

**Bylaws of**  
**Murray State University Rodeo Team**  
**Friends of Racer Rodeo, LLC**

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be “Friends of Racer Rodeo”, herein referred to as “Racer Rodeo.”

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS**

The purpose of this organization shall be to assist and support the Murray State University Rodeo Team (MSU Rodeo Team) in its efforts to carry out successful student-athlete recruitment, retain active and prospective team members, and continually increase team competitiveness. The Racer Rodeo shall concentrate their support activities on behalf of the MSU Rodeo Team:

- A. To provide a “forward looking” support network to engage MSU Rodeo alumni and supporters and to remain “loyal” to their institution, the support of Rodeo, and to the MSU Rodeo Team.
- B. To increase support and funding to ensure MSU Rodeo Team recruits and retains top regional and national talent.
- C. To promote a positive and productive rodeo experience for all participating in practice and competitions while representing MSU Rodeo Team; and
- D. To serve as a general support and advocacy group for Racer Rodeo and for MSU Hutson School of Agriculture, of which the MSU Rodeo Team is an integral and essential part.

The Racer Rodeo shall undertake to provide such support functions on behalf of the MSU Rodeo Team as are consistent with the organization’s purpose and which may include, but not be limited to, the following activities:

- A. Raise funds to support Racer Rodeo
- B. Prepare informative or educational material, using print or electronic media to showcase the MSU Rodeo Team
- C. Assist in planning recruitment, retention, and alumni activities
- D. Organize outreach events and special programs

**ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATION**

The Racer Rodeo shall be non-profit and house all financial monies in banking institution accounts held by Racer Rodeo

- A. No part of the net earnings of this organization shall ever inure to, or be for the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for goods and services rendered, and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the exact purpose for which it was formed.

B. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Racer Rodeo shall only carry on activities permitted by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 c (3) of the Federal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or subsequently amended.

#### **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES**

**Membership:** All individuals, organizations, industries, and businesses interested in helping to support the MSU Rodeo Team are eligible for membership.

- A. The membership period shall be for one (1) year beginning July 1st through June 30th annually.
- B. The Board of Directors, shall define several categories of membership at different levels of contribution. These contributions will be above the annual membership.

**Annual Meeting:** The Annual meeting is to be held in August with the inclusion of the Rodeo Team. Board may choose to call a minimum of one (1) and up to four (4) general meetings of the membership of the Racer Rodeo to share ongoing progress, student successes, and address current topics to the membership, or an e-newsletter will be sent out to membership. The Board shall provide members a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the time and place of each scheduled meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS, MEMBERS-AT-LARGE AND MEETINGS**

**Powers:** The business and affairs of the Racer Rodeo shall be managed by, or carried out in consultation with the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors of the Racer Rodeo shall be the following Officers, Members at Large and Directors.

**Officers:** The officers of the Racer Rodeo shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice President/Events
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Membership/Recruitment

The duties of the officers shall be the same as commonly prescribed unless determined otherwise by the Board. All officers shall be a Friend of Racer Rodeo.

**Members-at-Large:** The authorized number of members-at-large shall be at least seven (7) and no more than twelve (12) members of the organization who have a commitment to the purpose and mission of the MSU Rodeo Team and one or more of the following skills and experiences:

- A. Rodeo knowledge

- B. Marketing and public relations
- C. Nonprofit management or board participation
- D. Fundraising
- E. Special events organization

The number of members-at-large within the stated range shall be determined from time to time by the Board. Any changes in the stated range in number of members-at-large shall be subject to the provisions of these Bylaws regarding their amendment. All members-at-large shall be a Friend of Racer Rodeo.

**Directors:** The directors and non-voting members of the Racer Rodeo shall be:

- A. The Dean or Assistant Dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture
- B. The Murray State University Rodeo Team Coach
- C. The William "Bill" Cherry Expo Center Manager/Rodeo Team Advisor

These officers, members-at-large and directors shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Racer Rodeo. The Racer Rodeo may also have, at the discretion of the Board, such other officers, as may be appointed in accordance with the Bylaws.

**Terms of Office:** The term of office of an officer shall be one year. A Board member will serve a three (3) year term with the option of taking an office their second or third year on the board. No first-year member shall be able to fill an open officer position unless absolutely necessary. After the three (3) years are complete the Board member may continue to serve if appointed or re-elected. There shall be no limit on the number of terms a Board member may serve. Officers serve until their successors are elected.

**Board Meetings:** The Board shall meet no fewer than ten (10) times a year. Board members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of the Friends. The President of the Racer Rodeo, if present, shall serve as the presiding officer at all meetings of the Board. Each Board member, except the presiding officer, shall be entitled to one vote at these proceedings. The presiding officer may not vote, except to break a tie. A majority of the current number of Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except to adjourn. A majority of the Board members present, whether or not constituting a quorum, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place.

**Vacancies:** Vacancies in the Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining officers and members-at-large, whether or not less than a quorum. Each officer elected to fill a vacancy created when an officer resigns or otherwise ceases to act during the officer's term shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer resigning or otherwise ceasing to act.

**Nomination and Election of Members-At-Large:** A Board member may present the name(s) of nominees to the secretary at any monthly Board Meeting. Any member of the Racer Rodeo, in good

standing, may nominate other members by presenting their name(s) in writing to the secretary. Such nominations must have the endorsement of at least two (2) members of the Racer Rodeo other than the nominating member or nominee(s). No name shall be placed in nomination without the consent of the nominee. Nominees will be voted on by the Board at a subsequent monthly Board Meeting, and requires a 2/3 vote to pass.

**Election of Officers:** Officers shall be nominated in the month of September. Election of officers shall be conducted during the last week of September. Each officer shall assume office effective October 1st. Special nomination and election of an officer position may occur throughout the year at any Board meeting if a vacancy occurs.

## **ARTICLE VI: FINANCES**

The financial activities of the Racer Rodeo shall be in prudent business practices and generally accepted accounting principles. All financial activities and records shall be subject to audit at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions.

## **ARTICLE VII: OFFICE**

The principal office for the transaction of business of the Racer Rodeo shall be the William "Bill" Cherry Exposition Center Classroom at the Murray State University West Farm or such other location as approved by the Board.

## **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS OF THE BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended or repealed, and new Bylaws may be adopted by a majority vote of the members present at any called or regular meeting of the general membership. This vote would then be sent to the Board for the final vote and decision. Recommended amendments, repeals or new Bylaws can be submitted to the Board Secretary by a Friend of Racer Rodeo member in lieu of a meeting of the general membership. In addition, recommendations for amendments, repeals or new Bylaws can be presented by a Board member at any monthly Board meeting. In either situation the recommendation would be voted on by the Board at a subsequent meeting, requiring a majority vote to pass. Proposed changes in these Bylaws shall be made available to the members of the Racer Rodeo at least fourteen (14) days before action is taken by the Board or Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, when not in conflict with these Bylaws, shall govern the proceedings of the Racer Rodeo. The President shall decide all questions as to matters of procedure or the interpretation of these Bylaws.