant calls for the calf, no further assistance can take place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the calf. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, contestant will receive a no time.
12. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.
13. A contestant will receive a five second penalty for the run if he brings the animal over backwards (between 10 and 2 on a standard clock) with the animal landing on his back or head with all four feet in the air.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. In any timed event if animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.
2. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
3. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.

4. A calf must be rerun before it is used by another contestant.
5. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.
6. If there must be a rerun of calves to complete a go-round, all calves must be tied down before any stock is drawn.
7. In Tie-Down Roping, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the calf roper remains behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.

#### **VI. Optional Rules:**

1. At any rodeo in any roping event, State/Province Associations may implement a ground rule limiting calf roper to one loop. Not to apply to State/Province or National Finals.
2. Electric timers are optional at State/Province level.

#### **VII. Equipment**

1. Piggling String – a piece of rope used for securing animals.
2. Cattle neck ropes on calves must be tied with string, or rubber bands.
3. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on cattle neck ropes in the Tie-Down Roping event.
4. Adjustable slide shall be used on all cattle neck ropes for cattle used in Tie-Down Roping event.
5. A mechanical barrier must be used.

#### **VIII. Livestock Requirements:**

1. Calves must be uniform in weight and breed.
2. Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
3. If after one go-round has been completed, a fresh calf has to be used, the calf must be roped and tied before the drawing, but if extra calves have been tied at that rodeo they will not be considered fresh.
4. During any performance if an animal escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by the contestant, or if an automatic barrier fails to work and the stock is brought back, that animal will be returned by the arena director and the labor crew during or at the end of that performance in the same manner he was originally worked or brought to the pens for contesting. At least several head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-

penned by itself. Decisions will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.

5. Boys' Tie-Down Roping Calves, weight recommendations:
  - a. Minimum weight 180 lbs.
  - b. Maximum weight 250 lbs.
6. If horned, calves horn size: Tipped to a dime and no longer than two inches.

#### **IX. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.
2. Once a contestant has been flagged out, he will receive no stock back.
3. Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of the next contestant.
4. Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants each performance.
5. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.
6. Barrier judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
7. Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.
8. Flagger must watch calf during the six second period.
9. Judge will start six (6) second time when roper remounts and his horse has taken one step forward. If roper's rope comes off calf as roper starts to work with tie, the six (6) second time will start when roper clears the calf.
10. Rope will not be removed, and rope must remain slack until field judge has passed on tie.
11. Start watch, and then watch calf, counting to six seconds.
12. If the horse excessively drags the calf after roper has dismounted, field judge may stop horse. (safety)
13. If a calf kicks loose, the judge will stopwatch and check time to determine if tie was legal.

### **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Tie-Down Roping Rules with the following addition:**

1. Under the General Rules subheading add Rule #17 to read:
17. If contestant is entered in the Tie-Down Roping he will not be allowed to enter the breakaway roping.

#### **II. Livestock Requirements:**

Junior High TD Weight Recommendations:



- a. Minimum weight of 160 lbs
- b. Maximum weight of 185 lbs

## **DALLY TEAM ROPING**

### **I. General Rules:**

1. Contestant may change horses in team roping.
2. Roping Box – shall be a part of the arena during team roping.
3. Refer to the Score Line Diagram in the back of this rulebook.
4. Once score line has been set in timed events, it will not be changed in that go nor can length of box be changed.
5. Lap and Tap – no barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
6. The pigtail of the barrier should not exceed 10 inches in length.
7. Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier, but the staples are pulled or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten-second fine. Otherwise, this will not be considered a broken barrier.
8. If automatic barrier does not work but time is recorded, team will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.
9. If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock is qualified on in the field, therefore, entitling contestant to a rerun without penalties.
10. If automatic barrier fails to work, and stock is brought back, contestants must take the same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.
11. If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestants try the animal, they accept animal. If contestants pull up, they will receive the same animal back.
12. Steer belongs to contestants when they call for it, regardless of what happens with the following exceptions:
  - a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump, or any loop used.
  - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
  - c. If, in the opinion of the line judge, contestant is fouled by barrier, contestants shall get their steer back, providing they declare themselves by pulling up. A contestant's rope cannot be fouled by the pull rope.

- d. In case the field judge flags out a team that still legally has one or more loops coming, the judge may give the same steer back, lap and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalties. If time was not recorded, the team will receive a 10-second penalty for any loop used. Team only get to use remaining loops.
13. A contestant must be on his/her horse and his/her horse must break the plane of the barrier with his/her draw breaking the plane of the score line before he/she is allowed to compete.
14. Time to be taken between two flags.
15. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
16. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

## **II. Time Limit:**

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National High School Finals Rodeo.

The judge will determine legitimate time allowed before contestant calls for animal.

## **III. Event Rules:**

1. This event is to be one event only. It may be entered as 2 boys, 2 girls, or 1 boy and 1 girl on one team. Only four teams may qualify for National High School Finals Rodeo, except for all ties for fourth position team.
2. Partners' points shall be added together to form a team at District/State/Province Finals. If either partner is disqualified, both are out of team roping.
3. A dally team roper can only enter once at any rodeo with the partner of his or her choice. **OPTIONAL AT STATE/PROVINCE LEVEL:** however, a team roping contestant with no partner may request a partner be supplied as a drawn partner from a volunteer list of entered team roping contestants. This option is available only four times. Thereafter, the team roping contestant must enter with a partner. No points will be awarded to the drawn partner. No drawn partners will be allowed at State/Province Finals Rodeos. They must, however, use the partner with which they qualified at the State/Province Finals to enter the National High School Finals Rodeo, unless his or her partner cannot attend the National High School Finals Rodeo, then he or she can pick a new partner, provided the new partner had competed at their State/Province Finals in Team Roping.

4. At the National Finals, after the required contestant check in deadline, a partner may be chosen from a state/province team member, provided chosen member participated at said state/province finals and is on ground, and team has not competed.
5. All changes in lists of roping order to split horses, etc., must be made before any stock for that event is loaded in chute.
6. After stock is loaded, ropers must rope in order listed.
7. Header will start behind barrier using either box, and must throw the first loop at head.
8. Heeler must start from behind barrier line.
9. Time will be taken when steer is roped, both horses facing steer in line with ropes dallied and tight, horse's front feet must be on the ground.
10. Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one rope.
11. Each team allowed three throws in all.
12. At the National High School Finals Rodeo only, a team can carry only two loops in the first two go-rounds.
13. Roping steer without turning loose of the loop will be considered a no catch.
14. Roper must dally to stop steer or change steer's direction.
15. No tied ropes allowed.
16. The word "dally" means one complete turn around the horn.
17. Ropers must be mounted when time is taken.
18. No foul catches can be removed by hand.
19. If steer is roped by one horn, roper is not allowed to ride up and put rope over other horn or head with his hands.
20. If the heeler ropes a front foot or feet in the heel loop, this is a foul catch. Neither contestant may remove the front foot or feet from loop by hand. However, should the front foot or feet come out of the heel loop by the time the field judge drops his flag, time will be counted.
21. In case the field flag judge flags out a team that still legally has one or more loops coming, the judge may give the same steer back lap and tap, plus time already lapsed and any barrier penalty.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
2. Timed event judge will not flag contestants out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestants out if run is not legal.
4. There will be a ten-second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.
5. Roping steer without releasing loop from hand will disqualify catch.
6. Contestants will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of steer or their horses.

7. There will be only three (3) legal head catches:
  - a. Both horns.
  - b. Half a head.
  - c. Around the neck.
8. If hondo passes over one horn, the loop over the other, the catch is illegal.
9. If loop crosses itself in the head catch, it is illegal. This does not include heel catches.
10. No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him/her. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.
11. When the contestant calls for the steer, no further assistance can take place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the steer. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, contestant will receive a no time.
12. Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope goes up heels.
13. One hind foot receives five-second penalty.
14. The direction of the steer's body must be changed before the heel loop can be thrown. Any loop thrown before the completion of the initial switch will be considered a crossfire and no time will be recorded. However, if the steer stops or sets up before the switch, it must only be moving forward for the heel loop to be legal.
15. Steer must not be handled roughly at any time, and ropers may be disqualified if, in the opinion of the field judge, they have intentionally done so.
16. In the event a team roper is disqualified or injured at a multi-go-round rodeo, that team will be eliminated from that event.
17. If header accidentally jerks steer off his feet or steer trips or falls, header must not drag steer over eight feet before steer regains his feet or team will receive no score.
18. If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the steer releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.
19. Broken rope or dropped rope will be considered no time.
20. If the front foot is in the loop when the header dallies, turns off and changes the direction of the steer, it will be an automatic no time.
21. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.

2. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.
3. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestants leave the arena.
4. A steer must be rerun before it is used by another contestant.
5. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.
6. If artificial horns are jerked off, contestants will receive rerun on same steer, with no penalties other than barrier penalties.
7. In team roping, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the header and heeler remain behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.

#### **VI. Optional Rules:**

1. At any rodeo in any roping event, State/Province Associations may implement a ground rule limiting team ropers to one loop each roper. Not to apply to State/Province or National Finals.
2. Electric timers are optional at State/Province level.

#### **VII. Equipment:**

1. Cattle neck ropes on steers must be tied with string, or rubber bands.
2. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on cattle neck ropes in the team roping event.
3. Adjustable slide shall be used on all cattle neck ropes for cattle used in team roping event.
4. A mechanical barrier must be used.

#### **VIII. Livestock Requirement:**

1. Steers must be uniform in weights and breed.
2. Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
3. All steers shall have horns properly wrapped.
4. During any performance, if an animal escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by the contestants, or if an automatic barrier fails to work and the stock is brought back, that animal will be returned by the arena director and the labor crew during or at the end of that performance in the same manner he was originally worked or brought to the pens for contesting. At least three (3)

head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-penned by itself. Decisions will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.

5. Cattle may be steers and heifers with horns.
6. Horns to be tipped to the size of a dime.

#### **IX. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge and a barrier judge.
2. A field flag judge must ask contestants if they want a second loop. Once contestants have been flagged out, they will receive no stock back.
3. Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of next contestant.
4. Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants, each performance.
5. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.
6. If barrier flagman is used, the animal is to be flagged when crossing starting or deadline, in front of flagman.
7. Barrier judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
8. A tape must be on hand for the barrier judge to measure score line.
9. Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.
10. Adjusting length of barrier trip rope will be accomplished only by tying knots in the rope on either end.
11. Any questions as to catches in this event will be decided by the judges.

### **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

#### **I. Refer to NHSRA Dally Team Roping Rules.**

### **(JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION)**

#### **RIBBON ROPING**

#### **I. General Rules:**

1. The point system in the ribbon roping will follow the same criteria as the team roping.
2. This is a mixed event only, one boy and one girl. Either can be the roper or runner.
3. Roping Box shall be part of the arena during the roping events.
4. Once score line has been set in timed events it will not be changed

- in that go nor, can the length of the box.
5. Lap and Tap- No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
  6. It is always the decision of the barrier judge whether the barrier is broken.
  7. Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier, but the staples are pulled or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten second fine. Otherwise, this will be considered a broken barrier.
  8. If automatic barrier does not work but time is recorded, contestant will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.
  9. If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock qualified on in the field, entitling contestant to a rerun without penalties.
  10. If automatic barrier fails to work, and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.
  11. If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestant tries the animal, he/she accepts the animal. If contestant pulls up, he/she will receive the same animal back.
  12. Calf belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
    - a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with the lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run.
    - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
    - c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by barrier, contestant shall get his calf back, providing contestant declares himself/herself by pulling up.
  13. In the ribbon roping a horse must clear the box before a loop is thrown.
  14. The finish line will be marked 30 feet in front of the roping box. Flag judge stands on this line.
  15. Time to be taken between two flags.
  16. It shall be the judge's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.
  17. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

## II. Time Limit:

There will be thirty (30) second time limit with a one-minute time limit option at state/provincial finals rodeos. There will be a one (1) loop limit in all go-rounds at all rodeos.

## III. Event Rules:

1. A neck rope must be used. Contestants must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent the horse from dragging the calf.
2. Calves may be pushed out by contestant's assistant providing they are ready.
3. Catch as catch can. Any catch that holds the calf is legal.
4. Rope must be tied on.
5. Runner can stand anywhere they choose in the arena, on the opposite side of the 30 ft. finish line from the roping box.
6. Roper must rope calf, dismount and be in contact with the calf when the Runner removes the ribbon or team will receive a no time. Calf does not need to be flanked.
7. Runner must cross finish line to get time.
8. Flag judge will flag time when runner crosses finish line with ribbon in hand and give to judge or team will receive a no time.
9. Ribbon – flagging tape shall be approximately ½ inch in width and 12 inches long.
10. The ribbon itself must be fastened to the top of the tail with a rubber band.
11. The runner removes the ribbon and runs across the finish line in either direction for time.
12. Ribbon must be removed by runner.
13. Any part of the ribbon is legal.
14. Rope must hold calf until roper touches calf.
15. A contestant will receive a 5 second penalty for the run if they bring the animal over backwards (between 10 and 2 on a standard clock) with the animal landing on his back or head with all four feet in the air.
16. OPTIONAL AT STATE/PROVINCE LEVEL: A Ribbon Roping contestant with no partner may request a partner be supplied as a draw partner from a volunteered list of entered Ribbon Roping contestants. This option is available only four times. Thereafter, the Ribbon Roping contestant must enter with a partner. No points will be awarded to the drawn partner. No draw partners will be allowed at State/Province Finals Rodeos. They must however use the partner with which they qualified at the State/Province Finals to enter the National Junior High Finals Rodeo unless his or her partner cannot attend the National Junior High Finals Rodeo than he or she can pick a new partner, provided the new partner had competed in their State/Province Finals in Ribbon Roping.



17. At the National Finals, after the required contestant check in deadline, a partner may be chosen from a state/province team member, provided chosen member participated at said state/province finals and is on ground, and team has not competed.

#### **IV. Scoring and Penalties:**

1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
4. There will be a ten-second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.
5. Roping calf without releasing loop from hand will disqualify catch.
6. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of calf or his horse.
7. If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the calf releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.
8. No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him/her. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.
9. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all rodeos.

#### **V. Reruns:**

1. In any timed event if animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with the lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.
2. No rerun will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by the contestant.
3. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.
4. A calf must be rerun before it is used by another contestant.
5. When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.
6. In ribbon roping, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the roper remains behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.
7. If the roper has legally roped the calf and there is no ribbon on the calf when the runner reaches the calf the team will get a rerun.

## **VI. Optional Rules:**

1. Electric timers are optional at State/Province level.

## **VII. Livestock Requirements:**

1. Weight Recommendations:
  - a. Beef Cattle – Minimum Weight 180 lbs — Maximum Weight 210 lbs.  
Dairy Cattle – Maximum Weight 300 lbs.
2. Calves horn size: Tipped to a dime and no longer than two inches.

## **VIII. Officials:**

1. There shall be two or more timers, a field judge, and a barrier flag judge.
2. Field judge may be mounted in order to keep up with the run. Barrier flag judge is to watch the barrier and step to the 30-foot line to flag the time.
3. Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of the next contestant.
4. Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants each performance.
5. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.
6. Barrier judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
7. Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.

# **CUTTING HORSE EVENT**

## **I. General Rules:**

Cutting horse event will use NCHA rules when not in conflict with NHSRA rules. Contestant may change horses in the cutting event.

## **II. Optional Rules:**

1. Cuttings may be optional at state/province qualifying and district qualifying rodeos.
  - a. States/Provinces may hold their Cutting Finals earlier than their State/Province Finals Rodeo. If they choose to, the Cutting Finals must be held within 60 days of the State/Province Finals Rodeo.
  - b. Optional cuttings must be approved by state/province board of director's prior to start of rodeo season.
  - c. If optional cuttings are approved by state/province, all member clubs will be notified by state/province secretary by mail, email or website, prior to start of rodeo season (NO EXCEPTIONS).

- d. If optional cutting are approved, points may be used for an award for the All-Arounds for that qualifying rodeo.
  - e. All-around points in cutting will only be awarded at state/province and district finals and will count towards both year-end and state finals all-around.
2. Boys and girls cutting must be offered at all state/province and district finals.
    - a. All cuttings at state/province and district finals and qualifying rodeos will be run in accordance with NHSRA rulebook.
    - b. All cuttings will be approved on activity sheet by National Director and the National Executive Director.
  3. All states/provinces will hold a minimum of three (3) cuttings at qualifying level.
    - a. Group cuttings are encouraged to increase number of cuttings and reduce cost to rodeo committee.
    - b. States/Provinces are encouraged to hold as many cuttings as possible.

### **III. Event Rules:**

1. Horse's name will not be announced, only the contestant's name and number may be announced.
2. In the Cutting Event, first go-round will be drawn. Working order positions within the pre-drawn performance of the second go-round will be randomly drawn. Positions will be drawn for final go-round.
3. National Cutting Horse Association open rules will be followed when not in conflict with NHSRA Rules.
4. Standing rules and rules for judging.
  - a. No two (2) boys or two (2) girls can ride the same horse.
  - b. A contestant may drop out of cutting contest, due to injury to himself or horse. A Dr. or DVM excuse must be presented to the Arena Director to release contestant.
  - c. All contestants will work at the appointed time so designated by the arena director or be disqualified. Horses are to be judged on performance only, regardless of conformation, sex, age, color, appearance, previous performance or breed.
  - d. Each judge must sign his score card and the rodeo secretary shall post same in a conspicuous place immediately following each performance. There must not be any consultation between judges until after score cards are turned in and after cards are turned in there will be no changes. When two or more individuals are judging a cutting contest and one or two judges cannot complete judging of a go-round, the score or scores of the remaining judge or judges who complete the go-round will be the sole basis of computing the go-round. Each judge must score each horse individually, and if any one of his scores is counted in a go-round, all of his scores must be counted.

Judges must be mounted or seated on stands high enough to see clearly.

- e. A contestant may be awarded a complete rework if, in the judge or judges' opinion, 2 1/2 minutes time was not allotted for the work, or if excessive disturbance has been created by factors other than these caused by the contestants or their help and the judge or judges have stopped the time. Such unavoidable factors would include gates coming open, or spectators or workmen disturbing the cattle, but would not apply to cattle scattering through wildness or normal arena activities. In the case of wild cattle, plenty of time should be given to settle the herd before the first horse works. Any rework must take place within the group of cattle drawn by the contestant and must occur before a change of cattle is executed. Each horse must have the same rider throughout the contest.
  - f. When a contestant is thrown from a horse, or falls off a horse, or horse falls to ground, a penalty should be imposed. But if rider can remount and resume work, both horse and rider are entitled to complete the balance of their allotted time and the amount of penalty imposed should be in accordance with the circumstances causing such a fall. The time allotted each horse to work is 2 1/2 minutes; time to start when horse crosses start line. This gives the rider ample time to ride the herd and work as many cattle as the rider sees fit in the allotted time. Any rider who allows his horse to quit working or leaves the area before his allotted time is up will be disqualified for that go-round with no score. If elimination is held, the same rider must ride in the elimination and contest.
  - g. A mark of 60 is considered a zero and will receive no points. Example: With a two-judge system, a score of 60 and 61 would give the contestant a total score of 61.
5. The following rules were adopted as a judging standard of Cutting Horse Contest after due consideration and careful study by the National Cutting Horse Association. Attention was given to the fact that no two cattle when cut from a herd will act alike. These rules constitute a fair basis for judging all Cutting Horses in contest and determining both their good work and occasional bad habits.
- a. A horse will be given credit for his ability to enter a herd of cattle and bring one out with very little disturbance to the herd or to the one brought-out. If he (or his rider) creates unnecessary disturbance at any time throughout his working period, he will be penalized.
  - b. When an animal is cut from the herd, it is more desirable that it be taken toward the center of the arena and credit should be given for the same. No penalty should be assessed if the animal is cut and driven down the arena fence. The horse should

never get ahead of the animal and duck it back toward the herd to get more play but should let the turn back man turn it back to him. Credit should be given the horse which drives its stock sufficient distance from the herd to assure that the herd will not be disturbed by his work; thereby showing his ability to drive a cow.

- c. A horse will be penalized 3 points each time the back fence is used for turn back purposes; the back fence to be agreed on and designated by the judge or judges before the contest starts; meaning the actual fence only, no imaginary line from point to point is to be considered. If any of the contestants voice an objection, before the contest starts, the judge or judges shall take a vote of the contestants, and a "back fence" acceptable to the majority shall be designated and used.
- d. If a horse runs into the herd, scatters the herd, lanes or circles the herd against the arena fence while cutting, he will be penalized heavily.
- e. If a horse turns the wrong way with tail toward animal being worked, he will be disqualified for that go-round with no score.
- f. A horse will be penalized one (1) point each time he is reined or visibly cued in any manner. If he is reined or cued several times during a performance, he will be penalized each time. When a horse is picked up hard with the reins and set over, one reined, or spurred in the shoulder, a heavier penalty will be marked against him.
- g. Credit shall be given for riding with loose rein throughout a performance. For riding with a tight rein throughout a performance, a penalty will be given; for part of the time during a performance, or for bumping the bits, less penalty.
- h. If a horse lets an animal that he is working get back in the herd, he will be penalized 5 points.
- i. Credit should be given for setting up a cow and holding it in a working position as near the center of the arena as possible. When a horse goes past an animal to the degree he loses his working advantage, he will be penalized each time he does so. If a horse goes past as much as a length, he will be assessed a heavier penalty. Unnecessary roughness, such as a horse actually pawing or biting cattle, will incur a penalty.
- j. A contestant may quit an animal when it is obviously stopped, obviously turned away, or is obviously behind the turn back horse. A penalty of three (3) points must be charged if the animal is quit under any other circumstances.
- k. A judge marks from 60 to 80 points. An average performance should be marked around 70 points. A judge should be careful not to mark an average performance too high because the next horse that shows may put on a top performance that deserves

5 or 6 points above average, and if the average performance was marked 75, that would leave no room to give the top horse the credit he deserves above the other. Winning points will be based on a horse's ability to work cattle and the amount of play he gets from the animal during the performance. In other words, if a horse gets good play and shows plenty of abilities to cut cattle and the judge thinks he deserves a 78 marking for what he did, but he assessed a 3-point penalty against him for reining, he would mark him 75. One-half (1/2) points are permissible.

- l. If at no fault of the horse, additional cattle leave the herd, no penalty will be assessed. If at fault of the horse additional cattle are picked up from the herd, he shall be assessed a penalty of 3 points.
- m. If a horse quits a cow or must be restarted by his rider a penalty of 5 points will be assessed.
- n. If a horse clears the herd with 2 or more cattle and fails to separate a single animal before quitting, a 5-point penalty will be charged.
- o. The score from each go-round will be added together to get the top horses for Finals.
- p. The score a horse had made in go-round performance will be added to the score he makes in Finals to determine the winner of contest.
- q. In a contest where there are no Finals, the score of each go-round added together will determine the winner of that contest.
- r. The committee must determine how many horses will be worked in each group of cattle. After the draw, absent horses shall be counted toward cattle changes and horses will work as drawn in each group of cattle.
- s. A judge (or judges) shall present in writing any grievance that he may have against contestants or show to an officer, director, secretary, or duly elected or appointed representative of the National High School Rodeo Association at the time of the grievance, and his case will be reviewed by the appropriate committee.
- t. A judge shall conduct himself in a manner fitting and proper to one afforded the honor of officiating at any NHSRA approved contest. Any misconduct on the part of the judge at any NHSRA approved rodeo, such as drinking immediately prior the contest, the use of abusive language, showing obvious favoritism to, or discrimination against, either an individual or a horse performing in the contest, or any misconduct unbecoming to one in his position will make him subject to a complete and impartial hearing of the cause of the complaint before the appropriate committee.

#### **IV. Equipment:**

1. No choke ropes, tie-downs, or wire around the horse's neck will be permitted. Horse must be ridden with a bridle (with bits in the mouth and no noseband or bosal), or hackamore. Hackamore must be loose noseband with no metal parts, only rope or braided rawhide. A man must be able to pass his hand between the noseband and the muzzle completely around the horse's nose. Any wire, tight noseband or mechanical device that will give a rider undue control over a horse must not be used in contest. Breast harness may be used. The rider must keep his hand free from horse's mane and breast harness. The judges will have authority to have rider remove anything they think would be unfair to use in a contest. Chaps and spurs may be worn. Quirt or bat must not be carried. Any time a contestant is guilty of an infraction of this rule, or any part thereof, he shall be penalized 10 points by each judge. A judge has the right to have a contestant report to him if he is suspicious of any infraction of this rule.

#### **V. Self-Adjusted Monitor System (SAMS):**

Self-Adjusted Monitor System may be used at the National High School Finals Rodeo and only if three or more judges are used:

Self-Adjusted Monitor System may be used at the State/Province High School Finals Rodeo and only if one or more judges are used:

If SAMS is used, it will be announced to the contestants in the contestant's packet prior to the NHSFR.

- I. There will be no adjustment to the following:
  - a. No changes in run content.
  - b. No change in one (1) point penalties.
  - c. No review of any run not reported to the announcer at the time the judge calls in his score.
- II. The following criteria will be followed when either a three (3) or a five (5) point penalty is in question on the judge's card. The judge must report the score and indicate that a review will take place on that particular score. For instance, if a horse has a completed run with run content score of 74 and has incurred a three (3) point infraction, he must designate the specific infraction in the appropriate penalty box. If the judge wishes to review the penalty, he will report the score as follows to the announcer: "74R". The announcer must announce "74R" for the review to be valid, and this announcement must be made when the run is complete and before the next run takes place. It is the judge's responsibility to be sure the call indicating the "R" is announced. At the same time he records his score with the "R", he circles the penalty to indicate where the review will be made. All reviews should be made during

a cattle change, but in no case will the review be permitted to take place during the following class. A judge must resolve any and all reviews in that particular class before moving on to the next class. If the judge, after reviewing the video tape, decides that his score must be lowered based on the penalty review, he does the following:

- a. He leaves the original mark for the horse and circle in place. He does not erase the original mark or alter it in any way.
- b. Next to the original score and circle he indicates the new score and initials same. If there is no room on that horse's score line, a judge may use the bottom of his judge's sheet or the back of his score sheet to record the "adjusted" score and initial the change. Under no circumstances should the judge use another piece of paper or any other means to indicate a change of score. The judge then turns his score sheet in to the Cutting Secretary and the announcer will make the following statement:  
"Contestant #, Contestant Name, has a score of 74 (if no adjustment) or 71 if adjusted."

If there are more adjustments in that group of cattle, each announcement will be the same.

Under this system, it is imperative that the Arena Director and Cutting Secretary enforce each and every rule pertaining to "judge-contestant" contact. If a contestant makes any contact with the judge over the review process before, during or after the process, the contestant will be disqualified. The system is being implemented not only as an aid to assist the judge but also to provide the contestant with a more fair and accurate score.

To aid this system, the NHSRA must provide video equipment by which the review process can take place. Any system will work as long as it provides a clear picture and is consistent for all contestants. The procedure has been designed to add an element of fairness to the judging system and the better the review process and equipment, the easier the review becomes.

#### **VI. Summary of "SAMS" for judges:**

1. Deal with the three (3) and five (5) point penalties only. You are never to re-judge the run or the run content or adjust any one (1) point penalties.
2. Make your call after careful thought process and move on to the next review. Do not dwell on the call. Our current system has taught us that after three reruns of the same situation the judge should have a working knowledge and basis in fact for a decision.
3. The review should rule in favor of the contestant if a penalty



- situation does not have an absolute conclusion.
4. Do not let the review process affect your concentration or confidence. All judges will make an error, and the review process will increase your capacity to make the correct call when the situation reoccurs. The goal of any judging system is to put the horses in the proper order.
  5. The penalty review will not have any impact on the run content except to add or subtract the penalty value (3 or 5 points) to the score.

To recap, here are the important points:

- a. Record your score as normal. Designate the appropriate penalty for reviews.
- b. Communicate your score to the announcer, i.e. 74R.
- c. Review the major penalty only; 3 or 5 points as designated.
- d. Complete the reviews and make the class complete before moving to the next class.

In the event of equipment failure, all scores reviewed or not reviewed will re-main official, and the judge continues to mark his card in the normal fashion.

**Two or three judges—one uses the “R” and the other(s) did not:**

The judge(s) marking the “R” will review the situation first. If the judge(s) do not change their score, the other judge(s) will not be required to look at the run. If the judge(s) change the score, then the other judge(s) will be required to review the situation. This should be done totally separate with no communication between the judges during the reviews.

**Two or three judges—no “R” is called:**

If during any run one judge calls a major penalty (3 or 5 points) and the judges do not call a review, then all judges must look at that particular situation, separately with no communication among them. It is the Cutting Secretary’s responsibility to review each judge’s scorecard to determine if there are any major penalties (3 or 5 points). They may agree there is, or is not, a penalty. The purpose is that all judges reviewed the situation. This is to better help the judges and also the contestants.

## **REINED COW HORSE**

### **I. General Rules:**

REINED COW HORSE will use NRCHA rules when not in conflict with NHSRA rules. Contestant may change horses in the Reined Cow Horse throughout the season. A Contestant may not change horses between the rein work and cow work portion of an event.

1. Reined Cow Horse must be offered at all State/Province Finals. States/Provinces will have two options in conducting their qualify Reined Cow Horses.
  - a. Option I: Reined Cow Horse will be held at or assigned to each qualifying rodeo. All points earned in the Reined Cow Horse will be applied to the All Around.
  - b. Option II: The Reined Cow Horse will be offered at a minimum of three (3) times at the qualifying level. If optional Reined Cow Horse are approved, points may be used for an award for the All-Arounds for that qualifying rodeo.
  - c. Choice of Option I or Option II must be approved by the State/Province Board of Directors prior to the rodeo season. The decision must be conveyed to state/province membership and the NHSRA office prior to start of rodeo season.
2. The State/Province may hold their Reined Cow Horse Finals prior to their State/Province Finals Rodeo. If they choose to do so, the Reined Cow Horse must be held within 60 days of the State/Province Finals Rodeo.
  - a. All Reined Cow Horse must be approved on an activity sheet by the National Director and the National Executive Director.
  - b. States/Provinces are encouraged to hold as many Reined Cow Horse events as possible. Holding multiple events or events with local NRCHA associations may help to reduce cost.
3. All states/provinces will hold a minimum of three (3) Reined Cow Horses at the qualifying level.

## **II. Event Rules:**

1. Reined Cow Horse is co-ed. Boys and girls will compete in the same event.
2. Horse's name will not be announced; only the contestant's name and number may be announced.
3. In the Reined Cow Horse, each go round will be randomly drawn.
4. National Reined Cow Horse Association Open rules will be followed when not in conflict with NHSRA Rules.
5. Standing rules and rules for judging.
  - a. No two exhibitors can ride the same horse.
  - b. A contestant may drop out of the cow horse contest, due to injury to himself or horse.
  - c. All contestants will work at the appointed time so designated by the arena director or be disqualified. Horses are to be judged on performance only, regardless of conformation, sex, age, color, appearance, previous performance or breed.
  - d. Each judge must sign his/her score card and the rodeo secretary shall post the score cards in a conspicuous place immediately following each performance. There must not be any consultation between judges until after score cards are turned in and after

cards are turned in there will be no changes. Mathematical corrections can be made within one hour of the class ending. When two or more individuals are judging a cow horse contest and one or two judges cannot complete judging of a go-round, the score or scores of the remaining judge or judges who complete the go-round will be the sole basis of computing the go-round. Each judge must score each horse individually, and if any one of his scores is counted in a go-round, all of his scores must be counted. Judges must be mounted or seated on stands high enough to see clearly.

- e. When a contestant is thrown from a horse, or falls off a horse, or horse falls to ground, the work is terminated and a score of zero will be given for that part of the run. i.e. If a rider is thrown from a horse during the rein work, he or she may re-mount to complete the cow work portion of the event for a score.
6. The following rules were adopted as a judging standard of Cow Horse contest after due consideration and careful study by the National Reined Cow Horse Association. Attention was given to the fact that no two cattle will act alike. These rules constitute a fair basis for judging all Cow Horses in contest and determining both their good work and occasional bad habits. The reined work and the cow work will be judged separately from zero to 80. The two scores are added together for the final score. A total score of more than 110 will be required to receive placing or points.
- a) A judge marks from zero to 80 points. An average performance should be marked 70 points. A judge should be careful not to mark an average performance too high because the next horse that shows may put on a top performance that deserves 5 or 6 points above average, and if the average performance was marked 75, that would leave no room to give the top horse the credit he deserves above the other.
  - b) A judge (or judges) shall present in writing any grievance that he may have against contestants or show to an officer, director, secretary, or duly elected or appointed representative of the National High School Rodeo Association at the time of the grievance, and his/her case will be reviewed by the appropriate committee.
  - c) A judge shall conduct himself in a manner fitting and proper to one afforded the honor of officiating at any NHSRA approved contest. Any misconduct on the part of the judge at any NHSRA approved rodeo, such as drinking immediately prior the contest, the use of abusive language, showing obvious favoritism to, or discrimination against, either an individual or a horse performing in the contest, or any misconduct unbecoming to one in his position will make him subject to a complete and impartial hearing of the cause of the complaint before the appropriate committee.

- d) NHSRA cow horse judges do not have to be NRCHA approved judges. Judges should have equine experience and expertise, as well as good personal character and conduct. Judges must have a good understanding of the sport, rules and purpose of the cow horse event.

### **III. Equipment:**

1. No choke ropes, tiedowns, or wire around the horse's neck will be permitted. Horse must be ridden with a bridle (with bit in the mouth and no noseband or bosal), or hackamore. Clarification: A two-rein rig is considered a bridle and legal piece of equipment. The bosalita piece of the two-rein rig is not considered a noseband or bosal. Hackamore must be made of rawhide and have no metal parts. Any wire, tight noseband or mechanical device that will give a rider undue control over a horse must not be used in contest. Reins must be romal reins or split reins and must not be made of nylon (no roping reins). If showing in a bridle, romal or split reins riders must show one handed. If showing in a bridle, two handed in the romal or split reins will result in a score of zero. If showing in a snaffle bit, split must be used shown two handed. Breast harness may be used. The rider must keep his hand free from horse's mane and breast harness. The judges will have authority to have rider remove anything they think would be unfair to use in a contest. Chaps and spurs may be worn. Quirt or bat must not be carried. Any time a contestant is guilty of an infraction of this rule, or any part thereof, he shall be penalized 10 points by each judge. A judge has the right to have a contestant report to him if he is suspicious of any infraction of this rule.
2. Bits: Snaffle bits mean the conventional O-ring, egg-butt or D-ring with a ring no larger than 4" in diameter (100 mm). The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage. The mouthpiece should be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal. It may be inlaid, but smooth or latex-wrapped. The bars must be a minimum of 5/16" (8 mm) in diameter, measured one inch (25 mm) in from the cheek with a gradual decrease to center of the snaffle. The mouthpiece may be two or three pieces. A three-piece, connecting ring of 1 1/4" (32 mm) or less in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 3/8" to 3/4" (10 mm to 20 mm) measured top to bottom, with a maximum length of 2" (50 mm), which lies flat in the horse's mouth, is acceptable. Optional leather strap attached below the reins on a snaffle bit is acceptable. Bit means the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical device. Shanks may be fixed or loose; concerning mouthpieces, bars must be round, oval or egg shaped, smooth and

unwrapped metal of 5/16" to 3/4" (8 mm to 20 mm) in diameter, measured 1" (25 mm) from the cheek. However, wire on the sway bars (above the bars and attaching to the spade) of a traditional spade bit is acceptable. They may be inlaid but must be smooth or latex wrapped. Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs, including upward prongs on solid mouthpieces. The mouthpiece may be two or three pieces. A three-piece, connecting ring of 1 1/4" (32 mm) or less in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 3/8" to 3/4" (10mm to 20 mm) measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2" (50 mm), which lies flat in the horse's mouth, is acceptable; the port must be no higher than 3 1/2" (90 mm) maximum, with rollers and covers acceptable. Broken mouthpieces, half breeds and spades are standard; gag bits, donut and flat polo mouthpieces are not acceptable; a curb bit must be used with a curb strap or curb chain properly attached so as to make contact with horse's chin;

3. A horse of any age may be shown in any legal bridle, snaffle or hackmore as described without incurring any penalty. A horse shown in a bridle (any bit that is not a snaffle or hackamore) must be shown one handed in romal or split reins. Showing two handed, or touching a rein with a second hand, in any legal bridle will result in a score of zero.
4. It is recommended for safety reasons that a breast collar and back cinch should be used.

#### **IV. Self-Adjusted Monitor System:**

1. Definition: A self-adjusted monitor system may be used when judging the reined cow horse. When there is a major penalty marked by at least one judge, and at least one of the other judges did not mark it, a review of the penalty is mandatory. A major penalty is defined as a 2 point penalty or greater in the rein and cow work.
2. Show management has the right to consult the NRCHA Director of Judges at any time with regard to the Self-Adjusted Monitor System.

#### **V. Reined Work – Maneuver Scores for Reined Work:**

Score sheets and reining patterns are available from the NRCHA or NHSRA website. The NRCHA has divided each rein pattern into sets of maneuvers. It is the judge's responsibility to evaluate these maneuver groups individually and rate each maneuver group on the following scale:

-1 1/2	Extremely Poor
-1	Very Poor
-1/2	Poor

0	Correct
+1/2	Good
+1	Very Good
+1 1/2	Excellent

Horses shall work individually. Judging begins the moment the horse enters the arena. There will be no schooling from the time the horse enters the arena. A reined work must consist of the following: circles, lead changes and runs terminating in well-balanced stops straight to the line of travel, turns and a back-up of a reasonable distance with slight hesitations denoting each maneuver. The judge may deviate from traditional order of performance and he/she may also deviate from the official pattern(s). Any modifications to the pattern(s) must be posted 1 hour prior to the start of the cow horse event. The judging ends when the rider indicates he/she is finished by coming to a complete stop.

The best reined horse shall be easily guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. Bad manners exhibited by the horse will be penalized. All deviations from the exact given pattern will result in an automatic score of 50 and the run may be subject to further penalties. Credit shall be given for the smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the difficulty level and makes the horse more exciting and pleasing to watch.

**Circles:** Circles are a controlled maneuver at the lope in the designated area of the arena. Emphasis on the scoring shall be given to the contestant exhibiting smooth, controlled figure eights with easy lead changes. Right and left circles shall have a common center line in the middle of the designated area. Circles shall be run and/or begun on the correct lead. The speed and size of the right circles shall be exactly the same as the speed and size of the left circles. The horse shall lope in an even, fluid manner with a minimum of rider contact and/or commands. Circles shall be run far enough from arena wall that it does not affect the circles.

**Lead Changes:** The act of changing the propelling side of the horse's body when changing the direction traveling at a lope. The lead change may be a flying lead change or a simple lead change. The simple lead change may involve up to 3 strides of jogging. It is important to note one stride is defined as the complete movement or steps of all 4 legs, one time.

**Jogging:** Jogging beyond 2 strides will incur a 2-point penalty. Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena will result in

an automatic score of 60 and the run may be subject to further penalties.

**Run-Downs:** Runs lengthwise through the arena. They shall be made as described in the given pattern, unless the judge indicated otherwise due to arena conditions. The horse shall demonstrate a relaxed fluid attitude when starting a run-down and throughout the maneuver. The horse shall use controlled speed consistent with the size of the arena and the condition of the ground. The horse shall travel in a straight line with a minimum of contact with the rider. Straight, controlled run-downs with square, smooth stops, maintaining suppleness and proper head position are desirable.

**Stops:** Shall be in line with the direction of travel. Horse shall have its hocks well under it during the entire stop, maintaining a proper head position and response to a light rein.

**Spins:** Consistent and positioned 360-degree turns executed with the inside hind quarter (pivot) remaining stationary. Spins shall be smooth and efficient. The location of the hind quarters shall be fixed at the start of the spin. The horse shall stop the spin exactly as dictated by the pattern description. The right and left spins shall have a similar speed and balance.

**Back-up:** The horse being caused to move in a reverse motion in a straight line for a required distance. The horse shall begin the back-up in a controlled manner and shall continue to back-up without hesitation until directed to stop by the rider. In the instance where a horse backs up where a back-up is not specified in the pattern, a 3-point penalty will be incurred when the horse backs more than 2 full strides. It is important to note one stride is defined as the complete movement or steps of all 4 legs, one time. In this particular situation it is very helpful for a judge to watch and count the steps of the front feet. Up to and including 4 steps of the front feet in the not required back-up receives no penalty; five steps and beyond constitutes a 3-point penalty.

**Hesitate:** Hesitation is only long enough to show the completion of one maneuver before the next one starts. There shall be slight hesitation to indicate each maneuver.

**Definition of fall of horse:** When the horse's shoulder and hip are on the ground and all four feet are facing in one direction. Fall of horse in any event receives a score of -0- for that part of the run.

**Definition of fall of rider:** Rider is no longer astride the horse.

## **Reined Work - Penalty Points:**

### **1/2 point penalties:**

- Over or under spin 1/8 turn
- Jogging first three strides

### **1 point penalties:**

- Out of lead
- Scotching or anticipating a stop
- Over or under spinning up to 1/4 turn
- Excessive whipping or spurring (Over and Under)

### **2 point penalties:**

- Lead missed around end of arena past 2nd corner
- Failure to run by marker before stop is initiated
- Freezing up in turn
- Jogging for more than 2 strides, except when executing a flying lead change
- Breaking gait (Break of gait is defined as "when the cadence of the lope is disrupted or not maintained." Break of gait only occurs from the lope gait and where a lead change is not expected)
- On trot in patterns, failure to "Stop" before executing a lope departure
- A stop in the first one-quarter of the circle, after a lope departure, is a break of gait

### **3 Point Penalties:**

- Backing more than two strides, when backing is not called for

### **5 point penalties:**

- Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at any time
- Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate

### **10 point penalties:**

- carrying a quirt or bat

### **-60 – Score:**

- Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena

### **-50 – Score:**

- Failure to complete the pattern as given (i.e. over or under spin more than ¼. May be subject to further penalties.)

### **-0 – Score:**

- Bloody Mouth (inside)
- Illegal Equipment



- Using two hands on the reins in a bridle; romal definition: If the hand holding the romal touches the closed part of the reins it is considered two hands on the reins. Fingers between the romal reins.
- Leaving the working area before pattern is complete
- Fall of horse or rider
- A judge may blow his/her whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time

#### **No Score:**

- Abuse
- Lameness of the horse

#### **Cow Work**

Cattle will be chute run, not drawn.

#### **VI. Cow Work:**

Score sheets are available from the NRCHA or NHSRA website. Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena. At the start of the work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end.

After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence. Then the contestant shall take the cow to an open part of the arena and circle the animal at least once in each direction. The cow work is performed after the rein work. The required pattern for the cow work is: boxing, fence turns, and circles, in that order.

The judge should take into consideration the size of the arena, condition of the ground and disposition of the cattle in scoring each work. If ground, arena and/or weather conditions are deemed unfavorable by the exhibitors, they may inform the judge who may elect to alter the required cattle work for safety reasons.

The greater the difficulty of the run, the more credit should be given. The difficulty may be due to the extreme speed or stubbornness of the cow, or the cow's reluctance to move down the fence when sufficiently driven by the contestant. The most controlled cow work, with the highest degree of difficulty, that exhibits good form throughout, should be marked the highest. Bad manners exhibited by the horse will be penalized under run content. When enough cows are available the contestant should receive a new cow if the cow drawn is unreasonably difficult or unworkable. Allowing the horse to quit working before the judge signals for a new cow will result in a zero score. Once a rider has committed to circling a cow, if the cow falls down no new cow will be

awarded. The rider should complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to fulfill circling requirements. If the horse turns tail to the cow at any point during the cow work, an automatic score of 50 will be given and the run may be subject to further penalties. **Whistles:** The judge may blow his/her whistle at any time during the work. One whistle to terminate the work, two whistles to award a new cow. If the judge feels the exhibitor is out of control or has exhausted the cow, he/she may terminate the work. If the judge awards a new cow, the exhibitor must accept the new cow or the score will result in a zero (0). If the exhibitor intends to accept the new cow, he or she must pull up immediately. With a multiple judge system, any one of the judges may terminate the work or signal for a new cow.

If at any time a judge feels that the contestant is out of control endangering themselves and/or their horse, the judge may terminate the work, and a score of zero will be given. In the case of an emergency (Such as a person falling into the arena or part of the arena falling apart) the judge may blow two whistles for a second time. At this point, the contestant has no option to continue and must receive a new cow. Contestant must pull up immediately or a score of zero will be given. Judging ends when the whistle blows. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that point.

In the case that a rider is awarded a third cow, the rider will have the option to work their new cow or to rest their horse and work their new cow at the end of the next set, If the rider is in the last set of the class they shall be afforded up to 20 minutes for their horse to recover before working the third cow.

In the cow work phase of any class one hand on the horn may be used to prevent the fall of the rider. During the cow work, when a cow leaves the working area, it is automatic that the contestant will receive a new cow and scoring will begin again with the new cow.

**Boxing:** Working the cow on the end of the arena until such time as the contestant has proven the ability of the horse to hold the cow. The horse should exhibit superior cow sense and natural cow working ability without excessive reining or spurring. In the head-to-head working position, the degree of difficulty shall be considered.

**Turning on the fence:** A fence turn is defined as. A turn in which the cow, while being run down the fence on one side of the arena, or in the "open field", is turned in a different direction and held near the same fence, or the same side of the arena, while being run in the new direction. The exhibitor must be close enough to the cow to be the cause of the turn.

The situation where a horse and rider attempt to turn the cow and the cow exits the turn behind the horse is also considered to have satisfied the fence turn requirement. The route of the cow being worked has been altered because of the influence of the horse and rider. The actual stopping or turning of the cow by the end fence will not qualify as a fence turn. To qualify as a fence turn the turn must be accomplished without the aid of the end fences to actually stop or turn the animal being worked. During the turn the horse should use himself in a controlled athletic manner, using its hocks to stop and drive out of the turn, while using its front end to balance and turn. When attempting to make an open field turn, it is preferable to separate the turn from the circles. This can be accomplished by making an open field turn, then changing sides before circling, or briefly hesitating after the open field turn before attempting to circle the animal in the same direction. In either case it is important to show separation in the circle and turn maneuvers.

The contestant must get a minimum of one turn in each direction when attempting the fence work. More than two good turns in each direction should not result in extra credit but also should not be penalized, unless the cow is thereby too exhausted to circle correctly. One turn each way may not necessarily result in extra credit if the horse and/or cow are out of control.

**Circling:** Maneuvering the cow smoothly at least 360 degrees in each direction without interference from the fence. The circle's size, symmetry, speed and relative balance from right and left show control. Tightening the circles down with fast head-to-head speed will be a credit situation. Once a rider has committed to circling a cow, if the cow falls down no new cow will be awarded. The rider should complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to fulfill circling requirements. The circles should be completed before the cow is exhausted.

### **Cow work – Penalty Points:**

#### **1 point penalties:**

- A. Loss of working Advantage
- C. Using the Corner or the end of the arena to turn the cow. (In an oval arena, when the cow's head breaks the plane of the end marker)
- E. Changing sides of arena to turn cow. (1 point each time)
- L. For each Length horse runs past cow. A length by is 1 horse length of daylight between the cow's head and the top of the horse's tail.
- P. Working out of Position
- T. Failure to drive cow past middle marker on the first run down the fence (first Turn)
- W. Excessive Whipping, spurring, or hollering.

## **2 point penalties:**

- A. Going around the corner of the arena before turning the cow.
- B. When working an animal in the open field (at least 20' from the side of arena) and the animal gets within 3 feet from the end fence before being turned. This applies when going from one end of the arena to the other.

## **3 point penalties:**

- D. Dangerous Position
- E. Exhausting or overworking the cow.
- H. Hanging up on the fence (refusing to turn).

**Hang-Up; Definition:** When attempting to turn a cow on the fence a horse is considered to be hung up when the animal being worked exits the turn and the horse momentarily refuses the riders command and freezes up (stops lateral movement of the shoulders). Also considered a hang-up is when a horse is put in a position where it is physically impossible to complete the turn and the lateral movement of his shoulders is stopped.

- K. Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage

## **5 point penalties:**

- A. Not getting one turn each way (5 points each way)
- B. Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at any time
- C. Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate

## **-50 – score:**

- D. Turn tail (may be subject to further penalties)

## **-0 – score:**

- E. Out of control (Any horse that is out of control while working the cow, thus endangering the rider, i.e. crossing the path of the cow, shall be called off the cow.)
- F. Bloody Mouth (inside)
- G. Illegal Equipment
- H. Leaving the work area before the pattern or work is complete
- I. Fall of horse or rider
- L. If a rider hits or kicks the animal being worked, with the romal or reins, in an abusive manner
- M. Failure to pull up immediately after a new cow has been awarded

## **No Score:**

- A. Lameness of the horse
- B. Abuse

## **Credits:**

- A. Maintaining control of cow at all times
- B. Maintaining proper position

**NOTE:** A judge may blow his/her whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

### **Livestock Suggestions**

It is suggested that the cattle be of all one sex, similar type, conformity, and similar size (450-550 lbs.) if horned tipped to a dime and no longer than two inches.

## **QUEEN CONTEST EVENT**

### **I. Qualifications:**

- a. This event is open to girls only.
- b. The State/Province contest shall be the qualifying event for the girl who is to represent that State/Province at the National Queen Contest event. Any girl accepting the queen's position and awards must represent her state/province at the National High School Finals Rodeo. In the event she chooses not to represent her state/province at the national queen contest, the state/province holds the authority on whether or not she will relinquish title, awards and prizes to the next qualified contestant. The exception to this rule is outlined in Paragraph 7 d, Specifics.  
(OPTIONAL) State/Provinces may conduct part(s) of their Queen Contest in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo. Final qualification, however, would come from the State/Province Finals. If State/Province conducts part(s) of their Queen Contest in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo, those part(s) cannot be held any earlier than the entry deadline for all events for the State/Province Finals Rodeo.
- c. Any reigning district/region queen who competes in the state/province queen contest and wins the title of state/province queen retains her district/region title and position for the remainder of the year and until the next district/region queen contest as long as she meets all other requirements for membership and qualification and remains in good standing. Any reigning state/province queen who competes in the national queen contest and wins the title of National High School Rodeo Queen retains her state/province title and position for the remainder of the year and until the next state/province queen contest as long as she meets all other requirements for membership and qualification and remains in good standing.

- d. Any reigning high school rodeo queen at any level who also holds a higher-ranking high school rodeo queen title will wear the title, crown and banner of the highest-ranking queen position when making official appearances on behalf of high school rodeo.
- e. Queen contestants will not be allowed to pick up an event if they didn't qualify in an event at their State/ Province Finals.
- f. In order for a contestant to enter any events, she must have qualified for these events at her State/ Province level.
- g. Girls who have just completed their senior year in high school shall not be eligible for competition in the State/Province for National Queen's Contest.
- h. Contestants entering the Queen's Contest must not be or have been married and/or pregnant.
- i. If current State/Province or National Queen is qualified to run for queen during her reign; and decides to do so, she may not wear current crown or banner during actual competition.

## **II. Judging:**

- a. All Judges will meet at a time and place designated by Queen Chairperson and Coordinator before actual judging takes place.
- b. Five (5) judges and one (1) alternate will judge entire contest. The alternate judge's score will be used only to break ties between first, second, third and fourth place regarding the Queen Contest total points. The High and Low Score of the five judges in each of the categories will be thrown out and the other three scores added together to obtain total score. If only one contestant is entered at the state/provincial level a minimum of 3 judges must be used.
- c. Categories to be judged and points to be used are as follows:
  - (1) Modeling 1-25 points
  - (2) Personality 1-25 points
  - (3) Appearance 1-25 points
  - (4) Personal Interview 1-50 points. No questions on sex or religion will be asked. Written questions will be reviewed by chairperson and coordinator.
  - (5) Prepared Speech 1-50 points. Two-minute talk, subject or subjects to be selected by chairperson and coordinator. To be mailed by May 1 of each year. Props of any kind may not be used during the prepared speech.
  - (6) Impromptu Speech 1-25 points. Contestant will be given a question or subject to respond to.
  - (7) Test 1-25 points. 50 questions to be taken from the current rule book. 17 true/false, 17 multiple choice, and 16 fill ins. Each question is worth 1/2 (.50) points. These scores to go directly to the master score sheet.
  - (8) Horsemanship 1-50 points. Each contestant will be judged once for horsemanship. Contestant will receive a zero (0) from each

judge for falling off or being bucked off the horse during the horsemanship pattern. States/Provinces holding multiple queen contests have the option of choosing from three approved reining patterns at the qualifying rodeos. Only approved patterns by the National Queen Committee will be used at State/Province Finals and National Finals. No two girls may ride the same horse in this event.

- d. Total possible points per contestant is 250 per judge, plus 25 for test.
- e. Positions for competition will be drawn for.
- f. Queen contest judging is open to the public, with the exception of test and personal interview.

### **III. Attire:**

- a. Contestants will wear jeans and western blouses or shirts (no jackets and/or vests are allowed) at all judged events except the speech and modeling competition and horsemanship, where specific attire is outlined below.
- b. Speech and modeling competition - At the speech and modeling portion of the contest, contestants have the option of suits, dresses, skirts, blouses, dress pants, jeans and shirts.
- c. No dresses or skirts during crowning ceremony.
- d. Horsemanship – Cinch/ Cruel Denim blue denim jeans with a plain white cotton blouse or shirt (no ruffles, accessories or tuxedo shirts).
- e. All blouses, dresses and shirts worn in the Queen Contest must have long sleeves extending to the wrist and a collar. A collar is to be raised at least one (1) inch on the neck. It can be a mock style collar which raises straight up on the neck or lapel style collar that folds down on the shirt or dress.
- f. Long sleeves, crown, banners, hat and numbers are required at all judged events. Button number may be used during modeling introductions, impromptu question, speech, and personal interview and coronation portions of contest.
- g. Any contestant dressed for any Queen function in attire other than what is called for in that specific category, will be penalized five (5) points from each Judge.

### **IV. Disqualification:**

- a. Any contestant who is not present and ready to compete at all scheduled and posted times of all events for the Queen Contest will be disqualified (with the exception of a doctor's release). Questionable situations will be determined by the judges and Executive Committee.
- b. Depending on the severity of the disqualification, the Executive Committee may allow a Queen Contestant to lead her association during the grand entry only.

- c. Any reigning National, State/Province, Region/District or Club Queen must relinquish crown and title for the following reasons:
  - 1. Pregnancy during reign.
  - 2. Marriage during reign.
  - 3. Conduct, which would subject her to Disciplinary Action under the Rules, By-Laws, or Constitution of the Association.
- d. Contestants will be automatically disqualified for the wearing of Spandex pants at any time. Note: Spandex is a stretch type of clothing with similarities to swim wear and is not felt by committee to be appropriate.

#### **V. Scoring:**

- a. Judges in all categories will sign score sheet, put in signed and sealed envelope (furnished by Queen Chairperson) and return to Queen Chairperson immediately following each category.
- b. During the first portion of the pageant where contestants are doing their self-introductions, contestants must follow instructions given pertaining to the introduction guidelines. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point deduction from their total score.
- c. An accountant and the Queen Coordinator shall audit the total scores.
- d. All scores shall be signed and posted immediately following announcement of the Queen.
- e. No points toward the All-Around shall be allowed from the Queen Contest.

#### **VI. Awards:**

- a. The number of buckles awarded at Nationals will be same as the other events.
- b. Miss Congeniality will be selected by the Queen Contestants at place and time designated by the Queen Coordinator/Chairperson.

#### **VII. Specifics:**

- a. No gifts shall be given by any Queen Contestant to another Queen Contestant until all judging is over.
- b. Any complaints about Queen's Contest are to be referred in writing to National Queen Coordinator/ Chairperson.
- c. Queen Contestant shall be required to provide their own housing during Finals Competition. No special housing shall be required by the Queen's Committee.
- d. In the event the Reigning State/Province Queen cannot attend National competition, due to sickness or injury, and has a doctor's release and certification from her National Director, then the First Runner-Up to the Queen shall assume the capacity of her State/Province Queen at the National Finals in the Queen Contest.



### **VIII. The following rules are for National High School Finals Rodeo only:**

- a. Banners must be worn when contestants are in western attire, except in arena event competition. A white banner with black lettering for each state/province queen will be provided at the state's/province's expense. This banner is to be the only banner worn by all queen contestants during the National High School Finals Rodeo and National Queen Contest.
- b. On the National level, points shall be awarded toward Team Standings to Top 20 Places. 200 pts. for Queen; 190 pts. 1st Runner-up; 180 pts. 2nd Runner-up; 170 pts. 3rd Runner-up and etc.
- c. New Queen shall be provided expense money by NHSRA. Expense money shall be for travel, food, and lodging. This money shall be provided for trips at the discretion of the National Queen Committee and approved by the National Board.
- d. No more than two (2) judges may be from the same state. In order for any individual to be considered as a judge for the NHSRA Queen Contest, his/her resume and references must be on file in the National Office 30 days prior to the Queen Committee Meeting in January of the year, which they would judge the contest. State/Province queen coordinators cannot judge the NHSRA Queen Contest.
- e. The National Finals Queen Coordinator shall be a National Director and the chairman of the Queen Committee as appointed by the National President and approved by the National Board of Directors.
- f. The Host State shall appoint a Queen Chairman to work in cooperation with the National Queen Coordinator, as Queen Contest Director.
- g. OPTIONAL: Queen's stall decorations will be limited to one sign or poster, not to exceed 2' X 2'.
- h. A contestant missing the appropriated roll call but arriving prior to their competition in that category will receive a 10-point reduction per judge. A contestant not showing up for a roll call event would be disqualified.

## **SHOOTING SPORTS EVENT**

### **I. Qualifications:**

- a. This event is open to both boys and girls.
- b. **Junior High** - The State/Province contest shall be the qualifying event for contestants entered in the Rifle Event. If State/Province conducts other shooting event (s) in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo, those points may be used to qualify the state finals contestant(s). National Finals qualification would come from

the State/Province Finals.

- c. Each state/province may send the top four (4) contestants at their State/Province Finals for the National Finals Event(s). If a tie occurs in the fourth (4th) place, those contestants will be qualified for the National Finals Event(s) also. If, in any case of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for “finals”, for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National Junior High Finals in the event they qualified in, of that year, with the information from the State/Provincial secretary and entry form.
- d. **High School** - The State/Province contest shall be the qualifying event for contestants entered in the Rifle and/or Trap Event(s). If State/Province conducts other shooting event (s) in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo, those points may be used to qualify the state finals contestant(s). National Finals qualification would come from the State/Province Finals.
- e. Each state/province may send the top four (4) contestants at their State/Province Finals for the National Finals Event(s). If a tie occurs in the fourth (4th) place, those contestants will be qualified for the National Finals Event(s) also. If, in any case of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for “finals”, for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National Junior High Finals in the event they qualified in, of that year, with the information from the State/Provincial secretary and entry form.
- f. Shooting sports contestants must be a member of the NHSRA in good standing.

**II. Event Rules:**

- a. All rules are published in the Guidelines/Rules for NHSRA Shooting Sports Rulebook that can be located on the NHSRA website or requested from the National Office.

**III. Equipment:**

- a. **Light Rifle** - Any .22 caliber rimfire .22 short, .22 long, or .22 long rifle with not less than a 2-pound trigger pull, and which weighs no more than 8 ½ pounds when equipped with sights. No portion of the rifle or any attachment to the rifle shall extend more than 3 inches beyond the rear of the shooter’s shoulder. The same rifle must be used throughout all stages of any one match (except aggregate) except in the case of a malfunction or disabled rifle when the competitor may change rifles with permission of the Chief Range Officer.

- b. Rimfire cartridges commercially catalogued as the “.22 Short, “.22 Long, or “.22 Long Rifle which have an over-all length not more than 1.1 inches and loaded with a lead or alloy bullet of not larger than .23-inch diameter. *Hollow point, tracer, incendiary or explosive bullets are specifically excluded from ammunition authorized for match use.*
- c. **Trap** - A contestant cannot use: A gun with a chamber larger than 12 gauge. A contestant may not use a gun capable of chambering more than one gauge of shells at the same time. For example, chambering 12 gauge and 20-gauge shells in the same gun at the same time is prohibited. The same shotgun must be used throughout all stages of any one match (except aggregate) except in the case of a malfunction or disabled shotgun when the competitor may change shotguns with permission of the Chief Range Safety Officer or Arena Director.
- d. A Contestant MAY NOT USE loads that contain nickel or copper coated shot or tracer loads. However, the use of lead, steel, bismuth, or other composite non-toxic shot materials shall be allowed. A contestant MAY NOT USE any load with a velocity greater than 1290 FPS (Feet Per Second) with maximum shot charge of 1 1/8 ounces, or 1325 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 1 ounce, or 1350 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 7/8 ounces or less, as measured in any individual shot shell. These velocities are maximum, and no individual shot shell shall exceed these limits for the designated shot charge. In addition, no load containing more than 1 1/8 ounces or any shot larger than Number 7 1/2 can be used. Shot charges are maximum and no charge may exceed the charge amount by more than 3%. Steel shot in Number 7 will be acceptable as long as velocity criteria are the same as for lead shot shells. A contestant MAY NOT USE any shell loaded with black powder. **NO reloaded ammunition is allowed.**

#### **IV. Dress Code:**

- a. Following is the dress code for contestants while competing at the shooting sports competition. Please refer to the current **Rules, By-Laws & Constitution Rulebook** for dress code requirements for all other times during the National Finals event. This is found under ‘**Contestant Disqualification**’ heading under the **Attire** specifications.
- b. Shooting sports contestants **are required** to wear contestant back numbers at all times. If a competitor is not wearing their contestant/back number, the contestant **WILL** be disqualified.
- c. Jeans/long pants or trousers are required. Leggings, yoga pants, capris or shorts are not acceptable.
- d. All footwear must be closed toe.
- e. T-Shirts with crew neck collars and sleeves may be worn. Collared

shirts are preferred. **ABSOLUTELY NO LOW CUT, CUT OFF, MIDRIFF OR TANK TOPS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED.**

- f. Any messages on clothing MUST be positive and cannot advertise alcohol or tobacco products.
- g. Western boots and hats are optional during the competition. **Spurs are highly discouraged. If it is determined that a spur causes a contestant to be out of position or is a means of artificial support, the contestant may be asked to remove them.**
- h. Baseball caps are acceptable.
- i. **Western attire must be worn when accepting awards during the year-end awards ceremony to include jeans, long sleeved shirts buttoned at the wrist, belt, boots, and cowboy hat.**

#### **V. Contestant Disqualifications**

- a. Any situation that may result in a contestant disqualification is listed in the section of this rulebook under 'Contestant Disqualifications.'
- b. Disqualifications specific to this event are listed in the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook.

#### **VI. Scoring:**

- a. Individual scores are done using the procedures listed in the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook.
- b. No Points toward the All-Around shall be allowed from the Shooting Sports Contest.
- c. Team points awarded at the National Finals competition(s) shall be added one (1) time. 2100 points in (20) twenty places will be offered. 200 pts. For Champion, 190 pts. for Reserve Champion, 180 pts. for 3rd place and etc.

#### **Officials:**

- a. Official positions and descriptions are located in Section eleven (11) of the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook, under the **Competition Officials** section.

Full Shooting Sports guidelines and additional information can be found online: <https://nhsra.com/rulebook/>

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES**

### **I. ROUGH STOCK AND TIMED EVENT ARENAS**

- 1. No large objects or rocks.
- 2. No post extending above the top railing.
- 3. No rough edges on top railing.

4. Solid wall padded if feasible.
5. Chute gate swing fully opened 180°.
6. End chute 8 feet from fences.
7. Drag arena after poles and barrels.
8. Barrier judge to check the second rope tie on the saddle.
9. Rodeo Judges, Arena Directors and/or National Directors may inspect any contestant's equipment before, during or after a rodeo performance for safety and rule infractions.

## **CONTESTANT DANCE GUIDELINES**

1. Contestants required to wear contestant numbers at Contestant dances.
2. Western trousers, western shirts, and footwear are required. Western boots and hats are optional.

## **GRAND ENTRY GUIDELINES**

1. Grand entries will be limited to western attire and flags only.
2. Grand entries will be held at a controllable pace and will be monitored for safety. All contestants should consider and be aware of safety factors while participating in all grand entries.
3. Designated contestants must participate in all downtown parades and grand entries.
4. Contestants will not be allowed to ride double or lead another horse in the grand entry.
5. Contestants will not be allowed to swing ropes, drag ropes or throw ropes while participating in the grand entry.
6. Flags will be carried appropriately and upright and will not be allowed to be swung back and forth or held straight out to the side or front of a horse.
7. No items will be thrown into the crowd from contestants on horseback.
8. Contestants will not be allowed to pass the queen or other designated lead contestant of the grand entry.
9. Non-mounted contestants will not be allowed to run through the arena during the grand entry. A designated entrance and staging area for all non-mounted contestants will be available so these contestants can participate in the grand entry.
10. Contestants will be disqualified for failure to follow instructions on grand entries and entering and exiting the arena as allowed under the "Contestant Disqualification" section of the Rule Book.

## **TV RIGHTS**

The NHSRA retains all rights in and to the filming, taping, radio, or television broadcasting or reproduction in any manner or form of any of its approved rodeos or any parts thereof. All proposals for filming or televising of sanctioned rodeos, including local, cable, or educational television, must be cleared through the national office thirty days prior to the first performance of specific rodeo. Legitimate news coverage exempted. Inquiries should be directed to the NHSRA National Headquarters.

Any State or Province that participates in a national television production initiated by the national office, will agree to only place national sponsor's banners in the arena during the days of filming. This does not apply to non-conflicting national sponsors.

## **ADOPTED POLICIES OF THE NHSRA, INC.**

In accordance with the directive of Article III, Section 8 (b), the National Board of Directors has adopted the following policies:

### **CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY**

From time to time the Board of National Directors or individual Directors may be called upon to negotiate, execute and vote upon certain contracts for the Association. In that capacity the National Director acts in a fiduciary and representative capacity on behalf of the Association. The terms and conditions of the agreements, contracts, leases, or licenses are considered proprietary and confidential, unless mutually waived in writing by the parties. Disclosure of any term(s) or condition(s) of any of these agreements shall be in violation of the Director's duty to the Association. This policy shall also apply to any administrative staff member, employee, or agent. Violation of the policy will be grounds for immediate dismissal of the Director from the Board of Directors or dismissal of employee, staff, or agent.

While this policy does not require the following for enforcement it shall be the practice of the NHSRA to have all National Directors as a condition of their service to the Board, all administrative staff members and employees as a condition of their employment and any agent as a condition for retention of their services to execute and agree to a non-disclosure agreement setting out the provisions of this policy.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The purpose of the following conflict of interest policy and procedure is to protect the tax exemption of the National High School Rodeo Association (hereinafter “NHSRA”) when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement and to prevent the personal interest of staff members, officers, board members, and volunteers from interfering with the performance of their duties to NHSRA or its affiliated organizations, or result in personal financial, professional, or political gain on the part of such persons at the expense of NHSRA, its affiliated organizations, its members, supporters, and/or other stake-holders. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

### DEFINITIONS:

**Conflict of Interest:** means a conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between the private interests and official responsibilities of an interested person. Interested persons include staff members, officers, board members, secretaries, and other volunteers of the NHSRA.

**Board:** means Board of Directors.

**Financial Interest:** means any person having a financial interest directly or indirectly through business investment or family, and:

- a. an ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the NHSRA has a transaction or an investment.
- b. a compensation arrangement with the NHSRA; or
- c. a potential ownership or investment account interest in, or compensation arrangement with any or individual with which the NHSRA is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

**Interested Person:** means any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest in the transaction.

**Member:** means a student or adult member of the NHSRA or its State and affiliated organizations.

**Officer:** means an officer of the Board of Directors.

**Volunteer:** means a person – other than a board member – who does not receive compensation for services and expertise provided to the NHSRA and retains decision-making authority to commit resources of the organization. **Staff Member:** means a person who receives all or part of her/his income from the payroll of NHSRA.

**Supporter:** means corporations, foundations, individuals, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, and other nonprofit organizations that contribute to the NHSRA or its State and affiliated organizations.

## **STATE/ PROVINCIAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

Every state/ province sanctioned rodeo shall have a safety plan in place which is appropriate for such rodeo. Such plan shall be reviewed annually. At a minimum, such safety plan recommends that the rodeo have on-site an AED (automated external defibrillator) and first aid supplies (including those to treat airway emergencies), and one dedicated individual trained in emergency medical response. The safety plan shall identify the nearest community emergency responder (with telephone number) and the location of the nearest hospital. Each location shall have a reliable landline or cell phone service with a good signal. State/ Province shall submit plan to the NHSRA National Office.

## **POLICY AND PRACTICES**

1. Full disclosure, by notice in writing, shall be made by the interested person to the full Board of Directors in all conflicts of interest, including but not limited to the following:
  - (a) a board member is related to another board member or staff member by blood, marriage or domestic partnership.
  - (b) a staff member in a supervisory capacity is related to another staff member whom she/he supervises.
  - (c) a board member, a board member's spouse, domestic partner, blood relation, business partner, or the board member's organization stands to benefit from an NHSRA transaction, or a staff member of such organization receives payment for NHSRA for any subcontract, goods, or services other than as part of her/his regular job responsibilities or as reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred as provided in NHSRA policy.
  - (d) a board member's organization receives funding from the NHSRA.
  - (e) a board member or staff member is a member of the governing body of a contributor to NHSRA.
  - (f) a secretary or volunteer working on behalf of the NHSRA who meets any of the situations or criteria listed above.
2. Following full disclosure of a possible conflict of interest or any condition listed above, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall determine whether a conflict of interest exists and, if so, the Executive Committee shall vote to authorize or reject the transaction or take any other action deemed necessary to address the conflict and protect the NHSRA's best interests.
3. A Board member, officer, or staff member shall not participate in any discussion or debate of the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors, or of any committee or subcommittee thereof in which the subject of discussion is a contract, transaction, or situation in which there may be a perceived or actual conflict of interest.



However, they may be present to provide clarifying information in such a discussion or debate unless objected to by any present board member.

4. Anyone in a position to make decisions about spending the NHSRA's re-sources who also stands to benefit from that decision – has a duty to disclose that conflict as soon as it arises (or becomes apparent); she/he should not participate in any final decisions.
5. A copy of this policy shall be included in the NHSRA Rule Book.
6. Each board member, officer, staff member and volunteer shall annually sign a statement which affirms such person:
  - (a) has received a copy of this conflicts of interest policy.
  - (b) has read and understands the policy.
  - (c) has agreed to comply with the policy; and
  - (d) understands that the NHSRA is a nonprofit corporation and in order to maintain its federal, state and local tax exemption the NHSRA must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

## **NHSRA PATCH PROGRAM**

### **For all NHSRA sanctioned events:**

- **Illegal/Inappropriate Signage:** No person, animal, tack or equipment can display any form of signage while on grounds during any NHSRA sanctioned event promoting alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, vaping or any other product or service which is illegal for a minor to use or be in possession of.
- **Exclusivity:** any advertisement competing with NHSRA exclusive sponsors cannot be used. The exclusive sponsors are in the following categories: Jeans & Shirts (Cinch) and Boots (Corral).

### **For all NHSRA State/ Provincial/ National Finals and any televised or livestreamed events:**

- **National Sponsors Advertising:** All NHSRA National Sponsors can have any type of garment, vest, hat, tack or helmet advertising in any size, including stick-on, sew-on or embroidered patches.
- **Non- National Sponsor Advertising in the arena and at awards presentation areas:**
  - Non-sponsor advertising may not be larger than a 2.5"X3.5" area. This includes garments, hats, protective vests, helmets and tack. There will be no stick-on or sew-on patches for non-national sponsor advertising.
  - Garments, protective vests, hats: advertising must be embroidered into the fabric.

- Advertising on tack must be permanently carved or pressed into the item and meet the same size requirements. A saddle may have a larger sponsor area but must be pressed or carved into the area. A saddle pad may have the standard branding on the wear leather.
- Protective helmets: no non-sponsor advertising on helmets.
- No more than one non-sponsor embroidered area per garment per sponsor.

Penalty for violating these policies will be disqualification from this event. The NHSRA will not be responsible for covering or taping unauthorized advertising.

### **FOR A FULL CURRENT LIST OF NHSRA SPONSORS:**

<https://nhsra.com/national-sponsors/>



### **SPONSOR-RELATED AWARDS**

When purchasing awards for State/Provincial events including finals rodeos or District/ Region Rodeos, State/Provinces are highly recommended to solicit bids from NHSRA sponsors in the following categories, if they plan to award such items at their State/Provincial events including finals rodeos or District/ Region Rodeos: Saddles, Buckles and Trophy Jackets.

The NHSRA Saddle Sponsor is Tod Slone Saddles, The Buckle Sponsor is Gist Silversmiths, and the Trophy Jacket Sponsor is Carrol Original Wear.

\*Sponsors are subject to change.

## LOGO USAGE

Any Member, State, Parent, Sponsor, or other wishing to use the NHSRA logos must receive written permission from the NHSRA National Office before use is allowed. The NHSRA has gone to great lengths to protect the marks of the association. This covers the service marks, trademarks, or logos which the National High School Rodeo Association is the exclusive owner and has exclusive rights to the use of, either by open and notorious usage or by registration with proper governmental offices, including but not limited to the following service marks, trademarks or logos:

“National High School Rodeo Association”

“NHSRA”

“National High School Rodeo Association Junior Division”

“NHSRA JD”

“National High School Finals Rodeo”

“NHSFR”

“National Junior High Finals Rodeo”

“NJHFR”

The “boot” logo, consisting of a boot with vertical lettering comprising the leg or running parallel to the leg, or imitating the shape or form thereof.

The “star” logo, consisting of a star with lettering comprising of the National High School Rodeo Association Junior Division logo, or imitating the shape or form thereof.

“NHSFR Logo”

“NHSRA JD Logo”

“NJHFR Logo”

“Any other name, initials, term or logo or combination of the same which are so similar as to be deceptive or to cause the public to identify them with the National High School Rodeo Association.”

Examples of NHSRA Marks include, but are not limited to:



This Rule Book was compiled with a purpose. It is Mandatory for all to follow. Use it, but don't abuse it. It will only be as good as you let it be! This book was last revised by Committee – April 2022. Nicky Rodrique, Co-Chairman; Kelly Anderson, Co-Chairman.

### Score Line Diagrams

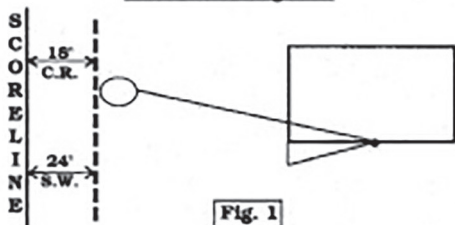


Fig. 1

**SCORE LENGTHS:** Length of the score line to be determined according to the livestock, the length of the arena, and the arena conditions. All score lengths are subject to Directors' or representatives' approval.

**CR, BK:** Minimum length of score will be the length of the roping box minus four (4) feet. Maximum length of score will be eighteen (18) feet.

**SW:** The score may be no longer than the length of the steer wrestling box minus six (6) feet, unless the box is less than fourteen (14) feet. In that instance the length of the score would be a maximum of the length of the box minus five (5) feet.

**TR:** The minimum length of the team roping score line shall be the length of the box minus two (2) feet.

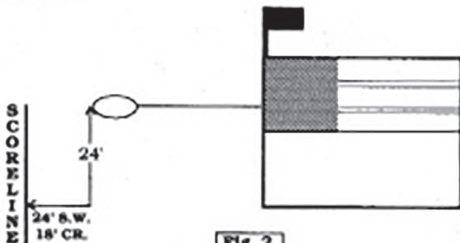
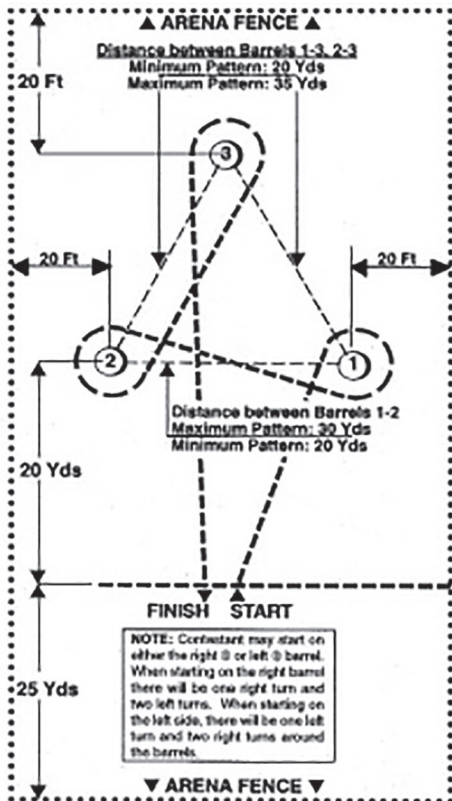
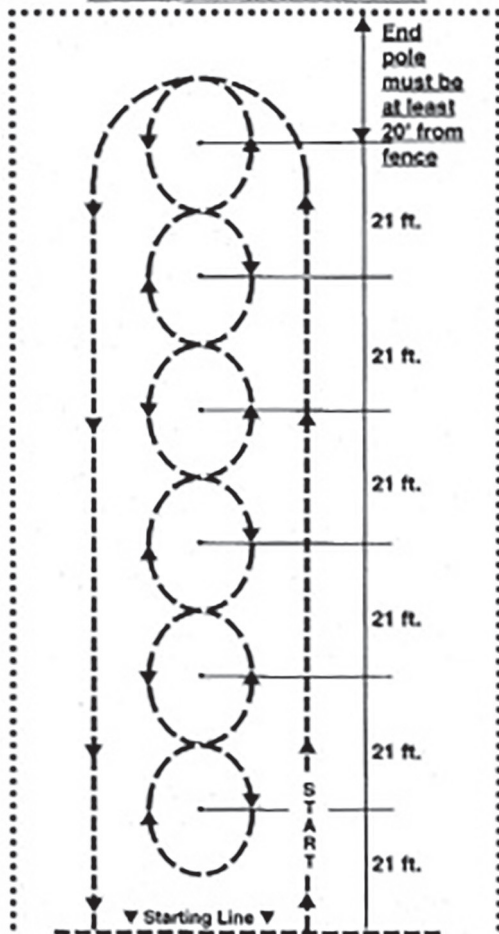


Fig. 2

## BARREL RACING PATTERN



## POLE BENDING PATTERN





## **Allowed Bareback Riding Gloves**

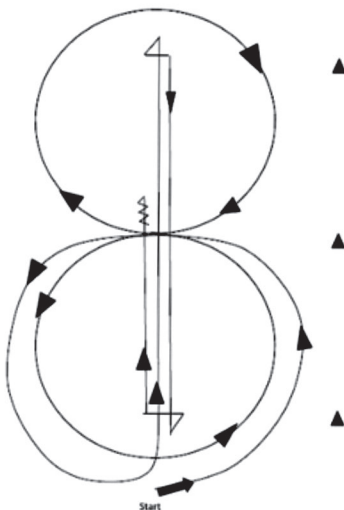
The NHSRA Board of Directors adopted a clarification to the rule regarding allowed bareback riding gloves at the 2012 Mid-Winter Meeting.

On the outside of the glove, there are to be no horizontal cuts from the second knuckle back. On the inside (palm side), only vertical cuts or slits are allowed on fingers only. The photos display an example of a legal glove. No cuts are allowed below the black line (below the fingers in the palm area) on the bottom photo.





## NHSRA Pattern 1



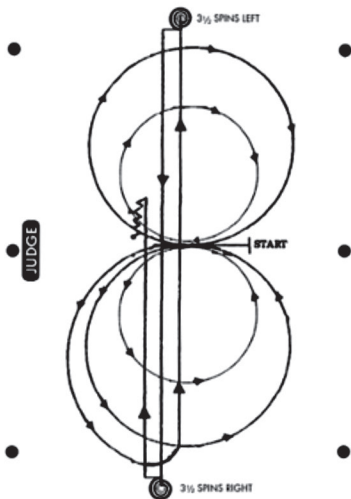
1. Enter the gate on the left lead, loping in. Lope one circle left.
2. Change leads (Simple or flying)
3. Lope one circle right
4. Change leads (simple or flying)
5. Continue on the left lead around the end, continue up the middle of the arena past the end marker. Stop.
6. One and a half spins left.
7. Continue down the middle of the arena, past the end marker. Stop
8. One and a half spins right.
9. Continue down the middle of the arena past the center marker. Stop. Back at least 10 feet.

*Modifications to official pattern(s) must be posted one hour prior to the start of the reined cow horse event.*



## NHSRA Pattern 2

NRCHA Pattern 11



Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

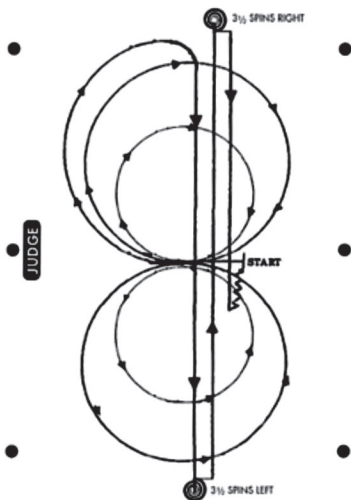
1. Beginning on the left lead complete 2 circles to the left, the first circle large and fast, and the second circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
  2. Complete 2 circles to the right, the first large and fast, the second small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
  3. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of the arena past the end marked, execute a square sliding stop.
  4. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the left.
  5. Run down center of arena past end marker, execute a square sliding stop.
  6. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the right.
  7. Run down center of arena past center marker, execute a square sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate to complete pattern.
- \*This pattern may be used as a lope in pattern\*

*Modifications to official pattern(s) must be posted one hour prior to the start of the reined cow horse event.*



## NHSRA Pattern 3

NRCHA Pattern 12



Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

1. Beginning on the right lead complete 2 circles to the right, the first circle large and fast, and the second circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
2. Complete 2 circles to the left, the first circle large and fast, and the second circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
3. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of the arena past the end marker, execute a square sliding stop.
4. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the left.
5. Run down center of arena past end marker, execute a square sliding stop.
6. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the right.
7. Run down center of arena past center marker, execute a square sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate to complete pattern.

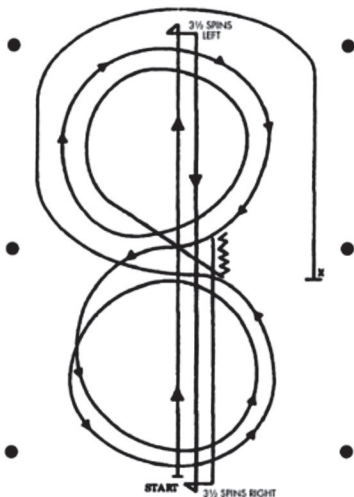
\*This pattern may be used as a lope in pattern.\*

*Modifications to official pattern(s) must be posted one hour prior to the start of the reined cow horse event.*



## NHSRA Pattern 4

### NRCHA Pattern 4



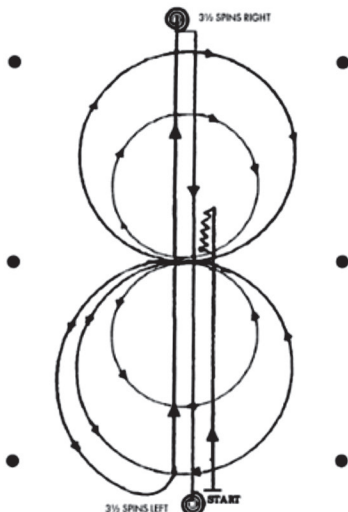
1. Start at end of arena.
2. Run up center of arena past the end marker and come to a sliding stop. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the left.
3. Run to other end of arena past the end marker and stop. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the right.
4. Run past the center marker and stop.
5. Back at least 10 feet in a straight line.
6. Complete a  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn to the left, hesitate. Beginning on the right lead, complete 2 circles to the right, the first one small and slow, and the second large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.
7. Complete one small, slow circle and one large, fast circle. Change leads to the right.
8. Run around end of arena to the other side, past center marker, at least 20 feet from fence and come to sliding stop. Hesitate to complete pattern.

*Modifications to official pattern(s) must be posted one hour prior to the start of the reined cow horse event.*



## NHSRA Pattern 5

NRCHA Pattern 5



This pattern works best when the exhibitor and cattle enter from the same end of arena.

1. Start at end of arena. Run past center marker, stop, and back at least 10 feet.
2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn to left. Complete 2 circles to left. The first circle large and fast, the second circle small and slow Change leads at the center of the arena.
3. Complete 2 circles to the right. The first circle small and slow, the second circle large and fast Change leads at the center of the arena.
4. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of arena past end marker, execute a square sliding stop.
5. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the right.
6. Rundown center of arena past end marker, execute a square sliding stop.
7. Complete  $3\frac{1}{2}$  spins to the left. Hesitate to complete pattern.

*Modifications to official pattern(s) must be posted one hour prior to the start of the reined cow horse event.*

# DIRECTORY

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## High School National Directors

For the most up-to-date list of contact information for NHSRA Officers, Directors, Student Officers, Foundation and Junior High Division Directors and Student Officers, see the link below.

<https://www.nhsra.com/contact/national-directors-secretaries/>



## NOTES

## NOTES



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