The National High School Rodeo Association understands the significance of COVID-19 and the impact it holds among the western industry. First and foremost, the NHSRA strives to protect the health and wellbeing of its members, families, personnel, and all involved. As some State/ Provincial Associations start planning rodeos, below are suggested guidelines to consider in taking steps to mitigate the potential spread of the virus. Associations are advised to abide by the guidelines proved by local governing bodies and rules set in place by the host facilities. The below list is meant to serve just has recommendations moving forward, please adhere to guidelines set in place specific to your local circumstance.

**Recommendations for NHSRA Sanctioned Events in response to COVID:**

1. Follow the CDC guidelines and orders from your local governing body set in place at the time of event.
   1. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Individual Responsibility / Liability:

1. Post signage on grounds *(especially in areas where individuals tend to gather near restrooms, event holding areas, and warm up arenas)* stating anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 cannot enter the grounds. Such persons need to contact a health care provider immediately and must be cleared by a health care provider before entering the grounds. Attendees assume responsibility for themselves and family.
   1. Require attendees to sign liability wavier at check-in agreeing to the above and social distancing standards put in place at facility.

Social Distancing:

1. Enforce social distancing throughout the competition grounds by following the guidelines applicable to event:
   1. Limit the total number of people permitted onsite determined at the time of the event, based off of the local governing authorities in the location of the facility, current conditions, and CDC guidelines.
   2. Arrange arena entrances and exits so that riders are not coming in close contact entering and exiting the arenas.
   3. Limit arena access to ONLY necessary personnel.
   4. Provide monitors throughout the facility to ensure social distancing.
   5. Require attendees to keep 6 ft. between each other at all times on grounds.
      1. Only same household members will be allowed to gather with each other, but most distance themselves from the next group.
   6. Schedule contestants for arrival, competition times, and departure to maintain safe numbers on the grounds, at the time of event.
      1. This may require a change in format of typical event schedule.
   7. Limit the total number of contestants and livestock in each competition area.
   8. To minimize contact, communicate via radios, phones, email, text messaging, social media, website, and PA announcements.
   9. Encourage entries and reservations to be pre-booked and pre-paid prior to event via online or over the phone to minimize face to face contact.
   10. Space and mark parking areas to ensure social distancing.

Event Plan:

1. Devise a plan in conjunction with facility where the event will be held to adhere to CDC and local governing bodies guidelines. Below are considerations for modifications in event plans:
   1. govern the number of people and livestock allowed on the facility grounds at the time of event.
      1. Limit grounds access exclusively to rodeo production personnel, contestants, and parents or guardians if needed.
   2. follow all camping guidelines provided by the facility.
   3. restrict and public access to the facility grounds throughout the event.
   4. modify contestant check in procedures to avoid social congestion.
   5. enforce personnel will wear PPE masks if required.
   6. contestants will wear PPE masks while competing if required.
   7. modify event format if needed to reduce the number of individuals on site at one time.
2. Setup handwashing stations and/ or disinfectant stations at facility in frequently visited areas.
3. Sanitize frequently visited areas often.
4. Provide PPE gloves and masks to personnel.

Again, these are only suggestions and will have to be adjusted to your event, but the suggestions should not be adjusted in a way that will compromise safety.   Please follow guidelines set in place by local authorities at the time of the event.