

NCHA

NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



DIRECTOR'S GUIDELINES

At Your Service



The NCHA has processes in place to help members of the Board of Directors have an effective and positive experience while serving the association. For first time Directors, there are a number of resources available to help one understand and fulfill their roles and responsibilities while serving.

Your Regional Director is your main source of contact for the area a Director serves, but the NCHA Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Executive Director are available as well.

For information on how to contact Regional Directors please visit the NCHA website/About US/Our Governance/Executive Committee.

**[https://www.nchacutting.com/
about-us/our-governance/
executive-committee](https://www.nchacutting.com/about-us/our-governance/executive-committee)**

Overview

NCHA directors
serve at the highest
capacity within the
Association and
their service is vital
to its success.

The National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) is governed by a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee. These governing bodies work together to determine the policies and goals of the Association. The efforts of these most capable volunteers shape and lead the Association across its generations of service to the sport of cutting.

A District Director, collectively as the Board of Directors (BOD), makes, amends, repeals and enforces such rules and regulations, not contrary to law, or the Constitution and Bylaws, as they deem necessary concerning the conduct, management and activities of the Association, the admission, classification, qualification, supervision and expulsion of members, removal of officers, the rules and regulations setting the procedure of such suspension, expulsion or removal, the setting and collecting of dues and fees, expenditure of money, auditing of books and records, conducting of shows, contests and exhibitions and other details relating to the general purposes of the Association, subject to approval, revision or amendment by the members at any regular or special meeting of the members called in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.

The Role And Responsibility Of A NCHA Director



Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- In this role it is important to put personal interest behind the best interest of the NCHA.
- Elected by the members for a three-year term in their respective District to serve as a representative to the NCHA for the membership in their respective District.
- Communicate NCHA policy, EC meeting minutes and proceedings, procedures, programs, etc. to the general membership in their respective District.
- Promote the sport of cutting horses both within and outside the NCHA in their District.
- Attend BOD meetings and participate as needed to discuss, vote and implement initiatives brought forth.
- Read, understand and embrace the NCHA Mission Statement.

Job Requirements

- Membership in the Association in good standing for a minimum of three (3) years.
- Attainment of at least twenty-one years (21) of age.
- Prior to taking position, have read, understand and continue to embrace the NCHA Rulebook and Bylaws.
- Attend Directors meetings, both national and regional.
- Attend District and Regional show events.
- Permanent or primary residence in the Director District the member represents.
- Absence of any felony convictions on record.
- Maintain an active and valid email address and regularly monitor it for communications.
- Able to travel as needed, at their own expense, to attend BOD meetings.

Preferred Qualifications

- Five years of active membership in the NCHA.
- Active Open, Non-Pro or Amateur rider, trainer, show producer, cutting horse owner, or breeder.
- Active local NCHA Affiliate member, director or officer.
- Current or prior experience as a Committee Member, Chairperson and/or Vice-Chairperson.

Ten Characteristics Of An Outstanding NCHA Director

ONE

Responsibility

A NCHA Director readily accepts the responsibility and accountability that accompanies the position. They take the stewardship of the Association seriously recognizing: 1) they are representing the needs and interests of the members who elected them, 2) are guardians of the heritage and history of the Association, and 3) have a solemn duty to leave NCHA stronger and better overall as a result of their service. Each director has the responsibility to always look at every facet of the organization searching for ways to improve each member's experience with cutting – to make it more exciting, more rewarding and more personally fulfilling and satisfying. The director has the responsibility to work with the Board and Executive Committee to operate the organization to a high standard and to be fully accountable for the level and quality of responsiveness and service delivered to the membership. Finally, the director is responsible for always remaining mindful of the larger picture – acting locally and regionally while simultaneously serving the global interests of the membership and the Association.

TWO

Passion

Every NCHA director has a deep passion for the sport of cutting and feels a strong, genuine need to give back and help make a difference. Their passion is reflected in their enthusiasm for cutting and NCHA and in the energy they tirelessly expend in support of the organization and its members. Their personal enthusiasm is contagious and other members are inspired and motivated in their presence.

THREE

Knowledge

NCHA directors who consistently perform at a high level are knowledgeable and informed, have a thorough understanding of the rules and regulations of the Association and are always prepared to participate and contribute. They carefully read everything that comes their way from the Association including emails from the Executive Committee, the NCHA Office and the Cutting Horse Chatter magazine. They watch NCHA's website for news and information and visit NCHA's Facebook page regularly. They come to meetings ready to contribute, support their ideas with facts and always make a solid business case for their recommendations. They know the Executive Committee members and At Large representatives for their region and engage them regularly in serving the needs of the members in their district. They are also current with the events in their area. Most importantly, if they do not have the answer for a member's question (which is perfectly fine), they know where to find it.

FOUR

Dedication & Determination

Being on the Board of Directors is one of the highest forms of voluntary service to NCHA. It requires dedication and determination. It can be a demanding job that takes a deep personal commitment involving the willingness to sacrifice and to make a true investment of time, money and effort. An extraordinary level of dedication is expressed by the best directors throughout their term. The demands on them increase significantly if they progress to membership on the Executive Committee – and especially when they are selected to move through the chairs holding the Association's highest offices.

FIVE

Leadership

A Director is a good leader – an individual who other members respect for their thoughts and deeds. They are seen as a role model and an effective advocate. They know the NCHA rules, follow them and set an example with their leadership. The most effective NCHA directors have good ideas and then work among their constituents and peers to build consensus in support of them. They willingly and skillfully mentor new directors and guide new members as they begin to embrace the organization. They are widely respected for the manner in which they carry themselves personally and conduct their business. They also are trustworthy – always speaking truthfully – and taking care to keep the promises they make and to treat others respectfully. They do not spread or encourage unfounded rumors and help to stop such rumors with factual information.

SIX

Involvement

NCHA's directors should be highly visible. They participate widely in activities and events in their district and are constantly promoting and encouraging involvement. Attending shows is the primary place where directors network with the members in their district. Shows are a great place to receive feedback that can be shared with other Board members and the Executive Committee. The best directors also attend NCHA Judging Seminars and shows outside their district to meet new people, exchange thoughts and ideas and to learn what others are doing. It is also important for directors to attend the Annual Convention and be active on NCHA committees. The work of the NCHA takes place in committees. And while committee work is not a requirement for directors, it is where directors network and how they make a positive difference in NCHA policies.

SEVEN

Engagement

As the local ambassador for the Association, a director works hard at engaging the members in their district. On average, each director represents 94 NCHA members so it is reasonable for the director to know each member on a first name basis. The best directors work hard at engaging new members and helping them get oriented, introduced and connected. By engaging and interacting with the members they represent the director can surface issues that need attention and can work to help get them addressed and resolved.

EIGHT

Communication

Listening, communicating effectively and facilitating communication between members, the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and the Executive Director are important duties of the NCHA director. The director is the Association's eyes and ears in their district and plays an integral part in gathering and accurately relaying feedback. It is important for the director to be a good listener who is always open to hearing a new idea and does not always have to be the one with the best idea. Directors are capable of expressing ideas clearly and succinctly, giving clear direction when leading, and receiving candid and constructive input from others. Finally, it is essential that each director maintain a working email address that they check regularly for messages addressed to them from NCHA.

NINE

Discipline

In the course of performing their job, the NCHA director identifies problems and opportunities and works to make positive change through the established processes of the Association. Any organization this size and this diverse isn't going to be perfect in the eyes of every member in every district. The most successful directors know the organization has proven processes in place to address and potentially change anything that truly needs improvement. It is important for each director to understand and stay true to those processes. Using them, anything that needs to be modified and improved for the benefit of the majority of the membership, can be accomplished in a thoughtful and disciplined manner.

TEN

Stewardship

As a NCHA director you are the steward for the association. Serve proudly, confidently, patiently, faithfully and selflessly. It is vital for the director to always remain positive. If a director isn't feeling and projecting a cheerful outlook about the organization – then as their elected official – the constituents won't be feeling positive either. The patient, thoughtful, calm and collected director is the most effective persuader. Stewardship is the protection, caring and improving of the association as a whole.

DEDICATION.

LEADERSHIP.

STEWARDSHIP.



SERVING PROUDLY

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