

Report of the Bylaws Committee to the 23rd Annual IGRA Convention

Saturday, November 10, 2007

The Bylaws Committee met on Friday, November 9, 2007 from 9:00 am until 6:00 pm. A total of 25 persons attended the meeting, 17 of which were voting members. A list of attendees is attached to this report. I want to thank the members of the committee for their patience and hard work as we addressed the responsibilities of the committee.

The committee considered all proposals that were received prior to the start of the meeting as well as proposals introduced during the meeting. The proposals that were approved by the committee are attached to this report. The committee recommends adoption of these proposals.

Benjamin Avant
Chairman, IGRA Bylaws Committee

Bylaws Committee Attendance List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Voting</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Doug Holmes	AGRA	X	Ed Barry	ILGRA	X
Gary Hatterman	AGRA		Jennifer Vrana	LGRA	X
Alec Masee	ARGRA	X	Marcel Pajuelo–Schwartz	LGRA	
Tom Lott	ASGRA	X	Cayree Ragsdale	MGRA	X
Frank Harrell	ASGRA		Mel Enness	MIGRA	X
Jeffrey Shaw	CGRA	X	Lorry King	NGRA	X
John Locke	CGRA		Darren Wernette	NGRA	
T. J. Lavelle	DSRA	X	Arnie Chavez	NMGRA	X
Jacky Green	DSRA		Jack Roach	NSGRA	X
Bill Chapman	GSGRA	X	Justin Waldner	SMRA	X
Ray Ostmann	GWGRA	X	Russell Bleakney	TGRA	X
Charley Wade	HGRA	X	Michael Norman	TGRA	
Kurt Ried	HGRA				

Proposal 2

Page 8, Article VI, Section 2

Section 2. Notice.

Advance legal notice shall be sent no less than sixty (60) days prior to the start of convention and shall specify the place, date and hour of convention, any related meetings (e.g. Board of Directors, Trustees, committees, training seminars, etc.), and those matters which the Board of Directors, at the time of giving notice, intends to present for action by the Member Associations. Such notice shall be given either personally delivered electronically or by first class mail addressed to each Member and Recognized Association, Board Member, Trustee, committee chairperson, the corporate auditor, and the annual convention parliamentarian. Notice shall be deemed to have been given at the time when delivered personally electronically or deposited in the mail.

Proposal 3

Page 21, Article X, Section 9, Paragraph B

Any and all disputes arising over interpretation of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Resolutions of the annual convention, and Resolutions of the Board of Directors, the Trustees shall resolve Resolutions of the Trustees, Standing Rules, Code of Ethics and Sportsmanship, and Rodeo Rules.

Any and all disputes arising over interpretation of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Resolutions of the Annual Convention, Resolutions of the Board of Directors, Resolutions of the Trustees, Standing Rules and Procedures, Code of Ethics and Sportsmanship, and Rules of Sanctioned Rodeos shall be resolved by the Trustees.

Proposal 5

Page 56, Rule XIV, Section 7

Section 7. Rodeos shall be sanctioned by the Board of Directors. A majority vote of the board will be required to sanction a rodeo. Sanctioning of a rodeo must occur:

- A. At least six (6) months prior to the planned rodeo date, and
- B. Before the beginning of the prior year's annual convention.
- C. **Rodeo application must be approved at a regularly scheduled board meeting.**
- D. **Rodeo application must be available for review no less than 7 days prior to sanctioning.**

Proposal BSR-01

Pages 35, Rule IV, Section 2

Section 2. With appropriate provision for recesses and for such special events as may be arranged, the general order of business at the annual convention of IGRA shall be:

- Call to Order
- Opening Exercises
- Roll Call and Seating of Voting Delegates
- Admission and Seating of New Member Associations
- Referral of All Proposals to Standing Committees
- Reports of Officers
- Reports of Standing Committees
- Old Business
- New Business
- Election of Officers
- Approval of Requests for Rodeo Dates
- Selection of IGRA Finals Rodeo Location
- Selection of IGRA Convention Location
- Announcements
- Adjournment

Proposal BSR-02

Pages 59, Rule XVI, Section 3

Section 3. Refer to Rodeo Rules VII Point System and VIII Rodeo Prizes and Payoffs regarding ties and buckles.

A. Individual Events.

1. The top twenty (20) qualifiers in each event will be invited to compete in the Finals Rodeo. In the event one (1) or more of the top twenty (20) cannot attend, the 21st through 30th point standing qualifiers **will then be considered eligible and** will be called, in order, to attempt to have a maximum of 20 competitors.

B. Two Person Team Events.

1. The top twenty (20) qualifiers will be invited to compete in the Finals Rodeo with each person selecting his/her own team member to compete with him/her. All team members must have competed in that event at least once during the rodeo year. If a team is comprised of multiple members in the top twenty (20), qualifiers, or one or more of the top twenty (20) cannot attend, the 21st through 45th point standing qualifiers **will then be considered eligible and** will be called, in order, to attempt to have a maximum of 20 teams.
2. In Team Roping, a contestant may compete once as a header and once as heeler each day but cannot compete additional times.

C. Three Person Team Events.

1. The top twenty (20) qualifiers will be invited to compete in the Finals Rodeo with each person selecting his/her own team member to compete with him/her. All team members must have competed in that event at least once during the rodeo year. If a team is comprised of multiple members in the top twenty (20) qualifiers, or one or more of the top twenty (20) cannot attend, the 21st through 65th point standing qualifiers **will then be considered eligible and** will be called, in order, to attempt to have a maximum of 20 teams.

Pages 61, Rule XVI, Section 8, Paragraph E

- E. In the event one (1) or more of the top twenty (20) fail to complete registration by 9:00 p.m. the night prior to Finals Rodeo, additional **eligible** contestants present in the Secretarial/Registration area by 9:15 p.m. will be asked, in point order, to compete until the maximum number of twenty (20) have accepted, provided the persons fielded have earned points during the rodeo year.

Resolution BSR-01

Resolved, That IGRA recommend Member and Recognized Associations not add anyone to a public E-mail listing without his or her permission;

Resolved, That IGRA recommend Member or Recognized Associations use a double opt-in process* for any publicly available online sign-up form; and

Resolved, That IGRA recommend Member or Recognized Associations counsel members on strategies to reduce E-mail spam.

[*In a double opt-in system, an address entered into the form is sent a confirmation email. The receiver must then either reply to the message or click a link embedded in the message before that address is added to the list. This prevents any third party from signing up someone without their permission.]

Proposal 6

Page 16, Article IX, Section 5, Paragraph D

ARTICLE IX – OFFICERS

Section 5. Duties of the Vice President.

Paragraph D. In conjunction with the Rodeo Director of the IGRA Finals Rodeo and Host Association, shall be responsible for the IGRA Royalty Competition and related items as set forth in these Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Page 30, Article XII, Section 11

ARTICLE XII – COMMITTEES

Section 11. Finals Rodeo Committee.

Paragraph A. Appointment.

The Executive Committee shall appoint a committee to administer the IGRA Finals Rodeo. The committee shall include the Vice President and contestant liaison.

Paragraph B. Duties.

The Finals Rodeo Committee shall be responsible for working with the co-hosting association to produce the IGRA Finals Rodeo. Duties of IGRA, the Finals Rodeo Committee, and co-hosting association shall be determined by mutual agreement.

Pages 40-42, Rule VI

RULE VI RULES GOVERNING SELECTION OF MR/MS/MISS/MSTER IGRA

Section 1. Selection of Judges.

- A. A random draw of all associations will be made by the current Community Outreach/Fundraising/Gender Diversity Committee chairs, **and** the Vice President, and the Finals Rodeo Director during the second IGRA board meeting of the rodeo year to achieve a panel of no more than nine (9) judges and three (3) alternate judges per segment of competition (Horsemanship, Interview, Entertainment, Western Wear/Public Presentation) with the remaining associations as alternates in the order selected.
- B. Each association has a deadline of sixty (60) days prior to the competition to submit to the Vice President the names of qualified judges for their chosen segment. "Qualified" is defined as someone with an active working knowledge of Royalty competition guidelines as per IGRA Bylaws. Judges name(s) shall be submitted for one (1) segment only. Judges can only represent one association during the entire Royalty competition. Current IGRA royalty and association royalty are not eligible to serve as a judge.
- C. In the event an association is unable to submit the name of a qualified judge for a segment, then each remaining association would move up in the rank of the order of the draw.
- D. In the event a submitted judge is unable to attend, the association shall notify the Vice President with a replacement name. If the association is unable to submit a replacement, then the association will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) payable to the Hosting Association.
- E. In the event a committed judge does not show for the finals competition, their association will be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) payable to the Hosting Association. The alternate judge next in line will be notified to judge the open segment.
- F. Each segment must have an equal number of judges. There must be a minimum of five (5) judges in each category. If there are not enough judges, the Vice President and a random draw of Trustees present, or their appointees, must fill the judging vacancies per segment.

Section 2. Registration/Information Packets.

- A. Royalty competition packets will be issued at the second annual Board of Directors meeting by the **Vice President** Finals Rodeo Host Association to all Trustees or their alternate who will sign for receipt. It is the contestant's responsibility to obtain their packet from their Trustee. If they are unable to do so, they must contact the Vice President to obtain one.
- B. Packets must include Standing Rule VI Rules Governing Selection of Mr/Ms/Miss/MstTer IGRA, related exhibits, competition deadline dates, registration contacts/ mailing address, and Finals Rodeo general information (host hotel and hotel phone numbers, locations, weekend schedule, stage layout, type of sound system, lighting, etc.).

Section 3. Judges shall use standardized scoring sheets and guidelines included as Exhibits C3 to C9 to be reviewed at the judges' meeting prior to competition.

Section 4. Royalty contestants and royalty contestant officials may not be under the influence or consume alcohol/illegal drugs during their active segments of the contest. Competition officials include Master of Ceremonies, stage staff, judges, and auditors. Active segments will be defined by the competition committee at the contest meeting.

Section 5. All contestants must be the current official title holder or 1st runner-up in an IGRA Member or Recognized Association. Each association can only send one representative in each category.

Section 6. All entry forms, one hundred dollars (\$100.00) entry fee, and IGRA fund raiser moneys must be postmarked by a government postal service no less than thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled competition. Entry form and entry fee are to be sent to the Vice President who will forward the money to the Treasurer (Exhibit C2).

Section 7. The one hundred dollars (\$100.00) entry fee from all royalty contestants will be distributed back to the team members. The total amount collected shall be divided by the number of categories and paid out to the royalty team as listed in Rodeo Prizes and Payoffs: Winner 50%, 1st Runner-Up 30%, and 2nd Runner-Up 20%. Fifty percent (50%) of the funds will be paid out when his/her individual fundraising obligation has been met and the remaining fifty percent (50%) will be paid out when all requirements have been met by that individual.

Section 8. Each contestant competing for the title of Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA will be required to host a minimum of one (1) fundraising event for IGRA prior to application deadline. A minimum amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) must be raised. The Member Association's treasurer of each contestant shall forward any moneys raised along with the IGRA Fundraiser Deposit Form (Exhibit C12) to the Treasurer for distribution. Funds are to be split evenly between IGRA and a charity or charities to be determined by the IGRA Board of Directors, upon recommendation from the current IGRA royalty team. This is to take place during the first Board of Directors meeting of the rodeo year.

Section 9. Each contestant competing for the title of Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer will be required to compete in a minimum of one (1) sanctioned rodeo event or volunteer for a minimum of four (4) hours (in any capacity) at any IGRA-sanctioned event and raise a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for a non-profit entity under the laws of and in good standing in the state, province, territory, or other comparable territorial units of other nations during their regional reign. This requirement must be met no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Finals Rodeo and Royalty Competition.

Section 10. Contestants are required to wear their association title banners during the interview portion and parade of states of the competition.

Section 11. Contestants must provide a written plan of action consisting of goals for the IGRA royalty team. They must be in a sealed envelope with the contestant name and association listed on the front. They must be turned in with the horsemanship tapes. The envelopes will be given to the Vice President to be opened, verified, and reviewed with the competition winners to build the teams final plan of action for the following year. Failure to provide a plan of action will result in a two (2) point deduction from each judge's score sheet in the interview segment.

Section 12. Each category (Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer) will have a second runner-up, first runner-up, and a winner.

Section 13. Upon assuming their respective title, Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA will become co–chairs of the Community Outreach/Fundraising/Gender Diversity Committee with the first and second runners–up serving as committee members.

Section 13. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA will serve as co–chairs of the Community Outreach/Fundraising/Gender Diversity Committee for the year of their reign. First and second runners-up will serve as committee members.

Section 14. All results of the Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer competition will become a matter of corporate record. Results shall reflect the order of placement and total scores shall be posted immediately after announcement of winners. Individual results and judges sheets shall be mailed to any contestants within thirty (30) days after competition upon receiving written request to the IGRA Executive Office.

Section 15. If a sash is lost, damaged, or stolen, the titleholder must notify the Vice President and must request a replacement at the titleholder’s expense. If a buckle is lost, damaged, or stolen, the titleholder must notify the Vice President and may request a replacement at the titleholder’s expense.

Section 16. Finals Royalty Competition and Announcement of Winners.

A. The Vice President, in conjunction with the Finals Rodeo Host Association, will ensure that all awards are consistent in design and provided at the competition. All sashes are to be ordered from the official IGRA vendor. Sash colors will be as follows:

1. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer – Black
2. First Runners–Up – Red
3. Second Runners–Up – White

B. IGRA Royalty Competition shall take place immediately prior to and/or during **IGRA Convention Finals Rodeo weekend**, exclusive of **meeting rodeo competition** times.

C. Announcement of Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA shall take place during the **Convention Finals Rodeo** weekend and after an audit has been completed.

D. The audit verification shall consist of both computer tally the IGRA Auditor and manual tabulation of judging sheets by an audit committee chosen by the current IGRA royalty team and the Vice President.

Section 17. The IGRA Royalty Competition will not discriminate against anyone based on disability according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a contestant requires special accommodations or cannot compete in a certain category of the IGRA Royalty Competition because of his/her disability, that contestant must notify the Vice President ninety (90) days prior to the IGRA Royalty Competition. At that time, the Vice President and the royalty competition committee will decide upon a fair and reasonable resolution with consideration of all contestants. The decision of this committee will be final only for that specific category.

Pages 43-44, Rule VI

RULE VII DUTIES OF MR/MS/MISS/MSTER IGRA

Section 1. IGRA Rodeos and Event Attendance.

- A. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA must attend at least one (1) rodeo in each division, Annual Convention, and Finals Rodeo. They must also make every effort to attend the IGRA Board of Directors meetings and if they cannot attend, they must notify the Vice President at least 30 days prior to each meeting.
- B. Runners-up must attend at least one (1) rodeo in each division and Finals Rodeo and make every effort to attend the annual convention.
- C. If for any reason a current IGRA title holder or runner-up does not complete the minimum rodeo attendance requirement, the said royalty member will forfeit their step down privileges, except for extenuating circumstances left to the discretion of the Vice President and the current IGRA royalty team.

Section 2. Fundraising.

- A. Royalty team must raise funds for operating costs and support of IGRA. Funds raised over the minimum will be available for distribution determined by the IGRA Board of Directors upon recommendation from the royalty team at the second board meeting of the year.
- B. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA must raise a minimum of \$1,200 per person. First runners-up must raise a minimum of \$1,000 per person. Second runners-up must raise a minimum of \$800 per person.
- C. Funds raised must be sent to the Vice President for requirement accountability. Funds will not be credited to the said royalty member(s) without the IGRA Fundraiser Deposit Form (Exhibit C12). Funds will then be forwarded to the Treasurer for deposit. Checks from the venue, money orders, or certified checks should be made out to IGRA. No personal checks will be accepted.
- D. All monies from IGRA fundraisers must be received by the Vice President within seven (7) days of the fundraiser. Monies must be in the form of a check from the venue, certified check, or money order.

Section 3. Additional Responsibilities.

- A. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA must compete in a minimum of two (2) sanctioned rodeo events or volunteer for a minimum of eight (8) hours (in any capacity) at each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo attended for requirement accountability to receive a complimentary entrance pass and/or hotel accommodations. Runners-up must compete in a minimum of one (1) sanctioned rodeo event or volunteer for a minimum of four (4) hours (in any capacity) at each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo attended for requirement accountability to receive a complimentary entrance pass and/or hotel accommodations.
- B. Work with Member Associations to further the goals of the Community Outreach/Fundraising/Gender Diversity Committees. This shall be inclusive of, but not limited to, Member Association royalty competitions, volunteering at rodeos, fundraising events, other community event support, and charity contributions.
- C. Responsible for selection of Member Association and presentation of the traveling IGRA Spirit Stick Award.

- D. All IGRA royalty team members must supply a list of their proposed fundraisers and rodeos they plan to attend during their reign to the Vice President within one (1) month of the start of the rodeo year.
- E. Responsible for ensuring Community Outreach/Fundraising/Gender Diversity information is included on the IGRA Web site.
- F. Any other duties pursuant to Standing Rule VI Rules Governing Selection of Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer IGRA.

Section 4. Discipline.

- A. If, for any reason, a current IGRA title holder or runner-up does not demonstrate a good faith effort within the first three (3) months of the rodeo year toward the accomplishment of their duties according to the bylaws, the Vice President shall mail a certified letter of reprimand, postmarked within ten (10) days after the first day of the fourth month of the rodeo year, to said royalty member.
- B. The royalty member will have thirty (30) days to appeal the charges before the IGRA Board of Directors, who will make the final decision of removal from the royalty team.
- C. In the event of a royalty removal, the next highest scored qualified contestant will be contacted and offered the vacant position and will be recognized at the next IGRA function. This process will continue until the position is filled or no eligible contestant remains. If removed from the royalty team, individual will be stricken from the records and the member that replaces individual will be named in that position and have their name added to all official records.
- D. Minimum financial requirements must be completed within the first six (6) months of the rodeo year. If the minimum financial requirements are not met within the first six (6) months of the year, then the Vice President will recommend to the Board of Directors that said royalty member(s) be removed from the team.
- E. Failure to deliver monies within seven (7) days will result in a certified letter from the Vice President requesting the funds immediately. If the money is not received within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the certified letter, the Vice President will file an EPRB against the royalty team member.

Pages 63, Rule XVII, Section 13

RULE XVII SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Section 13. Presentation.

All special IGRA awards shall be presented at annual convention with the exception of the Sprit Stick Award, which shall be presented at Finals Rodeo.

Pages 67-68, Rule XX

RULE XX INTERNATIONAL COUNTRY/WESTERN DANCE COMPETITION

Section 1. Competition to be held in conjunction with **IGRA University** annual convention.

Section 2. No more than two (2) couples per dance division and two line dancers or two groups per division per association will be allowed to compete. New associations at annual convention may also have contestants entered.

Section 3. Dancers must be current members in good standing of the association they represent and be at least the legal age of majority to sign contracts according to guidelines of the nation or the superseding principality where the host association is located. The host association must inform Member Associations of legal age restrictions as soon as possible prior to the competition.

Section 4. The dance competition should be structured in such a way as to be self-sufficient.

Section 5. Entry forms and registration fees of thirty five dollars (\$35.00) per individual line dancer, seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for couples, or one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per open dance team, nonrefundable, and payable to **IGRA** the host association, per couple, will be mailed to the dance competition coordinator, and must be postmarked no later than thirty (30) days prior to **beginning of the competition** opening of the annual convention. Entry forms and registration fees received up to fifteen (15) days past deadline will result in a twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) late fee per entry. Registrations received within fifteen (15) days prior to the **competition** annual convention will be refused. Only the official IGRA Registration Form shall be used. All registration fees collected shall be applied to the production of the dance competition (Exhibit D2).

Section 6. A computer audit of the judges' manual scores shall be done by the IGRA Corporate Auditor or his/her designee before the announcement of winners.

Section 7. Official judges sheet shall be used and results shall be available as Exhibits D3-D4.

Section 8. All results of the dance competition will become a matter of corporate record. Results shall reflect the order of placement and total scores shall be posted immediately after announcement of winners. Individual results and judges' sheets shall be mailed to any contestant within thirty (30) days after competition upon receiving written request in the IGRA Executive Office.

Section 9. Conduct.

A. The decisions of the judges, the contest coordinator, and director will be final. All contestants are expected to act in a professional manner. Any contestant causing a disturbance, or involved in unethical conduct interpreted as solicitation of privileged contest information from any contest official, may be disqualified from all competition. Contestants are not allowed to question or consult the judges under any circumstances regarding the administration and execution of the contest during the event. Contest questions on all matters should be directed to the contest coordinator only.

B. The judges are allowed to socialize with all who attend the event when not working, provided privileged information about judges scoring or contest results is not divulged. As judges, specific

contest observations are to be considered privileged for the duration of the event and shall not be revealed to anyone other than proper event officials. Non-compliance by any contestant, or improper conduct by any contest official, as well as formal contest inquiries or protests, should be brought to the attention of the contest coordinator or the event director.

C. Dance contestants and dance officials may not be under the influence or consume illegal drugs/alcohol during the contest. Contest officials include master of ceremonies, announcer, judges, auditors, scorekeepers, and their staff.

Notes

Advise dance and co/fr committees to check their exhibits

Exhibit C1, Section 3, Paragraph A

Exhibit C1, Section 5, Paragraph A

Exhibit C15, Duties, #2-3

Exhibit C17, Duties, #2-3

Exhibit D1, Section 5, Paragraph A

Exhibit D1, Section 5, Paragraph B