

**Guide to
Campaigning for
Student Officer
Position**

With the

**NHSRA Junior
High Division**

Prepared by the NHSRA Youth Advisory Committee

Congratulations on your decision to campaign for student office in the Junior High Division of the NHSRA! We are pleased that you have decided to make your Junior High Division experience more meaningful and that you want to play an active role in the rule and decision-making processes of the National High School Rodeo Association's Junior High Division.

Being an NHSRA Junior High Division Student Officer is a fun experience, but it is also a serious one. Officers represent more than 4000 members from 43 states, 5 Canadian provinces, Australia and Mexico which make up the NHSRA Junior High Division.

When deciding to campaign for national office, you should ask yourself a few questions:

1. Do I believe in the National High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division and its goal to improve and promote Junior High School Rodeo among young people?
2. Do I believe in the purposes and aims of the Junior High Division, as outlined in the National High School Rodeo Association Constitution and By-Laws?
3. Will I be able to commit the time and effort to serve as an officer and travel to make appearances as directed by the NHSRA Junior High Division?
4. Am I knowledgeable about the Junior High Division and the rules of the Association?
5. Am I willing to support, promote and represent the sponsors of the National High School Rodeo Association?

In order to campaign for a Junior High Division Student Office:

1. You must have at least one full year of eligibility left in the Junior High Division.
2. NHSRA Student Officers can hold office for more than one year as long as they are eligible.
3. Be a member in good standing from the state or provincial Junior High Division Association in which you reside and/or attend school.
4. Must have competed at your district, state or province finals rodeo just prior to running for office. You do not have to be a contestant in the NJHFR in order to campaign for office.
5. You must notify the current NHSRA Junior High Division National Secretary of your intention to seek office before the conclusion of the first Student Delegate meeting on Sunday, June 24th by returning the form attached at the back of this booklet.

Your intentions of running for national office should be to improve and help the NHSRA-JH Division to the best of your ability. You will have the opportunity to meet new people and will be involved in public activities. This will require time away from home/school and can be a huge sacrifice. The student officers will spend approximately one month worth of time representing NHSRA-JH Division and are expected to uphold the grade requirements of membership.

The offices available are: President, Vice President and Secretary. The Student Officers serve at the discretion of the NHSRA President, and may be asked to serve on the Junior High Division Contestant Entertainment Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, Membership Committee as well as other committees as appointed.

The Student President will preside over the Student Delegate Meetings at the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. The Vice President will serve in the capacity of president, in the absence of the president. The Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes at the Delegate Meetings as well as any other meetings for the Junior High Division.

The student officers will be asked to attend the mid-winter board of directors meeting held in January. The student officers may also take other trips and make appearances as the adult officers direct. There may be times when the student officers will travel by themselves to the event where they will meet up with a NHSRA chaperone, however if a parent(s) decide to accompany the officer, it will be at their own expense. The newly elected student officers will take over their duties at the close of the NJHFR in which they are elected. They shall continue in office through the following NJHFR.

The student officers are to represent the student membership. Information they receive from their constituents regarding changes of the National High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division and National Junior High Finals Rodeo should be passed on to the National Board of Directors.

Your arrival at the NJHFR

If you are a contestant at the NJHFR, you should proceed through contestant check-in. After you take care of your contestant responsibilities, you must check in with the Rodeo Office if you intend to run for an office. Turn in or make sure your Campaign Filing form has been received.

If you are not a contestant at the NJHFR but will be attending as an officer candidate, you must still adhere to the final check-in deadline as well as other rules for contestants. ***If you are not a National Finals Contestant, you must be checked in by 7 A.M., Sunday, June 24th, 2018 with the Rodeo Office.*** You will be issued a non-contestant back number that will allow you accessibility to campaigning areas.

Campaigning

If you have made your decision to run for office early in the year, you have the opportunity to have your picture and a short biographical profile published in the **NHSRA Times** magazine, the official NHSRA publication which is mailed to all NHSRA members. In addition, your information will be published on the association's website. Any photograph of the candidate that is submitted for publication on the website and in the **NHSRA Times**, must have the candidate in full western

attire. Articles will only be published in the **NHSRA Times** once. The deadline for submitting to the **NHSRA Times** is the 5th of the month for the following month's issue.

Early candidates may have contact with each of the state's delegates and National Director. You can send out letters, brochures and other campaign literature. A letter of recommendation from your National Director is a good tool for campaigning. Include your ideas for junior high rodeo and why you want to serve as an officer. The national office can supply you with the addresses of the student delegates and national directors.

After checking in with the Rodeo Office, you will receive instructions about the designated campaign areas. Each candidate will be given a table to display their campaign message and distribute promotional items. Space is limited so the displays should be kept small.

When campaigning, remember:

- **CAMPAIGN GIVEAWAYS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE DISPLAY AREAS ONLY!**
- No campaigning will be allowed in the arenas or work areas.
- No campaign propaganda or campaign gifts can be distributed at the student delegate meetings.
- No campaign gifts are to be given to the voting delegates.
- Posters are to be hung in designated areas- see attached rules.
- This facility does not allow stickers or glue-on items.
- Flyers or notices cannot be placed on the windshield of vehicles.
- Stickers placed on contestant's back numbers cannot cover any part of the contestant number and must not be larger than 2 1/2" in diameter/length/width.
- Talk to the student delegates, they can be identified by a sticker on their back number. They cast the votes!
- Please avoid materials which could be used as noisemakers or could be used to deface property.

Most past NHSRA-JH Student Officers will tell you that the *quality* of your campaign is what's important, and not the quantity of give-a-ways. Try to keep in mind that your personal contact with the student delegates, contestants and membership is much more important than what material offerings you might have. Last, but not least, be considerate and respectful of the host facilities property and their rules and remember to remove all campaign materials once the elections are over.

Meetings at Nationals

Your first Student Delegate meeting with the current Student Officers and delegates will be on **Sunday, June 24th, 2018 at 9:30am** (right after check-in closes) in the **Women's Building Auditorium** at the **South Dakota State Fairgrounds**. At this meeting, all of the states within the NHSRA Junior High Division will have four student delegates in attendance along with the current NHSRA Junior High Division Student Officers. During this meeting, the youth campaigning for office will be asked to introduce themselves briefly. This is a good opportunity for you to set

yourself apart from the group and express the talents you want to bring to the NHSRA-JH Division. The election of student event directors will also take place at this meeting.

Student officer candidates will be introduced at the Mandatory Contestants Meeting at 11am, Sunday, June 24th, 2018 in the arena. This is the second meeting you need to attend.

The third meeting you will need to attend, as a candidate, will be held on **Friday, June 29th at 1:00pm in the Women's Building Auditorium**. This will be for all student delegates, student officer candidates, and current junior high school student officers. During this meeting, the youth campaigning for office will be asked to give a campaign speech relating their goals and reasons for seeking office. The election of the 2018-2019 NHSRA Junior High Division Student Officers will take place at this time. The results of the election will be announced immediately following the tally of votes.

The by-laws outlining the procedure for electing student officers, the student delegates and policies for student officers are outlined in Article V of the NHSRA Constitution and By-Laws. Please refer to a current NHSRA rulebook for those procedures.

Newly elected student officers and their parents must meet with a representative from the NHSRA Junior High Division youth advisory committee and James Higginbotham, NHSRA Executive Director immediately following their election on Friday, June 29th, 2018. During this meeting, some paperwork will need to be filled out and policies and procedures will be presented to the new officers so they know what is expected of them over the next year. You and your parents will be required to sign an agreement outlining behavioral policies and conduct expectations as well possible disciplinary actions if any rules, policies and procedures are violated. A copy of this agreement is included in this booklet so you and your parents have time to review it prior to being elected. You will be required to sign a confidentiality non-disclosure agreement. All candidates need to understand that the integrity of the NHSRA Junior High Division rests with the National Student Officers.

The newly elected officers will be introduced in the Grand Entry of the Championship Performance on Saturday evening, June 30th.

As a NHSRA Junior High Division Student Officer your opportunities can be endless. Familiarize yourself with the Constitution and "Mission Statement" of the National High School Rodeo Association. Know that you can be part of the solution and make this the best youth organization in the world.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the current NHSRA Junior High Division Officers; Bridee Ann Burks - President, Connor Griffith - Vice President and Brady Uppena - Secretary. You can also contact Youth Advisory Co-Chairpersons: Gaye Walker, Mississippi or Ronnie Haslerig, Georgia. Their contact information can be found in the NHSRA Times or the current NHSRA Rulebook.

COMMIT TO BEING A STUDENT OFFICER

NHSRA is excited about your decision to run for a national office and congratulate you for your commitment. We feel we need to let you know some of your responsibilities and requirements prior to taking this step.

- **TRAVEL:** Successful candidates will be expected to be in attendance on the following trips. Travel expenses for a student officer will be paid by NHSRA. A parent traveling with the officer will be responsible for their own expenses. You will be met at the event by a NHSRA chaperone.

December 10-16, 2018 – NFR Cowboy Christmas – Las Vegas, NV
(Dec 11th -15th - sell Ram/Weatherby raffle tickets in sponsor shared booth 9:00 am – 5:00 pm)

January (a Tuesday-a Saturday), 2019– NHSRA Mid Winter Meeting–(dates and location TBD)
(normally the 3rd or 4th week of January – dates and location will be determined following Annual Meeting at NHSFR)
(serve an active role in decision making on selected committees)

June 23-29, 2019 – NJHSFR – Huron, SD
(duties not limited to presiding over delegate meetings, presenting flags at each performance)

- **SPONSOR OBLIGATIONS:**

Successful candidates will be expected and required to be in NHSRA
Sponsor apparel, boots, and hat when representing NHSRA at any event.

Cinch Jeans & Shirts, Ariat Boots, and American Hat

- **AGREEMENTS:**

Successful candidate and parents or guardian will be required to sign a
Conduct and Behavior Policy Agreement.

Successful candidate will be required to sign a

Confidentiality Non-Disclosure Agreement.

**NHSRA Junior High Candidate
Campaign Filing Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

State/Province High School Rodeo Association: _____

2017-2018 Junior High Division Membership Number: _____

Student Officer Position I am Seeking: _____
(President, Vice President, Secretary)

I hereby certify that I am a member in good standing of the above mentioned state/province junior high school rodeo association during the 2018-2019 junior high school rodeo year and that I have a minimum of one year of eligibility left in the Junior High Division and hereby am eligible to campaign for a national student officer position with the NHSRA Junior High Division. I fully understand that holding a Junior High Division National Officer position is a big responsibility and that I will be a role model for other youth and that my actions not only reflect upon myself but upon the entire membership of the National High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division, Inc. I am fully prepared to be held to a higher standard than most members and am accepting the responsibility of the office I am seeking.

Member Signature: _____

Date: _____

As the parent or guardian of the above named NHSRA Junior High Division member, I hereby give my permission for my son/daughter to seek the position of a National Student Officer and understand that the position comes with serious responsibilities.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Please return this completed form to:

Prior to Check-in at 2018 NJHFR
JH Student Secretary
Brady Uppena

**After NJHFR Check-in closes (before close of the
delegate meeting)**
NJHFR Rodeo Office
Huron, SD