

**Missouri High School Rodeo Inc.**  
**Ground Rules**  
**2023-2024 Season**

The National High School Rodeo has provided rules for the National organization. The National Rule Book will be followed except where these Missouri Ground Rules have been adapted to fit Missouri specifically.

**EVENTS:**

HS – The events for MHSR approved rodeos are: Bareback, Breakaway, Calf roping, Goat tying, Steer wrestling, Pole bending, Saddle bronc, Team roping, Barrel racing and Bull riding. Optional events are Queen Contest, Cutting, Reined cow horse, Trap Shooting and Light Rifle (22 shoot).

JH – The events for MHSR Jr. High Division are Boy breakaway, Girl breakaway, Calf roping, Ribbon roping, Boy goat tying, Girl goat tying, Chute dogging, Pole bending, Team roping, Barrel Racing and Bull riding. Optional events are Junior bareback riding, Junior saddle bronc riding, Queen Contest and Light Rifle (22 shoot).

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Required membership forms are located on the MHSR website.

Forms must be filled out, submitted and dues paid through the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) website at Registration/Membership Login. Paperwork required by the Missouri High School Rodeo Association will be as follows, Authorization for Rodeos and Approved Activities, Ground Rules Affidavit, and a copy of the members latest grade card.

For returning MHSR contestants, your membership paperwork is to be submitted online and approved by the State Secretary BEFORE entering your first rodeo. If membership paperwork is not submitted to the State Secretary two weeks prior to the first rodeo, you will be competing as a non-member.

HS – Membership fees are \$195.00. Of the \$195.00, 56.00 goes to the MHSR and \$139.00 goes to the National HSR Office. High School members are required to raise \$400.00 in Association money to go towards Year-end Awards. Two hundred dollars is to be paid at the first rodeo of the season and the remainder is to be paid at or before the first rodeo of the spring season. Contestants joining after January 1 will be required to turn in their Association money before their second qualifying rodeo. If money has not been turned in by the deadlines, contestants will be ineligible to compete further.

JH – Membership fees are \$140.00. Of the \$140.00, 45.00 goes to MHSR and \$95.00 goes to the National HSR Office. Jr. High members are required to raise \$200.00 in Association money to go towards Year-end Awards. One hundred dollars is to be paid at the first rodeo of the season and the remainder is to be paid at or before the first rodeo of the spring season. Contestants joining after January 1 will be

required to turn in their Association money before their second qualifying rodeo. If money has not been turned in by the deadlines, contestants will be ineligible to compete further.

A copy of the members previous semester grade card must be uploaded into the members NHSRA account at the time of signup and before the first spring rodeo.

Any High School or Junior High student may compete at two (2) rodeos per season as a non-member.

#### ENTRIES:

There are three ways to enter a MHSR. 1) Call in on the Monday before the weekend rodeo between the hours of 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm to the Rodeo Secretary. 2) Email before noon on the Monday before the weekend rodeo to the Rodeo Secretary. If you do not get a reply, your email did not go through, and you will need to call in. 3) Write your entry in the Sign-In Book provided at each rodeo. A picture of the pages will be put on the Remind App for a double check. If entries were not received in the appropriate time frames listed above, you may still enter the rodeo on Tue before the weekend rodeo by calling the Rodeo Secretary before 9:00 pm on the Tue before the weekend rodeo and paying a \$50.00 late fee at rodeo check in time. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTESTANT TO CONFIRM THAT THE ENTRY WAS RECEIVED BY VOICE, EMAIL OR SIGN IN BOOK.

Entered contestants must notify the rodeo secretary not later than Tue at 9:00 pm before the weekend rodeo if they are not going to compete. No penalties will apply. Failure to notify or compete will require payment of entry fees. Failure to pay fees may result in disqualification from future MHSR rodeos. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTESTANT TO CONFIRM THAT THE DRAW OUT WAS RECEIVED BY PHONE TO THE RODEO SECRETARY.

A contestant may Doctor/Vet out of an event due to illness or injury to the contestant or horse. However, a doctor or Vet's excuse must be presented to the Rodeo Secretary. If a contestant withdraws from an event due to an illness or injury or is injured elsewhere, he/she must have a doctor's release to enter the next rodeo. If a contestant or his/her horse is injured during the rodeo the judge may at his/her discretion declare a visible injury and the contestant will be refunded \$17.00 per event in the High School Division and \$16.00 per event in the Jr. High Division which they cannot compete as a result of the visible injury.

#### CHECK-IN TIME:

All contestants are to have entry fees paid before the rodeo starts. Checking in after the rodeo starts will result in consequences.

#### RODEO ENTRY FEES:

Consider each day of a weekend rodeo a separate rodeo with fees and points distributed each day. Contestants may enter one or two days each weekend rodeo.

HS – Fees are \$75.00 for two days or \$58.00 for one day. Of that entry fee, \$21.00 goes to the host rodeo committee, \$4.00 for the rodeo secretary, \$4.00 to the state secretary, \$12.00 for the Association and \$17.00 for the payback each day entered.

JH – Fees are \$70.00 for two days or \$54.00 for one day. Of that entry fee, \$21.00 goes to the host rodeo committee, \$4.00 for the rodeo secretary, \$4.00 to the state secretary, \$9.00 for the Association and \$16.00 for the payback each day entered.

#### OPTIONAL EVENTS –

Queen Contest is \$75.00. \$4.00 to the rodeo secretary and \$4.00 to the State secretary and \$67.00 for year-end awards.

High School Trap shooting, and 22 shooting entry fees will be the standard rodeo event entry of \$58.00 for one day. Of that entry fee, \$4.00 is designated for the rodeo secretary, \$4.00 to the state secretary, \$33.00 to the Association for supplies and awards, and \$17.00 for the payback.

Junior High 22 shooting entry fees will be the standard rodeo event entry of \$54.00 for one day. Of that entry fee, \$4.00 is designated for the rodeo secretary, \$4.00 to the state secretary, \$30.00 to the Association for supplies and awards, and \$16.00 for the payback.

Boys Cutting and Girls Cutting will pay the standard entry fee.

Year-end awards will be set based on the number of entries and number of events held.

#### PAYOUT:

Payback money is paid out according to the number of contestants entered in the event for the day.

1 entry: 100%

2 – 4 entries: 60%, 40%

5 – 8 entries: 50%, 30%, 20%

9 – 12 entries: 40%, 30%, 20%, 10%

13 – 29 entries: 30%, 25%, 20%, 15%, 10%

30 or more entries: 29%, 24%, 19%, 14%, 9%, 5%

If not, enough contestants qualify for the number of places to be paid in any event, the remaining places shall be divided according to the payout schedule. If there are no qualified rides or scores, all ground money goes back to the association.

#### POINTS:

Points are earned by the top 10 contestants per event per qualifying rodeo. State Finals have a different point system.

1st place – 10 points

2nd place – 9 points

3rd place – 8 points

4th place – 7 points

5th place – 6 points

6th place – 5 points

7th place – 4 points

8th place – 3 points

9th place – 2 points

10th place – 1 point

If a non-member earns a position that receives points, those points will not be awarded. Example: If a non-member wins an event, they will get the payback for first place, but the 10 points for first place will

not be awarded to anyone. Another example: If a team roper asks a non-member to rope with him/her and they get 3rd place, they will receive payback for 3rd place. The member will receive 8 points in accordance with the ground rule, but the 8 points for the non-member holds will be thrown out. At any given rodeo, an optional jackpot may be available to the contestants on an event-by-event basis to earn additional pay off.

#### GATE FEES (admission into the rodeo):

Entered contestants will get in the rodeo free. If relatives or helpers of contestants attempt to avoid paying gate fee, fail to pay gate fees or refuse to pay gate fees, the contestant will be disqualified.

#### RODEO EVENTS:

Contestants are to wear their back number pinned to their back at all times. Contestants are to be in dress code as stated in the National Rule book while in the arena or the spectator area during their rodeo. High School contestants in dress code while in the arena or the spectator area during the High School rodeo. Jr. High contestants in dress code while in the arena or spectator area during the Jr. High rodeo. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a \$25.00 fine per occurrence issued by a MHSR board member.

Breakaway will be allowed one loop and have a 30 second time limit.

In the High School Division breakaway, the calf's head must pass through the loop and be a bell collar catch. Bell collar defined as the rope being above the knees, behind the head and in front of the tailbone. The breakaway parent event director is responsible for having a spotter assigned to assist the judges regarding the determination of the bell collar catch.

Calf roping and Ribbon roping will be allowed one loop and have a 30 second time limit.

Goats will always be staked at least 50' off any arena fence. The ground conditions permitting, the goat pattern will be dragged prior to the first contestant running. If the goat gets loose at no fault of the goat tier and prior to the tier touching the goat, the tier will get a rerun on that same goat.

Steer Wrestlers will be allowed one jump with a 30 second time limit. Intentional entrapment or excessively running a steer may result in a no time from the judge.

Team ropers are allowed two loops with a 30 second time limit. A team roper may draw a partner to rope with if they do not have a partner. The rodeo secretary will randomly draw a partner from a list of headers or heelers that have requested to be in the draw pot, for the single contestant. The drawn partner will **not** be required to pay entry fees for the additional run and will not receive payback or points for that run. The requesting roper must pay their own entry fees plus the committee charge (\$21) for their drawn partner. There is no limit to how many times a roper may request a partner from the draw pot during the rodeo season but the roper that is utilizing the draw pot must declare what end they will be roping and have a permanent partner for/by State Finals. Anyone wanting to be an option in the draw pot shall sign up with the Rodeo Secretary.

Ground conditions permitting, barrel racing and pole bending pattern will be dragged prior to the first contestant running. Dragging during the barrels and poles will be after every 5<sup>th</sup> run. In addition, there will be no practice on the pole or barrel pattern stakes after the arena has been staked. Doing so may result in the contestant being disqualified. Arenas that are equipped with barrel and pole lasers that meet the standards set in the NHSRA Rulebook, may be used instead of barrel or pole stakes.

In the Junior High Division, steers will be bucked for Jr Bareback and Jr Saddle Bronc events.

Rough stock equipment may be inspected at each rodeo at the judge's discretion but will be mandatory at the first rodeo in the fall and the first rodeo in the spring. Bareback horses may wear a halter if furnished by the contestant.

Rough stock may not be loaded into the chutes during any timed event. Rough stock riders will be given time to prepare for their ride.

Abuse of any animal on the rodeo grounds by a contestant or parent as determined by a judge or a board member will result in the member being disqualified for that rodeo plus incur a \$100.00 fine.

#### DRAWING OF STOCK:

Each division, High School Division and Jr. High Division is a separate rodeo, and each day is a separate rodeo (Saturday & Sunday), and the drawing of stock will be drawn as such. The MHSR is not responsible for keeping equal runs on the host arena cattle. The only time the MHSR will keep equal runs on cattle is when there is more than one performance in a rodeo or there is an average (finals). When the draw is started for any particular event you must start with a full pen of stock, not leftovers from the prior rodeo or from the previous day.

Event cattle cannot be used for more than one event (i.e., team roping steers cattle cannot be used for steer wrestling or chute dogging).

#### PERFORMANCE PREFERENCE:

Performance with slack will be considered the same rodeo. A contestant must compete in the position he or she draws up in whether in the slack or the performance. Contestants will be allowed to request performance or slack. However not all requests can be given. Once the contestant positions have been drawn, no changes will be allowed. Members of the same family and team roping partners will be given preference on the buddy system. Performance preference should only be used when necessary.

#### EVENT DIRECTOR:

Each year an Adult Event Director will be appointed for each event. The Adult Director will be the parent of the contestant who won the event in the previous year unless that contestant graduated in which case it will go to second place and down until the position is filled. Event Directors are responsible to find a substitute if they are not able to attend a rodeo. The Adult Event Directors are responsible for: 1) Finding help to work their event during each rodeo 2) Transport the equipment of the event and 3) Understand the rules of the event. Adult Event Directors may shadow the Student Event Director if a discrepancy arises. Judge's decision is final.

#### STUDENT OFFICERS:

Student Officers will receive a scholarship at the end of their term upon completion of their duties. The president will receive \$300. The Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer/Reporter will receive \$100 each.

#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:

In accordance with the National Rule Book, MHSR will accommodate graduating member/siblings to allow them to attend their school graduation. We will also accommodate member siblings of the graduates. Member graduate/siblings will have one day exception if he or she provides proof of commencement to the Rodeo Secretary and informs the secretary at call in time. The member graduate/siblings can run both of his/her rodeos in one day.

#### FAMILY DEATH:

A contestant may withdraw from an event due to the death of an immediate family member (parent, sibling, or grandparent). The member is excused without penalty and will not be responsible for entry fees.

#### STATE FINALS:

During the State Finals, contestants shall not draw the same head of stock twice in the same event except for re-rides.

All ties at State Finals will be broken by taking the fastest time in the average, for the first three places only.

At all awards ceremonies including State Finals, a contestant must be present and in Dress Code to receive any award(s). A contestant will be given their MHSR association jacket/vest if they have paid all fees and completed requirements for the association's annual fundraiser but cannot compete in State Finals. A contestant must compete at State Finals to be eligible for the National team. Contestants will be excused from competing at State Finals only by a board vote if a medical release or a death in the immediate family is determined making the contestant unable to compete.

HS – A contestant must attend at least six (6) rodeos in an event or earn at least one (1) point and participate in the yearly fundraising program in order to go to finals in that event. Points for National Qualification: Option 1 in the National Rule Book will be in effect, consisting of three (3) full rounds being run at state finals. The Rodeo Secretary will drop every competitor's 2 worst scores in each event. Of the points possible, 10 more than that number will be the total points possible at State Finals. There will be 15 points possible for each of the three goes and 15 for the average. Points carried into State Finals plus points earned in the 3 goes and the average will determine the year end winners.

Cutting Finals, Raining Cow Horse Finals will be awarded 10 more points than possible for the season cuttings points, having a maximum of 15 points per round possible.

To be eligible to compete in the State Finals Queen contest, a MHSR member must compete in a regular MHSR rodeo event, or attend a MHSR queen contest/clinic, or represent the association by either selling tickets or carrying a flag during the MHSR season.

JH – To qualify to compete at State Finals, a contestant must have participated in at least one MHSR qualifying rodeo in the event entering and participate in the yearly fundraising program. A contestant must compete in 6 rodeos in an event to be eligible for buckles and other yearend prizes. Points for National Qualification: Option 1 in the National Rule Book. The Rodeo Secretary will drop every competitor's 2 worst rodeos. Of the points possible, 10 more than that number will be the total points possible at State Finals. There will be 15 points for the first go, 15 points for the second go, and 15 points for the average.

#### RETURNED CHECKS:

Should a contestant's check be returned for insufficient funds, MHSR may require that members make all future payments using a cashier's check or money order or cash for the remainder of the rodeo season. In the event of a second check returned for insufficient funds, MHSR may put that member and the family's membership on a cashier's check, money order or cash basis for the remainder of the family's membership in MHSR. A \$65.00 Bad Check fee will be charged and must be paid before the contestant is allowed to compete again.

#### ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY:

There will be a zero-tolerance policy on the use of alcohol, tobacco, vape products, drugs, and/or immoral or lewd conduct for contestants. Failure to abide will result in immediate review by the board and severity of consequences will be determined by the board.

There will be a zero-tolerance policy on bullying/inappropriate action towards a contestant. Failure to abide will result in immediate review by the board and severity of consequences will be determined by the board.

Disqualification: If a contestant is disqualified at the first rodeo of a weekend, he/she will not earn points from that performance only. All fees must be paid for turnout events before being allowed to compete further. If all fees are paid for the turn-out events, contestants will be eligible to compete in the second rodeo of the same weekend.

#### FINES:

All fines must be paid prior to competing at the next rodeo. Fines will double with multiple offenses.

#### AWARDS:

All awards must be approved by the board of directors or their appointed awards committee.

#### MONEY:

Cash money taken by the association will be receipted. This includes payment for fees, sponsorship money, association fees, fundraisers, or any and all other reasons money is exchanged. If money is taken ahead of a scheduled event, a receipt will be ready for pick up at that event.

There shall be a minimum of \$7500. In the High School account after all bills are paid for the current year through nationals, for the next season startup funds.

There shall be a minimum of \$3500. In the Jr. High School account after all bills are paid for the current year through nationals, for the next season startup funds.

Any receipts that are approved for reimbursement must be presented to the MHSR treasurer within 30 business days of purchase.<sup>17</sup>

#### LOGO AND NAME USE:

Using the Missouri High School Logos or the Missouri High School Association name is not permitted without prior approval from the board of directors.