

Northwest Youth Rodeo Association

From the Board of Directors



February 2010

As the 2010 Rodeo season gets ready to shift into high gear, the NYRA Board of Directors have been busy at work. The Board has taken a look at what worked last year and areas that need improvement. Including information provided by the membership at the November general meeting. The Board also reviewed the current financial status and is looking for ways we can improve even with the economy still affecting so many folks.

In this newsletter you will find updated information, news, upcoming activities and events. We also decided to include financial information which will affect many of the decisions the Board will be making over the next several months.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact one of the Board members.

A LOOK BACK AT THE 2009 SEASON

Last year was a rough year losing most of our major sponsorships. This \$13,000 loss on top of reduced membership and entries contributed to all seven of the rodeos losing money. The losses ranged from \$2100 to just under \$800, a total loss for the year over \$9000.00. Even with that financial loss, year-end awards were presented which were consistent with that of previous years. However, in order to continue with per rodeo payouts at the 2009 level and quality year-end awards, we **must** seek ways to add to our funding sources.

If we are unable to secure sponsors for 2010, it may become necessary to re-evaluate rodeo payouts and year-end awards. The Board is currently working on several options for 2010. Any new information will be posted to the website. If you have ideas or know someone who may be interested in supporting the NYRA, please contact a Board member!

2010 RODEO SCHEDULE

Six of the seven rodeos for the 2010 season have been confirmed. As Newport is not available this year the Board is looking into two additional venues to fill the August 8 and 9th weekend. Once confirmed the location and information will be updated on the website.

STOCK CONTRACTS

If any of you have checked the NYRA website, you will see the "wanted" ad for 2010 stock contractors. The Board requested contractors submit a "per run and/or per gate" charge as well as a bid to cover the entire rodeo contract. This will allow the Board to determine if entry fees are consistent with stock costs. A total of seven bids were submitted!

Each contractor presented their bid followed by a question and answer session. During these discussions it became evident that in order to continue negotiations we need to clarify the intent of the bull riding rule change. The Board will need this information as they determine what type of bulls will be needed and will be able to adjust the bid(s) accordingly.

In November the vote was to require Pee Wee and Junior divisions to ride steers instead of bulls.

However, after discussing this rule with each contractor who submitted a rough stock bid, the Board felt that further changes are needed to ensure safety for all participants and that right size stock (appropriate) is provided for the right age division and skill level. This will give the Directors greater flexibility in selecting “appropriate” stock that could include steers, heifers or bulls. The Rough Stock Directors contacted and received input from parents who had volunteered to assist this year. As a result of these discussions the Board would like to propose the following changes:

Amend rule to: Jr. Boys will ride **appropriate** stock.

Amend the Bull Riding Division to the following:

- 1) Pee Wee Buckle Division
 - 8 and under - Calf Riding (appropriate stock)
 - 11 and under – Steer Riding (appropriate stock)
- 2) Junior Buckle Division
 - 13 and under – Pee Wee Bulls (appropriate stock)
 - 15 and under - Junior Bulls (appropriate stock)
- 3) Senior Buckle Division
 - 19 and under – Senior Bulls (appropriate stock)

In the next couple of days, you will receive an email ballot for the two rule changes. Remember, only one vote per member will be accepted. You may submit your vote back through email or mail it to the secretary at the address listed.

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact one of the Rough Stock Directors. The Rough Stock Directors will be responsible for requiring the chosen stock contractor to provide “appropriate” stock should the rule change be accepted.

COURT SCHEDULE

The NYRA Court will be attending the Fort Dalles Rodeo Coronation on March 13 and St. Paul Rodeo Court Coronation on May 1.

The NYRA Coronation will take place on March 27 at the Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreal. The coronation festivities include a Mr. NYRA pageant and competition, a Dessert auction, oral and silent auction. Please plan on attending to support the rodeo court.

UPCOMING CLINICS

April 10 – Barrels, Poles and Goats

April 24 – Team Roping, Calf Tie and Breakaway Roping

Watch the website for further information and sign-ups!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Northwest Youth Rodeo Association website: www.nwyra.com

