

Contestant Liaison Committee Report

Saturday October 21, 2006

Current acting committee members:

- Lonni LaBel
- Karl Klingener
- Travis Gardner
- Larry Travinek
- Bernice Reeve
- Wade Earp
- Leann Underwood
- Teeny Buckingham

The committee chairs discussed 2006 goals and activities.

New Contestant Outreach

Created and distributed new contestant letter and ongoing process for distribution
Had committee representation at all rodeos this year, making a point to meet as many new contestants as possible.

Created and distributed New Contestant survey.

Reviewed and analyzed New Contestant Survey Feedback

Work with current contestant base to address needs and concerns

Mediated a health and safety discussion with arena directors, health and safety committee.

Informal discussions throughout the rodeo season with contestants regarding various aspects and concerns.

Analysis of Protests

Members of IGRA Finals committee

Bring contestant concerns and needs to finals planning committee.

Create “How To” guide for rodeo events

“How To” for Calf Roping on Foot completed and ready to be published to the IGRA website

General Introduction, Chute Dogging, Steer Deco and Wild Drag documents are in progress

Educational Fund

Continuing to look for opportunities to secure monies for fund. Discussions with Brian Helander have led to possibility of funding from marketing surplus.

Create Work Instruction Document for Rodeo Entry Form

In process of creating an instruction document for how to correctly fill out the rodeo entry form (based on feedback from rodeo directors that forms are frequently filled out incorrectly and incorrect amounts of money are included)

The committee then discussed the following topics.

How to improve the committee going forward

Committee Chairs will implement quarterly conference calls with committee members to get feedback on contestant concerns and issues.

Committee Chairs will contact member associations to find out if they have Contestant Liaisons in their organizations and include them in the appointed committee.

New Contestants being DQ'd

There have been a few cases of new contestants being DQ'd for infractions that could have been easily corrected. These were generally situations where they did not know our specific rules. Committee discussed that the intent of having committee members meet new contestants at rodeos is to prevent these types of situations. The committee chairs will work to have more consistent and visible presence at rodeos.

Buddy passes/family access

Discussed that currently Buddy Passes are being used for two purposes

1. Contestant Assistance – i.e. helpers for rough stock and horse contestants
2. Family, Partner, Friend, etc access to the rodeo and camping area.

The committee suggests that these concepts be separated and that rodeos consider offering two types of access badges in different colors. One for the contestant assistants that allows full access and a second for family access that offers limited access to rodeo and camping area. The committee would like to have this included in the Rodeo Resources Guide as a planning point for rodeos. The specific implementation of this would be up to each association as appropriate.

Met with Brian Rogers and presented this suggestion as an addition to the Rodeo Resources Manual.

Committee Action Items :

Contact associations to include existing association contestant liaisons as committee members

Continue to improve contestant outreach activities

Complete "How To" event guide

Work with IGRA Webmaster to publish "How To" event guide

Contestant Liaison Committee Meeting Attendance

Lonni LaBel	ASGRA
Lance Thames	TGRA
Randy Edlin	TGRA
David Hallwood	MIGRA
Carol Arnett	GWGRA
Brian Chew	HSRA
Ken Pool	CGRA
Linda M Frazier	MGRA
Randy Watson	ARGRA
Drew Oberbeck	GSGRA

Ty Teigen
Tam Keltner
Co-Chairs Contestant Liaison Committee