

FHSRA 2019 – 2020 GROUND RULES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY

It is every member's responsibility to know the Ground Rules as well as the rules of the National High School Rodeo Association rulebook. Any rule that is NOT covered in these Ground Rules and additional rules can be found in the NHSRA rulebook.

MEMBERSHIPS AND FUNDRAISERS

The membership fees for the 2019-2020 are to be paid upon joining the Florida high School Rodeo Association. This includes NHSRA membership, a state family membership for all immediate family members, contestant insurance, contestant state membership, publishing fees, and a subscription to join both the NHSRA Times and Western Horseman Magazine. This fee is updated each season and can be found on the NHSRA application. The state membership fee is \$130.00 and is in addition to the National fee.

MANDATORY FUNDRAISERS:

1. Each member is required to sell 30 raffle tickets (\$10.00 each) – ½ of the ticket sales are due at check in for October rodeo and ½ due at check in for November rodeo. If you sell more than the required \$300.00, FHSRA will split the profits 50/50 with the contestant (pay out at state finals).
2. Each member is required to sell \$150.00 in advertising for the FHSRA Yearbook due at check in for January rodeo. If you sell more than the required \$150.00, FHSRA will split the profits 50/50 with the contestant (pay out at state finals).

New and returning members who join FHSRA after the fundraising deadlines will still be required to pay all monies due.

RODEO CALL IN

The entry enrollment will be via equestevent.com. The link, along with special instructions, will be posted on the website as well as the Facebook page. Entry will begin on the Monday and will end on the Tuesday 2 weeks before the rodeo. Any exception to this will be posted on the official FHSRA website. You will be given a confirmation email after your entry is received. **Contestants MUST enter every month.** There will be no standing call in. **ALL entry enrollment MUST be done via equestevent.com.**

Only during special circumstances, phone/text entries will be accepted on the Tuesday 2 weeks before the rodeo from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Phone/text entries may be sent to 863-840-1217. Contestant will only be allowed to phone/text entry 2 times throughout the season, so use cautiously. When calling/texting please include your username and password.

Late entries will only be accepted on Wednesday. All late entries must be through equestevent.com. There will be a \$100.00 fine for all late entries. Late fee is to be paid with entry fess prior to competition.

All turn-outs, doctor releases, or vet releases must be called in /texted to 863-840-1217 by 9 am on the Friday prior to the rodeo.

The entry enrollment for Cutting, Reined Cow Horse, and Shooting will be posted prior to these events. All details including the entry procedure will be posted on the FHSRA website at a future date.

BAD CHECKS

There will be a \$50.00 charge for all returned checks. After one returned check, you will be on a cash only basis.

BACK NUMBERS

You will be issued your back number at the first rodeo you attend. Student Officers will be issued the following numbers: President-1; Vice President-2; Secretary-3; Queen-10. You are required to wear your back number (on your back), in the arena, and on or off the rodeo grounds whether competing or not. This also means traveling to and from home. If you lose your back number, see the State Secretary to purchase a replacement back number for \$5.00. There will be no refunds given. **Do not get caught without your back number on. This is a requirement of dress code and you will be penalized the same as for dress code rule violations.**

SAT / ACT TESTING

Special accommodations will not be offered for any SAT/ACT, or equivalent testing that may be required for graduation or college preparations. The board will select one scheduled rodeo and delay the start time to allow contestants an opportunity to complete testing. The designated rodeo and start time will be published on our website. Be sure to look over the schedule and plan your testing accordingly. **THERE WILL BE NO SLACK.**

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees will be accepted up to 30 minutes before each performance. Members are to be there on time and pay their entry fees. This will be adhered to or you will be disqualified. In the event of an emergency on the day of the rodeo, you may call 863-840-1217.

Entry fees are listed below. If you enter the rodeo and do not show up, you are responsible for paying the entry fees before you can compete in another FHSRA rodeo.

- All rough stock events: \$40.00 per event
- All timed events: \$40.00 per event
- Cutting and Reined Cow Horse: \$30 per go plus grounds fee if not participating in other events
- Shooting events: \$30 per event plus grounds fee if not participating in other events
- Grounds fee: \$25.00 per family, per weekend.

Money to be paid out in rough stock and timed events. \$8.00 per go will be put into a jackpot fund.

GROUNDS FEES

All grounds fees will be set aside for a travel fund to be used for the National Team members.

TURN OUT RULE

Please see the NHSRA Rulebook. In addition, any contestant that turns out, without giving notification, from an event without visible injury to themselves or their horse must pay all their entry fees for that rodeo. An additional \$25.00 penalty fine for each event at said rodeo must also be paid. If notification of the turnout is given, you will be assessed the entry fees, but not the turnout penalty fee. This includes Cutting, Reined Cow Horse, and Shooting. The PRCA rule concerning this will be followed except for the "out time" pertaining to entering subsequent rodeos. For FHSRA purposes, the Rodeo Secretary must be notified 24 hours prior to the first performance. A contestant or horse with a visible injury may turn out of any event at a rodeo without a doctor's/veterinarian's written excuse provided notification of such turn out is authorized by two directors at that given rodeo. Contestant may turn out of one event and does not have to turn out of all their events. Failure to attend will result in the above fees and penalty, no excuses, unless complied with as outlined above. These monies must be paid before competing in subsequent rodeos. For all rodeos, the Rodeo Secretary, in addition to the appropriate Directors, must be notified of visible injury turnouts.

TURN OUT FINES

- Visible injury: No fees and no fines
- Vet release: No fees and no fines
- Doctor's release: No fees and no fines
- Notified turn out: Fees and no fines
- Non-notified turn out: Fees and fines

PERMIT (ONE TIME) RIDERS

Any high school student enrolled in an accredited school whose age is under 20 on August 1, may enter one FHSRA (2 performances) the student must follow all FHSRA rules, including the following:

- Contestant will receive no points
- Must have notarized release form prior to competing
- Must pay \$35.00 for insurance and handling of paperwork in addition to entry fees and grounds fees (\$15.00 may be applied towards full membership, provided they join prior to next rodeo)
- Must enter during entry enrollment and check back to verify time to perform (members will have preference of performances)

GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Students must be in good standing; not ruled undesirable for misconduct at school. Students must have a 2.0 GPA to be eligible to compete. Refer to the 2018-2020 NHSRA Rulebook for complete rule. At FHSRA, contestants must turn in a report card, transcript, or certified teachers testing results (for home schooled members) from last year to prove enrollment in school. **There is no GPA requirement to start the new 2019-2020 rodeo year.**

Report cards to be submitted to the Report Card Secretary prior to competing in the November, February, and State Finals rodeo by ALL contestants. You must have a 2.0 GPA in order to compete. REPORT CARD DEADLINES AND SUBMITTAL INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED IN ADVANCE ON THE WEBSITE.

GRADE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

- If you *do not* have a 2.0 GPA, you will be penalized 1 rodeo and will remain ineligible to compete until you again have a 2.0 GPA. Your 1 rodeo penalty will be determined once the Report Card Secretary has your report card. It is the contestant's responsibility to verify the Report Card Secretary has received the report card and has assessed the 1 penalty rodeo. Once you have proof you once again have a 2.0 GPA, you must submit the approved documentation to the Report Card Secretary in order to resume competition in said rodeos.
 - Home schooled students must submit a typed report card or use the *FHSRA CONTESTANT REPORT CARD INFORMATION/GRADE VERIFICATION (form found on website)*. **NO HAND-WRITTEN REPORT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED**
- If you have not been issued a report card by the November or February rodeo, you are then required to provide one of the following:
 - *FHSRA CONTESTANT REPORT CARD INFORMATION/GRADE VERIFICATION (form found on website)*
 - *VALIDATED PROGRESS REPORT FROM YOUR SCHOOL (you are then required to submit your report card when issued and prior to the next rodeo. This must be turned into the Report Card Secretary for verification prior to being able to compete.*

DRESS CODE

When required, members, directors, officers, and helpers must be in complete western attire, approved pants, hat, boots which must have a heel and cannot be riding sneakers, belt, and long-sleeved western shirt. Members may remove their belt while competing, but it must be on at all other times. All shirts must have a collar. Shirt sleeves are to be worn rolled down. (See the NHSRA Rulebook for the only exception to this rule). Girls wearing low rise jeans must make sure shirt stays tucked in. Contestants must be in dress code for the State Finals Banquet and all mandatory meetings. We will be abiding by the NHSRA Patch Program.

The above described dress code is required as specified in the NHSRA Rulebook. FHSRA members must be in official dress when in the stands or within 50 feet of the arena, whether competing or not. Contestants must be in official dress 30 minutes prior to rodeo starting and until the last contestant has completed. **Back numbers must be worn on your back at all times, whether competing or not.** Members will be given a warning for the first offense. If they are caught out of dress code again, they will be assessed a \$25.00 fine or the option to work it off Sunday afternoon during the pole bending event and the breakdown of the arena.

Dances/Socials: Contestants are required to wear back numbers at all contestant dances except for PROM. T-shirts with crew neck collars and sleeves may be worn, but no low-cut shirts are allowed. NO CUT-OFF, MIDRIFF, or SLEEVELESS SHIRTS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED. Shirts MUST be tucked in. Any messages on clothing must be positive and cannot advertise alcohol or tobacco products. Western boots and hats are optional. Queen must wear banners and numbers to contestant dances. Any attire deemed inappropriate by an adult chaperone or director/officer must be changed before admittance to the dance will be allowed.

HAT RULE

All contestants must wear a western hat or helmet when they compete. Barrel racers, pole benders, and goat tiers will receive a 5 second penalty if they enter the plane of the arena without their hat on their head. If you are not sure where the plane of the arena starts, you will need to ask the arena director or event director for clarification. Any contestant that shows intentional placement of hat or shaking of head causing loss of hat will result in a 10 second penalty issued by the judge.

POINTS SYSTEM

If you have any questions or complaints regarding points at a rodeo, you have until the final performance of the following rodeo to get this straightened out with the Point Secretary. FHSRA will count all points from 100% of the rodeos to qualify for the State Finals and National Finals in each event. The top 15 in each event will qualify for State Finals. Contestants must compete in 1/3 of the qualifying rodeos in a particular event and received points in that event to be eligible to compete at State Finals in that event. Average points will be awarded to the top 10 contestants in each event at State Finals. The All Around Cowboy and Cowgirl will be determined for the year by total points earned in all events throughout the season, plus points earned at Finals, regardless of whether they have entered those events in their State Finals, provided they have entered their State Finals.

ROOKIE AWARDS

Rookie Cowboy and Cowgirl will be chosen on points the same as All Around. To be eligible for rookie, it must be your first year competing in NHSRA. Rookie buckles will be given at the year-end awards banquet.

ROUGH STOCK

A safety vest and mouthpiece are to be worn in all rough stock events. NO EXCEPTIONS. All contestants are required to complete a safety inspection with the adult event director prior to competing. The adult event director has the authority to mandate if equipment is unsafe to compete with and require a replacement prior to competing. All rough stock riggings must conform to NHSRA standards. **Bull riders are required to wear a helmet.**

TIMED EVENTS

Any contestant knowing they need to be split during the performance and the slack must notify the rodeo secretary during entry enrollment. A contestant has a 30 second time limit to compete. There will be no rattling of chute or gates in timed events. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute will be disqualified.

STEER WRESTLING

For safety reasons, steer wrestlers will only get 1 jump at all rodeos.

CALF ROPING

No jerk down. In the tie down event, a contestant will receive a no time 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.

TEAM ROPING

You will be allowed three loops in team roping with a 30 second time limit. If the front foot is in the loop when the header dallies, turns off, and changes direction of the steer, there will be an automatic NO TIME. If your partner fails to show up or is injured and cannot compete in the team roping, you will be drawn a partner from within the team ropers entered at that rodeo. The drawn partner will not earn points. Each contestant in team roping will receive individual points earned of the same value as contestants in other events. Partners points will be added together to form a team at State Finals. Champions will be the end of the year high point header and heeler. If either partner is disqualified at State Finals, both are out of team roping.

GOAT TYING

The arena will receive a drag before the goat tying event starts. The goats provided will have horns no longer than 8". If the contestant's horse crosses over the rope or goat, or the contestant's horse comes in contact with the goat or rope at any time, a 10 second penalty will be assessed. If the goat should breakaway because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will receive a no time. Arena help will not catch the contestant's horse until the flag has been dropped. To qualify as a legal wrap, there must be at least one complete wrap around at least 3 legs and a half hitch, hooey, or a knot. Goats will be divided by the number of contestants. Goats will remain on the stake for the number of runs that is necessary.

BARRELS

Barrel racing contestants may not ride the same horse. Barrel drags will be determined by the management of the rodeo which consists of the event director, judges, vice president, national director, and rodeo host committee. Barrels will have pads placed on the top of each barrel during the barrel event.

POLES

Pole bending contestants may not ride the same horse. If running pattern towards stock pens, no stock will be loaded. Pole drags will be determined by the management of the rodeo which consists of the event director, judges, vice president, national director, and rodeo host committee.

CUTTING

Cuttings will be held on weekends separate from the rodeo. Information can be found on the website regarding the schedule, locations, and entry information. The cutting competition will be offered at a minimum of 3 times at the qualifying level. No two boys or girls can ride the same horse in this event. The cutting competition will only count towards all around at the state finals. Contestants must compete in at least 75% of the scheduled cuttings to be eligible to compete in the event at State Finals.

REINED COW HORSE

Reined cow horse will be held on weekends separate from the rodeo. Information can be found on the website regarding the schedule, locations, and entry information. The reined cow horse competition will be offered at a minimum of 3 times at the qualifying level. This event is coed. No two boys or girls can ride the same horse in this event. The reined cow horse competition will only count towards all around at the state finals. Contestants must compete in at least 75% of the scheduled reined cow horse events to be eligible to compete in the event at State Finals.

SHOOTING

Information can be found on the website regarding the schedule, locations, and entry information. Shooting points are separate from the rodeo. Shooting points will follow the same point system at the rodeo except they DO NOT apply to the rodeo. Contestants

must compete in at least 75% of the scheduled matches in a particular event (trap, rifle) to be eligible to compete in the event at State Finals.

ALL EVENTS

In all events, the adult event director may disqualify a contestant if they cannot compete in a timely manner for safety reasons. All contestants will be given 2 attempts to enter the arena or start their run, at which time they will be placed on a 1 minute clock.

All chain, metal, and wire tiedowns, nosebands, and bosals must be covered.

STATE FINALS

State Finals stock will be drawn with one stock per contestant, plus three extras in all events.

TIES AND TIE BREAKERS

All ties will be handled as follows:

- Points will be split equally between the contestants.
- Awards/buckles awarded at rodeos throughout the year and at State Finals will be duplicated, except for the Champion.
- There will only be one champion in each event for the end of the year awards. Therefore, these ties will be a runoff after the regular competition according to PRCA or college rodeo guidelines.
- **Each contestant will compete on one head and the best time or score will win the tie breaker.** Contestants will draw to see who goes first. In the rough stock competition, 2 animals will be drawn from a minimum of 3 animals, by the event director, stock contractor, and judges. No animal will be bucked back to back.

NATIONAL MONEY DISTRIBUTION

Timed events contestants and the FHSRA Queen receive a larger percentage of expense money for National Finals than rough stock and shooting contestants.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The FHSRA is conducted by the NHSRA rulebook and the FHSRA ground rules. It is the contestants and parent's responsibility to know and understand the rules. If you do not understand the rules, ask a director or officer of the FHSRA. If you are disqualified for breaking any of the association rules, you are entitled to a hearing before the board of directors. Refer to the NHSRA 2018-2020 Rules, by-laws, and rulebook for all rules pertaining to conduct and levels of disciplinary action.

Duration of rodeo is from the time you leave your residence headed to the rodeo until the time you return to your residence following the rodeo.

STUDENT OFFICERS / QUEEN JOB DESCRIPTION

QUEEN

- The Queen shall coordinate a Grand Entry with the student members. The Grand Entry should include the American Flag, sponsor flags, National Anthem, prayer, introduction of student officers, followed by the rest of the student participants.
- The Queen shall wear her banner/sash when required to be in official dress code. She is also required to be in western attire during rodeos, whether competing or not.
- The Queen is responsible for care, cleaning, and transportation of the flags to all rodeos, expenses for maintenance to be reimbursed by FHSRA, with receipts provided.
- The Queen is responsible for selling \$500 in raffle tickets, in addition to her required \$300 for regular membership.
- The Queen will plan and attend at least 2 community service projects during the rodeo season. Coordination with the directors will be needed to ensure a coordinated event.
- The Queen will be responsible for other duties as determined by the Board of Directors to be in the best interest of the FHSRA.
- Members may not run for Queen and a student office.
- The Queen will pay \$10 of each entry fee, with the association covering the remainder of the entry fees. All other expenses such as hook-ups, stall fees, etc. are the responsibility of the Queen.
- The Queen is required to sign and follow a code of conduct and will be held to a higher standard than other members.
- The Queen will be allowed to keep her crown.

STUDENT PRESIDENT

- Must be present at rodeo's Grand Entry.
- Call for and conduct all student meetings and coordinate nominations and elections of Student Event Directors.

- Will attend director's meetings when requested.
- Will be responsible for other duties as determined by the Board of Directors to be in the interest of FHSRA.
- Must be in western attire at all rodeos whether competing or not.
- The Student President will oversee all banner coordination and placement at each rodeo.
- Will assist the Queen with community service projects and promote the FHSRA to the youth and adults alike throughout the state.
- The Student President is required to sign and follow a code of conduct and will held to a higher standard than other members.

STUDENT VICE PRESIDENT

- Assume the duties of the Student President when they are unavailable.
- Must be present at rodeo's Grand Entry.
- Will attend director's meetings when requested.
- Will be responsible for other duties as determined by the Board of Directors to be in the interest of FHSRA.
- Assist in fund raising events for the FHSRA and student fund.
- Assist arena director with all duties.
- Must be in western attire at all rodeos whether competing or not.
- The Student Vice President is required to sign and follow a code of conduct and will held to a higher standard than other members.

STUDENT SECRETARY

- Must be present at rodeo's Grand Entry.
- Assist in fund raising events for the FHSRA and student fund.
- Send appropriate correspondence to rodeo sponsors, members, etc.
- Will attend director's meetings when requested.
- Will be responsible for other duties as determined by the Board of Directors to be in the interest of FHSRA.
- Assist State Secretary in retrieving score sheets and communication with Rodeo Secretary during rodeos.
- Must be in western attire at all rodeos whether competing or not.
- The Student Secretary is required to sign and follow a code of conduct and will held to a higher standard than other members.