

## MINUTES

The annual meeting of the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) was held on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 10:00 am at the New Orleans Marriott, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present. The minutes of the previous meeting in Kansas City were approved with no corrections.

Louisiana President Lance Pippin welcomed the delegates to the Annual Convention and then introduced his Board of Directors.

Convention Rules. Parliamentarian Benjamin Avant reviewed the convention floor rules.

Credentials Report. Membership Chair Larry Lindstrom reported that 28 Member Associations had met the requirements to be seated. It was noted that Georgia, Red River, and Sooner State did not send delegates to this convention. There were no new associations that either met the requirements or submitted the necessary paperwork to be seated at this convention.

Roll Call and Seating of Delegates. Secretary Larry Lindstrom performed the roll call.

- 125 voting delegates
- 2/3 majority = 84
- majority = 63

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Vice President's Report. Andrew Goodman gave a verbal report regarding his first year in office.

Secretary's Report. Larry Lindstrom presented a visual report with no action items.

Treasurer's Report. David Hill reported that all outstanding association invoices have been paid.

Administrative Assistant. Tommy Channel reported that the fall contestant mailing would be November 10. Depending on proposed rule changes, this may be the last contestant mailing. He also reported that he is working on the 2009 insurance policy with Tom Schipp of Kaliff & Co. of San Antonio. Mr. Schipp would also be conducting a seminar at University in February.

Trustees Chairman. Ray Ostmann gave a verbal report recognizing financial situations due to the economy and thanked all the alternates that assisted in attending rodeos.

A 10-minute break was taken at 11:15 am.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Animal Issues. Jim Mitchell proposed adding to Rodeo Rule 16 where some type of material should cover return gates. After much debate, the proposal went back to committee, where the following wording was then approved by a voice vote: "A banner or opaque material must be placed on all animal return gates. Banners must cover the entire length of the gate and be a minimum height equal to at least two thirds the height of the gate."

Chute Coordinators. Heather Murray and David Hallwood submitted a written report with no action items.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon resuming at 1:30 pm.

Roll Call. The Secretary took a new roll.

- 124 voting delegates
- 2/3 majority = 83
- majority = 63

Budget. David Hill submitted a written report with no action items.

Bylaws & Standing Rules. Benjamin Avant presented the following proposals.

BSR-3 to move the certification programs to the end of Standing Rules passed by a voice vote.

BSR-4 to delete the bonus delegate failed by a voice vote.

BSR-5 making the rodeo sanction fee non-refundable passed by a voice vote.

BSR-6 regarding cleanup to the rodeo checklist and rodeo fines passed by a voice vote.

BSR-7 that only those duly-elected Trustees may attend EPRB meetings passed by a voice vote.

BSR-8 cleaning up the certification programs passed by a voice vote.

BSR-9 adding a new rule for the Rodeo Announcer passed by a voice vote.

BSR-10 adding and deleting special international awards passed by a voice vote.

Community Outreach & Fundraising. The Royalty Team presented the following proposals.

COFR-1 changing the makeup of the panel of judges passed by a voice vote.

COFR-2 changing the submission of questions to “no less than” 45 days passed by a voice vote.

COFR-3 changing the allocation of funds from evenly to a percentage basis passed on a hand count 98-20.

COFR-4 would eliminate the horsemanship portion of the competition. Shaun Sewell proposed a friendly amendment to add the word “supervision” in the following line ...volunteer under “supervision” of certified official.

After debate, Shaun Sewell moved to extend time for discussion and the motion failed by a voice vote. The proposal failed on a hand count 58-63.

COFR-5 added DVD along with VHS tape and removed viewing “and one time only by judges. Mike Benner proposed a friendly amendment to add “flash drive” failed by committee vote. Kelly Peebles proposed a friendly amendment that “...shall be submitted on general recording media” failed by committee vote. The original proposal passed by a voice vote.

A 10-minute break was taken at 1:45 pm.

President’s Report. Brian Helander presented the following priorities that he considers important to IGRA’s success:

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10. Control Panic      | 5. Update Rules & Bylaws   |
| 9. Tear down our Silos | 4. Connect with Sponsors   |
| 8. Manage our Image    | 3. Evolve Certifications   |
| 7. Promote Leadership  | 2. Grow University & Dance |
| 6. Support Royalty     | 1. Leverage Finals Rodeo   |

Arena Directors. Russell Bleakney submitted a complete new Standing Rule X for Arena Director certification, which passed by a voice vote.

Contestant Liaison. Rob Somers presented a written report with no action items.

Convention 2008. LSGRA President Lance Pippin announced the Saturday night function at Cowpokes and both the bus fare and the beer bust at \$5 each.

Convention 2009. CCGRA President Mark Samuel reported that his group was busy taking notes and he would have a full progress report at University.

Dance. Ernie Bowers presented a written report with no action items.

A 15-minute break was taken at 4:00 pm.

A promotional video created by LittleBighorn Productions was presented.

Finals Rodeo. Pierre Cadieux presented a written report recapping the recent World Gay Rodeo Finals in Denver. Bob Pimentel also gave a quick update on the WGRF 2009 in Albuquerque.

Growth & Planning. Michael Lentz presented a written report. Within the report was a proposed change to RULE XIV IGRA DIVISIONS, RODEOS, AND RODEO APPROVAL where “The host cities of two rodeos approved for the same weekend must be at least 500 miles (804 km) apart” that passed by a voice vote.

Hall of Fame. Bob Pimentel presented a written report with no action items and commented that the current process is good, but need to collect more data up front.

Corporate Sponsors. Mark Larson presented a written report with no action items.

Health & Safety. Linda Frazier presented a written report with no action items.

Information Systems. David Hill presented a written report with no action items.

Internet Technology. In Frank Harrell's absence, Larry Lindstrom presented a written report with no action items.

Judges. Amy Griffin presented a written report and two proposed rule changes. The first was to add "Pass a performance review conducted by the Judges Committee" passed by a voice vote. Mark Arnold asked for a hand count. The rule change passed 96-16.

The second proposal to "Designate a head judge for the rodeo weekend" was withdrawn.

The committee finished with their annual slide presentation.

Marketing. Shaun Sewell presented a written report and proposed a bylaw change on scheduling of seminars, which passed by a voice vote.

Membership. Larry Lindstrom presented a visual report and presented the following proposal.

MEM-01 to remove the Signed Terms of Agreement (Exhibit A2) from both New Member and Membership Renewal requirements passed by a voice vote.

Merchandise. Patrick Terry presented a written report with no action items.

Nominations. Justin James Waldner presented a written report with the following nominations:

- President – Brian Helander, AGRA
- Treasurer – David Hill, CGRA
- 2010 Annual Convention in Troy, Michigan hosted by MIGRA

ILGRA nominated Ed Barry for President. There were no other nominations.

The meeting was recessed for the day at 5:10 pm.

The President resumed the meeting on Sunday, November 2, 2008 at 9:00 am and continued with standing committee reports.

Roll Call. The Secretary took a new roll.

- 125 voting delegates
- 2/3 majority = 84
- majority = 63

Animal Issues. Jim Mitchell presented the committee's addition to Rodeo Rule 16 where the following wording was then approved by a voice vote: "A banner or opaque material must be placed on all animal return gates. Banners must cover the entire length of the gate and be a minimum height equal to at least two thirds the height of the gate."

Testing & Certification Improvement. Ron Trusley presented a written report regarding the standardization of testing for all certification programs.

Rodeo Rules. Chuck Browning presented the committee's proposals. MGRA immediately requested a 10-minute caucus.

RR-02. Association Requirements.

1. Only use respective acronyms on the outside of **contestant packet** envelopes passed by a voice vote.
2. **Must provide a licensed** veterinarian passed by a voice vote.
3. **Provide** a list of farriers passed by a voice vote.
4. Move health certificates/coggins test to a new section passed by a voice vote.

Shaun Sewell' motion to approve all editorial changes passed by a voice vote.

9. **Provide** independent transportation for secretarial staff passed by a voice vote.
10. **Provide** professional bullfighter,
11. **Provide** professional pick-up personnel, and
12. **Provide** professional medical personnel all passed together by a voice vote.
13. **Post** a second set of event control sheets for the public to view passed by a voice vote.
14. Delete international sponsorship money passed by a voice vote.
16. Add "**post-**" to rodeo review board meeting passed by a voice vote.
18. Change rodeo grounds to rodeo **facilities** passed by a voice vote.
21. **Must provide** rodeo personnel shirts, vests, or jackets, and
22. **Provide** adequate security passed together by a voice vote.
23. Stall fees. Shaun Sewell's friendly amendment to refund (stall fees) in cash or credit card failed by committee vote. Chris Caulfield amendment of "the Rodeo Secretary" to "the Rodeo Director by the close or pre-registration" failed by a voice vote.

Rob Pierce moved to amend the "Hosting Association is not required to provide horse stalls if the contestant does not meet early registration deadlines. New contestants are excluded." The amendment passed by a hand count 81-36.

A 15-minute break was taken at 11:00 am.

24. **Provide** a survey form passed by a voice vote.
25. **Provide IGRA current** membership lists passed by a voice vote.

RR-02. Contestant Requirements.

1. New rule to uphold the IGRA code of conduct. Chris Hochmuth's friendly amendment to add "Rodeo Director" following "...any IGRA official" passed by a voice vote.
2. Compete in any event, **but** only once per performance, and
3. Bear responsibility **hauling livestock** passed together by a voice vote.

4. **Must** be a member, and
5. **Must** register using legal name passed together by a voice vote.
  
6. **Must** be of legal age, and
7. **Must** notify of late arrival, and
8. **Must** enter a minimum of 2 events all passed together by a voice vote.
  
9. Stall reservation section was sent back to committee.
  
12. **Must** complete W-9, and
13. **Must** declare sharing a rigging/horse at registration passed together by a voice vote.
  
14. **Mandatory new contestant meeting.** Gene Fraikes moved to amend to remove “and on the association’s Web site” to “and/or” and “if available.” After discussion, Gene withdrew his amendment and the original section passed by a voice vote.
  
15. **Required Dress Code** passed by a voice vote.
  
16. Requirements to compete in **Rough Stock Riding Events.** Rob Pierce made a friendly amendment to insert the word “access to” between “Have” and “all.” The section then passed by a voice vote.

Rule II. Registration.

8. Membership Lists. Shaun Sewell’s friendly amendment to delete this section since it was moved to Association Requirements passed by a voice vote.

*From this point forward, proposals were voted on in their entirety instead of section by section.*

RR-2B clarifying intentional or unintentional delay and the consequence passed by a voice vote.

RR-08 to eliminate contestant mailings passed by a voice vote.

RR-11 clarifying recording all times passed by a voice vote.

RR-13 adding signed, dated, and original stock contract on file and a copy at the rodeo passed by a voice vote. Deleting section 4 regarding the stock contractor carrying their own liability insurance was not deleted and passed by a voice vote.

RR-16 adding the announcing staff to the dress code passed by a voice vote.

RR-19 cleaning up General Rules for Riding Events passed by a voice vote.

RR-20 first clarifying Chute Dogging and then adding 5-second penalties failed by a voice vote.

RR-21 cleaning up General Rules for Roping Events. Amy Griffin’s friendly amendment that the perpendicular line be 2 feet (from the chute) passed by a voice vote.

Mark Samuel's motion to take each number in this proposal item by item failed on a hand vote 37-77.

RR-23 changing Team Roping to 60 seconds and that a contestant can compete only one time in this event passed by a voice vote.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon resuming at 1:00 pm.

RR-24 cleaning up Steer Decorating passed by a voice vote.

RR-28 changing Finals Rodeo notification from "telephone" to "electronically" passed by a voice vote.

RR-29 adding World Gay Rodeo Champion point system passed by a voice vote.

RR-30 cleaning up day money versus prize money passed by a voice vote.

RR-B adding **visually-impaired contestant competes** passed by a voice vote.

RR-D adding a new rule regarding unsafe arena conditions passed by a voice vote.

RR-E changing entry fees for Finals Rodeo passed by a voice vote.

RR-G adding Finals Invitation Acceptance (was only in Standing Rules) passed by a voice vote.

RR-H adding a new optional/demonstration event was sent back to committee.

RR-M changing the minimum height of goats to **25-30** inches passed by a voice vote.

RR-PP1 adding a new section to Rodeo Resources on arena conditions passed by a voice vote.

RR-18 adding new rough stock riding requirements to Rodeo Resources passed by a voice vote.

A proposal to add Ribbon Roping as an additional roping or camp event passed by a voice vote.

The annual awards were presented at 2:00 pm.

A 10-minute break was taken at 2:55 pm.

Growth & Planning. Michael Lentz presented his annual statistics report on gay rodeo.

## NEW BUSINESS

Benjamin Avant presented a proposal to remove friendly amendments from the Standing Rules, which passed by a voice vote.

Ron Trusley proposed RR II Section 7 to include the Rodeo Secretary's phone number passed by a voice vote.

Scotty Shadix moved to reconsider proposal COFR-03's percentages and change them to 25% to charity, 50% to IGRA, and 25% to the travel fund. A 10-minute caucus was requested. The motion passed by a hand vote 61-59.

RR-20 cleanup on Chute Dogging with penalties passed by a voice vote.

Gene Fraikes moved to approve the head judge proposal and was passed by a voice vote.

Elections. The Secretary verified there was 121 voting delegates and that no total vote should contain more than this number. After speeches and presentations, these results were announced:

- President. Brian Helander won reelection by a vote of 70-49.
- Treasurer. David Hill won reelection by a vote of 115-2.
- Convention 2010 was voted not to be held in Troy, Michigan by a vote of 61-57.

Bids for convention in 2010 and 2011 can then be made at next year's convention in Toronto.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

CGRA reminded everyone of RMRR next summer and their support of University 2009.

TGRA reminded everyone of the Cowtown Rodeo next February and the annual TGRA Rodeo before Labor Day.

GSGRA congratulated Elizabeth Anderson on her red sash and reminded everyone of the Hot Rodeo in Palm Springs May 1–3 and the Greater San Diego Rodeo September 11–13.

AGRA reminded everyone of RRRR next January 18–20.

OGRA reminded everyone of the Great Plains Rodeo next Memorial Day Weekend.

KGRA thanked LSGRA for a great weekend.

MGRA reminded everyone of the Show–Me State Rodeo next Labor Day Weekend.

NMGRA looks forward to co–hosting Finals Rodeo 2009.

NSGRA announced they are taking a year off but will be back on the schedule in 2010.

DSRA announced they ARE back on the schedule in 2009.

ASGRA announced they are taking a year off but will be back on the schedule in 2010.

NGRA looks forward to hosting University 2009 and the 13<sup>th</sup> Bighorn Rodeo later in 2009.

ILGRA congratulated Tom Sheridan on his red sash and the 2 black sashes to Colorado.

HGRA announced they are back on the schedule with a rodeo next June 27–29.

ARGRA announced a new rodeo site after 15 years at Symon's Valley. This new first–class facility is in Strathmore, located east of Calgary.

MIGRA is looking forward to the short drive for convention in 2009.

PNWGRA will be hosting a get–away weekend in Western Montana over July 31–August 2.

HSRA announced they are looking to be on the schedule for 2010.

SMRA thanked LSGRA for a great weekend.

GWGRA announced they are looking to move back to a May date in 2010.

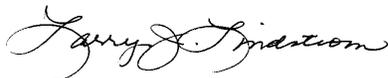
LGRA is excited about hosting an IGRA Board of Directors meeting next July.

CCGRA appreciated the media award and invited everyone to come up north next November.

LSGRA announced they had raised \$150 to keep Pussy **OFF** the stage.

SCCGRA thanked GSGRA for their support of their first IGRA–sanctioned rodeo in which they donated \$7,000 to charity.

With no further business to conduct, the President adjourned the meeting at 5:20 pm.



Larry Lindstrom, IGRA Secretary

Animal Issues Committee  
2008 IGRA Convention  
Proposed Rule Changes & Recommendations

1. By unanimous vote, the committee recommends that IGRA and its member associations prepare and adopt a standard Stock Contract to be used at all IGRA sanctioned rodeos. Two contracts will be prepared, one for use in the United States and one for use in Canada. Portions of the contract (Stock size, etc.) will be standard and not vary from association to association. Portions of the contract (i.e. lodging, feed) will be alterable and can be modified by an association as needed. The committee will present a standard contract at the 2009 annual convention for approval and introduction for the 2010 season. The committee requests a motion from the convention floor to move forward with this project.
2. The Committee requests that the Rodeo Checklist be changed as follows. The committee would like to see an individual box (yes or no) for each class of stock, rather than one general yes or no box. The committee requests a motion from the floor to make these changes.
3. The committee unanimously approved a motion to change Rodeo Rule # 16 ( see attached)
4. The committee unanimously approved a motion to change the requirements for rotation of goats ( see attached)
5. The committee unanimously approved a motion to increase the fines for failing to comply with IGRA stock requirements. First offense will result in a \$50.00 fine. Second offense will result in a \$250.00 fine, 3rd offense will result in a \$500.00 fine.

IGRA Convention  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
October 31, 2008  
Arena Directors Committee Meeting  
08:30-09:45

The meeting began at 08:30 a.m. Russell led the delegates in a general discussion of the current status of the Arena Directors program and changes submitted to the Arena Directors certification program. There are several candidates in the pipeline, but no one has completed all requirements for certification. However, I do expect there will be completions by the end of June. At this point, only three Arena Directors' names are being submitted for recertification for the 2010 Rodeo Year: Jeanne McLeod, Jorge Ramirez and Russell Bleakney. Given the number of rodeos and the few number of certified Arena Directors, the certifieds will work together to ensure all of the rodeos are covered without creating an undue burden on any one Arena Director. To that end, if you are hosting a rodeo this year, please contact your desired Arena Director as soon as possible.

Russell led the delegates through a discussion of a revised certification program (attached as actionable).

The meeting adjourned at 09:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Bleakney  
Arena Directors Chairperson

24<sup>th</sup> IGRA Annual Convention  
November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008-New Orleans, LA  
Audit Committee Report

DATE: October 31, 2008

TO: IGRA Board of Directors and Convention Delegates

RE: Auditor's Report

I have received detailed financial reports from the Treasurer, David Hill, for every month through September 30, 2008. After examination, I have concluded that the financial information provided to you is complete and accurate and has been reported according to all the rules and regulations set up by IGRA.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. King  
Corporate Auditor

## AUDITOR/SECRETARY/SCOREKEEPER COMMITTEE

The committee met at 9:47 pm on Friday with 10 people present representing 9 associations.

Discussion centered around the various aspects and duties involved in these positions. We briefly talked about the various requirements for each position and the certification/recertification requirements.

We also reviewed and emphasized the importance of timely communication between all rodeo officials, and especially when a contestant has scratched from an event.

This committee had no bylaws/standing rules proposals.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50.

Ron Trusley

Committee Co-Chair

24<sup>th</sup> IGRA Annual Convention  
November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008-New Orleans, LA  
Budget Committee Report

Meeting was called to order at 1:20 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2008 with the following in attendance:

John King	AGRA-Corporate Auditor
Jon Hoehn	ASGRA
Dusty West	DSRA
Chris Keene	GSGRA
George Tresott	LSGRA
Mark Arnold	NMGRA
Wes Wilkinson	SCCGRA
Stephan Bloodworth	SMRA

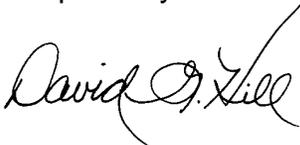
The budget for 2008 was reviewed line by line noting changes that would be needed to be made for the 2009 budget.

The reduction in the number of rodeos will reduce sanction fees and rodeo general operating income. The finals rodeo budget will come from that committee. Mr/Ms/Miss/MsTer fund raisers should be larger due to the size of the team. The University budget will come from that committee. A new line item will be needed for the IGRA merchandise which is planned to be purchased and sold.

Expenses will need to be increased to the following areas; travel due to fuel costs and sponsorship development for the consultant that has been retained.

There are numerous items before this convention which will affect this budgeting process and will be considered based on their passage.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Hill  
Chairperson

# Report of the Bylaws Committee To the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual IGRA Convention

Saturday, November 1, 2008

The Bylaws Committee met on Friday, October 31, 2008 from 1:15 pm until 5:15 pm. A total of 26 persons attended the meeting, 19 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 input and help to complete the business 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>
Greg Gillum	AGRA	X	James Erhart	LGRA	X
Jay Lovejoy	AGRA		Miss Mae	MGRA	X
Alec Masee	ARGRA	X	Melvin Enness	MIGRA	X
Chris Hochmuth	CGRA	X	Jeffrey Neal	NGRA	X
C. D. Slusser	CGRA		Bill Watkins	NGRA	
Jacky Green	DSRA	X	Ben Martinez	NMGRA	X
Chris Caufield	GSGRA	X	Jack Roach	NSGRA	X
Bill Chapman	GSGRA		Lewis Sanders	OGRA	X
Ray Ostmann	GWGRA	X	Jeff Barr	SCCGRA	X
Charley Wade	HGRA	X	Gary Eddy	SCCGRA	
Ed Barry	ILGRA	X	Justin Waldner	SMRA	X
Steve Schultz	ILGRA		Mark Miller	TGRA	X
David Burks	KGRA	X			

## **CHUTE COORDINATOR COMMITTEE REPORT**

Date and Time of Meeting: October 31, 2008 8:00 AM

Attendance: 8 in committee meeting, 5 voting delegates

Chair Persons: Heather Murray & David Hallwood

Attachments: Attendance of meeting, no proposal

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### ***Overview of the business conducted:***

- ?? We have one new certified individual into the chute coordinator program Tim Miller
- ?? Currently there are 11 certified active Chute Coordinators in the IGRA Circuit.
- ?? Due to the calf incident at finals we talked an about banners being placed on return gates to prevent charging calf's, this has been adopted into rodeo rules and will be discussed on the floor
- ?? A Standard operating procedure will be developed, describing the different equipment, animal qualifications and chute requirements for new rodeo directors and general information. This document will have visual reference and will act as a guide for rodeo associations to hence understanding of environment needed to run effective chute activity.
- ?? In conclusion Chute Coordinator committee will work to be more of a cohesive functioning team, enhancing communication, fostering positive attitude and being an internal resource to each other and to rodeo directors to communicate clearly to stock contractor to have the appropriate stock provided.

hdm

## **Report of the Community Outreach/Fund-raising/Gender Diversity To the Annual IGRA Convention Floor**

**Saturday, November 1, 2008**

The Community Outreach/Fund-raising/Gender Diversity committee met on Friday, October 31, 2008 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. A total of 26 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 dedication and hard work addressing some challenging discussion.

The committee considered all proposals that were submitted prior and at the start of the meeting. The proposals that were approved by the committee are attached to this report with their original proposal numbers. The committee recommends adoption of these proposals.

Janet Jenkins, a.k.a. James Jenkins, Miss IGRA 2008  
Randy Edlin, Mr IGRA 2008 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up  
Andrew Goodman, IGRA Vice-President

IGRA Contestant Liaison Report  
November 1, 2008

The contestant liaison committee met yesterday and discussed a number of issues relevant to both new and existing rodeo contestants.

What is a contestant Liaison, what do they do?

There are two main areas that contestant liaison are involved with – assisting new and old competitors with both providing relevant information to them, and second to act as a conduit or ombudsman for the contestants if there is an issues during a rodeo.

Lines of Communication

Mainly, communication from the IGRA contestant liaison committee will be through the association contestant liaison person, if present. If an association does not have an contestant liaison, issues will be communicated through the association trustee of someone they suggest.

IGRA Contest Liaison Yahoo Group

A new group will be set up specifically for contestant issues.

New Contestant Check List

A new list will be created for new contestants. It will include critical relevant information for the new competitors to get them started. Things to include would be: new contestant meeting; relevant dress code; read the rule book, etc.

Rodeo 101

Over the next year, continue and finish a rodeo 101 manual document to assist new competitors and competitors looking at entering an event for the first time.

IGRA Rodeo Calender – Additional information

Look at including additional information on the IGRA calender relevant to competitors; rodeo play days, gymkanas, etc.

Rodeo Schools; IGRA insurance

Gather information regarding putting on a rodeo school, and issues surrounding insurance.

Contestant Crisis Fund

Post information regarding the crisis fund and application form on the internet.

Homorodeo fuel funds for Distribution

Gather and post information regarding how the funds will be distributed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Somers, ARGRA  
IGRA Contestant Liaison Chairman

## CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Mark Larson (fill in), NSGRA  
CD Slusser, CGRA  
Richard Merritt, AGRA  
Jeff Lowe, NMGRA  
Scotty Shadix, GSGRA  
Eddy Krien, NGRA  
Jon Hoehn, ASGRA

issues/problem areas

- noncompliance
- contract inconsistencies
- regional differences/needs
- (in-) appreciation
- current challenges

focus

- forming partnerships
- inclusiveness--making our sponsors feel a part of our organization

AND appreciated

return--What does IGRA have to offer

- visibility
  - ads (on IGRA materials e.g. posters, flyers, business cards, arena banners, vender space at IGRA events)
- brand loyalty
  - which results % in return for sponsor
- purchasing power (of GLBTQ) community
- provide sponsors with
  - invitations
  - tickets
  - ad space
  - vendor space,
  - parking at events
  - buckles, banners etc
  - email blasts (such as homorodeo)

uniformity

- packages/levels of sponsorship (clarity)
  - taking into consideration: demographics
- IGRA
  - local/regional
- tracking system (checklist)

how are these investments paying off

- 1) for IGRA
- 2) for our sponsors

challenges

- economy
  - > lower our expectations
  - > smaller \$, bigger # (considering that smaller sponsors will have lower expectations)
- budgeting
  - advance notice and planning
  - sponsors budgets
  - IGRA events & planning

\*\*\*possible ideas: monthly or quarterly planning ( donations ): people/sponsors may be willing to make donations at intervals so it is spread out as opposed to one big lump sum trickle down from IGRA leadership=in terms of information as well as initiative in soliciting sponsorships

We would like to see some an area on the yahoo groups where we can share experience (success & failures), best practices etc.

respectfully submitted,  
Mark Larson, NSGRA  
1.November.2008  
NO,LA

## **Dance Committee Report 2008**

We have moved the Dance competition to IGRA University on February 21, 2008. At the same time we will be again holding beginners and advanced classes.

We had sixteen people at our dance committee meeting on Friday. I really appreciate everyone's input, and we have no vote-able action items for the standing rules.

We will be setting up a yahoo group for dance very shortly, and if you'd like to join, please get a hold of me at [twostep.cub@verizon.net](mailto:twostep.cub@verizon.net). We'd really like to have more people and more associations involved so we can grow the dance aspect of IGRA through partnership with University.

Also we will be working to posting more resources – video, steps, and such, online, as well as encourage associations to hold teaching and “Jack N Jill” mixers to help create a standard for dance for our association.

Ernie Bowers

LGRA Trustee – Dance Chairman

[Twostep.cub@verizon.net](mailto:Twostep.cub@verizon.net)

Report of the World Gay Rodeo Finals Committee Meeting  
Convention 2008 – New Orleans LA  
October 31, 2008

The World Gay Rodeo Finals Committee met on Friday afternoon from 1:15 to 2:45pm with 13 people in attendance. 7 of which were voting members. A list of attendees is attached to this report. I would like to thank all that attended this committee meeting, all the sharing of information and ideas, is great and will really help future finals committees be successful. I would like to personally thank the entire World Gay Rodeo Finals Team for all their hard work and dedication this whole year. Having a committee chair that's Canadian and drinks a lot was challenging at the best of times.

As rodeo finals director I would like to thank the entire team all of our sponsors and the associations that stepped up to the plate with both financial and sweat equity support per say. (The concept of sharing the work load worked really well this year and we hope to involve even more associations in the years to come)  
I would also like to thank Anheuser Busch of Denver and James Ramey of Anheuser Busch-Bud Light Brands for major sponsorship of Finals Rodeo 2008. We look forward to working with Bud Light in future years to come.

At this time we would like to review some numbers with you...

Rodeo packages sold – 91 (includes Friday night ticket sales)  
Saturday Attendance – 526  
Sunday Attendance – 305  
Saturday night's party – 236

When all is Said and done (we are still finalizing some late accounts receivable and payable) we should have a profit of about \$1500.00  
(It was the charge of IGRA's President to make at least \$1.00 in profit this year) that means that we met our goal by 1499.99%... Not bad the first time out)

We want to talk very briefly about the Saturday nights entertainment/party. This part of the committee got off to a shaky and somewhat unorganized start. So we brought in nothing but the best Tommy Channel to work with the rodeo director at getting this all pulled together. Tommy did a wonderful job and we pulled off an event that considering it the first of its kind for IGRA was very successful.

In particular we would like to thank GWGRA for the Sandwich lunch they provided for the contestants on Saturday and Sunday, CGRA and GSGRA for hosting the IGRA Finals hospitality suite.

IGRA also sold merchandise at finals using the IGRA Finals Brand which was also very successful even with its limited inventory. (Items are also here and on sale this weekend, please see Miss Patrick Terry if you are interested) Merchandise in the end made approximately \$600.00 over the weekend.

Bob Pimentel will give a quick update on the World Gay Rodeo Finals 2009 in Albuquerque NM

Respectfully Submitted,

Pierre Cadieux  
IGRA Finals Committee Chair 2008

Roger Courtemanche  
IGRA Rodeo Director 2008

10/10/08

**I.G.R.A.**  
**Balance Sheet Comparison**  
 As of September 30, 2008

	<u>Sep 30, 08</u>	<u>Sep 30, 07</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
1100 · Checking	5,960.50	3,521.52	2,438.98
1110 · Savings	123,268.11	138,141.24	(14,873.13)
1120 · Savings-finals arena fund	18,383.64	18,619.19	(235.55)
1130 · Savings-finals contestant fund	27,984.58	28,274.10	(289.52)
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>175,596.83</u>	<u>188,556.05</u>	<u>(12,959.22)</u>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>			
1200 · Accounts Receivable	2,524.79	721.81	1,802.98
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>2,524.79</u>	<u>721.81</u>	<u>1,802.98</u>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>			
1300 · Prepaid budget items	1,507.16	1,487.24	19.92
1350 · Reimbursable expenses	0.00	149.99	(149.99)
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>1,507.16</u>	<u>1,637.23</u>	<u>(130.07)</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>179,628.78</u>	<u>190,915.09</u>	<u>(11,286.31)</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>179,628.78</u></b>	<b><u>190,915.09</u></b>	<b><u>(11,286.31)</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>			
2100 · Arena fund payable	18,383.64	18,619.19	(235.55)
2200 · Contestant fund payable	27,984.58	28,274.10	(289.52)
2250 · Accrued budget items	15,088.35	8,305.84	6,782.51
2400 · Deferred income	58,000.00	58,000.00	0.00
2800 · Hero Unit Prod payable	0.00	9,000.00	(9,000.00)
2900 · Member support fund	4,401.75	0.00	4,401.75
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>123,858.32</u>	<u>122,199.13</u>	<u>1,659.19</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>123,858.32</u>	<u>122,199.13</u>	<u>1,659.19</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>123,858.32</u>	<u>122,199.13</u>	<u>1,659.19</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
3900 · Retained Earnings	50,197.10	51,465.49	(1,268.39)
Net Income	5,573.36	17,250.47	(11,677.11)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>55,770.46</u>	<u>68,715.96</u>	<u>(12,945.50)</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>179,628.78</u></b>	<b><u>190,915.09</u></b>	<b><u>(11,286.31)</u></b>

**I.G.R.A.**  
**Profit and Loss Comparison**  
**September 2008**

	Sep 08	Sep 07	Jan - Sep 08
<b>Income</b>			
4110 · Rodeo sanction fees	0.00	0.00	11,400.00
4120 · Rodeo additional seat tax	0.00	333.50	2,774.50
4130 · Rodeo general operating income	1,359.50	1,630.00	6,186.00
4140 · Rodeo fines income	450.00	150.00	800.00
4150 · Finals Rodeo	2,575.00	0.00	16,260.00
4200 · Initiation fees/annual dues	0.00	0.00	16,800.00
4300 · Mr/Ms/Miss entry fees	200.00	1,200.00	300.00
4310 · Mr/Ms/Miss fund raisers	700.00	320.00	3,591.50
4320 · Mr/Ms/Miss cont fund raisers	7,034.90	5,078.02	10,178.16
4400 · Contributions	0.00	0.00	200.00
4470 · IGRA University income	0.00	0.00	14,051.64
4500 · Contestant mailing income	0.00	0.00	2,528.02
4600 · Interest income	47.62	79.64	419.94
4700 · Merchandise commission	19.04	0.00	394.02
4800 · Miscellaneous income	0.00	25.00	0.02
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,386.06</b>	<b>8,816.16</b>	<b>85,883.80</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
6500 · Office supplies	109.96	6.43	1,028.74
6510 · Telephone expense	111.27	141.65	1,216.77
6520 · Postage	178.15	165.99	801.96
6530 · Printing	326.62	0.00	465.01
6560 · Payroll expenses	844.35	706.23	7,761.15
7500 · Document scanning fee	0.00	0.00	0.00
7530 · Committee meeting expense	0.00	75.21	100.00
7540 · Dance competition	0.00	0.00	1,172.60
7550 · Royalty competition	900.45	0.00	6,576.48
7560 · M/M/M/M winnings	390.00	0.00	650.00
7600 · Travel	0.00	138.79	6,404.42
7650 · Executive meeting expense	500.00	0.00	4,708.99
7750 · Computer-hardware	7.50	0.00	1,021.38
7760 · Computer-software	248.83	199.00	700.63
7770 · Computer-maintenance	0.00	16.15	81.95
7780 · Computer-on line services	107.41	274.93	1,670.71
8150 · Finals Rodeo expense	8,080.80	0.00	19,224.46
8200 · Marketing expense	400.00	(250.00)	2,690.00
8470 · IGRA University expense	0.00	0.00	11,497.89
8500 · Donations and contributions	0.00	0.00	156.20
8510 · Legal and professional services	0.00	0.00	386.76
8520 · Taxes and licenses	0.00	0.00	3,615.00
8530 · Bank charges	2.50	11.00	32.00
8535 · Credit card charges	(387.43)	281.62	(2,180.40)
8540 · Contestant mailing expense	0.00	0.00	2,528.06
8545 · Sponsorship development	500.00	0.00	2,000.00
8550 · Association/rodeo insurance	0.00	0.00	492.62
8950 · Convention int'l awards	0.00	0.00	122.00
8955 · Convention expense	385.00	0.00	5,385.00
9520 · Bad debt expense	0.00	0.00	0.06
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>12,705.41</b>	<b>1,767.00</b>	<b>80,310.44</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(319.35)</b>	<b>7,049.16</b>	<b>5,573.36</b>

**2008 IGRA Annual Convention  
New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, Louisiana  
Growth & Planning Committee Report  
October 31, 2008**

The IGRA Growth & Planning Committee met from 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the Studio 4 meeting room. There were 13 participants present representing 11 associations in addition to the committee chairman.

The meeting began with introductions and a discussion of the standing rules proposal to limit rodeos to one per weekend. The committee members expressed the need to maintain a limit on the number of rodeos held each weekend in order to assure that our contestant and spectator pools and organizational resources are not over-extended. However, climate and other considerations mean that our full rodeo calendar cannot be reasonably accommodated if there is a limit of one rodeo per weekend. Additionally, such a limit would impair future rodeo growth. The committee voted to modify the current schedule restriction but was unwilling to go back to the use of the rodeo division map in setting a limit on same weekend rodeos. The committee advises the IGRA Board to use seniority (historical scheduling on a particular date) and past attendance based on seat tax paid (average for the previous three rodeos held) to resolve any conflicts in scheduling requests. The proposed standing rules change is:

**RULE XIV IGRA DIVISIONS, RODEOS, AND RODEO APPROVAL**

**Section 3. No more than two (2) rodeos may be held on the same weekend. The host cities of two rodeos approved for the same weekend must be at least 500 miles (804 km) apart.**

The committee discussed methods of communication between associations to share ideas and resources in order to solve problems and seek solutions related to expanding our organizations or coordinating and conducting rodeos and related events. We also need a place to seek and share best practices. The yahoo groups that currently exist do not seem to be a good fit for this. There was a recommendation for us to evaluate and establish a monitored message board with archiving capability within the IGRA website where members can seek technical support for specific problems related to organizational growth and event production. This would be a complement to rather than a substitute for our current rodeo resources manual and documentation. Examples of growth related topics that could appear on the board are:

- ?? How do we recruit new people as members?
- ?? How do reach out to or recruit new volunteers?
- ?? How do we promote internal growth?
- ?? How do we develop new organizational talent?
- ?? How do we obtain and retain sponsors?
- ?? How do we obtain and use resources to conduct our rodeos or other events?
- ?? How do we solve particular problems related to rodeo production?

The effort will require follow-up with the rodeo resources and Internet technology committees.

I want to thank all members of the committee for their serious and thoughtful contributions to our deliberations.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Lentz  
 Growth & Planning Committee Chairman  
[gmlentz@yahoo.com](mailto:gmlentz@yahoo.com)

Meeting Attendees ( indicates voting member):

Name	Assn		Name	Assn	
Janie Van Santen	ARGRA		Jeff Bolognese	LGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heather Murray	ARGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Kulp	LGRA	
Barry Roberts	SMRA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Glen Dickard	GSGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gabe Sims	TGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Arnie Chavez	NMGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steven Guidry	CGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kenneth Hall	MGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doug Holmes	AGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eddy Klien	NGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jim Sparks	GWGRA	<input type="checkbox"/>			

# Report of the Hall of Fame Committee To the 24<sup>rd</sup> Annual IGRA Convention

Saturday, November 01, 2008

The Hall of Fame Committee met on Friday, October 31, 2008. A total of 13 persons attended the meeting, 12 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 dedication and hard work.

Discussion included:

Current nomination process seems to be working.

Ways to collect more/better data for bios.

The need to ask for and collect more information about nominees up front on the application form.

We also talked about the need to do a better job reminding hosting associations how and when to nominate people to the IGRA Hall of Fame. We will be asking our WEB Master to work on reminders on the WEB site.

## **Committee Recommendation:**

No Recommendations at this time for convention floor.

Bob Pimentel  
Chairman, IGRA Hall of Fame Committee

Health & Safety Committee  
Marriot Hotel  
New Orleans, LA  
Friday, October 31, 2008

Attendees:

Member & Association	Voting	Member & Association	Voting
Travis Nowers, CGRA	Yes	Gabe Sims, TGRA	Yes
Janie VanSanten, ARGRA	Yes	Linda M. Frazier, MGRA	Yes
Beth Brockelman, ASGRA	Yes	Ken Hogg, NMRA	Yes
Stephen Bloodworth, SMRA	Yes	Gary Eddy, SCCGRA	Yes
Doug Holmes, AGRA	Yes	Brian Vaccarezza, SCCGRA	No
Kurt Ried, HGRA	Yes		

The meeting was commenced at approximately 8:40 am. There were eleven people present with ten associations represented. There will not be any standing rule or rodeo rule changes submitted by this committee.

A document called **Rodeo Emergency Announcement Guidelines** was presented to the committee for review.

The document reads: *Contestant, Volunteer, or Guest Injury*

Unless the announcer is in receipt of a specific waiver allowing them to disclose the health information of the individual, the announcer should avoid doing so.

In lieu of referring to the specific injury, the announcer can:

- ?? Discuss IGRA's requirements related to injury (i.e.: medical personnel on site at all times).
- ?? Make references to the medical personnel (i.e.: the ambulance company).
- ?? Talk about IGRA's commitment to the health & safety of everyone involved in rodeo.
- ?? Discuss the event – generally- and how, in general, an injury might happen.

To fill time after the brief general discussion about injuries, the announcer can move on to announcements of sponsors, announcements of rodeo events, and other fillers.

When the rodeo resumes, the announcer can announce that the medical problem has been resolved and the rodeo is continuing.

The committee offered other ideas for time fillers; which include utilizing the royalty team, entertainers, and the such.

Discussion was held regarding the Rodeo Crisis Refund application and access, EMS procedures, and area security in the event of an accident.

Meeting concluded at 9:20 am.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Linda M. Frazier

24<sup>th</sup> IGRA Annual Convention  
November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008-New Orleans, LA  
Information Systems Committee Report

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2008 with the following in attendance:

Michael Brent	AGRA
Kevin Sanford	CCGRA
Chris Keene	GSGRA
Colin Moulton	NGRA
Kelly Peebles	NMGRA
Mark Gurrola	TGRA

The two items that the committee wants to see in the next year are a web-based centralized membership system and a windows version of the rodeo program.

What is needed to accomplish this is to poll the membership to determine their interest level of a membership system and define what information would be requested by their membership. This would determine the scope of the project and determine the system and customization that would be needed.

It was discussed that one system for the membership and the rodeo program would be the best of all worlds. However the complexities of a system like that might make it cost prohibitive. The rodeo program documentation will need to be updated to help determine the scope of that project also.

Discussion then turned to the announcer's card information and what could be done on-line to speed up the registration process. It was requested to capture the shared rigging information with the on-line registration also.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Hill  
Chairperson

24<sup>th</sup> IGRA Annual Convention  
Internet Technology Committee Report  
November 1, 2008

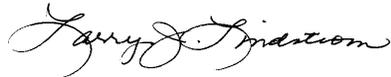
The Internet Technology Committee met on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 3–4 pm. A total of 12 people from 12 associations attended the meeting.

The members present discussed the following items:

- ?? Rodeo Rule changes – create a summary page and link to each one
- ?? Standing Committees – add more information on what they do
- ?? Create “New Contestant” package online
- ?? Outsourcing your Web site
- ?? Standard periodic E-mails using Yahoo! groups
- ?? Merchant Accounts
- ?? Directed Interest Mailings

The group also requested that Frank review the “wish list” from last year’s meeting to see what has been accomplished and what items are outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry Lindstrom for Frank Harrell

## **RODEO JUDGES COMMITTEE**

November 1, 2008 New Orleans

10 people representing 9 associations attended the committee meeting.

Discussion topics on Friday included the ongoing effort for consistency, the need to recruit more students so that we can expand the pool of available judges, focusing on training and feedback, improving training with visual aids, the need to designate a senior or head judge to act as the “go to” person at each rodeo, the necessity to receive copies of protests to serve as a tool for mentoring and skill-building (or intervention, as the case may be), and the recommendation that performance evaluations be conducted as part of the recertification process.

We are submitting one proposed change to the Standing Rules regarding recertification, and one addition regarding responsibilities.

Throughout the year, we made a number of recommendations to the Rodeo Rules Committee.

The year-round committee has been very busy. The communication between the members has been extremely frequent and productive. Seminars were held in Phoenix, Oklahoma City, Chicago, and New Orleans in 2008. (There was also a seminar scheduled for Los Angeles, but the anticipated student attendee was a no-show, and has not been heard from since).

We have four new students beginning the training program. Given the “greying” of our current group of judges, we are particularly anxious to develop some new judges. Please help us spread the word. If you, or someone you know have an interest in becoming IGRA judges, please contact Rick or myself.

Many thanks to Thom, Mike and Brian for all their hard work with us this year, as well as to the convention committee for their valuable suggestions and input.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Griffin & Rick Jones

## **Report of the Marketing & Public Relations Committee to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

Saturday, November 1, 2008

1. The Marketing & Public Relations Committee met on Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. 16 people attended the meeting, 14 of which were voting members. A list of attendees is attached to this report. I want to thank the members of the committee for a positive and fruitful discussion about marketing initiatives and challenges.
2. The committee passed one bylaw change proposal.
3. Following a discussion of emergency announcement guidelines, the committee encouraged the formation of a task force to review emergency planning, to include announcers, rodeo directors, officials, and other interested parties.
4. The committee discussed various initiatives related to marketing and public relations for World Gay Rodeo Finals 2009, presented by the International Gay Rodeo Association.
  - a. Clark Monk discussed an IGRA membership club to help stabilize finals rodeo funding.
  - b. The committee will work to establish a travel package to help draw attendees to finals.
  - c. The committee discussed Proposal BSR-2: to limit rodeos to one per weekend.
  - d. The committee reviewed and further brainstormed the multi-state advertising strategy for finals 2009.
  - e. The committee discussed the rodeo rules proposal which will allow for an additional champion prize to be awarded.
  - f. The committee discussed the move to trademark various IGRA logos and approves.
5. The committee adjourned.

## Marketing & Public Relations Committee Attendance List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Leroy Aune	MIGRA	X
Gabe Sims	TGRA	X
Beth Brockelman	ASGRA	X
Travis Nowers	CGRA	
Janie Van Santen	ARGRA	X
Frank Delgado	GSGRA	X
Greg Gillum	AGRA	X
Brian Vaccaraze	SCCGRA	
Rick Russell	SCCGRA	X
Arnie Chavez	NMGRA	X
Kenneth Hall	MGRA	X
Stephen Bloodworth	SMRA	X
Jeff Bolognese	LGRA	X
Peter Dillon	CCGRA	X
Patrick Schreier	NSGRA	X
Rob Pierce	SCCGRA	

## Bylaw Proposal

### Article XII - Committees

#### Section 8. Marketing/Media Relations Committee

##### Paragraph B. Duties.

2. The Public Relations Spokesperson will conduct at least a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of four (4) Marketing/Public Relations Seminars per year in each division and at annual convention for Member Association representatives. **The Public Relations Spokesperson will attempt to schedule seminars at IGRA University, convention, and in other divisions as needed.** Pre-registration fees of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per person payable to IGRA and sent to the IGRA Executive Office, postmarked at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the seminar. Fees shall be refundable upon attendance. Fees shall be forfeited for non-attendance. Late registration will be accepted at the discretion of the respective Committee Chairperson.

1 ☐

## 2 ☐ Friday's Meeting

- ≈ 13 Members from 13 Associations present
- ≈ Heartland requested Geographical Increase
  - ≈ Old: Nebraska & Iowa west of Hwy 71
  - ≈ New: Nebraska & Iowa
- ≈ No New Associations
  - ≈ Alabama, New England, Upstate New York, Brazil, and Australia
- ≈ One Bylaw Change – MEM-01

## 3 ☐ New Member Associations

- ≈ 6 years from 2002 – 2007
- ≈ Seated 10 New Associations
  - ≈ Sooner State, High Sierra, Red River, Smoky Mountain, Gateway, Florida, Liberty, Central Canada, Louisiana, and Sacramento
- ≈ Lost 2 Associations
  - ≈ PONY and Utah

## 4 ☐ Membership 101

- ≈ Association Acronym
- ≈ Association Name
- ≈ Incorporation Name
- ≈ Geographical Area

## 5 ☐ Acronym

- ≈ Term from Bell Laboratories in 1943
- ≈ Abbreviation from Letters
- ≈ Examples
  - ≈ AAA
  - ≈ IBM
  - ≈ OPEC
  - ≈ SCUBA
  - ≈ IGRA

## 6 ☐ Association Name

- ≈ “IGRA is an association of Associations”
- ≈ All use 4–5 Words
- ≈ All use “Association”
- ≈ 5 do not use “Gay”

## 7 ☐ Incorporation Name

### ☞ Examples

- ☞ Colorado Gay Rodeo Association, Inc.
- ☞ New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association
- ☞ The Atlantic States Gay Rodeo Association, Inc.
- ☞ IL.G.R.A., Inc.
- ☞ S.M.R.A. Inc.
- ☞ LGRA, Inc.
- ☞ FGRA, Inc.

## 8 ☐ Secretary of State

- ☞ Certification of Good Standing
- ☞ Not-for-Profit Documentation
- ☞ Google search for “Your State” SOS
- ☞ <http://www.sos.state.co.us/>
- ☞ Business Entity search

## 9 ☐ Secretary of State

## 10 ☐ Geographical Area

### ☞ By County

- ☞ High Sierra – 1
- ☞ Sacramento – 3
- ☞ Gateway – 5
- ☞ Red River – 7
- ☞ Liberty – 12
- ☞ Sooner State – 25
- ☞ Oklahoma – 45

## 11 ☐ Geographical Area

### ☞ Multi-State / Province

- ☞ Heartland – 2
- ☞ North Star – 2
- ☞ Smoky Mountain – 2
- ☞ Pacific Northwest – 3
- ☞ Alberta – 4
- ☞ Atlantic States
  - ☞ 4 states, district, city, and an island

## 12 ☐ Membership 101

- ☞ Elections for 2009
- ☞ First Meeting in January
- ☞ Discuss

10/31/2008

**IGRA MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE REPORT  
IGRA CONVENTION  
NEW ORLEANS, LA**

**IN Attendance:** Patrick Terry – Chair of the Committee, Stephen Bloodworth SMRA, Ed La Brash GWGRA, Gene Friakes TGRA, David Burks KGRA, Glen Dickard GSGRA, Jon Hoehn ASGRA, Bill Watkins NGRA, Richard Merritt AGRA, Mary Arbuckle OGRA, Mark Arnold NMGRA, and Kimberley Kay CGRA.

Discussion began with the question of what items would we like to see as possible merchandise items for sale with the IGRA logo on it? Some of the suggestions were Pins, Large Sport Bags, Belt Buckle, Coffee Mugs, transparent T-Shirts, that when sunlight is shown on it, a logo appears, and Coffee Mugs, that when liquid is added, a logo appears on it. Patrick then announced that the IGRA Board of Directors approved at their meeting on Thursday, two vendors for 2009, one Embroidery vendor Bad Burro Embroidery, and one Silk Screen vendor Osa Graphics. They will be given logo-printing rights and a contract for one year, to produce IGRA merchandise determined by the committee, with the IGRA logo on them. In addition, they will produce items for sale with the IGRA Finals log on them. It is the hopes to have an online store on the IGRA website, beginning January 1, 2009 or shortly after that date, for these items to be purchased. In addition there was discussion in the meeting on how to get the merchandise to be available for sale at the rodeos and other events. The feeling is that IGRA would produce the merchandise, Associations would have an opportunity to purchase at a cost slightly above wholesale price, then Associations would be given a suggested retail price not to exceed the price that IGRA would be selling it online and then the Associations would sell the merchandise at their rodeos and events for a profit for them also. These sales both by the Associations and the online store on IGRA's website, would create additional income for both the Associations and IGRA.

Then there was a question brought up about whether any of IGRA's logos were copyrighted. Patrick responded that he did not believe any of them were, but would look into that and suggest IGRA get them copyrighted if they are not already done.

A final note, we were able to get Finals merchandise together and sold it at the Finals rodeo on October 10-12, 2008, in Denver. We had a great team of folks that pitched in and help sell the merchandise. I would like to formally thank Mary Munger, Mitch Gill, C.D. Slusser, and Sal "Sally Mae" Miss CGRA 2009 Contestant, for helping in selling the merchandise. Mary said it was a little overwhelming, but a very nice response to the quality and liking of the merchandise. The team even got very creative and sold some of the merchandise as a package deal, selling the small Sport Bag, a Ball Cap, and a T-Shirt for \$50. It looks like our net from the sales at finals was approximately \$600! We will have a table outside the Convention Floor of the IGRA Finals merchandise we have left and encourage everyone to stop by and check out the merchandise!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patrick Terry  
IGRA Merchandise Chair

Report of the Nominations Committee  
to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual IGRA Convention

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007

The Nominations Committee met on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 from 9:00am until 9:45am. A total of 11 persons attended the meeting, 8 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 time.

There were no proposals or recommendations presented for discussion.

Nominations were taken for President:

?? Brian Helander – AGRA

Nominations were taken for Treasurer:

?? David Hill – CGRA

Bids for 2010 Convention:

?? MIGRA – Troy, MI

The volunteer tellers will be Glen Dickard, Jay Lovejoy, Dan Johnson and Taylor Spangler. The auditor will be Michael Norman. Thank you all so very much for your time.

Justin Waldner  
Chairman, Nominations Committee



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**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**IGRA CONVENTION, NEW ORLEANS**  
**November 2, 2008**

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The IGRA University/ Rodeo Resources committee met on Friday, October 31, 2008. Nineteen people attended representing 14 associations. A list of attendees is attached to this report.

**RODEO RESOURCES GUIDEBOOK:**

- Rik Kelly (TGRA) volunteered to keep track of changes from the convention floor that affect the online guidebook
- Changes will be submitted to Frank Harrell who will make the updates
- A yellow "Updated" flag will indicate sections with changes.

**IGRA UNIVERSITY AND DANCE COMPETITION 2009**

Las Vegas February 20 – 22 . Tuscany All-Suites Hotel & Casino 877-887-2261 ask for IGRA University rate. 877-887-2261 - \$75 Sun-Thu, \$110 Sat and Sun

- The International Dance Completion will be held at University for the first time in 2009
- Funding University:
  - \$1,000 requested from IGRA
  - We have received a \$1,000 sponsorship for CowboyFrank.net for the second year
  - University will mainly be funded through tuition and association sponsorships
- 2007 Tuition: \$75.00 (\$60.00 early bird if sent by February 1)
- Online registration will be available, linking through the IGRA website. Snail mail registration will be available for those without internet access and for group registration
- Jeffrey Neal of NGRA will serve as University Vice-Chancellor for 2009.

Based on discussion in committee the following changes will be made for 2009

- Curriculum Development
  - Several classes have been combined or eliminated and we have added several new classes (see attached list)
- University Degrees will continue to be global (no degree tracks)
  - Certificate of Achievement: Minimum of 6 credits earned
  - Associate Degree in Rodeo Arts: Minimum of 12 credits earned
  - Bachelors Degree in Rodeo Arts: Minimum of 36 credits earned
  - Masters Degree in Rodeo Arts: Minimum of 60 credits earned
- No Testing-Out starting this year.

- Major areas of Study (each with various levels of difficulty and each class worth 2 credits)
  - Rodeo Production
  - Website Development
  - Community Service
  - Association Development
  - Association Executive Series
  - Country & Western Dance
  - Lists of classes and full course descriptions will be available online by Dec. 1, 2008.
- New classes for 2009 include:
  - Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity
  - Rodeo Health, Safety and Communications
  - Rodeo Cash Handling and Ticketing
  - So you want to be a Rodeo Official
  - Insurance Seminar
- IGRA will hold its first quarter board meeting at university in 2009. University will feature a “Trustee Orientation Seminar” which will cover the duties and responsibilities of the Trustee in IGRA, including the duties of the Checklist and the Protest Trustees at rodeos.
- It is highly recommended that associations sponsor their members to attend University as an investment in the future of IGRA and their association.

Brian Rogers  
Chairman, IGRA University Committee/Rodeo Resources

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## 2009 IGRA-U Curriculum

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### Rodeo Production:

#### **Rodeo Production 100 level**

- RA 100-01: Marketing and Media Relations for Your Rodeo
- RA 100-02: Organizing an Effective Rodeo Planning Committee
- RA 100-03: Managing Contestant Registration
- RA 100-04: Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity

#### **Rodeo Production 200 level**

- RA 200-01: 20 Things a Rodeo Director Should Know
- RA 200-02: Rodeo & Association Sponsorships
- RA 200-03: Rodeo Health, Safety and Communications
- RA 200-04: Vendor and Activity Area *Development*

#### **Rodeo Production 300 level**

- RA 300-01: Rodeo Cash Handling and Ticketing
- RA 300-02: Rodeo Equipment & Event Running Orders
- RA 300-03: So You Want to Be A Rodeo Official – an Overview of the Process
- RA 300-04: IGRA Rodeo Stock – Requirements, Tips and Contracts

### Rodeo Web Design Series: *Pending updates from Frank Harrell*

- WD-01: My First Website
- WD-02: Behind the *Scenes*
- WD-03: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- WD-04: JavaScript, Server Side Includes, and Forms for your Website
- WD-05: Rodeo Resources Online, an Overview

### Community Service Series: *Pending updates from Andrew Goodman*

- CS-01: IGRA Royalty Competition Prep School Overview
- CS-02: IGRA Royalty Competition Workshop
- CS-03: Developing and Ensuring Gender Diversity
- CS-04: Fundraising and Community Outreach

### Association Development Series:

- AD-01: What YOU Need to Know about Robert's Rules
- AD-02: 2008 Trustee Orientation and Review of Protest and Checklist Duties and Procedures
- AD-03: Insurance Seminar
- AD-04: Your Association as a Business and Who's Who on Your BOD

### Association Executive Series:

- AE-01: Successful Contracts: Venue and Hotel
- AE -02: Advanced Communications Issues and Media Relations
- AE -03: Budgeting and Rodeo Finance
- AE -04: Planning and Managing Venue Logistics

### IGRA Western Dance Institute: *Pending updates from Ernie Bowers*

- DA-01: Two-Step for Competition and Fun
- DA-02: Waltz for Competition and Fun
- DA-03: Line Dance Stylings
- DA-04: Dance Competition –

### Wayne Jakino Rodeo Announcer's Seminar: *Pending updates from Chris Hochmuth*

- AN-01: That's Entertainment; the Role of Announcers
- AN-02: Announcer's Workshop; Your How-To guide to announcing – Grand Entry

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**RODEO RESOURCES & IGRA UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE**  
**IGRA-U COMMITTEE ATTENDEES**  
**Friday, October 31, 2008 – New Orleans**

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Association</b>	<b>Voting</b>
FLOYD ZUITES	MIGRA	X
DAVID BALITSKY	MIGRA	
KEN HOGG	NMGRA	X
JEFFREY NEAL	NGRA	X
DOUG HOLMES	AGRA	X
BARRY ROBERTS	SMRA	X
DAVID HALLWOOD	MIGRA	
BRYAN WILLIAMS	CGRA	X
MIKE SANDERS	ASGRA	X
HEATHER MURRAY	ARGRA	X
ERNIE BOWERS	LGRA	X
GLEN DICKARD	GSGRA	
GENE FRAIKES	TGRA	X
LINDA FRAIZER	MGRA	X
JIM MITCHELL	FGRA	X
RICK KELLY	TGRA	X
SANDY BIDWELL	DSRA	X
RON TRUSLEY	AGRA	
MARK ARNOLD	NMGRA	

2008 IGRA Convention and Royalty Competition  
Rodeo Rules Committee Report  
Friday October 31, 2008

Rodeo Rules Committee met from 9:00 am till 7:00 pm on Friday October 31, 2008. Committee meeting was chaired by Rodeo Rules Co–Chair Chuck Browning. Rodeo Rules Co–Chair Candy Pratt was unable to attend, and gave prior notice.

The following 21 Associations were represented with the following representatives:

AGRA	Dan Iverson
ARGRA	Judy Munson & Clark Monk
ASGRA	Alana (Loni) Label
CGRA	Ty Teigen & John Beck
CCGRA	Mark Samuel
DSRA	Lisa Smith
GSGRA	Rodney Shaw & Bruce Robey
GWGRA	Mike Lunter & Ed LaBresh
HGRA	Dave Elliott
ILGRA	Rod Klein & Chris De–Espinosa
KGRA	John Stangle
LGRA	Jennifer Vrana
MGRA	Chuck Kirkwood
MIGRA	Robert Gramze
NGRA	Brian Rogers & Lorry King
NMGRA	Mitch Petersen
NSGRA	AJ Vawter & Mark Larson
OGRA	Mary Arbuckle & Lewis Sanders
PNWGRA	Lester Liu
TGRA	Dan Nigel
SCCGRA	Rick Russell, Rob Pierce, & Wes Wilkinson

There were several guests that stopped by, and we would like to thank President Helander for his presentation on Finals 2008, and the Future of IGRA Finals and the World Gay Rodeo Finals!

2008 Rodeo Protests were reviewed, with the exception of Protests from Finals which were not available at the time of the meeting. It was discussed with the Judges Committee that documented

Protests should be shared with not only rodeo rules, but with other committees to help identify frequently protested events; situations; or areas that may need attention by Committees other than rodeo rules. A copy of the reviewed protests was provided to the Judges Committee for their review and use.

Approximately 31 proposals were reviewed by this committee, and recommending 22 for approval.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the committee and those that stayed through to the end to help us give the attention to every proposal submitted.

One proposal was addressed by the arena directors committee and was pulled from our list.

One proposal was being addressed by the By-Laws committee and was pulled from our list.

One Proposal was developed to “revamp” the current Protest Procedures, and was tabled to a sub-committee for additional work with effected groups of IGRA in hopes to have a “new” process to propose next year. I asked for two individuals to assist with this proposal, and would like to thank Ty Teigen and John Beck for offering their assistance.

Thank you to those that submitted your proposals according to the IGRA guide lines, and to those that assisted in the process. There is a convenient link on [www.IGRA.com](http://www.IGRA.com) that provides direction on how to propose changes.

The following attached proposals were approved by the Rodeo Rules Committee and are being presented to IGRA for approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Browning – Rodeo Rules Co-Chair

## TESTING & CERTIFICATION IMPROVEMENT

Present:

Brian Helander	IGRA
Russell Bleakney	TGRA
Jim Mitchell	FGRA
Rick Kelly	TGRA
David Hallwood	MIGRA
Michael Norman	RRRA
Kelly Peebles	NMGRA
Pierre Cadieux	ARGRA
Larry Lindstrom	IGRA
Michel Lentz	ASGRA
Barry Roberts	SMRA
Chris Keene	GSGRA
Heather Murray	ARGRA
Amy Griffin	ILGRA
Mitch Gill	NSGRA
Ron Trusley	AGRA/Committee Chair

The committee meeting began at approximately 10:45 a.m. with 16 people present.

President Helander opened the meeting with a brief explanation regarding the purpose of this ad-hoc committee. We want to work on standardization of testing for all certification committees. Too many times, there is the appearance of subjectivity in some tests which leads to much confusion and misunderstanding. We want to work on more standardization for all certification committees.

Ron then spoke on the development of the committee and what has transpired. An email was sent to the four certification committee chairpersons asking for a response to seven different questions related to their respective certification program. The current process seems to be a little “out of line” as people attend seminars and take exams each year on the current year’s rules, but recertification is for the following year. Comments have been received that committee chairs feel they must recommend recertification of an individual because he/she has met all of the requirements, and the Trustees simply “rubber stamp” the recommendations.

The committee discussed which committees currently utilize testing for certification and recertification. The entire process varies from committee to committee. Currently all of the committees require some type of seminar attendance in order to be certified or recertified. Length of the seminar also varies depending on the number of attendees, the experience of the attendees. In the Auditor/Secretary/Scorekeeper seminar, the length of the seminar is also dependent on whether the individual is seeking certification or recertification as Auditor, Scorekeeper, or Secretary. Some committee chairs do not feel a seminar should be required for recertification, or it should not be required every year. After a brief discussion, consensus was that the current seminar process will

continue; however, there will be further discussion in this area. The current “timing of seminars” seems to be a little out of place since one can choose to wait until Annual Convention to take a seminar and request recertification.

Certification committee chairs were asked to consider revising the current process as it relates to seminars and possibly having a requirement that a seminar be held in conjunction with IGRA University.

Consensus of the committee is that anyone seeking certification/recertification in any area must take and pass an exam each year.

There was further discussion that a “Testing Coordinator” should be appointed by the IGRA President immediately after Annual Convention. This person would:

- 1) Review all exams for clarity and accuracy. Each committee chair will prepare their respective exam and send to the Testing Coordinator by a specified date.
- 2) Tests will be returned to the Testing Coordinator.
- 3) Testing Coordinator will grade the exam and return it with results to the respective chairperson to follow up with the individual examinee.

All current committee chairs agreed to:

- 1) Write exams consisting only of true/false, multiple choice, and fill in the blank questions; there will be no essay questions!
- 2) Seminar process will continue as currently written.
- 3) Seminar attendance and exam must be completed during the year an individual requests certification/recertification.
- 4) Seminars will only be scheduled if someone has pre-registered per our standing rule.
- 5) A passing grade for an exam will be 90% or better.
- 6) Everything should be archived and kept in a central location.

This testing process will be in place for one year and then reviewed/evaluated.

Objectives are to remove all subjectivity from the exam process, try to ensure confidence in the entire certification/recertification process, and to encourage interested people to become certified.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Trusley