

From: **Kent Sturman** <klsturman@nhsra.org>
Date: Fri, Nov 30, 2007 at 5:11 PM
Subject: Statement
To: jenoch@sharkonline.org

At the 2007 National High School Finals Rodeo, a horse being used in the arena by a pick up man was involved in an accident with a bull during the bull riding event. The horse was treated immediately by a licensed large animal veterinarian and received appropriate treatment for his injuries. During the remainder of the week, the horse was treated and monitored. Upon returning home, the horse's injury did not improve and a few days later the decision was made to euthanize the horse as he was not responding to treatment. This decision was in the best interests of the horse and was made with the medical advice of a veterinarian. The injury was a result of an accident and not caused by any type of mistreatment or abuse.

During the NHSFR, the health of all competition animals was monitored daily by veterinarians as well as monitored by NHSRA personnel to make sure they met the requirements to be in competition, i.e. proper size, weight, health, soundness. The Illinois Department of Agriculture monitored the competition daily to make sure all Illinois laws were followed. The IDOA certified that no laws were broken and that all NHSRA animal welfare rules were also strictly adhered to. Veterinarians were on hand 24 hours per day and not only monitored the animals but provided proper medical care when necessary.

Kent L. Sturman, *Executive Director*

National High School Rodeo Association, Inc.

12001 Tejon Street, Suite 128

Denver, CO 80234

(303) 452-0820, ext. 219

(303) 452-0912 - FAX

klsturman@nhsra.org

National High School Finals Rodeo

July 20-26, 2008 - Farmington, New Mexico

