

CONTESTANT GROUND RULES NMHSRA & NMJHRA 2026-2027

1. In your packet you will find a rodeo schedule, ground rules, your back number, and a rule book. Please keep up with your information provided.
2. Academic Eligibility
 - A. Student shall have a 2.0 grade point average with no F's, based on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, for the semester grading period immediately preceding participation. For students not eligible at the semester, the next six- or nine-week grading period can be used to regain eligibility. Grades earned during a summer session must be placed on a student's transcript by the school registrar prior to the first day of the Fall semester for the course to be utilized for eligibility purposes.
 - B. All class work counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation.
 - C. The GPA is based on a 4.0 scale with an allowance for consideration of honor points.
 - D. A Student must be enrolled in at least 51% of the member school's regular class schedule in courses that will be counted towards his/her graduation and in regular attendance during the current as well as the previous semester.
 - E. A report card with the school stamp must be submitted to the secretary at the completion of each semester. If a contestant's academic eligibility is in question, the signatures and grades will be verified with the contestant's school. NMHSRA & NMJHRA is not responsible for any omissions or errors, made by a contestant's school regarding grade and conduct forms signed by the school.
3. Anyone caught providing false documents to NMHSRA & NMJHRA will be expelled from the Association, as per NHSRA rulebook.
4. A current signed report card/progress report will be required 10 days prior to national finals check-in to attend national finals.
5. Your national membership form, national minor's release, and **last report card** (copy) -- **not transcript** must be **postmarked 14 days prior to the rodeo you** are competing in or you will not be allowed to compete. These forms must contain the school stamp and/or the school notary.
6. Entries must be paid online 8 days prior to the rodeo you are entering in to avoid late fees. A \$50.00-dollar late fee per rodeo will be assessed after that. You will have until 5:00 PM the Monday before the rodeo to enter. You can enter anytime up until the Monday deadline, but anything after Friday at 5:00 PM will be assessed the late fee. Entry confirmation is provided once you enter online. It is your responsibility to make sure you keep up with your confirmation number to provide proof you entered on the website. Positively no late entries will be accepted after 5:00 PM Monday night.

7. Attendance is required at the first fall rodeo Mandatory Contestants meeting. Roll call will be taken. Failure to attend this meeting without approval from an executive director will result in a \$50 fine.
8. At any rodeo, you must compete in the performance and section drawn for you.
9. If you draw out of any rodeo after 7:00pm on the Wednesday before the rodeo, you will be required to pay the administration fee, run fee, and stock charge. You will only be refunded your actual entry fees and awards fee. Once your entry is in the online program you are considered entered. If you draw out before 7:00pm on Wednesday you will only forfeit the administration fee. You will forfeit the administration for any type of draw out.
10. A \$100.00 fine has been implemented for the first returned check per family. The family will then be placed on a cash only basis for the remainder of their junior high and high school rodeo career.
11. At the State Finals Rodeo, contestants will pay all entry fees online and any other fees with **cash, money order, or cashier's check** only.
12. For graduation or SAT/ACT testing that conflict with a rodeo, you may request accommodations. **You must notify the entry secretary in writing three weeks before the rodeo.** No accommodations will be allowed after that time. **Absolutely no other accommodations will be made.**
13. If you have disagreement with a ruling in your event, you are to go to the adult event director. Under no circumstances are you or your parent to approach the judge, stock contractor or any other rodeo official, as per page 53 #13 in NHSRA rulebook. If you wish to file a grievance with the ruling, you must file the grievance by the end of the event that performance. There will \$250 charge grievance charge for the board to review your situation.
14. The entry secretary and rodeo officials are employees of the board, not a member of the board. Any harassing, or derogatory comments made to officials will be considered an infraction of the contestant conduct rules in the NHSRA rulebook as per pages 34-38. These infractions will result in disqualification from the next rodeo and dealt with accordingly.
15. Order of events at a rodeo can be changed if needed. It is your responsibility to be on time and ready when you are called.
16. Any contestant, who wishes to compete in the NMHSRA & NMJHRA State Rodeo Queen contest, **MUST** enter and compete in at least one rodeo event and attend a minimum of two rodeos to be eligible. These are the same eligibility rules for all events.

17. Horses shall not be worked around official pattern with or without barrels or poles. Barrels and poles shall be set not less than fifteen (15) feet off markers. Barrels or poles used for practice must be removed from arena and restored to original location. Once the ground has been worked for a performance or slack, no practicing will be permitted.
18. Contestants participating in all events must enter the arena upon call by the announcer. If the contestant does not enter the arena immediately, the 45 second rule will be applied. Forty-five (45) seconds after the first call, a second call will be announced. Forty-five (45) seconds after the second call, a third call will be announced. If the contestant has not entered the arena after the third call, the contestant will receive a no time for the event.
19. For the rodeo season, contestants will take 100% of their regular season accumulated points in each event into the State Finals Rodeo.
20. All contestants competing at the New Mexico High School State Finals will comply with all mandatory check in policies. These policies (ex. check-in, meetings) will be posted on the website. Failure to meet scheduled check-in times will result in disqualification. Appeals for disqualification will heard on an individual basis with the board of directors. Failure to attend mandatory membership meeting will result in a \$250 fine. A \$250 fine will also be imposed for answering roll call for another contestant.
21. Any contestant who qualifies for the NHSRA National Finals Rodeo **MUST** attend the awards presentation and the national qualifier meeting. **Parents or a parental power of attorney will need to be present at this meeting.** All fees pertaining to NHSFR competition will need to be paid in full before your national entry is complete. Inability to follow these conditions will constitute you being replaced with the 5th place contestant. It is mandatory except in the case of an emergency, which would be determined by the discretion of the executive board.
22. If you enter the team roping or ribbon roping open, you must pay an additional stock fee of half the cost of the stock charge for that event. A contestant may only enter the team roping and ribbon roping "open" for four rodeos. Saturday is considered one rodeo and Sunday is considered another rodeo.
23. In the event that a contestant is found by the board to have violated Contestant Disqualification rules (pages 36-38), then the contestant shall be disqualified from the next rodeo which starts after the board makes its finding that a violation has occurred. In the event that a contestant is found by the board to have violated Contestant Disqualification rules during a rodeo season after having already been disqualified for one day, the board may vote to impose a harsher punishment for the subsequent violation. In the event the disqualified contestant is entered in the team roping, then the disqualified contestant's team roping partner may select another team roping partner from among the rodeo contestants not already entered in the team roping, or may have a partner drawn as a helper from those contestants already entered in the team roping. If the disqualified contestant's team roping partner wishes to select a new

partner, the new partner must be designated to the rodeo secretary prior to the start of the rodeo. The designated partner will be eligible for pay back, point, and prizes for that run. In the event that a helper is drawn, the helper is not eligible for points and prizes for that run, but is eligible for payback for that run.

24. Three or more contestants must be entered and compete at 50% of the season rodeos before a year-end saddle will awarded in that event, or at the discretion of event directors with approval from the Executive Board. If 3 or more contestants are not entered at 50% of the rodeo by end of fall semester, the Executive Board will notify the event director that a saddle will not be awarded unless the funds to buy the saddle are raised by the director.

25. Dress code violation policy for contestants and contestant assistance.

A. First warning to all contestant will be given at the membership meeting at the first fall rodeo.

B. 2nd infraction will result in a \$20 fine and each infraction thereafter will result in an additional \$20 fine to the previous fine.

C. This includes the cutting and RCH events held on Friday and Saturday evenings.

26. All roping events will only allow one loop.

27. SOCIAL MEDIA – I understand that social media can be a fun and rewarding way to share your life and activities with family and friends. However, use of social media also presents certain risks and carries certain responsibilities. Please be respectful and post only appropriate and respectful content. Avoid using statements, photographs, and video or audio that reasonably could be viewed as malicious, obscene, and threatening or intimidating, that ridicule other individuals, or that might constitute harassment or bullying or violate any NHSRA conduct policies. Please be aware that violations of these policies may constitute dismissal from the NHSRA & NMHSRA.

*******Any negative comments or posts from contestant or any other family member of contestant (i.e. parent, grandparent, siblings, etc.) will NOT be tolerated and can result in the contestants disqualification. *******