Dear Prospective O-State Rodeo Team Member:

As the current president of the rodeo team, it is my pleasure to invite you see what rodeo is all about at Oklahoma State University. The team and I would love to have you as we practice, play, and compete. The next time you are planning a trip to Stillwater, please contact us to tour our facilities and “hang out” with the team.

You might ask why should you come to Oklahoma State University to continue your rodeo career. Oklahoma State University offers a first rate education that is incomparable when looking towards your future. An Oklahoma State University diploma will stand tall and proud when put up against a degree from any other institution in the United States. Through the fundraising efforts of the team, there is often a supplement for travel/competition expenses available. Additionally, the rodeo team has many opportunities not afforded to other rodeo teams, such as being able to usher in the football team at home games, partner with the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, and other community service ventures that help team members network with other students, community members, and potential employers. Additionally, Oklahoma State University provides the rodeo club with approximately 40 acres of land along with a covered practice arena, full size outdoor rodeo arena, 30 covered stall spaces. The OSU Rodeo club also provides practice stock for all roping event competitors and we hope to be able to offer practice stock for rough stock events in the near future.

But the most important reason to be a part of rodeo at OSU is that the Oklahoma State Rodeo Team is more than a group of rodeo athletes; We are family. You won’t find a closer knit group who truly enjoys being together.

Sincerely yours,

Rachelle

Rachelle Holt
President
2009-2010

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Q Where do students keep their horses?
A Some keep their horses at stables or on their own property while other keep them at the rodeo grounds. We have stalls for up to 30 horses and pasture space for another 10-12 horses.

Q How can I get some help paying for college?
A As we are a club and not a part of the athletic department. We don’t have scholarships for tuition, fees, or books. However, we do provide “scholarships” for NIRA card holders who compete for OSU by way of comp-ing space for 2 horses at the arena and providing travel scholarships as funds are available.

Q As a rodeo coach what is your ultimate goal?
A My ultimate goal is to provide you with the resources to get a first rate education while being the best athlete you can during your time at OSU and then when it comes time to graduate, to provide you with the tools and contacts necessary to find the best possible career path.

Q What do is expected from members at practice?
A Each of team member, whether at practice or not, is expected to treat each other with respect. Also, expected is attendance at regular practices, help with chutes or opening gates, and taking care of livestock. Your contribution to the team is taken into account when deciding appointment to official NIRA team and the allocation of funding.

Q Why should I come to OSU?
A First, you get a chance to get a first class education at a Div. 1, Big XII school and you get to rodeo while doing so. Next, there are dozens of rodeos, ropings are barrel racings happening every weekend within a 60 mile radius. Also, you get to meet the best professors in the world that have connections to big jobs. Finally, you get a chance to “Be a Cowboy.”
The Oklahoma State University Rodeo Association has been an integral part of the culture of the university and community since 1946 when six young men just back from World War II started practicing and competing together. Then in 1948, representatives of OSU Rodeo traveled to be a part of the birth of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association which OSU has been an active member of ever since.

National Championships

1949  Eldon Dudley  
Calf Roping

1952  Dick Barrett  
All-Around Men’s Individual
Bareback Riding
Ribbon Roping

1953  Don Fedderson  
Steer Wrestling

2001  Women’s Team  
2001  Janae Ward  
Barrel Racing

2002  Trent Creager  
Calf Roping

2004  Women’s Team  
2004  Audra Magee  
All-Around Women’s Individual

OSU Rodeo Club original team members after first win in 1946

OSU Rodeo Association asked to give roping lessons during National Day of the Cowboy at National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in OKC.

OSU Rodeo Team and Donny Gay during Rodeo Weekend at the National Cowboy Museum.

Q When and where do you practice?
A  We have open practice most evenings, however there is usually one night a week that those who compete in similar events will practice together and that will differ from semester to semester as to best fit the schedule of those who are practicing. We have a private facility located at the north western edge of campus. We have a covered practice arena and a full size outdoor arena along with about 40 acres of pasture.

Q  How far are most of the rodeos?
Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK is centrally located to all the rodeos in the Central Plains region, with rodeos ranging from 1 to 7 hours away. Stillwater is also just an hour from Oklahoma City and Tulsa and about 1 1/2 hours from Wichita.

Q  What do you require of your students?
A  We require that you remain in good standing with the club, the university and NIRA. We also require that you participate in the activities of the club as your schedule allows. Most members don’t find this a burden and we manage to enjoy our time spent together as well.