

JUNIOR
RED  **ANGUS**
ASSOCIATION

Junior Red Angus Association

Board of Directors
2026-2027 Candidate Guide

Contact Information

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The National Junior Board Experience

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

Serving on the national board requires dedication to tasks and energy to accomplish 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 cooperatively 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

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 the 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 about Red Angus and beef industry 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 respectfully; refrain from fraternizing with junior members, including fellow board members.

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

Commitments for the Upcoming Year of Service

Your year of service will be filled with activities that carry out the mission of the association. Below are the activities as they occur throughout the year; this is only a tentative list to give you a preview of the year's events. **The following events are mandatory and will be required by all directors to attend: Cattlemen's Congress, RAYE, Round-Up, RAAA Convention, SPARK, and YBIC (Bi-Annual).** *If one or more mandatory events are missed, that JRA Director could face disciplinary actions that could result in being removed from the board.*

Other regional show attendance will be discussed after the elections at a following directors' meeting. The JRA would like to have two to three directors at each regional event. Events in *italics* are other beef industry opportunities but are not mandatory.

Activities Throughout the Year

Tasks to Carry Out Goals
Monthly Zoom Meetings
Board Retreats
Fundraising Work
Communication Assignments
State/Region Activities & Events

June 2025

Red Angus Youth Expo (Springfield, MO)
Date: June 21-26, 2026

July

Onboarding (OKC)
Tentative Date: July 11-12, 2026
Roundup (OKC)
Date: July 13-17, 2026

September

RAAA Convention & Board Retreat (PA)
Date: Sept. 15-18, 2026
Fall Retreat (PA)
Tentative Date: Sept. 13-14, 2026

October

Northern International Livestock Expo (Billings)
American Royal (Kansas City)

November

Western National Red Angus Show (Reno)
Regional Red Angus Show (Louisville)

January

Cattlemen's Congress (Oklahoma City)
Fort Worth Stock Show (Fort Worth)

February

NCBA (*Nashville*)
Date: Feb 2-4, 2027
Canadian Angus GOAL Conference

April

SPARK (Desdemona, TX)
Tentative Date: April 1-4, 2027
YBIC (Bi-Annual: 2028, 2030...)
Spring Retreat

June 2026

Red Angus Youth Expo (Grand Island, NE)
Date: June 20-25, 2027

July

Round-Up (2027 TBD)
Tentative Date: June 12-16, 2027

Candidate Selection Process

Please review the candidate selection process and let the Junior Coordinator know if there are any questions regarding expectations.

1. Applications for the JRA Board of Directors are due May 22, 2026.
2. Please review the JRA By-Laws as well, and note:
 - a. Section 1: Board of Directors
 - i. a) The Association shall be managed by a board of up to eight directors. Each Director's term will be for 2 (two) years. Directors will be limited to 2 (two) consecutive terms.
3. There will be a mandatory candidate meeting prior to RAYE.
4. Candidates will be introduced at the junior membership breakfast meeting and will be allowed to give a brief speech about themselves
5. Directors will be voted on at the JRA Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Red Angus Youth Expo. The newly elected directors will be announced at the awards ceremony.
6. Candidates are asked to be present during the week of the RAYE to help the current junior board of directors as needed. Candidates will report to the Junior Coordinator. Being present and participating during the week of RAYE allows junior members to get to know the candidates. It also gives candidates a chance to get an inside look at what is expected of the board of directors.
7. Candidates are allowed to campaign and talk with junior members during the week. Candidates are also allowed to have a poster/flyer with their state display (See 2026 RAYE premium book for state herdsmanship)
8. Any candidate who fails to be present during the JRA Annual Meeting will be disqualified.
9. Candidates are allowed to compete and exhibit at the 2026 RAYE.

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 the two years prior to the membership year of officer application. Any JRA member applying for election to the JRA Board must have physically attended a minimum of one national event hosted by the JRA 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.
4. All candidates for the JRA Board of Directors must be present at the annual business meeting 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.