



## **Junior Red Angus Association**

### **Board of Directors 2020 Candidate Guide**

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#### **Contact Information**

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## The National Junior Board Experience

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Most people tend to run for the board because of something in their membership experience that has motivated them from an inspirational point of view rather than knowledge of the requirements of the position. To help candidates and their families understand the facets and components that make up the position, this document has been prepared.

Generally speaking, serving on the national board is an awesome responsibility of significant impact to both the director and the JRA members throughout the nation. The best attitude to come into board leadership with is one of humility and dedication to service and a commitment to give selflessly to the organization and its members.

Serving on the national board requires dedication to weekly devote time and energy to accomplishing the goals of the organization. It is also crucial that board members manage their time and school commitments to accommodate travel to state, regional, and national events.

However, the personal and career growth from the board experience is priceless.

- Board members have the opportunity to meet many wonderful people who may remain friends for life.
- They also meet influential people in the industry who may be important in the board member's future, particularly relative to career placement and advancement.
- Leadership skills and interpersonal skills are developed greatly. Critical thinking and the ability to function independently are increased.
- Many personal rewards are gained from the interactions with junior members, specifically in playing a role in their personal growth and accomplishments.
- Developing skills in working cooperative with others is vital to personal and career success. A tremendous boost to an individual's self confidence is a valuable outcome of the board experience.

Service to the Junior Red Angus association through the board of directors is a tremendous experience. Without individuals committing to these leadership roles, the organization does not prosper. We invite you to accept the challenge and make an impact on yourself and others.

## Roles and Expectations of a Board Member

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### Roles of a Board Member:

1. A **leader** who serves the Junior Red Angus Association in state, regional and national activities in an effort to achieve the mission, strategies, and core goals of the organization.
2. A **role model** to motivate, inspire, and encourage JRA members to participate at all levels in the association; assist members in their advancement of agricultural knowledge and leadership development.
3. A **Red Angus representative** who maintains positive relationships with junior and adult members, association staff, industry persons, and others interested in the beef industry.
4. An **advocate** who projects a positive image of Red Angus and the agricultural industry.

### Expectations of a Board Member:

1. Be dedicated and committed to the JRA and the programs and goals set forth by the board of directors.
2. Be willing to commit necessary time, travel, and resources to state, regional, and national activities throughout the entire board term.
3. Serve as a liaison between the states in your region and the national association; maintain current records and communication of upcoming events and opportunities for members in each state within the region.
4. Be willing and able to travel independently as required in service to the JRA.
5. Become knowledgeable of Red Angus and beef industry information and issues.
6. Develop into an effective presenter and project a desirable image of the JRA at all times.
7. Be timely with letters, thank you notes, reports, assignments and other correspondence.
8. Seek out and accept feedback and evaluation of personal performance for continuous improvement.
9. Maintain contact with fellow board members and the RAAA youth coordinator.
10. To forgo alcohol, tobacco, and illegal substances at all times during any RAAA, JRA, or industry related events during the board term.
11. Conduct yourself in a manner that commands respect without any display of superiority.

12. Avoid places or activities that in any way would raise questions as to one's moral character or conduct.
13. Use wholesome and appropriate language in all speeches and informal conversations.
14. Maintain proper dress and good grooming for all occasions.
15. Work in harmony with fellow board members, and not knowingly engage in conversations detrimental to others.
16. Serve as a member of the team, always maintaining a cooperative attitude.
17. Be willing to take and follow instructions from fellow board members, RAAA staff, and those responsible for carrying out Red Angus programs.
18. Monitor personal use of social media to project a positive image of self, others, and the organization.
19. Treat all RAAA and JRA members with respect; refrain from fraternizing with junior members including fellow board members.

*Failure to meet these expectations could result in probation or removal from the board.*

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## Commitments for the Upcoming Year of Service

Your year of service will be filled with activities that carry out the mission of the Junior Red Angus Association. Below is a listing of the activities as they occur throughout the year; this is only a tentative list to give you a preview of the year's events. Events in *italic* are not mandatory but will likely be an opportunity for at least one representative from the board to attend.

### **Activities Throughout the Year**

Weekly Tasks to Carry Out Goals  
 Monthly Board Video-Conferences  
 State/Region Activities & Events

### **July**

Round-Up (Kentucky)

### **September**

RAAA Convention and Board Retreat  
 (Pennsylvania)

### **October**

*Northern Int'l Livestock Expo (Billings)*

### **November**

*Red Western Classic (Reno)*  
*National Red Angus Show (Louisville)*

### **December**

Young Stockman Program (Missouri)

### **January**

*National Western Stock Show (Denver)*

### **February**

*NCBA (Nashville)*

### **June**

*Beef Improvement Federation Meeting*  
 NAJRAE (Tennessee) – National Show

### **July**

Round-Up (Washington)

## Eligibility and Application Procedure

To be eligible for application and election to the Junior Red Angus Association Board of Directors, the following requirements must be met:

1. Any JRA member who has reached his or her 16th birthday as of the board application deadline, but has not reached his or her 21st birthday as of the board application deadline, is eligible for nomination to the Board of Directors. Any JRA member applying for election to the JRA Board must maintain a continuous JRA or RAAA membership for a minimum of two years prior to the year of officer application. Any JRA member applying for election to the JRA Board must have attended a minimum of one (1) Round-Up or Young Stockman's Program prior to the deadline of the officer application.
2. JRA board members reaching their 21st birthday before completing a term in office are allowed to remain active on the Board for the remainder of the term only if an upgrade from the JRA membership to a regular RAAA membership is made within 30 days of the 21st birthday. Failure of the JRA Board member to make the membership upgrade to a regular RAAA membership within the 30-day grace period will result in automatic termination from the JRA Board.
3. A member of the JRA must submit an official director application and signed pledge form showing his or her intent to run for a position on the Board of Directors. The application due date will be determined annually by the Board and published in the Red Generation.
4. All candidates for the JRA Board of Directors must be present at the annual business meeting, held during Round-Up each year, to be eligible for election to the Board.
5. All directors shall be elected at the annual business meeting by the general membership present by a simple majority vote.

The official board application and pledge can be accessed at [redangus.org/jra/board-of-directors](http://redangus.org/jra/board-of-directors)