

This  
2023 N.R.C.A. RODEO RULE BOOK  
has been revised and replaces the  
2020 Rule Book.

2023 NRCA OFFICERS

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## CONTENTS

Article I-----Organization and Purposes	4
Article II----Officers and Duties	5
Article III---Membership and Permit	8
Article IV---Conduct and Disqualification	9
Article V----Rodeo Approval	11
Article VI---Point System and Awards	12
Article VII--Rodeo Events and Procedures	13
A. General Rules	13
B. Arena Rules	14
C. Drawing Stock	15
D. Draw Outs and Refunds	16
E. Purse and Pay Offs	16
F. Judging	18
G. Secretary and Rodeo Office	20
H. Rerides	20
Article VIII---Events	21
A. Calf Roping	21
B. Bull Riding	22
C. Bareback Riding	22
D. Saddle Bronc Riding	23
E. Steer Wrestling	24
F. Team Roping	25
G. Senior Men's Breakaway	27
H. Ladies Barrel Racing	28
I. Ladies Breakaway Roping	30
J. Goat Tying	31
K. Mixed Team Roping	33
Article IX---Finals	33
Saddle Bronc Match Rules	35
Index	36-37

# ARTICLE I

## ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSES

### A. Organization:

1. This Association shall be known as the Northwest Ranch Cowboys Association (N.R.C.A.).
2. The NRCA area of jurisdiction shall be Montana, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Western Nebraska.
3. It is organized under the Laws of the State of Wyoming.

### B. Purposes Shall Be:

1. To promote rodeo as a sport and to protect the local ranch cowboy who does not rodeo as a profession.
2. To develop cooperation with management in attaining better rodeos, fair treatment of contestants and true sportsmanship in the Western Tradition.
3. To maintain a record of dollars won by each contestant in each event as a point system to determine the champions at the end of the season.
4. To publish a booklet "Piggin' String" or newsletter which will include approved rodeos, dates, events, purses, entry fees, opening and closing times, call numbers, results, and standings for the convenience of the membership.
5. To guarantee that entry fees are added to purses and then handled in accordance of the authority granted for the benefit of member contestants.
6. To maintain appropriate rules and conditions for the betterment of governance over NRCA rodeos, events, and contestants.
7. To hold an annual meeting and/or banquet and/or convention for the deliberations and pleasure of the NRCA.

## ARTICLE II OFFICERS AND DUTIES

A. The Officers of the NRCA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and a Board of Directors.

1. Only paid up members may hold office, and the terms for said offices are for two years.
2. The president and directors for calf roping, senior men's breakaway roping, bull riding, ladies breakaway roping, team roping heeler and stock contractor shall be elected on even numbered years.
3. The directors for barrel racing, bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping header, goat tying and mixed team roping shall be elected on odd numbered years.
4. An officer or director may serve for as many years as elected at the annual meeting, and can hold only one office at any given time.

B. The President Shall:

1. Preside over all NRCA meetings;
2. Conduct the business of the Association in accordance to its rules and bylaws;
3. Appoint all committees and serve in an ex-officio capacity to each;
4. Have had previous officer experience in the NRCA to qualify for election;
5. Accept salary set by the Board of Directors;
6. Shall assist all other officers and directors in the exercise of their duties;
7. Shall be the only officer qualified to vote in director decisions.

C. The Vice-President Shall:

1. Be appointed by the Board of Directors;
2. Assume the duties of the President in his absence;
3. Meet the same qualifications as the President before appointment;
4. Shall also assist all other officers where need be.

D. The Secretary-Treasurer Shall:

1. Be appointed also by the Board of Directors;
2. Keep the minutes of all regular, special and committee meetings held by the Association;
3. Care for and safeguard all records and funds of the NRCA;
4. Record and report all activities, receipts, reimbursements for the year to the annual general meeting;
5. Accept bond coverage by the Association;
6. Make all payments for the NRCA by co-signed checks with the President;
7. Accept salary set by the Board of Directors;
8. Provide a new Secretary-Treasurer, a signed receipt documenting all equipment and supplies and a complete financial statement upon leaving the office;
9. Carry on all correspondence, provide notice to the news media and do other secretarial chores as required by the NRCA;
10. Provide records for a yearly audit.

E. The Board of Directors Shall:

1. Hold authority over all business and decisions of the NRCA including making, adopting, altering, and amending any rule and/or bylaw of the Association;
2. Be the final appeals board for any NRCA grievance or misunderstanding;
3. Do business only with a quorum present (three elected directors at least)
4. Cast the "deciding vote" on any rule only at the second meeting called to consider said rule;

5. A Director Shall:

1. Represent his event at each directors meeting;
2. Appoint a representative as spokesman in his absence with voting privileges;
3. May be removed if he and/or his spokesman miss three meetings in one year;
4. Listen to any grievance in his event and channel that grievance to the Board, if justified.
5. Be responsible for obtaining sponsors to furnish trophy saddles, buckles or other awards pertaining to his event; and
6. Shall protect the event he represents in fairness to those contestants who use it.

F. Other Authority of Officers:

1. Any officer shall have authority to represent any event in the absence of its director;
2. The President and Board shall appoint regional non voting directors as public relations personnel;
3. The Board shall fill any officer vacancy at a special election of the Board of Directors;
4. The President or any two directors can call a special board meeting providing that all members have been notified;
5. All or any salaries shall be under the jurisdiction of the Board;
6. The Board of Directors shall promote memberships, more and better rodeos and help secure all awards for the winner in their events;
7. The Officers and Board shall set date, time and place of annual meeting and/or banquet and/or convention and shall advertise the same through the newsletter at least five days in advance. Twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP AND PERMITS

1. Membership is open to any person interested in rodeo and the purposes of the NRCA in the Association area.
  - (a) You must be a citizen of the U.S. and a resident in one of the 5 states; South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, and Nebraska to qualify for the NRCA Finals Rodeo and to win any of the awards. To be considered a bona fide resident and a point earning member, a person must reside in SD, ND, MT, WY, or NE at least 30 days prior to the first rodeo they compete in and must live at the residency throughout the rodeo season, hold a valid driver's license in one of the 5 states or have been born in one of the 5 states. Non-residents will be considered non-point earning members unless proof is provided of residency in one of the 5 states. If there is any question as to the residency of any member, it will be the decision of the majority of the board of directors to decide the question.
2. All paid up members may vote for President and directors, but to nominate and be nominated for director, one must be active in that event.
3. Only paid up members may compete at approved rodeos and/or permit holding contestants.
4. All rodeo announcers, stock contractors, judges, pick-up men, clowns and bull fighters must be paid up members to work NRCA approved rodeos, in order to be eligible to work the Finals.
5. Membership cards will be sold to all members in good standing.
6. There will be a list published of all members who are on the suspended or bad debt list. Also, the member is on a cash basis only.



7. Members shall comply with all Association rules and bylaws and shall have authority to seek official instructions in the absence of an officer at any NRCA event where a problem develops.

8. Memberships in the NRCA are not transferable, and any member who wishes to resign must do so in writing, accepting no refund guarantees.

9. Any member entering other contestants is responsible for payment of those entry fees. Violations are subject to fine and suspension.

10. New members will be on a cash basis the first year.

11. Nonmembers may purchase a permit to work one rodeo approved by the NRCA. In order to work a second rodeo as a nonmember, another permit must be purchased.

Also, a nonmember working an NRCA approved rodeo who lives within a 50 mile radius, may have a one-time exemption and can work the rodeo without purchasing a permit. For any other approved NRCA rodeo, the nonmember must purchase a permit or buy a membership in the NRCA.

#### ARTICLE IV CONDUCT AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

1. The officers and Board of Directors may fine or suspend any member deemed necessary for the following misconduct:

- (a) Slander of the NRCA;
- (b) Writing bad checks;
- (c) Nonpayment of entry fees;
- (d) Fighting, quarreling, or causing trouble in the arena;
- (e) In any way attempting to unjustly influence the results of an event;
- (f) Failure to pay motel bills during a rodeo.

2. Judges, arena directors, stock contractors or members shall report these violations to the board.

3. The President using NRCA funds shall make good all bad checks written for entry fees. Any member who writes such checks or leaves a motel bill unpaid during an Association rodeo is subject to the following fines and conditions:

(a) After notification of bad check, the contestant has one week to take care of it. If check has not been made good by allotted time the association will send the fees and apply a \$25 fine. The next offense will have a \$50 fine plus fees and be on cash basis for the remainder of the year. Any further offenses will be brought before the directors.

(b) Bad check must be cleared one week in advance or member cannot enter the next rodeo.

(c) If bad checks and fines are not paid within two weeks following notice, they will be turned over to a collection agency.

(d) Rodeo committees must turn in all bad checks twenty-one days after the rodeo or NRCA will assume no responsibility.

4. Contestants may be disqualified by majority vote of the rodeo judges and the arena director for the following offenses:

(a) Being under the influence of liquor or nonprescription drugs in the arena;

(b) Mistreating stock; Anyone caught abusing an animal in or out of the arena can be disqualified, fined or both. The disqualification will come from the judges at the rodeo where the incident happens. The announcer will notify the public what has taken place. Incidents that happen outside the arena will be handled by the board along

with any fines that are levied  
such as: 1st offense-\$100.00  
fine; 2nd-\$200.00; 3rd-  
\$400.00 and possible loss of card.

(c) Not being ready when called upon to  
compete;

(d) Refusing to contest during paid  
performance on animal drawn;

(e) If equipment breaks or comes off  
during contest run or ride;

(f) If contestant does not wear western  
attire such as long sleeved shirt, cuffs,  
snaps or buttons and no pullovers, a  
western hat (no caps), western boots,  
etc., in the arena, he will be fined.  
However, a jacket, vest or pullover may  
be worn in cold weather as long as  
proper western attire is underneath. A  
fine of \$25 for 1st offense and \$50 for  
2nd offense may be assessed to the  
contestant. Any further offenses will be  
brought before the directors.

(g) Cheating or attempting to cheat.

5. The Board of Directors may also inflict a fine  
with the disqualifications if the offense justifies.
6. The NRCA shall maintain and post an Association  
suspended list.

#### ARTICLE V RODEO APPROVAL

1. The NRCA will approve rodeos and their purses  
for Association members. This approval shall be  
noticed far enough in advance so that the rodeo may  
be advertised as such.
2. The President and any three directors shall have  
the power to give approval to any rodeo for NRCA  
members.
3. All approved NRCA rodeos must be opened to all  
association members in good standing.
4. A list of approved judges will be submitted to all  
rodeo committees yearly for use at NRCA approved  
rodeos.
5. A fee will be assessed all rodeo committees as a

membership upon rodeo approval. The fee will be set by the Board of Directors.

6. At all jointly approved rodeos there must be one NRCA approved judge and one NRCA approved timer.

7. All NRCA first-approved rodeos must have one judge and one stock contractor who hold a current NRCA membership card.

8. All approved rodeos shall consist of five standard events plus two women's events.

9. All approved rodeos will assess a \$3.00 finals fee charge to each contestant.

## ARTICLE VI POINT SYSTEM AND AWARDS

1. To be eligible for NRCA trophy points, a person must have a current card, be a resident of the designated Association area and a member in good standing.
2. NRCA points will be figured from the first rodeo following the finals of one year through the finals of the next year.
3. Points will be awarded, one point for each dollar won. The most dollars won will decide the champions.
4. In order to win the "all-around cowboy", a contestant must have worked and won points in at least one riding event and in at least one timed event.
5. All recipients of awards have to be present at the presentation of the awards or they will go to the next in line. Any exceptions will be decided by the Board of Directors.
6. In order to win the "all-around cowgirl", a contestant must have worked and won points in at least two events.
7. Cowboy or cowgirl "Rookie of the Year" will constitute a first year member, most money won and cannot hold or have held a PRCA, WPRA or PBR card and under the age of 21 years.

## ARTICLE VII RODEO EVENTS AND PROCEDURES

### **A. General Rules:**

1. There are no set salaries for rodeo officials.
2. The management of each NRCA rodeo shall provide ambulance and first aid service for said rodeo.
3. The NRCA reserves the right to withdraw its members from any approved rodeo which does not conform to the NRCA rules.
4. Animals for all events will be inspected before the draw and no defective stock shall be used.

Team roping, steer wrestling and senior men's breakaway steers will have their horns tipped to at least the size of a nickel.

5. If an animal becomes defective after the draw, the judge shall draw a replacement.
6. All draws shall be posted in a conspicuous place before the rodeo begins.
7. If stock is turned out during a paid performance, the contestant will be disqualified in all events for the remainder of the rodeo. Any exception must be approved by the judges and arena director.
8. If stock is turned out during other than at a paid performance, the contestant is eligible to compete on all other stock.
9. Turned out stock shall not be brought back.
  - (a) A \$25 fine will be assessed for non-notified no shows and turn outs. A notified turn out must be done 24 hours before the 1st performance to avoid the fine. All others can be brought before the directors for a decision.
10. If contestant calls for stock, it belongs to him except if arena equipment fails or has fouled his ride or run.

- (a) Contestant must check his own stock.
- (b) Contestant will receive a no time or no score by competing on wrong stock.
- (c) If wrong stock is run, the contestant who drew him will get the second run.

11. If ride or run is fouled, contestant shall declare immediately. Judges decision then becomes final.

12. In all events, first go-round must end before the second go-round begins.

13. Stock contractor shall furnish blackboard to flash scores to the announcer.

14. In the roping events and steer wrestling, each contestant shall be allowed his own pusher.

- (a) Roping events are allowed liners not to extend any further than designated by the barrier judge.

- (b) The catch pen gates will remain open in Ladies Breakaway and Senior Men's Breakaway events.

15. In all timed events, time will be taken flag to flag.

16. After the first performance, timed event cattle will not be used for any event outside the designated rodeo. A \$1000.00 fine will be assessed if there is an infraction of the rule. (Calf scrambles and steer riding are excluded from this rule.)

- (a) All times will be timed to the tenths in the timed events except Barrel Race. It will be timed to the thousandths with the use of the electric eye. If electric eye is not used, then the times will be to the hundredths.

### **B. Arena Rules:**

1. If there is a conflict, and the N.R.C.A. rule book does not cover the area in question, we will refer to the current PRCA rule book.

2. Decision of the approved judges, flagman, and timers at a N.R.C.A. rodeo shall be final.

3. Flagman are the sole field authority. They shall not participate in any event over which they officiate.

4. In all timed events an automatic barrier shall be used. Any exception must be authorized by the director of those events.

5. Positions shall be drawn in all timed events and reversed if there are two go-rounds.

6. No person shall be allowed in the arena unless entered or has a signed liability waiver.

7. If possible, the ground should be in comparable condition in slack as the other performances.

### **C. Drawing Stock:**

1. All stock in the riding events must be drawn by number, by a judge.

(a) There must be at least 3 copies made of the draw, one for each judge and the secretary.

(b) Receptacle containing numbers must be held above the judge's vision.

(c) A complete performance must be drawn at one time in the riding events.

(d) If a contestant is injured, his draw may be held until later in the go-round.

(e) No contestant may compete on two head of stock in the same event during a performance except on a re-ride or rerun.

2. Stock in all timed events must be drawn not more than one hour before the performance.

(a) It shall be done by a judge.

(b) No drawn stock can be held from one performance to the next.

(c) All first draw runs including any re-runs must be completed before second draw runs begin.

#### **D. Draw Outs and Refunds:**

1. No draw outs will be allowed nor refunds paid after position or stock is drawn except:

(a) If the contestant is ill or injured and has a signed doctors release of said illness or injury or vet release & it is validated by a judge or the contractor;

(b) When a doctor's or vet release is used, it will eliminate the contestant from competing in an approved show for seven days from the date of the release;

(c) In team roping, if his partner fails to show or has drawn out and is not replaced;

(d) If contestant is injured and does not receive markings and also cannot compete in the other entered events.

2. Refunds can be paid in the above circumstances, but must be cleared by a judge and if deduction is made before the payoff.
3. In any other draw outs for circumstantial reasons, refunds shall be handled by the Board of Directors.
4. A \$25 fine will be assessed for non-notified no shows and turn outs at a rodeo. A notified turn out must be done 24 hours before the first performance to avoid the fine. All others can be brought before the directors for a decision if there is a question.

#### **E. Purse and Pay-off:**

1. No purse shall be less than \$50.00 an event for a one go-round rodeo. For each additional go-round, \$25.00 will be added.
2. Purse money will be added to all entry fees for each event.
3. If an event is cancelled, that purse money will be distributed equally among the other events.
4. Before the payoff is made, 3% shall be deducted, 2% going to the NRCA and 1% going to the committee.
  - (a) In all jointly approved rodeos, the 2% deduction shall be split evenly between the two associations.



5. Payoffs will be made as follows:

(a) If the total purse is:

- \$0-\$1000.00 prior to the percent money being taken out, will pay 4 places at 40-30-20-10 percent,
- \$1000.01-\$3000.00 prior to the percent money being taken out, will pay 6 places at 29-24-19-14-9-5 percent,
- \$3000.01 and up prior to the percent money being taken out, will pay 8 places at 23-20-17-14-11-8-5-2 percent.

The bottom place always needs to pay back the entry fee, if it does not with the above payoff schedule adjust down to the next placing. In those cases, use the following payoff schedules;

- 1 place will pay 100 percent,
- 2 places will pay 60-40 percent,
- 3 places will pay 50-30-20 percent,
- 5 places will pay 30-25-20-15-10,
- 7 places will pay 27-22-18-14-10-6-3

This would not apply to the finals rodeo.

(b) If an event has 7 or less contestants, then you pay places of  $\frac{1}{2}$  the number of contestants and round down if uneven (EX.-7 contestants makes it 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  rounded down to 3 places: 50%, 30%, 20%. 5 contestants-2 places: 60%, 40%. 3 contestants- 1 place: 100%

(c) If the rodeo has two or more go-rounds, all day moneys will be equal and average will be as follows: two go's 33%, four go's 40%, and five go's or more 37%.

(d) If the rodeo has a long go, a short go and an average, it will be paid: 40%, 20%, and 40%.

(e) All other payoff decisions will be made by the Board of Directors.

6. If there is any ground money in an event, it will be divided evenly among those contestants posting a qualified time or score. Ground money will not count towards the standings. If there are no qualifying times or scores, the money will be divided as follows:

(a) The committee keeps the added purse money.

- (b) The percent money is taken from the entry fee money. 1% goes to the committee, the other percent money is divided among the approving associations.
  - (c) Entry fee money minus the percent money is then divided among the approving associations.
7. If after second go-round is completed and there are not four qualified times on two, average shall be paid on fastest time or high ride on one.

#### **F. Judging:**

1. In the riding events, the ride and animals shall be marked separately. The figures shall be from one to twenty-five in both instances and the total spread shall be used.

2. To qualify, bronc riders must have spurs over the break of the shoulders and touching the horse when the front feet hit the ground the first jump out of the chute.

- (a) If a horse stalls out of the chute, either judge shall tell rider to take spurs from horse's shoulder and first jump markings will be waived.
  - (b) Rider shall be disqualified for not following judge's instruction.
  - (c) If rider is fouled out of the chute, it's the judge's discretion to grant a re-ride or waive the markings rule.
3. Saddle bronc and bareback rigging may be cinched from both sides, but the latigos cannot be pulled simultaneously.
4. In the timed events, the barrier and score line rules are as follows:
- (a) The score line shall be no longer than the length of the box minus six feet or as approved by the director;
  - (b) A ten second penalty will be added for breaking or beating the barrier;
  - (c) If the ring drops within ten feet of the post, the barrier will be judged broken; it is the judge's discretion.
  - (d) Neither the score line nor the box can be changed after the event has been started;

(e) Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event starts;

(f) If the barrier fails to work and time has not started, the contestant will get stock back missed or not;

(g) If barrier fails, but time is recorded, contestant will get time and no broken barrier. If barrier hangs on the stock and contestant pulls up, he shall be granted a re-run.

5. The flagman must be notified of grievance before next contestant runs, but the decision may be delayed until after the section is over.

(a) If stock escapes from arena, flag will drop and watches stopped. Contestant will get the animal back lap and tap and the two times will be added for qualification time.

(b) If stock has rope on it when it leaves the arena, it shall come out of the chute roped and lap and tap. The two times again here will be added for a qualified time.

6. In team roping and senior men's breakaway roping there are three legal clean catches: around the horns, half a head and around the neck.

Diagram for legal half-head catches.

Anything else is not considered half-head.



(a) Illegal head catches: if hondo passes over one horn and loop over the other; if loop crosses itself; or if a leg or legs are in the head loop.

7. No timers or judges shall be changed after the first head of stock has gone except in case of illness or

injury.

8. Field flagmen must carry stop watches when judging calf roping.

#### **G. Secretary and Rodeo Office:**

1. Any member who intends to act as a rodeo secretary must notify N.R.C.A. office for approval.
2. When contestant enters, the secretary shall list name and number.
3. All entry fees shall be paid thirty minutes prior to the grand entry or contestant is subject to a \$10.00 fine. Exceptions can be cleared, only for a valid reason, and by the rodeo secretary.
4. Rodeo secretaries shall notify unpaid entry fees immediately to the N.R.C.A. office.
5. Entry fees shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
6. Only officers, directors, and secretaries may sell cards.
7. Secretaries shall send results immediately to the media and N.R.C.A. office.
8. Whoever provides the rodeo secretary shall be responsible for any discrepancies in the handling of entry fees and the payoffs.
9. If stock contractor provides his own secretary, it must be at his own expense and the committee secretary may work in conjunction.

#### **H. Rerides:**

1. Rerides must be given in all three riding events for the following reasons: if animal runs off, falls, fouls the rider in the chute, or won't buck.
  - (a) If animal runs off or won't buck, the rider may ask for a new draw or take the same stock back for his ride.
  - (b) If an animal turns out backwards, and the rider completes a qualified ride, he has the option of a ride.
2. All stock drawn for the first performance must contest before it can be drawn for rerides. Turn outs may be used as rerides.

3. The judges may grant a reride if two honest attempts are made by the contestant to come out on a chute fighting horse or bull.
4. After all rough stock has gone once at a one head rodeo, the decision as to which stock will be in subsequent draws will be decided by the stock contractor and the judges.
5. At least two extras will be provided in each event for rerides by the contractor.

## ARTICLE VIII CONTEST EVENTS

### A. Calf Roping:

1. At all N.R.C.A. rodeos, the calf roping will require at least two timers, a field judge and a barrier judge.
2. The method used in calf roping is "catch as catch can":
  - a) Contestant will be allowed two loops, they must be carried, and thrown to qualify time: one loop will be used at the Finals rodeo.
  - (b) Contestant will adjust rope and reins to prevent horse from dragging calf. He shall receive no outside help, except the flagman may intercede to prevent injury to livestock.
  - (c) Any intentional abuse to livestock will result in an immediate \$100.00 fine.
3. Rope may be dallied or tied hard and fast for the catch.
  - (a) Contestant must dismount, go down rope, throw calf by hand and cross and tie any three feet with at least one wrap and a half hitch.
  - (b) If calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be day-lighted and then tied.
  - (c) If roper's hand is on the calf when it falls, calf is considered thrown.
  - (d) Rope must hold the calf until the roper touches the calf, tie must hold until judge passes it. The roper shall not go

back to the calf after signaling finish, and the untie man shall not touch anything until signal is given from the flagman.

(e) Calf must stay tied for six seconds after the roper has mounted his horse and has taken at least one step forward.

(f) If the roper takes his rope off the calf before the flagman signals an official tie, the contestant will be disqualified.

### **B. Bull Riding:**

1. No more than two men may be on the chute at one time to pull the contestant's rope.
2. Headfighting bulls with bad horns shall be tipped or dehorned.
3. There must be a bullfighter at work at all N.R.C.A. rodeos.
4. A qualified ride shall be:
  - (a) for eight seconds;
  - (b) Using a bull rope, handholds optional with no knots;
  - (c) Rope may have no more than two seven inch bells with total length from rope to bell tip not to exceed ten inches. Bells cannot be of excessive weight or size. This is up to the judge's discretion.
5. If flank comes off during a qualified ride, the contestant may accept marking or ask for a re-ride.
6. Rider may be disqualified for the following reasons:
  - (a) Being bucked off;
  - (b) Touching animal with free hand;
  - (c) Using sharp spurs;
  - (d) Having no bells on rope.
7. Contestant can ask for judges inspection if the bull seems improperly flanked.

### **C. Bareback Bronc Riding:**

1. A one hand rigging shall be used with one inch foam or hair pad, leather covered on both sides, at least fourteen inches wide extending from the front of the rigging to at least two inches behind. A contestant may use their own rigging if it is not

over ten inches wide at the handhold and not having over a six inch "D" ring.

2. Horses must be marked and ridden for eight seconds.
3. Riders who are knocked off at the chute, or if the horse falls, or if the flank breaks or comes off during a qualified ride, the rider may be given a reride at the discretion of the judges, but on the same horse.
4. If rigging is objectionable, stock contractor may ask judges to intercede.
5. Contestants may call judges attention if horse is improperly flanked.
6. Rider may be disqualified for the following reasons:
  - (a) Riding with rowels too sharp;
  - (b) Being bucked off;
  - (c) Touching animal, or clothing, or self with free hand;
  - (d) If rigging comes off horse without breaking;
  - (e) If rigging breaks at any point during the ride.
7. There will be no tape or adhesive other than dry resin used on the rigging or on the rider's gloves. Finger tuck shall not be legal and rigging shall not be cinched with the hand in the handhold.
8. If flank comes off, the rider may have a reride on the same horse provided contestant completes a qualified ride or he may take that score.

#### **D. Saddle Bronc Riding:**

1. A contestant shall ride with a plain halter, a single rope rein and a three quarter rig saddle (measured from center of the horn base to the inside of the top of cantle).
2. Standard halter is compulsory unless agreed to other wise by stock contractor.
3. To qualify the rider must:
  - (a) Have hand and rein on the same side of horse's neck;
  - (b) Ride for eight or ten seconds depending on the discretion of the stock contractor;
  - (c) One arm must be free at all times;

- (d) Mark (Rule 2 under judging).
- 4. Rerides (Rule 1 under judging).
- 5. If saddle, halter or rein comes off or breaks during ride, rider shall be disqualified. Other disqualifications are:
  - (a) Being bucked off;
  - (b) Changing hand on rein;
  - (c) Wrapping rein around hand;
  - (d) Pulling leather;
  - (e) Losing stirrup;
  - (f) Touching animal, saddle, or rein with free hand;
  - (g) Riding with locked or locking spurs, any exceptions must be ruled on by the judges.
  - (h) Riding with rowels too sharp.
- 6. If flank comes off, rider may have a reride on the same horse if he has made a qualified ride.
- 7. Horse is to be saddled in the chute, rider may cinch or examine cinching and contestant and contractor may call judges attention to examine saddle and/or flank for proper use.
- 8. Only dry resin may be used as an adhesive in the saddle bronc riding.

### **E. Steer Wrestling:**

- 1. All general timed event rules shall apply to this event.
- 2. Timers and judges are the same as in calf roping.
- 3. The steer must be caught from a horse and:
  - (a) Brought to a stop or change directions and twisted down;
  - (b) Time will be taken when steer is flat on its side or on its back with all four feet and head straight;
  - (c) Wrestler must have his hand on the steer when flagged;
  - (d) Dogger may have two jumps or 30 seconds;
  - (e) Steers that are knocked down or hoolihanded must be let up and then thrown;
  - (f) If steer gets loose after jump, dogger



can take only one step to recatch him.

(g) Dogger will be allowed only one jump at the Finals rodeo.

4. Contestant may be disqualified if hazer renders any assistance to dogger while working with the steer.

5. Dogging cattle cannot be held over from one year to the next and cannot exceed 750 pounds except by approval of the dogging director.

6. If dogger uses one jump, flagman must ask if he wants a second and dogger must indicate immediately.

7. Steers are not to be used in any other event other than the senior men's breakaway.

#### **F. Team Roping:**

1. Points will count in this event whether tie down or dally roping. At enter twice team roping rodeos, if a roper places twice, the highest placing will go towards standings.
2. In a one go-round rodeo with more than 20 entries, one loop will be allowed at each end in both tie down and dally. If 20 teams or less, then the team is allowed a total of 3 loops, except at the Finals rodeo.
3. If the field judge flags out a team with one or more legal loops left, the team will be given the same steer back lap and tap with a five second penalty for each loop already used if no time is registered.
4. Header may come out of either side of the box, but shall notify barrier judge of which.
5. If header or heeler ropes a front foot and it comes out before flagman signals time, it qualifies.
6. After head catch, the heeler must rope one or both legs, heels, or toes so that it hold until the tie is completed. The heel rope may cross itself and

be a legal catch, but hondo cannot hold a toe only and qualify. The heel rope may also pass up over the hips and be considered legal. No catches, head or heels may be adjusted by hand.

(a) Cross-firing is illegal. The steer's body must be changed and moving forward before the heel loop can be thrown. However, if the steer stops it must only be moving forward for the heel loop to be legal. Any heel loop thrown in the switch will be considered a crossfire and no time will be recorded.

7. If a roper enters and pays both entry fees and his partner doesn't show, he may pick another partner not already entered in the same rodeo, for his partner.

8. Timers and judges are the same as in calf roping.

9. In tie down 1-8 plus the following rules shall apply:

- (a) If roper uses two loops, he may carry two or rebuild;
- (b) Ropes that touch the ground are considered used;
- (c) Broken ropes will be considered a no time;
- (d) Steer may be tripped, stretched or tailed down;
- (e) Ropes must be attached to both horses, and steer must be on its side when the judge flags time;
- (f) A square or granny knot above the dew claws shall be the legal ties;
- (g) Ends need not be pulled out of tie to qualify time;
- (h) Roper cannot return to his tie after signaling for time.

10. In dally roping 1-8 plus the following

- (a) Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one rope;
- (b) Heelers 50 years old and older may tie on;
- (c) Field judge shall drop flag when steer is roped by its head and heels both horses are facing steer in line with ropes dallied and tight. Horse's front feet must

be on the ground and ropers must be mounted for flag to drop. Steer must be standing up when roped by head and heels.

(d) Flagman may disqualify team for roughing stock intentionally.

(e) Broken or dropped rope will be a no time.

(f) When a header faces he signals for time. Any illegal catches on head or heels after the header faces will disqualify a run if heeler is dallied and both ropes are tight.

(g) There will be a five second penalty added if the heeler ropes only one hind foot or leg.

(h) Ropers must hold their dallies for flagman's inspection.

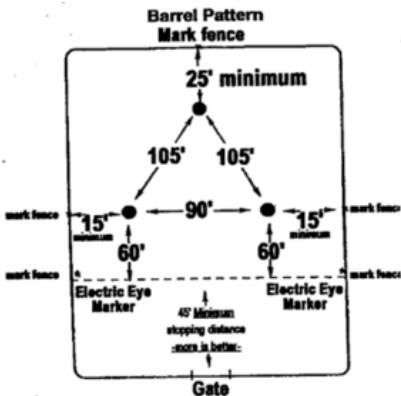
(i) Dally team roping dally steers cannot exceed 750 pounds.

### **G. Senior Men's Breakaway Roping:**

1. Contestant must be at least 50 years old.
2. Steers will be used in this event.
3. Rope must have a visible flag attached no more than six inches from the horn where rope is tied. Rope must be tied to the saddle horn with string. String must be of strong enough weight so as not to break off on its own when or before slack is thrown-steer must break it off.
  - (a) Yellow carpenter string will be used at the Finals rodeo in both Senior Men's Breakaway and Ladies Breakaway. It will be suggested to the committees to also use it throughout the season.
4. Time will be taken when rope breaks from the horn. Once the slack is thrown, the roper will be disqualified if he goes back to the rope.
5. Contestant will be allowed only one loop and cannot break rope from saddle horn by hand.
6. There will be three judges, one at the barrier, one in the field flagging the time and one at the pen passing on the catch. Ropers can designate capable cowboy or cowgirl to inspect catch at catch pen gate.

## H. Ladies Barrel Racing:

1. A rider may either go right or left around the first barrel and they must make two left turns and one right turn, or two right turns and one left turn.
2. The standard barrel pattern shall be used as shown except in arena conditions such as small arenas or at the discretion of the judges, arena director and barrel racing director.
3. The first barrel will be at least sixty feet from the starting line and any variation in distance must depend on the arena size.
4. The starting line must be at least twenty feet long and marked at both ends by a red flag. If this line is not crossed both going and coming, the contestant will be disqualified.
5. Barrels should be fifty-five gallon barrels and all three barrels should always be the same size. Barrels should not have tires on the top and both ends of the barrel should be in; however, if it is not possible to have both ends in the barrel, the open end should be on the bottom.
6. The barrels shall not be set on the stakes while practicing in the arena prior to a rodeo performance.



7. No contestant will be allowed a practice run after the rodeo has begun.
8. Should a contestant knock over a barrel, she will be assessed a five second penalty instead of a no time.
9. Barrels and starting line must be marked permanently for the entire rodeo.
10. No two contestants are allowed to ride the same horse during the same go-round. They will both be disqualified.
11. No contestant can have any help from anyone after she has crossed the starting line.
12. A contestant will be disqualified if she comes back across the starting line before she has finished the pattern.
13. During a two go-round rodeo, if a contestant rides one day and cannot be there on the next day, another person cannot ride for her. If a contestant is entered and does not come the first day, she cannot run the second day and compete for day money.
14. If the contestant is not here when her name is called, she does not get her run unless the contestant can prove good reason.
15. If the horse falls or similar incident occurs, the contestant cannot have a re-run.
16. An electric eye will be used for the barrel racing event and paid for by the barrel racers. The times will be timed to the thousandths. If more than one rodeo is held on the same weekend, the rodeo with the most prize money will use the electric eye. The other rodeo will use an approved field flag judge and the runs will be timed in the hundreds.
17. All field flag judges shall flag the horse's nose in and the horse's nose out and a field flag judge shall be used as a backup to the electric eye for each run. Two timers are also required along with the use of the electric eye. The manual time for each contestant shall be the average of the two

- hand held watches when a manual time is used as the official time. This process should be followed even with the use of the electric eye. One judge shall flag in line with the eye and the other shall record times off the readout meter along with the timers.
18. If the electric eye fails to function for fifty-one percent or more of the barrel racers in one performance, hand held time will be used for all barrel racers in that rodeo.
  19. If the electric eye fails to function for fifty percent or less of the barrel racers in one performance, they will have the option of taking a re-run before knowing their manual time.
  20. If the eye cannot be set up and working within 15 minutes, then all hand held times will be used for the entire rodeo.
  21. Raking will take place at the Finals. The first four barrel racers in the standings find the rakers for the first performance, the second four find rakers for the second performance, and the third four find rakers for the third performance. Failure to do this is a \$25 fine.

#### **I. Ladies Breakaway Roping:**

1. All general timed event rules shall apply to this event.
2. Only calves will be used for this event. Same calves may be used for the ladies breakaway as for the calf roping.
3. Rope(s) must have a visible flag attached no more than six inches from the horn where rope is tied. Rope(s) must be tied to the saddle horn with string. String must be of strong enough weight so as not to break off on its own when or before slack is thrown-calf must break it off. There will be a designated person to check string when contestant rides in the box. This person to be chosen by the judge and/or contestants. (This may be a different person each performance).
  - (a) Yellow carpenter string will be used at the Finals rodeo in both the Senior Men's Breakaway and Ladies breakaway. It will be suggested to the committees to also use it throughout the season.

4. Rope must be thrown to be considered a catch. Contestant may not ride up by calf and drop loop on. Rope must first go around calf's head and remain around calf's neck when rope breaks away to be a legal catch. Legal catch is considered around the neck only. There will be a designated person either at catch pen or mounted in arena to help flagger decide if catch is legal or not at point of breaking away. This person to be chosen by judge and/or contestants. (This may be a different person each performance).
5. The judge will flag contestant when the rope breaks from the saddle horn. Time will then be taken.
6. There will be a twenty-second time limit. The catch pen gate will be open in a one go-round rodeo and closed in an average rodeo. Contestant may not cut calf off from catch pen gate or she will receive a no time.
7. One loop will be allowed at the Finals Rodeo. Loop is considered thrown once it leaves roper's hand or touches the ground.
8. Contestant may not go back to her rope after slack is thrown or she will receive a no time. If rope dallies and does not break off immediately, she will receive a no time. Contestant may not drag calf around to try and break rope off.

**J. Goat Tying:**

1. There is no set distance from the startline to the goat, but a minimum of fifty feet is desirable. Arena conditions will govern this distance.
2. Goat is to be tied to a stake with a rope at least ten feet in length. Stake should be pounded completely into the ground so that no part is visible. Stake should be a minimum of fifty feet from the back fence.
3. The goat must be held by the collar at the end of the rope in a vertical position from the starting line until time begins. Goat must be held in same positions for each contestant.

4. The contestant must be mounted on a horse and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount, throw the goat by hand and tie any three feet together. A field flag judge will flag the horse's nose to start time and a second field flag judge will flag the end of the tie to stop time. The goat's legs must remain crossed and tied for five seconds.
5. The contestant must stand back three feet from the goat before the field flag judge will start the five second time limit on the tie.
6. If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, the goat must be cleared off the ground before tie is made. If contestant's hand is on the goat when the goat falls, the goat is considered thrown by hand.
7. Once a contestant has signaled her tie complete, she may not again touch her tie.
8. Should the horse run over or contact the goat or rope at any time until flag is dropped, whether he touches the rope or not, the contestant will be fined ten seconds. If the goat should breakaway because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will be disqualified. If the goat should break away any other time, it will be left to the judge's decision whether she will receive a re-run.
9. If there are enough contestants in any one performance to warrant using two goats, the same two goats shall be used in all performances and slack. The same order of goats shall be used in all performances and slack.
10. The number of contestants to tie each goat shall be split in the middle. If there is an uneven number of contestants, the larger half goes on the first goat.
11. If goats are used in the arena at the same time, always tie the left goat first. The contestant is responsible to tie the correct goat.



### **K. Mixed Team Roping:**

Event would be an optional event for rodeos to have as another women's event. Mixed Team Roping will have one vote on the board of directors. A team must include a female. Points will count towards the women's all-around and rookie awards and will not count for men's all-around and rookie awards. Only a woman can win the mixed team roping event.

The top 12 women will qualify for the Finals and would be able to invite the partner of her choice so long as that partner is a member of the N.R.C.A. The cattle for mixed team roping will be drawn for as in other timed events.

The rules for mixed team roping shall be as follows:

1. The header will start from behind a barrier out of the steer wrestling side.
2. The header and heeler may come one from each box or both from the steer wrestling box.
3. Each contestant will be allowed to carry but one rope. At all one-headers, only two loops per team shall be allowed (one loop at each end). Roping steers without turning loose of the loop will be considered a no catch. Ropers must dally to stop steer. The tie face option to tie a rope can only be used by those heelers fifty years of age or older at all rodeos. It is their responsibility to notify the flag judge if they are tied on. Also all women heelers may be tied on.

## ARTICLE IX

### THE N.R.C.A. FINALS/CONVENTION

1. At the end of each season there shall be held an N.R.C.A. Championship Finals Rodeo.
  - (a) The Board of Directors shall set the time and place.
  - (b) Each of the ten recognized events shall be held.
  - (c) The number of contestants, the purse, and the entry fees shall be set by the officers and the Board of Directors.

1. All Finals contestants, judges, contractors and directors must be represented at the General Meeting or a \$25 fine will be assessed to them. The fine must be paid before any stock is taken following the meeting.
  - (d) The designated number of top contestants in each event shall participate in the Finals Rodeo or be subjected to a fine. Any exceptions are at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
  - (e) The livestock, announcer, judges, and timers will be selected by the Board of Directors.
2. An award will be given by the N.R.C.A. to the stock contractor owning the top individual bucking animals of the year.
  - (a) The champion bucking horses and bull shall be selected from the stock drawn at the Finals Rodeo of that year.
  - (b) This stock shall be selected by the contestants in each of these events immediately preceding the last performance at the Finals Rodeo.
3. All rough stock shall be scored by the judges regardless of qualification of the rider. This process will be used in selection of animals in the final performance.
4. Championship buckles will be awarded at the finals to the year-end winners of each event.
5. To qualify for rookie, you must be a first year N.R.C.A. card holder who has not held a PRCA, WPRA, or PBR card and is under the age of 21 years.
6. Only times recorded at rodeos using a barrier will qualify for year-end fast time awards.
7. In case of a tie on points at the Sudden Death Finals Rodeo, the saddle will be awarded to the cowboy or cowgirl who placed the highest in the average. However, in the event that there also would be a tie for 1st in the average, the one average winner who had the fastest time or highest score in the last go of the Finals will be awarded the saddle.

## **Saddle Bronc Match Rules**

- Bronc matches will use the NRCA rule book unless otherwise stated
- The pay off for the bronc match may differ from the rule book
- We will receive the \$3 finals fee per contestant
- 3% will be withheld from the total purse. 1% will be paid to the committee, 2% will be paid to the NRCA unless there is another sanctioning association. In that case the 2% will be divided among the two.
- Contestants will be required to pay a \$20 permit fee if they do not have a membership.
- There is no limiting of contestants
- Contestants must compete in 3 or more NRCA approved rodeos throughout the year for their bronc match money to count in the standings
- The bronc match money will count towards saddle bronc standings only, not the all around
- There will be a limit of 8 matches approved. If there are more than 8 matches, we will meet to determine which matches will be approved.

## INDEX

All Around.....	12
Approval.....	11-12
Arena Rules.....	14
Bad Checks.....	9,10
Banquet.....	4,7
Bareback Rules.....	22,23
Barrel Racing Rules.....	28,29,30
Barrier.....	14,18,20
Bells.....	21,22
Bonds.....	6
Bull Riding Rules.....	21,22
Calf Roping Rules.....	20,21
Cards.....	8
Catches.....	19
Cheating.....	11
Cinching.....	23
Deductions (3%).....	16
Disqualification.....	9,10,11,13,17
Draw.....	13,15
Draw Outs.....	15,16
Election.....	5,7
Entering.....	19
Fees.....	8,9,10,11,12,19,21
Finals.....	33,34,35
Flagging.....	14,19
Flanking.....	22,23
Goat Tying.....	31,32
Grievances.....	7,18
Ground Money.....	17
Injury.....	16
Illness.....	16
Judging.....	17,18,19,21,22,26,27
Knots.....	21,26
Ladies Breakaway Rules.....	30,31,32
Marking.....	17

Media.....	19
Meetings.....	7
Members.....	8,9
Minutes.....	6
Mixed Team Roping.....	33
Paying Entry Fees.....	19
Partner.....	25,33
Pay Off.....	16
Permit.....	9
Piggin' String/Newsletter.....	4
Points.....	12
Purse.....	16,17
Pushers.....	14
President.....	5
Quorum.....	6,7
Refunds.....	15,16
Regional Directors.....	7
Rerides.....	20
Results.....	4,21
Rigging.....	18,22,23
Rule Changes.....	6
Saddle Bronc Rules.....	23
Salaries.....	7,12
Score.....	23
Secretary.....	6,19,20
Senior Men's Breakaway.....	27
Spurs.....	17,22,23
Steer Wrestling Rules.....	24
Stock.....	13
Suspended List.....	11
Team Roping Rules.....	25,26
Trophies.....	34
Turn Outs.....	13
Vet Release.....	15
Vice President.....	6
Withdrawals.....	12