

2017 TGRA Bylaw and Guideline Proposals

ByLaw Proposal #1

4.3.8 Rodeo Director

B. Applicants for the position of Rodeo Director should have previously served as Assistant Rodeo Director or Rodeo Director for an IGRA-sanctioned rodeo or a rodeo held by a similar organization. Applicants should also have served in an official capacity in two other rodeos, such as a Committee Chair. Applicants should have attended IGRA University within the past three years.

B. Applicants for the position of Rodeo Director should:

- **Be a current member in good standing with any association under IGRA for at least 2 yrs**
- **Have served in an official capacity of the Member Association with a proven track record of results**
- **Have previously served as Assistant Rodeo Director or Rodeo Director for an IGRA-sanctioned rodeo or rodeo held by a similar organization**
- **Have attended IGRA University within the past three (3) years**
- **Have a knowledge/understanding of the IGRA Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Rodeo Rules**

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ByLaw Proposal #2

4.3.8 Rodeo Director

C. The State President shall nominate one of the applicants, **only one rodeo director will be selected with no co-rodeo director** which must be approved by the State Board of Trustees. A private meeting between the Board and one or all of the applicants may be conducted prior to nomination or approval.

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ByLaw Proposal #3

Article IV - State Organization

4.4 Term of Office Each State Officer and the State Contestant Representative shall be elected for a two-year term, excepting the IGRA Trustee. Each term shall begin on January 1 of the year following election **at the third quarterly state meeting** and shall continue until the first item of new business at the first third quarterly State Board of Trustees meeting or until a successor has been duly elected or appointed. A person may only hold one state elected office on the State Board of Trustees at any one time. President and Secretary Elections are in even number years. Vice President, Treasurer and State Contestant Representative are elected in odd number year. IGRA Trustee is elected every 3 years per IGRA requirements.

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ByLaw Proposal #4

- 5.4** **Honorary Member** An Honorary Member is a member who has been so designated by the State Board of Trustees for continuous dedication and conspicuous service to the Corporation. Honorary Membership shall **be exempt from membership dues for the given year.** **The Honorary Membership shall** terminate at the end of a twelve (12) month period from the time the Honorary Membership was so designated.

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ByLaw Proposal #5

Article VI - Voting and Elections

6.3 Nominations Members that desire to be listed as a candidate for State President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or State Contestant Representative must submit a request to the State Elections Chair in writing no later than October 1st **May 15th** each year. Each request must include the office desired along with physical mailing and/or email address. The State Elections Chair shall acknowledge receipt of request and that member meets the qualifications and will be listed on the ballot. Requests to be on the ballot will be accepted until 12:00 midnight on October 1st **May 15th**. All requests must be received by the State Elections Chair, either via email or US mail by this date and time.

6.5 Election of State Offices President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, IGRA Trustee, as well as the State Contestant Representative, shall be elected by secret ballot vote of the members during the month of November **June**. The election shall be conducted **Each member voting shall cast their ballot** via a mail-in voting system **or online voting system**. The following shall apply to the mail-in voting system.

6.5.1 As soon as all nominees are confirmed by the State Elections Chair or no later than the third Friday of October **May** the State Elections chair shall forward an official election ballot to the TGRA Webmaster for posting to the State web site. The Webmaster shall post this ballot no later than the last Wednesday of the month.

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6.5.8 All ballots must be received by the State Elections Chair no later than the third Friday of November **June**. Any ballots received after this date will be considered invalid.

6.5.9 After 12:01 a.m. the third Saturday of November **June** and before 12:01 a.m. November **June** 30th the State Elections Chair shall remove the picture ID from the official ballot envelope received and place all envelopes together. Picture IDs with the printed address (mail or email) should be retained until it is determined that a runoff election will not be necessary. Once all identifying markings are separated from the ballots the ballots should be opened and counted the time the ballot is opened the State Elections chair will verify if there is no "X" on the ballot envelope that the member did not vote for State Contestant Representative. If the member did vote for this office and was not eligible, then that portion of that ballot would be considered invalid and not counted toward the office of the State Contestant Representative.

6.7.3 When a runoff election is determined to be necessary, the State Elections Chair shall mail and/or email the runoff election ballot to each person that submitted a valid ballot in the official election. These ballots will be mailed no later than December **July** 5th

6.7.4 The runoff ballots shall be returned to the State Elections Chair with the same ID requirements as stated in Section 6.5. All ballots must be received by the State Elections Chair no later than December 26th **July** 15th. After this date, the State Elections Chair will process the ballots in the same manner as stated in Section 6.5.

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ByLaw Proposal #6

Article VIII – Meetings

8.4 Conducting business between meetings by electronic and telephone Means

The State Board of Trustees may conduct business which is a newly presented time sensitive issue, or has been previously introduced, at a regularly scheduled or special meeting of the Board of Trustees or is a budget related issue. Business may be conducted via email, telephone or similar communication equipment so long as all Board of Trustees members participating in such meeting(s) can hear one another and/or respond properly to one another. When a motion is made in this format, the President shall recognize the motion and request a second. Once a second to the motion is made, discussion will begin on the question automatically and will last for up to 48 hours from the time the motion was seconded. If there is no motion to extend the discussion at the end of the 48 hour period, voting on the motion will take place and members of the Board of Trustees will have up to 24 hours to vote. If a motion is made to extend the time for discussion, seconded, and passed, time will be extended for up to an additional 24 hours for each motion to extend time. **Once there had been a first and a second and no discussion has accrued within the first 24 hours the question can be called, and voting will begin for the following 24 hours.**

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ByLaw Proposal #7

Article X - Member Chapters

10.5 Nominations Members that desire to be listed as a candidate for Chapter Executive Committee shall submit their request in writing to the Chapter Executive Committee.
Chapter Election Chair.

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ByLaw Proposal #8

10.6 Qualification A candidate for position on the Chapter Executive Committee must be an Individual Member for a period of at least ~~six (6)~~ **twelve (12)** consecutive months immediately prior to the election.

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ByLaw Proposal #9 – New Addition

10.12 Meetings

New

10.12.3 Participation by electronic and telephone means Chapter Executive Committee and Chapter members may participate in any Chapter Meeting, through the use of telephone or similar communication equipment so long as all members participating in such meetings can hear one another, and respond properly to one another. Participation in a meeting in this manner shall constitute presence in person at such meetings.

NOTES: This proposal will allow Chapter Members and Chapter executive committee members the means of calling into a meeting and participating the same as we do for the Board of Trustees.

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Guideline Proposal #1

This proposal is editorial only. It effects the following guidelines:

G 1.4.6, G 8.2, G 8.2 a and G 9.2

Replace State Executive Committee with State **Board of Trustees**.

Replace State and Chapter Executive Committees with State **Board of Trustees** and Chapter Executive Committees.

G1.4.6 State Ethical Review Committee

This committee shall:

- C. Review and conduct matters (grievances) referred to the committee and make recommendations, if any, of any proposed disciplinary actions, subject to the approval of the State Executive Committee **Board of Trustees**.

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Guideline Proposal #2

Guideline 2 - Membership Dues

G2.1 Individual Members: The Individual Member dues shall be ~~\$25~~ **\$30** per calendar year (January thru December). (Effective 1 Jan ~~2007~~ **2018**)

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Guideline Proposal #3

Guideline 7 - Rodeo Acceptance & Rotation

G7.1 Rodeo Bid Any chapter may present a bid to host the Annual

Rodeo (i.e., rodeo facility, host hotel, cost estimates, etc.) to the State Board of Trustees prior to the end of the fourth quarter state meeting. Rodeo bids must include the following:

1. Valid contract for hotel
2. Valid contract for arena
3. Cost estimates

G7.2 Acceptance The State Board of Trustees will review all proposals and make a selection not before the 4th at the 3rd quarter State Meeting and no later than 30 days following the 4th 3rd quarter state meeting. Should no acceptable bids be received and it is desired a rodeo be held, the State Board of Trustees will assume responsibility for selecting the location and venues to be used.

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Guideline Proposal #4

Guideline 9 - Grand Marshal Nomination/Selection

G9.1 Nomination Criteria Nominators for the honorary position of Grand Marshal for the annual Texas Gay Rodeo should bear in mind the following criteria for the nominees:

Grand Marshal(s) should be a person(s) of International, National or local fame for achievements outside of TGRA activity, that could be considered a draw to spectators in the Host City. This should include celebrities, politicians, AIDS and/or gay activists, etc., but should not be merely a TGRA Member held in high esteem—we already have many awards and accolades to recognize our own Members. This is not to say a nominee may not happen to be a Member of TGRA, but that this should not be the main source of their acclaim.

G9.2 Election Specific procedures, documents and time element allowed for nominating and electing Grand Marshal(s) shall be determined by the State Executive Committee, with the advice of the State Elections Chairperson.