

**AWPRA By-Laws
2010
Revised February 2010**

The Arizona Women's Professional Rodeo Association (AWPRA) is governed by the national rules of the Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA). The following By-Laws have been established to govern the AWPRA:

**ARTICLE I
MEMBERSHIP**

A. Eligibility

1. Membership shall be limited to card, permit holders and juniors in good standing in the WPRA and AWPRA.
2. Membership is limited to those WPRA members actually residing in Arizona.
 - a. In addition, members must claim the Turquoise Circuit as their circuit.
 - b. Members changing their residency must submit a letter to the Secretary as Per Article X, Paragraph D.
 - c. A list of members owing any debts to the AWPRA will be kept and passed on to the new secretary-dues will not be accepted from anyone on the list.
3. Members shall not belong to any other state chapter of the WPRA.

B. Membership Fee and Calendar

1. Annual dues are \$30.00 prior to February 1, after this date the annual dues will be \$50.00. First time members will remain at \$30.00.
2. Elected Officers and Directors will be exempt from paying dues.
3. The AWPRA year will end the same as the WPRA.

C. Members' Rights and Responsibilities

1. Definition of "member in good standing" is a member who has no outstanding financial obligation to the chapter and is in good standing with the WPRA.
2. Members in good standing shall have the following rights:
 - a. Vote
 - b. Hold Office
 - c. Serve on committees
 - d. Accumulate points toward year-end awards.
 - e. Enjoy any other privileges limited to Chapter members
3. Members including juniors have the following responsibilities to the Chapter:
 - a. Work at four (4) AWPRA events and when asked to do so
 - b. Participate in all fund-raising efforts
 - c. Secure a \$50.00 donation to be turned in by June 15, after that date it increases to \$100.00.

D. Suspension of Membership:

Membership in the AWPR is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, any membership or application for membership may be suspended, terminated, or rejected by the Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of the association, its programs, policies, objective, and harmonious relationship of its members.

Article II Elected Offices

A. General Information

1. All AWPR members in good standing may run for an office.
 - a. EXCEPTIONS:
 - Presidential candidates must have served at least one term on the Board of Directors.
2. Officers shall be elected by a popular vote.
3. Officers shall hold office for a term of two years. There is no limit to the number of terms a member can hold any position.
4. Officers shall sit on the Board of Directors and have a vote on all Chapter business.
5. Officers shall be exempt from paying dues.
6. President and Vice President shall be cardholders. (If no cardholder accepts the office of Vice-President, a permit holder may hold office if approved by the Board and National Office.)

B. President

1. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer.
2. She shall call membership meetings as needed and preside over them.
3. She shall see that all By-Laws of the Chapter and WPR rules are enforced.
4. She shall form committees and appoint chairwomen for any issue she deems important.
5. She shall be the ex-officio member of all committees.
6. She shall preside at all Board meetings.

C. Vice-President

1. The Vice-President shall have the powers and perform the duties of the President in her absence.
2. She shall oversee the work of all committees.
3. She shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

D. Secretary/Treasurer

1. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings or appoint another to do so if she is unable to attend.
2. She shall keep a list of all current members.
3. She shall acquire all results as needed and keep up-to-date record of cardholder's championship standings, junior standings, and 4-D standings.
4. She shall prepare a financial statement yearly.
5. She shall reimburse officers and members for any expenses incurred through AWPR work. She shall collect receipts before issuing checks.

E. Permit Representative

1. The Permit Representative shall represent all permit holders in matters that pertain to them.
2. She shall acquire permit results as needed and tabulate money won as well as points awarded.
3. She shall ensure that the web master has all important information pertaining to be to permit holders. This will include permit results and current permit standings.

F. Web Master

1. Shall maintain and update the website and keep news current.
2. Shall keep standings posted as she receives them.
3. The web master should carry some or all of the following items:
 - a. Any officer's news
 - b. Current Card, Permit, and Junior standings
 - c. Sponsors
 - d. Meeting notices
 - e. Upcoming events and approved barrel races
 - g. Any other information of interest to the membership

G. Directors

1. There shall be three Directors, each representing a different region of Arizona.
 - a. The Northern Director will be responsible for members and events in the Northern part of the state.
 - b. The Central Director will be responsible for the members and events in the Central part of the state.
 - c. The Southern Director will be responsible for the members and events in the Southern part of the state.
 - d. The Junior Director will be responsible for the junior members. The junior director must be a junior member.
2. Directors shall make decisions on behalf of the members they represent when called upon to do so by the President.
3. Directors shall preside over membership meetings in the absence of the President and Vice-President.
4. Directors shall be responsible for all details of events in their region including, but not limited to, publicity, tractoring services, timers, PA system, and barrel markers.
5. Directors shall report directly to the President on a periodic basis concerning events and issues in their region.
6. Must schedule at least 4 events in each region.

H. Succession

1. If the President resigns or is unable to serve out her term, the Vice-President will assume the President's office.
2. If any other officer resigns, the Board will have the following options:
 - a. fill the vacancy with a volunteer or board appointed

**ARTICLE III
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

The AWPRA shall hold bi-annual election of officers.

A. Nominations

1. Nomination ballots will be posted on website by September 1st and will close on September 15th.
2. Election ballots will be posted September 16th and close on September 30th.
3. All members including juniors can nominate one candidate for each office.
4. Go to www.awpra.com to vote.

B. Transition

1. Newly elected officers take office immediately following the year-end awards banquet.
2. The President and Secretary/Treasurer of the previous year shall meet with the new officers at a time convenient for all, preferably before January 1.
3. The outgoing Secretary shall ensure that the newly elected officers who will be responsible for writing checks sign a signature card that she shall then submit to the Chapter's bank.

**ARTICLE IV
MEETINGS**

A. Scheduling

1. It shall be Chapter policy to have periodic meetings throughout the year or when deemed necessary.
2. The President shall be responsible for calling meetings.
3. If the President is unable to preside over a meeting, that responsibility will fall upon the Vice-President. In the event she is unable to preside over the meeting, a Director can fill in for her.
4. Notice of meetings must be published on the web, including the time and place of the meeting. Such notice shall be given a minimum of two weeks before the meeting.

B. Subjects and Voting

1. All AWPRA business may be transacted at any meeting provided that sufficient notice of the meeting was given (See Rule A, Item #4 above).
2. Quorum for voting purposes is defined as one-quarter of the total membership.
3. If a quorum is not present at a meeting when an issue is presented which those members in attendance feel should be decided by a quorum, the matter shall be tabled and a ballot will be posted on the web for one week.

C. Attendance

1. Members on grounds but not in attendance during an AWPRA general membership meeting will be fined \$25.00.
2. Members not on grounds during a meeting are excused from attendance.

**ARTICLE V
COMMITTEES AND APPOINTED OFFICES**

A. General Information

1. The President shall have power to form special committees, as she deems necessary.
 - a. She shall appoint chairwomen for the committees.
 - b. She shall serve as an ex-officio member.
2. The Vice-President will oversee the work of all committees and serve as an ex-officio member.
3. Chairwomen are responsible for forming their committees and choosing committee members. Each committee shall consist of at least three members.
4. Committee decisions may be made without membership vote.
5. Committees will make periodic reports to the Vice-President and Board of Directors.

B. Committees

1. The following committees are recommended:
 - a. Rules Revision Committee
 - Meets at the beginning of the New Year to suggest any changes to by-laws, which are then voted on by the board of directors and sent to the WPRA for approval.
 - b. Awards/Donations Committee
 - Receives and stores all donations.
 - Turns in list of members who have not sent donations on June 16 to President.
 - Keeps a record of how many donations each member has secured for the purpose of awarding the Most Donations Award at the end of the year.
 - Sends thank you notes for all donations received.
 - Plans awards for year-end banquet.
 - c. Publicity Committee Director
 - Responsibility for all Chapter publicity including, but not limited to, interesting articles to newspapers, magazines, etc. and flyers about upcoming AWPRAs events.

**ARTICLE VI
AWPRA CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS**

A. Point Systems

1. Only points accumulated in WPRA sanctioned barrel races held in Arizona and the AWPRAs Chapter Finals will count toward championship standings.
2. Points will not begin to accumulate until after Chapter dues are paid to the Secretary/Treasurer or any board member.
3. Card Holder's Points
 - a. Points for year-end awards will be accumulated on a dollar won basis.
 - b. The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for keeping track of member's points.
4. Permit Holder's Points
 - a. There will be money won award system and a point system.
 - b. Points will be awarded on the basis of the number of AWPRAs permit contestants

entered at a function, regardless of the number of contestants who turn out or are disqualified. Each go and average at two go-round events will be counted for points.

- Example: 10 or more permit members entered in a barrel race, the fastest permit runner receives 10 points, second fastest receives 9 points... tenth place receives 1 point.
- c. Contestants who turn out or are disqualified cannot earn points.
- d. Only contestants with qualified runs will get points.
- e. In the event a permit holder fills her first permit she must purchase a second permit to continue receiving credit for monies won. If she holds her first permit she is still eligible to compete at the finals and receive her year-end rewards based on monies won before she filled her permit.
- Such member is responsible for notifying the Secretary and Permit Representative, in writing, of her change in status.
 - Money won will not be counted until Secretary receives such notice.
- f. In the event a permit holder fills her permit but chooses to buy a second permit rather than a card; she will keep all accumulated points and may continue to be eligible for permit awards.
- g. A permit holder will be allowed to buy a third permit to finish the year, and maintain her eligibility for permit awards, however a third permit will cause a forfeit of all awards and rookie status the following year.
- h. The Permit Representative will record points and money won.

ARTICLE VII YEAR-END AWARDS

- A. The awards committee will decide what will be awarded for year end and approved by the President.
- B. Members must be in good standing at year-end and have worked a minimum of four times during the year and have a \$50.00 donation in by June 15th (on June 16th it will increase to \$100.00) to be eligible for year end awards. Thus, any member receiving a fine at the AWPRC Finals must pay the fine before the awards banquet.
- C. Award winners must be present at the awards banquet to receive their prizes, unless they are up at a PRCA rodeo or they have been excused by a vote of the Board of Directors prior to the finals. Award winners who do not attend and are not excused will lose their awards.
1. Top 10 awards should be given to the 11th ranked member.
 2. Other awards should be distributed equally among the other award winners when possible.
- D. The following awards should be given each year (suggested prizes are included in parenthesis but should be given only if financially feasible):
1. Card Holders Championship (Saddle)
 2. Permit Holders Championship (Saddle)
 3. Junior Championship (Saddle)
 4. Card Holders Reserve Championship (Buckle)
 5. Permit Holders Reserve Championship (Buckle)
 6. Junior Reserve Championship (Buckle)
 7. High Point Permit Holder for highest point winner who has not won any money (Buckle)

8. Rookie of the Year for high money winning 1st year card holder (Buckle)
9. Top 10 Awards for Card Holders, Permit Holders and Junior's.
 - In the event that less than ten permit holders win money through out the course of the year, fill the remaining Top 10 spots with the high point winners who have not won any money
10. President's Award
11. Chapter Awards-given to every member in good standing
12. Best Ground Award-voted by the members and presented to the rodeo committee
13. Special Awards-voted by the members
 - a. Most AWPRA events attended
 - b. Best Dressed at the Finals
 - c. Most Donations Award-kept on dollar value basis
 - d. Most Improved Rider
 - e. Most Improved Horse
 - f. Most Valuable Member
 - g. Horse with the Most Heart

E. Eligibility

1. To be eligible for championship standings and membership awards all members must be in good standing.
2. Members must work a minimum of four AWPRA events over the course of the year. The finals will not count towards the four works. All members are expected to work the finals. If unable to fulfill your 4 works a written statement with reason must be submitted to board of directors for approval.
3. Members must pay all debts owed to AWPRA by October 1, except for donations, which are due by June 15.
4. Any fines incurred must be paid before entering the AWPRA finals.

**ARTICLE VIII
AWPRA CHAPTER FINALS**

- A. The AWPRA shall hold a Finals barrel race each year at a suitable location and time.
- B. The membership shall be notified of the location at least two weeks prior to the Finals.
- C. Notice shall include an entry deadline. Entries should be handled by the Secretary and should close one week prior to the Finals.
- D. Only AWPRA members in good standing are eligible to enter and compete.
- E. Any member owning debts to the Chapter must pay such debts before they can enter the Finals.
- F. It shall be Chapter policy to always have a jackpot barrel race in conjunction with the Finals if possible.
 1. Any member may carry over her finals time to the co-approved 4D and WPRA lead event including juniors.
- G. WPRA dress code will be enforced at the Chapter Finals and jackpots, if listed.
- H. The Entry Fee and Payoff will be in accordance with the WPRA alternative pay out.

ARTICLE XI
AWPRA POLICIES

A. Jackpot Barrel Races

1. The Board of Directors shall have the power to decide what jackpots will be held at various AWPRA events.
 2. Suggested entry fee scale for various jackpot classes:
 - a. Open 4D: \$50.00
 - b. The AWPRA shall hold a \$10.00 office.
 3. WPRAs alternative pay out and entry fee scale.
 4. Chapter can do co-sanctioned barrel races with local clubs
- B. A minimum of \$500 shall be left in the AWPRA Regular Checking account at the end of the year to serve as capital for the start-up of the new season.