

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC. (A.G.R.A.)
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

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**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ARTICLE I NAME OF THE CORPORATION

1.1 Name

The name of the Corporation shall be Arizona Gay Rodeo Association, Inc., hereinafter known as “the Corporation”.

1.2 Assumed Name

The Corporation shall have the right to conduct its’ business under an assumed name that shall be A.G.R.A., Inc., or such other assumed name that the Corporation may authorize.

ARTICLE II PURPOSES OF THE CORPORATION

2.1 Objective

The objective of the organization shall be to elevate the image of women and men in the sports field of rodeo.

2.2 Purposes

The purposes for which the Corporation is organized are:

- A. To promote and stage rodeos at locations situated in the State of Arizona
 - B. To promote communication and fellowship among its’ members by encouraging the participation of its’ membership in western related events (e.g. rodeo performances)
 - C. To engage in charitable activities, whether by volunteering the services of the Corporation and/or its’ members or by the raising of monies, with such activities and the proceeds derived therefrom being donated to those charitable organizations that the membership of the Corporation may choose
 - D. To engage in any business and/or activities in which a non-profit corporation may engage
- D. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its’ members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions to the furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof. No substantial part of the activities shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing of or distribution of statements) any political campaign on the behalf of any candidate for public office.

2.3 Prohibitions

The Corporation, however, shall not engage in any discrimination, whether related to sex, gender, physical handicap, race, religion, creed, sexual orientation, age, or national origin.

ARTICLE III A.G.R.A. ORGANIZATION

3.1 Governance

The Corporation shall be governed by the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors.

3.2 Number of Directors

The number of Directors shall not be less than four nor more than twenty-one.

3.3. Composition of the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fund Raising Director, Public Relations Director, the International Gay Rodeo Association (hereafter known as I.G.R.A.) Trustee, And any other positions the board or membership deems necessary.

No individual can hold more than one board position concurrently.

Nominations for, and election to, all positions, except Treasurer, shall be as stated in Article 6.6. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors in March of each year.

3.4 A.G.R.A. Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the I.G.R.A. Trustee. No individual can hold more than one board position concurrently.

The Executive Board is empower to handle all matters pertaining to Directors' duties between meetings of the Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of the Executive Board to report their actions at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

3.5 Officers

Officers of the Corporation shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

3.6 Duties and Responsibilities

A. Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall:

1. Be responsible for the operations of the Corporation including the Collection of adequate funding for the Board and the membership
2. Acquire a basic working knowledge of parliamentary laws and procedures, specifically based on Robert's Rules of Order
3. Acquire a thorough understanding of A.G.R.A. Bylaws

4. Appoint the Treasurer in March of each year in accordance with Article III, Section 3.3.
 5. Appoint additional voting or non-voting board members as deemed appropriate
 6. In March of each year appoint the Standing Committees/Chairpersons as described in Article IV, Section 4.1
 7. Upon appointment of the Standing Committees/Chairpersons, determine the publication and frequency process for the official A.G.R.A. Newsletter (The Branding Iron)
 8. Appoint ad-hoc committees and/or committee chairpersons as requested or deemed appropriate
 9. Make every effort to attend all Board of Directors and membership meetings
 10. Notify the President prior to the respective meeting if unable to attend the meeting
 11. Submit a verbal report at each Board and membership meeting
 12. Not enter into any contractual agreement on behalf of A.G.R.A., unless specifically authorized by the Board of Directors or the membership
 13. Delegate to the Executive Committee such authority as is necessary to govern the day-to-day operations of the Corporation
- B. President: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall:
1. Preside at all meetings of the Corporation, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Board
 2. Have membership and active management of the business and affairs of the Corporation, including the preparation of agendas for meetings of the Corporation, Board of Directors, and the Executive Board
 3. See that all orders and resolutions of the Corporation, Board of Directors and Executive Board are carried into effect
 4. Ensure that all required documents are completed and submitted in a timely manner
 5. Vote only in the event of a tie vote by the Board of Directors or by the A.G.R.A. membership, except he/she is entitled to vote in any and all elections
 6. Perform such other duties and have such authority and powers as the membership or Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe
 7. Appoint all committees as determined feasible by the Board of Directors or membership, unless otherwise noted in these bylaws
 8. Subject to the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, appoint the chairperson of all committees, unless otherwise noted in these bylaws

9. By virtue of office, be a Delegate to the I.G.R.A. Annual Convention
10. Make every effort to attend I.G.R.A. Annual Convention and I.G.R.A. Finals Rodeo

C. Vice President: The Vice President shall:

1. In the absence, or disability of the President, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of President, perform and duties and have the authority and exercise the powers of the President for the remainder of the term.
2. Perform such other duties and have such other authority as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors
3. Be the liaison to the Board of Directors and membership for the A.G.R.A. Royalty Committee
4. Schedule the date(s) and location(s) for the royalty competition
5. Have full responsibility and authority for all decisions in regards to the royalty competition
6. Coordinate and supervise the royalty competition

D. Secretary: The Secretary shall:

1. Be responsible for the organization and maintenance of the Corporation Office
2. Maintain custody of the Corporation Seal (if available)
3. Ensure that all permanent records are filed and maintained in an efficient and organized manner
4. Record and transcribe minutes of all meetings of the Corporation, Board of Directors, and Executive Board
5. Maintain a written record of all policies and procedures approved by the Corporation, Board of Directors, and Executive Board
6. Ensure that all minutes and correspondence are filed in a timely and efficient manner
7. Ensure that the Corporation mailbox is checked regularly (at least twice a week) and all mail is disseminated to the appropriate person(s) in a timely and efficient manner
8. Maintain membership lists and send to the I.G.R.A. Office in accordance with I.G.R.A. Bylaws
9. Announce all new members at each membership meeting. New members present shall be acknowledged and welcomed into membership
10. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors

E. Treasurer: The Treasurer Shall

1. Each year, within thirty (30) days of appointment, obtain bank Signature cards, obtain appropriate signatures, and return cards to the banks
2. Ensure that all authorized signatories are the Treasurer, President, Vice President and Secretary

3. Maintain custody of funds of the Corporation
4. Keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements
5. Deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name of and to the credit of the Corporation in such depositories deemed appropriate or specified by the Board of Directors
6. Disburse funds of the Corporation, as required or ordered by the Board of Directors, ensuring sufficient documentation is available to justify the disbursement
7. Make all disbursements on a Corporate check
8. Ensure that all checks have two (2) authorized signatures
9. Present a monthly financial report at each Board and membership meeting
10. Present a full account of all transactions and the financial position of the Corporation when requested by the President or Board of Directors
11. Prepare and submit required annual tax forms in a timely manner
12. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors

F. Fund Raising Director: The Fund Raising Director shall:

1. Initiate and administer fund raising activities for the Corporation and disseminate the information to the Board of Directors and membership
2. At each membership meeting, present a verbal report, including amount of money raised and expended, for fund-raising activities
3. Provide the Public Relations Director with timely information about planned fund-raising activities, when appropriate, to include in local publications
4. Work with rodeo contestants, if requested, to arrange fund-raising activities
5. Make every effort to include A.G.R.A. Royalty Team Members and Royalty Contestants in fund-raising activities
6. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors

G. Public Relations Director: The Public Relations Director shall:

1. Prepare and submit news releases and other pertinent information to local publications
2. Disseminate to in-state and out-of-state publications and organizations pertinent information about the Corporation activities
3. Submit requested or required information to the I.G.R.A. Public Relations Spokesperson
4. Work closely with the Rodeo Committee to assist in dissemination of rodeo information
5. Maintain the A.G.R.A. display case
6. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors

- H. I.G.R.A. Trustee: The Trustee shall:
1. Be A.G.R.A.'s representative to I.G.R.A.
 2. Make every effort to attend regularly scheduled and special I.G.R.A. Board/Trustee Meetings
 3. If unable to attend a meeting, and when possible, appoint an Alternate Trustee to attend the respective meeting
 4. Ensure that appropriate I.G.R.A. information is disseminated to the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors and membership
 5. Make every effort to all Division Rodeos, I.G.R.A. Annual Convention, and I.G.R.A. Finals Rodeo
 6. By virtue of office, be a delegate to the I.G.R.A. Annual Convention
 7. Be A.G.R.A.'s spokesperson for the delegation at the I.G.R.A. Annual Convention
 8. In the event of any delegate or alternate delegate vacancy at the I.G.R.A. Annual Convention, appoint replacements from those members present

ARTICLE IV STANDING COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

4.1

A. Rodeo Director

1. In their March meeting, the Board will appoint a Rodeo Director
2. The Rodeo Director will serve for a term of two (2) years and may be reappointed for unlimited consecutive terms
3. The Rodeo Director will:
 - a. Form a rodeo committee and serve as committee chairperson
 - b. Ensure that minutes are recorded in each meeting
 - c. Ensure that minutes are approved in each meeting and a copy of minutes is given to the A.G.R.A. Secretary for filing
 - d. Select an Assistant Rodeo Director or Assistant Rodeo Directors
 - e. Appoint individuals to be responsible for specific areas relevant to pre-rodeo activities and for the rodeo
 - f. Select all rodeo officials
 - g. Plan a rodeo school immediately prior to the annual rodeo
4. The Rodeo Committee will select the Rodeo Grand Marshal and the individual or group for Rodeo Program Dedication from nominations received in the August and September membership meetings

- B. By March 31 of each year, the board will appoint a Newsletter Editor.
 - 1. The A.G.R.A. Newsletter shall be known as The Branding Iron
 - 2. The publication and frequency process for the newsletter shall be Determined by the Board of Directors in March of each year
 - 3. Each newsletter shall include:
 - a. dates of board and membership meetings for the next month
 - b. names and e-mail addresses of board members
Board Members may request to include their phone number.
 - c. names and e-mail addresses of the current A.G.R.A. Royalty Team
Individuals may request to include their phone number.
 - d. names and e-mail addresses of A.G.R.A. members who are on the current I.G.R.A. Royalty Team
Individuals may request to include their phone number.
 - 5. The editor will send the newsletter to the A.G.R.A. President and A.G.R.A. Secretary for review and approval before publication
 - 6. After approval, the Secretary will e-mail and/or mail the approved newsletter to all A.G.R.A. members
- C. The Board of Directors may appoint other committee chairpersons or committees as deemed appropriate or requested and approved at any regularly scheduled membership meetings
- D. The term of standing committee chairpersons and committees shall be from time of appointment through February of the following year.

ARTICLE V A.G.R.A. MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The membership year shall be March 1 through the last day of February.
- 5.2 Classes of Membership: There shall be three (3) classes of membership.
 - A. Regular Membership (Must be at least 18 years of age.)
 - B. Champion Membership-Individual (Must be at least 18 years of age.)
 - C. Champion Membership-Group, Business, Corporation

- 5.3 Attainment of Membership
- A. Regular Membership
 - 1. Submission of a completed and signed official A.G.R.A. Membership Application with the appropriate membership dues (Exhibit A), or completed on-line application at www.agra-phx.com
 - 2. Upon receipt of the official membership application and dues, the individual shall be considered an active member of A.G.R.A., Inc.
 - B. Champion Membership-Individual
 - 1. Submission of a completed and signed official A.G.R.A. Membership Application with the appropriate membership dues (Exhibit A), or completed on-line application at www.agra-phx.com
 - 2. Upon receipt of the official membership application and dues, the individual shall be considered an active member of A.G.R.A., Inc.
 - C. Champion Membership-Group, Business, Corporation
 - 1. Submission of a completed and signed official A.G.R.A. Membership Application with the appropriate membership dues (Exhibit A), or completed on-line application at www.agra-phx.com
 - 2. Upon receipt of the official membership application and dues, the group, business, or corporation shall be considered an active member of A.G.R.A., Inc.
 - D. The Secretary shall announce all new members at each membership meeting. New members present shall be acknowledged and welcomed into membership.
- 5.4 Initiation Fees and Membership Dues
- A. All membership dues shall be retained in the A.G.R.A. Treasury.
 - B. Regular Membership
 - 1. Annual dues are twenty-five (\$25.00) and are payable before March 1 of each year
 - 2. Dues shall not be prorated if membership is attained after March 1
 - 3. The annual dues shall be the same for new or renewing members
 - 4. Membership expires the last day of February regardless of the date membership is attained
 - 5. The annual dues must be paid in full to be considered a member in good standing
 - 6. Timely payment of annual dues for membership renewal is required to ensure the member's eligibility to retain and/or run for A.G.R.A. offices and/or royalty and to participate in I.G.R.A. Rodeos
 - 7. A new membership application is required annually

- C. Champion Membership-Individual
 - 1. Annual dues are one-hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) and are payable before March 1 of each year
 - 2. Dues shall not be prorated if membership is attained after March 1
 - 3. The annual dues shall be the same for new or renewing members
 - 4. Membership expires the last day of February regardless of the date membership is attained
 - 5. The annual dues must be paid in full to be considered a member in good standing
 - 6. Timely payment of annual dues for membership renewal is required to ensure the member's eligibility to retain and/or run for A.G.R.A. offices and/or royalty and to participate in I.G.R.A. Rodeos
 - 7. A new membership application is required annually
 - 8. Shall be entitled to two (2) votes on all ballot voting

- D. Champion Membership-Group, Business, Corporation
 - 1. Annual dues are one-hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) and are payable before March 1 of each year
 - 2. Dues shall not be prorated if membership is attained after March 1
 - 3. The annual dues shall be the same for new or renewing members
 - 4. Membership expires the last day of February regardless of the date membership is attained
 - 5. The annual dues must be paid in full to be considered a member in good standing
 - 6. Timely payment of annual dues for membership renewal is required to ensure the member's eligibility to retain and/or run for A.G.R.A. offices and/or royalty and to participate in I.G.R.A. Rodeos
 - 7. A new membership application is required annually
 - 8. Shall be entitled to two (2) votes on all ballot voting

5.5 Benefits of Membership

- A. Regular Membership
 - 1. Shall be entitled to participation in all organizational matters
 - 2. Shall receive the organizational newsletter
 - 3. Eligibility to run for A.G.R.A. offices/Royalty and to participate in I.G.R.A. Rodeos
 - 4. Shall have access to the A.G.R.A. Bylaws via the website on the internet or may request a copy from the Secretary
 - 4. Shall receive an invitation to the annual A.G.R.A. banquet
 - 5. New members shall receive a name badge and an A.G.R.A. pin

B. Champion Membership-Individual

1. Shall be entitled to participation in all organizational matters
2. Shall receive the organizational newsletter
3. Shall be entitled to two (2) free passes to all A.G.R.A. Inc. rodeos and listing in the Rodeo Program as a Champion Member
4. Eligibility to run for A.G.R.A. offices/Royalty and to participate in I.G.R.A. Rodeos
5. Shall have access to the A.G.R.A. Bylaws via the website on the internet or may request a copy from the Secretary
6. Shall receive two (2) invitations to the annual A.G.R.A. banquet
7. New members shall receive a name badge and an A.G.R.A. pin

C. Champion Membership-Group, Business, Corporation

1. Shall be entitled to participation in all organizational matters
2. Shall receive the organizational newsletter
3. Shall be entitled to two (2) free passes to all A.G.R.A. Inc. rodeos and listing in the Rodeo Program as a Champion Member
4. Shall have access to the A.G.R.A. Bylaws via the website on the internet or may request a copy from the Secretary
5. Shall receive two (2) invitations to the annual A.G.R.A. banquet
6. New members shall receive a name badge and an A.G.R.A. pin

5.6 Founding Member

An individual who attained initial membership prior to March 1, 1985 shall be known as a Founding Member of A.G.R.A., Inc., but is not entitled to other benefits than those designated in Section 5.5 (Benefits of Membership) hereof.

5.7 Consideration of Removal from Membership

Any individual member or champion member may be removed from Corporate Membership for good cause, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Failure to timely pay dues and other fees as prescribed by the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors
2. Inappropriate behavior which causes embarrassment to A.G.R.A., Inc.
3. Any active member may present to the Board of Directors, in writing, reasons why he/she feels an individual should be removed from membership
4. Any member may be removed from Corporate Membership by a simple majority of the votes returned from a mailed ballot to the entire membership

5.8 Right of Appeal

The decision of the membership to remove an individual may be appealed to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. The decision of the board shall be sustained unless two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting vote to reverse the decision of the membership.

ARTICLE VI A.G.R.A. VOTING AND ELECTIONS

6.1 Member Voting Rights

- A. Each individual member and each champion member shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter submitted for membership vote.
- B. For all ballot votes, champion members shall be entitled to two (2) votes.

6.2 Proxy Voting

Proxy voting is prohibited.

6.3 Absentee Voting

Absentee voting is prohibited.

6.4 Nominations

- A. Nominations for the Board of Directors, except the Trustee, shall be received at each membership meeting in November and December of each year.
- B. Nominations for the I.G.R.A. Trustee shall be received at each membership meeting in September and October of the year in which the current Trustee's term of office expires.
- C. Nominations for I.G.R.A. Convention Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be received at each membership meeting in May and June of each year.
- D. Names of all nominees shall be submitted to the Election Committee no later than thirty (3) days prior to the beginning of the scheduled election.

6.5 Qualifications for the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors

- A. President: Must have been an individual member or individual champion member at least twelve (12) months when nominated.
- B. All other board positions: Must have been an individual member or individual champion member at least six (6) months when nominated.

6.6 Election of the Board of Directors

- A. Election shall be held for all board positions, except the Trustee, in January of each year. Voting shall be by members present at the January membership meeting.

- B. Election of the Trustee shall be held in November of the year prior to the Trustee's term of office expiration. Voting shall be by members present at the November membership meeting.

6.7 Term of Office

- A. Each Director, except the Trustee, shall be elected for a two-year term. Each term shall begin on March 1 of the year following elections.
 - 1. President and Secretary shall be elected in odd years. Treasurer shall be appointed in March of odd years.
 - 2. Vice President, Fund Raising Director, and Public Relations Director shall be elected in even years.
- B. The Trustee's term of office shall be for three years, beginning January 1 in the year following election and ending December 31 three years later.

6.8 Election Committee

The Board of Directors, in April of each year, shall appoint an Election Committee which shall consist of three (3) members. The Election Committee shall:

- A. Select an Election Committee Chairperson
- B. Prepare a written ballot listing all of the nominees for each office, by office.
- C. Supervise the conduct of the voting
- D. Tabulate the votes and publish the results
- E. Certify the election of officers to the membership
- F. Remain a neutral body and not make recommendations
- G. No member of the committee may be nominated for a board position and continue to serve on the Election Committee.

6.9 Elections

Elections for the Board of Directors and all other voting shall be conducted by the Election Committee. (Refer to Article III, Section 3.5, for specific duties.)

6.10 Election Majority

Fifty percent plus one (50% plus 1) of eligible votes cast, excluding abstentions, shall be required for election to any board position and to be declared a winner on all other ballots cast.

6.11 Run-Off Elections

- A. In the event there are three or more persons nominated for an office, and no individual receives 50% plus one votes of the eligible votes cast, a run-off election shall be held between the two persons receiving the highest number of votes.
- B. The Election Committee shall announce a run-off election is required, and the run-off election shall be held in the same meeting. The Election Committee shall distribute new ballots to members who voted in the original election, and thoroughly explain the voting process.
- C. Only those members who voted in the original election will be allowed to cast a run-off ballot.

6.12 Election of I.G.R.A. Convention Delegates

- A. Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be elected by ballot vote of the members present at the July membership meeting.
- C. The President and Trustee are automatically delegates. (Refer to Article III, Section 3.6(B and H).
- C. Voting shall be for four (4) additional delegates and four (4) alternate delegates.
- D. The four (4) individuals receiving the highest number of votes shall be delegates. The next four (4) individuals receiving the highest number of votes shall be alternate delegates.
- E. In the event the President is unable to attend convention, the Vice President automatically becomes a delegate. (Refer to Article III, Section 3.6(C).
- F. If a delegate or alternate delegate declares their inability to attend convention, all other individuals shall be moved up in order of number of votes received.

6.13 Election Records

- A. Following the completion of any ballot vote, the Election Committee shall immediately forward all records and ballots to the Secretary.
- B. The Secretary shall retain the ballots in the corporation files for one (1) year or until a new vote occurs for the same purpose.

ARTICLE VII RESIGNATION, DEATH, OR REMOVAL OF AN A.G.R.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER

7.1 Resignation

If a member of the Board of Directors resigns:

- A. A written notice of resignation shall be tendered to the Board of Directors.
- B. The Board of Directors shall then issue a written decision in response to the tendered notice along with supporting reasons.
- C. Nothing contained in Article 7.1(A) or 7.1(B) shall in any way waive or otherwise restrict the Board of Directors' authority to investigate and pursue any action it deems necessary.
- D. In the event of the resignation of a member of the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President or Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall:
 - 1. Appoint an interim replacement if the resignation has occurred within four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term of office.
 - 2. Cause to be held a special election for the purpose of filling the vacancy if the resignation has occurred more than four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term of office.
 - 3. Nominations shall be received at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting, with the election to be held at that same meeting.
 - 4. To be elected to office, an individual must receive a simple majority of the votes of the membership present at that membership meeting.

7.2 Death

In the event of the death of a member of the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President or Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall:

- 1. Appoint an interim replacement if the death has occurred within four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term office.
- 2. Cause to be held a special election for the purpose of filling the vacancy if the death has occurred more than four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term of office.

3. To be elected to office, an individual must receive a simple majority of the votes of the membership present at that membership meeting.

7.3 Removal

A member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office for just cause, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Abandonment of office or the failure to satisfactorily perform the duties of the office
2. Final conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude
3. Any course of conduct that is detrimental or is contrary to the purposes of the Corporation.

7.4 Procedure for Removal

- A. A written grievance citing specific instance(s) shall be submitted to the Board of Directors.
- B. Upon receipt of a grievance, the Board of Directors shall investigate the allegation(s).
- C. Upon finding that removal is warranted, the Board of Directors shall call for a removal vote by the membership.
- D. The removal vote shall be held at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting immediately following the call for a removal vote by the Board of Directors.
- E. Each individual member will have one ballot vote, and each champion member shall have two ballot votes.
- F. The Board of Directors shall compile and publish the results of the vote.

7.5 In the event of the removal of a Board of Directors member, with the exception of the President or Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall:

- A. Appoint an interim replacement if the removal has occurred within four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term of office.
- B. Cause to be held a special election for the purpose of filling the vacancy if the removal has occurred more than four (4) months prior to the expiration of the term of office.

C. Nominations shall be received at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting with the election to be held at that same meeting.

D. To be elected to office, an individual must receive a simple majority of the votes at the membership present at that membership meeting.

ARTICLE VIII A.G.R.A. MEETINGS

8.1 Board of Directors Meetings

A. Notice of meetings shall be given to the membership via the newsletter, email, and social media prior to the date of the meeting.

B. Meetings shall be held once each month during the calendar year at a location and time determined by the Board of Directors.

C. The meeting schedule shall be determined by the Board of Directors at their February meeting each year.

D. A majority of the Board of Directors, to either include the President or Vice President, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business that may properly come before a meeting of the Board of Directors.

8.2 Annual Meeting of the Corporation

A. The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held in January or February each year, at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall designate.

B. Written notice of the meeting shall be given to the membership not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting.

1. Electronic (email) notification is an acceptable form of notification.

C. At least one-fifth (1/5) of the members must be physically present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

8.3 Membership Meetings

A. Shall be held monthly

B. Dates and location of meetings shall be determined by vote of the Board of Directors present at the February Board of Directors Meeting.

- C. One-tenth (1/10) of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

8.4 Special Meetings

A. Board of Directors

1. May be called by the President or any two (2) board members
2. The individual(s) calling the meeting shall designate the date, time, and location of the meeting.
3. The only agenda items will be those stated when the meeting is scheduled.
4. Notice to the membership is not required.
5. Quorum shall be as stated in Article VIII, Section 8.1(D).

B. Membership

1. May be called by a majority vote of members present any regularly scheduled membership meeting, by the President or the Board of Directors
2. If called by a membership vote, the date, time, location and purpose of the meeting shall be announced at the membership meeting when the special meeting is announced.
3. If called by the President or Board of Directors, the date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting shall be designated by the President or Board of Directors.
4. Date of the special meeting must be at least fifteen (15) days from the date the meeting is initially called.
5. The Secretary must provide written notice of the meeting to all members at least ten (10) days before the meeting.
 - a. Electronic (email) notification is an acceptable form of notification.
6. The notice must state the date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting.
7. The only agenda items will be those listed in the meeting notice.
8. Quorum shall be as stated in Article VIII, Section 8.3(C).

ARTICLE IX A.G.R.A. ROYALTY

9.1 A.G.R.A. Royalty Team/Committee

- A. Shall be Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A. and all Runners-Up
- B. Reign will begin from selection until the next year's competition has concluded.
- C. The chairperson of the Royalty Team/Committee shall the A.G.R.A. Vice President.

9.2 Eligibility for Competition

- A. Must be an A.G.R.A. member in good standing for a minimum of thirty (30) days before announcing his/her candidacy
- B. Must submit to the Vice President a completed "A.G.R.A. Royalty Application (Exhibit B), twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) non-refundable entry fee, and 501c Certificate of Eligibility for the selected organizations
- C. Each individual must state on the application if it is for the title of Mr, Ms, Miss, or MsTer A.G.R.A.
- D. All candidates must reside in the State of Arizona and continue to be a resident throughout competition.
- E. A candidate may not simultaneously compete for a royalty title in another association.
- F. At least one 501c non-profit organization must be chosen and listed on the application when it is submitted.
- G. A candidate may choose more than one 501c non-profit organization, but 501c documentation must be submitted before any money can be raised for the organization.
- H. All required documents must have been submitted to the Vice President before candidacy can be announced.
- I. The Vice President will verify membership, remit the entry fee to the Treasurer, and notify the candidate in writing of his/her eligibility within ten (10) days after receipt of application and entry fee.
- J. When notifying the candidate of eligibility, the Vice President will also provide the candidate with a current copy of the A.G.R.A. Bylaws, current I.G.R.A. Bylaws/Standing Rules/Rodeo Rules, history packet on A.G.R.A., and requirements for competition packet.
- K. The Vice President will ensure that the original application and all supporting documents are placed in the A.G.R.A. official files.

- L. The Vice President shall contact each candidate and arrange a meeting within fifteen (15) days after notifying the candidate of eligibility. The purpose of the meeting will be to ensure the candidate's understanding of all requirements.
- M. After announcing his/her candidacy, all candidates are expected to attend all A.G.R.A. membership meetings.
- N. All candidates shall make every effort to attend and participate in A.G.R.A. fundraisers.
- O. An individual must make a formal announcement of his/her candidacy at the association's monthly membership meeting.
- P. An individual may not begin fundraising until a formal announcement of his/her candidacy has been made at the associations' monthly membership meeting.
- Q. A member of the A.G.R.A. Executive Board (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, IGRA Trustee) is not eligible to compete for a royalty title while a member of the executive board.

9.3 Entry Fee

- A. Shall be deposited into the A.G.R.A. Treasury
- B. Shall be used to purchase sashes for contestants and winners
- C. Contestants shall receive their sash within sixty (60) days after eligibility is determined.

9.4 Requirements for Competition

- A. Raise a minimum of one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) for at least one 501c non-profit organization listed on the application
- B. Raise a minimum of three-hundred dollars (\$300.00) for A.G.R.A. operating expenses

- C. Submit a written plan of action consisting of goals for the A.G.R.A. Royalty Team.
 - 1. They must be in a sealed envelope with the contestant's name on the front of the envelope.
 - 2. The envelope must be given to the Vice President at the beginning of the competition.
 - 3. Individual plans will be used to build a Royalty Team Plan for the following year.
- D. All requirements in Article IX, Section 9.4(A and B) must be met at least thirty (30) days before the beginning of the competition.
- E. Any candidate who has not met all requirements and submitted all items by stated deadlines shall not be eligible to compete for any title.

9.5 Competition

- A. Competition shall be held annually.
- B. Date(s) and location(s) of competition shall be scheduled by the Vice President at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the contest.
- C. The Vice President shall obtain concurrence from the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors for dates and locations of contest.
- D. After board approval, date(s) and location(s) of competition shall be announced in the next A.G.R.A. membership meeting and in The Branding Iron.
- E. The Vice President shall coordinate and supervise the competition.
- F. Judges for the competition shall be selected by the Vice President and current Royalty Team/Committee and approved by the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the competition.
- G. There will be four (4) competition segments.
 - 1. Interview, Western Wear, and Public Presentation are required for all contestants.
 - 2. Additionally, each contestant must choose to compete in the Horsemanship or Talent competition segment.

9.6 Selection of A.G.R.A. Royalty

- A. Royalty shall be Mr, Ms, Miss, and MsTer A.G.R.A. and 1st and 2nd Runners-Up to each title.
- B. In the event two contestants receive the same total scores, the tie will be broken by:
 - 1. The highest interview score will be used to break the tie.
- C. All judges' sheets shall be retrieved by the A.G.R.A. Vice President and shall be kept in the A.G.R.A. official files.
- D. The individual receiving the second highest total score will be 1st Runner-Up, and the individual receiving the third highest total score will be 2nd Runner-Up.
- E. Mr, Ms, Miss, and MsTer A.G.R.A. shall receive a sash and belt buckle denoting their respective title.
- F. Miss A.G.R.A. shall also receive a crown.
- G. 1st and 2nd Runners-Up shall receive a sash denoting their respective title.
- H. If the respective title holder plans on attending the I.G.R.A. competition, they will have to meet all requirements set forth by I.G.R.A.
- I. Announcement of winners shall be made by the Vice President after an audit of scores is completed.
- J. Sashes, buckles, and crown shall be presented when winners are announced
- K. All winners (Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer and Runners-Up) shall become members of the A.G.R.A. Royalty Team/Committee.
- L. The Vice President will schedule a meeting with all winners within thirty (30) days following the contest. The Vice President will open the envelopes containing the individual plans of action, and the Royalty Team/Committee will build a plan of action for their reigning year.

- M. A contestant may request copies of individual results and judges' sheets by submitting a written request to the Vice President within thirty (30) days following competition. These records will be given to the individual requestor within ten (10) days after the written request.

9.7 Royalty Team/Committee

- A. The Royalty Team/Committee shall be comprised of the current Royalty and Runners-Up.
- B. The Vice President shall chair the committee and act as liaison to the A.G.R.A. Board of Directors and membership.
- C. The Vice President shall schedule meetings at least quarterly, or as determined by the committee.
- D. Purpose of the meetings shall be, but not limited to, for review of royalty activities, discussion and resolution of any issues, and committee planning.

9.8 Retention of A.G.R.A. Royalty Title

- A. All title holders and runners-up must demonstrate a good-faith effort within ninety (90) days after winning the title towards the accomplishment of their requirements by having at least one (1) fundraiser for A.G.R.A., or his/her selected 501c non-profit organization.
- B. Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A., 1st and 2nd Runners-Up are required to attend a minimum of six (6) membership meetings within the first nine (9) months of their reign.
- C. To retain the title of Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A. or Runner-Up, the individual must:
 - 1. Reside in the State of Arizona throughout his/her reign
 - 2. If an individual who has the title of Mr, Ms, Miss, or MsTer A.G.R.A. moves out of the State of Arizona, resigns the title for any reason, or has the title removed for any reason, the individual with the 1st Runner-Up title assumes the respective title.
 - 3. Succession of the 2nd Runner-Up likewise applies.
- D. Each title holder (Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer and all Runners-Up) are required to raise a minimum of three-hundred dollars (\$300.00) for A.G.R.A. operating expenses. This money must be raised at least fifteen (15) days before the next competition.

- E. Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A. must attend at least two (2) out-of-state I.G.R.A. sanctioned events during their title year and participate in any manner, e.g., rodeo contestant, rodeo volunteer, or attend I.G.R.A. Annual Convention.
- F. A.G.R.A. Runners-Up shall make every effort to attend at least two (2) out-of-state I.G.R.A. sanctioned events during their title year and participate in any manner, e.g., rodeo contestant, rodeo volunteer, or attend I.G.R.A. Annual Convention.
- G. The Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A. and 1st Runners-Up will have the option to attend and compete in the I.G.R.A. competition for the respective I.G.R.A. title.
- H. A.G.R.A. shall pay entry fees for Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer and 1st Runners-Up to compete in the I.G.R.A. competition.
- I. If the contestant does not attend the I.G.R.A. Royalty competition and A.G.R.A. has paid their entry fee, the title holder will be responsible to repay the entry fee back to A.G.R.A.
- J. Royalty team members must make every effort to attend all fund raising functions marked for A.G.R.A. for the first 9 months to retain their respective royalty title. This may include, but is not limited to, any on-going monthly A.G.R.A. fundraisers.
- K. Any funds raised at an A.G.R.A. fundraising event in which an individual participates will be considered toward that individual's required three-hundred dollars (\$300.00).

9.9 Record Keeping

- A. An individual file shall be maintained by the Secretary in the A.G.R.A. Office for each candidate and title holder.
 - 1. Each file shall include the original of the royalty application 501c Certificate(s) of Eligibility, the original of the letter of intent, and copies of all fundraising receipts.
- B. The Vice President shall also maintain a file for each candidate and title holder.

- C. Each candidate and title holder shall ensure that he/she receives a receipt from the business where a fundraiser is held or from any personal donor.
 - 1. The receipt shall be forwarded to the Vice President within five (5) days after any money is raised.
 - 2. The vice President shall forward a copy of each receipt to the Secretary within five (5) days after receipt.

9.10 Discipline

- A. Any individual may submit in writing to the Vice President why he/she believes discipline is justified.
- B. Discipline of candidates and title holders shall be for, but not limited to:
 - 1. Unbecoming behavior or unethical conduct as determined by the Executive Board
 - 2. Fighting
 - 3. Intentionally subjecting A.G.R.A. or I.G.R.A. to bad publicity, verbal or written
 - 4. Excessive abusive language, gestures, or intimidation of any kind
 - 5. Disorderly conduct at any A.G.R.A. or I.G.R.A. function
- C. The process for discipline shall be:
 - 1. The Vice President shall notify the Board of Directors of the issue(s) and submit any written paperwork/complaint to the board.
 - a. The Vice President will notify any and all affected parties, including any witnesses.
 - 2. At the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting, the Board of Directors of A.G.R.A. will review the issue(s) and hear all evidence and all witnesses.
 - 3. The Board of Directors will determine the correct course of action and will notify the title holder in question of their decision and provide a written letter within 15 days from the board meeting.
 - 4. The level of action will be determined by the Board of Directors and may be, but not limited to, a verbal warning to removal of title of said person, depending on the situation and severity of the offense in question.
 - 5. If a Special Board Meeting is convened, the following shall occur:
 - a. The affected candidate or title holder shall be notified of the meeting at least ten (10) days in advance.
 - b. The affected individual(s) shall be permitted to bring any witnesses to the meeting.
 - c. The Vice President may request any other individuals to attend the meeting.
 - d. A minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the board members must be in attendance before any discussion or action is permitted.
 - e. The board shall review all documentation, hear all witnesses' testimony, other relevant information and then convene a Special Closed Session to determine the appropriate action to be taken.

- f. Action may be suspended for a period of time determined by the board, removal of candidacy eligibility or removal of any title. If removal of title occurs, the affected individual(s) must immediately cease any fundraising activities or any other activities associated with the title.
- g. All actions taken by the board shall be final and cannot be appealed to membership.

9.11 Miscellaneous

Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer A.G.R.A., all Runners-Up, and all candidates are considered “Good Will Ambassadors” of A.G.R.A., and shall:

- A. Attend as many A.G.R.A. functions and other activities as possible
- B. Behave at all times in accordance with A.G.R.A. Bylaws
- C. Have disputes regarding eligibility for candidacy, competition, or any other reason reviewed and resolved by the Executive Board

ARTICLE X A.G.R.A. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

All business of the Corporation shall be conducted according to Robert’s Rules of Order, if not otherwise specified in the Bylaws or Guidelines.

ARTICLE XI A.G.R.A. QUESTIONS ON BYLAWS AND GUIDELINES

- 11.1 If a question arises concerning the Bylaws or Guidelines which cannot be immediately answered by any Article or Guideline herein, the question will be referred in writing to the Secretary.
- 11.2 The Secretary shall research the matter using these Bylaws and Guidelines, the minutes of previous meetings, Robert’s Rules of Order, and any other documents or written precedents.
- 11.3 The Secretary shall publish a report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII A.G.R.A. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

- 12.1 Any member(s) wishing to amend an Article, Section, or Subsection of these Bylaws shall forward the proposed amendment in writing to the Secretary.
- 12.2 The Secretary shall review the proposed amendment for legal content and forward the proposed amendment, along with the Secretary’s recommendation, to the Board of Directors.

- 12.3 If the amendment is rejected, the Secretary shall notify the member(s) requesting the amendment and advise them in writing for the reason(s) for rejection.
- 12.4 If the amendment is qualified, the Secretary shall notify the Board of Directors that said amendment has been qualified for a vote of the total membership.
- 12.5 The Secretary shall notify each of the membership that a special membership vote needs to occur on the qualified amendment at their next regularly scheduled membership meeting.
- 12.6 At least twenty (20) days notice of the special membership vote is required.
- 12.7 A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present and voting at the membership meeting shall be required for the amendment to be accepted.
- 12.8 The Secretary shall report to the Board of Directors the tally of votes cast and the number of members present at the meeting.
- 12.9 The Secretary shall inform the membership in writing of the results of the proposed amendment vote listing the total number of members voting and the number of votes for and against.

ARTICLE XIII A.G.R.A. AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES

- 13.1 Any individual member(s) or champion member(s) wishing to amend an Article, Section, or Subsection of these Guidelines shall forward the proposed amendment to the Secretary.
- 13.2 The Secretary shall review the proposed amendment for legal content and forward the proposed amendment, along with his/her recommendation to the Board of Directors.
- 13.3 The Board of Directors shall issue a written opinion either qualifying or rejecting the amendment along with supporting reasons.
- 13.4 If the amendment is rejected, the Secretary shall notify the member(s) requesting the amendment and advise them in writing of the reason(s) for rejection.
- 13.5 If the amendment is qualified, the Secretary shall notify the Board of Directors in writing that said amendment has been qualified for a vote of the total membership.
- 13.6 The Secretary shall notify the membership that a special membership vote needs to occur on the qualified amendment at their next regularly scheduled membership meeting.

13.7 A simple majority vote of the members present and voting at their meeting shall be required for the amendment to be accepted.

ARTICLE XIV AWARDS

Two (2) buckles shall be presented at the annual rodeo each year.

14.1 Greg Olson Memorial Award

A. Description

1. This award is for an outstanding arena or chute crew volunteer.
2. A committee, comprised of the Arena Director, Assistant Arena Director, Arena Crew Coordinator, Chute Coordinator, and Assistant Chute Coordinator, shall select the recipient.
3. The Arena Director will be the Committee Chairperson.

B. Eligibility

1. Must be an arena or chute crew volunteer
2. Cannot be the Arena Director or Chute Coordinator
3. Must work both go rounds of the rodeo
4. Must show interest, enthusiasm, ability to work well with others, and perform duties in an exemplary manner

C. Presentation

1. The Arena Director will give the name of the recipient to the Rodeo Director before the awards ceremony.
2. The Rodeo Director will present the award at the beginning of the awards ceremony.
3. Recipient's name will be published in the A.G.R.A. Newsletter.

14.2 Bob Pimentel Award

A. Description

1. This award is for an outstanding volunteer, in any capacity, outside of the arena and chute areas.
2. The committee will be comprised of all Rodeo Committee members.

B. Eligibility

1. The recipient may be a Rodeo Committee member or a volunteer outside of the arena and chute areas.
2. Recipient may be an A.G.R.A. member or non-member.
3. Must show interest, enthusiasm, ability to work well with others, and perform duties in an exemplary manner.

C. Selection Process

1. The Rodeo Director will distribute ballots to all Rodeo Committee Members.
2. Ballots must be returned to the Rodeo Director by the specified time.
3. The Rodeo Director will only vote in the event of a tie.

D. Presentation

1. The Rodeo Director will present the award at the beginning of the awards ceremony.
2. Recipient's name will be published in the A.G.R.A. Newsletter.

14.3 Member of the Year Award

A. Description

This award will be a buckle.

B. Eligibility

1. Any individual or champion member is eligible to receive this award.
2. Recipient must have been a member in good standing during the preceding membership year.
3. Nominees must have adhered to the A.G.R.A. Bylaws and participated in some manner in any of the various A.G.R.A. activities.

C. Selection Process

1. Written nominations must be submitted to the President by January 25 of the current year.
2. Nomination submittal must include nominee's name and narrative stating reasons for nomination.
3. Ballots and nomination narratives will be distributed to all members in attendance at the Annual Corporation Meeting.
4. The recipient will be the individual receiving the highest number of votes.

AMENDED JULY 16, 2023



ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (A.G.R.A.) *(an organization for men and women)*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW

RENEWAL

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP	CHAMPION MEMBERSHIP
Must complete membership application for new/renewal membership	Must complete membership application for new/renewal membership
<i>Annual Dues:</i> \$25.00 All memberships expire last day of February	<i>Annual Dues:</i> \$150.00 All memberships expire last day of February
<i>Benefits:</i> Receive an A.G.R.A. hat/lapel pin and A.G.R.A. name badge Receive the monthly A.G.R.A. newsletter Entitled to one (1) vote in meetings Entitled to one (1) free dinner at Annual A.G.R.A. Banquet	<i>Benefits:</i> Receive an A.G.R.A. hat/lapel pin and A.G.R.A. name badge Receive the monthly A.G.R.A. newsletter Entitled to one (1) vote in meetings Receive two (2) free dinners at Annual A.G.R.A. Banquet Receive two (2) free admissions to A.G.R.A. sponsored rodeos Listing as Champion Member in rodeo programs

MEMBER INFORMATION

NAME: _____

NICKNAME/ALIAS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: HOME: _____

CELL _____

E-MAIL: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ (REQUIRED)

NEW MEMBERS: HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR NAME TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME BADGE?

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE A.G.R.A. NEWSLETTER (THE BRANDING IRON) ELECTRONICALLY. YES NO

PLEASE DO NOT USE MY NAME FOR MEDIA PURPOSES

SIGNATURE

DATE

*Mail application and check/money order for the appropriate amount & payable to A.G.R.A. to:
A.G.R.A. PO Box 40465 Phoenix AZ 85067-0465 Website: www.agra-phx.com
(Membership records are for A.G.R.A. purposes only and are strictly confidential.)*

OFFICE USE ONLY		OFFICE USE ONLY	
DATE RECEIVED	_____	NAME BADGE:	_____
AMT RECEIVED	_____	Hand Delivered (date)	_____
CHECK/CASH/MONEY ORDER	_____	Mailed: (date)	_____



APPLICATION FOR A.G.R.A. ROYALTY COMPETITION

NAME: _____

AKA: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (HM) () - _____ (HM) () - _____

(WK) () - _____

Designation of Royalty Title:

I am announcing my candidacy for the A.G.R.A. Royalty Title of (check only one (1):

Mr A.G.R.A. Ms A.G.R.A. Miss A.G.R.A. MsTer A.G.R.A.

A.G.R.A. Membership Verified

Vice President's Confirmation

**Items Required/Received
With Application**

A.G.R.A. Royalty Entry Fee (\$25.00)

Charity Beneficiary/Beneficiaries

501c Certificate(s) of Eligibility

**Items Submitted At Least 30
Days Prior to Competition**

Horsemanship Tape

Music Selection (must be cued)

Western Wear Description Card

Written Plan of Action

Competition Eligibility

\$100.00 Raised for 501c Non-Profit

\$300.00 Raised for A.G.R.A.

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

VICE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE