



National High School Rodeo Foundation Plans for 2022 and 2023

By Stephanie Rodrigue, National High School Rodeo Foundation President

The National High School Rodeo Foundation was pleased to host the annual breakfast for all attendees of the 2022 National High School Rodeo Association Mid-Winter Meeting on Friday, January 21, 2022, at the Silo Inn Hotel in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Following breakfast, the Board of Directors of the National High School Rodeo Foundation met in a hybrid format, addressing issues that must be reviewed annually, as well as brainstorming new and recurring fundraising activities, scheduled for both the National Junior High and High School Finals Rodeos. Presenting annual financial statements and recommendations on reserves during the call was Phillip D. Abshire III, CPA, CVA, Langley, Williams & Company, L.L.C. Certified Public Accountants, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Daily silent auctions and 50/50 sales will be conducted in Perry, Georgia, in June and those activities, plus a live auction will be held in Gillette, Wyoming, in July. Plans are underway to consider returning two bronzes to the list of live auction items and potentially a complete set of 4 bronzes for the Foundation's NHSRA 75th Anniversary, also to be held in Gillette in July, 2023. With the assistance of CAM-PLEX staff, efforts are underway to research the possibility of bringing back the Foundation's "Scramble for Scholarships" golf tournament in 2023, as an additional anniversary activity and a fundraising opportu-

nity for the Foundation.

The Board also voted to continue awarding \$500 Foundation Scholarships to all 2022 graduating senior National High School Finals Rodeo qualifiers this summer, who complete all aspects of the application process, details of which will be published later this spring, in partnership with state and provincial associations. Fundraising remains critical to continuance of this program and the Foundation appreciates the efforts of state and provincial associations in providing assistance by donating both live and silent auction items and helping with 50/50 tasks. Also contributing to the \$500 Foundation Scholarships is the Matching Funds program which allows for states and provinces to subsidize \$250 of \$500 Foundation Scholarships that exceed the first three scholarships awarded to each state and province which are funded totally by the Foundation. All named, honorary and memorial scholarships further reduce the number of scholarships that must be matched by a state or province. Also reducing the costs to each state is the Gist Incentive Program that awards scholarship credit on a percentage basis to all state and provincial associations that present Gist buckles and awards.

In other business, the Board reseat-ed members whose terms were expiring through 2025, including Betty Booth, North Carolina; Jerry Ford, Missouri; Julie Jutten, Colorado; Patsy Littrell,

Illinois; Stephanie Rodrigue, Louisiana; Ray Spence, Georgia; and Judith White, Oklahoma.

The Board elected 2022-2023 Officers and Executive Committee, as follows: President Stephanie Rodrigue, Louisiana; First Vice President Kent Sturman, Colorado; Second Vice President Jennifer Folsom, Oklahoma; Treasurer Nicky Rodrigue, Louisiana; Secretary Betty Booth, North Carolina; and Member-At-Large Jerry White, Oklahoma.

In addition to funding Foundation Scholarships, the National High School Rodeo Foundation manages named, honorary and memorial scholarships funded by the National High School Rodeo Association and its Official National Sponsors, as well as families and friends of both NHSRA and the Foundation who wish to honor or memorialize loved ones in a special way. The Foundation also manages all scholarships awarded to the Top Ten Finishers in the Average at the National Junior High and High School Finals Rodeo. The National High School Rodeo Foundation appreciates the opportunity to serve the National High School Rodeo Association, its National Sponsors and Student Members.

For more information on Foundation activities, visit nhsrfoundation.org or the National High School Rodeo Association Facebook page. To establish a scholarship or for other detailed information, email President Stephanie Rodrigue at stephanie.d.rodrigue@gmail.com or call 337-540-4623. 🐾