

DATE: July, 2024  
TO: All College Rodeo Advisors/Coaches  
FROM: Josilyn Fullerton  
NIRA Membership Coordinator

Hi all!

For those of you that I was not able to meet in Casper, I am looking forward to working with you! I am excited to be a part of this organization and help you and your students succeed in the classroom and in the arena.

The contents of this email contain information for the 2023-2024 NIRA year. The documents include:

1. Individual Membership Applications
2. Certificate of Clearance
3. School Membership Application
4. Letter of Intent
5. Patch Program Application
6. Optional Individual Insurance for Contract Personnel

If you are sponsoring a fall rodeo, a rodeo packet will be emailed to you in the next week, or one is available on our website.

### **NIRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Dues for the 2023-2024 NIRA year are \$275 (\$113 membership, \$120 secondary medical insurance policy, \$10 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Foundation, and \$2 premium fund, and \$30 awards assessment). Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide Program. (If your college or university is not listed on the back of the 2023-2024 NIRA Individual Membership application, and/or is not a member school at the time an individual application is received by the NIRA National Office, the additional \$5 must be paid.) **As a reminder, insurance coverage for students does not start until August 1<sup>st</sup> if applications are sent before that date. For applications received after August 1, insurance coverage starts with the postmark date.**

**All students under the age of 21 must have the signature of parent(s) or guardian(s) on their application prior to approval.**

### **First Year Members**

- An application must be completed and signed (with parent/guardian signatures if a student is under 21 years of age)
- Official verification of high school graduation date or date that general education degree was obtained must be enclosed.
- Official transcript(s) from each institution attended must be enclosed if student has attended any college/university. Official transcripts must also be enclosed for any college courses that were taken while still in high school. No copies of transcripts will be accepted. They must be hard copy official, sent through the mail.

- Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide Program.
- Certificate of Clearance must be enclosed.

### **2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Year Members**

- An application must be completed and signed (with parent/guardian signatures if a student is under 21 years of age)
- Official transcript(s) from each institution attended must be enclosed in order to complete the processing of the application. No copies of transcripts will be accepted. They must be hard copy official transcripts, sent through the mail.
- Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide program.
- Certificate of Clearance must be enclosed.

All required documentation and money must be in the NIRA National Office and processed before a current NIRA number will be issued. **NO PERSON MAY ENTER AND COMPETE IN A NIRA APPROVED RODEO IF ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN MET BY REGIONAL DEADLINES.**

Applicants placed on **HOLD** will be notified by letter and the NIRA member school faculty advisor and regional faculty director will be notified by email of the reason(s) for the **HOLD** status.

Due to the immense number of applicants in the fall, you should allow a minimum of three (3) weeks from the date application is mailed to the NIRA National Office to receive membership card, and insurance information. Verify with the faculty director of your region as to the master entry list deadline for rodeos. In order to be processed for the master entry list, an application must be received by our office at least 24 hours prior to that deadline.

### **NIRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

**Club dues for the 2023-2024 rodeo season are \$300.00.** Any school sponsoring a NIRA approved rodeo must be a NIRA member. Any school with five or more NIRA student members will be notified by the NIRA National Office when the fifth individual applies for NIRA membership.

**NO RODEO TEAM POINTS WILL BE COUNTED UNTIL CLUB APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED IN THE NIRA NATIONAL OFFICE. ALL STUDENT MEMBERS WILL BE CONSIDERED OFF TEAM UNTIL SUCH TIME.**

### **RULE BOOKS 2023-2024**

A NIRA Rule Book will be sent to each rodeo advisor/coach with their membership card. Individual members can find our current NIRA Rule Book on our website at [www.collegerodeo.com](http://www.collegerodeo.com). Rule books are available through our office for an additional \$10.

### **LETTER OF INTENT**

All students who receive financial aid from the school's rodeo program and participate in NIRA rodeos are encouraged to sign a Letter of Intent with the institution he/she is attending or plans to attend. This agreement is for the protection of the student and the institution. If a Letter of Intent is signed, a copy should be filed with the NIRA National Office. Letters of Intent are not enforceable without being on file in the national office.

## **ELIGIBILITY FORM**

The NIRA National Office must have an official transcript in hand at the beginning of each term. Terms are completed after each semester or quarter. Each region has their own specific closing dates. Students are responsible for ensuring these transcripts are sent to the NIRA National Office in a timely manner. If the official transcripts are not received in our office before a Master Entry List is scheduled, the student will not be eligible to compete at that particular rodeo.

## **PATCH PROGRAM**

All patch agreements must be approved by the NIRA National Office before a contestant is allowed to wear patches in the arena.

## **OPTIONAL INSURANCE FOR CONTRACT PERSONNEL**

All NIRA coaches and NIRA contract personnel may purchase secondary accident insurance coverage while under contract at any NIRA approved events. Medical insurance provided by the NIRA is considered secondary to any other valid and collectible insurance. Please read the description of coverage before purchasing this policy. The additional fee is \$145 and is valid at sanctioned events only. This is the same insurance that NIRA students receive with their individual membership fee.

## **AWARD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

The NIRA Board of Directors has elected to designate a portion of the individual membership fee to be used as \$50,000 added money to the College National Finals Rodeo. Additionally, the remaining revenue will be used as prize fulfillment; a new RAM pickup will be drawn in the spring from the pool of NIRA student members in good standing. The award will be presented at the 2024 College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming.

The NIRA National Office staff is here to provide assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Our summer office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. Beginning August 21, 2023, our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. If you need additional forms, you may download them off of our website. ([www.collegerodeo.com](http://www.collegerodeo.com)).