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MHSRA/JR. HIGH GROUND RULES (Revised 01/24/2021)

Introduction: These are the ground rules for the Montana High School/Jr. High Rodeo Association.

MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership applications, copies of birth certificates for rookie members, grades, and fees are due before any rodeos may be entered. Membership applications that are filled out completely, signed, and notarized in the appropriate places, and any other paperwork due, must be uploaded to the NHSRA MMS (Membership Management System), not mailed to the State Offices. Membership fees must be paid with a cashier's check, money order, or credit card, and sent to the State Office. There is an extra charge for using a credit card. You will not be an eligible member until your completed membership application and paperwork are uploaded to the NHSRA MMS and membership fees are received by the State Secretary.

B. Report Cards – 1st semester grades are due prior to entering spring rodeos. 2nd semester grades are due at check-in for the State Finals or with membership application in the Fall. **NO REPORT CARDS – NO RODEOS.**

C. Copy of Birth Certificate for all rookie memberships.

D. High School - \$154 Membership Fee – CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER ONLY.
Jr. High - \$110 Membership Fee - CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER ONLY.

E. Non-members cannot enter/compete/practice at any MHSRA approved rodeo or insured event. There will be no exhibition rides during any Montana High School rodeo or practice.

F. Determination of District: Membership is registered by location of mailing address. If a change is needed, the member must petition the Board.

G. Deadlines: All deadlines will be announced by the State Office through mail and the MHSRA website and all deadlines are final.

ENTERING RODEOS

A. Entries will be done by phone or by online entries only. On the Monday, at midnight, before call in entries, all online entries will close so the secretaries can pull the entries in from the website. Call in

entries will be done on Tuesdays from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. Entries will be posted on Wednesday to view as an entry confirmation only. This will not be in the draw order, or the order of events. When entering online you will receive a confirmation email, and that will be your confirmation number to have with you at the rodeos to verify your entry. If you choose to do the call in entries, you will receive a confirmation number. The Entry Open/Close and Call Back times and dates are published on the website and in the Cowboy's Digest.

B. Call Backs – Call Backs are on Thursday after entry for a rodeo from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. Changes/Draw Outs can be done at this time for rodeo, or rodeos, that are being entered that week. If you do not call back, your entries will stay as posted.

C. When entering team events, only one partner needs to enter for the team.

D. Rodeo Application Date: completed membership applications must be at the State Office by the date listed on each rodeo listing or members will not be eligible to enter that rodeo. Completed applications include, all signatures by member and parents, all information filled out, CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER made out to MHSRA for \$154.00 for High School, or \$110 MHSRA Jr. High for Jr. High, last semester grades, and new members must have a copy of their birth certificate.

E. Entry fees for High School/Jr. High are \$15.00 per timed event, \$25.00 per rough stock event, \$7.50 fee for Judges/MHSRA/Central Entry (per rodeo), MANDATORY \$10 Jackpot, per event for High School and MANDATORY \$5 Jackpot per event for Jr. High, and \$2.00 MHSRA/Jr. High Gate Fee (per event). Entry fees must be paid before competing in a rodeo. If a member competes before fees are paid, they will receive a no score or no time in that event.

F. A TURN-OUT FINE of \$10.00 per rodeo and all entry fees will be collected if a member turns out, without a Medical/Vet Release. If a member turns out of a rodeo, they will be marked as ineligible on Monday morning, and they will be unable to enter another rodeo until that is paid. They can call the MHSRA, or MHSRA Jr. High State Office by 4:00 pm, on that Monday, and pay the Turn Out fees by Credit Card.

G. Medical/Veterinary Releases – If a contestant Meds out of Rodeos/Cuttings the release MUST be signed by a Doctor (for Med Out) and be turned into the State Secretary to arrive WITHIN 72 HOURS of the rodeo. Medical Outs MUST present another doctor's release to med back in and resume competition. If a contestant pays their fees and then Vets Out of an event, no fees will be refunded to the contestant. This was passed at the January 2010 Board of Directors meeting. Change in Vet Out, voted on at the June 7th, 2017 Board meeting. Any member wanting to Vet Release out of a rodeo (after entries have closed) will have to pay a \$30 per event, per rodeo, fee, with \$20 going to the committee to cover stock charges, and \$10.00 to MHSRA/Jr. High. If fees are paid for both rodeos and the contestant needs to Vet Out for the next day, said contestant has the option to have fees returned to them but will still need to pay the \$30.00 Vet Out fee.

H. All money will be collected by the Local Secretary; entry fees, jackpot, MHSRA/Jr. High, Judges, Central Entry and Gate Fees; plus requests by the State Office for turn-out charges and fines, or NSF check fines.

I. All MHSRA/Jr. High approved qualifying rodeos have a mandatory jackpot for contestants. The High School mandatory jackpot fee is \$10 per event, per rodeo, and will be paid out per rodeo. The Jr. High mandatory jackpot fee is \$5 per event, per rodeo, and will be paid out per rodeo. MHSRA/Jr.

High Finals have a Mandatory jackpot of \$30 per event to be paid 1st Go, 2nd Go, and the average of the first 2 Goes.

J. A \$25.00 fine will be charged for a NSF check. Members will be placed on a cash basis only at the time and a list will be sent to all local secretaries. Member will not compete in any rodeos until all fees and fines are paid. Members will remain on a cash only basis indefinitely.

K. Late entries will NOT be accepted by Central Entry, Local Secretaries, or State Secretary. The State Directors will support this rule.

L. There will be NO SET-UPS and NO TRADE OUTS.

M. If you no show an event and “then” check in, you can compete in all other events entered, but you cannot compete in the NO SHOW event. You will have to pay entry fees in all events, even the one you no showed. Example 1: You are late to the rodeo (your auto breaks down). You check-in, pay all fees for all events ; you can compete in the rest of your events. Example 2: You check-in, pay your fees, you are at your trailer and miss your first event. You are disqualified in all events for that Rodeo, unless it’s injury related. You must make an attempt on all events entered. It is the contestants responsibility to know when they are up. NHSRA Rule – Contestant Disqualifications Section.

M.H.S.R.A./JR. HIGH APPROVED RODEOS

A. District rodeos will no longer be held or sanctioned by MHSRA/Jr. High.

B. Montana will have one go rodeos with one set of points for each rodeo; 1st rodeo points 55 per event, 2nd rodeo points 55 per event. Example: 1st – 10 pts, 2nd – 9 pts, 3rd – 8 pts, 4th – 7 pts, 5th – 6 pts, 6th – 5 pts, 7th – 4 pts, 8th – 3pts, 9th – 2 pts, 10th – 1 pt.

C. In all timed events there is a 30 second time limit. Example: 29.99 + penalties is a legal time. 30.0 on timer’s watch is a No Time.

D. Youth rodeos can be combined with a High School Rodeo, if each Association takes their own entries. If contestant belongs to both associations, they pay fees to both. Each association will figure their own jackpot winners and points winners. Each will share in the cost of the Stock Contractor. Each association will set up their program. Questions; call the State Office.

E. Each local rodeo committee will provide two bull fighters to be in the arena at all times during the Bull Riding event. No NHSRA/MHSRA member is allowed to pick up, or fight bulls, at MHSRA/Jr. High sanctioned rodeos.

F. Rodeo secretaries and timers at all MHSRA/Jr. High approved rodeos must be certified by attending an MHSRA secretary and timer’s clinic.

G. Breakaway Roping, Tie Down Roping and Team Roping Loops - In the event of safety concerns rodeos may revert to 1 loop in the breakaway roping and tie down roping and 2 loops in the team roping with the consent of arena director and two state directors, or in the event of unavailability for two state directors, any district directors that have been proxied.

I. Ribbon Roping – Ribbon Roping rules will follow the Tie Down Roping rules concerning the stock requirements and weight limits. No more than button sized horns per Director’s approval on site.

J. All qualifying rodeos and State Finals rodeos will be required to have medical assistance readily available while all MHSRA/Jr. High sanctioned rodeos are in progress, including MHSRA and Jr. High State Finals Rodeos. Required equipment will be as follows:

- * On site AED (automated external defibrillator)
- * First Aid supplies (including those to treat airway emergencies)
- * Back board on grounds with Emergency Medical Responders
- * At least one on duty person trained in Emergency Medical Repsonse
- * Ambulance is required on site if nearest hospital is more than 10 minutes away from rodeo Grounds.
- * Phone number to nearest hospital posted
- * Grounds must have a land line or cell phone service with a good signal to contact hospital if Needed.

STATE FINALS AND POINTS TO STATE

A. State Finals will be 2 Go Rounds for all contestants, in all events. The State Rodeo winners for High School and Jr. High will be the best total time/scores of the 1st and 2nd Go Rounds. Championship Go Round for High School is 16 contestants and any ties for the 16th position. The top sixteen contestants with the most overall points for year-end will go on to the Championship Go Round. Contestants will take their accumulative points into the Championship Go Round. Championship Go Round for Jr. High is 10 contestants and any ties for the 10th position. The top 10 contestants with the most overall points for year-end will go on to the Championship Go Round.

B. Year End Championships/National Qualifiers will be determined by the Total Accumulative Points, which will be points into the State Rodeo + 1st Go (20) + 2nd Go (20) + Championship Go (20) + Average Points (20) + Bonus Points (0).

C. Registration fee for High School will be \$100.00 per event, and registration fee for Jr. High will be \$50 per event, approved by the State Board of Directors.

D. Each member of High School and Jr. High entering the State competition will pay a mandatory \$30 jackpot fee per event (\$10 first go, \$10 second go, \$10 State Rodeo average), approved by the State Board of Directors.

E. Points: A member must earn 1 point at a Qualifying or District Rodeo or Cutting to enter the State Finals. The point system is outlined in the NHSRA Rule book point systems. In Montana each contestant can take their best 7 Rodeos/7 Cuttings for points going into State.

F. Clarification of points coming into the State Rodeo: Clarification of points must be made prior to the start of the first go round at the State Rodeo of that event.

G. All-Around Points - are calculated as the best 7 rodeos per event (season points), plus all points earned at the State Finals, except Cutting and Cow Horse. Only points earned at State Finals, in the Cutting and Cow Horse, count towards the All Around, as per the NHSRA Rule Book. Any member qualifying in and entering more than one event at the State Finals, will be included in the All Around.

H. State Finals Rodeo Championship Round Stock Selection: For the Championship round at the State Finals Rodeo the adult state event director, student state event director, state rodeo judges,

and stock contractor shall select the best suited stock for contestants in each event with the final stock selection decision made by the student state event director and the adult state event director.

I. Dairy influenced cattle and/or calves may be used at the State Finals Rodeo with Board approval. All stock to be inspected by designated State Directors two weeks prior to the State Finals Rodeo.

COW CUTTING/COW HORSE

A. MHSRA will use Option 2 in the NHSRA Rule Book. In the event that district cuttings are held, MHSRA will pay the District Cutting Host committee \$150.00 to help with the cost of the Cutting judge, cattle, etc.

B. All-around points will be awarded at the State Finals only, as per NHSRA Rule Book. Contestants may cut at any District Cutting, regardless of when, or where, it is, but you receive event points for year-end only.

C. At State Finals, once a cow has been used in the Reined Cow Horse, it cannot be reused in any event.

QUEEN CONTEST

A. MHSRA Queen contest will be held at the State Rodeo.

B. A girl accepting the position as the MHSRA State Queen and accepts the awards as such, must represent Montana at the NHSFR. In the event she chooses not to represent Montana, she will relinquish the title, awards and prizes, to the next qualified contestant. Reign is from the State Finals Rodeo to the completion of the State Finals Rodeo the next year.

SCHOLARSHIPS

A. There will be four senior scholarships in the amount of \$500.00. Each applicant must mail their scholarship application to the State Office by the date designated on the application and attend their interview with the Scholarship Committee during the State Finals. Winners are given a letter, stating that they must submit proof of enrollment at an accredited university or trade school, submit grades and proof of registration each semester, and submit proof of membership in a rodeo affiliated association. All scholarships have to be claimed within two years of being awarded or the scholarship will be forfeited.

B. The Montana Pro Rodeo Hall and Wall of Fame scholarships will be for the amount of \$3000.00 each. Each applicant must mail their scholarship application to the State Office by the date designated on the application and attend their interview with the Scholarship Committee during the State Finals. Winners are given a letter, stating that they must submit proof of enrollment at an accredited university or trade school, submit grades and proof of registration each semester, and submit proof of membership in a rodeo affiliated association.

STUDENT OFFICERS

A. MHSRA By-Laws indicate the High School Student President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Queen shall have one vote each on the State Board of Directors.

STATE DIRECTORS

A. There will be a State Director or a District Director assigned to all rodeos in their District. If the State Director cannot make it to a rodeo in their District they must assign another State Director or District Director to be there. This is to ensure that all rodeos are following the NHSRA/MHSRA/Jr. High rules.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

A. Will also be Director at Large. A new State Director will be voted in by that District if they were a State Director.

RUDE CONDUCT

A. MHSRA/JR. HIGH WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY FOUL LANGUAGE OR RUDE CONDUCT AT ANY MHSRA/JR. HIGH APPROVED EVENT, CONTESTANT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. IF ANY OFFICIAL/DIRECTOR RECEIVES A COMPLAINT OR WITNESSES AN INCIDENT THEY SHOULD REPORT IT TO THE STATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

RODEO COMMITTEES/CONTRACTORS

A. If any problem comes up with a Committee/Contractor, not following rules, payouts, bad checks, etc., they cannot have any more rodeos until it is corrected per State Board's approval.

STATE LOGO

A. MHSRA adopted the logo pictured at the top left corner of these Ground Rules at the August 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

B. MHSRA logo may only be used with approval from the State Board of Directors (1/16/10 meeting).

JUDGES

A. A \$2.00 Judges charge per contestant will be collected at all qualifying rodeos.

B. Judges must have a MHSRA Judges card to be eligible to judge a MHSRA/Jr. High approved rodeo. The card is to run concurrently with the student members cards and cost is \$25.00. MHSRA Judges Committees will assign the rodeos to the judges that are on the approved list.

MAGIC SEATS

A. The use of the Magic Seat or any variation thereof is illegal to use in any MHSRA approved rodeo.

GROUND MONEY

A. If no one qualifies in an event, the jackpot money will be ground split, to those contestants in that event. Jackpot money belongs to members jackpotting.

RULE CHANGES

A. Rule changes can be proposed and voted upon at any MHSRA Board of Directors meeting that has been properly announced.

CHEMICAL ABUSE

A. MHSRA/Jr. High prohibits the use of all tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, vaping, marijuana products, and narcotic or other non-medicinal drugs by all contestants/members at any MHSRA event. This includes the restrooms, concession areas, seating areas, performance areas, and their entrances. The prohibition of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, vaping, marijuana, and narcotic and other non-medicinal drugs at MHSRA/Jr. High events serves to protect the health, safety and welfare of participants, livestock, and fans of the MHSRA/Jr. High.

B. For the first offense (with documentation) the member will be suspended for 5 weekends. For the second offense the member will be out for 1 year. This means that a member going to/from a MHSRA/Jr. High approved rodeo, at any function at the rodeo, at or on rodeo grounds, at a Motel/Hotel or in the hosting community while at a MHSRA/Jr. High approved rodeo. This includes the day before and the day after a rodeo with verification of the violation and includes home-town members.

DESIGNATED RECEIVER

A. If the MHSRA/Jr. High folds (dissolves), FRIENDS OF RODEO will receive all assets of the MHSRA/Jr. High.

ATTIRE

A. MHSRA/Jr. High contestants, parents, adults, helpers and assistants will follow the NHSRA rule book on Western Attire at all MHSRA/Jr. High approved rodeos. Contestants who violate this rule will be DISQUALIFIED upon the discretion of the Judges, Arena Director, District Director, State Director or National Director.