

[Approved September 15th, 2006]
STANDING RULES
Of the
Gateway Gay Rodeo Association

RULE I
MEMBERSHIP

Rule I.A Categories of memberships, their benefits

1. Individual Memberships

a. Regular Individual Memberships

- i. This category of membership is available to all individuals committed to the Mission and Beliefs statements of the Association and who pay the basic membership dues of \$25.00.
- ii. Regular individual members in good standing may participate in any and all organizational matters.
- iii. Regular individual members in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote in any Membership voting action.
- iv. Regular individual members may be entitled to additional benefits as determined by the Association, its committees and Board of Directors in accordance with the Association's Bylaws and Standing Rules. Such items to include, but not limited to, subscription to receive the Association's newsletter, membership in electronic communications such as e-groups, e-mail, Website access for members, and so forth.

b. Regular Family Memberships

- i. This category of membership is available to any two (2) persons who qualify for individual membership, who reside at the same address, and who pay the basic family membership dues which shall be less than the sum total of two regular individual membership dues. Total amount of dues shall be \$45.00.
- ii. Each family member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote in any Membership voting action.
- iii. Regular family members each shall be entitled to the same rights, privileges, and benefits as those of a Regular Individual Membership.

2. Charter Memberships

a. Individual and Family Charter Memberships

- i. This membership designation is given to those individuals and families who joined the Association within the first year of the Association's adoption of its Bylaws (i.e., through April 2005).
- ii. Charter members shall be listed as such on the Association's membership list
- iii. Charter members shall have "Charter Member" designated on their Association membership cards and membership badges.
- iv. Charter members do not possess any authority or power beyond members without such designation.

3. Honorary Memberships

a. Individual Honorary Memberships

- i. An Honorary Member is an individual who has been so designated by the Board of Directors for continuous dedication and conspicuous contribution or service to the Association.
- ii. Honorary Members shall be exempt from dues and is a lifetime membership.
- iii. Honorary Members are not entitled to voting privileges, nor benefits provided to regular Individual and Family memberships.
- iv. Honorary Members do not possess any authority or power beyond members without such designation.

RULE I.B Dues

1. Due Amounts

- a. The Membership Committee will develop proposed dues for each category of membership taking into account the costs related to maintaining and conducting membership related benefits and activities (e.g. membership cards, membership badges, Association newsletter, postage, printing and such) and submits the proposed dues to the Association membership for approval.
- b. Membership dues may be reviewed and set annually at the Annual Meeting of Members. A simple majority of votes is required to set membership dues.
- c. Membership dues may be changed at any other meeting of Members and may be passed by a majority vote if notice of intent is given at the previous meeting of Members.

RULE I.C Term and Renewal of memberships

1. Term

- a. All regular memberships are for one (1) year from the end of the month during which the membership dues were received.

2. Renewal

- a. Members will be notified for membership renewal via written or electronic notification one (1) month prior to membership expiration. Notice will be sent to the last known mailing or e-mail address registered with the Membership Committee and will inform the member that he/she must renew no later than thirty (30) days after expiration of membership.
- b. Members whose renewal application and dues are not received within thirty (30) days from expiration will be considered “inactive” and designated as such on membership lists. Members will be restored to “active” status upon receipt of membership renewal application and dues if received within sixty (60) days of membership expiration.
- c. Members failing to renew membership within sixty (60) days of membership expiration will be removed from all membership lists, after which point individuals may be required to re-apply as a new member and be subject to all new member application and approval processes designated in the Association’s Bylaws and Standing Rules.

RULE I.D Membership Enrollment, Status, and Lists

1. Enrollment

- a. To be considered for membership in the Association, the applicant must complete the official membership application (paper or electronic), pay the dues for a category of membership, and submit both to an Association member authorized in these Standing Rules to accept these items. These items may also be submitted electronically online, or mailed to the Association's general mailing address.
- b. The membership application form shall state that the applicant has committed to the Association's Mission and Beliefs.
- c. The membership form shall request, at minimum, the following information from the applicant; any membership application submitted without the following information will not be processed:
 - i. First and last legal name (not an alias)
 - ii. Complete mailing address (including state/province, ZIP/Postal Code, and country – if not the United States) County of residence.
 - iii. Date of birth (including month, day, and year).
 - iv. If the application is new or renewal
 - v. Membership in any current or past International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) member association.
 - vi. Telephone numbers
- d. The membership form may also request the following information, which is not required:
 - i. Email address(es)
 - ii. IGRA Contestant Number – if available
- e. Member applications and dues may be received by the Association's Membership Committee chairperson, a member of the Board of Directors, or by other representatives designated by the Membership Committee chairperson. The receiving official will sign the form and indicate the date of receipt of the form and dues. Any such forms (paper or electronic), payments, and receipts will be forwarded immediately to the Association's Membership Committee.

2. Review of applications

- a. The Membership Committee will review and approve membership applications, and may, if deemed necessary by the Membership Committee, submit the application at a Board of Directors or a General Membership meeting for further review and approval or rejection. If referred to either the Board or General Membership, a majority vote will be required to accept the application.
- b. Membership applications may be rejected by the Board of Directors or General Membership, for, but not limited to, reasons such as:
 - i. Applicant has been suspended from membership in another IGRA member Association
 - ii. Applicant's actions indicate a lack of commitment to the stated goals, Missions and Beliefs of the Association
 - iii. Applicant has been previously suspended from membership in the Association
 - iv. Applicant's membership in the Association was previously revoked
 - v. Applicant has had legal action taken against him/her for actions associated with prior activities in other not-for-profit organizations

3. Membership Status

- a. The term or status of “active member” indicates a member whose membership fee is paid in full and whose membership in the Association is not currently suspended for any reason.
- b. The term or status of “inactive member” indicates a member who is delinquent in the payment of membership renewal dues or whose membership has been suspended for reasons indicated in the Association’s Bylaws and/or Standing Rules. An inactive member is not entitled to vote at Association meetings, hold office in the Association, receive any privilege or benefit of membership, nor compete at any IGRA rodeos as indicated in the IGRA Bylaws and Standing Rules

4. Membership Lists

- a. The Membership Committee shall maintain a current list of all members of the Association. This list shall contain, at minimum:
 - i. Members’ legal name (no aliases),
 - ii. Members’ complete mailing address (including state/province and ZIP/Postal Code, country – if not the United State)
 - iii. Members’ telephone numbers
 - iv. County of residence
 - v. Membership category and level
 - vi. Membership status
 - vii. Charter Membership designation – if applicable
 - viii. Date of membership expiration
 - ix. Birth date Month/Day/Year
- b. The membership list shall remain confidential and shall be use solely for official Association business as determined by the Board.
- c. Copies of the membership list may be distributed to the Association’s Executive Board; any IGRA officer, agent, and committee as required by IGRA Bylaws, IGRA Standing Rules, and IGRA Rodeo Rules; and at the discretion of the Executive Board, other Association committees for the explicit purpose of conducting business.

Rule I.E Suspension and Revocation of Membership

1. Causes of suspension

- a. The Association may suspend a member due to an outstanding financial obligation to the Association. The Association will provide written notice to the member at the last known address and the member shall have sixty (60) days from date of notice to resolve this matter. The financial obligation may be either monetary or in the form of property.
- b. The Association may suspend a member because of unethical or un-sportsmanlike conduct that is deemed related to IGRA or Association events.

2. Suspension, Appeal, and Resolution

- a. The Board of Directors, through a majority vote at a regular or special meeting, may declare any member suspended for the reasons stated above. Suspension shall be effective immediately. Upon suspension, the Secretary shall immediately:

- i. Attempt to notify the member in writing, by certified mail to the member's last known address as shown in the membership records. The notification shall state that all Association membership privileges have been suspended, including but not limited to, the right to vote at membership meetings as well as any rights and privileges that are suspended in accordance to IGRA Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Rodeo Rules until the reason for the suspension has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Board.
 - ii. Notify the Membership Committee, in writing, of the suspension. This notification must state the reason for the suspension as well as the action or payment required to resolve the problem. The notice must be accompanied by copies of supporting documentation to be placed in the suspended member's permanent file. The committee will ensure that the member's name is placed on the list of members suspended for cause and removed from the active member list.
 - iii. Notify, in writing, the IGRA Administrative Office of the suspension.
- b. A suspended member may submit an appeal to the Ethical Practices Review Committee (EPRC) within thirty (30) days of suspension. The EPRC shall meet and present all interested parties with a written decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of the appeal as provided herein.
- c. If a suspended member wishes to appeal the EPRC decision, a written request submitted to the Board of Directors calling for a vote of the members at the general membership meeting may be made by the member. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the general membership may override a suspension upheld by the EPRC.
- d. When the problem causing the suspension is resolved, the Secretary shall immediately:
 - i. attempt to notify the member, in writing, of the resolution of the problem and that all membership privileges have been reinstated.
 - ii. notify the Board, in writing, of the resolution
 - iii. notify the Membership Committee, in writing, of the resolution. The committee shall, in turn, ensure that the member's name is removed from the list of members suspended for cause and added to the active membership list.
 - iv. notify the IGRA administrative office of the resolution of the suspension and the reinstatement of membership in good standing status.

3. Revocation of Membership

- a. The Board of Directors shall have the right to revoke the membership of any member for unethical or un-sportsmanlike conduct that is deemed related to IGRA or the Association events, by a two-third (2/3) vote present at any regular or special meeting of the Board. Any such decision must be reviewed by the EPRC. Upon revocation, the Secretary shall immediately:
 - i. attempt to notify the member in writing to the member's last known address as shown in the membership record. The notification shall state that Association membership has been revoked
 - ii. notify the Membership Committee, in writing, of the revocation. This notification must state the reason for the revocation. The notice must be accompanied by copies of supporting documentation to be placed in the suspended member's permanent file.
 - iii. notify, in writing, the IGRA Administrative Office of the revocation.

RULE I.F Membership cards and name badges

1. Membership cards

- a. Membership cards are prepared by the Membership Committee and are presented to all members within 30 days of initiating or renewing their membership. Membership cards contain at least the following:
 - i. The GWGRA logo
 - ii. The IGRA logo
 - iii. The member's name
 - iv. The member's membership expiration date

2. Membership badges

- a. All members are provided with one membership badge, if requested by the member. Member may choose not to receive a name badge
- b. Members requesting a replacement badge will be charged an amount sufficient to cover the cost of a new badge.
- c. The Association shall supply, free of charge, a badge ladder to all Association officers, standing committee chairpersons, and royalty, to be suspended from those members' badges.
- d. The badge ladders shall indicate the wearers' title and term of service.
- e. Only badge ladders pertaining to positions or titles held solely within GWGRA or IGRA may be worn on the Association's membership badge.

RULE II BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

RULE II.A Additional Powers of the Board of Directors

1. The Board shall have the authority to take any action not inconsistent with the Association's Bylaws, Standing Rules, any duly enacted resolution by the general membership, all federal, state, and local/municipality laws and regulations.
2. The Board may set as binding upon all members policies governing the Association's functions and resources.

RULE II.B Additional duties and responsibilities

1. The Board shall supervise the activities of the Association to ensure that they are in compliance with the Association's Bylaws, its Standing Rules, duly enacted resolutions of the General Membership, as well as all federal, state, and local/municipal laws and regulation.
2. Each Board member will communicate and cooperate with the general membership and freely disseminate information concerning the Association to the general membership.
3. Each Board member will make every attempt to attend and participate in regularly scheduled Board meetings, as well as general membership meetings.
4. The Board of Directors will make available all minutes and corporate records to the general membership.
5. All checks, drafts, or order for payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of

the Association shall be signed by two (2) officers.

6. All funds of the Association shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Association in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board may select.
7. Additional duties and responsibilities of the President include:
 - a. Administering the affairs of the Association.
 - b. Presiding at all regular and special meetings of the Board or Membership; *except* during the nomination and balloting for any office for which the President is a candidate.
 - c. Signing with the Treasurer or any other officer of the Association, checks (except for those checks made payable to the President), deeds, mortgages, and bonds;
 - d. Preparing and presenting to the Treasurer an operating budget for the Office of the President and *ad hoc* committee activities for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Association.
 - e. Appointing chairpersons and members to all standing, special, and, *ad hoc* committees unless otherwise provided by the Association's Bylaws and current Standing Rules, as well as serving as an *ex officio* member of all standing and *ad hoc* committees.
 - f. Ensuring that all annual and periodic reports and (re)applications required by any federal, state, and municipal agency are completed and submitted as needed and on time.
8. Additional duties and responsibilities of the Vice President includes:
 - a. Overseeing and directing the activities of the Association's Royalty.
 - b. Establishing meeting locations for the Association Membership and the Board of Directors.
 - c. Signing with the Treasurer or any other officer of the Association, checks (except for those checks made payable to the Vice-President), deeds, mortgages, and bonds.
 - d. Preparing and presenting to the Treasurer an operating budget for the office of the Vice President for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Corporation.
 - e. Assisting in overseeing the budget of any rodeo conducted on behalf of the Association.
9. Additional duties and responsibilities of the Secretary include:
 - a. Maintaining custody of the Association's records and corporate seal.
 - b. Handling or causing to be handled all correspondence and communication as deemed necessary, including distribution – as appropriate – all incoming correspondence and communication
 - c. Preparing an operating budget for activities of the Secretary for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Corporation.
 - d. Signing with the Treasurer or any other officer of the Association, checks, (except for those checks made payable to the Secretary), deeds, mortgages, and bonds.

10. Additional duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer include:

- a. Signing with any other officer of the Association, checks (except for those checks made payable to the Treasurer), deeds, mortgages, and bonds.
- b. Preparing the annual budget of the Association for approval by the Board as well as ensuring that the Association's expenditures are consistent with the approved budget.
- c. Prepare for submission all necessary books, vouchers, and records for audit by an independent Certified Public Accountant upon request by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the Board or membership.
- d. Preparing, or causing to be prepared, the Association's tax return and other associated documents for federal, state, and local taxing authorities.
- e. Preparing an operating budget for activities of the Treasurer for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Corporation
- f. Preparing and submitting monthly reports on income and expenses of the Association to the membership and Board.

11. Additional duties and responsibilities of the Association's Trustee to the IGRA include:

- a. Representing the Association to the IGRA.
- b. Signing with any other officer of the Association, checks (except for those checks made payable to the Trustee), deeds, mortgages, and bonds.
- c. Preparing an operating budget for activities of the Trustee for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Association
- d. Preparing and submitting periodic reports on IGRA activities to the Association's membership and Board.
- e. Encouraging and enlisting participation by the Association's membership in IGRA activities at all levels as appropriate.

RULE II.C Elections of officers

1. Absentee Balloting

- a. The Association shall accept absentee balloting only for the election of members of the Board of Directors..
- b. A request for an absentee ballot must be received by the Association Secretary not more than thirty (30) days prior but not less than ten (10) days prior to an election.
- c. Completed absentee ballots will be considered timely if they are received by the date of the election prior to the official start of the meeting (Call to Order) and delivered unopened to the Association Secretary. Ballots may be mailed or delivered by hand by any designated member to the Association Secretary or Elections Committee Chairperson.

- d. The Association Secretary shall record all received envelopes containing absentee ballots, certify for validity and immediately deliver unopened envelopes to the appointed election committee tellers for counting.
- e. Ballots sent by electronic means, such as e-mail or facsimile, will not be accepted.
- f. The process for absentee balloting is as follows:
 - i. Member will receive the pre-printed absentee ballot and cast his/her vote for one (1) nominee per elected office.
 - ii. Member must seal the flap of the envelope containing ballots with clear tape, print his/her name on the back flap of the envelope and place his/her signature directly under the printed name.
 - iii. Across the front of the envelope, print the words "Absentee Ballot" and place the entire envelope in a second envelope addressed to GWGRA to the attention of "Elections Committee"

RULE II.D Other rules governing officers

- 1. Although elected during the Association's Annual Meeting, the term of all Association's Trustees to IGRA elect start the following January 1st to comply with IGRA term requirements.

**RULE III
COMMITTEES**

Rule III.A Standing Committees

- 1. The standing committees of the Association are:
 - b. Archival
 - c. Branding and Public Relations
 - d. Communication
 - e. Community Outreach
 - f. Dance, Entertainment, and Social
 - g. Fund-raising and Sponsorship
 - h. Membership
- 2. General duties of standing committee chairpersons:
 - a. The President appoints the chairpersons for all standing committees at the beginning of the term. The President appoints new chairpersons any time a vacancy exists. The Chairpersons serve until the election of a new President at the Annual Meeting. Chairpersons may resign at any time. Chairpersons may be removed by the President at any time for any reason.
 - b. Chairpersons submit to the President for approval recommendations for appointment of others to their respective committees.

- c. Chairperson submits to the Secretary the names of the members of their respective committees.
- d. Chairpersons submit to the Board a proposed Mandate, which includes outlining of their respective committee's roles, goals, processes, and budget for the coming year.
- e. Chairpersons oversee the implementation of their respective committee's mandate as well as chair their respective committee's meetings.
- f. Chairpersons submit reports as directed by the President and the Association's current Standing Rules.
- g. Chairpersons communicate between committees to ensure continuity.

3. Roles and responsibilities of standing committees

- a. Archival Committee
 - i. Maintains an historical record of the Association's activities including rodeo
 - ii. The chairperson of the Archival Committee reports to the Association's Secretary; the Association's Secretary is an *ex officio* member of this committee
 - iii. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules
- b. Communications Committee
 - i. Establish and coordinate all communication linkages, both internal and external, for the Association
 - ii. The chairperson of the Communication committee reports to the Association's Secretary; the Association Secretary is an *ex officio* member of this committee
 - iii. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
- c. Community Outreach
 - i. Actively promote important connections of the Association with other organizations and agencies in the larger community.
 - ii. Recommend organizations and/or agencies in the larger community to be supported by the Association.
 - iii. Coordinates Association's support to organizations and/or agencies in the larger community
 - iv. The chairperson of the Community Outreach Committee reports to the Association's Vice President; the Association's Vice President is an *ex officio* member of this committee
 - v. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
- d. Dance, Entertainment, and Social
 - i. Promotes and arranges country western dance and other similar activities sponsored by the Association.
 - ii. Plan, conduct, and/or coordinate social activities for the Association's membership.
 - iii. The chairperson of the Dance, Entertainment, and Social Committee reports to the Association's Vice President; the Association's Vice President is an *ex officio* member of this committee.
 - iv. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
- e. Fund-raising and Sponsorship
 - i. Establishes and coordinates sponsorship linkages and activities, both internal and external, for the Association and to ensure that these activities help the Association maintain tax exempt status.

- ii. Develops and/or coordinates activities which raise revenue for the Association, its rodeo, and community not-for-profit organizations.
 - iii. The chairperson of the Fund-raising and Sponsorship Committee reports to the Association's Treasurer; the Association's Treasurer is an *ex officio* member of this committee
 - iv. Executes additional tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
- f. Membership
- i. Actively promotes membership in the Association
 - ii. Maintains membership records
 - iii. The chairperson of the Membership Committee reports to the Association's Secretary; the Association's Secretary is an *ex officio* member of this committee.
 - iv. The Membership Committee develops proposed dues for each category of membership, taking into account actual costs related to conducting membership related activities (e.g., membership badges and badge ladders, membership cards, Association newsletter, postage, printing, orientations for new members, and so on) and submits the proposed dues to the Association membership for approval.
 - v. Executes additional tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules

Rule III.B Special Committees

1. Special committees of the Association are:
 - a. Audit
 - b. Education
 - c. Ethical Practices Review
 - d. Nominations and Elections
 - e. Rodeo Production Team
 - f. Bylaws & Standing Rules
2. Special committees perform functions necessary to the operation of the Association but do not operate on a regular basis.
3. General duties of special committee chairpersons:
 - a. The President appoints the chairpersons for all special committees – *except* the Ethical Practices and Review Committee – prior to the convening of each special committee. The chairpersons serve until their respective committees have completed their mandated tasks. Chairpersons may resign at any time. Chairpersons may be removed by the President at any time for any reason.
 - b. Chairpersons submit to the President for approval recommendations for appointment of others to their respective committees.
 - c. Chairpersons submit to the Secretary the names of the members of their respective committees.

- d. Chairpersons oversee the implementation of their respective committee's mandate as well as chair their respective committee's meetings.
- e. Chairpersons submit reports as directed by the President and the Association's current Standing Rules.
- f. The chairperson of the Rodeo Production Team shall be known as the Rodeo Director. The co-chairperson shall be known as the Assistant Rodeo Director

4. Roles and responsibilities of special committees are as follows:

a. Audit Committee

- i. Conducts annual audit of the Association's finances within two weeks following the Association's Annual Meeting.
- ii. Conducts additional audits of the Association's finances when directed by the Association's President and/or Board.
- iii. Makes recommendations to the Board for implementing effective accounting practices as needed.
- iv. Neither the Association's immediate past Treasurer nor the current Treasurer may participate on the Audit Committee.

b. Education

- i. Develops and executes activities designed to educate Association members and the general public on the functions, activities, and events of the Association in specific and IGRA rodeo in general, ensuring that these activities help the Association maintain a tax exempt status.
- ii. The chairperson of the Education Committee reports to the Association's Vice President; the Association Vice President is an *ex officio* member of this committee.
- iii. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.

c. Ethical Practices and Review Committee (EPRC)

- i. Resolves complaints and problems which may arise within the Association pertaining to the Code of Ethics and other unethical or unsportsmanlike activities.
- ii. Recommends to the Board and/or membership procedures and policies in an attempt to prevent future recurrences complaints and problems.
- iii. Reviews all appeals by individuals whose memberships were suspended or revoked by the Association's Board of Directors.
- iv. Has jurisdiction over all members of the Association, all Association sponsored events, and all persons and entities under contract with the Association in matters of ethics and/or sportsmanship.
- v. If convened, consists of two (2) members of the Board of Directors – one of whom is the Vice President – and three (3) other members of the Association. The Vice President selects the remaining four members of the EPRC, none of whom are a party in the complaint or problem brought before the EPRC. The Vice President shall chair the committee should it convene. A quorum for the EPRC is four (4). The Vice President shall vote only in the event of a tie.
- vi. Convenes within 7 days of its appointment.
- vii. Adheres to the following procedure:
 - 1. Any complaint regarding Association policy, members, or contract personnel may be presented to the EPRC through the Vice President. All complaints must be in writing and must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days following the alleged incident(s).
 - 2. No complaint will be denied review if, in the opinion of the EPRC, it is deemed timely due to extenuating circumstances.
 - 3. All persons involved in a complaint shall be notified of a hearing to resolve the matter

and shall be given the opportunity to present respective sides of the situation within thirty (30) days of receipt of the complaint.

4. In special cases requiring that a matter be addressed in a short period of time, the chairperson may conduct a hearing by posing questions and requesting responses in writing. These written questions and responses shall be distributed to all members of the committee.
5. All correspondence of the committee shall be in writing and shall be distributed to all other committee members before any decisions are made. All questions and responses of persons involved as well as all correspondence of the committee members shall become an official part of the hearing record.
6. The committee shall report resolutions to the Board and general membership at the next meetings.
7. As part of the report, the committee may submit recommendations for Board and/or membership action. These recommendations may include, but are not limited to policy changes, member discipline, or other actions to be taken with contract personnel.

d. Nominations and Elections

- i. Solicits nominations for election of Board and officers at the Association's Annual Meeting of Members and whenever a vacancy on the Board exists
- ii. Conducts the balloting for election of Board and officers at the Association's Annual Meeting of Members and whenever a vacancy on the Board exists.
- iii. Consists of members who are appointed by the President

e. Rodeo Production Team

- i. Is chaired by the Rodeo Director who is appointed by the President
- ii. May be co-chaired by the Assistant Rodeo Director, who is appointed by the President
- iii. Is responsible for planning and executing all rodeos conducted on behalf of the Association
- iv. The Rodeo Director prepares and submits to the Board of Directors a budget for that year's rodeo.
- v. Wraps-up all affairs for each rodeo within sixty (60) days

f. Bylaws and Standing Rules

- i. Annually reviews of the Association's Bylaws and Standing Rules ensuring that all information included therein remains current, accurate, and reflects the Association's operations, IGRA Bylaws, IGRA Standing Rules, IGRA Rodeo Rules as well as any federal, state, and/local law.
- ii. Prepares recommendations to the Board and/or the Association for amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- iii. The chairperson of the Bylaws Committee reports to the Association's Vice President; the Association's Vice President is an *ex officio* member of this committee
- iv. Executes other tasks as may be directed by the President, the Association, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.

RULE IV ASSOCIATION BRANDING

RULE IV.A

1. The Association's logos and branding shall be copyrighted in the Association's name. The Association's Secretary shall ensure that the copyright is renewed as appropriate.

2. The Association shall own all internet domain names used by the Association for its website(s).
3. Any Association member, outside organization, or individual which uses the Association's registered name, logos and/or branding in connection with any event without the permission of the Executive Board may be investigated by the Executive Board and, if necessary, referred to the EPRC for action or prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
4. All apparel that may contain GWGRA logo and acronym must be approved by the Board prior to production. Guidelines regarding the Association's apparel may be established from time to time by the Board of Directors.
5. Association official apparel selected to be worn at Association or IGRA events and functions, where the Association as a whole is being professionally represented, must not be permanently altered (i.e., *the removal of sleeves or haltering of shirts, adding any unauthorized permanent lettering, dyeing or added logos or patches*) without prior approval from the Board. Such events include, but are not limited to, rodeo Grand Entry, IGRA University or Convention, public appearances, fundraising or volunteering at community outreach events. Alterations for sizing are permitted.

RULE VI CODE OF ETHICS

RULE VI.A

I. Ethical Sportsmanship of the Association:

- a. We believe that the sport of rodeo has earned and deserves the company of true sportsmen.
- b. The contestants, sponsors, and friends of rodeo have much to gain by observing the highest ethical standards and by observing the best tenets of good sportsmanship in all things pertaining to the sport of rodeo.
- c. In addition to the basic rule of "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you", it is desirable to define ethical practices, to delineate unethical practices, to encourage good sportsmanship and high ethical behavior and to warn, censure, or bring to public attention and discipline those who commit acts detrimental to the best interest of rodeo.
- d. It is the right and obligation of the Association to set standards in matters of ethics and sportsmanship concerning our rodeos and related activities.
- e. As an organization formed to elicit the best in all people, the Association is pledged to offer opportunities to all individuals without regard to any personal or physical quality or characteristic that may be the basis for discrimination.

2. Unethical and/or Unsportsmanlike Behavior:

- a. The words "Gateway Gay Rodeo Association" and/or "GWGRA" shall not be used in connection with events that are not officially sponsored or sanctioned by the Association, IGRA, and/or its' Member Associations.

- b. It shall be considered unethical practice for anyone to attempt to influence the action of Association Officials, committee members or general membership by duress or intimidation of any sort.
- c. Non-payment of fees or outstanding debts due the Association shall be considered unethical.
- d. The conduct of any Board official or member shall not be such as to adversely affect, obstruct or disrupt the Mission and Beliefs, the stated goals of the Association, or its relationships within the community.
- e. Intentional violation of the Association or IGRA Bylaws and Standing Rules, or any behavior that is clearly unethical and/or unsportsmanlike is considered a violation of the Code of Ethics and Sportsmanship, whether delineated herein or not.

AMENDMENTS

Amendment of 15th September 2006:

1. Article VIII Subparagraph A revised, Subparagraph C revised, Subparagraph D deleted; and Article IX Subparagraph 2(b) removed

By Board Action on Friday, 15th September 2006.