

# **AMERICAN ROUGHSTOCK ASSOCIATION, INC.**



## **RULE BOOK**

Effective June 1, 2017

2457 Boones Mill Road  
Boones Mill, Virginia 24065  
(540) 537-9627



## Table of contents

HUMANE RULES .....	1
HUMANE EQUIPMENT RULES.....	1
MEMBERSHIP .....	2
PERMITS.....	2
LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP PRIVILIGES.....	2
FINES AND SUSPENSIONS.....	3
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.....	4
INJURY OF MEMBERS.....	4
PASSES.....	4
DRESS CODE.....	4
GRAND ENTRY.....	5
POINT AWARDS.....	5
ARA FINALS EVENT (ARF).....	5
ARF STOCK.....	7
CONTRACT ACTS.....	7
STOCK CONTRACTOR / PRODUCER.....	7
POSTPONEMENT.....	8
EVENTS.....	9
EVENT ENTRY GUIDELINES.....	10
EVENT ENTRY FEES.....	11
TURNOUTS.....	11
EVENT OFFICIALS.....	12
EVENT SECRETARY.....	12
PAYOFF / PAYOUT.....	13
DRAWING PERFORMANCE POSITIONS.....	14
DRAWING OF LIVESTOCK.....	14
DRAWING OF RE-RIDE STOCK.....	15
ELIMINATION OF LIVESTOCK.....	16
EVENT JUDGES.....	16
JUDGING METHODS.....	17
JUDGING METHODS / RIDING EVENTS.....	17
JUDGING METHODS / HORSE RIDING ONLY.....	18
RE-RIDES.....	18
CONTESTANT DISQUALIFICATION.....	19
BAREBACK RIDING.....	19
SADDLE BRONC RIDING.....	20
BULL RIDING.....	20
COWGIRLS BARREL RACING.....	21

## **HUMANE RULES**

1. A veterinarian shall be in attendance, or reasonably available, at every event and will examine, treat, or recommend disposal of any injured animal after its removal from the arena. Should destruction of an animal be recommended, such destruction will take place as soon as possible, and shall be carried out by the most humane means possible.
2. A conveyance of a type on which injured animals may be easily placed without causing additional injury must be made available at all events to remove injured animals from the arena.
3. A pen, corral, or truck bed shall be prepared with an adequate bed of straw or other appropriate bedding laid down for comfort to receive injured animals removed from the arena.
4. Chutes, corrals, mangers, etc. must be so constructed as to prevent injury to stock. All areas in which stock is kept and the arena shall be free of rocks within reason, holes, and obstacles. The judges will determine the safe condition of the above with all maintenance and repair expense borne by the owner of the chutes, corrals, mangers, etc.
5. No stock belonging to either contestant or stock contractor shall be confined to vehicles beyond a period of four (4) hours without being unloaded when adequate corrals are available; however, when animals are carried in conveyances in which they do have proper food, water, space, and opportunity to rest, the provision for unloading shall not apply.
6. Any individual deliberately abusing stock at an ARA event while on event property, regardless of whether the abuse occurs during a qualified or unqualified run, shall be disqualified from that event and fined a minimum of two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00).
7. Any member tampering with competition livestock will be disqualified for the remainder of that specific event and may be fined by the Board of Directors.
8. Arena help may be fired and/or contestant may be disqualified for any mistreatment of stock.
9. No contract performer will abuse event stock or animals used in their acts in any way.
10. Use of fireworks on any animals will be prohibited.
11. Standard battery-operated, livestock prods may be used in moderation, when necessary, on appropriate areas of the animal's body (i.e. neck, chest, shoulders, and hips). Prods or electrical devices may not be used while stock is the bucking chutes. No other electrical devices may be used. Prods such as pointed sticks are not allowed. Excessive prodding and whipping of livestock with non-electrical stock prods shall not be allowed. Stock Contractors shall be responsible for arena help adhering to this rule.
12. All animals are to be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated before drawing.
13. No sick or injured animals, whether discovered before or after the draw, will be permitted to be used in competition.
14. Minimum weight limit for bulls used in the bull riding will be one thousand (1,000) pounds.
15. Stock that becomes excessively excited so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly, tries to jump out of the chute, or in any way appears in danger of injuring itself should be released from the chute.

## **HUMANE EQUIPMENT RULES**

1. All horse flank straps are to be provided with protective lining and shall be of the quick release type. Flank straps are to be fastened onto the animal so that the protective lining portion covers the belly and both flanks and shall be kept in good repair. No tacks, spiders or foreign objects shall be allowed on flanks. Bull flanks will be made of a soft ply cotton or include a protective lining.
2. Equipment must meet the following humane specifications as well as those found in the event rules:
  - A. A leather covered hair pad must be on the entire underside of the bareback rigging next to the animal and extend a minimum of four (4) inches from the back of the rigging. Pads must be loose (can be attached to rigging, but not permanently, so that rigging may be moved to a new area on pad for protection to horse if rigging has broken down the contents of the pad), kept in good repair and be not smaller than a minimum of fifteen (15) inches or larger than a maximum of twenty-five (25) inches. Stock contractors will have the right to furnish pads (pads to be no thicker than standard hair pad or larger than twenty-five (25) inches).

B. Saddle Bronc Riding is to be done with plain halter, one rein and saddle. Bucking rein may only be attached to halter under penalty of disqualification.

C. Bull Riding is to be done with one hand and loose rope. No knots or hitches, to prevent rope from coming off a bull when a rider dismounts the bull, will be permitted.

D. In Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding, contestants will be disqualified for riding with locked rowels or rowels that will lock during ride. Judges will be responsible for inspecting rowels and enforcing this rule.

3. There will be no exposed wire in any of the whips used on horses in the arena.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership dues shall be designated annually. Membership will be valid from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year, unless otherwise deemed necessary by Board of Directors for any given year. When membership application and dues are received and processed in the ARA office, each member shall be issued a membership card and full access to the rulebook.

2. Dues are payable during fiscal year season.

3. Membership shall be open to any person of good character and reputation interested in officiating, performing or competing in events or to any person interested in the advancement of event, providing their application is accepted.

4. Any person becoming a member of this association will, by act of seeking membership and payment of dues, indicate that they will comply with the rules and bylaws of the association.

5. Each member shall, at the time of joining the association, sign a statement relieving the association, stock contractors, event committees, and all others of liability in case of injury. Said statement to be standard and furnished by the association. Members less than eighteen (18) years of age must have said release signed by their parent or legal guardian and notarized.

6. Each member of the association releases to the association the right to use their name, photograph, biography, and/or all other information pertinent to event publicity and promotion. Such materials are to be used only for the good of the association and will not involve resale or commercial endorsement.

7. Each member will cooperate when called upon by an official of the association to help represent the association's interest in the endorsement of rules or in any matter of official business.

## **PERMITS**

1. Permits may be issued to non-members for contest in any of the standard events.

2. A one event permit shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) per event.

3. Permits are not transferable to any other person.

4. Acceptance of permits will be on an optional basis and limitations may apply in any event. It is recommended that permits be accepted in the rough stock events at all events.

5. Permit holders must participate in the performance or slack as needed by the event secretary.

6. Points will not be awarded for money earned by a permit holder.

7. Permit holders will, at-all-times, conduct themselves in a manner upholding the rules and bylaws of the association and present themselves in neat and clean western attire.

8. All rules and regulations governing the conduct and suspension of members will apply to permit holders.

## **LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES**

1. All ARA members and permit holders shall read and know the prevailing rules of the ARA and of each individual event. Failure to know the rules will not be accepted as an excuse.

2. Any member entering or participating in an ARA event on an expired membership card or allowing anyone to use their card will be fined and/or suspended.
3. Any contestant failing to meet financial obligation to any approved event is subject to suspension until such obligations are met.
4. Any person on the suspended list shall not be allowed to participate, contest, or hold any official position or perform any duty at an ARA event.
5. Any member may be fined and/or suspended for any of the following offenses:
  - A. Fighting or quarrelling on event grounds.
  - B. Attempting to fix, bribe, threaten, influence or coerce any judge in or out of the arena at any time between the opening and closing dates of the event. Violation of this rule will be reported in writing to the Board of Directors by the judge.
  - C. Non-payment of entry fees.
  - D. Conduct or speech of any kind that is detrimental to the best intentions of the ARA or sport of event.
  - E. Failure to abide by any or all rules of the association.
  - F. Bad checks related to ARA event activities.
  - G. Non-payment of hotel and/or other lodging bills incurred simultaneously while participating in or attendance of an approved event.
  - H. Competing under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, drugs or other hallucinatory substances.
  - I. Anyone not repaying an overpayment after being notified by the ARA office that an error was made by an event secretary will be fined a minimum of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Event secretary not repaying an underpayment after being notified by the ARA office that an error was made will be fined.
  - J. Misusing membership card, contestant number or pass for gaining entry for others at or to an ARA event will be fined one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).
6. An event official violating any rule or making decisions which do not comply with the ARA rulebook will be suspended and/or fined.
7. Any contestant damaging an electric timer will be responsible for the repair or replacement of the timer.
8. Any person penning any personal horse in the bucking chutes will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00).

## **FINES AND SUSPENSIONS**

1. The President and the Board of Directors are empowered to levy fines, not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00); and/or suspensions, not to exceed one (1) year for infraction of the association rules.
2. All notices of fines and suspensions will be levied by the president who must have concurring opinions by at least three (3) other members of the Board of Directors.
3. Notices of fines/suspensions levied by the Board of Directors will be made by certified mail and /or email.
4. Fines may be appealed to the Board of Directors provided that a cash bond in the amount of the fine is posted. After the bond is posted, the person will not be banned from competing or participating in ARA events while awaiting appeal hearing. The bond will remain in custody of the ARA Secretary until the case is heard by the Board of Directors.
5. The person desiring to appeal fine will be notified by registered mail and/or email of the date, time and place of the appeal hearing.
6. At the time of the hearing, any portion of the bond necessary to pay whatever fine the Board of Directors may levy will be forfeited. If the imposed fine is greater than the bond, the member will be banned from further competition or participation until the complete fine is paid.

7. When a member is suspended by less than three (3) of the members of the Board of Directors, he may appeal the decision to the entire Board of Directors and will be entitled to appear before the board. However, he may not compete or participate in approved events pending outcome of the appeal.

8. All accusations resulting in fines or suspensions will be made in writing to the President and will become a part of the association's permanent records.

### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

1. The grieving member shall bring the subject matter of grievance to the attention of the Board of Directors in writing. The letter shall set forth in full the subject matter of the dispute and the proposed action requested by the grievant. The letter must be postmarked within seven (7) days after the last performance of the event in which the grieving member has grievance about. The grieving member will be notified of the date and time of the board meeting in which the grievance will be discussed so that the grieving member and any other parties who are directly involved can be present at the board meeting. If grievance letter is not postmarked within the seven (7) daytime limit after event in question, the grievance will be denied.

### **INJURY OF MEMBERS**

1. The ARA assumes no responsibility for injury or damage to the person, property, or stock of any owner, contestant, or assistant. Each participant by the act of paying membership dues, permit fees, or entry fees waives all claims against the ARA for injuries they or their property may sustain.

2. No person shall be allowed in the arena or back pen/livestock area at any time unless entered in an event or unless they have signed a waiver releasing the management, producers and facility/property owners from liability. This rule is to be enforced by the arena director or event judges.

### **PASSES**

1. All contestants who pay entry fees shall be entitled to admittance for themselves during all performances. The contestant shall only be entitled to admittance at the discretion of the stock contractor/producer for their immediate family or one additional person during the performance in which they compete, excluding the ARF. All guests must accompany contestant when entering the event grounds. All officials and labor passes will be given at the discretion of management.

2. All ARA Officers, Board of Directors and Event Directors shall be entitled to admittance for themselves and one additional person during all performances, excluding the ARF.

3. The event secretary will furnish a list of contestants and other personnel to be admitted to each event to the person at the contestant gate.

4. Any member and/or contestant misusing their membership card, contestant number, or pass for gaining entry for others at or to an ARA event will be fined one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). Habitual violators will be suspended and fined an amount deemed prudent and proper by the Board of Directors.

### **DRESS CODE**

1. Members will be presentable in western attire when competing in approved events. Appropriate long sleeve shirts (sleeves rolled down and tails tucked in) and western hats and boots must be worn in the arena, the back of the bucking chutes and on event grounds within fifty (50) feet of arena by all contestants or anyone in the arena one hour prior to and during a performance and slack.

2. Announcers are required to wear a western hat and long sleeve shirt while on the announcer's stand. Timers and secretary must wear long sleeve shirts while on the announcer's stand, but western hats are optional.

3. When contestant numbers are furnished, all participants must wear these numbers to enter the arena and to receive their stock. Anyone without a number may be excluded from the arena. Participants must wear their numbers in a conspicuous place visible to the judges and spectators.

4. Failure to comply with dress code will result in a fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine.

5. Consideration will be given to contestants opting to wear protective head gear or face mask.

## **GRAND ENTRY**

1. The ARA urges that all colors and grand entries be handled by competent horsemen and horses and that members ride in the grand entry if needed or requested to do so.
2. At every ARA sanctioned event held in the United States, the National Anthem will be played and the American flag presented.

## **POINT AWARDS**

1. ARA members will receive one (1) point for every dollar of prize money won. Prize money will be added money and entry fees.
2. The secretary/treasurer will keep an accurate tabulation and account of points earned by each member and a listing of said points will appear on the official publication of the association on the internet.
3. The secretary/treasurer will credit and keep account of fractional parts of points earned.
4. In the case of total point ties, contestants will be ranked in order of standings according to the highest fractions of points in excess of the whole point total.
5. Points awarded to any member will be totalled for the year to determine the champion cowboy or cowgirl in each event.
6. A contestant that is accredited points at an approved ARA event must have been a member in good standing prior to competition in the event for which they are to receive points.
7. Should any city, county or state law prevent any contestant from competing for any reason, the ARA championship points for that contest will not be affected.
8. The collective points awarded to any contestant will be used to determine the champion all around cowboy or cowgirl, but they must qualify by being entered and winning money in at least two (2) of the championship events. Points for All Around Cowboy and Cowgirl will count only for events that offer all four (4) mandatory events.
9. The ARA will be responsible for all trophies awarded on the annual ARA point system. The points are to be counted from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year or as Board of Directors deem necessary due to the date the ARF is to be held. Points for the championship awards will include points earned at the ARF, with-the-exception of, the all-around award. The champions will be those accumulating the most points in each event and toward the all around at ARA events, the ARF, and events where ARA affiliation agreement exists.
10. The closing date of an event will determine the fiscal year in which points will count.
11. If an event occurs within the fiscal membership year, but after an early point cut-off date for ARF, points will be counted toward the following year's point standings provided that the contestant renews their membership prior to January 1st of the new season.
12. In the event of a tie for a championship (excluding the all-around championship), a "sudden death" go-round will be given to the tied contestants. Such go-round will take place during or immediately after the last performance of finals.
13. Anyone receiving an ARA year end or ARF championship award that does not attend the awards banquet may be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) which must be paid before recipient will be given the award.
14. Memorial awards may be presented by the donor of the award at the ARA banquet; however, no ARA championship award will be given as a memorial award.
15. Individual Event Awards: All around saddles, trophies or awards of any kind given at individual events are to be awarded in accordance to the ARA point award system. Novice points will not count toward all around awards. The all-around champion will be determined by the contestant having the most money won placing in two (2) or more events. If no one placed in two (2) or more events, it is then determined by the contestant winning the most money in one event who competed in two or more events.

## **ARA FINALS EVENT (ARF)**

1. The association may, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, sanction and/or conduct an American Roughstock Finals Event. The date and place of the finals will be determined by the Board of Directors.
2. The President will, in the event of a finals event, appoint from the membership a committee to formulate plans for the event.

3. Contestants will be qualified for the finals event using the championship point tabulation. Contestants must compete in the event at two (2) ARA first sanctioned events to be eligible. In the event of lack of entries or inclement weather, the event will count as one of the two (2) required ARA first-sanctioned events for contestants entered during call-in.

4. To qualify for the American Roughstock Finals Event, a contestant must be ranked in the Top Fifteen in the point standings for each event. In addition, the committee will qualify a-number-of alternates to insure at least fifteen contestants in each event. The alternates will, using their relative point standings, be qualified to replace primary qualifiers, who, for whatever reason, cannot compete in the finals.

5. Qualifying contestants will enter the finals during a designated one-day call in with designated call in hours of which notice shall be given in the ARA news publication. If contestant does not call in their entry within that time period, the secretary will drop to the next available alternate.

6. Entry fees must be received by the date designated by the secretary, or the next available alternate will be taken in their place.

7. All event positions will be determined by the contestants' points earned prior to each performance. Contestants will compete in order of least points to most points at the discretion of the board of directors, except in the cowgirls barrel racing in which positions will be drawn for each go-round as follows: Barrel Racing contestants will be listed in order from first place to last place in standings and then draw the position to run each performance. No contestant can draw the same positions / run order twice.

8. Finals entry and turn outs:

A. Contestants must call in at the appropriate time and pay all fees by the due date in order to compete at finals.

B. If a contestant turns out any round at the finals, he may not be allowed to compete in the remaining rounds and may be fined. Unless medically discharged.

C. Once a contestant calls in and/or submits entry form to enter the finals, there will be no drawing out unless a medical release is received twenty-four (24) hours prior to the first performance, or contestant will be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) plus entry fees.

D. Contestants must attend and compete at finals or contestants forfeit their points and position as well as any and all awards or gifts including but not limited to finals jackets, buckles, gifts and any additional monies.

E. Contestants must be present at the awards ceremony to receive any awards or contestants forfeit awards. Medically discharged contestants must still be present unless such discharge prevents them from traveling safely.

9. The following required ARF Personnel will be selected based on ARF contestant votes. In the event of a tie the ARA Board of Directors will be the tie breaking votes:

A. Two (2) bull fighters

B. Two (2) pickup men

C. Two (2) judges

D. One (1) Announcer

E. One (1) Barrel Man/Entertainer

F. One (1) Secretary

10. ARF personnel will not be allowed to work in any position and compete at the finals, unless the Board of Directors gives approval in special circumstances.

11. The association secretary and treasurer will attend finals to perform duties that are necessary to carry out the financial obligations of the association, or any other necessary administrative duties.

12. Any person furnishing rough stock for the finals must provide handlers for that stock. Such persons will be required to pay any handlers that are appointed, if they do not supply their own handlers.

13. The Board of Directors will set pay for the following ARF personnel, at not less than the stated minimum:

Secretaries: \$100 per performance

Judges: \$150 per performance

Bullfighters: \$150 per performance

Pickup men: \$150 per performance

## **ARF STOCK**

1. Stock contractors having a minimum of two (2) ARA first sanctioned events will be eligible for year-end awards.
2. Stock contractors with a minimum of two (2) ARA first sanctioned events will be eligible for ARF awards.
3. Stock contractors with a minimum of two (2) ARA first sanctioned events will be eligible to furnish rough stock that have a minimum of two (2) outs during the current event season for the ARF and are in the top of their event according to the judges score sheets throughout the year.
4. Animals selected as the rough stock animals of the year must be voted upon from the top twenty animals according to their average standings throughout the year and must perform at the ARF in order to receive the year end award, unless proof of animal's injury is given.
5. A meeting of the Board of Directors, event directors and stock contractors will be set each year for selection of stock for the ARF. If an event director cannot be present, they may send a representative from their event. If a stock contractor cannot be present, they may send a representative from their company. The stock selection will be finalized at this meeting.
6. The rough stock event directors will take the opinions of ARF qualifiers in their event into consideration when choosing finals stock and express such opinions at the stock selection meeting.
7. The Board of Directors will reserve the right to select stock from another source, if there is not enough suitable, qualified stock for the finals available from the stock contractors.
8. The Board of Directors has the final decision on all stock being brought to the finals.

## **CONTRACT ACTS**

1. All contract acts (specialty acts, pickup men, clowns, bull fighters, barrel men and announcers) must show their current ARA card to the event secretary. All contract performers' card numbers and names will be recorded on the event result sheet.
2. If a contract act is not an ARA member, a one event permit must be purchased. If they work a second event in the same fiscal year, they will be required to purchase a card.
3. Persons representing contract acts at ARA events must be in good standing with the ARA and will be subject to ARA arena and conduct rules.
4. Contract acts that do not live up to contract signed with ARA events and/or producers will be answerable to the Board of Directors and subject to suspensions and fine. Furthermore, the Board of Directors will be empowered to fine all contract acts an amount in addition to the total contract price, which will be paid to the ARA event committee and/or producer.
5. No contract performer will abuse event stock or animals used in their act in any way.
6. The use of fireworks on any animal will be prohibited.
7. There will be no animals or objects other than barrel or dummy brought into the arena by a contract performer during the bull riding event. A dummy being defined made of soft, safe, material, nothing being made of hard material.
8. The sound system (provided by the announcer) must be in working order and the microphone attended during all competition.
9. Announcer will not attempt to influence the judges in anyway or they will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00).

## **STOCK CONTRACTOR / PRODUCER**

1. Only ARA approved stock contractors may furnish livestock at ARA events. Stock provided must meet qualifications covered under humane rules.
2. Stock contractors/producers must be members in good standing and current membership card must be purchased prior to the first performance of their first event of the new season. To sanction or co-sanction an ARA event it shall cost no less than 2% of the total of the added money combined with entry money for each event. The 2% figure shall not be taken from the payout money and is to be paid from the producers' proceeds.

3. Stock contractor/producer must furnish the following personnel at every ARA event:

- A. Two (2) approved judges
- B. An approved event secretary
- C. Two (2) competent bull fighters
- D. Two (2) qualified pickup men
- E. An arena director

4. The stock contractor/producer will be responsible for hiring all of the above event personnel and officials and verifying that they are approved by the ARA, are members in good standing prior to the first performance of each event or have purchased a ten dollar (\$10.00) day permit for each performance and report this information to the event secretary.

5. The same person must open all front gates for entire event. The stock contractor/producer will be responsible for providing that person and seeing that they work the entire event. However, an incompetent gateman may be replaced if both judges deem necessary.

6. While in the domain of the arena, the conduct of personnel in stock contractors employ that are not members of the association will be the responsibility of the stock contractor. The stock contractor will immediately remove them from his employ if their conduct is contradictory to the rules of the association.

7. Stock contractors must have all stock numbered/named. All numbers must be legible.

8. The stock contractor/producer must supply the event secretary with a master stock list prior to the draw.

9. Stock contractors/producers will cooperate to every reasonable extent with event management. In all cases they will provide at least one head of livestock for each entry in each scheduled performance, plus livestock for such re-rides as may be directed by the judges.

10. Stock contractors/producers must furnish electric timers to be used in the cowgirls' barrel racing. If the electric timers do not function properly, resulting in hand flagging times, the stock contractor/producers will receive a warning for the first offense, but will be fined one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for offense at events after first offense in a one year period.

11. Stock contractor/producers must have an ambulance and/or paramedics on the event grounds during all event performances and slack.

12. Stock contractors/producers will not attempt to influence the judges in anyway or they will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00).

13. If reasonable space is unavailable to exercise timed event contestants' horses, stock contractor/producers or committee shall make all arrangements to have the arena available for exercising horses up until two (2) hours prior to the event performance.

14. A new event stock contractor/producer making application for approval by the ARA will produce events under a probationary period before being officially approved by Board of Directors.

#### **POSTPONEMENT**

1. In the event of inclement weather, if a performance is postponed and contestants cannot be present for the rain date, contestants who cannot be present for the rain date performance, who intend to draw out, must do so that night by advising the secretary of their intentions to draw out. Trade outs will be permitted.

2. Stock contractor/producer or committee has the authority to postpone an event.

3. Any event or portion of an event can be postponed for a seven (7) day period and the books will remain the same. However, after this time period, the event will be considered cancelled and the books must be reopened as a new event and flyers will be sent to all members. If a portion of an event is to be postponed, contestants may call the ARA office the first business day after the last scheduled performance between the hours of 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm to draw out.

4. After one (1) or more performances are held and the remaining performances are cancelled because of inclement weather, the event committee may prorate the added money according to number of performances held as long as the added money is no less than the minimum added money for an ARA sanctioned event. The event will be paid off according to the number of contestants that have competed up to the point the event was cancelled.

5. Points will not be counted for events in which any portion of the event was cancelled.

## EVENTS

1. All stock contractors/producers seeking approval for events must submit the following information to the ARA office:
  - A. Event location - City, State, and specific location of arena
  - B. Dates and specific times of event performances
  - C. Amount of added prize money
  - D. Phone number to call for event entry
  - E. Dates and times that entry books open and close
  - F. List of events
  - G. Request for co-approval, if applicable
  - H. Acceptance of permits, if applicable
  - I. Designated slack date and time, if applicable
  - J. If slack is not to be run in the same order as the performance it must be advertised as such in the news publication. Events that are split in sections must also be advertised.
  - K. Request for stock contractor fee, if applicable
2. Event listings must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month to appear in the next issue of news publication. If the above information is not furnished to the ARA office within the required time, the event listing will only be published on the website. No late notices will be mailed. Late listings must be submitted no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the first performance of event.
3. Added money at each event for any event will be no less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
4. Mandatory events are Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Cowgirls Barrel Racing; and must be offered at all events, unless approved by the board of directors.
5. Added money shall be no less than the required minimum per event.
6. The added money at an event cannot be reduced as compared to its previous year, unless approved by the Board of Directors.
7. If the number of performances is reduced at an event as compared to its previous year, there will be an option to reduce the added money proportionately. If the number of performances is increased as compared to its previous year, the added money will be increased proportionately.
8. Any new event within a twenty-five (25) mile radius of an existing ARA event must be approved by the Board of Directors.
9. Every approved event will be open to every member in good standing, except the ARA Finals Event.
10. When all performances are filled, slack must be offered immediately after each performance of a two-performance event. If there are three or more performances in an event, the stock contractor/producer is only required to offer slack immediately after any two of those performances. If a designated slack is offered at a time other than immediately following a performance, slack will not be required to be held after any performance.
11. Any stock contractor needing to fill a performance using exhibitions should use persons that are not already entered in that event or contestants that have previously ran in that particular event; or whatever he needs to do for the betterment of his performance using exhibitions.
12. If a stock contractor deems necessary, they will have the option to require contestants in the rough stock events to compete twice with both heads of stock to be given in the same performance. The payoff will be paid on total entries as one or two (2) go-rounds.
13. Slack must be run in the same order as the performance unless stock contractor publishes the order that they will run the slack in the ARA news publication when he advertises the event. There will be a two hundred fifty-dollar (\$250.00) fine for infraction of this rule.
14. The primary stock contractor will be responsible for all sub-contractors.
15. No one will be in the arena during an event with a hot shot or they will be fined no less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each offense.
16. Stock contractors/producers have the option to charge a twenty-dollar (\$20.00) stock charge per entry in all events except barrel racing. Barrel racers may be charged a maximum of ten dollars (\$10.00) for electric timer fee.
17. All events will be produced under written contract.

18. Any co-approved events will run by the rules of the first-sanctioning association, and members of the second-sanctioning association will be subject to those rules.

## **EVENT ENTRY GUIDELINES**

1. Event entry will be taken on a first come, first served basis with members having priority over non-members.
2. No suspended members can enter until fines are paid in full to the ARA office.
3. Contestants should be aware that call in may be recorded. If so, you will receive a confirmation number for “confirmed entries” or “draw outs”.
4. If you have never had an ARA card and are buying one at the event, you will be treated like a permit when you enter. If you are renewing ARA card at the event, you will be treated like a card holder when you enter.
5. Information should be given in the following order: event, performance, card number, name, hometown, state and contact phone number.
6. Timed event contestants will inform the entry secretary if they are competing on the same horse as another contestant during the same performance. Those contestants will be split by three (3) runs in cowgirls barrel racing if possible.
7. Only the entry secretary may accept entries. Entries given to anyone other than entry secretary will be disregarded.
8. Contestant shall always enter under name as it appears on their ARA card. Cards or permits bought under fictitious names are automatically void.
9. The entry secretary may accept entry from anyone so long as a valid ARA card number is given for each contestant being entered, provided entrant is not ineligible, without requiring entry fee to be paid until said member reaches his destination. Non-members may enter events but are placed on the list after all members. Non-members are subject to the same rules as members. Immediately upon arrival at the event, contestant shall find secretary and make payment of fees due. Contestants must have entry fees paid by the time deadline posted for each event or forfeit their spot to an alternate. Checks will not be accepted for entry fees. No stock will be given until entry fee is paid. If a valid ARA cardholder membership number is given at time of entry and the entry fee is not paid within notification limit, the contestant will be suspended and fined.
10. Any ARA member calling in entry for a non-member will be liable for the entry fee and turn out fines of that person. ARA members will be responsible for their own fees and turn out fines.
11. The entry secretary is responsible for obtaining an entrant’s ARA card number. The event secretary will be responsible for verifying said card numbers or receipts for purchase of said memberships when contestant pays fees.
12. ARA or co-sanction association card holders will have priority in entering over permits and all other entries. It will be the responsibility of all non-card holders to call back during the time designated by the call-in secretary to verify whether their entry was accepted for the performance requested.
13. A minimum of four (4) contestants in bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, and eight (8) contestants in cowgirls barrel racing, bull riding must be accepted before calling the performance full.
14. Stock contractor/producer must notify entry secretary of the number of performance positions to be run in each event prior to the books opening.
15. All positions that are offered in a performance by a stock contractor must be filled for that performance, and the remainder of contestants, if any, will be in slack. Minimums must be protected.
16. If six (6) or more total entries are received in any advertised event, the event cannot be cancelled.
17. If slack is taken, the entry secretary must accept in the slack after each performance up to two (2) times the number of contestants required to fill a performance in each event. After this number has been reached after each performance, the secretary must accept up to one time the number of contestants required to fill a performance in each event, and so on.
18. The entry secretary may not take more than three (3) entries per event per call. If a contestant has more entries than allowed per call to make, they must break the connection and call again. Infraction of this rule will result in a fine imposed on secretary.

19. Contestants will only request entry for date/time of performance. Show or slack will be drawn by the entry secretary immediately after the books close. Entry secretary may designate a call back time for contestants to verify whether they are entered in the show or slack.
20. When entering an event and a given performance is full, a waiting list will be formed on a first come, first served basis for that performance, members having priority. When other performances are full, the entry secretary will use the waiting list. The contestant will be responsible for verifying whether their entry has been accepted.
21. No waiting list entries will be confirmed until at least one (1) hour after the books closing.
22. Call in for events will be the Monday prior to the event date. Call in hours will be a minimum of two (2) hours for events with less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) added money and a minimum of three (3) hours for events with added money of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more. The Board of Directors will have the option of approving a call-in secretary's request for exceptions to this rule.
23. There will be no drawing out after the books close (exception being the rain out rule, or as herein stated). When positions for a specific performance are not drawn and contestant requests a specific performance and the entry secretary guarantees that performance, the contestant will not be allowed to draw out or change performances later than one (1) hour before the books close, unless changing performances or drawing out does not affect the minimums.
24. So long as the minimums are maintained you may change performances up until time the books close.
25. If contestant arrives at event and due to entry secretary error is not entered in the event, they must show secretary a valid confirmation number and post a fifty dollar (\$50.00) cash bond, which will be returned to the contestant if entry is confirmed by the recorded call in. Contestant will be added as the last contestant in that event and stock will be drawn only for the contestant not entered. There will be no redrawing of positions or stock for contestants already entered.
26. If late entries are taken in the timed events due to lack of contestants, and performance positions have already been given in cowgirls' barrel racing, they will be placed at the bottom of the list. If stock has already been drawn, an animal will be drawn for the late entrant and the previous draw will not change.
27. Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstances. Contestants must be checked in one and a half hours (1hr 30mins) prior to event start.

#### **EVENT ENTRY FEES**

1. Entry fees will be based on added money as follows:

<u>Added Money</u>	<u>Entry Fee</u>
\$ 200.00 - \$ 249.00	\$ 30.00
\$ 250.00 - \$ 499.00	\$ 40.00
\$ 500.00 - \$ 699.00	\$ 50.00
\$ 700.00 - \$ 799.00	\$ 60.00
\$ 800.00 - \$ 999.00	\$ 70.00
\$1000.00 - \$1500.00	\$ 80.00
\$1501.00 or more	\$100.00

2. The Board of Directors will reserve the right to grant special permission to stock contractors/producers for reduction of entry fees at any given event.
3. Entry fee must be paid before a contestant will be allowed to compete in any event.
4. The secretary will sign receipts for entry fees, if filled out by the contestant.
5. In an event that payment of an entry fee involves a payoff change, fee must be paid before the event starts.

#### **TURNOUTS**

1. Only medical releases, vet releases or death in immediate family will be accepted as excuse for failure to pay entry fee. Releases must be mailed or faxed to the ARA office within seven (7) days from the last performance of the event for which fees were unpaid. Contestant failing to comply with this rule will be held liable for entry fee and any fines incurred.

2. Medical Releases will be limited to three (3) per year. Any contestant turning out because of injury may not compete at another event in that specific event within six (6) days. Contestant competing before six (6) days will be held liable for all entry fees plus turn out fines and be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each infraction.
3. Vet releases will be accepted from timed event contestants two (2) times per year. Timed event contestants will not be required to pay fees if horse has a visible injury and is deemed unable to compete by the event judge. The judge will notify secretary of this decision and secretary will note the same on master entry sheet.
4. Any contestant turning out stock during a performance will be fined a turn out fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) unless stock is run or mounted by another ARA member or contestant. Contestant will be marked by judges and secretary as "MO" and will not be eligible for payoff.
5. Stock contractors/producer must honor any bona fide offer to mount or run stock. However, if a bona fide offer to mount or run stock is made and the stock contractor refuses the offer or for some reason the rider or run (after the offer is made) is excused by the stock contractor, the event secretary must be notified and the contestant will not be fined. Five dollars (\$5.00) of turn out fee will be placed on the stock contractors LEF account when contestant pays fine.
6. Turn out fine does not apply to stock turned out during slack. Judges and secretary will mark contestant "STO" (slack turn out).
7. If a contestant is unable to compete but forwards fees to the event secretary to be included in the payoff, the judges and secretary will mark the contestant as "PTO" (paid turn out) and turn out fine will not apply.
8. If a contestant is turning out in one specific event due to injury, then contestant will have the option to compete in all other events for the remainder of the event.
9. A contestant may, for reason of physical disability; turn out stock when in the opinion of the judge, performance upon said stock would place the contestant's well-being in jeopardy. The judge will, in such cases where possible, solicit medical opinion from a licensed physician. Such action on part of the contestant will not penalize the contestant in other go-rounds or other events, provided in the judge's opinion, participating in other events or go-rounds will not jeopardize the contestant's physical well-being.
10. Contestants are responsible for contacting the ARA office to inquire about entry fees and turnout fines due. Payment of fees/fines must be postmarked or received in ARA office within seven (7) days after the last performance of the event at which infraction occurred. Violation of this rule will result in a twenty dollar (\$20.00) late fee added to fees due and contestant will be placed on the suspended list. If fees/fines are not paid within that time, points will not count for any event that contestant competes in after such infractions.

## **EVENT OFFICIALS**

1. All officials (secretaries, flagmen, and judges) must be ARA members in good standing.
2. All officials at an ARA event will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors for their actions and are subject to penalty at the discretion of the Board.
3. All officials must show their current ARA card directly to the event secretary or to the stock contractor/producer who will in turn report the information to the event secretary. The stock contractor/producer will be responsible for hiring all event personnel and officials and verifying that they are approved by the ARA, have current membership card, and are members in good standing prior to the first performance of each event.
4. No less than the following may be paid to event officials per performance:  
Secretary: Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)  
Judge: One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$125.00)
5. When slack exceeds ninety-six (96) total entries or runs for any one consecutive three-hour period, all officials necessary to have slack must be paid for another performance. If there is a designated slack other than immediately following performance, necessary officials must be paid for another performance.

## **EVENT SECRETARY**

1. All secretaries must be approved by the ARA Board of Directors, hold a current ARA card and be a member in good standing to secretary an event. Secretaries must purchase a full membership. Secretaries will be required to attend a clinic if Board of Directors deem necessary.

2. Any person seeking to be approved as a secretary by the ARA Board of Directors must comply with the following:
  - A. An inexperienced person must work with an approved secretary for three (3) ARA first-sanctioned events and then submit a letter of recommendation from the approved secretary with a request to be approved by the Board of Directors to the ARA office.
  - B. An experienced secretary must submit a letter of recommendation from an approved ARA stock contractor/producer with a request to be approved by the Board of Directors to the ARA office and then work first event under supervision of an association official.
3. The ARA office will maintain a list of approved secretaries. Secretaries may be removed from the approved secretary list when a reasonable cause is shown to the Board of Directors. The removed secretary must appear before the Board of Directors before reinstatement will be made.
4. Secretaries are responsible for following event entry guidelines, and violation of these guidelines will result in disciplinary action. Any secretary accepting entries before the books officially open or after the books officially close will be subject to a fine by the Board of Directors.
5. Secretaries are responsible for requiring all contestants to show a valid ARA membership card or receipt for the purchase of such card. Failure to do so will result in a fine upon the secretary for each infraction of this rule.
6. The event secretary will give members a receipt when they purchase a card should they request one.
7. The secretary will sign receipts for entry fees, if filled out by contestant.
8. Secretaries are to reject any person who is currently on the suspended list.
9. Secretaries must inform the judges of any person that obtains entry by falsification. Any such person that obtains entry through falsification will be drawn out, or if they have already competed will be disqualified. Entry fees and prize money will be forfeited.
10. It is recommended that the event secretary be at the event arena two (2) hours before each performance or designated slack.
11. Ground rules (not in conflict with ARA rulebook) must be posted in the same area where livestock draw is posted before contestants will be required to comply with the same.
12. If an event secretary mishandles prize money or entry fees, or falsifies event records in any way, they will be disqualified from working all ARA events.
13. Event secretary will not be responsible for the returning of contestant's entry fee if contestant has competed in that event once during the event, but if they are entered in other events, which they are unable to contest, then that entry fee will be withheld from the payoff and forwarded to the ARA office. If a doctor's release is received within seven (7) days from the date of the last performance of the event in question, that entry fee will be refunded to the contestant by the ARA office, providing that contestant does not compete at other events in that event within six (6) days.
14. All prize money not claimed at the event will be mailed to contestants or ARA office within three (3) business days after the completion of the event or secretary will be fined. Separate money orders or checks for each winner must be mailed to ARA office. Disciplinary action will be taken against event secretary if prize money checks are given on insufficient funds. If ARA office must write a check for prize money, the event secretary will have to pay a fifteen-dollar (\$15.00) fee for each check written to winners.
15. Disciplinary action will be taken against event secretary when event is paid off incorrectly. Anytime there is a dispute in the prize money payoff, prize money will be forwarded to the ARA office for disbursement.
16. Secretary must post entries for all performances in all events, position and livestock draw, order of events, grounds rules and judges check sheet for contestants to view before and during event.
17. Scores/times and a copy of the judges' sheets are to be posted by the event secretary immediately after each performance
18. Any secretary not following guidelines set forth in this rulebook will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.

#### **PAYOFF / PAYOUT**

1. Immediately after completion of event, secretary shall make payment to winning contestants in each event.

2. On one head or any number of head of stock, added money and entry fees are to be totalled and paid.

3. The contestant payoff is to be determined based on number of entries as follows:

Bareback, Saddle Bronc, Bull Riding, Barrel Racing

1-4 entries = 1 monies (100)

5-8 entries = 2 monies (60/40)

9-15 entries= 3 monies (47/33/20)

16-25 entries= 4 monies (40/30/20/10)

26-35 entries= 5 monies (34/27/20/13/6)

36 or more entries= 6 monies (29/24/19/14/9/5)

4. When only four (4) contestants qualify for a five (5) money payoff, money shall be divided 40-30-20-10. When only five (5) contestants qualify for a six (6) money payoff, money shall be divided 34-27-20-13-6.

5. If only one qualified run or ride is made, that contestant shall receive all the prize money; if only two qualified rides or runs are made, those contestants shall receive the prize money, divided 60-40 same as a two-money payoff, etc.

6. Ground money will not be paid. Prize money will be paid to qualifying contestants only. If there are no qualified times or scores, the added money will divert back to whomever supplied the added money and the entry fees will be forwarded to ARA office to be applied to the finals fee account.

7. The ARA will not be affiliated with day money in any way; however, stock contractors will have the option to add day money at any ARA event. Day money will not be counted as points.

8. If a stock contractor deems necessary, they will have the option to require contestants in the rough stock events to compete twice with both heads of stock to be given in the same performance. The payoff will be paid on total entries as two (2) go-rounds, unless the Board of Directors deems otherwise.

9. Any prize money not picked up by contestants will be mailed to the contestant or the ARA office within three (3) business days of the last performance of event or event secretary will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00).

10. Anytime there is a dispute in the prize money payoff, prize money will be forwarded to the ARA office for disbursement. Disciplinary action will be taken against event secretary when event is paid off incorrectly.

11. If no qualified ride or time in an event, the added money will be given back to the producer/stock contractor. The entry money will be given to the ARA for finals purposes.

#### **DRAWING PERFORMANCE POSITIONS**

1. Contestant positions are drawn in the timed events for all performances and slack.

2. Positions will be drawn by the event secretary; or, if a central entering system is used, positions designated by the system will be used.

3. If a contestant informs the secretary at time of entering event that they will be riding the same horse as another contestant those contestants will be split by three (3) runs in cowgirls barrel racing.

4. In a two-go-round event, the contestant competing in the first performance will take their second head during the final performance. The contestant competing in the second performance will also compete in the third performance. Slack and performances will be counted equal in designating performance positions. Working order will be reversed from first go-round to second go-round.

#### **DRAWING OF LIVESTOCK**

1. If possible, a judge should inspect the horses and bulls to be used at an event before the draw. This procedure will help eliminate crippled, injured and unnumbered or illegible numbered animals.

2. Bucking horses cannot be used in both the bareback and saddle bronc riding at the same event.

3. Event livestock is drawn so that any contestant has as much chance as any other contestant of drawing any particular head of livestock.

4. Livestock is to be drawn at the following times:

- A. One (1) to four (4) hours before a paid performance.
- B. Immediately after a paid performance, if slack is to follow performance.
- C. Not more than one (1) hour before a designated slack.

5. Any contestant is entitled to watch the draw. If only one judge and the secretary are present at the appointed draw time, an effort should be made to find one or two contestants to witness the draw.

6. The secretary will prepare unfolded, uniform size livestock draw numbers to correspond with the numbers on livestock to be drawn from a round container with smooth interior.

7. The numbers represent the entire herd of animals eligible for use in a particular event or go-round at an event and no animals may be added after the draw begins.

8. Draw and post show one day at a time. Draw only one performance or one slack at a time.

9. The judge, by rule, does the drawing of livestock. If judges draw by any other method than those described by ARA rules, they may be fined and/or suspended.

10. The judge draws through the herd until each contestant in that performance or slack has been drawn a head of livestock. This procedure may necessitate drawing through the herd several times. For example, there may be thirty (30) cowboys entered and only ten (10) bulls in the herd. The herd would have to be drawn through three (3) times before each contestant is drawn a head of livestock. To insure there is an even workload on each member of the herd, no member of the herd may be drawn twice until all members have been drawn once, under most circumstances.

11. Stock must be drawn for every entrant whether contestant shows for event or not.

12. No contestant will be allowed to compete twice on the same head of livestock at an event except for re-rides or reruns offered under certain circumstances.

13. All animals are to be drawn once before any are drawn twice, all are drawn twice before any are drawn three times, etc., unless circumstances in rough stock events when contractor features an animal cause such.

14. No animal will be competed on twice in any one performance, except in case of re-ride or rerun. Unless a medical reason is given such as animal is injured before performance.

15. A contractor may feature two (2) animals in each rough stock event per performance (even outs on animals is waived). When an animal is featured in a specific performance, the secretary will prepare numbers corresponding to the total number of contestants in that performance and the judge will draw a cowboy for the feature animal.

Example:

Featured Bareback Horses are #T1 and #75 Contestant Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4

Bareback Contestants

- 1. John
- 2. Kevin
- 3. Steve
- 4. Harold

Judge draws contestant number 2 from container, so Kevin will receive horse #T1. Judge draws contestant number 1 from container, so John will receive horse #75. Then, animal draw numbers for the remainder of the eligible herd, excluding #T1 and #75, will be placed in the container and draw will resume as normal.

16. No sick or injured animals, whether discovered before or after the draw, will be permitted to be used in competition.

17. In the riding events, if an injured animal is discovered after the draw, that animal will be eliminated from the draw for the remainder of that event and a replacement for said animal shall come from the re-ride pen. If the re-ride herd has been exhausted, the animal will be replaced from the balance of the herd not out that performance.

#### **DRAWING OF RE-RIDE STOCK**

1. All re-ride animals are to be drawn during the regular designated draw from the remainder of the herd not drawn in that specific performance, unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise.

2. Two (2) re-ride animals should be drawn in each of the riding events for each performance and slack.
3. All animals turned out will automatically be re-rides in turn out order and are to be used before any animals previously used during that performance.
4. Once a horse or bull has been contested on in the re-rides, that animal will not be redrawn for a re-ride again, unless the stock contractor puts the animal back in the herd.
5. Any stock drawn for a re-ride that is injured will automatically be removed from the re-ride pen.

## **ELIMINATION OF LIVESTOCK**

1. Any ARA official desiring elimination of livestock will personally meet with the company officials involved. Objectionable animals to be eliminated from the draw will be agreed upon by both the event director and stock contractor. If agreement cannot be made, it will be referred to the Board of Directors who will act as the arbitration board.
2. Animals in the riding events may be disqualified from competition for the following reasons:
  - A. Being marked by either or both judges twelve (12) points or below the previous three (3) times out in competition.
  - B. Any animal with a known history of falling.
  - C. Chute fighting animals.
  - D. Any animal in apparent poor health.
  - E. If animal stops, falls or runs off three (3) times in one fiscal year, he may be taken out of the draw by the event director.
3. If animal receives three (3) re-rides in one fiscal year due to poor bucking performance, animal will be eliminated from the draw in that event at events and the finals for the remainder of fiscal year.

## **EVENT JUDGES**

1. All judges must be approved by the ARA Board of Directors, hold a current ARA card and be a member in good standing to judge an event. Judges must purchase a full membership. Judges will be required to attend a clinic if Board of Directors deem necessary.
2. Any person seeking to be approved as a judge by the ARA Board of Directors must comply with the following:
  - A. An inexperienced person must pass the judges test set forth by the ARA, work with approved judges for three (3) ARA first-sanctioned events and then submit a letter of recommendation from the approved judge(s) with a request to be approved by the Board of Directors to the ARA office.
  - B. An experienced judge must pass the judges test set forth by the ARA and submit a letter of recommendation from an approved ARA stock contractor with a request to be approved by the Board of Directors to the ARA office.
3. The ARA office will maintain a list of qualified judges. A judge may be removed from the approved judges list once a reasonable cause is presented to the Board of Directors. The removed judge must appear before the Board of Directors before reinstatement will be made.
4. All judges will know and understand all rules governing event as set forth in the ARA rulebook and any valid ground rules enacted and will be responsible for enforcing and upholding the same. The judge will be responsible for reporting any rule violations to the event secretary for recording purposes. All decisions, not in conflict with ARA rules, will be left to the discretion of the judges. Judges have the authority to fine members and/or contestants for rule infractions and/or unprofessional behavior. Fines by judges may not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) per infraction.
5. Judges will be at the event grounds at least four (4) hours prior to the first performance of an event and at least two (2) hours before each performance thereafter, unless other arrangements are made with the stock contractor.
6. Under no circumstances will a stock contractor be allowed to judge their own stock. Stock contractor's failure to comply will be fined \$100 per performance
7. When judges' vests are furnished, judges are responsible for the care and maintenance of same and will wear them during all paid performances of the event at which they judge. If no vest is furnished, it is preferred all judges wear a solid white shirt.
8. Judges are required to mark/score all rough stock animals' (bulls/horses), whether having been ridden for a qualifying time or not, for finals points and year end results.

9. Should anything happen to a judge during the course of a event so they could not or would not judge the remainder of the event in riding events or flagging the field, the secretary will divide the total purse in proportion to the number of contestants that have finished contesting in each event up to the point the judge became incapacitated and pay off accordingly. A new judge will be elected for the remainder of the events affected and those events will be judged and paid off as if it were another event. If a new judge replaces a line judge, his replacement will not affect those timed events. In cowgirls barrel racing, if the electric timers are used and work for the entire event, or the flag judge does not change, the event will be paid as one round.

## **JUDGING METHODS**

1. Judges must total their own score sheets and remain with event secretary until complete payoff is announced. Judge must sign his individual score sheet.
2. When scores have been posted on the secretary's master sheet following each performance, a copy of the judges' sheet will be posted where it can be seen by all contestants with livestock drawn and judges' markings within thirty (30) minutes after each performance and/or slack for contestants inspection.
3. Judges decisions are final if in accordance with the ARA rules.
4. In all cases of dispute, the event will proceed without delay under the existing rules of the ARA and the matter of said dispute will be settled by the judges. Judges are hired to judge the total event in all events in their entirety and may consult with one another in case of a dispute.
5. Decision of judges, flagmen, and timers will be final and no undue protest by the contestant will be permitted. Any contestant arguing or protesting a judge's decision will be disqualified for the remainder of that event and/or be subject to a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) fine.
6. Fouls: Anytime a contestant is fouled in any event, they must declare themselves immediately or take that marking or time.
7. Faulty Equipment: All equipment used by contestants is their responsibility and no re-rides or reruns will be given due to faulty equipment. Borrowed equipment is accepted as contestants own.
8. It is suggested that if some error or question arises during the event that the announcer be advised to announce over the speaker that contestant may receive a re-ride or rerun.

## **JUDGING METHODS / RIDING EVENTS**

1. Judges markings (unofficially) are to be announced publicly after each contestant's ride or contest.
2. Judges markings are to be from one (1) to twenty-five (25) on rider and one (1) to twenty-five (25) on animal, having a total of fifty (50) on each side; making the highest possible score of one hundred (100), with full spread to be used. The rider and animal will be marked separately; marking the rider according to how much the rider spurs the animal, and the animal will be marked according to its performance.
3. Judges markings will be final. There will be no changes. Judges will be subject to a fine per offense for changing markings. (Notation must be made to explain why change; example, marking the wrong line, etc.). Judges books must be turned in to the event secretary to be recorded on a master sheet upon completion of each performance.
4. In all riding events, contestant may use his free hand against any foreign object (pickup men, fences, etc.) that obstructs his ride.
5. No contestant will ride two (2) head of stock in the same event during any one (1) single event, except for re-rides and short/long rounds, unless agreed to by contestant and event officials.
6. During all riding events, if background music is not subdued or eliminated, an extra loud buzzer must be provided.
7. No livestock prods can be used on bucking stock once the chute opens. Approved prods will be used from back of bucking chutes only.
8. No contestant in an event can flank animals for the rest of the contestants in this event, unless permission is granted by the Board of Directors.
9. In the riding events, judge will drop a flag as soon as he has disqualified a rider, but judge will watch entire ride.

10. Both judges will be required to use a stopwatch during all riding events. At events using both left hand and righthand delivery bucking chutes, the judge on the "Latch Side" will have the official time. The time on the watch of the "Hinge Side" judge will serve as a backup in case of a malfunction. In an event that the watch of the "Hinge Side" judge is used to determine a qualified ride. Extreme close calls should go to the benefit of the contestant. The use of a watch by both judges will also assist in justifying calls on the other rule infractions such as loosing stirrup, touching animal, etc. After judges have established their sides for an event, no changes may occur.

### **JUDGING METHODS / HORSE RIDING ONLY**

1. Contestant's spurs must be over the break of the horse's shoulders, touching animal when the horse's front feet touch the ground the first time out of the chute.
2. The first jump rule will be waived automatically if horse stalls coming out of the chute.
3. The first jump rule will not be waived automatically if horse fouls contestant, unless contestant declares himself immediately and prior to leaving the arena.

### **RE-RIDES**

1. Judges and stock contractors have the authority to pull an animal from the herd for failure to buck.
2. If two re-rides are given on the same bull, animal will be taken out of the draw for the remainder of that event.
3. If a re-ride is given on any animal and animal fails to buck, the stock contractor will have the option to discontinue the use of said animal for the remainder of the event.
4. After getting on three head of stock, contestant will have the option of another head of stock or to receive his entry fees back, except at the ARF.
5. If the flank comes off in the horse riding events, the contestant has the option of accepting marking or having a re-ride. (It shall be to the stock contractor's discretion as to whether contestant receives re-ride on same animal.) If a flank comes off a bull, contestant has the privilege of accepting marking or having a re-ride on the same bull. Contestant must make re-ride decision immediately.
  - A. Contestant will have the right to know their score before making decision to accept or reject a re-ride.
  - B. Contestant must make a qualified ride to be awarded a re-ride option.
6. If an animal in a riding event comes out backwards, the mark out rule will be waived and if rider is fouled, they must declare themselves before leaving the arena to receive a re-ride.
7. Judges decision on re-rides will be in accordance with the rules set forth hereafter:
  - A. Contestant will not be permitted to ask for a re-ride (unless fouled) or talk to judge about his marking during a performance.
  - B. Should an animal stop (not a hesitation) at any time during the ride, the contestant shall be entitled to a re-ride so long as they had made a qualified ride up to the point the animal stopped.
  - C. If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes three (3) honest efforts to get on a chute fighting animal and is unable to do so, they may have a re-ride drawn for them.
  - D. If a qualified ride is made by a contestant and the animal is marked by either judge at fourteen (14) or under or the total score is sixty six (66) or under, falls or stops, then contestant shall have the option of a re ride. Judges will notify announcer if re ride is to be given.
  - E. If an animal runs off, stops or falls three (3) times in one fiscal year, that animal may be taken out of the draw by the director or judges.
  - F. If any bucking horse contacts a pickup horse or stationary object, rider may ask for re-ride if he does it immediately. It shall be to the stock contractor's discretion as to whether contestant receives a re-ride on same horse.

G. If an animal fouls rider at chute or falls on its side, the rider may be granted a re-ride provided they have not been disqualified for other reasons. If animal falls and contestant accepts the fall, continuing to ride, contestant must complete a qualified ride to be eligible for a re-ride option. The contractor will decide if same animal is to be used or if re-ride is to be drawn.

H. If an animal stalls in the chute, hot shot will not be used until animal has turned outward, unless permission is given by contestant. Contestant must declare themselves.

## **CONTESTANT DISQUALIFICATION**

1. The judge at any approved ARA event may disqualify and/or fine any contestant for any of the following offenses:
  - A. Being under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, drugs or other hallucinatory substances while in the arena.
  - B. Mistreatment of livestock.
  - C. Quarrelling or fighting in or around the actual domain of the arena.
  - D. Refusing to compete on an animal drawn for him.
  - E. Not being ready to compete within a reasonable time after being called to compete. Unless circumstances are extenuating, "reasonable time" will be minutes.
  - F. Cheating or attempting to cheat.
2. Disqualified contestants will not be entitled to a refund of entry fees. The judge may, at his discretion, make disqualification for one or all performances.
3. All contestants are expected to make a reasonable and honest effort when in the arena. Failure to do so may result in disqualification to the extent and discretion of the judge.
4. Contestants will be disqualified only by the judge.

## **BAREBACK RIDING**

1. One hand rigging is to be used in bareback riding. Riders may use their own rigging, if rigging is not over ten (10) inches in width at handhold or a freak.
2. A leather covered pad must be on the entire underside of the bareback rigging next to the animal and extend a minimum of four (4) inches from the back of the rigging. Pads must be loose, (can be attached to rigging, but not permanently, so that rigging may be moved to new area on pad for protection to horses if rigging has broken down the contents of the pad) kept in good repair and be not smaller than a minimum of fifteen (15) inches and not larger than a maximum of twenty-five (25) inches. Stock contractor will have the right to furnish pads (pads to be no thicker than standard hair pad or no larger than twenty-five (25) inches).
3. Riders may use dry rosin or tape on handhold and glove.
4. There will be no finger tucks or wedges allowed in the bareback riding. Anything not stationary on the handhold or glove will be considered a wedge. Plain gloves only, no gimmicks. Except for small nipple at pinky permanent to glove.
5. Horses will be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the animal breaks the plane of the chute.
6. Contestant will have the right to call judges to pass on whether-or-not the horse was properly flanked and cinched.
7. The contestant must have both spur rowels touching the animal, one on each side of the animal, anywhere above the break of the shoulders when the animal's front feet touch the arena floor the first time out of the chute. Either judge will have the option to waive the mark out rule if the contestant is fouled or the animal stalls.
8. Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider:
  - A. Riding with rowels too sharp in the opinion of the judges.
  - B. Rider must finish ride with hand in handhold.

- C. Locked rowels or rowels that will lock during ride.
- D. Being bucked off.
- E. Touching himself or horse with free hand or assisting his self with free arm by touching animal.
- F. Failure to mark horse out of chute.

9. The Top 15 Bareback Riders are required to vote for Bareback Horse of the Year.

### **SADDLE BRONC RIDING**

1. Riding is to be done with plain halter, one rein and saddle.
2. Equipment is to be furnished by contestant but must be approved by the judges. Failure to comply with this rule will result in contestant disqualification.
3. Measurements for the saddle to be: Rigging -  $\frac{3}{4}$  rigging with D-ring pulling no further back than the rear of the swells. Cantle - not more than five (5) inches tall measured from back jockey to tallest point. Gullet - not less than four (4) inches at center of swells. Swells - not more than fourteen (14) inches wide or undercut more than one (1) inch on either side. Stirrups - hung over the bars with fenders. Seat - not less than fourteen (14) inches long. Deviation from specifications provided herein will be considered illegal.
4. Horses to be saddled in chute. Rider may cinch own saddle or examine same to determine if satisfactory; bucking rein must be connected to halter. Bucking rein only may be attached to halter under penalty of disqualification. (This rule to be at the stock contractor's discretion)
5. Riding rein and hand must be on same side.
6. Horses will be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the animal breaks the plane of the chute.
7. The contestant must have both spur rowels touching the animal, one on each side of the animal, anywhere above the break of the shoulders when the animal's front feet touch the arena floor the first time out of the chute. Either judge will have the option to waive the mark out rule if the contestant is fouled or the animal stalls.
8. Rider will have the right to call judges to pass on whether-or-not the horse is properly saddled and flanked to buck at its best. Middle flank belongs to rider; however, flank cannot be pulled further back than the break unless permission is granted by the stock contractor.
9. Rider will use dry rosin only on saddle or chaps.
10. Judges will inspect every saddle before each performance or be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each offense.
11. Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider:
  - A. Being bucked off.
  - B. Changing hands on rein.
  - C. Losing bucking rein.
  - D. Wrapping rein around hand.
  - E. Pulling leather.
  - F. Losing stirrup.
  - G. Riding with locked rowels or rowels that will lock during ride.
  - H. Touching himself or horse with free hand or assisting his self with free arm by touching animal.
  - I. Failure to mark horse out of chute.
  - J. Wrapping rein around horn.
12. The Top 15 Saddle Bronc Riders are required to vote for Saddle Bronc Horse of the Year.

### **BULL RIDING**

1. Bull must be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the animal breaks the plane of the chute.

2. Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without handholds. No knots or hitches to prevent rope from coming off a bull when rider has dismounted the bull will be permitted. Rope must have a bell when bull leaves chute. Bell must be under belly of bull. Bull rider and one other person may pull the rider's rope. The gateman or flanker may assist in pulling rope.
3. All bull ropes are to be made with rope not larger than nine sixteenths (9/16) inch rope (five, seven, nine, baby nine plat bull ropes are allowed).
4. Ropes cannot be used that have any knots, wires or other aids for the purpose of placing spurs therein.
5. Bulls having dangerous horns in the opinion of the event director must be dehorned, tipped or kept out of the draw. Contestant may request judges to inspect horns for proper tipping. If horns are not properly tipped, bull rider may turn out bull. The stock contractor will be fined in the amount of the entry fee plus twenty dollars (\$20.00). Entry fee plus ten dollars (\$10.00) will be refunded to contestant by the ARA office when fine is paid by stock contractor. Horns must be tipped obviously blunt or flat the size of a nickel.
6. If a rider makes a qualified ride with any part of the loose rope in his riding hand, he is to be marked; provided he has not touched the ground or has not fouled the animal with his free hand.
7. Rider will have the right to call judges to pass on whether-or-not bull is properly flanked to buck its best.
8. Only five (5) point "plain" or notched spur rowels (one rowel per shank) may be used in the bull riding.
9. Rider may use dry rosin only on glove and rope.
10. Rider will be disqualified for any of the following offenses:
  - A. Being bucked off.
  - B. Using sharp spurs.
  - C. Touching animal or himself with free hand or assisting his self with free arm by touching animal.
11. All ARA sanctioned events must have two (2) approved/competent bullfighters in the arena during the bull riding event for each performance and slack.
12. The Top 15 Bull Riders are required to vote for their choice of Bucking Bull of the Year.

### **COWGIRLS BARREL RACING**

1. Contestant must begin run from mouth of gate or alleyway and move in a forward direction (cannot enter arena and set horse), if gate or alleyway is in the center of the barrel pattern. Contestants cannot be required to begin run from an off centered gate or alleyway. When there is a split or double alleyway, contestants may be required to run from mouth of alleyway, if they have a choice of either alleyway. When center alleyway is used, it will be posted or told to contestants during the contestants meeting whether gate will be open, closed or barrel racer's option to run out. The bars in the alley must be covered with a minimum of four (4) inches of dirt or be removed.
2. There will be a sixty (60) second time limit for barrel racer to complete her run after official time begins.
3. Barrels are to be set on the inside of each stake in a cloverleaf pattern.
4. Judges are responsible for measuring, staking and marking of the barrels and score line, before the beginning of the first performance from such stakes, to determine if stakes are still in their original places. Measuring is to be done with tape measure. Judges must turn in barrel stake and score line measurements, in feet and inches, to event secretary for recording before the first performance.
5. Electric timers will be staked and reset over that stake each performance. Stakes must be under the middle of timers. Judges will be responsible for setting up electric timers.
6. Before setting the barrel pattern, take into consideration where the electric timers are to be set. Allow enough room to get cord (if corded) to announcer's stand or suitable area. Make sure there is access to power if needed. Do not set the course too wide for the electric eye to line up.
7. Measurements for the standard barrel course shall be 90 feet between barrels 1 and 2; 105 feet between barrels 1 and 3, and 2 and 3; 60 feet from barrels 1 and 2 to score line; 75 feet from score line to the end of the arena for stopping room. To set the course, measure the length and width of the arena to determine if a standard course can be set. Measure score line and stopping distance, then set barrels 1 and 2. Using a 100 foot measuring tape with 5 feet of rope or string added; make an arc on the ground from barrel 1

to 3, then from barrel 2 to 3. Set the marker for barrel 3 where the arcs cross, being sure that barrel 3 is at least 20 feet off the back of the arena fence. Measure score line from both barrels 1 and 2 to be sure that the distance is equal for contestants going to either the right or left first. Barrels 1 and 2 will be set a minimum of 15 feet off the arena fences. Standard course should be used wherever possible. If arena size does not permit standard course, measurements in proportion to the size of the arena shall be used, shortening the distance between barrels. The standard course lengths cannot be exceeded. If score line is less than the maximum 60 feet, there must be a minimum of 45 feet from the chutes or arena fence for stopping room, unless the arena has a center gate or alley and contestants are allowed to run out the gate and the score line must be a minimum of 25 feet.

8. When staking barrels for a center alleyway, the pattern will be staked starting with the alleyway and measuring equal distance from each side of gate (not the arena).
9. The arena must be worked (not hand raked) after at least fifteen (15) barrel racers have run or deemed necessary by the board or the producer with approval from the board. Arena must be worked before each performance and before slack. During slack, arena must be worked after same number of positions offered in performance, not to exceed fifteen (15) barrel racers.
10. A contestant will not be disqualified or penalized for touching a barrel.
11. If contestant knocks barrel over, there will be a five (5) second penalty for each barrel knocked over.
12. If all barrels are standing when a contestant crosses the score line after completing a qualified run, it is considered a qualified run, even if a barrel falls after she is flagged.
13. The use of an electric timer is required and must be backed up with a flag and two (2) timers. The manual times are to be averaged between the two (2) timers and recorded in hundredths. If electric timer fails three (3) times during one performance or two (2) times on the same contestant, times will revert to hand flagged times and event will be paid as one go-round with original stopwatch times to be used on all contestants. If the electric timers do not function properly resulting in hand flagged times, the stock contractor will receive a warning for the first offense. The stock contractor will be fined one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for offenses at events after first offense in a one-year period.
14. There shall be no talking to flagman, timekeepers or judges during the barrel racing event.
15. Both judges are required to be present during the barrel racing event with one judge flagging the line and the other judge watching to see that a cloverleaf pattern is run. Flag judge will flag nose of horse at start and finish of the race.
16. The flagman is not to leave his place, unless it is a visibly marked place.
17. If a barrel is knocked down, the judge not on the flagging line will reset the barrel in proper place. Judges may appoint responsible persons to replace barrels in proper position if barrels have been knocked down by a contestant during a contest run. The same person does not have to be appointed each performance.
18. In a two go-round, two runs may be had in one night if there are at least five contestants left for the remaining performances. However, there will not be two runs during any one paid performance unless requested by management.
19. Barrels must be regulation fifty-five (55) gallon metal barrel size and enclosed at both ends. No pads or tires may be used on or around barrels. Barrels must be at least two colors; no solid color barrels. No plastic or rubber barrels may be used.
20. After the barrels have been staked, no one will be permitted to go around the stakes or barrels (ie. "setting the pattern") during any warm-up for the duration of the event. Contestants must not turn or circle within fifteen (15) feet from the stakes prior to their run. Exception being exhibition runs which will be made after all contestants runs in that performance. If a contestant makes an exhibition run prior to competing, she must make her competition run on a different horse. (Note: When all performances are full, no exhibition runs will be allowed by contestants who are up at a later performance of event.) The contestant will be fined and/or disqualified for any infraction of these rules.
21. It is suggested that if arena is used for other barrel racing events, that during the event, the barrels be staked at least fifteen (15) feet from stakes used in these events.
22. Contestant will be disqualified, if after crossing score line and being flagged by the flagman, she re-crosses score line before completion of a true cloverleaf pattern.
23. Reruns in the barrel race will be taken at the barrel racer's discretion, either at the end of the barrel race, or immediately following the performance. The same rule applies to the slack. Reruns will be taken either at the end of barrel race or immediately following the slack. If contestant chooses to make their rerun immediately after the event, the ground must be worked regardless of the number of horses that run during the performance.

24. Rerun to be given to a contestant at judges' discretion should contestant be fouled. Any penalties incurred during original run will be added to rerun except when rerun is given due to electric timer failure to operate or barrels being placed in incorrect position. If an entire performance is rerun because of barrels not being in original places, then all contestants will run over and any penalties are disregarded.

25. No one on horseback, besides contestant, will be allowed in the arena during the barrel racing.

20 FT

15 FT  
MIN

15 FT  
MIN



GATE/CHUTES

There must be at least 45 feet of stopping distance and at least 20 feet from the score line to the first barrel. The first and second barrels must be at least 15 feet off the fence and the third barrel must be at least 20 feet off the fence. Other measurements are suggested and should be used to set the pattern in accordance to the arena size and conditions

