

Rule proposals for 2011:

F=For

O=Opposed

A=Abstain

- 1) UPDATE RULE, MEMBERSHIP, rule 1e: F:23 O:0 A:2

Officials. All officials (secretaries, flagmen, pickup men, judges and official timers) must be MSRA members, day permits are not allowed.

- 2) ADD RULE, MEMBERSHIP, RULE 1q: No Motion

Labor Cards. An optional labor card will be offered for chute workers, flankmen, calf untiers, etc. The cost of this card will be eighty-five dollars (\$85). This is a non-competing card.

- 3) Add Rule to FINALS RODEO, make rule 2bii: F: 13 O:12 A:0

Must compete at 3 first approved MSRA rodeos to qualify for the finals

- 4) Update Rule in TURN-OUT, VISIBLE INJURY OR ILLNESS AND DOCTOR RELEASE PROCEDURES, make rule 3.a.: F:20 O: 0 A:2

Doctor Release/Vet Release.

Procedure. A contestant may doctor release, or vet release in the Cowgirls Barrel Racing only, thus waiving all obligations for entry fees, turn-out fines, and mount monies, provided: A) Contestant has an injury or illness which prevents him from competing in one or more events for which he is entered at a rodeo; B) Contestant notifies the rodeo Secretary (or member of the Board of Directors if unable to contact rodeo secretary) of the intended doctor releases no later than three hours prior to the performance for which the contestant's first go-round competition is scheduled and C) A doctor verification on doctor's letterhead bearing the doctor's name, address and phone number, signed by a licensed doctor, is received by the MSRA Office within seven days of the date of the last performance of the first rodeo for which the contestant doctor released. Failure to submit such a doctor's verification will result in a fine equal to the entry fees for the event in question plus an additional \$50

- 5) COWGIRLS BARREL RACING, RULE 10b: F:19 O:2 A:0

Ground Must Be Worked After 12 Contestants. Ground must be worked after twelve (12) runs and before the thirteenth (13th) run. Turnouts and releases will be NOT be included in the count

- 6) COWGIRLS BARREL RACING, RULE 10c: F:17 O: 1 A:1

Slack. In slack, ground throughout the barrel pattern must be worked with a tractor immediately before the slack begins and after twelve (12) runs

7) Update RODEO ENTRIES, RULE 2a: F:11 O:0 A:5

Call-ins. If an MSRA member phones in his entry and gives a valid MSRA number, his name shall be accepted by the secretary without requiring entry fee to be paid until said member reaches his destination. Immediately upon his arrival at the rodeo, member shall find the secretary and make payment of fees due. No stock will be given until entry fee is paid. Member shall receive a confirmation number from the secretary. Confirmation number must be provided to secretary upon paying of entry fees

8) Update RODEO ENTRIES, RULE 2d: No Motion

Low Entries. Stock Contractor Management has the option of canceling an event when less than 4 contestants are entered. Event may be cancelled up to 48hrs prior to the first performance of the rodeo. Notification of the cancellation must be made to the MSRA Office or the MSRA Event Director by the stock contractor. It is the contestants responsibility to contact the office to verify event cancellations. Award points will be counted regardless of number of entries.

9) ADD RULE, RODEO ENTRIES, RULE 2di: F:16 O:0 A:2

Cancellation Turn Out. If contestant is entered in multiple events and one event is cancelled by the stock contractor due to low entries per rule 2.d., the contestant may draw out of all events without turn out penalties.

10) Update RODEO ENTRIES, RULE 5bii: F:24 O:0 A:1

Stock Charge. MSRA sanctioned rodeos, which add a minimum of \$300 \$200 per event and offer all seven (7) events, can charge a maximum \$5.00 stock charge fee at the stock contractors discretion. The stock charge for Team Roping will be \$2.50 per contestant.

11) Update OFFICIAL RODEO RULES, RULE 2.a.i.: F:19 O:1 A:0

Submission and Publication of Proposal. Any Member or Director to the Board of Directors may submit a rule change proposal requesting an addition to, a deletion from or a modification of the Official Rodeo Rules. Such rule change proposal shall be made in writing, shall state the reasons therefore and must be received by the Board of Directors no later than two months prior to the general membership meeting Finals Rodeo. Any such proposal shall be published in the official MSRA publication and/or MSRA website Bulletin no less than once per month for two months, and shall not be acted until a the general membership meeting held at the end of the rodeo season. A proposal which is received after the Submission Deadline shall not be considered until the following year.

12) Update OFFICIAL RODEO RULES, RULE 2.c.: F:19 O:1 A:0

Notification of Rule Changes. All rule changes will be published in the official MSRA publication and/or MSRA website MSRA Bulletin following the general membership meeting.

13) ADD RULE FINALS RODEO Rodeo 6.b.: F:12 O:3 A:5

Finals Rodeo Contract Personnel. The MSRA Board of Directors is responsible for the hiring of contract personnel for the finals rodeo.

14) MODIFY FINALS RODEO Rule 6.a.: F:8 O:1 A:4

- Change heading to **Pick Up Men/Bull Fighters Qualification.**
- Remove Barrelman, Announcer, judges, Secretary & Timer.

15) UPDATE FINALS RODEO Rule 2.a. & All references to “top 10” to be “top 12”: F:19 O:0 A:1

Number of Contestants. ~~Ten~~ **Twelve** contestants per event shall be allowed to compete at the Finals Rodeo in the events of bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling and cowgirls barrel racing (cowgirls goat tying and cowgirls breakaway will be eligible if held at more than 50% of the seasons rodeos). ~~Ten~~ **Twelve** teams shall be allowed to compete in the team roping

16) Update **Disciplinary Procedures** chapter replace Rule 3 with the following: **All in Favor to add.**

3) Agreement to Resolve Disputes Internally. As a condition of membership, each Member agrees that any disagreements or disputes (including protests of disciplinary actions taken or to be taken against such Member) with the MSRA, its directors, officers, administrative staff and/or officials regarding an arguable misinterpretation or misapplication of the MSRA Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Official Rodeo Rules (including MSRA rodeo ground rules) affecting such Member that are the proper subject matter for a grievance shall be resolved through the grievance procedures outlined in this Chapter.

- a. Procedure Not to Be Used to Contest Judgment Calls.** The grievance procedures outlined below may not be used to challenge or contest actions of MSRA officials involving honest judgment calls made during rodeo competition that are based on an official’s personal observation of the facts and circumstances to which the judgment call relates; rather, such judgment calls shall not be grievable.
- b. Class IV Offenses.** The grievance procedures outlined below may not be used to challenge or contest the commission of a Class IV Offense, nor the Automatic Penalties, as defined in Section “Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Actions”, assessed in connection with a Class IV Offense. The grievance procedures outlined below may be used to challenge or contest any Discretionary Penalties, as defined in the Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action Chapter, assessed in connection with a Class IV Offense.
- c. Deadline for Filing Certain Grievances.** It is important to the sport of rodeo to have finality in standings for purposes of determining qualifiers for certain rodeos like the MSFR, etc. Therefore, notwithstanding any time limitations in which to bring a grievance as may be set forth in this Chapter, if a Member desires to file a grievance, the result of which, if successful, could be a change in the Official Standings, and the Member desires that any resulting changes in Official Standings be made in time to affect qualification for the MSFR, a special sponsorship event or year-end sponsorship awards, such grievance must be received by the Board of Directors no later than 14 calendar days prior to the entry date for that rodeo, event or sponsorship award. Any grievance filed after this deadline may still be considered, provided that all other requirements for a grievance are satisfied, but any resulting changes will not impact the applicable Official Standings for qualification for the particular rodeo, event or sponsorship awards.

4) Disciplinary Actions by the Board of Directors and Appeals There from.

- a. **Class I and II Offenses.** The Board of Directors has authority to impose fines and declare ineligibility in cases where potential Class I and Class II Offenses under Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action Chapter of the MSRA Rulebook are reported to or found by the MSRA Office. In such cases, Board of Directors may impose applicable disciplinary penalties without further actions or proceedings beyond the giving of notice to the accused Member of the nature of the infraction and the penalty imposed. In such cases, the Member involved may contest the penalties imposed through the normal grievance procedures of this Chapter.
- b. **Class III Offenses.** In the event that a potential Class III Offense is reported to or found by the MSRA Office, the Board of Directors shall follow the following procedures before giving the accused Member notice of the nature of the infraction and the penalty imposed, if appropriate. It is the purpose of these special procedures to afford each Member a fair investigation and an opportunity to explain his position prior to the imposition of major disciplinary penalties for Class III Offenses.
 - i. **Investigation: Notice and Appearance.** The accused Member shall be notified by the Board of Directors by mail at his address appearing on the books of the MSRA, or by fax, e-mail or personal service. Such notice shall inform the Member of the nature of the charge and the potential penalty that could be imposed. The accused Member shall have the right to make a personal appearance before the Board of Directors during the investigation process before initial disciplinary action is taken by the Board of Directors in the matter. Failure of the accused Member to appear at the time and place designated for such personal appearance may result in the immediate finding of a violation and imposition of the corresponding penalty. Whether or not the accused Member requests or makes a personal appearance before the Board of Directors during the investigation process, the Board of Directors shall, upon completing the investigation, impose such disciplinary action upon the Member as deemed appropriate if found that the Member guilty of a Class III Offense, provided no fine in excess of \$5,000 or suspension for more than one year shall be imposed by the Board of Directors for any such Offense. Unless the disciplinary action taken by the Board of Directors is timely contested by the accused Member through the grievance process, then that disciplinary action shall be final, subject to the imposition of further disciplinary penalties in the matter by the Board of Directors.
- c. **Class V Offenses.** In circumstances where the conduct of the accused is found by the Board of Directors to be extremely damaging to the MSRA, its Members, or the sport of rodeo, the Board may, by a vote of two-thirds of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, expel such Member from the MSRA indefinitely. As a corrective or disciplinary measure, the Board of Directors, by a vote of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, may issue a reprimand, impose a fine, or suspend a Member for a period of not more than five years, or any combination of such penalties. The decision of the Board of Directors under this Section may not be appealed under the grievance process.
- d. **Contesting a Disciplinary Action and Cash Bond.** Any Member who wishes to contest:
 - i. A disciplinary action taken against him by the Board of Directors as noted above for a Class III Offense,
 - ii. The imposition of a Discretionary Penalty in connection with a Class IV Offense,
or

- iii. An assessment of a cost or fee pursuant to these Bylaws may utilize the grievance process to appeal the action.

In such cases, the grieving Member may submit a full position statement (detailing all mitigating circumstances and other grounds for disputing the discipline imposed) to the Board of Directors. The amount of the cash bond shall be equal to 50% of any monetary penalty imposed, and in the event of a disciplinary suspension, in an amount determined by the Board of Directors.

- 5) Grievance Procedure.** The following procedures shall be followed in the event a grievant desires to challenge or contest actions of the MSRA involving an alleged misinterpretation or misapplication of the MSRA Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws or Official Rodeo Rules (including MSRA rodeo ground rules) that adversely affects the grievant.
- a. The grieving Member shall bring the subject matter of his grievance to the attention of the his or her Event Director in writing within 14 calendar days following notice to the grievant of the action taken or interpretation made by the MSRA. The letter shall set forth in full the subject matter of the dispute and the relief requested by the grievant. Within 14 calendar days following the receipt of said grievance letter, the Board of Directors shall reply in writing to the grievant, setting forth the decision in the matter. Said decision shall be final and binding. In the event the Board of Directors fails to reply to the grievant's letter within 14 calendar days following his receipt of said letter, the grievance shall be deemed denied by the Board of Directors.