**IDAHO JUNIOR RODEO ASSOCIATION**

**GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 21, 2021**

**ISU EAMES COMPLEX, POCATELLO AT 6:30 PM**

Present at Meeting: Chet & Jill Keetch, Tyler & Sara Kunz, Cole & Lynette Smith, Lex Smith, Cort Jones, Dave & Colleen Erickson, Kristel Bergholm, Randy Magee, Amanda Scott, Makenzie Bravo, Casey & Warner Thompson, Jamie Roche, Callie & Bella Smith, Matt & Erika Gunter, Dani Miller, Rance & Tessa Howell, Cody Thompson

Conducting: Chet Keetch, President

Meeting was brought to order by Chet Keetch, President at 6:35 pm.

We have positions to be filled for Event Directors/Board Members and the floor was opened for nominations.

* Lex Smith nominated Amanda Scott for PeeWee/Ground Events Director. Dave Erickson seconded.
* Lex Smith nominated Dani Miller for Roughstock Director. Dave Erickson seconded. Roughstock is all inclusive with horses, bulls and bucking steers.
* Dave Erickson nominated Lex Smith for Breakaway Director. Casey Thompson seconded.
* Lex Smith nominated Cort Jones for Steer Wrestling/Chute Dogging Director. Dave Erickson seconded.

Nominations were closed and all voted in favor of the nominees. The position of Goat Director will be filled at a later time. It was noted that the goats were not drawn for at last year’s rodeo, but that will be taken care of this year and the new goat director will help be responsible for making that happen.

Nominations were then opened for a new Vice President. Dave Erickson nominated Tyler Kunz for Vice President and Cort Jones seconded the motion. Nominations were closed and all voted in favor for Tyler Kunz to be the new Vice President – serving a two year term as Vice President and rolling into a two year term as President.

The floor was then opened for public comment from paying membership.

* Matt Gunter would like to see age groups stay open to 18 years old.
* Lex Smith asked about a stock contractor to do all events as offered in the past.
* Cody Thompson said the age limit was raised to 18 years old about 6 years ago when the numbers were struggling and to get more entries/contestants. Now the association is not having that problem and instead the amateur associations are struggling to get the numbers. If the age limit was changed back to 16 or even 17 that would force those kids to go to amateur rodeos. He recommended to keep age groups the same or even to 17 years old/when you graduate. Maybe limit some events to a Novice group. Don’t add a pee wee age group because that’s two more saddles would have to be awarded. He also suggested less awards and more payout.
* Lots of discussion on not adding a saddle for a pee wee age group but a nice saddle pad or other award for the All-Around winner and lots of discussion on age groups. Other associations around that have age groups broken up to smaller groups. Most of discussion was on pushing kids to step up and pay your dues if you’re the youngest in the age group.
* Discussed lowering fees especially for the peewee/ground events.
* Challenges with roughstock and steer wrestling and events with high costs and not many entries was discussed. No one wants to get rid of these events.
* Sara Kunz commented that no other youth association even has a board or holds meetings for members to attend and have a say in anything. The Presidency decides everything and notifies everyone how things will be for the year. Kudos to IJRA for trying to include its members and opinions.

The general meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm and those that weren’t board members left the meeting.