



**NDHSRA/NDJHRD BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
August 2, 2026
Dickinson State University, Ag Building
12:00 pm MST**



In Attendance: Duane Faulkner, Karter Kleeman, Derek Mott, Cody Frei, Paul Weinberger, Stacy McGee, Lindsey Miller, Ilsa Holt, Dawn Martin, Jocelyn Rossow, Travis Rossow, Kami Kling, Mindy Sigvaldsen, Craig Berger, Eve Braun, Joselyn Rossow, Taelyn Boldt, Nyxie Northrop, CJ Boldt, Jess Niementalo, Berkley Kleeman, Derek Mott, Darren Peterson,

Absent: Ashley Ross, Jason Vohs, Melanie Hertz, CJ Thorne, Anton Helfrich, Jake Pennington, Craig Maley, Kathy Mavity

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 by President Dawn Martin.

Agenda: Motion by Mott, second by Kleeman to approve the agenda as presented. AIF. MC

Minutes: Motion by CJ Boldt, second by Mott was made to approve all minutes as presented. AIF MC

Treasurer Report: Financial reports were presented prior to the meeting for review. McGee gave an overview of the JH and HS Reports. Motion by CJ Boldt, second by Weinberger to approve the Treasurers report as presented. AIF MC

McGee requested that the new secretaries be added to the appropriate bank accounts and each be issued a debit card. A motion was made by Weinberger and seconded by Frei to remove Kassidy Marshner from the JH checking account and add Mindy Sigvaldsen, and to remove Tammy Backhaus from the HS General checking account and add Kami Kling. Each secretary will receive a debit card. AIF. MC.

OLD BUSINESS

RCH/Cutting Entry Fee: Revisit the spring motion entry fee increase of \$80

- **Original Motion – March 26, 2026:** Mott moved to keep cutting and cow horse entry fees at \$60 if the cattle are donated to the committee. If cattle are not donated, entry fees will increase to \$80 starting in August 2026. Seconded by CJ B. Motion carried.
- Discussion on keeping the entry fee the same at all events to keep consistency. **New Motion:** Motion by Mott, second by CJ Boldt to establish an \$80 RCH/Cutting entry fee at all events. MC.

State High School Finals Update:

- Kling suggested that national packets NOT be distributed until after the awards ceremony to allow for proper athlete and sponsors recognition during the presentation. After ceremony, all questions can be addressed, and signups can be completed together. Board agreed on recommendation

- McGee suggested implementing a pre-event meeting with board members to review State Finals scheduling, marketing expectations and board responsibilities. The meeting will provide clarity and transparency for everyone involved. Board approved recommendation.

Junior High Finals Update:

- Parents stated that they liked the three-day format, back number ceremony and earlier time of the short round. They said it truly felt like a final's instead of just another rodeo.

HS Secretary Report:

- Kling suggested adding a form of communication for easy access for families. JH has text messaging capabilities. McGee mentioned JH pays an annual fee to have that ability and is limited to the amount of characters typed.
- K. Kleeman suggested using the GroupMe app for a one-year trial for HS. The app has no fees and does not limit the number of members. Kling will set up the app before the season begins. The platform will be reviewed next August to determine whether to continue using or explore new options.

JR High Secretary Report:

- Sigvaldsen reported that grades are an issue getting uploaded to the portal due to the state switching over to Infinite Campus and not using PowerSchool anymore.
- Sigvaldsen suggested new barrel covers for junior high, as the covers and Velcro are getting worn. Sigvaldsen suggested looking at the same style the NDRA uses from Hooked Up Enterprises, Brent Schaaf at a cost of \$300 per set. This item was tabled till November to allow the Marketing Directors to explore it.

Marketing Report:

- **Fundraising:** JH and HS will continue with the raffle and calendar fundraising options, with each member required to sell a combination totaling \$220. The raffle drawing will be held at the NDRA Finals in Watford City at the end of September. Dakota Community Bank & Trust donated the \$1,000 first-place cash prize. Discussion held on the overhead cost in the fall on paying membership fee, entry fees and fundraising requirements. McGee stated the fundraising checks are deposited at the end of September, allowing the members time to sell the raffle items and recoup the fees.
- **Elk Tag Lottery:** President Martin updated board on the elk and deer tag lottery. Applications open October 1. If association is granted a lottery tag, the board agreed, we should not limit the tag raffle to instate. This would potentially be a spring fundraising event for the associations.
- **HS:** The 2025–26 marketing year was positive, with all sponsorship opportunities filled. For the 2026–27 season, sponsorship packages will remain the same, as the current structure is covering costs.
- **JH:** The 2025–26 marketing budget was challenging, as Miller had difficulty filling the buckle sponsorships. Miller and McGee will brainstorm additional fundraising opportunities to help offset JH marketing budget. Miller presented an updated JH sponsorship structure for the 2026–27 season, including a small increase in buckle sponsorships and increased saddle sponsorships to align more closely with the HS sponsorship packages.

Queen Report:

- McGee and Miller suggested creating a Queen Fund account to track related income and expenses. Miller developed a Queen Sponsorship opportunity to help support the reigning Queen while providing sponsor recognition.
- Miller mentioned she is looking into a traveling crown for HS and the cost is \$350 to order a new crown.
- Motion by C.J. Boldt, second by Mott to adopt the Queen Sponsorship package and establish a Queen Fund to track related financials. Queen sponsorships will follow the existing marketing commission structure, with a 20% commission paid to the Queen Director, in addition to the \$400 stipend from each association. AIF. MC.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of 2026-2027 Officers:

- **President:** C.J. Boldt nominated Dawn Martin for President. Second by Weinberger. There being no further nominations, nominations ceased. Following the vote, Dawn Martin was elected President.
- **Vice President – High School:** C.J. Boldt nominated Paul Weinberger. Second by Frei. Ashley Meyer was nominated by Paul Weinberger, with Duane Faulkner seconding. There being no further nominations, nominations ceased. Following the vote, Paul Weinberger was elected Vice President – High School.
- **Vice President – Junior High:** Niemitalo nominated Karter Kleeman, second by C.J. Boldt. No further nominations, nominations were closed. Following the vote, Karter Kleeman was elected Vice President – Junior High.
- **Election of Executive Board:**
 - **Two Members at Large**
 - **HS Member at Large:** Weinberger nominated Travis Rossow. Frei seconded. Nominations were ceased. Following the vote, Travis Rossow was elected for HS at Large.
 - **JH Member at Large:** Frei nominated Jess Niemitalo. Mott seconded. Nominations ceased. Following the vote, Jess Niemitalo was elected for JH at Large.
- **Committee Chairs**
 - President – Chair for Executive Board: Dawn Martin
 - HS V. President – Chair for Budget & Finance: Paul Weinberger
 - JH V. President – Chair for Scheduling and Personnel: Karter Kleeman
 - HS at Large – Chair of State Finals & Queens: Travis Rossow
 - JH at Large – Chair of the Fundraising & Membership Development: Jess Niemitalo
 - National Director – Chair of Rules and Safety: Craig Maley
 - Pass the Hat Chair: This position is open

Committee Helpers and Personnel: We need to stress to committees that all workers inside the arena must be 18 years of age due to insurance requirements. Committees will be reminded to use the personnel sheet to ensure only approved personnel are hired.

- Dillon Cook was added as a bullfighter
- Jim Neshem was added for cutting and RCH

Contestant Fees: Due to increased rodeo stock costs, the board discussed increasing contestant fees by \$5 for all events, effective immediately for the fall rodeos. Fees have not increased since 2022. Motion made by Weinberger, second by Mott to increase all event fees by \$5, with \$1 of the increase retained by the association to help offset costs. AIF. MC.

Supplement Sheet Handout: Board reviewed each item and sent to committee for review and will be discussed at the November meeting.

Ground Rule for Junior High Tie Down: Motion by Weinberger, second by Mott, tie-down jackpot ropers must be entered with the JH Secretary no later than Monday of draw-outs. If a contestant chooses not to rope after arriving at the rodeo, the entry fees will still be due. AIF. MC.

Shooting Sports: New director is Jerad Enger. James is available to help.

Next meeting: Cody asked that we discuss the following items:

- Broken pattern – ride out (Rules and Safety)
- Bylaws – If go from JH board to HS or vice versa, must take a year off. Implement term limits or can't run simultaneously. (Executive Committee)

Next meeting: November 22 in Bismarck.

Minutes Approved by:

HS Secretary: Kami Kling

JH Secretary Mindy Sigvaldeson

President Dawn Martin

Dated: August 2, 2026