

**MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
*A MICHIGAN NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION*

**ARTICLE I**

**PURPOSE AND AIMS**

1. To maintain order and standards set up by the National High School Rodeo Association and the Michigan High School Rodeo Association, Inc. among members at their functions. The Michigan High School Rodeo Association, Inc. (at all times herein referred to as Association) is organized exclusively for charitable and education purposes.
2. To promote Jr. High and High School rodeo on a state wide scale and work toward this by bringing state wide recognition to this activity for students who are under twenty (20) at the first of the Association year (August 1), and are, or have been enrolled in the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>), sixth (6<sup>th</sup>), seventh (7<sup>th</sup>), eighth (8<sup>th</sup>), ninth (9<sup>th</sup>), tenth (10<sup>th</sup>), eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) or twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade the year just preceding the National Finals Rodeo the contestant is entering, 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 National High School Rodeo through National Championship Finals. Any student attending schools, which apply to high school credits, is eligible for membership if he/she meets minimum grade requirements of National High School Rodeo Association and all other requirements of his/her school.
3. To promote the highest type of conduct and sportsmanship at the various rodeos by setting up standards to be met to reach this goal.
4. To keep the Western Heritage alive in America, and the state of Michigan.
5. To promote a closer relationship among the people interested in this activity and the organizations they represent.
6. To increase and maintain interest of the Jr. High and High School student in rodeo and other functions of the nation and to promote humane treatment of animals.
7. It is the intent of the Association to encourage any student to continue in school as a regularly enrolled student and to improve his/her education.
8. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit or be distributed to its member, 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 distribution in furtherance of the purposed set forth in paragraphs, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be carried on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the participation in or intervention in including the publishing or distribution of statement (s), any political campaign on behalf of the candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision except as provided in these Articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted.

- a. By a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Law), or
  - b. By a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Sections 170c (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
9. In the event of dissolution of this non-profit corporation, any assets belonging to the 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 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Law), as the Board of this corporation had determined. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed 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 purpose.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Association shall be statewide. The Association will be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws set forth and voted upon by the membership at the annual meeting.
2. The Association is incorporated, not for profit, and shall abide by the laws of Michigan and Federal laws and regulations. The Association shall have Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and By-Laws consistent with the National High School Rodeo Association Constitution and By-Laws.
3. Dues: That the annual membership fee shall be set each year by the Board. The annual membership dues will entitle each member and one (1) parent a vote at the annual meeting.
4. Membership: Any member, student, or adult, who makes themselves incompatible to the operation of the program by words or deed, may be disciplined by the Association either by probation, suspension, or expulsion.

## ARTICLE III

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. There shall be a Board of Directors of the Association which shall consist of eleven (11) adult members and the youth board. There shall be two (2) directors to serve from each of the three ~~districts~~ **regions**.

2. A president shall be elected to a two-year term. The Vice President shall be elected to a one-year term. A Secretary and/or Treasurer shall be elected to a one (1) year term. All directors shall be elected by the general membership at the annual meeting with voting rights in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. The six (6) student officers will serve on the board of directors having combined voting power to equal two (2) votes.  
The state shall be divided into three ~~districts~~ **regions**:
  - a. NORTH: US 27 north of Lansing to the Mackinaw Bridge and all north of I-96 east and M-59 east from Lansing to Lake St. Clair. (also, to include the Upper Peninsula)
  - b. SOUTH: I-69 north to I-96 to M-59 east
  - c. WEST: West of I-69 to Lansing to US-27 to I-75 to the Mackinaw Bridge.
3. At the annual meeting of the membership each year, the members of the Association shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer and Directors for the ~~districts~~ **regions** for the term of office which expires that year or is left vacant by resignation or any other reason. At the annual meeting ~~in 1989~~ there shall be elected two (2) directors from each ~~district~~ **region**, one for a one (1) year term and one for a two (2) year term. The directors shall then serve staggering terms of two (2) years thereafter and shall be able to be re-elected upon expiration of the then term of office. If in the event of no ~~district~~ **region** representation or lack of willing qualified and duly elected directors, directors may come from existing directors, regions or out of state, provided they are a member of the association.
4. The board shall meet monthly, unless otherwise provided for by the Directors by order on their minutes. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President on ten (10) day notice to each Director either personally, by mail, telephone or ~~telegraph~~ **email** and shall be held at such time and place as is specified in the notice thereof.
5. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to do business.
6. The Board of Directors shall approve the executive committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of members of the Board of Directors including the National Director, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, according to the NHSRA rule book. This committee shall have all the power of the Board of Directors to transact business of any emergency nature between the Board of Directors meetings. All transactions at this meeting shall be reported in full at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.
7. The Board of Directors shall:
  - a. Transact the general business of the Association.
  - b. Establish major administrative policies governing the affairs of the Association's growth and development.
  - c. Have the power to fill all vacancies on the Board of Directors. In the event a Director misses two (2) un-excused, consecutive meetings, that board member shall be replaced.
8. The Board of Directors of the Association shall elect a National Director whose name shall be submitted to the Secretary of the National Association in accordance with the By-Laws of the NHSRA. **The initial term of the National Director shall be for two (2) years and succeeding terms shall be for five (5) years.**

9. The Association shall be responsible for their National Director's legitimate expenses, or his/her designee, while attending the National High School Rodeo Association Mid-Winter meeting, the National High School Finals Rodeo, and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo.
10. The National Director's duties on the State Level shall include:
  - a. Acting as coordinator in all State sanctioned rodeos.
  - b. Acting as mediator in all State sanctioned rodeos.
  - c. Representative for the State Association to the National Association.
  - d. National duties to include all set forth by the National High School Rodeo Association rule book.

Any flagrant abuse of the rules will be brought to the attention of the National Director. In the event a conflict cannot be resolved with the National Director and a rodeo performance is in danger of being held up, an emergency conference may be invoked with the State President or designee. At such conference, the parties involved, National Director and State President or designee shall be present. Executive action may be required, and a contestant may be disqualified.

It is in the best interest of the rodeo, for contestants and spectators to resolve problems as soon as possible and to continue with a performance. Judges, Arena Directors and Board Members should cooperate with the National Director in all matters. The decision reached by the National Director shall remain final unless reversed by the State Executive Committee whose action will come before the State Board of Directors at the next regular meeting.

## ARTICLE IV

### **OFFICERS**

1. The officers of the Association shall be:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer

The officers shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting. All officers must be members of the Association. Any adult member elected as a director or officer will automatically be a member of the MHSRA.

2. The officers of the Association shall perform the duties usually performed by such officers, together with such duties as shall be prescribed by the By-Laws of the Association.
  - a. The President shall be the Chairman of the Board of Directors and an ex-officio member of all committees.
  - 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. Vice President shall schedule and plan rodeos.

- d. The Secretary or designee shall keep complete minutes of all the meetings of the Association. The Secretary shall issue membership cards to all members and keep a record of all the placing of rodeos during the year. The Secretary shall preserve all the documents of the association.
  - e. A recording secretary may record notes of all the meetings of the Association and shall provide copies to the State Secretary.
  - f. The Treasurer shall collect, receive, and have charge of all funds of the Association and deposit such funds in the bank designated by the Board of Directors. All liabilities of the Association shall be paid in a timely manner and with approval of the Board of Directors. Regular reports shall be made to the Board of Directors and all documents shall be kept on file.
3. The term of office for all officers of the Association shall be one year, but not limited to one year, except with the President being a two (2) year term.
  4. Any officer elected or appointed by the Association may be removed from the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the best interest of the Association would be served thereby.
  5. A vacancy, in any office because of resignation, removal, disqualification or other reason, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the remaining portion of the term.
  6. The 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 Directors. In the absence of such specifications, each officer shall have the powers and authority and shall perform and discharge the duties of officers of the same title serving in non-profit corporations having the same or similar general purposes and objectives as this Association.

## ARTICLE V

### STUDENT OFFICERS AND DELEGATES

1. There shall be representation of students at the Board of Directors meetings. These High School representatives shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary and Queen; Jr. High shall be Jr. High President and Princess. The student representatives shall have two (2) votes.
2. The students shall elect a High School President, Vice-President, Secretary; Jr. High President to preside over the activities of the contestants for the coming year. In the event the student President is named Queen of the Association, the Vice President shall assume the position as President.
3. Procedure for election of officers to conform to Robert's Rules of Order on Parliamentary Procedure.
4. The election shall be at the general contestants meeting at the State Finals each year.
5. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

6. The student officers shall attend all Board meetings and make such other trips and appearances as the adult officers may direct.
7. Student officers shall collect and receive information and requests for changes in the conduct of the State Finals and pass these requests on to the Association's Board of Directors.
8. Newly elected officers will take office on August 1 following the State Finals at which they were elected.
9. The Association's contestants and student representatives shall be members of the National High School Rodeo Association.
10. The officers representing the student body shall have a total of two votes at all board meetings.
11. Contestant Numbers will be issued to the student officers:

President	# 1
Vice President	# 2
Secretary	# 3
Queen	# 10

*Or as stated in the NHSRA rule book.*

## ARTICLE VI

### MEETINGS

1. The Annual meeting of the Association shall be held at the time and place set by the Board of Directors and shall take place at the State Finals Rodeo. The Board of Directors may set such other meetings as are necessary by order on the minutes.
2. Notice of the annual meeting of members shall be given by the Secretary at least twenty (20) days and not more than sixty (60) days before the annual meeting. Notice of amendments to the By-Laws shall be included in said notice. Any proposed by-law changes must be presented, in writing, to the Board of Directors no later the mid-winter meeting prior to the annual meeting which they shall be voted upon. The membership list maintained by the Secretary shall be closed sixty (60) days prior to the meeting for the purpose of notice. Only those who are members at the time of the closing of the membership list are eligible to vote at the annual meeting.
3. 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 of Directors.
  - b. Address of the President.
  - c. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

- d. Reports of Officers.
  - e. Reports of standing committees.
  - f. Reports of special committees.
  - g. Election of directors and officers
  - h. Old Business
  - i. New Business
    - Business discussed and passed by the membership will be placed on the agenda for the Board of Directors for final action.
  - j. Other Business
4. The meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.
5. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the members. A quorum must be present for any official transaction of business.
6. In the intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, the President of the Association may refer and submit by mail, telephone, ~~or telegraph~~ email to the members of the Board of 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 Directors. The result of such a referendum, which requires a majority vote on the members of the Board of Directors, shall control the action of the Association and of its Board, Officers, sections, committees, agents, and employees.

## ARTICLE VII

### COMMITTEES

**EXECUTIVE:** Chairman-President of the Association. Members to include, National Director, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Committee shall meet as necessary as determined by the President. Purpose; to provide structure and continuity among the board and to conduct business as it arises.

**NOMINATIONS:** Purpose; to prepare a slate of candidates for the Board of Directors. Nominations will be made in writing and turned into the committee before the first performance of State Finals. In the absence of two (2) or more written nominations for an office, the nominating committee will consider all other possible candidates. The nominating committee shall interview perspective candidates and shall present a slate of nominees to the Board of Directors. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor at the time of elections.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Purpose; 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 brochures and videos designed to improve public awareness and increase membership.

**RULES AND BY-LAWS:** Purpose; to review Association on rules and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding changes. Any proposed changes in rules must be submitted to the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to State Finals. By-law changes must be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than the date of the mid winter meeting prior to the annual meeting. By-law changes may not be submitted from the floor at the annual meeting.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE:** Purpose; to establish and oversee the annual budget of the Association, to direct and review the annual audit, review all financial procedures and expenses and properties of the Association.

**YOUTH ADVISORY:** Purpose; to assure that the students and student officers are represented on a state level. The committee shall organize student delegates meetings and direct all student officer's meetings and organize all promotional trips.

**RODEO:** Purpose; to meet with festival committees and community leaders to provide them with information about Jr. High and High School Rodeo and to provide assistance in putting the rodeo package together. This committee shall provide contracts and see to the necessary paperwork concerning the contracts and provide signed copies to the State Secretary.

**RODEO PERSONNEL:** Purpose; to acquire all personnel needed to work the rodeo performances. Personnel would include but not limited to: Judges, flaggers, timers, secretaries, announcers, all arena help, arena director etc.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **RODEOS**

1. State 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 shall not be qualified to enter the National High School Finals Rodeo.
2. Association shall conduct a State Jr. High and High School Rodeo Finals.
3. The minimum Jr. High and State 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 final in which at least the top ten (10) go.
4. Rodeos are to be open to all students attending schools which apply to Jr. High and High School credit if he/she meets all other requirements.
5. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold on the ground during any Association sponsored rodeo.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **GENERAL RULES**

All general rules and procedures for contestants and rodeos will be consistent with, but not limited by, the current year's NHSRA rule book. The rule books shall be made available by the state secretary.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended at any annual meeting by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at which meeting a duly constituted quorum is present and proper notice given of the proposed changes. Notice of the proposed changes must be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than the mid winter meeting and shall be included with the notice of the annual meeting.

*By-Laws submitted for ratification June 1989. Revised and Submitted for ratification June 19, 1994. Revised and Submitted for ratification June 17, 2001. Revised and Submitted for ratification, June 19, 2011. Revised and Submitted for ratification, August 28, 2021. Revised and submitted for ratification, August 27, 2025.*