



# SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS



*AN AMERICAN SPORT FOR AMERICAN YOUTH,  
DEVOTED TO GOOD HORSEMANSHIP, SPORTSMANSHIP, AND SCHOLARSHIP*

The South Dakota High School Rodeo Association is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of the State of South Dakota. The purpose for which is to promote High School Rodeo at the highest level on a state and national scale. For a yearly fee of \$10.00, adult membership is open to anyone over the age of 18 who is not competing in SDHSRA. The Association Board of Directors are listed at [sdhsra.com](http://sdhsra.com).

## ELIGIBILITY

Students must be in good standing; not ruled undesirable for misconduct at school. Students must be under 20 at the first of the High School Rodeo year August 1, 2025, and are or have been enrolled in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade the school year preceding the high school rodeos the contestant is entering. As a minimum requirement, the student must be passing 70% of classes taken to be eligible to compete, even if they have graduated in the middle of the year or have attended school half days. Student must reside in or physically attend school in South Dakota. An online school based in South Dakota does not qualify. If student does not meet these criteria, he/she must then qualify for and complete the out-of-state membership process. Transfer requests will be reviewed by the SDHSRA Board of Directors. Out-of-state transfers into the State of South Dakota must follow the transfer policy. It can be found on [sdhsra.com](http://sdhsra.com).

Each contestant must have completed their NHSRA membership before a regional entry blank can be submitted.

**In the team roping, you must enter with a partner, or you will not rope. There will be no pairing of teams in the team roping.**

**Contestants who enter an event at a Regional Rodeo are expected to participate in the event or events entered.** A contestant will qualify to compete in an event at the South Dakota State High School Rodeo Finals held in Ft. Pierre, SD on June 16 – 20, 2026 by earning a minimum of three points in that event at Regional Rodeos. Points will be earned on a basis of ten points for 1st to one point for 10<sup>th</sup> in each go-round. A contestant will bring cumulative **points from their three best Regional Rodeo go-rounds** to the State Finals. Points earned at the Regional Rodeos plus points earned at the South Dakota State High School Rodeo Finals will determine national qualifiers. Awards given at the South Dakota State High School Rodeo Finals will be based on high point totals. The contestant must qualify in each individual event to compete in that event at the State Finals. Events cannot be picked up or traded. There will be one Queen contest held during the State Finals Rodeo.

At the completion of the SDHSRA season, 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> place year-end point earners will be eligible to enter the NHSRA Finals in Lincoln, Nebraska, July 19 - 25, 2026. Only the winning Queen will compete at the NHSFR. Should any of the first four points winners choose not to compete at the National Finals for any reason, 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> place point winners will be allowed to roll up for national competition, beginning with the 5<sup>th</sup> place point earner in that event.

**Any contestant that has been injured and has received medical care at a hospital or urgent care facility must have a doctor's release before the contestant is allowed to resume competition.** Additionally, if a contestant has presented a doctor's release to draw out, he/she must present another doctor's release to resume competition. (NHSRA rule). There are to be no trade outs and no refunds once a contestant has entered a Regional Rodeo unless the refund policy is followed exactly and approved.

To ensure equitable distribution of contestants at the Regional Rodeos, it is necessary for the Board of Directors to divide the state into Regions based on location of attending school. The Secretary, as directed by the Directors, must approve any alteration of these boundaries. In the event there is still unequal distribution of contestants, the Board of Directors will review the entries and make further distribution. An approval to transfer between regions

must be obtained yearly and will only be granted when team roping with a partner from another region, for custody issues or because a sibling is transferring due to one of the first two issues. Member must contact a Director from the Region they are transferring to and from, secure their approval and relay this information to the State Secretary. February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 is the deadline for Region Transfers.

### **NORTHWEST REGION**

All contestants attending High School in:

Belle Fourche	Bison	Harding County	Dupree	Eagle Butte
Faith	Isabel	Lemmon	McIntosh	Newell
Spearfish	Sturgis	Takini	Timber Lake	

Will enter either or both the:

Buffalo Rodeo June 5– 7, 2026	Dupree Rodeo June 12 – 14, 2026
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NW Region Directors are:

Justin Pihl 11768 Bullock Rd Buffalo, SD 57720 605-641-0148	Jeremy Meeks PO Box 44 Lantry, SD 57636 605-890-2185
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### **SOUTHWEST REGION**

All contestants attending High School in:

Bennett County	Crazy Horse	Custer	Douglas	Edgemont
Hill City	Hot Springs	Lakota Tech	Lead/Deadwood	Little Wound
New Underwood	Oelrichs	Pine Ridge	Red Cloud	
Rapid City Central	Rapid City Stevens	Wall		

Will enter either or both the:

Wall Rodeo June 5– 7, 2026	New Underwood Rodeo June 12 – 14, 2026
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SW Region Directors are:

Justin Robertson 15980 E Hwy 44 Caputa, SD 57744 605-484-0305	Bryce Chambliss 15991 Pioneer Road New Underwood, SD 57761 605-209-1838
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### **RIVER REGION**

All contestants attending High School in:

Chamberlain	Colome	Gettysburg	Gregory/Burke	Highmore/Harrold
Faulkton	Jones County	Lower Brule	Lyman	Kadoka Area
Kimball	Miller	Mobridge/Pollock	Philip	Pierre
Platte/Geddes	St. Francis	Stanley County	Sully Buttes	Tiospaye Topa
Todd County/ Trail City	White River	Winner		

Will enter either or both the:

Kadoka Rodeo June 5– 7, 2026	Winner Rodeo June 12 – 14, 2026
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River Region Directors are:

Shawn Reis 24874 333rd Ave Reliance, SD 57569 605-680-9727	Justin Heath 29161 324th Ave Colome, SD 57528 605-840-5052
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### **EAST REGION**

All contestants attending High School in:

Britton/Hecla	Canton	Clark	Frederick	Groton
Huron	Langford	Leola	Madison	Sisseton
Webster	Wessington Springs	White Lake	Yankton	
Any school East of Hwy 281				

Will enter either or both the:

Huron Rodeo  
June 5– 7, 2026

Watertown Rodeo  
June 12 – 14, 2026

East Region Directors are:

Brad McGirr  
20177 Hwy 37  
Huron, SD 57350  
605-354-0974

Perry Moody  
23970 398th Ave  
Letcher, SD 57359  
605-770-0853

## **EAST AND WEST DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

### ***The East Director at Large, representing the East and River Region:***

Jeremy Stevens  
20450 365th Ave  
St. Lawrence, SD 57373  
605-870-3714

### ***The West Director at Large, representing the NW and SW Region***

Nate Grueb  
PO Box 570  
Dupree, SD 57623  
605-200-0208

## **NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Dale Christensen  
PO Box 497  
Kadoka, SD 57543  
605-488-0410

## **SDHSRA SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Amy Johnson  
13625 Rabbit Creek Pl  
Reva, SD 57651  
605-890-2162

## **APPROVED PRACTICE HIGH SCHOOL RODEOS**

An approved SDHSRA practice rodeo is **NOT** a qualifying or eliminating rodeo. These are available to enter in addition to the Regional Rodeos though no points will be awarded. A contestant may enter as many as he or she wishes and is not restricted by Regional Boundaries. However, participation is NOT required. All contestants must be a current 2025-2026 NHSRA and SDHSRA member to enter. A separate entry is required for each practice rodeo. These can be found on [sdhsra.com](http://sdhsra.com).

## **INSURANCE AND FEES**

The NHSRA provides the contestant accident insurance for all state high school rodeo associations. All high school contestants who rodeo under the NHSRA must be covered by NHSRA insurance.

Of the \$194.67 membership fee:

- \$74.00 - contestant accident insurance premium
- \$46.00 - NHSRA membership
- \$15.00 - NHSRA Times subscription
- \$2.00 - Western Horseman subscription
- \$43.00 - SDHSRA operating expenses
- \$14.67 - NHSRA credit card processing fees

## **LATE FEES**

Membership postmarked November 2nd to January 1 - \$125.00 in addition to the \$194.67 = \$319.67

Membership postmarked January 2nd to February 15th - \$250.00 in addition to the \$194.67 = \$444.67

Last possible day to join is 3/1/2026.

### **QUEEN CONTEST**

Only 9th, 10th, and 11th grade contestants are eligible to compete in the SDHSRA queen contest and there will only be a queen contest at the SDHSRA State Finals. If reigning queen is competing, she will not make appearances the other queen contestants are not asked to make.

### **LOGO PROTECTED**

Any Member, State, Competing Region, Parent, Sponsor, Rodeo Committee or other wishing to use the SDHSRA logos must receive written permission from the SDHSRA Executive Secretary before use is allowed. This covers the service marks, trademarks, or logos of which the SDHSRA is the exclusive owner and has exclusive rights to the use in any form.

### **ATTENTION:**

**ALL STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT REPORT CARD TO THE REGIONAL RODEOS.** They will be unable to participate if their report card is not furnished and will be disqualified from competition.

**Home-schooled students must have completed the year's course work and present a year-end report card, regardless if the program is an ongoing program. A year-end report must be completed.**

### **CALENDAR FUND RAISING PROJECT**

**All contestants are required to sell SIX calendars by March 1, 2026.** Money and sales stubs must be postmarked by March 1, 2026 and sent to Donna Curr, Calendar Chairperson. All members who have not sold the 6 calendars by March 1st or have not returned any unsold calendars by March 1st will be placed on an inactive list and will not be allowed to participate in any Practice, Regional, or State Finals Rodeo in South Dakota for the current year.

If you have any questions regarding the Calendar Project, contact:

Donna Curr  
PO Box 36  
Scenic, SD 57780  
605 433-5483 (H)  
605-454-2234 (C)  
[curr@gwtc.net](mailto:curr@gwtc.net).

Any SURVEY OR QUESTIONNAIRE for SDHSRA student, adult members or Board of Directors must first be brought before the Board of Directors for approval.