



May 8, 2017

Dear APRA Member,

Your Board of Directors are excited to announce we're headed back to Atlantic City, NJ for AFR40 on October 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017!

Our Future is Bright and we'd like to take this opportunity and share an "Association Update" with everyone.

Over the last three (3) years we've continuously watched our membership grow by nearly 100 members:

2014 - 407 members  
2015 - 420 members  
2016 - 501 members

We have also added to our "Stock Contractor Roster" of Rawhide Rodeo, Painted Pony Rodeo and Buckeye Rodeo. In 2016 Rafter Z Rodeo came on board, we welcomed back Pond Hill Rodeo and we're looking forward to continued growth in 2017 with Rafter M and Diamond J rodeo companies.

Voting Results from our 2016 Elections are as follows:

Vice President	Chris Kelley
Treasurer	Jeanne Askey
Saddle Bronc Director	Raymond (Bump) Postlewait
Bareback Director	Josh Smith
Tie Down Director	Ned Kilgus
Team Roping Director	Eric Fabian
Contract Acts Director	Wade Hazlet

\*We've had a couple resignations mid-term as well (Steer Wrestling Director and Bull Riding Director), to which the Board has appointed "Foster" Directors for the 2017 season...Steer Wrestling Director, Mike Smith and Bull Riding Director, Dan Welsh.

Some key topics that arose from the General Membership/Rodeo Committee/AFR39 Finals meetings:

- Suggestion was made on adjusting term limits for Board Members...4 year terms (proposed) vs. 2 year terms (current).
- Parking/trash issues...several of our Rodeo Committees expressed legitimate concerns over these two areas. To help rectify this situation for our Rodeo Committee's, rodeo listings will now contain additional info regarding temporary horse pen sizes. This information will also be posted by Rodeo Secretaries as Ground Rules. *Please take note, fines may be assessed to those not adhering to the guidelines provided.* Everyone has a part in making a rodeo a success. Let's help our Rodeo Committees continue to grow and be successful so we can sustain our future.
- Build opportunities to invest in educating younger generations on the sport of rodeo – not limited to within the "rodeo community", but in our children's schools too.

Although there's always room for improvement, AFR39 in Atlantic City was a success and we've heard nothing but positive feedback; which is greatly appreciated by the Board of Directors as there are many hours spent on making the Finals a memorable experience for all.

REAL or RUMOR –

- Allan (Doc) Detweiler is running the APRA.
  - RUMOR...he's an APRA Rodeo Producer and an AFR investor. Without an investor, the APRA wouldn't have been in a position to move the AFR to a venue with growth potential. The Detweiler family has been gracious enough to show support of our Association in assisting with AFR expenses. Once the AFR is poised to self-sustain and investments have been returned, the Detweiler family decides to withdraw from all AFR exchanges. The Board's expectation is for this to happen within 3 years, so we need EVERYONE on board to help make our Association the best it can be. We THANK the Detweiler's for working with the APRA on this opportunity.
- APRA is broke after AFR39
  - RUMOR...the Association is stable and positioned to grow.
- Everyone's able to work on obtaining sponsorships for the APRA.
  - REAL – anyone bringing in a Sponsor will receive 20% of that sponsorship! If you'd like a sponsorship package, please let the office know.

You, the members of the American Professional Rodeo Association, have a dedicated Board of Directors working for you. We welcome your ideas and suggestions for improvement; or should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out and let us know!