

**Texas FFA Association**  
**Policy Handbook**  
**Section 29: Texas FFA Rodeo**  
*Revised 1/9/2023*

**29.1 Operating Philosophies**

- (a) The Texas FFA Rodeo exists to promote western heritage and the sport of rodeo among Texas FFA members and to instill in those members the significance of education, best practices in animal husbandry, agriculture, livestock management, and sportsmanship.
- (b) Texas FFA Association events should stimulate instruction and student achievement in emerging areas that reflect both current and future needs for career skills.
- (c) The Texas FFA Association should promote events and recognition based on teamwork and cooperation while recognizing the value of competition and individual achievement.
- (d) Recognition for achievement should be appropriate and meaningful.
- (e) High expectations and standards should be consistently communicated. (f) Teachers and students should expect events to be conducted with high-quality standards which are consistent with the core values of the Texas FFA Association. (g) The authority for ensuring the relevance and quality for any Texas FFA event is ultimately vested in the Texas FFA Board of Directors. All practices and procedures must be conducted in harmony with the goals and policies of the Texas FFA Association.

**29.2 Purpose of the Texas FFA Rodeo**

- (a) The purpose of the Texas FFA Rodeo is to provide activities that provide an outlet for relevant supervised agricultural experience programs, foster amateur athletic competition among Texas FFA members, generate funds from and through the rodeo to provide prize money and scholarship opportunities for Texas FFA members and create sponsorship opportunities for the Texas FFA Foundation.

**29.3 Principal Offices and Fiduciary Procedures and Oversight**

- (a) The principal office of the Texas FFA Rodeo shall be located at the Texas FFA Association Headquarters as designated in the bylaws. The Texas FFA Rodeo may have such other offices, in Texas or elsewhere, as the Board of Directors may determine.
- (b) The Texas FFA Rodeo shall maintain accounts at the financial institution at which Texas FFA operational accounts are maintained. The Texas FFA Association Executive Director and Treasurer shall be the sole signers on said accounts.
- (c) Texas FFA Rodeo accounts shall be included in the Texas FFA Association annual audit.

**29.4 Texas FFA Rodeo Leadership**

- (a) The Texas FFA Rodeo Officers shall serve at the pleasure of the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors. In the event of a vacant committee position, the committee will nominate and vote on a replacement committee member at the annual meeting during the ATAT Conference.
- (b) The Rodeo committee will be made up of two representatives from each area. In the event of a vacant committee position, the area shall nominate and vote on a replacement committee member during the ATAT Professional Development Conference.
- (c) Officers who serve in agricultural science teacher positions must be employed by a school district as agricultural science instructors. Leaving a school district and seeking employment in another district shall not disqualify a director from serving on the rodeo committee. Ag teachers serving on the committee may continue to serve in their current role upon retirement.
- (e) The host committee director should be a reputable member of the community hosting the rodeo for the respective fiscal year and who has credible rodeo credentials. The Texas FFA Association Board of Directors nominating committee shall consult the rodeo committee in its appointment of the host community director to serve as a liaison between the host city and the Rodeo committee in an effort to generate funds for the purpose of supporting the Texas FFA Rodeo.
- (f) The officers of the rodeo committee shall be: the president, vice president, president-elect, secretary

and treasurer. Duties of said officers shall be as follows:

- (1) The president shall preside as chairperson of the rodeo committee, shall call meetings and set agendas for said meetings, and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of president. The president shall be the primary contact between the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors and staff and shall be charged with reporting to the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors as required in applicable policies.
  - (2) The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the event of the disability, absence, death, resignation, or other inability or failure of the President to perform such duties. The Vice President shall also perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him/her or authorized by the rodeo committee.
  - (3) The president-elect shall serve as a voting member of the committee and shall assume the duties of the president on December 1 of the respective year.
  - (4) The Secretary shall make and keep, or cause to be made and kept, correct records or minutes of the proceedings of the rodeo committee, and shall perform such other duties as are normally performed by Secretaries of committees, and such other and further duties as may be imposed upon him/her or authorized by the rodeo committee.
  - (5) The Treasurer shall receive or arrange for receipt of all funds and shall deposit or oversee the deposit of the same in such bank or depository as dictated by Texas FFA Association policies; shall sign all receipts; work with the Texas FFA Association Budget and Finance Coordinator to ensure that financial records are completely accurate and maintained in a timely fashion and have such other duties as usually pertaining to the office of the treasurer or such other and further duties as may be imposed upon him/her or authorized by the rodeo committee.
- (g) Notices and agendas of rodeo committee meetings must be properly mailed by postal service or by electronic means **and received** at least five working days before such meetings. In cases of emergency, the such requirement may be waived provided all directors concur. Meetings conducted virtually shall constitute a committee meeting. Minutes of all meetings shall be filed with the Texas FFA Association Executive Director or his or her designee.
- (h) A majority of the number of directors then in office constitutes a quorum for transacting business at any rodeo committee meeting. The directors present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to transact business even if enough directors leave the meeting so that less than a quorum remains. However, no action may be approved without the vote of at least a majority of the number of directors required for a quorum. If a quorum is not present at any time during a meeting, a majority of the directors present may adjourn and reconvene the meeting once without further notice. A director may not vote by proxy.
- (i) Relevant Texas FFA Association conflict of interest policies shall apply to the proceedings of the rodeo committee.
- (j) The Texas FFA Board of Directors may vote to remove a rodeo committee director at any time, only for good cause. Good cause for removal of a director includes, but is not limited to, the unexcused failure to attend regular rodeo committee meetings, conduct unbecoming a director, conduct prejudicial to the aims or repute of the Texas FFA Association, or a material and serious violation committee adopted policies or of law. A meeting to consider removing a director may be called and noticed following the procedures provided in these Bylaws for a special meeting of the Board of Directors. The notice of the meeting will state that the issue of possibly removing the director will be on the agenda and the notice will state the proposed cause for removal.
- (k) The Texas FFA Association Board of Directors may select a person to fill a vacancy in any office for the unexpired portion of the officer's term.
- (l) The Rodeo committee shall report annually to the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors at its first-quarter and second-quarter meetings. At the first quarter meeting, the rodeo committee shall report results, costs, facilities, participants, problems and recommended changes from the immediate past rodeo. At the second quarter meeting, the rodeo committee shall present recommendations related to their respective responsibilities for approval.

## 29.5 Division of Responsibilities

- (a) A rodeo committee will consist of twenty-four Agricultural Science Teachers, with two teachers elected from each of the twelve FFA areas annually, at the Agricultural Science Teachers In-Service. The rodeo committee shall be charged with the management of the rodeo events in accordance to applicable policies and rules adopted by the rodeo committee. Each event shall have a designated chairperson. Only specific event chairpersons should be giving instructions to contestants. Only the contestants, pick-up personnel, stock contractor, and judges should be on horseback during the rodeo.
- (b) The rodeo committee shall secure bids from stock contractors and other providers and submit a recommendation to the Executive Director for approval.
- (c) The Texas FFA Association Executive Director shall work with the president of the rodeo committee or his or her designee to negotiate facility arrangements as a part of the overall state convention program.
- (d) Event insurance and participant insurance requirements shall be reviewed annually and approved by the rodeo committee and Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.
- (e) Contracts shall be executed by the Texas FFA Association Executive Director upon approval of such contracts by the appropriate party.
- (f) Solicitations for sponsorships must be conducted in coordination with the Texas FFA Foundation or his or her designee. All such solicitations must fully comply with all relevant policies.

### **29.6 Entries, Prize Money, and Scholarships**

- (a) Rodeo entries: Rodeo entries should be sent to a central location as deemed mutually agreeable by the rodeo committee and the Texas FFA Association Executive Director. Receipts and confirmations would be sent from that location. Entries shall be made payable to the Texas FFA and deposits shall be made in accordance to procedures developed by the Executive Director or his or her designee.
- (b) Prize money will be paid **by check sent from the FFA Headquarters.**
- (c) Rodeo scholarships shall be administered by the Texas FFA Foundation. All applicable policies shall apply.

### **29.7 Events**

- (a) Boys' events shall be calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, bareback riding, bull riding, and saddle bronc riding.
- (b) Girls' events shall be goat tying, barrel racing, breakaway roping, and team roping.

### **29.8 Texas FFA Rodeo Rules**

- (b) **The rule for the rodeo will be the Texas FFA Rodeo Rule Book posted annually to the Texas FFA Rodeo website; the rule of the NIRA (National Collegiate Rodeo Assn.) will be the final authority.**

### **29.9 Grievances and Protests**

- (a) Grievances and appeals related to the rodeo must be submitted to the president of the rodeo committee no later than the end of the next working day following the completion of the event in question. Qualitative evaluation decisions which are inherent to judging events may not be appealed. All appeals and grievances will be answered in writing within ten working days.
- (b) Decisions of the rodeo committee may be appealed to the Texas FFA Association Executive Board. Decisions of the Executive Board are final and may not be appealed.