

MGRA BYLAWS & STANDING RULES

Amended: December 19, 2009

Adopted: January 31, 2010



Signed: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE
MISSOURI GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC.

Mission Statement

To promote the country-western lifestyle, produce gay rodeos,
and through related activities, support organizations that benefit
the gay community.

MGRA achieves this mission by:

- Performing charitable duties for the surrounding area through fundraisers, rodeos etc., for any charitable organization the general membership of the corporation shall choose.
- Producing a group of well-rounded individuals interested in western related events (Rodeos, horseback riding, square/western dancing, etc.).
- Being an organization for the entire community, barring all prejudices to sex, national origin, sexual preferences, gender expression, religion, race, or any other prejudices the organization might encounter.
- Establishing a base organization in which members can collectively communicate and work with each other.
- Promoting and supporting gay rodeo or gay country western-related events held anywhere.
- Maintaining a group of people who collectively work on fundraising events and organizational activities who are both professional and proficient.

ARTICLE I: NAME

Pursuant to its Articles of Incorporation under the laws of the State of Missouri, the name of the organization shall be the MISSOURI GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC., and it shall be a not-for-profit corporation as registered with the State of Missouri. As used in these bylaws, the term “MGRA”, “M.G.R.A.”, and “M.G.R.A., Inc.”, “Corporation”, Executive Board of Directors”, “the organization,” shall refer to the Missouri Gay Rodeo Association, Inc.

ARTICLE II: OBJECT AND PURPOSE

The purpose and object for which the corporation is organized and the nature of the business to be carried out by it are as follows:

1. To act as a not-for-profit organization and to function in a 501(c) capacity with a federal tax exempt I.D. number

2. The Corporation shall affiliate itself with the International Gay Rodeo Association, Inc., and other states' organizations that adhere to the objectives and purposes of this organization.
3. No member shall bind this Corporation through joining, representing, or affiliating with any other organization without prior approval of the Executive Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III: CORPORATE STRUCTURE

The corporate power of MGRA shall be administered as provided in this article.

1. Executive Board of Directors
2. Committees
3. Membership

Section 1: Executive Board of Directors Structure

1. Trustee (President—where required by law/legal documentation)
2. Vice-President Rodeo Director
3. Treasurer
4. Corresponding Secretary/Media-Public Relations
5. Recording Secretary/Historian-Archivist
6. Membership Recruitment Officer
7. Volunteer Coordinator/Mobility & Logistics Officer
8. By-Laws/Audit Committee Officer
9. Royalty, Fundraising and Activities Officer
10. Ad hoc Members (non-voting, may be appointed to fill an absence)
 - A. Nomination Committee Chair
 - B. Mr. MGRA
 - C. Miss MGRA
 - D. Ms MGRA
 - E. MsTer MGRA

Section 2: General Executive Board of Directors Responsibilities:

1. It shall be incumbent of all Executive Board of Directors and Standing committee chairpersons to engage in total communication, cooperation and dissemination of information regarding the operation of this Corporation.
2. All Executive Board of Directors and Standing committee chairpersons shall meet within 15 days of election to office to review the bylaws and standing rules of order for their respective office.
3. All Executive Board of Directors and Standing committee chairpersons must attend Executive Board of Director's meeting and Standing committee meetings of which they are a member or chair. In the event they are not able to attend, every effort should be made to appoint a proxy in their place. If they are not able to appoint a proxy, the Trustee may appoint an ad hoc member or member at large as their proxy.

Section 3: Specific Executive Board of Directors Responsibilities

1. Trustee:
 - A. Shall preside at all Executive Board of Directors meetings.
 - B. May sign with any proper officer of the Corporation, authorized by the Executive Board of Directors, any Corporate Documents.
 - C. Shall perform all duties incident to the office and other such duties as may be prescribed.
 - D. Appoint any special committee chairpersons subject to the approval of the Executive Board of Directors.
 - E. Shall be the liaison between MGRA and IGRA and therefore is responsible for attending all trustee meetings required by IGRA, for which reimbursement by the Corporation will be given as outlined in the Standing Rules of Order. The Trustee in turn shall provide a report at each Executive Board of Director's meeting.
 - F. Must appoint a qualified representative to attend any Trustee functions in the event that he/she is unable to attend. If the Trustee is unable or unwilling to appoint a representative, the Vice President (Rodeo Director) shall assume the responsibilities of the Trustee.
 - G. Shall be endowed with the title of President on any legal state documents requiring a president's name and signature.
 - H. Shall be responsible for obtaining and retaining all corporation records or appoint a designate in his/her place.
 - I. May be required to verify membership in the organization at IGRA functions.
 - J. Shall cast a ballot, at the annual election of the Executive Board, to be used only in the event that any of candidates on the ballot receive an equal number of votes.
 - K. Shall be a signer on the Corporation bank account(s)
2. Vice President –Rodeo Director:
 - A. In the absence of the Trustee, inability of the Trustee to perform, refusal of the Trustee to act, or at the direction of the Trustee shall perform the duties of the Trustee.
 - B. Shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties as shall be prescribed.
 - C. Shall be responsible for or direct responsibility for the Rodeo checklist (see Appendix).
 - D. Shall be a signer on the Corporation bank account(s).
3. Treasurer:
 - A. Shall be responsible for all funds of the Corporation
 - B. Shall receive and give receipts for funds due and payable to the Corporation.
 - C. Shall deposit within five (5) days of receipt, all funds in the name of the Corporation, in such bank(s) trust company(s), or such other depository(s) as shall be selected in accordance with the standing rules of order.
 - D. Shall maintain or cause to be maintained, a general ledger accounting record.

- E. Shall prepare a monthly income/expense report for presentation at each regular Executive Board of Directors meeting. The Treasurer must attach a copy of the monthly bank statement to each financial report.
 - F. Shall be responsible for the Annual Report to the Secretary of State's office.
 - G. May sign with any proper officer of the Corporation, authorized by the Executive Board of Directors, any official corporate document.
 - H. The Treasurer shall be bonded before they assume office for a minimum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) at the discretion of the Executive Board of Directors.
 - I. Shall present the financial books for a quarterly audit by the audit committee.
 - J. Shall be a signer on the Corporation bank account(s).
4. Corresponding Secretary Media/Public Relations Committee Chair:
- A. Shall inform the Executive Board of Directors of any significant incoming and outgoing correspondence.
 - B. May be authorized by the Executive Board of Directors to co-sign any corporate documents.
 - C. Shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties as may be prescribed.
 - D. Should the Executive Board of Directors choose to distribute a newsletter, it shall be the responsibility of the Corresponding Secretary to coordinate and distribute the newsletter.
 - E. Shall be responsible for the dissemination of information, whether oral, written or visual as directed by the needs of the Corporation.
 - F. Shall submit to the Executive Board of Directors for approval all press/media releases.
 - G. Coordinate with membership committee to assure the protections of membership (use of name, alias, etc.).
 - H. Use of pictures shall require the approval from the subject and shall be approved by the Executive Board of Directors prior to publication.
 - I. Shall be responsible for final preparation of all other committees' rough draft articles and artwork for all club activities.
 - J. All Advertising should be completed as early as possible prior to scheduled events.
 - K. Shall provide the most current membership roster to IGRA prior to any scheduled rodeos or events.
 - L. May be a signer on the Corporation bank account(s).
5. Recording Secretary/ Historical Committee Chair:
- A. Shall keep the minutes of all Membership Meetings and all Executive Board Meetings.
 - B. Shall preserve a permanent record of all materials received at the Executive Board of Directors level for historical purposes.
 - C. Shall Chair the Historical Committee.
 - D. Shall provide ample copies of the minutes from the previous meeting at the beginning of Executive Board of Directors Meeting.

- E. Shall maintain and provide, when possible at least sixty (60) days in advance, a calendar of events to include:
 - 1) Meetings
 - 2) Executive Board of Directors
 - 3) Standing committees
 - 4) IGRA Rodeos, University & Convention
 - 5) Royalty and Fundraising activities
 - 6) General membership events
 - F. Shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties as may be prescribed.
6. Membership Recruitment Officer:
- A. Shall actively solicit new members.
 - B. Shall assist Corresponding Secretary in the production of the newsletter if one is published.
 - C. Shall serve as liaison to the Executive Board of Directors representing the needs, concerns and suggestions of the membership at large regarding the Corporation.
 - D. Shall promote enthusiasm throughout the organization through the use of t-shirts, pins and/or other sundries.
 - E. Shall bring membership applications and concerns communicated via email (MGRAmembership@yahoo.com) to the Executive Board of Directors.
 - F. Shall insure Membership Applications are available at all MGRA events and also available at local bars, GLBT and GLBT-friendly organizations and events throughout the MGRA territory.
 - G. Shall be responsible for maintaining a membership roster and shall present all applications and a current membership list to the Trustee and Recording Secretary at each meeting.
 - H. Shall be responsible for coordinating with the Recording Secretary a calendar of events and activities in which the general membership may participate.
 - I. All fees and monies collected by the Membership Committee shall be turned over to the Treasurer immediately following the closure of an event, where possible along with an accounts receivable/accounts payable breakdown.
7. Volunteer Coordinator /Mobility & Logistics Officer:
- A. Shall chair the Mobility & Logistics Committee.
 - B. Shall provide all members with information and rates on travel and lodging for scheduled out of town events.
 - C. Shall provide visiting organizations with information and assistance in lodging, rates convenience of location, contact person(s) and phone numbers, and any other helpful information.
 - D. Shall recruit coordinate and support ample volunteers for all days of, prior to and following the Show-Me State Rodeo as needed.
 - E. Shall assist in recruiting and securing volunteers as needed for additional events throughout the year.

8. By-laws/Auditing Officer:
 - A. Shall chair the By-laws/Audit Committee
 - B. Shall be responsible for maintaining and publishing the current Constitution, By-laws and Standing Rules of the Missouri Gay Rodeo Association.
 - C. Shall chair the quarterly audit of the Treasurer's books and be responsible for submitting recommendations for additional controls, as needed, to the Executive Board of Directors.
 - D. Shall make reports available as needed at the Executive Board of Director's meetings.
9. Royalty, Fundraising and Activities Officer:
 - A. Shall chair the Rodeo Events and Entertainment/Dance Committees.
 - B. Shall be in charge of the Mr., Ms, Miss and MsTer MGRA Program and Country/Western Dance Contest following all the rules set forth.
 - C. Shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties as shall be prescribed.
 - D. As Fundraising chair, shall be responsible for ideas and concepts of raising monies to be procured for the operation of the organization and work cooperatively with all other committees.
 - E. Shall be responsible for coordinating with the Recording Secretary a calendar of fundraising events and activities for the membership at large to participate in, in order to prevent conflict of activities.
 - F. Shall be responsible for coordinating with the Recording Secretary a calendar of such training and instruction opportunities.
 - G. Shall coordinate with the Volunteer Coordinator to provide opportunities for entertainment, both from within the organization and from visiting royalty or additional outside sources, during the rodeo weekend and days immediately preceding if possible.
 - H. Shall coordinate dance competitions held within the MGRA territory.
10. Ad hoc members of the Executive Board of Directors:
 - A. Shall be non-voting members of the Executive Board of Directors.
 - B. May be called upon by voting members of the Executive Board or Directors to serve as proxies in the event of an absence from a scheduled meeting.
 - C. May be appointed by the Trustee to serve as proxies in the event of an absence of a voting member of the Executive Board of Directors in order to fulfill a quorum.
 - D. Ad hoc members include:
 - 1) Nominations Committee Chair
 - 2) Current Reigning Mr., Ms., MsTer, and Miss MGRA
 - 3) Runners-up to current reigning Mr., Ms., MsTer, and Miss MGRA

Section 4: Standing Committees

1. The following standing committees shall meet as needed or as directed by the Executive Board of Directors:
 - A. Fundraising Committee:
 - 1) Chaired by Royalty, Fundraising and Activities Officer.
 - 2) Current Mr., Ms., MsTer, and Miss MGRA including all runners-up shall be members of the committee.
 - 3) Responsibilities shall include planning of fundraising shows and events, coordinating the scheduling of such with Recording Secretary.
 - B. Media/Public Relations Committee:
 - 1) Shall be chaired by the Corresponding Secretary.
 - 2) Current Mr., Ms., MsTer, and Miss MGRA including all runners-up, and Vice President of Membership shall be members of the committee.
 - 3) Any member in good standing may serve on the committee.
 - 4) Responsibilities shall include establishing contacts and working relationships with other local groups and media in the community as well as for all promotional items of MGRA i.e. T-shirts, logo pins.
 - C. Membership Committee:
 - 1) Shall be chaired by the Membership Recruitment Officer.
 - 2) Any member in good standing may serve on the committee.
 - 3) Responsibilities shall include recruitment and retention of the membership at large as well as planning membership recruitment drives.
 - D. Rodeo Events/Entertainment and Dance Committee:
 - 1) Shall be chaired by the Royalty, Fundraising and Activities Officer.
 - 2) Current Mr., Ms., MsTer, and Miss MGRA including all runners-up shall be members of the committee.
 - 3) The Rodeo Director or the Assistant Rodeo Director may serve on the committee. Any member in good standing may serve on the committee.
 - 4) Responsibilities shall include instruction of members in rodeo, gymkhana, country dancing events and providing entertainment at rodeo and fund raising events. Additionally, the committee shall be responsible for carrying an open dialogue with other groups affiliated with IGRA to help formulate national competitive guidelines.
 - E. Bylaws/Audit Committee:
 - 1) Shall be chaired by the By-Laws/Audit Committee Officer.
 - 2) Any member in good standing may serve on the committee. For purposes of the audit, he committee shall consist of at least two (2) members who are not signers on the Corporation bank account(s) who are appointed for a period of one (1) year by the Trustee.

- 3) Responsibilities shall include the following:
 - a) Maintain and publish the current Constitution and Bylaws of MGRA.
 - b) Maintain and publish the current Standing Rules of MGRA.
 - c) Compose proposed changes to the Bylaws or Standing Rules and present the new language to the Executive Board of Directors.
 - d) Amend the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules as approved by the Executive Board of Directors.
 - e) Shall audit the Treasurer's books on a quarterly basis and make recommendations for additional controls if necessary.
 - f) Shall initial on the face of the Treasurer's Report that no discrepancies have been noted.
 - g) Shall make a written report available to all Executive Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting.

F. Nominations and Election Committee:

- 1) The Nominations Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and a minimum of three (3) members in good standing.
- 2) The Nominations Committee shall be appointed by the Trustee by March 1st.
- 3) The Trustee shall not be a member of the Nominations Committee.
- 4) No member of the Nominations Committee shall be on the Committee's presented list of candidates for office on the Executive Board of Directors. Although, members of the committee may be nominated for any office by the membership at large.
- 5) Shall count and tabulate the ballots at the annual election of the Executive Board and present to the Trustee the names of the individuals who received a majority of the votes for each position on the ballot.

Section 5: Membership

1. Membership in this Corporation shall be attained by completing the official MGRA membership application form approved by the Executive Board and payment of the fee set by the same body.
2. Applications will be processed by the MGRA Membership Committee within ten (10) days of receipt and all monies will be deposited within a timely manner.
3. Memberships shall not be transferable from one member to another member.
4. The terms "member in good standing" and "active member" mean a member whose membership fee is paid in full and who has not conducted injurious activities to the Corporation or its purposes, misrepresented, defrauded, or committed theft from the Corporation or its members.

5. An inactive member of this Corporation is a member who is more than thirty (30) days delinquent in the renewal of his/her membership fees after December 31st. An inactive member is not entitled to vote or any other privileges afforded to active members. It is the responsibility of the Membership Committee to retain as many active members as possible. Reinstatement from “inactive status” will be effective on the date payment of the membership fee is received.
6. The words “fee” and “dues” have the same meaning in these Corporation Bylaws.
7. Classes of Membership
 - A. Active Membership:
 - 1) An active membership must submit a membership application with the required fee.
 - 2) Dues for yearly membership will be \$25.00 effective.
 - 3) Active membership applications received on or after September 1 will be afforded membership for the current and following calendar year.
 - 4) May receive MGRA News via e-mail if requested.
 - 5) May participate in any and all organizational matters.
 - 6) Shall be entitled to participate in all IGRA events as prescribed by the IGRA Bylaws and Standing Rules.
 - B. Partner Membership:
 - 1) A partner membership must submit membership applications (for each partner) with the required fee.
 - 2) To be considered for a partner membership both parties must share the same residence.
 - 3) May receive MGRA News via e-mail if requested.
 - 4) May participate in any and all organizational matters.
 - 5) Dues for yearly partner memberships will be \$40.00.
 - 6) Shall be entitled to participate in all IGRA events as prescribed by the IGRA Bylaws and Standing Rules.
 - 7) Partner Memberships received on or after September 1 shall be processed as active (individual) memberships, and shall remain active until December 31st of the same year.
 - C. Corporate Membership:
 - 1) A corporate member must submit a membership application with the required fee.
 - 2) Dues for yearly corporate membership will be \$100.00. This includes membership for up to 3 people as well as recognition in MGRA News and on the Association website.
 - 3) May receive MGRA News via e-mail if requested.
 - 4) May participate in any and all organizational matters.
 - 5) Shall be entitled to participate in all IGRA events as prescribed by the IGRA Bylaws and Standing Rules.

- D. Honorary Membership:
 - 1) Honorary membership shall be held by persons who have shown continuous dedication to MGRA, Inc. and may be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Board of Directors of the Corporation.
 - 2) Honorary members shall not be entitled to a vote or to hold any executive Board of Directors office or standing committee chairmanship.
- 8. Evidence of Membership
 - A. Membership cards, certificates, and/or badges evidencing membership will be issued as appropriate to members in good standing. The date on the membership card will reflect the exact date dues were submitted and the date of expiration.
 - B. Numbering of membership cards will be as follows:
 - Executive Board of Directors members 001-011
 - Ad hoc Board members 012-025
 - Honorary members 025-050
 - Corporate members 051-100
 - At Large members 100-999
- 9. Liability Waiver and Insurance
MGRA, Inc. assumes no responsibilities and the enactment of the waiver procedures shall endure.

Section 6: Membership/Executive Board of Directors Disciplinary Action

- 1. Forms of Discipline:
 - A. Reprimand and signed written notification
 - B. Determination of office eligibility
 - C. Termination of office if so held
 - D. Termination of membership
 - E. Terms of reprimand determined by respective Executive Board.
- 2. Offences:
 - A. Conduct injurious to the corporation or its purposes, misrepresentation, fraud, theft from the Corporation or its members.
 - B. Officers who purposely neglect to fulfill their duties while in office.
 - C. Speaking or releasing any information to media without Executive Board of Directors approval.
 - D. Entering into any contract for any organization activity or a MGRA State Rodeo without prior approval from the Executive Board of Directors or the MGRA State Rodeo Director.
- 3. Disciplinary Procedure:
 - A. Written charges must be filed with the Trustee within fifteen (15) days of any incident by at least two (2) members of the Corporation.
 - B. The Trustee will review the complaint with the sole purpose of sending written notification of the allegations lodged against the member. The notification will be sent with a return receipt.

- C. The member will have fifteen days from the date of the return receipt to respond in writing to the Trustee regarding the allegations.
 - D. After the Trustee receives the written response from the member, the Trustee will call a meeting of the Executive Board.
 - 1) All Executive Board members will receive a copy of both the allegation letter and the response letter.
 - 2) All information is to remain confidential. Discussion of the incident will only be discussed during the Executive Board meeting addressing the allegations.
 - E. The Executive Board will review the charges and execute disciplinary when such action is deemed appropriate.
 - 1) The meeting will be closed to the general membership.
 - 2) Both parties maybe called to testify in front of the Executive Board.
 - F. The Corresponding Secretary will notify both parties of the outcome within fifteen (15) days after the meeting of the Executive Board.
 - G. In the event, the allegations are against an Executive Board member, the member will be excluded from participating in the review of the charges.
4. Right of Appeal:
- A. Any disciplinary action may be appealed to the Executive Board of Directors in writing within thirty (30) days of notification of the Board's decision.
 - B. The decision of the Executive Board of Directors will be final.

ARTICLE IV: Corporate Responsibilities

- A. Subject to the provisions of the Missouri Not-For-Profit Corporation Law and any limitations in the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws relating to action required to be approved by the members, the business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed, and all corporate powers shall be exercised by, or under the direction of the Executive Board of Directors.
- B. The Executive Board of Directors, in addition to the authority and the powers expressly conferred upon them by these bylaws, may exercise all action for and on behalf of the Corporation not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Missouri, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, or any duly enacted resolution of the members.
- C. The Executive Board of Directors may delegate to any committee or officer, any portion of its power, subject to any limitation imposed by the Missouri Not-For-Profit Corporation Law or which the Executive Board may see fit to impose.
- D. The Executive Board of Directors may adopt, make, and use the MGRA, Inc. logo, prescribe the forms of membership certificates, membership cards, and membership application, and alter the form of the logo and certificates.

- E. The Executive Board of Directors may borrow money and incur indebtedness on behalf of the Corporation and cause to be executed and delivered for the Corporation's purposes and in the corporate name promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, and other evidences of debt and securities.
- F. The Executive Board of Directors may manage in such a manner as they deem best, all funds and property, real and personal, received and acquired by the Corporation; and to distribute, loan, or dispense the same and/or income and profit there from.
- G. The Executive Board of Directors may authorize any officer(s) to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.
- H. All funds of the Corporation shall be deposited to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Executive Board of Directors may select.
- I. The Executive Board of Directors will be responsible for the membership records and applications, membership cards, reviewing all bylaw changes, and shall maintain the MGRA state membership list for presentation at IGRA conventions and IGRA approved rodeos where a membership list is necessary.
- J. The Executive Board of Directors will meet once every two (2) months to conduct necessary business. The next meeting location will be voted on by the delegates of the Executive Board of Directors at the previous meeting.
- K. The Executive Board of Directors will oversee any IGRA sanctioned events held within its territory.
- L. The delegates to the IGRA Annual Convention will be selected by the Executive Board of Directors.
- M. All voting will be done by a majority vote, unless otherwise stated.
- N. A simple majority shall constitute the minimum number of board members that must be present to conduct business.

ARTICLE V: ELECTION PROCESS

Section 1: Requirements

- A. All candidates that are presented to the general membership for an Executive Board of Directors office must be a member in good standing of MGRA for a period of no less than six (6) months unless waived by the Executive Board of Directors with all dues current and paid in full.
- B. A person convicted of a felony, or on parole or probation cannot hold an Executive Board of Directors office. The Executive Board of Directors may waive this condition as situation deems.

Section 2: General

- A. Election of the Executive Board of Directors officers and Standing Committee Chairs shall be by secret ballot.
 - 1. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect.

2. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for a position on the Executive Board, the Trustee's ballot shall be opened by the Nominations and Election Committee chair and that ballot shall be used to satisfy the requirements of the election.
 3. A vacancy which may occur in any Executive Board of Directors Officers or Standing Committees Chairs shall be filled by:
 - a) Temporary appointment by the Trustee.
 - b) Duration of said appointment shall be only until the next Executive Board of Directors meeting at which time an open election shall be immediately held.
- B. In the event of a vacancy in the position of Trustee
1. A special meeting of the Executive Board of Directors shall be called as expeditiously as possible to nominate a replacement Trustee.
 2. Duration of said appointment shall be until the end of the current term.

Section 3: Terms

- A. The Executive Board of Directors shall be elected for a one (1) year term by process of ballot by the general membership on the date and process set for by the MGRA Executive Board of Directors.
- B. The Standing Committee Chairpersons shall be elected during the elections meeting and be elected for a one (1) year term by process of ballot by the general membership on the date and process set forth by the MGRA Executive Board of Directors.
- C. The Trustee will serve for three years in accordance with the IGRA term of service.

Section 4: Election Dates

- A. The Executive Board shall set the date for elections a minimum of forty-five (45) days prior to the election.
 1. November shall typically be the election month.
 2. In the event there is an unforeseen conflict, the Executive Board may change the month with unanimous approval of the board.
- B. Nominations for Trustee must be received by the nominations chair in August of the last year of the Trustee's term of service.
 1. The Executive Board shall elect a Trustee at the same meeting as elections of officers and committee chairs.
 2. The Trustee shall not be eligible to hold any other Executive Board position.

Section 5: Members Eligible to Vote

The right to vote in any election of the Corporation shall be reserved for all active members who are entitled by these bylaws to a vote and who have paid in full all current membership fees and dues sixty (60) days prior to any election.

There will be NO absentee or proxy votes allowed.

Section 6: Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy of an Executive Board of Directors Officer or Rodeo Director, the position will be filled by a temporary appointment by the Trustee. The duration of the said appointment shall be only until the next general Executive Board of Directors meeting, at which time an open election shall be immediately held.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

Section 1: General

- A. The Corporation shall adhere to any and all laws and/or statues of the State of Missouri, now or to come, pertaining to corporate open, special, and executive meetings.
- B. Minutes of all general membership meetings of this Corporation shall be kept by the State Recording Secretary for inclusion into the corporate records.
- C. All voting shall be by Roberts Rules of Order, Revised and subsequent editions.
- D. The membership rolls shall be open for inspection prior to any Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- E. The presiding officer of any meeting shall not vote except in the case of a tie, and in that case he/she shall cast the deciding vote.
- F. No absentee or proxy votes shall be allowed.

Section 2: Regular Meetings – Executive Board of Directors

The Executive Board of Directors shall meet at least once every two (2) months or at the special call of the Trustee.

Section 4: Special Meetings

- A. In order for the general membership to call a special meeting, a petition with the signatures of a voting quorum of the membership in good standing, as recorded in the files of the Recording Secretary, must be presented at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Board of Directors. The Board shall act upon said petition, requiring a seventy-five (75) percent majority vote of the Board.
- B. The Trustee of this Corporation, with no less than a quorum vote of the members of the Executive Board of Directors, may call a special meeting of the Executive Board of Directors.
- C. A special meeting of the Executive Board of Directors may be called with a quorum vote of the Executive Board of Directors requiring the State Trustee to call a special meeting.

Section 5: Standing Committee Meetings

The Chairpersons of any standing committee may call, at their discretion, regular or special meetings of said committee.

ARTICLE VII: CLUB INSIGNIA(S), COLORS, FLAG(S), AND BADGES

Section 1: General

- A. MGRA insignia and colors (Blue and Silver) were established in 1986 and will remain as presented.
- B. Any changes in use of MGRA insignia, flags, banner, or colors must be approved by the Executive board.

ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the sole parliamentary authority used by said corporation.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

Section 1: Bylaws/Special Considerations

- A. All amendments to these by-laws shall be presented in writing at any Executive Board meeting to all members of the board eligible to vote for terminology and interpretation.
- B. A majority vote of the eligible Executive Board Members present at a meeting scheduled at least fourteen (14) days after the date of presentation shall constitute adoption of the proposed amendment.
- C. All by-law changes become effective immediately after approval by the Executive Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the 1st day of January and end at midnight on the 31st day of December of each calendar year.

ARTICLE XI: AUTHORITY

These bylaws except as otherwise stated, shall be governed by the provisions of Roberts Rules of Order, and shall become effective immediately upon adoption and supersede all previous bylaws.

Appendix A

Rodeo Director Checklist

Required Contracts

- Host hotel
- Ambulance
- Rodeo Arena
- Stock Contractor
- ASCAP
- Liquor License
- Porta-Potties

Arena Equipment

- Camp event supplies
- Flour
- Rabbit pellets
- Barrels
- Ropes
- Officials' vests
- Poles
- Shovels
- Hay and shavings
- Wheelbarrows
- Radios
- Riderless Horse supplies
- Timing light
- Sound equipment

Secretarial Supplies

- Stopwatches
- Officials' vests
- Needed office supplies
- Appropriate waivers
- Badges

Entertainment Hall

- Liquor
- Bar supplies
- Bartenders
- Ice
- Sound equipment/disc jockey
- Soda
- Bottled water
- Drink tickets
- Ticket sellers
- Silent auction supplies

Personnel Matters

- Assistant Rodeo Director
- Officials and Timers
- Hotel rooms for Officials
- Registration Crew
- Grand Entry Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Clean-Up Crew Volunteers
- Flag Bearers for Grand Entry

Advertising and Prizes

- Buckles
- Ribbons
- Programs
- Promotional advertisements
- Tri-folds
- Posters

APPENDIX B
STANDING RULES OF ORDER
OF THE
MISSOURI GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, INC

ANNUAL ROYALTY COMPETITION

Section 1: Requirements for Participation in the Candidate Program

- A. Submit an application for candidacy, including a \$40.00 application fee.
Applications may be obtained online at www.mgra.us, through the MGRA Yahoo Group, or from the MGRA Vice President of Royalty and Fundraising.
- B. Raise \$200.00 for MGRA through the individual's personal efforts for fundraising.
 - 1. Individuals who are regular members of a club show may not use that performance toward the personal fundraising requirement.
 - 2. Individuals who do not perform in fundraising shows may use other means available to make money during such shows. For example: Selling jello shots or organizing a silent auction.
 - 3. The development of new, unique fundraising ideas is encouraged.
 - 4. The \$200.00 fundraising amount must be turned in no later than 45 days prior to the Royalty Competition.
- C. Must volunteer for MGRA's Show-Me State Rodeo as well as one (1) additional rodeo.
- D. No later than 45 days prior to the Royalty Competition, each applicant intending to enter the competition must submit a \$20.00 entry fee along with a check list verification that all participation requirements have been met.

Section 2: Judges

- A. Judges shall be out-of-state members of IGRA who are knowledgeable in the areas of horsemanship, western apparel, male and female impersonation and interview processes. The panel of judges shall consist of a minimum of three (3) judges who are selected by the Executive Board of Directors. Only under extreme circumstances will members of MGRA be used as judges. Such judges will be chosen by the Executive Board of Directors in a special session which may be communicated online, via email.
- B. In each contest category, each contestant's score will be determined by calculating the average of the scores recorded by the judges for that contestant.

Section 3: Competition

- A. All contestants must be a member, in good standing, of MGRA by February 1 of the competition year.
- B. All contestant applications and all check lists to verify completion of candidate requirements will be reviewed by the MGRA Executive Board to

determine validity. After the review, the Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Board of Directors will notify each contestant of the status of their entry. Notification will be in writing, to the contestant's home address of record, and will be mailed no later than 30 days prior to the Royalty Competition. If there is an issue with a candidate's eligibility, that candidate will have fourteen (14) days from the date on the notification letter to correct the situation and notify the Executive Board of Directors.

- C. All Contestants must compete in the categories of entertainment, personal interview, western wear, public presentation and IGRA horsemanship. Contestants will not accept tips during any segment of the competition.
- D. All competition entertainment must be country-western in nature and is not to exceed five (5) minutes in length. There will be two (2) points deducted by each judge for going over the five (5) minute time limit.
- E. Interview and public presentation questions will be written for the judges by the Executive Board of Directors members.
- F. MGRA by-laws and answers to the interview questions will be available at the competition.
- G. Before the beginning of personal interview competition, all contestants shall submit a sealed envelope containing a plan of action for the year of their reign. Failure to comply shall result in a two (2) point deduction from each judge in the personal interview category.
- H. All contestants must earn a minimum of sixty percent (60%) of the total points possible in each category to be considered a title winner.
- I. The date and location of the MGRA Royalty Contest held in November of each year at a date and location to be determined.
- J. A crown, sash and buckle will be awarded to the appropriate title winners. The runners up will receive a sash only.

Section 4: Titleholder Responsibilities

- A. Each Titleholder will be a member of the following committees:
 - 1. Media / Public Relations
 - 2. Fundraising
 - 3. Rodeo Events / Entertainment and Dance.
- B. Each Titleholder must fulfill the following obligations during the Title year:
 - 1. Title Winner:
 - a. Represent MGRA at two (2) IGRA sanctioned rodeos.
 - b. Participate in a minimum of two (2) MGRA fundraisers.
 - c. Raise a minimum of \$500 for the Corporation.
 - d. Fulfill IGRA obligations.
 - e. Work at MGRA's Show-Me State Rodeo on the days immediately prior to, during, and immediately following Rodeo Weekend. This includes set-up day through clean-up day.
 - 2. Title Runners Up:
 - a. Represent MGRA at one (1) IGRA sanctioned rodeos.
 - b. Participate in a minimum of two (2) MGRA fundraisers.

- c. First Runner Up must raise a minimum of \$300 for the Corporation. Second and subsequent runners up must raise a minimum of \$200 for the Corporation.
- d. Work at MGRA's Show-Me State Rodeo on the days immediately prior to, during, and immediately following Rodeo Weekend. This includes set-up day through clean-up day.
- e. All current reigning title winners will represent MGRA in the International Royalty Competition. After IGRA prerequisites have been met, the International Royalty Competition entry fee will be paid by the Corporation. If the contestant then fails to compete, the amount of the entry fee will be reimbursed to the Corporation, by the contestant, before December 31 of that year.
- f. The term of representation will be from January 1 through December 31.
- g. All current reigning titleholders shall be aware that all tips and donations raised while performing at any event produced by, or in support of MGRA, will be given to MGRA.
- h. All titleholders and candidates are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which demonstrates respect for their position and membership with MGRA.
- i. Any titleholder not fulfilling their obligations or submitted plan of action will be subject to removal by the Executive Board of Directors. After all charges and claims have been submitted and reviewed by the Executive Board of Directors, a 2/3 majority vote is required for removal. If removal is necessary, or in the event a titleholder voluntarily steps down, the title will be passed on to the next runner-up. All appointments (i.e. buckles, tiaras, sashes) must be returned to an MGRA Executive Board of Directors officer within thirty (30) days.