

Dear Rookies,

Welcome to the CHSRA District 8 Rodeo Team! We are glad you are a member of our district and we want to give you some inside information that may make your year go smoother and better prepare you for the season ahead. There are several areas where we feel rookies and their parents run into questions or just generally feel out of the loop! We hope the information in this handout will help you all.

ENTRIES: All High School entries must be postmarked by the due date. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** There is a form at the post office called a 'proof of mailing'. We recommend using this form at all rodeos, especially state rodeos and this guarantees your entry. It cost \$1.10 and is the only way you can prove you mailed your entry. Fed Ex and UPS are not recommended for mailing entries. Only the USPS is recognized as a reliable authorized mailing method. **NEVER** use a meter mail from a private office, and do not send any entry that requires a signature, such as certified or express mail. **Each entry must be signed and stamped by your school as well.** Give your school plenty of time to sign your entry! Delays could make your entry late. Holidays, vacations and administrative days off can keep you from rodeoing! Original signatures and stamps are the only acceptable entry, not faxes or copies.

CALLBACKS: Every rodeo will have a callback time and date. It may be email or telephone but that is where you would confirm your entry has been received **AND** make any changes to your entry, such as draw-out without losing your money. **IF** you call back and your entry has not been received, and you have a 'proof of mailing' you will be entered. If you do not call back there is no guarantee you will be entered in the rodeo at all. Please respect the Rodeo Secretary and attempt all callbacks at the designated time, not late at night or the night before the rodeo. Email is a great way to communicate with the District 8 rodeo secretary.

MORNING OF RODEO AND CHECK-IN: Check-in times will be posted on the entry form. If you are going to be late it's your responsibility to call the rodeo secretary and notify her you are on your way. Only you can check yourself in and must be in dress code, including hat, boots, long sleeve western shirt, back number on your back and membership card.

CHAIN OF COMMAND: High School Rodeo has a specific procedure for any questions, problems or protests that must be followed. It is very important that every student and their parent remember and follow this procedure or risk disqualification. Every event has a student director, this is the first person that only the student may go to in the occurrence of a question, problem or protest. Never go to the judges! Parents are not part of the process either. It is student to student. Always know who your student director is for your events and always know the rulebook for your event as well. This will make things go smoother for everyone if you understand your rules and know who the student event director is. This is unlike any other junior. rodeo or sports event. The students are the ones that are supposed to handle the problems through this procedure.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Requirement of District 8 Membership is every student member must have an Associate helper. All parents, helpers, trainers, guests and friends who are in and around the arena must be Associate members and in dress code. This is an insurance and National rule situation and we appreciate everyone complying with this. See the membership Secretary at the first rodeo or download the form from the district 8 website. CHSRA District 8 requires at least one family member to purchase an Associate Membership.

REPORT CARDS: It is very important that you begin the habit of copying, emailing or mailing your original report card EVERY TIME you receive one. This will make the membership secretary's job easier and keep you eligible. If you are not in a traditional school you will be required to supply a grade report at mid semester and semester and mid second semester and second semester. IF THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY HAS TO ASK FOR YOUR REPORT CARD IT MAY BE TOO LATE! Please remember to keep your grades current and follow all the instructions from the membership secretary hand out.

DRESS CODE: All contestants must be in dress code in and around the arena all day. You must have your hat on and your number on as well. Parents are welcome in and around the arena, IN DRESS CODE. Please remember this policy so you and your parents will not be asked to leave the arena at our rodeos or multi-district rodeos and state rodeos.

WORK CREW: All contestants have work crews at every rodeo and all parents are asked to help at least 2 times a year as well. It is mandatory that the students work their work crew. They can request the work crew they prefer but it may not work out every rodeo. Parents are asked to help at the snack bar, timing, loading cattle or any other rodeo duty throughout the year. All this help is required to make the rodeo run smoother. We appreciate full cooperation to make every year a success and getting to know each other while working together is fun too!

FUNDRAISERS: Our district relies on the many important fundraisers we have to provide great awards and scholarships. They may change from year to year.

HIGH SCHOOL MULTI DISTRICT AND INVITATIONAL RODEOS: At least once a year District 8 goes to a multi District Rodeo. This is located in another district and includes several districts competing for the weekend. It is usually a huge event with many other students from all over California. When we go we are keeping points for our District 8 students among themselves AND you are competing for overall prizes at that rodeo. It usually involves some travel and 2 to 3 days but it is worth the experience to meet and compete with other CHSRA members throughout the state. **CHALLENGE OF CHAMPIONS** is an invitational rodeo held in March. The top 3 in each event as of mid February are invited to go to Plymouth Ca. and compete in a sponsored event. There are no points at this event but all the contestants are competing for prizes for that weekend.

POINTS: The CHSRA point system is 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1. High School has 2 goes and an average awarded at each rodeo. The average is awarded on the times, not the points. If there are not enough times in 2 goes the average points will then go to the next fast times in one go. Junior High has 1 go and no average. Year end points are the total of all rodeos and the standings at the end of the year will determine the placings and points going into State Finals. All contestants carry points into the State Finals and the State Champions and National teams are determined by points. The Year-end District points are 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1. (first will carry 10, second will carry 9, etc.)

LETTERMEN JACKETS AND VESTS: Letterman Jackets are ordered once a year in the beginning of the year and delivered in January usually. They are the official jacket of District 8 and cost around \$200.00, a little more or less depending on what you put on them. At all state rodeos, Challenge and State Finals, contestants wear a District vest. You will know if you are a contestant at these rodeos and need a vest in plenty of time to order one.

WE TRULY WELCOME YOU TO DISTRICT 8! YOUR STUDENT OFFICERS WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THEY WISH YOU A GREAT YEAR OF COMPETITION, FUN AND FRIENDS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK THEM. IF YOUR PARENTS HAVE QUESTIONS THERE ARE MANY OFFICERS AND PARENTS THAT WOULD LOVE TO HELP YOU ANYTIME! HAVE A GREAT RODEO SEASON!