

## **RICHLAND RODEO TEAM BY-LAWS 2007-2008**

### **Article One STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION**

#### **Section I Name**

The name of the organization shall be **RICHLAND RODEO TEAM**, belonging to the *North Texas High School Rodeo Association*.

#### **Section II Life**

The period of its duration is perpetual.

#### **Section III Purpose**

The purpose of the organization is to:

- a. Further and develop the sport of High School Rodeo as a primary means of wholesome family recreation;
- b. Promote the sport of High School Rodeo through Team interest and sanctioned activities;
- c. Engage in the North Texas High School Rodeo Association in each sanctioned rodeo to promote the Finals Rodeo.

### **Article Two MEMBERSHIP AND SPONSOR REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Section I Membership**

The Richland Rodeo Team shall be open to students enrolled in and receiving report cards through Richland High School. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible and cannot be 19 years of age or older before September 1<sup>st</sup>. Honorary members can be elected by a vote of the Team for the duration of one year. Honorary members shall not have to pay dues nor do they have voting rights.

#### **Section II Sponsor**

The Richland Rodeo Team shall be lead by a Sponsor, 21 years of age or older. The Sponsor, Co-Sponsor (if applicable, requires 16 or more members) or appointed representative shall be present at all team meetings and/or functions. Team members will vote on the Sponsor at the end of each rodeo season. The elected Sponsor has a one-year term unless they fail to carry out the Sponsor's responsibilities.

Sponsor and Co-Sponsor have the responsibility to enforce the By-Laws, but are not permitted to change them. This is a function of the Team Members only.

The Sponsor shall be responsible for:

- a. Collecting membership applications, dues and medical releases;
- b. Submitting the membership applications, dues and medical releases to the North Texas High School Rodeo Association office;

- c. Passing out rodeo entry forms;
- d. Collecting entry forms and entry fees;
- e. Submitting the entry forms, entry fees, contestant list and team list for each rodeo to the Rodeo Secretary;
- f. Submitting complete written profit/loss statements on each money-making activity to the membership within two weeks of the activity;
- g. Making the checkbook, bank statements and records available for viewing to all members and their parents at any meeting or other convenient time for the Sponsor and the interested party.

### **Article Three GOOD STANDING**

The requirements of members who wish to remain in *GOOD STANDING* are:

#### **Section I Attendance**

Be present at team meetings and functions. If four (4) consecutive team meetings are unattended by a member, that member **may** be denied the right to participate at team functions and will not be in *GOOD STANDING* with the Team.

#### **Section II Academic Eligibility**

- a. Each member will be required to be scholastically eligible (passing 2/3 subjects as per NTHSRA rules).
- b. Conduct grades reported as U (unsatisfactory) will result in a \$5.00 fine that must be paid before attending further team meetings or team functions.

#### **Section III Participation**

All members must rodeo at least once a month in order to be in *Good Standing* and eligible for the year-end awards. The only exceptions will be a signed medical note from a doctor (MTO) prohibiting a member from participating, VTO, or in the case of family emergencies or death in the family, or in the case of a member not being allowed to participate due to other extracurricular activities not allowing their participation (example: football players or work). If a NTHSRA rodeo is cancelled for some reason then the member will not be penalize, but if the scheduled rodeo is held then every member is expected to participate.

#### **Section IV Team Debts**

Members cannot owe the team money (fines, fees, entry fees, debts, etc.). Members owing the team monies will not be in *Good Standing* until the debts are paid.

#### **Section V Behavior**

Refer to Article Eleven

#### **Article Four ELECTIONS AND VOTING RIGHTS**

- a. All elections concerning Sponsor, Co-Sponsor (if applicable), Team Officers, Queen, Sweetheart or Princess will be conducted with ballots.
- b. Each paid member of the NTHSRA and the Richland Rodeo Team present and in *Good Standing* (Article Three) of the Richland Rodeo Team will have one (1) vote in all matters.
- c. Voting rights will be revoked if a member has not paid their Team Money by the due date (Article Eight, Section II, 1.).
- d. Voting rights will be suspended if a member owes the team money (fines, entry fees, etc.) until the debts are paid.
- e. 2/3 of eligible voting members must be present to vote on any matter.
- f. No proxies shall be allowed.

#### **Article Five VISITORS**

Non-member Richland High School students may attend only one meeting per year to visit. Parents and adult sponsors are welcome anytime.

#### **Article Six ELECTIONS AND TERM OF OFFICERS OF THE TEAM**

As soon as feasible after the student membership reaches 6 or more, a meeting will be called to elect a President and Vice-President. In the event the student membership exceeds 10, a Secretary may be elected. In the event the student membership exceeds 15, other Officers may be elected.

##### **Section I Eligibility**

Only 2 year+ members that are in *Good Standing* (Article Three) are eligible to run for office. In the case that there are not enough returning members, or if eligible members decline the position, new members may be elected to offices.

##### **Section II Term of Office**

The Officers' term of office is for one year. They may be re-elected to the same office for two consecutive years. Officers must be in *Good Standing* (Article Three) with the Richland Rodeo Team. If an Officer falls out of *Good Standing* then the duties and privileges of Officer will be suspended until Officer regains *Good Standings*.

##### **Section III Duties and Responsibilities of the Officers**

- a. President
  1. Will preside over all meetings. If unable to attend will notify Sponsor four (4) hours before meeting;
  2. Will maintain order in all meetings along with Vice-President;
  3. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions of the team.

- b. Vice-President
  - 1. Will preside over meetings in the absence of the President;
  - 2. Will maintain order in all meetings along with the President;
  - 3. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions of the team.
- c. Secretary
  - 1. Will maintain attendance of active members at meetings;
  - 2. Will keep detailed minutes of each meeting and have prior meeting's minutes ready to be read for approval at each meeting;
  - 3. Will act as Telephone Chairman and notify all team members of any necessary information that the Sponsor must pass along to team members;
  - 4. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions of the team;
  - 5. Will be responsible for gathering the information of who placed in what events and announce them at every meeting and keep track of the points. (NTHSRA points are the only official points.)
- d. Historian
  - 1. Will maintain a scrapbook of each rodeo season's activities for the team;
  - 2. Will take pictures of activities;
  - 3. Will be responsible for all team information for the School Annual;
  - 4. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions for the team.
- e. Sergeant-at-Arms
  - 1. Will enforce proper behavior at all team meetings;
  - 2. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions of the team.
- f. Treasurer
  - 1. Will be responsible for all team monies and books;
  - 2. Will maintain records of team members' monies collected throughout the year;
  - 3. Will be responsible for having account balance at meetings;
  - 4. Will coordinate with other Officers and Sponsor in functions of the team.

## **Article Seven QUEEN, SWEETHEART AND PRINCESS**

### **Section I Elections**

- a. Richland Rodeo Team may be represented each year with a Queen. A Sweetheart may be elected when the membership reaches ten (10) and a Princess may be elected when the membership reaches fifteen (15).

- b. Members can choose to appoint a Princess to represent the team if there is less than the required 15 members, but only by a vote to do so.
- c. A Queen, Sweetheart and Princess may be elected at the beginning of the school year (as NTHSRA membership requirements are met) and will be crowned at the Richland Rodeo (provided that the Queen, Sweetheart and Princess remain in *Good Standing* (Article Three) and has paid her Team Money by the due date. The positions will be elected separately.
- d. In the case of a tie, a flip of a coin will determine the position.
- e. In the event that the Queen cannot fulfill her duties, the Sweetheart would be promoted and the Princess would become the Sweetheart and an election would be held to fill the Princess position.

**Section II** Requirements of Candidates:

- a. All contestants must be paid members of NTHSRA and be in *Good Standing* with the team as in accordance of Article Three.
- b. Queen, Sweetheart and Princess contestants cannot be or have been married, pregnant or have born a child.
- c. The candidates must have completed in at least 15 NTHSRA rodeos as a member of the Richland Rodeo Team during the previous season unless there has been an injury that prevented competition. (This requirement may be waived by a team vote if candidate is a new member.)

**Section III** Requirements of Queen, Sweetheart and Princess

- a. The Queen, Sweetheart and Princess must ride in at least one Grand Entry per month to remain in her position.
- b. The Queen, Sweetheart and Princess must be in *Good Standing* with the team and will forfeit her title by becoming morally or academically ineligible.
- c. All crowns will be returned to Richland Rodeo Team at the end of the rodeo season.

**Article Eight TEAM/SPONSOR MONEY**

**Section I** Team Debts

Members cannot owe the team money (fines, fees, entry fees, debts, etc.). Members owing the team monies may not attend team functions or do not have voting rights until debts are paid.

**Section II** Team/Sponsor Money

- a. Members are responsible for collecting \$300.00 in Team Money, due 3 weeks prior to the Richland Rodeo each year or by January 1<sup>st</sup>, whichever comes first or in the case that the team is not sponsoring a rodeo. This must be collected by all team members and is the property of the team. It is not refundable.
- b. All other monies over \$300.00 collected may be used for entry fees, team jackets, shirts or other rodeo supplies as approved by the Team Officers and Sponsor.

- c. Each team member will have an account sheet of the sponsor money they have collected and may view that sheet at any meeting or other convenient time for the Sponsor and the team member.
- d. All monies belonging to non-returning members will become team property on September 1<sup>st</sup>. All monies belonging to returning members whose NTHSRA membership has been paid by September 15<sup>th</sup> will be rolled over to their accounts.
- e. All monies in a graduating senior's account may be withdrawn from his/her account on or after June 1<sup>st</sup> of the year he/she graduates providing that the member is in *Good Standing* and scholastically eligible and does not owe the Team money.
- f. The amount of \$2,000.00 will be left in the general account at the end of each rodeo season

## **Article Nine YEAR-END AWARDS REQUIREMENTS**

Awards may be given to members of the Richland Rodeo Team who have paid their \$300 Team Money and are in *Good Standing* with the team. Year-end awards will be given under the following achievements:

- a. In order to receive an event buckle, you must participate in at least 50% of the NTHSRA rodeos for the season and earn a total of 100 points or more in that event. The Total Points requirement is waived for graduating seniors.
- b. In order to qualify as All Around Cowboy/Cowgirl you must:
  - 1. Participate in 75% of all NTHSRA rodeos during a season;
  - 2. Must place in two or more events;
  - 3. Score a total of 100 points or more in two events;
  - 4. In the case of more than 1 boy and 1 girl qualifying, high point boy and girl will win. If points are tied, the eligible winner will be the one who collected the most sponsor money. If collected money is also tied, a coin flip will decide who gets the buckle and a plaque will be given to the runner-up;
  - 5. The Rookie Cowboy/Cowgirl award is for first year freshmen only. The winner is the rookie cowboy/cowgirl who has the most points. If the points are tied, the winner will be the member who collected the most sponsor money. If collected money is also tied, a coin flip will decide who gets the buckle and a plaque will be given to the runner-up. This award will not be given if there are no points earned;
  - 6. The cut-off date for the awards will be the last official rodeo of the NTHSRA regular season.

### **Section II Special Awards**

Participation or any other desired awards may be given by the Board of Officers (2/3 of officers must be present to vote) and Sponsor *at their discretion*.

## **Article Ten TEAM LOYALTY**

- a. Disloyalty to the Richland Rodeo Team will not be tolerated. Punishment will be determined by the team members who are in *Good Standing* and eligible to vote.
- b. Punishments may include fines and/or suspension from team meetings and functions or expulsion from the team.
- c. Fines/punishments are to be determined by the team members and 2/3 of all eligible voting (Article Four b.) members in *Good Standing* must be in attendance to vote on this. No proxy votes are allowed.

## **Article Eleven BEHAVIOR**

Immoral or inappropriate behavior in public will not be tolerated. Should such behavior be discovered, the team will determine punishments, which may include fines and/or suspension from team meetings and functions or in expulsion from the Team. Fines may be implemented by any Officer or Sponsor during team meetings.

Any team member found under the influence of/or in possession of/or connected with any type of alcohol, drugs or related items (unless prescribed by a physician) while at NTHSRA or a team approved activity will be suspended from all team functions and meetings and will be considered to be a member not in *Good Standing* (Article Three) pending the decision of the Board of Directors. The member will incur a fine to the Team. This fine will be determined by the team members and 2/3 of all eligible voting (Article Four b.) members in *Good Standing* must be in attendance to vote on this. No proxy votes are allowed.

The member may regain *Good Standing* with the team after complying with the directives of the Board of Directors and by paying the fine determined by the team.

Members that are sent to AEP will be suspended from the team for the period of time that they are in the Alternative Education Program and will not be considered to be in *Good Standing* (Article Three) until released from AEP.

## **Article Twelve EXPULSION FROM THE TEAM**

A member may be expelled from the Richland Rodeo Team for violation of the By-Laws or by being disloyal to the team (Article Ten) by a majority vote of all members eligible to vote (Article Four b.) and will forfeit all monies in his/her account (this money will become team property) and membership privileges.

## **Article Thirteen NTHSRA BY-LAWS**

The Team will follow all rules and regulations of the NTHSRA. If any Team By-Laws are not clear, they will reference NTHSRA By-Laws that apply to that rule as a guideline. If the rule is not covered in the NTHSRA By-Laws, the team may vote on a decision.

**Article Fourteen      POWER OF MEMBERS TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS**

**Section I      Amending**

- a. The By-Laws of this team may be amended or new By-Laws may be adopted by the vote of a majority of the members entitled to vote (Article Four b.).
- b. By-Laws may be changed or amended or new By-Laws adopted at the beginning of the new season.
- c. No changes to the By-Laws can be made after they have been submitted to NTHSRA (usually around November 1<sup>st</sup>).
- d. Proposed changes must be presented in writing to all members at or before the meeting designated to review the By-Laws.
- e. Members will have a minimum of seven (7) days to review submitted changes before the meeting designated to vote on the By-Laws.