

DATE: July, 2015  
TO: All College Rodeo Advisors/Coaches  
FROM: Claudia Kelly  
NIRA Membership Director

The contents of this packet contain information for the 2015-2016 NIRA year. The following is enclosed or emailed, based on 2014-2015 information, and should be an ample supply to get your rodeo club started.

1. Individual Membership Applications
2. Certificate of Clearance
3. School Membership Application
4. Regional Work-In-Progress Forms
5. Awards Assessment Flyer
6. Letter of Intent
7. Patch Program Application

If you are sponsoring a fall rodeo, a rodeo packet has been e mailed to you.

**Insurance information will be sent under separate cover.**

#### **NIRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Dues for the 2015-2016 NIRA year are \$260 (\$95/membership, \$120/ medical insurance (excess), \$10/ Foundation, and \$8/ publication, \$2 premium, and \$25 award assessment. Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide Program. (If your college or university is not listed on the back of the 2015-2016 NIRA Individual Membership application, and/or is not a member school at the time an individual application is received by the NIRA National Office, the additional \$5 must be paid.)

**All students under the age of 21 must have the signature of parent(s) or guardian(s) on their application prior to approval.**

#### **First Year Members**

- An application must be completed and signed (with parent/guardian signatures as required.)
- Official verification of high school graduation date or date that general education degree was obtained must be enclosed.
- Official transcript(s) from each institution attended must be enclosed if student has attended any college/university. Official transcripts must also be enclosed for any college courses that were taken while still in high school. No copies of transcripts will be accepted. They must be official.
- Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide Program.
- Certificate of Clearance must be enclosed.

## 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Year Members

- An application must be completed and signed (with parent/guardian signatures as required.)
- Official transcript(s) from each institution attended must be enclosed in order to complete the processing of the application. No copies of transcripts will be accepted. They must be official.
- Students attending a non-member college or university will pay an additional \$5 for support of the Rawhide program.
- Certificate of Clearance must be enclosed.

All required documentation and money must be in the NIRA National Office and processed before a current NIRA number will be issued. **NO PERSON MAY ENTER AND COMPETE IN A NIRA APPROVED RODEO IF ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN MET BY REGIONAL DEADLINES.**

Applicants placed on **HOLD** will be notified by letter and the NIRA member school faculty advisor and regional faculty director will be notified by fax or e mail of the reason(s) for the **HOLD** status.

Due to the immense number of applicants in the fall, you should allow a minimum of three (3) weeks from the date application is mailed to the NIRA National Office to receive membership card, and insurance information. Verify with the faculty director of your region as to the master entry list deadline for rodeos. In order to be processed for the master entry list, an application must be received by our office at least 24 hours prior to that deadline.

## NIRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

**Club dues for the 2015-2016 rodeo season are \$300.** Any school sponsoring a NIRA approved rodeo must be a NIRA member. Any school with five or more NIRA student members will be notified by the NIRA National Office when the fifth individual applies for NIRA membership.

**NO RODEO TEAM POINTS WILL BE COUNTED UNTIL CLUB DUES ARE PAID. ALL STUDENT MEMBERS WILL BE CONSIDERED OFF TEAM UNTIL SUCH DUES ARE PAID.**

## RULE BOOKS 2015-2016

A 2015-2016 NIRA Rule Book will be sent to each rodeo advisor/coach by mid August. Individual members can find our 2015-2016 NIRA Rule Book on our website at [www.collegerodeo.com](http://www.collegerodeo.com). Rulebooks are available through our office for an additional \$10.

## LETTER OF INTENT

All students who receive financial aid from the school's rodeo program and participate in NIRA rodeos are encouraged to sign a Letter of Intent with the institution he/she is attending or plans to attend. This agreement is for the protection of the student and the institution. If a Letter of Intent is signed, a copy should be filed with the NIRA National Office. Letters of Intent are not enforceable without being on file in the national office.

## ELIGIBILITY FORM

The NIRA National Office must have an official transcript in hand at the beginning of each term. Terms are completed after each semester or quarter. Each region has their own specific closing dates, which can be found on our website ([www.collegerodeo.com](http://www.collegerodeo.com)). Students are responsible for ensuring these transcripts are sent to the NIRA National Office in a timely manner. If the official transcripts are not received in our office before a Master Entry List is scheduled, the student will not be eligible to compete at that particular rodeo. An NIRA Work-In-Progress form verifying the required enrollment will be used for all interim eligibility checks, and must be sent to the Regional Faculty Director as they require them during the semester/quarter. The Work-In-Progress form must carry the signature of the registrar, student, advisor/coach, and official school seal.

## PATCH PROGRAM

All patch agreements must be approved by the NIRA National Office before contestant is allowed to wear patches in the arena.

The NIRA National Office staff is here to provide assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Our summer office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. Beginning August 17, 2015, our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. If you need additional forms, you may contact your regional faculty director, regional student director, or the NIRA National Office or download them off of our website. ([www.collegerodeo.com](http://www.collegerodeo.com)).