



**BY LAWS
AND
RULE BOOK
2026**

BY-LAWS ARKANSAS COWBOYS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation shall be "Arkansas Cowboys Association, Inc."

ARTICLE II

The nature of the business of the incorporation and the objects and purposes for which or for any of which, this corporation is formed are:

- a) To associate its members together for the purpose of engaging in horseback riding, for pleasure and competition and engage in other recreational and sporting activities.
- b) To sponsor, participate in, produce and conduct rodeos, horse shows, parades, trail rides, and other recreational and outdoor events.
- c) To construct, maintain and operate arenas, corrals, stables, grandstands, parking lots and other facilities for the operation of rodeos, horse shows, and other events.
- d) To buy, lease hold, mortgage and exercise all privileges of ownership in and to real and personal property.
- e) To have and exercise all powers, privileges and rights conferred on non-profit corporations by the laws of the State of Arkansas, including those enumerated in Arkansas Act No. 176 of 1963 Section 7, and all powers and rights incidental in carrying out the purposes of which this corporation is formed except such as are inconsistent with the provisions of the act under which this corporation is incorporated.
- f) The foregoing shall be construed both as objectives and powers, and the enumeration thereof shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the general powers conferred on this corporation by the laws of the State of Arkansas, all of which are hereby expressly claimed.

ARTICLE III

The address of the principal place of business for the corporation in Monticello, County of Drew, State of Arkansas and its agent at the location is James A. Ross, Jr., 113 East Shelton, Monticello, Arkansas, but the corporation may maintain offices and places of business at other places as the Board of Directors may determine.

ARTICLE IV

The period of existence of this corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE V

The private property of the members shall not be subject to payment of corporation debts to any extent whatsoever.

ARTICLE VI

This corporation shall have no capital stock, nor shall there be any state capital.

ARTICLE VII

The corporation shall have members. Membership requirements shall be set by the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII

This constitution may be amended at a regular or special meeting by a vote of the majority of all the members of this corporation, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment shall be mailed to each member ten (10) days prior to the vote on the amendment.

ARTICLE IX

No part of the net earning shall inure to the benefits of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and imposed to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered

to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Two of the Articles of Incorporation. No substantial part of articles of the corporation shall be carrying on the propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the correspondence provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under 170 (c)

(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or correspondence provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE X

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors (shall, after paying or making provisions or the payments of) all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all assets of the corporation, exclusively for the purpose of the corporation in such matters or to such organizations, organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 © (3) Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future Internal Revenue Law) as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of by the Chancery Court in the County in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for the purpose herein above enumerated.

ARTICLE XI

Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation, no gift bequest or devise of any property shall be received or accepted if it be conditioned of limited in such a manner as shall in opinion of Board of Directors jeopardize the Federal Income Tax exemption of this corporation pursuant of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code as now in force or afterwards amended.

ARTICLE XII

The number of directors constituting the Board of Directors of this corporation shall not be less than (5) nor more than twenty-five (25) elected or appointed for terms of two (2) years in the manner provided in the By-Laws of this corporation, provided that the terms of the initial Board of Directors may be from one (1) to three (3) years and may be staggered. The initial Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) directors. The initial Board of Directors shall have the direction or the affairs of the corporation and shall meet after issuance of the certificate of incorporation by the Secretary of State for the purpose of electing officers, adopting By-Laws and taking such other actions as necessary to perfect the organization of the corporation. Thereafter, By-Laws may be amended and officers elected as provided in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIII

Officers of this corporation shall consist of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The terms of office and methods of selection shall be specified in the By-Laws of this corporation.

RULE BOOK

ACA Board of Directors

1. Officers: The officers of the ACA will consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary.
2. Directors: There shall be sixteen (16) directors: One representing each of the fourteen (14) sanctioned events (two in team roping and two in 50+ team roping); one (1) representing the producers; and one (1) representing labor personnel (judges, timers, secretaries, contract acts, etc). (10/2023)
3. All Officers & Directors shall receive honorary membership cards and gate passes for all ACA sanctioned rodeos while serving their term.
4. President: The president will preside as chairman at all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Membership and perform other duties that are usually attached to the office. First Vice-President shall assume the duties when the President is unable to attend, and the Second Vice-President shall assume the duties when the President and First Vice-President are unable to attend.
3. Secretary: The secretary:
 - a. Shall keep and provide minutes at all meetings of the board and general membership.
 - b. Keep all association records and act as point tabulator.
 - c. Be responsible for handling the association funds.
 - d. Shall provide financial reports at each meeting.
 - e. Will handle all notifications of fines and the collection thereof.
 - f. Will be responsible for updating the website and social media.
 - g. Will be chairman of the Sponsorship Committee for the annual finals rodeo.
 - h. Is hired and fired by the majority vote of the board.
 - i. Will be bonded at the association's expense.
4. Duties and Functions: All members of the Board of Directors will serve as representatives of the ACA. They are expected to know the ACA Rulebook thoroughly and are to strictly abide by rules therein and set an example for the general membership. While attending a rodeo, they may be called upon to make recommendations to rodeo committees, producers, judges or contestants concerning a problem in question. A director is to be a spokesman for their event as a whole and is to uphold the rules of the rulebook and advise according to the rules therein. Under no circumstances will a board member be able to override a judge's decision.
5. The Board of Directors will have the right to veto a rule or policy passed by the General Membership if they feel it is detrimental to the ACA.
6. The Board of Directors can make rule proposals throughout the year. These proposals will be published on the website for one (1) month so members can voice opinions to the board on the subject. After one month, it will be brought back to the board for vote.
7. Quorums: At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the presence of two-thirds (2/3) of all board members will constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of the duly constituted quorum will govern that body.
8. Any member of the Board of Directors that misses three (3) scheduled meetings within a fiscal year will automatically relinquish their position and return their complementary gate pass to the secretary. The board position shall be posted on the website as open for nomination for applicants for one (1) month on the website. After one (1) month, the board may fill the position by majority vote of the board at the next meeting. A board member may be reinstated only one (1) time per term. (12/2009)

9. Any board member that does not conduct himself in a manner that is constructive and honorable to the association may be impeached from office by a 2/3 vote of a meeting of the board. All official meetings and functions of the ACA shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except in those cases in which Robert's Rules of Order are in conflict with the constitution, bylaws or rules of the association.
10. In any vote, the President may vote only to break a tie. The Secretary-Treasurer does not have a vote on the Board of Directors. The President and/or Secretary have the authority to decide not to bring to a vote of the board concerning requests that are in violation of a standing rule or not in compliance with approval guidelines. (2023)
11. In order for a person to hold an office or board position they must be at least 18 years of age by October 1st of fiscal year and a member in good standing.
12. Out-of-state members in good standing may serve on the Board of Directors. (10/07) (04/2014) (10/15)

ELECTION PROCEDURES

1. Each year there will be a general membership meeting. The general membership will elect a President every year. In the first-year, officers are elected, and 1st and 2nd Vice President are elected.

After the first year, every year a 2nd Vice President will be elected, and the previous 2nd Vice President will move to the 1st Vice President position. Each Director position is a two-year term.

On even numbered years the following director positions will be up for election:

- Calf Roping
- Cowgirls Barrel Racing
- Junior Barrel Racing
- Breakaway Roping
- Team Roping
- Producer

On odd numbered years the following director positions will be up for election:

- Bareback Riding
- Saddle Bronc Riding
- Ranch Bronc
- Bull Riding
- Steer Wrestling
- Goat Tying
- Labor
- 50+ Team Roping

2. Any cardholder in good standing will be eligible to vote.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT AND PRIVILEGES

1. New membership dues shall be \$100.00 per fiscal year. Fifteen years of age and under as of October 1st of fiscal rodeo year, membership will be \$50.00. (11/06) (10/16)(10/22)
2. Membership cards are good for one (1) rodeo season year and expire at the end of the finals (Expire at midnight on Saturday Night of Finals). Memberships purchased after Finals must be purchased **prior** to competition for points earned to count toward the finals rodeo. (10/2013) (10/2025)
3. Membership applications must be completed in full before a card is issued. If applying for rookie, it must be requested at time of membership application completion.
4. Minor's release must be received, signed by parent or legal guardian and notarized, for all card applicants under the age of eighteen (18) years before a card will be issued.

5. A labor card will be offered for rodeo personnel and/or others for twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. This card will include general membership voting eligibility, subject to being a member in good standing. This is a non-competing card.
6. All officials must be members of the Arkansas Cowboys Association. This includes secretaries, timers, judges, bull fighters, and safety men/pickup men. (2011) (2016) (2022)
7. When applying for membership you may be asked to furnish a birth certificate to show proof of age or gender. Gender will be determined at birth and as stated on the birth certificate.

DRESS CODE

1. When contestant numbers are furnished, all participants must wear these numbers to enter the arena and receive their stock. Anyone without their number may be excluded from the arena. Participants must wear their numbers visible to judge and spectators.
2. Long-sleeved shirt with collar (sleeves rolled down, shirt tucked), western hats with a crown (3" brim), boots and western denim jeans without holes or western dress pants must be worn in the arena, on the back of the bucking chutes and on back of the timed event chutes by all thirty (30) minutes prior to performance, during performance, and slack. (Clarification: A collar is any material attached to the neck of a shirt. Stand-up collars, band collars, tuxedo collars, ruffle collars and shawl collars all meet this definition.) In all events, a sweater or jacket may be worn over proper western attire. Pullovers that have a collar, button cuff, and at least three buttons at the neck will be allowed. Pullover dressy sequin or flashy shirts may be worn in Cowgirl Barrel Racing or Jr. Barrel Racing. (12/2000) (9/7/2014) (11/2017)

A contestant will be disqualified if they compete and are not in the dress code. Any contestant that violates the dress code while not competing shall be subject to fine. (4/2018)

3. All rodeo personnel will abide by dress code in rule #2 with the following exception: Timers and secretaries do not have to wear hats and their shirts must be neat in appearance. Shirts do not have to be tucked in. (10/2013) (2015)

CONDUCT

1. All contesting members will always conduct themselves in an exemplary manner upholding the ACA purpose and shall present themselves in a neat, clean, and orderly manner.
2. A person who behaves in a disorderly manner or commits an act that is not exemplary, will be fined a minimum of \$100.00 and can be charged more. This decision will be at the discretion of the board. (2015)
3. The board will not tolerate harassment of timers, secretaries, or judges. The secretary is to report any harassment to the board and a fine may be issued at the discretion of the board. (2014)

POINT AWARDS

1. ACA members will receive points equivalent to the same amount of money won during an approved rodeo. A contestant must have been a member **prior** to competing to be awarded points won in an ACA approved rodeo.
2. Prize money will be added money and entry fees totaled, minus approval fee (percent going to the association and co-sanction if applicable).
3. To be eligible for the All-Around:
 - a. A contestant must compete in eight (8) full rodeos in two (2) or more events.
 - b. The contestant must win \$500 per event in at least 2 events prior to the finals point cut off.
 - c. Team Roping and 50+ Team Roping are not considered two separate events regarding All-Around. At the end of the regular season and prior to the finals rodeo, the contestant must declare if they want their Team Roping or 50+ Team Roping points to count toward all around standings.
 - d. After meeting the criteria, all money won in other events counts toward the All-Around. (10/2019)

4. The points are to be counted from start of rodeo season to the cut-off date of the current rodeo year being followed by and including points won during the ACA Finals Rodeo. The champions, including but not limited to, year-end champions, reserve champions, average champions, and rookie champions, will be those accumulating the most points in each event for the respective awards. (2020)
5. For all events except Team Roping and 50+ Team Roping: The total earnings from jackpots will be limited to \$3,000.00 annually. For the money to count you must win rodeo money and match your jackpot money (for every dollar you win at an ACA sanctioned rodeo you can count a dollar won at an ACA sanctioned jackpot; example if you win \$400 at a jackpot and you won \$300 at rodeos you can only count \$300 of your jackpot winnings in year end standings). (8/2025)
6. Team Roping and 50+Team Roping: Total earnings from jackpots will be capped at \$1,500.00 per jackpot and \$3,000.00 annually. For any jackpot earnings to count you must win \$3,000.00 in rodeo earnings first. (8/2025)
7. To be eligible to compete in the finals rodeo:
 - a. Must purchase their membership card before September 1st
 - b. Compete in eight (8) full rodeos in the same event and be in the top fifteen (15) contestants. (10/99) (2016) (11/2017).
 - c. Steer Wrestling, Goat Tying, Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Ranch Bronc Riding and Bull Riding are EXEMPT from the 8 rodeo rule.
8. To receive a title or an award, a person must be a current member in good standing when the awards are presented.
9. To be eligible to compete for the Rookie of the Year, a contestant must:
 - a. Declare when membership application is submitted.
 - b. Apply for Rookie by 06/30 of the rodeo year. (2020)
 - c. Any contestant must not have won more than \$350 in any **card holding association** in the event applied for with the exception of Jr. High Rodeo, High School Rodeo, or Little Britches Rodeo. (09/2017).
 - d. The contestant must not have won the title of Rookie in the ACA in the same event in previous years. (2020)
 - e. If an applicant is denied by the board, they have the option to appeal the decision to the board in writing by 07/31 of the current rodeo year.
 - f. If a rookie once approved is found to have falsified their application by not claiming money won in a card holding rodeo association, he or she will be revoked as rookie

RODEO OFFICIALS

1. All rodeo officials including secretaries, timers, judges, bullfighters, and pickup men must be a member of the ACA. (10/2011) (2016)
2. Each producer is responsible for hiring individual rodeo judges, secretaries, and timers. ACA will offer clinics and/or individual testing for judges, secretaries, and timers. For all ACA approved rodeos, Producers must hire one (1) timer, one (1) judge, and one (1) secretary that has been certified by the ACA Board of Directors. (04/2014) (2017)
3. It is recommended to have two (2) bullfighters and two (2) pickup men.
4. Producers do not have the right to tell the judge how to judge a rodeo in which they have been hired to judge. Judge has final decision provided in accordance with the ACA rules. (10/02)
5. There must always be two (2) timers on the announcer's stand, with all types of watches or timers used. Once a person starts timing an event, they are to finish that event. The same timer is to blow the whistle or use the buzzer in rough stock for the entire go-round. If a timer wishes to compete in an event, they are responsible for getting someone to replace them in that event for the entire go-round that has met the requirements. Stopwatch times must be averaged between the two times. The announced time/score is not the official time/score. (See General Rules #19 for additional clarification.)
6. There shall be two (2) certified judges. Certified score line judge, a certified field judge and a qualified person to tie neck rope around timed event cattle's neck and feed neck rope from box, and as many other officials as are necessary. A judge or a person designated by the judge shall have a copy of the draw at the roping boxes to verify that each contestant competes on the stock drawn for them. In the event a contestant competes on the wrong stock, the contestant is disqualified. (2026)

7. The stock contractor will be responsible for all hired help at their rodeos.
8. If a judge, secretary, or timer attends two (2) clinics and has worked eight (8) rodeos in the year after attending said clinics, they may request exemption from attending all future clinics. The board has final discretion. (11/06)

HUMANE RULES

1. A veterinarian shall be in attendance, or immediately available, at every rodeo and will examine, treat, or recommend disposal of any injured animal after its removal from the arena. When destruction of an animal is recommended, such destruction will take place as soon as possible.
2. A conveyance of a type on which an injured animal may be easily placed without causing additional injury must be made available at all rodeos to remove animals from the arena in case of injury. A pen, corral or truck bed shall be prepared to receive injured animals removed from the arena with an adequate bed of straw or other appropriate bedding laid down for their comfort.
3. Stock belonging to either contestant or stock contractor shall not be confined to vehicles beyond a period of twelve (12) hours without being unloaded, properly fed and watered. 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.
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, 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. Use of fireworks on any animal will be prohibited except for flag poles designed for fireworks.
6. Humane hot shots shall be used only when necessary. No other kind of prods (such as pointed sticks) are allowed. Absolutely no other electrical devices may be used. In rough stock events, hot shots may be used from back of bucking chute **ONLY**.
7. No contract performer will abuse rodeo stock or animals used in their acts in any way.
8. Any abuse or mistreatment of stock anywhere on the grounds will result in a fine being imposed by the Board of Directors. (4/2018)
9. Any contestant tampering with competition livestock will be disqualified for the remainder of that particular rodeo and may be fined by the Board of Directors.
10. Animals will be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated before drawing. However, a sick or injured animal, whether discovered before or after the draw, will not be used in competition.
11. Stock that becomes excessively excited, so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly or tries to jump out of the chute, or in any way appears in danger of injuring itself, should be released from the chute.
12. 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 belly and both flanks and shall be kept in good repair. No tacks, spiders, or foreign objects will be allowed on flanks.
13. Timed event cattle shall be loaded in the release chute no more than five (5) minutes before the beginning of that event.
14. If an animal is injured in the process of contesting in timed events, the contestant shall not receive another head during the go-round.
15. Optional ground rule: Calves will not be jerked down. A ten (10) second penalty will be imposed for a jerk down.

16. Calf roper shall be disqualified for the remainder of rodeo for deliberate dragging or jerking down of a calf after tying and remounting the horse. The judge must notify the secretary of reason of disqualification immediately, and the secretary will report same on result sheet. This will be strictly enforced by judges, NO TOLERANCE.
17. IN JUDGE'S OPINION, if a horse, calf roper, or calf is in danger; the rope may be cut by the roper or cut by another person for humane reasons. Six seconds will start after the roper gives finish signal for his tie and slack is given (cut of rope). The hazer must not hit steer in the face before catch is made, nor must not render any assistance to contestant for which he is working steer. Failing to observe this rule will disqualify the contestant.
18. There will be no soaking of a rough stock animal. A contestant has one (1) minute to compete on an animal. The judge on his own motion or the producer has the option to request the judge to disqualify the contestant.

GENERAL RULES

1. Sanctioned events of the ACA are: Bareback Riding
Saddle Bronc Riding
Ranch Bronc Riding
Bull Riding
Calf Roping
Team Roping
Steer Wrestling
Goat Tying
Breakaway Roping
Cowgirls Barrel Racing
Junior Cowgirls Barrel Racing
50+ Team Roping
2. A person may enter rodeos unlimited without holding a membership card with a \$10.00 (ten) non-member fee charged per event. A team roper that is entered twice on one rodeo will pay \$10.00 once for that event.

Any money won before a card is purchased will not count as points toward the finals. (11/05)
3. Contestant will pay five dollars (\$5.00) finals fee in addition to entry fee in each event. (Team Roping and 50+ Team Roping) will be ten dollars (\$10) for two entries.) Of this money, three dollars (\$3.00) will be set aside by events for added money at the finals rodeo with 5% being held out of the total at the finals; one dollar (\$1.00) will be set aside by events for added money at the finals rodeo with no percentage being withheld from the total at the finals; one dollar (\$1.00) will be placed into the general fund. (11/05) (10/16)
4. Ground rules (not in conflict with ACA rulebook) must be posted before contestants will be required to comply with same.
5. General regulations – All contestants shall read and know the prevailing rules of each individual rodeo. Failure of knowing the rules will not be accepted as an excuse.
6. There will be a sixty (60) second time limit for contestants to compete from the time of the first announcement of their name. The announcer will give three (3) calls for the contestant during that time. It will be the judge's discretion to allow more time if believed the contestant is making a legitimate try at getting ready. Stock will be turned out if contestants do not comply with this rule.

Rough Stock contestants have sixty (60) seconds from the time their name is announced to leave the chute. If Sixty (60) seconds elapse the Judge has the discretion to allow another sixty (60) seconds. At the end of the two minutes, they must leave the chute, be disqualified, or offered a re-ride by the Judge. At no time shall a contestant be in a chute on an animal for longer than two (2) minutes. This rule includes exhibition rides.
7. Contestants must be on hand to answer the call of the arena director or announcer and must comply with other rules of the management of each contest or exhibition held under the auspices of the ACA as long as they are not in conflict with the ACA rules.
8. Producers have the right to ask contestants to clear the arena unless they are competing at that time, including slack.

9. One (1) contestant competing in an event will constitute a contest. Producer has the option to cancel the event if it is a call-in rodeo. (10/04) (2016) (2026)
10. Rough Stock Events: If five (5) or less contestants are entered in a rough stock event, the contestants may opt to enter for a second go-round in the same performance. Fees apply the same. Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling, and Breakaway: If five (5) or less contestants are entered in an event, the Producer has the option of making the event a two-head average payoff. All runs will be held in the show. No stock will be competed on more than one (1) time during the event. The position numbers for each contestant will remain the same for both runs. (example: Provided there are 5 contestants and 10 head of cattle numbered 1 through 10 run in order: contestant 1 will have stock 1 and stock 6; contestant 2 will have stock 2 and stock 7). The first go must be completed before the second go starts. The total entry fee per contestant will be increased to include an extra stock charge.
11. If a contestant contests on the wrong animal they will be disqualified. (2017)
12. Advertising on the website will be allowed as long as the advertisement is pre-approved by the Board.
13. Timed event stock: Stock contractor shall endeavor to keep uniform (meaning even weight, height and age) sets of timed event stock.
 - i Calf Roping calves must be strong and healthy and each calf shall weigh not less than one hundred fifty (150) pounds and not more than two hundred fifty (250) pounds.
 - ii Calf Roping and Breakaway calves can not have horns more than one (1) inch long, measuring from the base of the horn.
 - iii Team Roping and 50 plus Team Roping steers shall have a maximum weight of 700 pounds (refer to each event's rules for further clarification). Any steer that has been used for steer wrestling at any time shall not be used for team roping.
 - iv Producers must have a minimum of 12 cattle for the draw for Team Roping. In the event there are less than 24 team roping teams called in for rodeo, half (1/2) enough cattle are required with a minimum of seven (7).
14. Judges, producer and/or event director shall retain the privilege of eliminating uneven or undesirable stock when necessary.
 - a. Stock may be pulled from the draw for unsatisfactory cattle including mismatched size and shape or knowing the cattle are inadequate to rope.
 - b. Walking fresh cattle may be used provided ALL cattle in the draw are the same.
 - c. Walking fresh cattle and used cattle may not be mixed.
 - d. It is the decision of the producer, director, or judge to pull stock at a rodeo. It takes only one (1) to do so.
 - e. Failure by a producer to comply will result in a fine of \$25 per animal short of meeting the requirements.
15. If a cardholder enters a rodeo and is a Not Notified Turnout (NNTO), or if cardholder is issued a fine.
 - a. The ACA secretary will send a letter to the ACA member stating that fees/fines plus mailing cost must be paid within 30 days, or all points accumulated will be lost.
 - b. If balance due is not paid in 60 days from the date of the original letter, the cardholder's ACA membership will be revoked. (10/02)
16. Stock will not be held for a contestant that is not present. Further, the event may not be split or the order of events changed after posting in order to accommodate a contestant. (12/2016)

17. Times shall be calculated in the following numerical terms:

Tenths (such as 14.1)

- a. Steer Wrestling
- b. Calf Roping
- c. Breakaway
- d. Team Roping
- e. Goat Tying
- f. 50+ Team Roping

Thousandths (such as 14.111)

- a. Cowgirls Barrel Racing
- b. Junior Cowgirls Barrel Racing

18. The official time is the timer sheets for timed events and judge score sheets for rough stock. The announced time is not the official time. If a time or score is documented incorrectly, the Judge will clarify the time/score.
19. Any person that is not actively competing, responsible for stock, or assisting a contestant is restricted from being in the bucking chute area.
- a. Rough stock contestants are allowed to have no more than two (2) helpers behind the chutes.
 - b. The helpers shall abide by all ACA rules including, but not limited to, dress code.
 - c. Violation will result in a fine of \$50 to the contestant.
 - d. Additional spectators loitering behind the bucking chutes are the responsibility of the Producer and the Producer is subject to fine by the ACA.
20. The arena shall be groomed prior to each performance with a tractor and attachment adequate to properly prepare the ground. The arena must be re-groomed prior to the slack performance. Goat Tying and Steer Wrestling will be run before Cowgirls Barrel Racing. See Barrel Racing rules for number of runs before ground will be regroomed.

RODEO APPROVAL

1. Approval of rodeos will only be made by the ACA Board. A rodeo must be approved and posted a minimum of Thirty (30) days. Added money may be updated up to 14 days prior to the rodeo. The Board and/or President have the option of waiving the 30 days for extenuating circumstances.
2. Producer must submit for rodeo approval:
 - a. Date
 - b. Time
 - c. Location of the rodeo
 - d. All events offered
 - e. Added money for each event offered
 - f. Night latch use
 - g. Call-in information.
 - h. Sanction or co-sanction
 - i. Entry fees
 - j. Request to chute run stock by goes, if applicable.
 - k. If a gate fee is to be charged to the contestant, it must be noted on the form. (11/06)
Contestant will only be charged a maximum of \$5 at all ACA 1st sanctioned rodeos. (2014)
(2022)
3. Five percent (5%) will be taken out of the prize money as an approved sanction fee. If the rodeo is a co-sanction with ACA 1st, five percent (5%) will go to the ACA and three percent (3%) will go to the co-sanction rodeo association. If co-sanctioned by three (3) or more associations, with ACA 1st, four percent (4%) will go to the ACA and two percent (2%) to each co-approved association. If co-sanctioned by four (4) associations, two percent (2%) will go to each association.

4. Cancellation of a rodeo that is not posted on the ACA website for 30 days prior to the scheduled rodeo date will be assigned a \$300 fine to the Producer of that rodeo. If a rodeo committee or arena owner cancels a rodeo without a 30-day notice, the Producer must have the committee, or the arena owner submit a letter to the Board of Directors. The board may, at their discretion, waive the fine. (10/02)
5. When a Producer cancels a rodeo due to adverse conditions caused by weather or other extenuating circumstances, the Producer must contact the ACA President or Secretary as soon as possible. The rodeo will be cancelled and published as soon as possible. The situation will be presented to the board for the waiver of fine. (3/16)
6. All rodeos may offer added money in any event at the discretion of the Producers; however, the added purse must be advertised fourteen (14) days in advance in an ACA publication form or will not count toward year-end standings. (10/2014) (10/2015) (2019) (2024) The Board and/or President may waive the fourteen (14) day rule if there is no conflict with another rodeo and in the best interest of the contestants.
7. Weekend is defined as Friday through Saturday. (10/2013) (10/2016) During the winter months, the end of finals through the last weekend in March, Producers have the option to have timed event only events sanctioned by the ACA. These events do not count toward the mandatory eight (8) rodeos for producers or contestants for eligibility for finals. The ACA Board of Directors has the discretion of rodeo approvals and may approve beyond the date guidelines at their discretion. (10/2014) (2016) In addition, Producers have the option to have rough stock only events sanctioned and co-sanction by the ACA. Rough Stock only events are open for approval during all months. These events do not count toward the mandatory eight (8) rodeos for producers or contestants for eligibility for finals. (06/2021)
8. During the winter months, the end of finals through the last weekend in March, Producers have the option to have two (2) rodeos running simultaneously. (2024)
9. Only four (4) jackpots will be permitted each year for each event, and these will not contribute to the eight (8) rodeo requirement for finals eligibility or all-around standings. These can occur throughout the year, but they will not be approved during a rodeo, with the exception of a jackpot that will benefit an ACA event or a benefit jackpot for an ACA member. Jackpots must start by 1:00 p.m. and end three hours before a rodeo start time. Barrel racers who want to compete at both events will have the option to enter in the first 50 of the jackpot. (8/2025)
10. Team Roping jackpots: Payout must be 80% payback for the jackpot to be approved. For all roping jackpots \$10.00 per contestant/entry will be collected and submitted to the ACA. From this, the ACA will designate \$3.85 per man/entry towards the added money for the event finals, while the remaining \$6.15 will be directed toward the general fund. (8/2025)
11. Barrel Racing Jackpots: Will be run as a side pot from the hosting barrel race. Will follow ACA barrel racing payout & rules. (8/2025)
12. Steer Wrestling and Rough Stock: Will enter one time. Can have multiple rounds and payout on average. Payout will follow ACA rodeo payout or first sanction rodeo rules. (8/2025)

RODEO PRODUCERS

1. ACA approved rodeo producers;
 - a. Must abide by the rules.
 - b. A Producer must be voted into the association by the Board of Directors.
2. A Producer in order to be eligible to bring stock to the finals:

OPTION 1

- a. Must produce a minimum of eight (8) ACA approved rodeos per fiscal year. (Rodeo is defined as a minimum of two (2) rough stock events and three (3) timed events.)
- b. At least four (4) of their eight (8) rodeos must be in separate locations and must be sanctioned ACA only.

- c. All stock must be offered at four (4) rodeos and contested on at least three (3) times to be eligible for finals competition.

OR

OPTION 2

- a. Produce a minimum of eight (8) ACA approved rodeos, four (4) of the eight (8) must be ACA first rodeos, per fiscal year (rodeo is defined at a minimum of two (2) rough stock events and three (3) timed events with a minimum of \$1,500 approval fee money to the ACA. All stock must be offered at four (4) rodeos and contested on at least three (3) times to be eligible for finals competition. (11/05) (10/20) (03/22).
3. Producers have the option to submit a rodeo co-sanctioned with another association. The approval of the rodeo will be at the discretion of the ACA Board of Directors. (2014)
4. Producers that do not follow the rules made and approved by the ACA will be fined. 1st offense \$100, 2nd offense will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
5. Producers must post draw, any applicable ground rules and order of events for the rodeo and slack before the rodeo starts. (Note: Steer Wrestling and Goat Tying must be run before Cowgirls Barrel Racing and Junior Barrel Racing, unless arena is re-groomed.)
6. The Producer must offer a minimum of five (5) approved events to be an approved rodeo: 2 rough stock events and timed events. The ACA Board of Directors has the discretion of rodeo approvals.
7. All rough stock shall be branded. (10/04)
8. Producers must supply manufactured roping box pads for their respective rodeos. (2013/2017)
9. All rodeo officials including secretaries, timers, judges, bullfighters, and pickup men must be a member of the ACA. (10/2011) (2016) The secretary, judges and at least one timer must be certified (or approved by the board). (2026)
10. During the winter months, the end of finals through the last weekend in March, Producers have the option to have two (2) rodeos running simultaneously. (4/2024) The arena must be re-groomed prior to the slack performance at all ACA rodeos. (11/2023)

RODEO SECRETARY

1. If the rodeo secretary mishandles prize money or entry fees, or falsifies rodeo records in any way, they will be disqualified from working all ACA rodeos. Producers will be liable.
2. Secretaries are to check and reject any person who is currently on the suspended list. They are to call to the attention of the judges any person or persons whom obtain entry by falsification (using another member's card or card number, etc.). Any such person or persons whom may obtain entry through falsification will be drawn out, or if they have already competed, will be disqualified. Entry fees and prize money will be forfeited.
3. At all ACA rodeos, the rodeo secretary will close the books one (1) hour before rodeo time (unless otherwise stated in the monthly publication or website). (10/2014)
4. Rodeo secretaries and Producers shall charge entry fees, stock charge, gate fees, finals fees, timer charges and ACA percentage sanction fee, as listed in the rodeo listing in the newsletter and on the approval form. In the event of a printing or typographical error in the newsletter, the secretary or Producer for that particular rodeo should request a letter of correction based on the rodeo approval form from the ACA secretary to post at the rodeo. (12/02)
5. In the event that a timer records an official time incorrectly, the contestants whose times were recorded incorrectly will be rerun, with any penalties that have incurred included. (10/03)

DRAWING OF LIVESTOCK

1. It is the Producer's option to use bucking horses in more than one event in ranch bronc, saddle bronc or bareback riding events at the same rodeo.

2. If a mistake is made in the drawing of timed event livestock, the draw will be redrawn. If the mistake is discovered after the contest has begun, the redraw will be done from the mistake on.
3. No contestant/team may compete on the same head of stock twice in the same event at a rodeo that is paying off an average. Should the same animal be drawn, a judge will draw another animal for the contestant/team. (10/03)
4. All stock must be easily identifiable before the draw and remain the same throughout the rodeo.
5. If an animal is disqualified from competition after the draw has been made, a new animal will be drawn by a judge for the contestant from a herd of animals that are not already drawn. Disqualified animals are to remain disqualified for remainder of that rodeo.
6. The Draw:
 - a. At a mandatory call-in rodeo, the secretary can draw positions in the timed events prior to arriving at the rodeo.
 - b. The Secretary and at least one judge will draw livestock at a posted time at the rodeo.
 - c. The draw will be open for anyone to observe. There will be no closed drawing.
 - d. Steer Wrestling and Goat Tying must have position and stock drawn and run in order of position, no exceptions. Steer Wrestling you can do splits, but whoever is 1st must run first.
 - e. Calf Roping, Breakaway Roping, Team Roping and 50+ Team roping stock must have position and stock drawn and run in order of position unless the event has been approved by the board at time of approval to be chute run by rounds.
7. If stock is drawn for a contestant and that contestant does not compete due to not notified turnout (NNTO), doctor release (DR), vet release (VR), or notified turnout (NT) after the draw has been completed, it is **NOT** a misdraw. The stock shall be loaded and then turned out. (2014) If a contestant called/texted in and was left out of the cowgirl or junior barrel racing draw, a number will be drawn and that contestant inserted into the draw in that position. All contestants from that spot shall move down one. In the event this causes a rider to be pushed out of the performance, that rider has the option of running last in the performance or being first in slack. This could change where the drag is for the remainder of the event.
8. In timed events, if stock was not drawn for the 1st round but was in the draw for the 2nd rounds or rounds thereafter, and the mistake was discovered at the end of the first round, then that stock will be removed from the draw and the draw be redone from this point.
 - a. Example: First round complete and discovered a calf was not in the first-round draw but is in the 2nd and 3rd goes. The first go remains the same, the calf missed in the first go is removed from the remaining draw and the 2nd and remaining goes are redrawn.
 - b. Example: First round complete, second round started, discovered a calf was not in the first go but is in the second and remaining goes. That calf is not used, pulled from the draw and the draw is redone from this point forward.
 - c. Example: First round, discover a contestant is entered two times. The second entry on the page of this contestant is the mistake. The stock of the second entry is removed from the draw and the second and remaining goes are redrawn. The stock of the second entry of this contestant is removed completely from the draw.
9. If a contestant is inadvertently entered twice, the second entry on the page is the mistake. (2014)
10. No rough stock can be put in the draw unless previously bucked.

RODEO ENTRY

1. The first hour after books open for call-in to a rodeo shall be reserved for ACA members only. (12/02)
2. Member: If an ACA member phones in their entry, and gives a valid ACA card number, their name shall be accepted by the secretary without requiring an entry fee paid until said member reaches the destination. Immediately upon their arrival at the rodeo, member shall make payment of fees due. No stock will be given until entry fee is paid. No checks will be accepted for entry fees unless approved by the Producer and made payable to the Producer.
3. All call-in rodeos or call-in for specific events shall have a designated time for call-in. If a contestant must notify turnout (TO) of an event, they must contact the producer by 12:00 p.m. (noon) one day prior to the rodeo to draw out. If contact is not made, the contestant will be considered a Not Notified Turnout (NNTO) and fees will be applied. If a contestant has a doctor release (DR) or a vet release (VR), the contestant must contact the producer and/or producer's rodeo secretary as soon as possible. A written verification must be provided to the ACA Secretary within seven (7) days of the event. If the verification is not provided, they will be considered a Not Notified Turnout (NNTO) and fees will be applied. (6/2017)
4. If a contestant calls in and enters a rodeo and is a not notified turnout (NNTO), the producer is not responsible for the entry fee and this entry is NOT counted in the payout. The producer's rodeo secretary shall send the contestant's name in to the ACA Secretary. The ACA Secretary will notify the contestant and request payment of the entire fee. Until the fee is paid, their name will go on a suspended list. Upon receiving payment, the ACA Secretary will make payment to the producer of the stock/timer charge. The remaining amount of the fees, excluding nonmember fees, will be applied to the added money for that specific event for the finals rodeo. This applies to members and non-members. (06/2017)
5. Mandatory call-in rodeos: If a contestant fails to call in at the designated time and it is prior to the draw for the rodeo, it is at the discretion of the producer if they allow them to enter. If the positions have been drawn, and the producer allows a contestant to enter, in timed events (CR, SW, TR, BWY, & GTS), they will be placed at the top of the draw and compete first. In barrels, they will be added to the bottom of the draw without a new drag. (01/2021) (2024)
6. A person can call in and enter themselves and two (2) additional contestants. Books shall close one (1) hour prior to performance when call-in is not required. (10/2014)

INJURY OF MEMBERS

1. Injury of contestant: The management assumes no responsibility for injury or damage to the person, property or stock of any owner, contestant or assistant.
2. Each participant by the act of paying his or her membership dues, non-member fees, or entry fees, waives all claim against the management for injuries or property damage that may sustain.
3. All producers must make reasonable effort to have medical personnel at rodeos.

ENTRY FEES

1. Refunds of entry fees: No rodeo shall be responsible for the returning of a contestant's entry fee if he or she has contested in the event once during the rodeo. Producer's option to refund entry fee before a person has competed.
2. A contestant entering two (2) or more events cannot contest in one (1) event and get fees back in other event unless contestant is hurt in the first scheduled event. This refund shall be determined by decision of at least one (1) judge.

3. Entry Fees - Producers Options:

EVENT	FF	EF	SC	SC/\$100 added	SC/\$150 added
BB,SB,RB,BR	\$5	\$30 MIN	\$20 MAX	\$25 MAX	\$25 MAX
CR, BWY	\$5	\$45 MIN	\$15 MAX	\$15 MAX	\$20 MAX
SW	\$5	\$45 MIN	\$15 MAX	\$20 MAX	\$20 MAX
CBR	\$5	\$45 MIN	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX
JBR	\$5	\$25 MIN	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX
GT	\$5	\$25 MIN	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX	\$10 MAX
TR/man	\$5	\$65 MIN	\$7.50 MAX/MAN	\$10/MAX/MAN	\$10 MAX/MAN
TR/team	\$10	\$130 MIN	\$15.00/TEAM	\$20/TEAM	\$20 MAX/TEAM
50+/man	\$5	\$40 MIN	\$7.50 MAX/MAN	\$10 MAX/MAN	\$10 MAX/MAN
50+/team	\$10	\$80 MIN	\$15 MAX/TEAM	\$20 MAX/TEAM	\$20 MAX/TEAM

4. Producer has the option to increase their stock charge by \$5 (five) provided the added money in that event is greater than or equal to \$100.00 (one hundred) in that event per rodeo in all events except calf roping and breakaway roping. It may be increased by \$5.00 (five) in calf roping and breakaway with \$150.00 (one hundred fifty) added in that event per rodeo. (*If it is a weekend rodeo consisting of two (2) rodeos, the added money would be \$200 per event in all events except calf roping and breakaway for a 2-night rodeo. Calf roping and breakaway will be \$300.00 for a 2-night rodeo that pays off each night.)
5. The Board of Directors may approve entry fees to be increased or decreased upon request for specific rodeos. In such event, the fees will be posted on the website and in the monthly publication. (2014)

PAYOFF

1. Secretary shall make payment to winning contestant in each event as follows:

- a) Calf Roping, Bull Riding, Steer Wrestling, Breakaway, Cowgirls Barrel Racing:
 1 – 4 contestants pay one (1) place: 100%
 5 – 8 contestants pay two (2) places: 60% and 40%
 9 – 15 contestants pay three (3) places: 50%, 30% and 20%
 16 – 24 contestants pay four (4) places: 40%, 30%, 20% and 10%
 25 + contestants pay six (6) places: 32%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9% and 5%
- Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Ranch Bronc, Goat Tying, and Junior Barrel Racing:
 1 – 3 contestants pay one (1) place: 100%
 4 – 5 contestants pay two (2) places: 60% and 40%
 6 – 9 contestants pay three (3) places: 50%, 30% and 20%
 10 – 19 contestants pay four (4) places: 40%, 30%, 20% and 10%
 20 + contestants pay six (6) places: 32%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9% and 5%
- a.) Team Roping:
 1 – 6 teams pay one (1) place: 100%
 7 – 13 teams pay two (2) places: 60% and 40%
 14 – 20 teams pay three (3) places: 50%, 30% and 20%
 21 – 27 teams pay four (4) places: 40%, 30%, 20% and 10%
 28 + teams pay six (6) places: 32%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9%, and 5%

If the number of contestants warrants payoff of six places, but the event only has 5 qualified rides or scores, the following breakdown for 5 places should be used: 33%, 25%, 19%, 13% and 10% (10/2020)

- b.) 50+ Team Roping:
 1 – 5 teams pay one (1) place: 100%
 6 – 10 teams pay two (2) places: 60% and 40%
 11 – 15 teams pay three (3) places: 50%, 30% and 20%
 16 – 20 teams pay four (4) places: 40%, 30%, 20% and 10%
 21 – 25 teams pay five (5) places: 33%, 25%, 19%, 13%, and 10%.
 26+ teams pay six (6) places: 32%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9%, and 5%

- If the number of contestants warrants payoff of six places, but the event only has 5 qualified rides or scores, the following breakdown for 5 places should be used: 33%, 25%, 19%, 13% and 10% (1/2021)
2. Computation of payoff in team roping will be on a team basis; however, points will be posted on an individual basis.
 3. **The rodeo secretary will pay off on paid entries, only.** Rodeo secretary will list all NNTO – Not notified outs and submit to the ACA secretary with the rodeo settlement. (11/06) See Rodeo Entry #4
 4. The amount of added money in an event must be designated in the rodeo listing publication and/or website fourteen (14) days prior. The Board and/or President may waive the fourteen (14) days if no other rodeos conflict and in the best interest of the contestants. Added money awarded in an event will count for All-Around points. Should an event be cancelled, the added money reverts to the sponsor. In the event there is added money in an event with no qualified ride or time, the producer has the option to return the added money to the sponsor and not include in the settlement to the ACA. (10/2002) (1020/05) (10/2013)
 5. In the event an error is made in the rodeo payout the following shall apply:
 - a. **Overpayment to Contestant:** The producer's rodeo secretary and/or Producer shall notify the contestant as soon as possible and no longer than seven (7) days from the time of the error, that they have been overpaid and request the money to be returned. Provided the money is returned within five (5) days of the notification, there will be no further action.
 - b. In the event the money is not returned within five (5) days, the producer's rodeo secretary and/or Producer shall notify the ACA Secretary in writing the details of the overpayment and the efforts made to collect the overpayment. The ACA Secretary shall notify the contestant in writing and request payment. In addition, the contestant will not be allowed to enter an ACA event until such time as the overpayment is returned. Upon the ACA receiving the funds from the contestant, the Producer shall be reimbursed. **Underpayment to Contestant:** The producer's rodeo secretary and/or Producer shall notify the contestant as soon as possible that they have been underpaid. The Producer has five (5) days from the time the error is determined to make payment to the contestant. (6/2017)
 6. Rodeo results, approval fee, memberships purchased, and other money collected in a rodeo settlement must be mailed to ACA secretary within seven (7) days or the producer will be fined 10% of approval fee or a minimum of fifty dollars (\$50.00). For each additional week there will be an additional twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) fine. (10/05). It is requested rodeo results and payouts be e-mailed to the ACA Secretary as quickly as possible following a completed rodeo.
 7. There will be no ground money. All events with qualified rides or times will receive all the designated payout. If there is no qualified ride or time, then ½ (half) will go to the producer and ½ (half) will go to the ACA to be added money in that event for the finals. The event cannot be "rerun" in effort to acquire a score or time. In the event there is added money in an event with no qualified ride or time, the producer has the option to return the added money to the sponsor and not include in the settlement to the ACA.
 8. A rodeo may have more than one (1) performance and have one (1) payout. Payoff method shall be posted in the newsletter monthly publication and/or website. (Producer's Option) (10/00)
 9. Rough stock events shall not be paid off until score cards are turned in and scores checked. (See rule #5 under General Judging Methods)

GENERAL JUDGING METHODS

1. All judges will know and understand all rules governing rodeo as set forth in the ACA rulebook and any valid ground rules enacted and will be responsible for enforcing and upholding same. All decisions will be left to the discretion of the judges.

2. Judges' decisions are final if in accordance with the ACA rules. In all cases of dispute, the rodeo will proceed without delay under the existing rules of the ACA and the matter of said dispute shall be settled by the judge. Decisions 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 or judge's decision will be disqualified for the remainder of that rodeo.
3. If a judge issues a re-ride or re-run, it must be done immediately following the original run, and he must notify the contestant immediately unless otherwise stated in the specific event rules of the ACA. In the case of a fine, the judge must notify the rodeo secretary as to who the fine is issued to and reason for the fine. The fine information must be sent to the ACA office with the rodeo results. (11/06)
4. If a judge has three written complaints in a fiscal year, that judge must appear before the Board of Directors.
5. Judge must total own score sheets. Judges must sign their own judge's cards.
6. A judge cannot draw an event in which they are participating, nor can they judge for that event.
7. Judge or flagman that starts an event must complete that event in its entirety.
8. Faulty Equipment: All equipment used by a contestant is their responsibility and no re-rides or re-runs will be given due to faulty equipment. Borrowed equipment is accepted as contestant's own.
9. Fouls: Anytime a contestant is fouled in any event, he must declare IMMEDIATELY when fouled, or take that marking or time.
10. The arena must be re-groomed prior to the slack performance at all ACA rodeos. (11/2023)

JUDGING METHODS/RIDING EVENTS

1. Rough Stock Events – The judge on the latch side of the gate has the official call as to completion of time competed on an animal. However, the latch side judge may acquire the time of the other judge if needed. Either judge may stop the time and disqualify the contestant if the contestant does not complete the ride as required.
2. The score is to be announced publicly after each contestant's contest. This score is considered unofficial until judges' cards have been turned in and the total checked.
3. 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 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 their performance and (how much the rider spurs the animal) and the animal according to its performance.
4. Each judge may change a contestant's total marking a maximum of three (3) points if changes are made immediately. Judges' marking will be final. Judge score cards must be turned in to the rodeo secretary to be recorded on a master sheet.
5. In all riding events, contestants may use their free hand against any foreign object (pick-up men, fences, etc.) that obstructs their ride.

RE-RIDES

1. If a re-ride is given on any animal for failing to buck, said animal shall not be drawn for re-ride for the remainder of that rodeo. If the judge declares a re-ride on a rough stock animal, he will have the option to have the animal pulled from the draw for the remainder of the rodeo.
2. If the flank comes off, re-ride may be granted on the same animal, at the discretion of the rider, if a qualified ride has been made, or take the marking on that ride.
3. If there is an option of re-ride, the score must be given and announced with option of re-ride (Example: "Score of 65 with option of a re-ride"). If the re-ride option is accepted, the contestant must then take the re-ride or no score. All re-rides must be requested immediately to the judge. The judge's decision on re-rides will be in

accordance with the rules set forth hereafter.

4. If agreeable among Producer and contestant, the contestant may have the same stock in a re-ride; if not agreeable, a different animal will be drawn for that contestant. If a contestant takes the same animal, they waive the right to another re-ride or animal.
5. The judge has the authority to give re-runs and re-rides as often as the judge sees fit (the judge's decision is final).
 - a. If, in the opinion of the judge, a rider makes three (3) honest efforts to get out on a chute fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride drawn for him.
 - b. If a qualified ride is made by the contestant and the animal is marked by either/or both judges at ten (10) or under, falls on side, or stops, then contestant shall be eligible for a re-ride. Judges will notify the announcer & secretary/timer that re-ride will be given. (10/98)
 - c. Re-rides are to be drawn out of stock not previously drawn for that performance. In all rough stock events, there must be three (3) head of stock drawn for re-rides that were not in the same performance. Producers do not have to draw from the entire herd of stock for re-rides. The re-ride animals drawn should be posted on the judges' cards and entry forms. If an animal is "turned out" the producer may use that animal for the 1st re-ride. (11/05) (2026)
 - d. If an animal in a riding event comes out backwards, the mark out rule is to be waived and if the rider is fouled, he must declare himself to receive a re-ride.
 - e. If a rider is fouled by coming into contact with a pickup horse or chute gate, rider may ask for a re-ride if done immediately. If an animal falls on its side, the rider is granted a re-ride provided there is not a disqualification for other reasons. Rider must declare immediately.
 - f. It is suggested that if some error or question arises during the event, that the announcer be advised and that be announced over the speaker that there may be a re-ride or re-run.
6. Any contestant asking for re-ride in an unbecoming manner will be subject to a fine by the Judge, enforced by the Board of Directors.

JUDGING METHODS/TIMED EVENTS

1. If a flag judge mistakenly flags a contestant, he may require the contestant to run again, regardless of recorded time. The judge re-run decision must be made immediately following the original run. In timed events where barrier is used, any penalties incurred during the original run will be added to the re-run. If a barrier has been broken on the original run, the contestant will get stock lap and tap.
2. On a known turn-back animal, contestants will have the privilege of selecting one person to go into the arena as far as score line to prevent the animal from turning back. The person must not come in physical contact with the animal or throw any foreign objects at the animal under penalty of disqualification to the contestant.
3. Same man must open all front gates for each event including slack. Producer will designate and be responsible for providing a man and seeing that he works the entire rodeo. However, an incompetent gateman may be replaced if both judges deem it necessary.
4. In any timed event, if it is necessary to bring an animal back, several head of stock will be brought back together. No animal will be penned separately.
5. Animal belongs to contestant when called for: Exceptions: a) barrier hits rope or contestant; b) timer misses time; or c) in the sole opinion of the line judge, the gateman fouls the contestant by not releasing the animal when called for by the contestant. The contestant will be awarded a re-run if they declare immediately. If the line judge does not feel the contestant was fouled, a "no time" will be issued.

6. If an animal gets out of the arena, the flagman stops the time and the roper will get the same animal back; lap and tap (roper to start in the chute with the same stock) Continuing with the time at the point when time was stopped for the animal getting out of the arena.
7. If a steer hangs up in the box solid or if a steer/calf falls and stops forward motion before the score line, they will receive a re-run at the judge's discretion. The contestant or helper cannot knock the stock down.
8. There will be a one (1) minute time limit per contestant for completion of run on all events, excluding penalties.
9. The field flagger in all timed events will be an ACA certified judge.

BARRIERS

1. All Producers are to use barriers.
2. Barriers must be inspected and measured by a standard measuring device (or method) by the line judge immediately before timed events in each performance.
 - a. In Calf Roping, the score line shall not exceed one (1) foot per each twenty one (21) feet of arena length.
 - b. In Steer Wrestling, the score line shall not exceed one (1) foot per each thirty (30) feet of arena length, and shall not be more than a maximum of twelve (12) feet in length at any time, unless authorized by the board.
 - c. In Team Roping and 50+ Team Roping the barriers shall be minimum of six (6) feet.
 - d. Once score line has been set it will not be changed during that go-round nor will box, chute or barrier be changed in any manner. The length of steer wrestling box will be such that the distance from the breast of the horse to the barrier, when horse is standing in back of box, will be equal to or exceed the distance from the front of the box to the score line. A neck rope should be used with a slip hondo so as to allow the neck rope to slide down tight on the steer's neck.
3. If automatic barrier does not work correctly contestant must take animal over, whether stock is caught or missed, during or immediately after that performance, time to be set at discretion of Producer and judges.
4. If neck rope hangs on animal, stops animal, turns animal back, jerks head out of position, or causes animal to fall before crossing score line; preventing contestant from making fair catch, stock will be brought back, and decision of judge will determine if stock is re-run.
5. Barrier will not be considered broken unless the ring falls within eight (8) feet of post. No metal may be used on jerk line and neck rope that extends beyond front of chute. Barrier must be tied with string only.
6. If barrier equipment fouls a contestant in any timed event, they will be entitled to re-run if they declare immediately. If a contestant attempts to compete, a rerun will not be given. (10/03)
7. In the timed events, the time is to start when barrier flag pops from animal's neck.
8. Stock must cross the score line in front of line judge after leaving the chute. If this does not occur, stock will be brought back and re-run. Providing the contestant does not initiate the set up by obviously over running the animal, thus breaking the barrier.
9. Barrier and barrier equipment used in Calf Roping cannot be used in the Steer Wrestling event.
10. If a contestant breaks or beats the barrier, a ten (10) second penalty shall be enforced.

BAREBACK RIDING

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 automatically waived if the contestant is fouled or if the horse stalls.

3. 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 break. A leather covered hair pad must be on the entire underside of the bareback rigging next to the animal. The pad must not exceed a 22" square (standard hair pad). All pads must extend a full two (2) inches from the back of the rigging. Producers will have the right to furnish pads. Pads shall be no thicker or longer than standard pads. Riders may use dry rosin, Benzoin 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 glove only, no gimmicks.
5. Latigos cannot be blocked in "D" ring in any manner.
6. Horses will be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the horse's front feet touch the ground for the first time out of the chute. The contestant will have the right to call a judge to pass on whether the horse was properly flanked and cinched.
7. Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider:
 - a. Riding with rowels too sharp in the opinion of the judges.
 - b. Rider not finishing the ride with hand in handhold.
 - c. Locked rowels or rowels that will lock during the ride.
 - d. Being bucked off.
 - e. Touching himself or horse with a free hand or assisting himself with free arm by touching animal.
Failure to mark horse out of chute.

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

1. Contestant's spurs must be over the break of the horse's shoulders, touching the animal when the horse's front feet touch the ground the first time out of the chute.
2. The first jump rule will be automatically waived if the contestant is fouled or if the horse stalls.
3. Riding is to be done with plain halter, one rein and an association saddle.
4. 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 – shall be no wider than four (4) inches at the 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.
5. The riding rein and hand must be on the same side. Horses are to be saddled in a chute. The rider may cinch their own saddle or he must examine to determine if it is satisfactory. Only the bucking rein may be attached to the halter.
6. Horses to be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the animal's front feet touch the ground first jump out of the chute.
7. Middle flank belongs to the rider; however, the flank cannot be pulled further back than the break (unless permission is granted by the Producer.)
8. Riders may use dry rosin only on saddles and chaps. Judges will inspect every saddle before each performance.
9. Disqualifications: Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider:
 - a. Being bucked off.
 - b. Changing hands on rein.
 - c. Losing bucking rein.
 - d. Wrapping the rein around hand.
 - e. Losing stirrup.
 - f. Riding with locked rowels or rowels that will lock during ride.

- g. Touching himself or horse with a free hand or assisting himself with free arm by touching the animal.
- h. Failure to mark horse out of chute.

RANCH BRONC RIDING

1. Horses to be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the animal's front feet touch the ground first jump out of the chute.
2. The rider must always keep only one (1) hand on bronc rein during the ride (no double grab).
3. Stock saddle only.
4. Association spurs only.
5. Producer has the option of using neck ropes on horses in place of halters.
6. All Ranch Bronc Riders have the option of using a night latch. However, judges will deduct five (5) points total (2.5) from each judge from their score for use of a night latch. (02/2024)
7. There is no mark-out rule.

GOAT TYING

1. There is no set distance from the starting line to the goat, but a minimum of 50 yards is desirable. Arena conditions should govern distance.
2. The goat stake should be a minimum of fifty (50) feet from back fence.
3. The Goat Tying shall be run before barrel racing, or the stake be placed a minimum of twenty (20) feet in front of the 3rd barrel stake. If the arena has been re-groomed the producer may run goat tying at any time. (11/2009)
4. Goat to be tied to a stake with a rope 10 feet in length. Goat rope must be a ½ or ¾ inch in diameter cotton rope. Goat rope cannot be a ski rope. Stake is pounded completely into the ground with no part visible. Stakes should be placed in the ground for the entire rodeo.
5. The contestant must be mounted on a horse and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount from horse, throw the goat by hand, cross, wrap and tie any three (3) legs together with leather string or pigging string. No wire to be used in goat string.
6. Circling Horse: No circling horse in arena. One spin or pivot in either direction is acceptable if a centrally located gate is not used. Once the contestant crosses the scoreline the time has started. There is no exception to this rule. (2026)
7. Horse/Rope Violation, Should the horse run over, or touch the rope, stake or goat the contestant will be given a ten (10) second penalty. If the violation occurs after the flagman has signaled for time, three will be no penalty. If a goat breaks loose at the fault of the horse, there will be no time. If a horse/rope violation is declared but timer fails to get time and a rerun is awarded, a ten (10) second penalty will go with the contestant on the rerun. (2026)
8. The contestant must stand back three (3) feet from the goat before the judge will start the five (5) second time limit on the tie – for the goat's legs to remain crossed and tied.
9. If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, the goat must be day-lighted before the tie is made.
10. If the contestant's hand is on the goat when the goat falls, the goat is considered thrown by hand.
11. Once a contestant has signaled tie completed, the contestant may not touch the tie or the goat. Infractions of this rule will constitute disqualification.

12. 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. The goat must be released when the contestant crosses the starting line as time begins.
13. Each goat shall not be tied more than three (3) times in a row. If so, it shall be re-run. If you have an equal number of goats, a producer may choose to keep even runs on those goats. (Example: 6 contestants and 3 goats may run 2 contestants on each goat.) (11/05)
14. Goats will have been previously tied down before competing on.
15. Goats used in the Goat Tying are to be of uniform size weighing 45 to 60 pounds. In the event the goats are not uniform in size or due to the animal being unhealthy, the judge, Producer or Goat Tying Director may elect to use the best goat.
16. All goat tiers will enter the arena in a forward motion when there is a center gate/alley. (11/05)
17. Boys 13 years of age and younger (as of October 1st of fiscal year) are eligible to compete in goat tying. All ages of women are eligible for this event. (2026)

BREAKAWAY ROPING

1. All females are eligible and males 13 years old (Oct. 1st beginning of season) and younger are eligible to compete in Breakaway Roping. If a breakaway roper moves up to compete in Calf Roping before required to do so due to age, they are no longer eligible to compete in breakaway. (7/2007) (10/2010)
2. One loop will be allowed. The rope must be attached to the horn with a nylon string in such a manner as to allow the rope to be released from the horn when the calf hits the end of the rope. If an average is being paid the second rope must remain tied until used and must not be broken away from the saddle horn. No loops are to be rebuilt.

If the second loop fails, it cannot be rebuilt and used. If rope happens to dally horn or if rope is broken free from horn by the contestant, the contestant will receive no time. The producer is to furnish the nylon string. Rope cannot be run through the bridle, tie-down, neck rope or any other device.
3. The line judge must inspect all ropes.
4. A cloth or flag must be tied with a nylon string to the rope and then the string is to be tied around the saddle horn, so the judge can tell when the rope breaks from the horn.
5. A qualified catch is a loop that passes over the head of the calf and then pulls tight on any part of the calf's neck to cause the string to break away from the saddle horn. A leg in the loop will constitute a disqualification. (10/2016)
6. The out-gate shall remain open during competition. Once the calf crosses the plane of the out-gate no longer eligible to rope. (10/2016) (03/2022)
7. A spotter will be required at all ACA rodeos. The field flag judge may select a person that he chooses to inspect the rope.

CALF ROPING

1. General requirements: Contestants must rope calf (catch as catch can-any catch is legal), dismount, throw calf by hand and cross and tie any three legs. To qualify as legal tie, there shall be at least one wrap around all three legs and a half-hitch. If the calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be let up to his feet and be thrown by hand. Calf may be helped up by roper but at least three (3) feet must be dangling straight underneath calf. Rope must hold calf until roper gets hand on calf. Three legs must remain crossed and tied for six seconds, as timed by the judge, from the time the roper's horse takes his first step forward after the roper has remounted, until approved by the judge. Roper must not touch calf after signaling that he is finished until after the judge

approves the tie. Unless instructed to do so by the judge, roper will be disqualified for removing rope from calf after signaling for time, until the tie has been passed on by the field judge. In the event a contestant's catch rope is off a calf after completion of the tie, the six-second time-period starts when roper clears calf. The flag judge must watch the calf during the six-second period and will stop the watch when a calf has been tied long enough to qualify. If tie becomes illegal by calf kicking, or calf gets to his feet before tie has been approved by the judge, the roper will be marked a "no time".

2. A neck rope must be used on the horse and the contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging the calf. If a horse turns his tail to the calf and drags the calf after roper has dismounted, field judge may stop the horse and disqualify the roper. If a roper, after mounting a horse, drags a calf over ten (10) feet, he will be disqualified. Contestants must receive no assistance of any kind from outside except, in the judge's opinion, for humane reasons.
3. All herds shall be even characteristics: all of the same type or equal crosses (see Humane Rules #16). Anytime a fresh calf is added to the herd, he must have been roped and tied down at least once. Calves used for calf roping can be used for any other event after Calf Roping is completed.
4. Calves must be strong and healthy, and each calf shall weigh not less than one hundred fifty (150) pounds and not more than two hundred fifty (250) pounds (see General Rules #16). Calves may not have horns longer than one (1) inch measured from the base of the horn.
5. The out-gate shall remain closed during competition. (10/2016)

TEAM ROPING

1. Both contestants must pay an entry fee (see Entry Fees rule #4). Contestants may enter twice, roping with different partners or changing ends. All team roping will be dallied with the following exceptions: a) any team roper over 50 years old has the option of either tying off or dallying on the heel side; b) females have the option of tying off on the heel side.
2. Each Roper is permitted one rope. Each team is allowed two (2) loops.
3. Any steer used for Team Roping cannot be used for any other event. Steers will have a maximum weight of seven hundred pounds (see General Rules #14). Any steer that has ever been used for steer wrestling cannot be used for team roping. (11/2019)
4. Artificial horns may be used but not be mixed; they must all be artificial or all real. If plastic horns come off a steer before the run is completed, a complete re-run will be given, with a penalty if the barrier is broken.
5. Contestants must hold dallies until the flagman inspects and passes catches. Dally will be one complete wrap around the horn.
6. Steer must change direction in tow one hop before heel rope is released or it is considered cross-firing and will result in a disqualification.
7. If a flagman mistakenly flags a team that has not dallied, that time will be disregarded and steer will be re-run with any penalties already incurred.
8. Contestants are not allowed to remove an illegal head catch in any way. If the field judge sees an illegal head catch, he may flag the team a NO TIME and the team will leave the arena. Loops may be changed by fishing only.
9. Judge is to drop a flag for time to be taken when steer is roped by both ends, in a direct line and horse is on all fours. Horses must be facing steer in "L" or better, with ropes tight, dallied or tied.
10. Only three (3) legal catches: Around the horns, around the neck and half a head. All other head catches are illegal.
11. Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope comes on from around heels.

12. There will be a five (5) second penalty for roping one heel.
13. Team ropers that are in the top fifteen (15) on both the header and heeler standings at point cut-off will have to choose which end they plan to compete on at the ACA Finals Rodeo. (10/09)
14. Disqualifications:
 - a. Arguing with judges.
 - b. The animal must be on its feet when roped by either end.
 - c. Unnecessary rough treatment of steers.
 - d. Failure to head and change direction of steers before heeled (cross-firing).
 - e. Illegal head catches.
 - f. Lost or broken rope.
 - g. The front foot in the heel catch.
 - h. If a contestant dismounts during contest run.

50+ TEAM ROPING

1. Rules are the same as team roping.
2. To compete in 50+ Team Roping you must be either:
 - a. A cowboy minimum of (50) years old
 - b. A cowboy thirteen (13) years old and younger as of October 1 of the fiscal year
 - c. Cowgirl of any age
 - d. A team may consist of any combination of eligible contestants. (03/2022) (10/2024).
3. A Cowboy is eligible to participate on the date of 50th birthday. Junior Cowboy must be thirteen (13) years of age or younger as of October 1st prior to the start of the rodeo season.

STEER WRESTLING

1. Only one (1) hazer is allowed. Contestants must furnish their own hazer and horse. Neither contestant nor hazer will be permitted to change horses after leaving chute.
2. Hazer must not hit steer in the face before catch is made, or render any assistance to the contestant while he is working steer. Failure to observe this rule will disqualify contestants.
3. Steer must be caught from horse. If the steer is missed or gets loose after the catch, no more than one (1) step can be used to re-catch the steer. On average only, if contestant misses or loses steer, flagman must ask contestant if he wishes another jump. Contestants must reply at once.
4. After catching the steer, the wrestler must bring it to a stop, or change directions, then twist steer down by applying hold to head and/or horns. If the steer is knocked down, tripped or thrown by putting horns into the ground, or any other obvious illegal fall, steer must be let up and thrown again. Steer will be considered down only when it is lying flat on its side, with all four feet clear from under him. The steer wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged. The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the judges.
5. Animals used for this contest will be closely inspected before each performance and objectionable animals will be eliminated by decision of one judge, Producer, or steer wrestling director (see General Rules #14). Contestants will not be required to compete on a crippled steer or steer with a broken horn. If the contestant jumps steer, he accepts him as sound.
6. There will be no mixed sets of cattle. Steers must be all Mexican or all native. No combination steer herds. All new or fresh steers must have been run and thrown at least one time.
7. The field judge must be as far back of the score line as possible before each run.
8. Steer wrestling is to be run prior to Cowgirls Barrel Racing. This will apply to performance and slack.

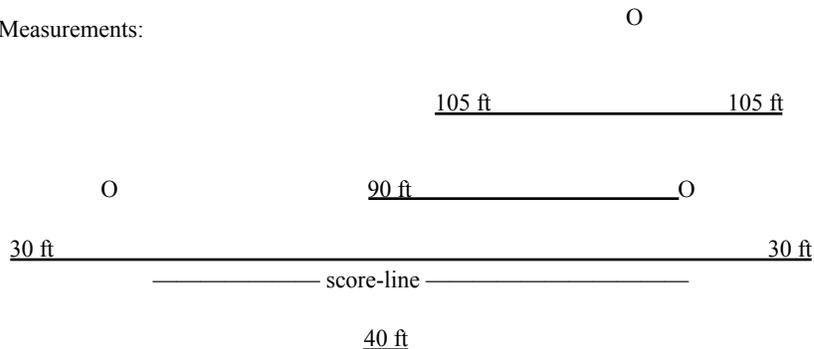
9. Stock and position must be drawn and run in order.

COWGIRLS BARREL RACING

1. Contestant must start the contest run from mouth of gate or alleyway and move in a forward direction (cannot enter arena and set horse), if gate or alleyway is the center of the barrel pattern.
2. Contestants cannot be required to begin running from an off-center gate, side gate or alleyway. When there is a split or double alleyway, contestants may be required to begin run from mouth of alleyway, if they have a choice of either alleyway. When the center alleyway is used, it should be posted if the gate will be open, closed, or barrel racer’s option to run out. If center alley, the contestant must exit the arena straight out the alley with no circling when the gate is open.
3. Barrels must be staked and barrels are to be set on the inside of each stake in a cloverleaf pattern. The tail of the stake shall not be tucked under the barrel.
4. Judges are responsible for measuring, staking and marking to the barrels and score line, before the beginning of the first performance and thereafter measured off by judges before each performance from such stakes, to determine if stakes are still in their original places. Measuring is to be done with a tape measure. Judges must turn in barrel stake and score line measurements, in feet and inches, to rodeo secretary for recording before the first performance.
5. Measurements for the standard barrel course: shall be
 - a. 90 feet between barrels 1 and 2
 - b. 105 feet between barrels 1 and 3 and 2 and 3
 - c. 30 feet from barrels 1 and 2 to score-line
 - d. 40 feet minimum from score-line to the end of the arena for stopping room.
 - e. . The standard course cannot be exceeded.

First, measure the length and width of arena to determine if standard course can be set. Measure score-line and stopping distance, then set barrels 1 and 2. Using 100-foot tape with 5 feet of rope or string attached (equals 105 feet), make an arc on the ground from barrel 1 and barrel 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 foot off the back of the arena fence (be sure that if Junior barrels are moved down, the Junior barrel will be a minimum of 20 foot off back fence). Measure score-line from both barrels 1 and 2 to be sure that the distance is equal for contestant going to either the right or left barrel 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.** There must be the minimum of 40 feet from score-line to bucking 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. It is recommended that the Junior Barrel stakes be a minimum of 10 feet from the Cowgirls Barrel stakes. **When distance between barrels 1 and 2 is reduced from standard pattern: for every 10 feet barrels are reduced between 1 and 2, the maximum distance between barrels 2 and 3 shall be reduced by 5 feet.** (Example: 80 feet between 1 and 2 barrels, reduce distance from barrels 1 and 3 and barrels 2 and 3 to 100 feet.)

Standard Measurements:



6. A contestant will not be disqualified or penalized for touching a barrel.
7. 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.
8. Both judges will be required to be present during the barrel racing event with one judge flagging line and the other judge watching to see that a qualified cloverleaf pattern is run. The flag judge will flag horse's nose at the start and finish of the race.
9. Electric timers are to be used in the barrel racing, and they are to be backed up by two (2) stopwatches, with the stopwatches being averaged. The stopwatches are to be started and stopped by the judge flagging each run. If the timer fails, the average stopwatch time shall be used for 1st and 2nd failure of the electric timer. If the timer fails a third time, the average stopwatch time shall be used for all contestants. Please note, if the stopwatch time is used for any contestant, all contestant times shall be recorded to the hundredth of a second. (10/2013)
10. The flagman must remain stationary while flagging a barrel race. The Flagman's position must be staked or marked. Flag Judge must stand directly behind the electric timer and flag parallel with the plane of the timer. (10/2013)
11. If for any reason, a barrel is not placed on a stake correctly or the flagman is not in the correct place, things must be put in correct order and rerun contestant without penalty. If the contestant chooses not to rerun, their entry fees may be refunded, and the payout will adjust accordingly. In addition, the entry counts as an out for the contestant toward the required entries for finals rodeo. (9/2020)
12. If the barrel is knocked down, the judge not flagging the line will reset the barrel in the proper place. Judge may appoint responsible people to return barrels to proper position if barrels have been knocked down or bumped out of position by a contestant during a contest run. Barrels used in ACA barrel racing contest must be regulation fifty-five (55) gallon metal. No pads or tires may be used on or around barrels. Barrels must be at least two (2) colors; no solid color barrels.
13. No one will be permitted to go around the stakes or barrels after the barrels have been staked for the duration of the rodeo.
14. It is highly recommended by the ACA that if the arena is used for special events, such as horse shows, TV filming, etc., during rodeo, barrels for these events be set at least twenty (20) feet from stakes used in ACA competition. If a bar is used in bow gate, it must be removed.
15. Penalty: If contestant knocks barrel over, there will be a five (5) second penalty for each barrel knocked over.
16. Disqualifications:
 - a. Contestants 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 run.
 - b. Barrel racer that runs out of order, without fault of announcer, will be disqualified. (11/2023) (See rule 24 for announcer error)
17. Re-run will not be given under any circumstances for equipment or horse failure.
18. Cowgirls Barrel Racing must be run before Junior Cowgirls Barrel Racing. Or 1st section CBR may be run, move the barrels to JBR pattern and run 1st section of JBR, drag the pen, move barrels back to CBR pattern and continue sequence until both contests are completed. (2016)
19. At each performance, the pattern area must be dragged or raked halfway through contest if there are between ten (10) and twenty (20) contestants. Example: if there are sixteen (16), drag after eight (8). If there are more

than twenty (20) contestants, drag after every ten (10). The producer opts to run ten (10) during the performance, and there are less than twenty (20), drag before slack. The number of positions between drags will be the same in the performance as in slack. (2006)

20. Stock will not be watered or hayed within twenty-five (25) feet of the barrel stakes.
21. Visible markers are to be placed on each side of the arena where the timers are to be set. These must be secure enough that they cannot be removed during the duration of the rodeo. Anyone caught tampering with stakes or markers will be disqualified from the rodeo and fined. The amount will be determined by the board.
22. The timer fee will not exceed ten (\$10) per entry. (10/05)
23. In the event an announcer skips a barrel racer causing her to run out-of-turn, the barrel racer will be placed at the end of the draw. The ground will be reworked, then she will compete. (10/2009)
24. The horizontal plane of the gate is the beginning of the arena. A contestant must enter the arena in dress code which includes a cowboy hat or helmet. If a contestant loses their hat in the alleyway or prior to breaking the plane of the gate, that contestant will be disqualified.

JUNIOR COWGIRLS BARREL RACING

1. Junior Barrel Racers must be fifteen (15) years of age or younger as of October 1st. (This is the October prior to starting the new season.) Anyone turning sixteen (16) before Oct 1st, must compete in Cowgirls Barrel Racing. If a Junior Barrel Racer moves up to compete in Cowgirls Barrel Racing before required due to age, she is no longer eligible to compete in Junior Barrel Racing.
2. Barrels must be staked, and barrels are to be set on the inside of each stake in a cloverleaf pattern. The stake rope for Junior barrels must be a different color than the rope used for Cowgirls Barrel Racing Stake, and the color designated for each must be posted with the draw. The junior barrels can be staked in front of or behind the Cowgirls Barrel Racing stakes, with all three barrels being moved forward, or all three barrels being moved back. A minimum of 10 feet is recommended between Cowgirl Barrel Racing and Junior Barrel Racing stakes. The Junior Barrel pattern may be on the same pattern as Cowgirl Barrel Racing provided the ground is reworked prior to competition.
3. The same rules that apply to Cowgirls Barrel Racing apply to the Junior Barrel Racing.

BULL RIDING

1. Bull must be ridden eight (8) seconds, time to start when the bull breaks the plane of the gate with the exception of the tail.
2. Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without handhold. No knots or hitches to prevent rope from coming off the bull when the rider leaves the bull will be permitted.
3. Rope must have a bell when the bull leaves the bucking chute. No bell, no marking. Bell must be under the belly of the bull.
4. All bull ropes are to be made out of no larger than nine sixteenths (9/16) inch rope.
5. Ropes cannot be used that have any knots, wires or any other aids for the purpose of placing spurs therein.
6. Only five (5) point "plain" or "notched" spur rowels (one rowel per shank) may be used.
7. Riders may use dry rosin or glycerin on gloves and rope.
8. The sleeve on the riding arm may be rolled or slid up no further than the top of the elbow or at the base of the bicep on the riding arm only. Contestants may wear arm pads over the sleeve or pad with sleeves rolled or slid

- to the top of pad only.
9. Bulls having dangerous horns, in the opinion of the event director or judge, must be tipped to at least the size of a quarter and splinters must be addressed or the animal will be kept out of the draw. If action is neglected after a decision is made, Producer will be fined. (06)
 10. If a rider makes a qualified ride with any part of the loose rope in his riding hand, provided he has not touched the ground or has not fouled the animal with his free hand, he is to be marked.
 11. Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider:
 - a. Being bucked off before eight (8) seconds.
 - b. Using sharp spurs.
 - c. Touching animal or himself with free hand or assisting himself with free arm by touching animal.
 - d. Arguing with judges.
 12. There will be no animals or objects other than barrel, dummy or inner tube brought in the arena by a contract act during the bull riding.

FINALS RULES

1. Contestants must compete at all performances of the finals rodeo. Contestants that do not show up on Friday night will not be able to compete Saturday night. Failure to compete either night will result in forfeiture of finals awards or prize money. Prize money will be released after the completion of the event on Saturday night. (12/02) ● A contestant that is entered in a college rodeo and has qualified for the short go of the college rodeo on Saturday night, the same weekend as the ACA finals rodeo, may compete their second round of the ACA finals following the completion of the first round.

Rules regarding this allowance:

 - a. Events will be run in the same order as the rodeo.
 - b. Stock will be drawn directly following the first go for those contestants competing. Team Roping: The contestant must compete with the same partner.
 - c. Cowgirl Barrel Racing: The ground will not be re-groomed for the barrel racer(s) other than if the contestant would have been the first out in the second round.
2. A turnout fee at finals for no shows will be \$150.00 per person, per night, per event. (7/2000)
3. Animals may only be used in one event at the finals rodeo. Producer must designate if horse is to be used in bareback, saddle bronc, or ranch bronc riding. (04/2016)
4. Arena Director or judge has the authority to fine any contestant acting in an unbecoming manner at the finals rodeo.
5. Producers bringing stock to the finals will be paid for all stock required to bring, whether they are bucked or not.
6. All Stock for the finals will be on the grounds by 2 p.m. the day of the first performance. If they are not on the grounds by 2 p.m., alternates will be selected. (10/04)
7. In Breakaway Roping, Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling, Goat Tying and Team Roping, the 15th person will start the first performance ending with the 1st person. All performances will run the same. Barrel Racers will start the first performance with the positions one (1) through fifteen (15) and the second performance will then start with the position fifteen (15) through one (1). If money won causes a change in position, the person will move to a new position at the next performance.
8. Barrel pattern must be worked after the seventh (7) run on Friday and the eighth (8) run on Saturday. If there are 16 contestants, drag after the eighth (8) run each night. Same for cowgirl and junior barrels.

9. The top six Producers which meet all the requirements of and according to approval money turned in, will be guaranteed feature animals at the ACA Finals: one (1) bareback, one (1) saddle bronc, one (1) ranch bronc, and one (1) bull, as long as the contestant volume dictates bringing that many animals. The remainder of stock will be determined in a rotation by Producers. The top Producer by percentage in each respective event will be awarded a stock selection followed by the next Producer. This process will continue until the number of stock for each event is complete. In the event there are not enough contestants in an event for all eligible Producers to bring featured animals, the same process will be used to determine stock. (See Producers rules for stock eligibility.) (2016)
10. Producer of the year will be determined by the highest % to the ACA along with the amount of added money offered to contestants at rodeos. (2022)
11. There will be three (3) designated re-ride animals for each rough stock event as long as the contestant volume dictates bringing that many re-ride animals. The process for determining the re-ride animals will be a continuation of the process in #10 as listed above. Re-ride stock will remain in the re-ride pen for both performances. If stock in the performance is injured or otherwise unable to be in a performance the first re-ride will move into the performance and/or draw.
12. The leading Rookie in each event will be allowed to compete in the Finals Rodeo if they are not already in the top fifteen (15).
13. The Finals Rodeo will pay four (4) places in each go-round and average in all events that are filled. If events are not full, regular rodeo payout will be adopted.
14. Five percent (5%) sanction fee will be held out of the Finals prize money with the exception of the \$1 added money by contestants throughout the rodeo year.
15. Rodeo officials for the finals;
 - a. Must be ACA members, excluding the judges and announcer. Membership has to be paid on or before July 1st of fiscal year to be eligible for nomination or hiring to work finals.
 - b. Timers, Pickup Men and Bull Fighters must work a minimum of eight (8) rodeos after buying their membership to eligible for nomination to work the finals.
 - c. Cattle sorting and chute help do not have to be members.
16. Featured Stock will be eligible for Stock of the Year. Voting for Stock of the Year will be completed prior to the Finals Rodeo first performance begins. Once a ballot has been submitted, it may not be amended. (10/05) (11/16)
17. Stock eligible for the Stock of the Finals award must be competed on both performances of the Rodeo Finals. No designated re-ride stock will be eligible. Stock of the finals will be determined by the aggregate stock scores from both performances with the highest score being the award winner.
18. Each contestant in the goat tying at the finals will have a separate goat drawn for them. (10/05)
19. All finals contestants are required to complete W-9 tax forms and provide the form to the association secretary prior to competition. (03/2014)
20. Calf Roping and Breakaway will only have one (1) loop during a contest. Team Roping will have two (2) loops – one (1) header and one (1) heeler. (10/2014)

Amended/Updated (1/2026)