



***OSU RODEO
ASSOCIATION***

MEMBER HANDBOOK

2009-2010

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Purpose

The purpose of the Oklahoma State University Rodeo Association (OSURA) is to provide an opportunity for students attending Oklahoma State University (OSU) to be involved in the sport of rodeo, while achieving sound academic goals and a college education/degree. This includes OSU Rodeo Association members who are cardholders of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA), and the OSU Rodeo Association members who are not NIRA cardholders. The Association also serves as the organization to support an NIRA rodeo team, by establishing annual membership for OSU with NIRA.

Mission

The mission of the OSURA is multifaceted: we support the OSU Rodeo Team in their competition efforts, we work to provide rodeo related activities and opportunities for all of our members, we create an atmosphere of enthusiastic energy so members and alumni will desire to keep the association and team strong, we work to bring pride for the sport of rodeo to OSU, through our great rodeo organization. The association carries out this mission while keeping a true focus on the academic responsibilities of its members.

Goals, Objectives, & Functions

- To assist students in being successful at OSU.
- Encourage OSU rodeo team athletes to excel in their University studies, and in the rodeo arena.
- To provide the OSU Rodeo Association/Team members an opportunity to gain knowledge, skills, and develop, through a variety of experiences. These opportunities will be focused primarily on the sport of rodeo, but may include many aspects related to the rodeo industry.
- To help students learn about all aspects of the sport of rodeo, develop in areas of competition, mental attitude, self-discipline and responsibility.
- Gain knowledge in fundraising activities, leadership skills, and organization development.
- To experience personal growth through comradeship, sportsmanship and team spirit.
- Produce competitive and winning intercollegiate rodeo individuals that Oklahoma State University can be proud of.
- To bring positive attention to the OSU rodeo program (as well as the University) through recognition at the community, regional, and national levels.

Outline of the OSU Rodeo Association Program/Structure

The OSU Rodeo Association is a recognized student organization of Oklahoma State University. As a student organization, we operate under the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and are members of the Agriculture Student Council.

The rodeo program at OSU is funded through the Annual Funding Allocation Process (AFAP) of the OSU Student Government Association and fundraising activities.

The OSU Rodeo Association Booster Club is a non-profit - (501 C-3) entity that was formed for the purpose of supporting OSU rodeo. This organization coordinates and assists with fundraising activities for the student rodeo organization. The Booster Club also provides scholarship funds and other funding needed by the student organization.

OSU does hold a scholarship endowment account for the OSU Rodeo Association; however this account is not fully funded at this time.

It is the intention of the OSU rodeo program to ensure a structure that provides for the systemic and efficient organization and operation.

Not only does the program focus on rodeo competition for the NIRA cardholders, but there is an emphasis put on the other areas of the student's growth and development. The program is structured to provide opportunities for any student that is a member of the association. This is accomplished through a wide variety of activities and projects.

The OSU Rodeo Association is also charged with the responsibility of the upkeep, management and improvements to the OSU Rodeo Complex located on Western Ave. south of Lakeview Rd.

One of the most important aspects of the OSU Rodeo Association program is to show respect and pride for OSU, and to be an organization that OSU can be proud of.

Eligibility

OSU Rodeo Association

Any student enrolled at OSU or NOC-Stillwater Gateway program is eligible to become a member of the OSU Rodeo Association.

Dues, Fees, Deposits, etc:

Membership	\$30
Non-NIRA members who are going to use arenas to practice	\$20
NIRA membership	\$255
Key Deposit (if want a key)	\$25
Stall/Pasture Deposit (per horse)	\$50
Stall/Pasture Boarding Fee (per semester per horse for Non-NIRA members)	\$200
Stock Lease Fee for Non-NIRA members'	\$35/month (\$125 per semester)
OSU Rodeo Team competition vest (price may vary and is purchased through Dupree's) <i>Mandatory for NIRA card holders/optional for Non-NIRA card holding members</i>	\$55
OSU Rodeo Team jacket or vest	\$90

All fees, dues, and deposits are due by the second meeting of the semester. Failure to pay will result in:

- Removal of access to facility
- Removal of your horse from the facility
- Actions may also be taken by the university up to and including a hold placed on your enrollment, a hold placed on your transcript, or possibly suspension from the university.
- Submission of debt to a collection agency which can affect your ability to receive financial aid.

Forms needed for membership include:

Membership Application

Stall/Pasture Boarding Application

Membership Handbook

Payment of membership dues

Signed Membership card

OSU Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior

OSU Rodeo Association/NIRA membership

To be eligible to rodeo as with the NIRA, a student must be a member in good standing with the OSU Rodeo Association.

The membership requirements to be an NIRA cardholder on OSU's rodeo team include the requirements of NIRA, and any agreements, rules, guidelines, or policies of the OSU Rodeo Association. For NIRA eligibility requirements, see an OSURA Advisor(s), Coach(s), or NIRA rule book (available on NIRA website www.collegerodeo.com).

Items needed for the NIRA application are:

1. NIRA application from completed and signed by the student (or parent if student is under 18 yrs. Old) and the Advisor/Coach.
2. Clearance certificate form.
3. An original transcript of all college work and grades (if applicable).
4. High school affidavit (if applicable).
5. Cashier's check or money order for NIRA membership fees.

Note: To be eligible to compete in the NIRA or have access to the benefits of an OSU Rodeo Association member, you must be in good standing with the club. Good standing means you do not have an outstanding debt owed to the club, you have not violated any precept of this handbook, and that you are a currently enrolled student of Oklahoma State University or NOC.

Facilities:

Access and use of the facility is for OSU Rodeo Association members in good standing ONLY. Anyone using the OSU Rodeo Association Facility or any part thereof may do so only with the permission of the OSU Rodeo Association Officer Team, OSU Advisor/Coach, or designee and must be in good standing with the club. OSU Rodeo Association officers/advisor will randomly ask to see your membership card. Failure to show card will result in you being asked to leave the facility until you can show a valid card.

The front gate of the OSU rodeo facility is to be locked at any time there is no one present at the facility. It is the responsibility of the last person at the facility to lock the gate when they leave. If a member(s) without a key discovers that they are the last one(s) there, they must contact someone with a key and arrange to have the gate locked.

No livestock are to be turned out (at any time) in the main front pastures of the facility.

All arena lights are to be turned off when not in use, and when the last person leaves the arena.

It is the responsibility of each person at the facility to pick up after themselves. If a student notices trash or something that needs to be picked up, put away, etc. they should help keep the facility nice, by assisting in the effort to keep the facilities clean, and in good shape.

Random inspections of stalls/pastures will be held and anyone who does not regularly care for their space will have to answer for it and may be asked to remove their horse from the facility.

No riding activities or practice should be started after 10:00 p.m. any night of the week. At any time horses are "turned out", owners are to be present at the arena.

These facilities are not to be used as any kind of a storage or boarding at any time.

The arenas are not a turnout pen. Do not turn your horses out in them at any time.

A round pen is provided for working with a horse and is not a stall or run. This round pen is for everyone's use.

Dogs or other pets are not to be kept on the premises without supervision. And are NOT to be left overnight. If you leave, your pets go with you.

The only animals that are allowed to be housed on the facility are approved horses and approved practice livestock.

Any violator of this will have those items removed from the property.

Facility Keys:

OSURA members will be eligible for a key once they pay a \$25.00 deposit per key, when the key is assigned. Deposits will be refundable if the key(s) is returned by the deadline which is the Sunday following Finals Week in the Spring semester or when no longer attending Oklahoma State University, whichever is sooner.

Facility keys are not to be loaned out to anyone. If a spare key is needed for a special circumstance, which may be arranged with an OSU Rodeo Team officer.

Any person having possession of a facility key will be responsible for that key. If a key is lost or stolen, a \$25.00 replacement fee will apply.

Stalls:

Anyone who wishes to board a horse at the OSU Rodeo Complex must complete an application and be approved BEFORE bringing a horse to the facility.

An annual deposit of \$50.00 per horse is required on any stall, pen, run, or pasture an OSURA member utilizes. This deposit is due at the time the member checks in to the facility. (Note: membership dues must also be paid at this time.)

Check in for OSU Rodeo Association members begins no earlier than 10 days before school starts. Check in for OSU Rodeo Association officers begins no earlier than 21 days before school starts.

Up to two stalls will be provided at no charge (other than deposit), to those OSURA members who are NIRA cardholders and participating at the NIRA rodeos.

OSURA members who are not NIRA card holders may also utilize one stall at no charge (other than deposit) if they are an elected officer.

All other OSURA members may lease a space at the price of \$200.00 a semester, per horse (plus deposit).

Stalls are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Once a space is assigned, you must have written approval to move to another space.

If there are more applications than available space, a hierarchy will be followed. The hierarchy is as follows:

1. Officers
2. NIRA Card Holders
3. Club Members
4. Factors that will add or subtract from ranking with hierarchy are:
 - a. Seniority based on number of years on team
 - b. Seniority based on years in club
 - c. Participation in practices, events, fundraisers, and workdays
 - d. General attitude and contribution to the club

Only the designated number of horses may be kept in assigned areas (i.e. one horse per stall but some pastures can hold more than one horse).

All feed and hay should be stored in a neat and well kept manner, in the feed stall. Hay wires should be put in either a trash can, or contained in a feed sack, etc. Wires are not to be hung on the stall bars. Trash cans are available at the end of the stall rows.

It is the responsibility of the student occupying a stall to keep their stall(s) clean.

Periodic inspections of the stalls and facilities will be done by the OSU Rodeo Association officers and anyone who does not keep their stall cleaned on a regular basis may be asked to remove their horse from the facility.

Any one asked to remove their horse also forfeits their deposit.

After water hoses are used for any purpose, they should be rolled up and stored neatly by the hydrant.

Alley ways of the stalls should be kept neat and clean. It is the responsibility of all rodeo association members to ensure this is done.

If a stall is damaged by a horse, the student assigned that stall will bear the expense to bring the stall back to the condition in which it was first occupied by them.

Any person occupying a stall in which a horse cribs, kicks, etc., may be asked to control the situation in an acceptable manner, or remove their horse completely from the stalls.

The use of plastic tarps may be used on a stall as long as it is securely attached so it does not fall, or give a poor appearance. Any use of electrical devices in/on a stall, must have prior authorization in writing from an officer or Advisor/Coach.

When horses are removed from the stall (end of semester or year) the stalls are to be in neat and clean condition. Stalls will be inspected when a horse is removed. If the stall is not in acceptable condition, deposits will not be returned.

Meetings:

Regular meetings will be scheduled one night a week, unless otherwise notified. The day and place will be announced. To remain in good standing with the OSU Rodeo Association, members must attend at least 2 of the weekly meetings per month. If you are not able to attend due to class or an in-flexible work schedule, you must submit a written request to the officer team and receive a written approval for missing the meetings.

Meetings will have an agenda. Officers will discuss the agenda with Advisor(s)/Coach(s) before the meetings. Officers will preside over the meetings. Meetings will be conducted in an orderly and businesses like manner.

Minutes will be taken at each meeting and minutes will be made available to any member of the association.

Fundraisers:

All OSURA members are asked to assist with some fundraising activities.

Any student available to help with these fundraisers (if not competing at an NIRA rodeo), is required to do so.

Other fundraisers will be coordinated throughout the year, by the OSURA members.

Association Committees and Positions:

Various committees and positions may be established to carry out objectives of the association and team. These are subject to change and be established, as determined necessary.

Such committees may include, but are not limited to:

Finance Committee

Fundraisers/Activities/Events Committee Sponsorship Committee

Penalties/Disciplinary Committee Facilities Committee

Student Arena Director(s)

Student Practice Director(s)

Publicity Committee/Director(s)

Disciplinary Rules and Policies:

See OSU Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior (available on OSU's web site, under Division of Student Affairs).

Participation:

Participation in the various activities sponsored by the OSURA is encouraged. Not all members will be able to participate in every activity. The Advisor(s)/Coach(s), and association as a whole understand this. In order to make the association the best it can be and contribute something to all its members, we need your help. It is our goal to make all activities as fun and enjoyable as possible. It is our goal that members feel they benefit from their involvement in the association and its various activities and functions.

OSURA Officers:

The leadership of the officer team helps to direct the whole organization. Any position of office is to be taken seriously and to be carried out to the best of the member's ability. The officer team acts as a board of directors for the management of the OSU Rodeo Arena facility, the OSU Rodeo Team, and the association itself. Any exceptions, rule violations, or other issue may be brought to the Officer Team at any time for addressing and resolution.

The Officers of the OSURA are as follows:

President
Vice-President
NIRA Secretary
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Reporter
Ag Council Representatives (2)
Advisor/Coach (may be more than one)

If any member has a concern, complaint, compliment, or other issue that they wish to discuss with an officer, the officers meet prior to the regular meeting and anyone is welcome to come to the meeting to discuss what is on their mind. All discussions in the officer meeting are confidential unless given specific permission to share with the entire club.

Advisor(s)/Coach(s):

The Advisor(s)/Coach(s) for the OSURA play a very important role in the organization. It is the goal of the Advisor(s)/Coach(s) of the OSURA, to treat each and every member of the student organization in a fair and just manner. This role includes giving support to any and all members, in their efforts of rodeo competition and all other activities of the association.

Actions required or suggested for and by the University, and the NINA on behalf of the association members, will be carried out by the Advisor(s)/Coach(s), or designated student members.

NIRA Rodeos:

An NIRA card number and rule book will be distributed to each student NIRA member. All OSU NIRA cards must be signed by the OSU Rodeo Advisor(s)/Coach(s). Work In Progress documents must be signed by the OSU Rodeo Advisor(s)/Coach(s).

Entries for all NIRA rodeos will be taken by the OSU Rodeo Advisor(s)/Coach(s), or a designated officer of the OSURA. Entries will also be submitted to the NIRA Central Regional Secretary, by the OSURA Advisor(s)/Coach(s), or designated officer or the OSURA.

All OSURA members must wear an OSU rodeo vest when competing at an NIRA rodeo.

All OSU NIRA team members will follow the conduct rules set by the NIRA, Central Plains Region, OSURA, and Oklahoma State University. Disciplinary action for not complying with any of the rules or policies will be determined by the OSURA Advisor(s)/Coach(s), and/or the OSU Office of Student Affairs. Disciplinary action may result in suspension from the OSU NIRA rodeos, the OSURA, and/or the NIRA.

If an Advisor/Coach is unable to attend a coach's meeting, an OSURA NIRA member may be asked to attend the meeting, or obtain information from the meeting.

OSURA NIRA members should consult with the OSURA Advisor(s)/Coach(s) when a problem or concern arises at a rodeo, or about NIRA rodeo.

NIRA competition is taken seriously at OSU. If a team member (who has received points that have been applied toward the OSU Men's or Women's Teams) does not attend a future rodeo in that year (by their choice, or due to circumstances they could have controlled), they will be subject to a monetary penalty. The penalty will be in the amount of the fees for the event(s) they enter, at the NIRA rodeo. This penalty will be paid to the OSURA.

Practice:

Official, "sanctioned" practices are scheduled on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from approximately 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Approval must be obtained from a member of the Officer Team for livestock to be practiced on, outside official practice.

A specific day will be assigned to each discipline and will be announced by the second meeting of the semester.

OSU Rodeo Association Booster Club:

The OSURA Booster Club is a non-profit (501 C-3) entity created to support the OSURA.

The Booster Club's efforts to assist the OSURA are vital to the success of the rodeo program at OSU.

We ask all members of the OSURA to encourage their family to join the Booster Club and help assist the OSURA. We welcome all interested persons to contact the Booster Club, or the OSURA, for information.

The OSURA members strive to keep a good relationship with the Booster Club. All OSURA members are to show respect to the Booster Club and its members.