

# MID STATES RODEO ASSOCIATION



## 2026 RULEBOOK



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## 2025 MSRA Board of Directors

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**\*\*\*SUMMARY OF 2026 RULE CHANGES\*\*\***

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Mid-States Rodeo Assoc. Inc.

**Articles and Bylaws of the  
Mid-States Rodeo Association**

**Article I**

This association shall be known as the Mid-States Rodeo Association, Inc. It shall be a non-profit organization in accordance with the laws of the state of Michigan.

The objective of the MSRA shall be to promote Professional Rodeo as a sport; to strive at all times to insure honesty and fairness to both the contestant and the producer; to create an amicable relationship among stock contractors and to inspect, sanction and advertise rodeos being sponsored in accordance with association standards.

**Article II**

**Membership:** Regular membership will be open to any reliable persons interested in performing in rodeos, contesting in rodeo events, producing rodeos or individuals interested in the general advancement of the sport providing their applications are accepted. Any person having joined this association will thereby become subject to the rules and by-laws now enforced or later adopted by the Board of Directors and shall be subject to expulsion for violation of same.

**Article III**

**Section 1:** Officers: The officers of the Association will consist of President, Vice-President and Secretary- Treasurer. The President, Vice-President will be elected by popular vote.

**Section 2:** Event directors: There will be eight directors, one representing each of the seven major events and a contracted personnel representative (representing the following: judges, timers, pickup men, announcers, contract acts, bullfighters and arena directors). Additional directors may be added representing Girls' Break away roping should the event become MSRA sanctioned on a regular basis.

**Section 3:** Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of the President of the Association, Vice-President, the Event Directors, Contracted Personnel Rep., one (1) Stock Contractor and/or Rodeo Producer Representative.

**Section 4:** The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1 to December 31 of the same year.

**Section 5:** The MSRA rodeo management or stock contractors assume no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property or stock of any owner, contestant, or assistant that he or his property may receive.

**Section 6:** The Board of Directors will originate and enforce all rules and policies of the MSRA only upon voting at the annual general membership meeting.

**Section 7:** It shall be the duty of the President and the Board of Directors, through the MSRA office, to promote the MSRA and the humane sport of rodeo.

**Section 8:** MSRA officers will have full authority in representing the MSRA at meetings with rodeo committees and sponsors.

**Section 9:** Rodeos approved by the MSRA and the results from all rodeos shall be listed on the MSRA website.

**Section 10:** The President and a majority of the Board of Directors have the power to approve or disapprove rodeos. However, if the contractor in question is an approved MSRA contractor in good standing, the President can approve rodeos. If there is a discrepancy, then it will go before the Board of Directors.

**Section 11:** The annual meetings of the members of this association shall be held each year after the rodeo season is completed. The place of the meeting is to be decided by the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer will post the meeting on the website within 15 days of such meeting. Officers will be elected for the coming year at this meeting.

**Section 12:** The Event Directors will handle their respective events at all rodeos and the Contracted Personnel Representative will handle problems from the following: judges, timers, pickup men, announcers, contract acts, bullfighters and arena directors or Contracted Personnel Representative will inform the Board of Directors in writing, along with a recommendation of action to be taken. The Director submitting the complaint should attend the meeting where the complaint is to be dealt with.

**Section 13:** Any officer of the Association that does not conduct himself in a manner which is constructive and honorable to the Association may be impeached from office by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **Article IV**

Amendments: Any by-law may be amended upon the following condition: That the Board of Directors shall all be notified of the meeting to be held for the purpose of amending the by-laws and that a majority of the Board of Directors be in favor of such amendments, providing that there is a quorum of the Board of Directors present. Proper notification is to be 10 days. Complete authority for amending or revising changes may be done only by the General Membership.

#### **Article IV**

On dissolution of the corporation, after paying or providing for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, the corporation's assets shall be distributed (1) for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of IRC 501 ©(3), or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code or (2) to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the circuit court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations that the court shall determine and that are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

#### **\*\* BOARD OF DIRECTORS \*\***

- 1) **General Powers.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to conduct the business and affairs of the MSRA and the power to make, adopt or amend the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, and, subject to the requirements of the Official Bylaws, the MSRA Official Rodeo Rules. The Board of Directors may take any action that it considers necessary or appropriate to

carry out the purposes of the MSRA and may enter into any contract or obligation in furtherance thereof.

- 2) **Composition of Board.** The MSRA Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of 11 members: The Officers of the MSRA: President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, and the eight major Event Directors, Contracted Personnel Rep., one (1) Stock Contractor and/or Rodeo Producer Representative.
- 3) **Officers.**
  - a. **Number and Tenure.** The MSRA Officers shall consist of one of each of the following: President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. The Officers shall serve a one year term.
  - b. **Qualifications.** To qualify for office, the individuals 1) must be Active Card Members in good standing and 2) must have been Card Members for at least one (1) dues-paying year prior to the election.
  - c. **Election.** The election of Officers shall take place at the annual year end meeting of the MSRA general membership, to be held at the end of the rodeo season. Officers will be elected by popular vote of the MSRA general membership. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be selected by the Board of Directors through an interview process and paid a salary of \$500 per month (\$1,000 a month for 45 or more rodeos June-October) and placed under \$2,000 bond. The Secretary-Treasurer position will be a one-year term.
    - c.1. **President** shall be compensated \$300 per month when there are at least 40 rodeos in one year or season with at least 50% being MSRA first approved. At forty or less rodeos, compensation shall be a minimum of \$250 per month. The board of directors can set minimum and maximums when rodeo counts change. When voting, all directors must participate in the voting process.
  - d. **Vacancies.** Whenever the office of any Officer becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified successor to fill the vacancy. Successor shall serve for the un-expired term of his/her predecessor.
  - e. **Removal.** Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two (2) scheduled meetings in a year, without substantial reason, may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors (excluding the vote of the individual who is sought to be removed).
  - f. **Active Stock Contractor Unable to Qualify.** In order to protect the Association from potential conflicts of interest, an active Stock Contractor and/or Rodeo Producer will not be eligible to occupy the position of President or any other officer/ director position, with the exception of Stock Contractor Representative.
  - g. **Voting.**
    - i. **President.** The president is an elected member of the Board of Directors and shall have the right to vote only in case of a tie.
    - ii. **Vice-President.** The Vice President is an elected member of the Board of Directors and may vote unless presiding as President and then may vote only in case of a tie.
    - iii. **Secretary-Treasurer.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall be an appointed position and therefore, will not have a vote on the Board.
- 4) **Event Directors.**
  - a. **Number and Tenure.** There will be eight event directors, one representing each of the eight major events. The Event Directors shall serve a two-year term on an

alternating basis with the rotation being staggered so that one-half are elected each year.

- b. **Qualifications.** To qualify for office, the individuals 1) must be Active Card Members in good standing and 2) must have been Card Members for at least one (1) dues-paying year prior to the election.
- c. **Election.** The election of Event Directors shall take place at the annual year end meeting of the MSRA general membership, to be held at the end of the rodeo season. Nominations for Event Directors must be made by a member who has worked that event. Event Directors will be elected by popular vote of the MSRA general membership.
- d. **Vacancies.** Whenever the office of any Event Director becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified successor to fill the vacancy. Successor shall serve for the un-expired term of his predecessor.
- e. **Removal.** Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two (2) scheduled meetings in a year, without substantial reason, may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors (excluding the vote of the individual who is sought to be removed).
- f. **Voting.** Event Directors shall have one vote per Director.

**5) Contract Personnel Representative.**

- a. **Number and Tenure.** There shall be one Contract Personnel Representative, which will represent the following: judges, timers, pickup men, announcers, contract acts, bullfighters and arena directors. The Contract Personnel Representative shall serve a two year term.
- b. **Qualifications.** To qualify for office, individual 1) must be an Active Card Member in good standing and 2) must have been a Card Member for at least one (1) dues-paying year prior to the election.
- c. **Election.** The election of the Contract Personnel Representative shall take place at the annual year end meeting of the MSRA general membership, to be held at the end of the rodeo season. This position will be elected by popular vote of the MSRA general membership.
- d. **Vacancies.** Whenever the position of Contract Personnel Representative becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified successor to fill the vacancy. Successor shall serve for the un-expired term of his/her predecessor.
- e. **Removal.** Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two (2) scheduled meetings in a year, without substantial reason, may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors (excluding the vote of the individual who is sought to be removed).
- f. **Voting.** Contract Personnel Representative shall have one vote.

**6) Stock Contractor and/or Rodeo Producer Representative.**

- a. **Number and Tenure.** There shall be one Stock Contractor Representative and/or Rodeo Producer Representative, which will represent the stock contractors and rodeo producers of the MSRA. The Representative(s) shall serve a one year term.
- b. **Qualifications.** To qualify for office, the individual(s) 1) must be an Active Card Member in good standing, 2) must have been a Card Member for at least one (1) dues-paying year prior to the election and 3) have held a minimum of three (3) MSRA sanction approved rodeos where they are the primary stock contractor in the year prior to election.

- c. **Election.** The Stock Contractor Representative and/or Rodeo Producer Representative shall be elected by popular vote at the end of the rodeo season at the general membership meeting.
- d. **Vacancies.** Whenever the position of Stock Contractor Representative and/or Rodeo Producer Representative becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified successor to fill the vacancy. Successor shall serve for the un-expired term of his/her predecessor.
- e. **Removal.** Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two (2) scheduled meetings in a year, without substantial reason, may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors (excluding the vote of the individual who is sought to be removed).
- f. **Voting.** Stock Contractor Representative and/or Rodeo Producer Representative shall have one vote per representative.

7) **Judges Commissioner.** A Judging Commissioner will be appointed by the Board. The duties of the Judging Commissioner will include: to oversee the selection and approval of MSRA judges, set up judging clinics, help stock contractors obtain judges for rodeos, etc. They do not have a seat or vote on the Board of Directors.

8) **Notice of Meetings.** The President or any two of the directors thereof can call a meeting. Notice of each meeting, other than the regular annual meeting, of the Board of Directors shall be given to each director at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.

9) **Quorum and Requirements for Action.** At any Board of Directors meeting six (6) will constitute a quorum and a majority vote of the duly constituted quorum will govern that body. The date and time of regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings should be published in the monthly bulletin.

10) **Alternate Representative.** When any director is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors, such director should appoint an alternate representative to take his place at the meeting from the category of membership such director represents. If the absentee director fails to do so, the Board of Directors may appoint an alternate representative. The alternate representative shall participate in the meeting of the Board of Directors and shall have the right to vote.

## \*\*MEMBERSHIP\*\*

### 1) Requirements and/or privileges:

- a. **General Rules.** All contestants are required to read the rules carefully, particularly those relating to the events in which they enter. Failing to understand rules, including ground or local rules by rodeo management will not be accepted as an excuse. Ground or local rules (not in conflict with MSRA rule book) must be posted prior to the first performance. Ground rules should be listed on sanction forms and published in the monthly bulletin along with the rodeo listing.
- b. **Membership Dues.** Membership dues shall be \$165.00 per year (January 1 through December 31).
- c. **Initiation Fee.** Initiation fee to the MSRA will be \$5.00. This is in addition to the regular membership fee of \$165.00, making the total cost of the first year members \$170.00.
- d. **Late Charges.** Dues are payable during the month of December and any member who does not reinstate by March 1st the following year will be assessed a \$10.00 per month penalty until a maximum delinquent penalty of \$30.00 is incurred.
  - i. **Purchase Membership at Rodeo.** Any member who purchases their membership at a rodeo will be assessed a \$10.00 processing fee, in addition to their regular membership fee, initiation fee and/or late fees.
  - ii. **Late Charge Assessment Time.** Late fees will not be charged until March 1st and/or 5 rodeos are published on the website.
- e. **Officials.** All officials (secretaries, judges and official timers) must be MSRA members, day permits are not allowed.
  - i. **Responsible to MSRA Board.** All officials at an MSRA rodeo will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors for their actions and are subject to penalty at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- f. **Back Up Timers.** Backup timers will have to purchase a \$25.00 timers card.
- g. **Qualifications.** Membership will be open to any reliable person interested in performing in rodeos, or any person interested in the advancement of rodeo, providing the application is accepted.
  - i. **MSRA's Right to Deny Membership.** The MSRA reserves the right to deny any membership to persons that may be considered liability to the association or has been convicted of a felony crime as described under Class III offenses of the Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action section of this rule book.
- h. **Membership Cards.** Membership cards must be purchased through the MSRA headquarters office and/or the President or rodeo secretary. Any member entering a rodeo on an expired membership card or allowing anyone else to use his or her card will be fined \$50.00.
- i. **Member Number.** Members will have permanent number printed on their membership cards.
- j. **Application for Minors.** Any person applying for membership that is under the age of 18 years must submit a notarized application signed by his/her parent/guardian giving consent for him/her to contest at a MSRA sanctioned rodeo, and must be on file at the MSRA office PRIOR TO competing in a MSRA sanctioned rodeo. Applications available at MSRA office or the website.

- k. **Active Member in Armed Forces.** Any active member who goes into the armed forces shall automatically retain his membership until the day of discharge.
- l. **Compete in Approved Rodeos.** Members of the MSRA, not on the published MSRA suspended list, may compete at any rodeo. Points will only be awarded at rodeos sanctioned by the MSRA.
- m. **Permits.**
  - i. **Day Permits.** A permit may be purchased by any person who is not a member or not on the current suspended list, for the sum of \$20.00. Permit will be good for (1) rodeo. Anyone riding on a permit will not be paid any winnings at the rodeo, it will be sent to the office to verify past membership status, and then mailed to the contestant. Stock contractors may override this rule, but will take full responsibility for errors in payoff and be responsible for collecting and reimbursing any over payments. Rodeo secretary is to notify the entrant of this upon accepting their entry. Permit will be non-transferable and non-refundable. The cost of the permits will not apply to card cost. No points will be given to permit holders.
  - ii. **Season Permits.** A permit may be purchased by any person who is not a member and has never been a member previously of the MSRA and is not on the current suspended list. The cost of this permit will be \$80.00. The Season Permit will be good for the current rodeo year only. Permit will be non-transferable and non-refundable. The cost of the permits will not apply to card cost. No points will be given to permit holders. Season Permit holders must adhere to the MSRA Rulebook but will have no voting rights in the association. With a maximum of two (2) Season Permits per member.
  - iii. **Specific Personnel Permit.** A one-time day permit for the following specific contract Personnel: pickup man, bullfighter, barrel man, contract act, and announcer. Contractor worker can only use permit one time in a Rodeo season. If personnel works another MSRA first approved rodeo in same season, worker must purchase a MSRA Membership in full. Specific contract personnel permit will be \$80.00
- n. **Stock Contractor Free Membership.** Stock Contractor membership will be \$250 per year.
- o. **Gold Cards.** Gold cards will be issued to any person who has been a member of the MSRA for ten consecutive years and reached the age of 50. Members must fill out membership application to compete and receive MSRA correspondence.
- p. **MSRA Membership for Youth Members.** Any national youth rodeo association members will be entitled to one free MSRA membership while holding their rodeo card in that association (including the graduating year of NHSRA members). Person must make application to the MSRA and submit verification of rodeo membership and graduation status. This free year membership shall count as Rookie Year.
- r. **Specific Contract Personnel Membership.** Pick Up Men, Bull Fighters, Barrel Man and Announcers, must be MSRA Members prior to working any first approved MSRA Rodeos.
- s. Workers Cards, a worker card can be purchased by any non-competing contract personnel. This card would preserve the members rookie year. Workers cards will be the same price as a general membership. Contract personnel

would not be allowed to enter rodeos on a workers card. Workers card members wishing to enter rodeos would have to purchase a day permit, no points for yearend championships would be awarded. Card number would be prefixed with a W. (example W1234)

2) **Loss of membership privileges.**

- a. **General.** Any member who shall make himself a nuisance by constant complaining and fault finding, or found to be dishonest or dishonorable, may be dropped from the membership in the organization, or be penalized, at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Any member is subject to a fine or suspension for his or her outstanding debts in connection with any MSRA function, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- b. **General Member Loss of Membership.** The management may withdraw any contestants name and entry and bar him from any or all events and withhold any money due him for violation of any of the governing rule or rules of the judges, or for any of the following reasons:
  - i. Refusing to contest on the stock drawn for him.
  - ii. Altercation or quarreling with judges or officials.
  - iii. Rowdyism.
  - iv. Mistreatment of stock.
  - v. Not being ready to compete when called upon.
  - vi. Having alcoholic beverages in the arena.
  - vii. Foul language in the arena.
- c. **Stock Contractor Loss of Membership.** Stock contractors and/or producers may be suspended for any of the aforementioned membership offenses, and in addition, any of the following offenses:
  - i. Failure to pay added money as advertised.
  - ii. Leaving bad debts in any town, connected with the production of a MSRA rodeo.
  - iii. Breach of a bona fide contract involving any MSRA member. (The MSRA will honor and act only upon written contracts; stock contractors, producers, contract acts. etc. included).
- d. **MSRA List of Suspended Members & Qualified Judges.** The MSRA office will maintain a list of qualified judges and a suspended list to be released to qualified, interested parties upon request.
- e. **Responsible for Entry Fees.** All contestants entering a rodeo, whether competing or not, are responsible for reimbursing the association the cost of any entry fees, regardless of whether the contestant is excused because of injuries or vet releases.
- f. **Member Resignation.** Any MSRA member resigning from said association must do so by submitting a written resignation to the MSRA secretary and will not be able to join said association for one (1) year following resignation.
- g. **Misconduct Report.** Any member who has a grievance against the MSRA shall present the same to one of the Event Directors. The Event Director may then follow the misconduct report procedures outlined in this rulebook. Any member who willfully causes trouble within the ranks of the organization shall be penalized at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- h. **Fine Review.** After three (3) years, any person or persons that have been fined or

suspended may come before the current Board of Directors for review. The year the fine has been incurred shall be the first year.

- i. **Non-Members.** Non-members will be placed on a suspended list of any fines imposed at a rodeo and for entry fees, if they do not compete. These fines must be paid prior to entering any other MSRA Rodeos.

**\*\* CONDUCT RESTRICTIONS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION \*\***

- 1) **General.** Any Member who has violated these Bylaws, the MSRA Official Rodeo Rules or any other rules of the MSRA or any MSRA-approved rodeo may be subject to reprimand, fine, ineligibility, suspension of MSRA privileges or expulsion pursuant to the penalties set forth in this section. Penalties shall be determined by the Board of Directors or any officer or committee to whom the Board of Directors has delegated such authority as follows:
  - a. **Progressive Fines.** In the case of any offense listed herein with a progressive fine structure (such as doubling of fines, or set fines for the first offense, second offense, etc.), the escalating fine structure shall apply to offenses within the same rodeo year only and shall not carry over to later rodeo years; provided, however, that if a Member is fined for the same Class III Offense three times in the same rodeo year, the escalating fine structure shall continue into the following rodeo year.
  - b. **Suspended List.** No Member may participate in a MSRA-approved rodeo if that Member's name is on the suspended list at the beginning of that rodeo. A Member will not be removed from the suspended list until all outstanding obligations to the MSRA have been satisfied.
  - c. **Disciplinary Authority.** Any rule infraction with specific penalties in the rulebook may be hand led as office policy and need not be brought before the Board of Directors. Event directors will have the authority to invoke penalties on stock contractors and members with respect to their events.
- 2) **Class I Offenses.** The following shall be considered Class I Offenses and shall be punishable by a fine of less than \$250 per offense and/or disqualification from a rodeo, unless otherwise stated.
  - a. **Failure to Adhere to the Arena Dress Code.** All Members shall wear cowboy hat or protective helmet; a long sleeved western shirt and cowboy boots in and around the arena throughout the rodeo performance and slack. The following will be exceptions: clowns, bullfighters, and barrelmen who must wear appropriate footwear, clothing, and headgear that is conducive to the procurement of their individual jobs in a safe and professional manner. Photographers shall not be required to wear hats, and contestants in the bareback and bull riding may roll up the sleeve of the riding arm to the elbow only. Failure to adhere to this arena dress code shall result in a \$25 fine per article of clothing per performance or section of slack in violation of the code. Dress code will be in effect starting  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before rodeo performance.
  - b. **Failure to Wear Contestant Number.** Failure to wear contestant number when required shall result in a \$10 fine per performance or section of slack.
  - c. **Inability of Bareback Rider to Free Hand.** If, in the opinion of the pickup men and/or stock contractor, a bareback rider is unable to free his hand from the rigging after a qualified ride or after declaring by double grabbing (to be reported by the judge or judges) he shall be fined \$100. A contestant fouled or bucked off before or after the whistle will not be fined. Judges are required to report the offense.
  - d. **Rowdyism or Quarreling in the Arena.** Rowdyism or quarreling in the arena shall result in a fine of no less than fifty dollars (\$50) for the first offense, with the amount of the fine doubling for each subsequent offense.
- 3) **Turnouts.**
  - a. **Riding Event Contestant.** A riding event contestant will not be fined for refusing to get on a horse or bull whose identification number is paint-branded or non-existent.

- 4) **Crossing Arena.** Contestants crossing an arena during, or before, a paid performance without using the outer perimeters shall be subject to a \$10 fine.
- 5) **Failure to Submit a Doctor's Verification.** If a contestant doctor releases, failure to submit a doctor's verification on doctor's letterhead bearing the doctor's name, address and phone number and signed by a licensed doctor to the MSRA Office within seven days of the last performance of the rodeo will result in a fine equal to the entry fees for the event in question plus an additional \$50.
  - a. **Failure to Submit a Doctor's or Judge's Verification of a Visible Injury.** If a contestant turns out of a rodeo due to a visible injury, the contestant must submit a doctor or judge's verification to the MSRA Office within seven days of the last performance of the rodeo. Failure to comply with this rule shall result in a fine equal to the notified turn out fine as set forth in these Bylaws.
- 6) **Contract Personnel Working Without Membership or While Ineligible.** Categories of contract personnel that are required to be MSRA Members prior to working a MSRA-sanctioned rodeo are Rodeo Officials, (Judges, Secretaries and Timers) Bull Fighters, Pick Up Men, Barrel Man and Announcers. Individuals shall be subject to the following penalties for working a MSRA rodeo without valid MSRA membership or while ineligible: First offense, \$150 fine per performance; Second offense, \$300 per performance; Third offense \$500 per performance plus possible suspension. This same fine structure shall apply to any Stock Contractor which uses a Contract Personnel member after that stock contractor has been notified by the MSRA Office that the person is ineligible or suspended.
- 7) **Unwarranted Presence in Livestock Pen.** Contestant will be disqualified for being present in a pen with livestock at any time, except when accompanied by stock contractor, arena director or a judge or when assigned to work in those pens.
- 8) **Violation of Bylaw or Official Rodeo Rule with Undisclosed Penalty.** Violation of a MSRA Bylaw or Official Rodeo Rule which is not explicitly listed as a Class I, II, III or IV Offense and for which no fine or penalty is set forth shall be considered a Class I Offense.
- 9) **Class II Offenses.** The following shall be considered Class II Offenses and shall be punishable by fine and/or suspension, unless otherwise stated.
  - a. **Nonpayment of Entry Fees and Related Fees.** Any entry fees not paid to the arena secretary must be paid to the MSRA Office, along with a \$5 MSRA office fee. Failure to pay entry fees, Entry Office fees, Finals fees and stock charge (if applicable) within seven days following the last performance of a given rodeo shall result in the following penalties:
    - i. \$50 fine.
    - ii. Additional \$25 fine if not paid within 14 days of the last performance
    - iii. Additional \$25 fine and suspension if not paid within 30 days of the last performance.
    - iv. Additional \$50 fine if contestant competes in a MSRA rodeo and fails to pay entry fees to the arena secretary at the rodeo AND fails to pay the MSRA by the deadlines outlined above.
  - b. **Repayment of Overpaid Prize Money.** Due to overpayment of prize money the contestant must be notified by the rodeo secretary and prize money collected by the rodeo secretary. The rodeo secretary shall send in all monies to the MSRA with no deduction of payments owed due to overpayment of prize money. Any contestant that

does not repay an overpayment after being notified by the rodeo secretary will be accessed a fine at the discretion of the board of directors.

c. **Bad Checks.** Writing or passing a bad check made payable to the MSRA, a Stock Contractor, Contract Personnel or Rodeo Committee in conjunction with a MSRA approved rodeo, or any such check to any business establishment in the town of a MSRA-approved rodeo during the time of said rodeo, shall be a Class II Offense subject to the following penalties:

- i. **First Offense.** In one dues-paying year shall result in a fine of \$25 per check and suspension until debt has been settled, including all applicable fines and fees.
- ii. **Second Offense.** In one one dues-paying year shall result in a fine of \$50 per check and suspension until debt has been settled, including all applicable fines and fees.
- iii. **Third Offense.** In one one dues-paying year shall result in a fine of \$75 per check and suspension for the remainder of the rodeo season. Reinstatement will be allowed for the following rodeo season provided all debt has been settled, including all applicable fines and fees.
- iv. **Bank Service Charge.** A bank service charge equivalent to the charge from each individual bank will be assessed for each returned check.
- v. **Dispute over Alleged Bad Check.** In case of a dispute over an alleged bad check, Member must post a cash bond equal to the face value of the check and the bank charge in order to regain eligibility.

10) **Class III Offenses.** The following shall be considered Class III Offenses and may be punishable by fine of no less than \$250, suspension and/or expulsion, unless otherwise stated.

- a. **Failure to Fulfill Contract Obligations.** Failure by a Member to fulfill contract obligations.
- b. **Fighting.** Fighting in the arena.
- c. **Influencing an MSRA Official.** Attempting to bribe or influence through physical intimidation any MSRA official at any time, in or out of the arena, or talking with a judge at a time when an event is in progress.
- d. **Harassing an MSRA Official or Spectator.** Engaging in, or attempting to engage in, any action threatening, berating, harassing, or intimidating a rodeo official, a rodeo spectator, any official representative or employee of the MSRA or any Member.
- e. **Argument Involving Committee Member or Sponsor.** Any MSRA member involving a rodeo committee or sponsor in an argument shall be fined a minimum of \$50.00. This offense may be classified as a class V offense if deemed so by the Board of Directors.
- f. **Fraud.** Submitting any fraudulent document to the MSRA Office, knowingly verbalizing fraudulent information to a MSRA official or employee, or otherwise knowingly submitting any fraudulent information to any MSRA official or employee.
- g. **Conduct Detrimental to Public Image.** Conduct, speech, appearance or lack of financial responsibility, which shall be determined by the MSRA to be significantly detrimental to the public image, reputation, or well being of the MSRA or the sport of professional rodeo.
- h. **Arrest and Conviction for Serious Crime.** A “serious crime” is hereby defined as a felony (as determined according to the laws of the jurisdiction where the offense was

committed) involving (i) assault of or bodily injury to another person, (ii) a threat of serious bodily injury, (iii) use or threatened use of a dangerous weapon in connection with the offense, or (iv) distribution of, or trafficking, or intent to distribute or traffic, in a controlled substance.

- i. **Striking.** Engaging in any strike, boycott, picketing, protest or demonstration of any kind involving any MSRA rodeo.
- j. **Changing Position at a Rodeo.** Contestants changing their position at a rodeo without approval or action of the Entry Office (unless it is in accordance with specific rules as outlined in the MSRA rule book) shall be subject to a fine of \$100 for first offense and six months suspension for a second offense.
- k. **Multiple Class I or Class II Offenses.** Committing Multiple Class I or Class II offenses.
- l. **Alcohol or Drug-Related Offenses.** Being under the influence of liquor and/or illicit drugs in the arena; consuming alcoholic beverages and/or illicit drugs in the arena.
- m. **Mistreatment of Stock.** (Refer to “Humane Treatment of Rodeo Animals.”)
- n. **Cheating or Attempting to Cheat.** Cheating or attempting to cheat.
- o. **Intentionally Mishandling Prize Money.** If the arena secretary intentionally mishandles prize money or entry fees, or falsifies rodeo records in any way, he or she will be suspended from the association. The stock contractor will be responsible for debts in connection with their secretary’s actions.

11) **Failure to Have at Least One Bullfighter and Two Pickup Men.** A MSRA stock contractor will be required to have at least one bullfighter with one additional backup bullfighter on call per performance, along with at least two pickup men per performance. Any stock contractor which fails to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine of \$250 per performance for the rodeo at which the first offense occurs, with the fine progressively doubling for each rodeo thereafter (for example, the fine will be \$250 per performance for the first rodeo at which the first offense occurs, \$500 per performance for the rodeo at which the second offense occurs, etc.)

12) **Class IV Offenses.** The following shall be considered Class IV Offenses and shall be punishable by disqualification from the rodeo in question (if applicable), automatic suspension for 30 days and an automatic fine of \$500 (the “Automatic Penalties”). In addition, the Director of Rodeo Administration may impose any additional suspension, up to one year, and any additional fine, up to \$1,000 (the “Discretionary Penalties”), for a Class IV Offense if he determines, in his sole discretion, that the Class IV Offense warrants an additional penalty. The Automatic Penalties shall be final and binding and may not be appealed using the MSRA Grievance Process, and a violator shall begin serving an automatic suspension immediately upon notice from the Board of Directors. A violator may appeal any Discretionary Penalties pursuant to the MSRA Grievance Process.

- a. **Assaulting or Striking an Official.** Assaulting or striking a rodeo official, a rodeo spectator, any official representative or employee of the MSRA, and/or any physical contact with a judge in the rodeo arena.
- b. **Attempting to Fix a Rodeo or Event.** Attempting to fix or improperly influence the results of a rodeo or event.

13) **Class V Offenses**

**Extreme Misconduct.** In circumstances where the conduct of the accused is found by the Board of Directors to be extremely damaging to the MSRA, its members, or the sport of

rodeo, the Board may expel such Member from the MSRA indefinitely. As a corrective or disciplinary measure, the Board of Directors may issue a reprimand, impose a fine, or suspend a member for a period of not more than five years, or any combination of such penalties.

**14) Disciplinary Procedures.**

- a. **Disqualification from a Rodeo.** A contestant may be disqualified from a rodeo pursuant to these Bylaws or the Official Rodeo Rules only by unanimous agreement of the rodeo judges.
- b. **Disciplinary Procedure.** The Board of Directors shall notify a Member of any penalty imposed under this section. Any Member desiring to dispute a final disciplinary action taken against him under this section shall utilize the grievance procedure set forth in the MSRA rule book, provided that no discrepancy filed with the MSRA office more than 60 days following the date of the first statement setting forth a fine shall be considered, unless actual proof of error is submitted to the MSRA office.
- c. **Cash Bond.** Should a Member desire to be permitted to contest at MSRA-approved rodeos or otherwise participate in MSRA activities during the pendency of his or her grievance disputing disciplinary penalties under this section, a cash bond must be posted with the Board of Directors equal to 50% of the fine imposed; in the event disciplinary suspension or other non-monetary penalties are disputed, a cash bond in an amount determined by the Board of Directors must be posted.
- d. **Loss of Championship Points and Prize Money.** Contestants found in violation of MSRA Bylaws, Official Rodeo Rules or ground rules may, in addition to fines, reprimands, suspension and the like, be subject to loss of Championship Points and prize money won while in violation of a rule.

**15) Release.** As a condition of membership, all Member-participants in MSRA approved rodeos or approved special events affected in any manner whatsoever by a decision of the MSRA Board of Directors or any person or committee authorized by the MSRA Board of Directors to handle disciplinary matters, hereby releases the MSRA, their officers, directors, and employees and its members, jointly and severally, individually and in their official capacity, of and from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action whatsoever, in law or equity, arising out of or in connection with any disciplinary decision or action by the MSRA, or by the individuals or committees to whom disciplinary matters may be authorized by the MSRA.

**\*\* DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES \*\***

- 1) **General.** Any member or contestant may be placed on report by the judges, stock contractor, directors and/or officers for misconduct.
- 2) **Misconduct Report.** A member or contestant can be placed on report by the producer, judges, directors and/or officers for misconduct. The report must be made in writing to the MSRA office and signed by the person making the report and be received in the office within 14 days of occurrence. All misconduct reports will be disposed of at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting. The reported member will have the right to appear before or be represented before the Board of Directors to contest any action pertaining to his misconduct report. Should the reported member elect not to appear before or be represented before the Board of Directors, then all fines levied by the Board of Directors will be final.
  - a. **Time Frame to Pay Fines.** All fines must be paid to the MSRA within 14 days of being levied. Any member failing to pay fines in the specified time, will be placed on the MSRA suspended list.
    - i. **MSRA Suspended List.** When a member has been reported to the MSRA office for a rule infraction, and member properly notified, found in violation, and fails to pay fine within the specified time period, will be placed on the suspended list immediately for publication. If MSRA office is contacted by a rodeo secretary this list will be made public and any member on this list will be refrained from contesting unless contestant can show rodeo secretary a receipt for said fine. If the contestant cannot show a receipt, contestant can post a bond for the amount of the fine. If the contestant is found in violation and had never paid the fine prior to the rodeo he wishes to compete in, the fine will be doubled.
      1. **Person on Suspended List.** A person on the suspended list shall not be allowed to participate, contest or hold any official position or perform duty at an MSRA rodeo.
- b. **MSRA List of the Suspended & Qualified Judges.** The MSRA office will maintain a list of qualified judges and a suspended list to be released to qualified, interested parties upon request.
- c. **Procedure Not to Be Used to Contest Judgment Calls.** The reporting procedures may not be used to challenge or contest actions of MSRA officials involving honest judgment calls made during rodeo competition that are based on an official's personal observation of the facts and circumstances to which the judgment call relates; rather, such judgment calls shall not be contested. However, an allegedly erroneous interpretation or application of the MSRA Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or Official Rodeo Rules (including MSRA rodeo ground rules) by a MSRA official shall be proper subject matter for a report, provided the facts and circumstances underlying such interpretation or application that are determined by the official based on his personal observations and judgments in the matter shall not be subject to question in connection with any such report.
- 3) **Agreement to Resolve Disputes Internally.** As a condition of membership, each Member agrees that any disagreements or disputes (including protests of disciplinary actions taken or to be taken against such Member) with the MSRA, its directors, officers, administrative staff and/or officials regarding an arguable misinterpretation or misapplication of the MSRA Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Official Rodeo Rules (including MSRA rodeo

ground rules) affecting such Member that are the proper subject matter for a grievance shall be resolved through the grievance procedures outlined in this Chapter.

- a. **Procedure Not to Be Used to Contest Judgment Calls.** The grievance procedures outlined below may not be used to challenge or contest actions of MSRA officials involving honest judgment calls made during rodeo competition that are based on an official's personal observation of the facts and circumstances to which the judgment call relates; rather, such judgment calls shall not be grievable.
- b. **Class IV Offenses.** The grievance procedures outlined below may not be used to challenge or contest the commission of a Class IV Offense, nor the Automatic Penalties, as defined in Section "Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Actions", assessed in connection with a Class IV Offense. The grievance procedures outlined below may be used to challenge or contest any Discretionary Penalties, as defined in the Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action Chapter, assessed in connection with a Class IV Offense.
- c. **Deadline for Filing Certain Grievances.** It is important to the sport of rodeo to have finality in standings for purposes of determining qualifiers for certain rodeos like the MSFR, etc. Therefore, notwithstanding any time limitations in which to bring a grievance as may be set forth in this Chapter, if a Member desires to file a grievance, the result of which, if successful, could be a change in the Official Standings, and the Member desires that any resulting changes in Official Standings be made in time to affect qualification for the MSFR, a special sponsorship event or year-end sponsorship awards, such grievance must be received by the Board of Directors no later than 14 calendar days prior to the entry date for that rodeo, event or sponsorship award. Any grievance filed after this deadline may still be considered, provided that all other requirements for a grievance are satisfied, but any resulting changes will not impact the applicable Official Standings for qualification for the particular rodeo, event or sponsorship awards.

#### **4) Disciplinary Actions by the Board of Directors and Appeals There from.**

- a. **Class I and II Offenses.** The Board of Directors has authority to impose fines and declare ineligibility in cases where potential Class I and Class II Offenses under Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action Chapter of the MSRA Rulebook are reported to or found by the MSRA Office. In such cases, Board of Directors may impose applicable disciplinary penalties without further actions or proceedings beyond the giving of notice to the accused Member of the nature of the infraction and the penalty imposed. In such cases, the Member involved may contest the penalties imposed through the normal grievance procedures of this Chapter.
- b. **Class III Offenses.** In the event that a potential Class III Offense is reported to or found by the MSRA Office, the Board of Directors shall follow the following procedures before giving the accused Member notice of the nature of the infraction and the penalty imposed, if appropriate. It is the purpose of these special procedures to afford each Member a fair investigation and an opportunity to explain his position prior to the imposition of major disciplinary penalties for Class III Offenses.
  - i. **Investigation: Notice and Appearance.** The accused Member shall be notified by the Board of Directors by mail at his address appearing on the books of the MSRA, or by fax, e-mail or personal service. Such notice

shall inform the Member of the nature of the charge and the potential penalty that could be imposed. The accused Member shall have the right to make a personal appearance before the Board of Directors during the investigation process before initial disciplinary action is taken by the Board of Directors in the matter. Failure of the accused Member to appear at the time and place designated for such personal appearance may result in the immediate finding of a violation and imposition of the corresponding penalty. Whether or not the accused Member requests or makes a personal appearance before the Board of Directors during the investigation process, the Board of Directors shall, upon completing the investigation, impose such disciplinary action upon the Member as deemed appropriate if found that the Member guilty of a Class III Offense, provided no fine in excess of \$5,000 or suspension for more than one year shall be imposed by the Board of Directors for any such Offense. Unless the disciplinary action taken by the Board of Directors is timely contested by the accused Member through the grievance process, then that disciplinary action shall be final, subject to the imposition of further disciplinary penalties in the matter by the Board of Directors.

- c. **Class V Offenses.** In circumstances where the conduct of the accused is found by the Board of Directors to be extremely damaging to the MSRA, its Members, or the sport of rodeo, the Board may, by a vote of two-thirds of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, expel such Member from the MSRA indefinitely. As a corrective or disciplinary measure, the Board of Directors, by a vote of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, may issue a reprimand, impose a fine, or suspend a Member for a period of not more than five years, or any combination of such penalties. The decision of the Board of Directors under this Section may not be appealed under the grievance process.

- d. **Contesting a Disciplinary Action and Cash Bond.** Any Member who wishes to contest:
  - i. A disciplinary action taken against him by the Board of Directors as noted above for a Class III Offense,
  - ii. The imposition of a Discretionary Penalty in connection with a Class IV Offense, or
  - iii. An assessment of a cost or fee pursuant to these Bylaws may utilize the grievance process to appeal the action.

In such cases, the grieving Member may submit a full position statement (detailing all mitigating circumstances and other grounds for disputing the discipline impose) to the Board of Directors. The amount of the cash bond shall be equal to 50% of any monetary penalty imposed, and in the event of a disciplinary suspension, in an amount determined by the Board of Directors.

- 5) **Grievance Procedure.** The following procedures shall be followed in the event a grievant desire to challenge or contest actions of the MSRA involving an alleged misinterpretation or misapplication of the MSRA Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws or Official Rodeo Rules (including MSRA rodeo ground rules) that adversely affects the grievant.

The grieving Member shall bring the subject matter of his grievance to the attention of his or her Event Director in writing within 14 calendar days following notice to the grievant of the action taken or interpretation made by the MSRA. The letter shall set forth in full the subject matter of the dispute and the relief requested by the grievant. Within 14 calendar days following the receipt of said grievance letter, the Board of Directors shall reply in writing to the grievant, setting forth the decision in the matter. Said decision shall be final and binding. In the event the Board of Directors fails to reply to the grievance letter within 14 calendar days following his receipt of said letter, the grievance shall be deemed denied by the Board of Directors.

**\*\* CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ANNUAL AWARDS \*\***

**1) Championship Points and Standings.**

a. **Awarding of Points.** One Championship Point will be awarded for each dollar in prize-money won by a Contestant Card Member at MSRA-sanctioned rodeos. Money due from turnouts or late entry fees (placed on account with the MSRA) will not count as points towards championship standings.

- i. **Team Roping Points.** If a team roper is allowed to enter twice and places twice at any single rodeo, then only the entry in which he wins the most money will be counted toward the season's all-around awards.
- ii. **Qualification for Points.** A contestant that is accredited points at a sanctioned MSRA rodeo must have been a member in good standing prior to the first performance of the rodeo for which he/she is to receive points.

b. **Official MSRA Standings.** Championship Points won by Contestant Card Members shall be tallied and accounted for in the Official MSRA Standings. Championship Points earned in a rodeo-year shall be counted for that rodeo-year only.

**2) Challenge of MSRA Championship Points and Standings.**

a. **Inspection of Records.** The records of the MSRA, with respect to Championship Points and the Official MSRA Standings, shall be open for inspection by any Member.

b. **Procedure for Addressing a Challenge.** A challenge letter must be submitted in writing to the MSRA Board of Directors setting forth fully the basis of the challenge.

c. **Correction of Errors.** If the MSRA, either on its own or acting through an audit, discovers or is made aware of an error of any kind in the MSRA Official Standings, the MSRA shall have the authority to correct such error, subject to the limitations set forth below.

d. **Limitation on Timing of Corrections.** The MSRA shall not correct any errors, pursuant to any points challenge, for a given rodeo year subsequent to the date 14 days after the final MSRA rodeo of the year.

e. **Challenge to Correction.** In the event that a member believes that a correction to an error made by the MSRA is not correct or is improper, that Member may challenge such correction by submitting a challenge in writing to the Board of Directors.

**3) Year End Championships.** Year End Championships for the bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, cowgirls barrel racing, team roping header, team roping heeler, cowgirl's breakaway, and all-around cowboy and cowgirl will be determined by combining rodeo-year-end winnings for that rodeo-year and Finals Rodeo winnings from the MSFR held in conjunction with that rodeo-year. The individual with the most points in each event will be considered the Year End Champion. Champions must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards. Must enter and attempt to compete at the MSFR to be eligible to receive championship and year end awards, unless approved by the Board of Directors.

a. **Ranch Bronc Riding.** Ranch Bronc Riding, when offered at 50% or more rodeos throughout the rodeo year will qualify for year-end championship.

**4) All-Around Championships.**

a. **All-Around Points.** All-Around Points shall be awarded to Contestant Card Members in the same manner as Championship Points, subject to the restrictions set forth in these Bylaws or the Official Rodeo Rules. In order for All-Around Points from two or

more events to be counted in the All-Around Standings, a Contestant Card Member must have won a minimum of a combined \$1,000 in at least two events and a minimum of \$100 in each event. For purposes of this \$1,000 minimum requirement, points won as a header and heeler in the team roping will be combined for that event.

i. **Rodeos Counting for All Around Points.** Only rodeos that offer all eight major events, bareback, steer wrestling, team roping, tie down roping, saddle bronc, barrel racing, cowgirls' breakaway, and bull riding, will count for All Around points.

ii. **Ranch Bronc Riding:** Ranch Bronc riding when offered will count for all around points.

- 5) **All-Around Year End Champions.** The MSRA shall award its All-Around Year End Championships to the Contestant Card Members or who have won the most All-Around Points in two or more events, provided that such All-Around Year End Champions have met the point requirements. The champion must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards. Must enter and attempt to compete at the MSFR to be eligible to receive championship and year end awards, unless approved by the Board of Directors.
- 6) **Rookie of the Year.**
  - a. **All-Around Rookie of the Year.** All-Around Rookie of the Year shall be awarded to that Contestant Card Member in his/her first dues-paying year as a Contestant Card Member who has won a minimum of a combined \$1,000 in at least two events and a minimum of \$100 in each event as of the end of the rodeo-year and never won over \$1,000.00 in any rodeo association while holding a card/permit in that association. The champion must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards.
  - b. **Event Rookie of the Year.** Rookie of the Year in each of the MSRA required events shall be awarded to that first-year Contestant Card Member with the most Championship Points in a particular required event as of the end of the rodeo-year and never won over \$1,000.00 **in any professional rodeo association** while holding a card/permit in that association. Rookie of the Year shall be awarded to both the header and heeler who wins the most money as a header and heeler, respectively, in the team roping. The champion must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards.
- 7) **Bucking Stock of the Year.** The annual awards for Bucking Animal of the Year shall consist of: Saddle Bronc of the Year, Bareback of the Year and Bull of the Year and shall go to the owner or producer holding the legal lease on the animal. Owner/producer must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards.
  - a. **Nominations.** Any stock contractor producing two (2) MSRA first-approved sanctioned rodeos during that year is eligible to nominate these animals from each riding event.
  - b. **Qualifications.** To be eligible for bucking stock of the year, the animal must have been drawn in MSRA competition a minimum of 2 times throughout the rodeo year.
  - c. **Voting.** Any contestant working any of the three riding events (SB, BB and BR) once during the year is eligible to vote for the Animal of the Year in that event. The animal receiving the most votes by a predetermined date (set by the Board of Directors) will be the Animal of the Year in that event. Award will be given to an animal in each of

the three riding events. All ballots for Animal of the Year must designate events worked that year and must be signed.

8) **Contract Acts.**

- a. **Qualifications.** To be eligible for of the year awards, Contract Personnel must be a member in good standing and must have been contracted and worked in at least one MSRA-approved rodeo. Award winner must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards.
- b. **Pick Up Man of the Year.** Pick up man of the year will be voted on by the contestants of the Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding events.
- c. **Bull Fighter of the Year.** Bullfighter of the year will be voted on by the contestants of the Bull Riding events.
- d. **Contract Acts of the Year.** Contract Act of the year will be voted on by the general membership.
- e. **Judge of the Year.** Judge of the year will be voted on by the general membership.
- f. **Secretary of the Year.** Secretary of the year will be voted on by the general membership.
- g. **Announcer of the Year.** Announcer of the year will be voted on by the general membership.

9) **Contractor of the Year.**

- a. **Qualifications.** To be eligible for any “of the year” awards, except Rodeo of the year, Contractor must be a member in good standing and must have contracted at least (3) three MSRA first approved rodeos. Award winners must be a member in good standing with the MSRA prior to receiving any awards.
- b. **Voting.** Contractor of the year will be voted on by the general membership.

10) **Rodeo of the Year.** Rodeo of the year will be voted on by the general membership.

11) **MSRA Responsible for Annual Awards.** The MSRA will be responsible for all trophies awarded on the annual MSRA point system. The points are to be counted from January 1 until 2 weeks prior to the finals of each year and include the MSRA Finals Rodeo.

12) **In The Event of a Tie for Year End Championships.** In the event of a tie for a championship, a “sudden death” go round will be given to the tied contestants. Such a go round to take place during or immediately following the last performance of the Finals Rodeo or the last performance, of the last scheduled MSRA rodeo of the year.

13) **Must Be Present to Accept Awards.** Trophy winners must be personally present or send a representative to fulfill all privileges and responsibilities of said winner at the designated place or awards banquet each year in order to receive any awards to which they are entitled. Member must notify the office in advance of who their representative will be.

**\*\* FINALS RODEO \*\***

- 1) **General.** There shall be held annually a Finals Rodeo in each of the following events: bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, team roping and cowgirls barrel racing (cowgirls breakaway will be eligible if held at more than 50% of the seasons rodeos). The Finals Rodeo shall be directed and produced by the MSRA Board of Directors.
- 2) **Qualification of Contestants.**
  - a. **Number of Contestants.** Twelve (12) contestants per event shall be allowed to compete at the Finals Rodeo in the events of bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling and cowgirls barrel racing (cowgirls breakaway will be eligible if held at more than 50% of the seasons rodeos). Twelve (12) teams shall be allowed to compete in the team roping.
  - b. **Qualification of Contestants.** The top Twelve (12) Contestant Card Members, as ranked by the Official MSRA Standings, in each of bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling and cowgirls barrel racing (cowgirls breakaway will be eligible if held at more than 50% of the seasons rodeos) shall be the “Finals Qualifiers” in each event, and shall be the Finals Rodeo contestants provided such Finals Qualifiers confirm their participation in the Finals Rodeo and are financially eligible and competition eligible at the time of confirmation. If a Finals Qualifier is unable to compete in the Finals Rodeo, the next highest ranked Contestant Card Member shall be invited to compete in the Finals Rodeo, provided he is financially eligible and competition eligible. This process shall be repeated until the requisite number of contestants has confirmed participation in an event.
    - i. **Team Roping.** The top Twelve (12) Contestant Card Member headers and top 10 Contestant Card Member Heelers in the team roping, as ranked by the Official MSRA Standings, shall be the Finals Qualifiers in team roping, provided such qualifiers confirm their participation in the Finals Rodeo.
      1. **Partners.** Each Finals Rodeo contestant header must be paired with a Finals Rodeo contestant heeler in the team roping, and vice-versa. Pairing shall be accomplished pursuant to procedures established by the MSRA. Failure to select a partner according to these procedures by the established deadline will result in assigning of partners based on a random draw conducted by the Board of Directors. A header and heeler shall not be considered a team for the Finals Rodeo team roping, unless and until both the header and heeler have confirmed their pairing together with the MSRA Board of Directors.
      - ii. **First Approved MSRA Rodeos.** For the 8 standard events members must compete at a minimum of 3 MSRA first approved rodeos in that specific event to qualify to compete at the finals in that specific event. For the optional events if offered at the finals members must compete at the following, When the optional event is offered at 1-3 MSRA first approved rodeos the member must compete at 1 first approved rodeo in that event to qualify to compete at the finals. When the optional event is offered at 4-6 MSRA first approved rodeos the member must compete at 2 first approved rodeos in that event to qualify to compete at the finals. When the optional event is offered at 7 or more MSRA

first approved rodeos the member must compete at minimum of 3 MSRA first approved rodeos in that event to qualify to compete at the finals.

- c. **Confirmation of Participation.** Each Contestant Card Member who is a Finals Qualifier and who is financially eligible and competition eligible for the Finals Rodeo must confirm with the Entry Office that he will participate in the Finals Rodeo no later than the date and time of confirmation closing for the Finals Rodeo. Failure to confirm participation will result in disqualification from competing at the Finals Rodeo. All others invited to participate as a replacement for a Finals Qualifier must confirm participation in the Finals Rodeo by the date and time of confirmation closing.
- d. **Eligibility for Year End Championships.** All contestants accepted to compete at the Finals Rodeo shall be eligible to win the Year End Championship in the event in which they are competing.
- e. **Failure to Participate in the Finals Rodeo.** Any financially eligible and competition eligible contestant who confirms participation in the Finals Rodeo and fails to appear at the Finals Rodeo will forfeit any trophies awarded under the MSRA award system and will be fined \$100 unless, in the opinion of the MSRA Board of Directors, such contestant has a justifiable reason for not appearing.
- f. **Prize Money.** At the Finals Rodeo, equal prize money per contestant may be paid in all MSRA events.

3) **All-Around Points at the Finals Rodeo.** All Finals Qualifiers shall be eligible for All-Around Points at the Finals Rodeo including replacement contestants from outside the top ten (10).

4) **Provision of Riding Event Livestock.**

- a. **Minimum Performances.** All riding event livestock selected for the Finals Rodeo must have been drawn for competition, in an individual event i.e. Bareback or Saddle Bronc, a minimum of two (2) times at first approved or three (3) times at co-approved MSRA rodeos during the rodeo-year for which the Finals Rodeo is being held.
- b. **Qualification to Provide Riding Event Livestock.** For a contractor to be eligible to bring rough stock to the MSRA finals, the contractor must have (3) MSRA 1<sup>st</sup> approved rodeos. If the event director determines there is not enough satisfactory stock from qualified contractors, they can choose stock from contractors that have two (2) first approved rodeos, then one (1) first approved rodeo.
  - i. **Primary Stock Contractor Defined.** A Primary Stock Contractor shall be that Stock Contractor listed as the Primary Stock Contractor on the official MSRA rodeo approval form
- c. **No Limit on Riding Event Livestock Provided.** There shall be no limit to the number of riding event livestock which a particular Stock Contractor may provide to the Finals Rodeo.
- d. **Pledge and Nomination of Riding Event Livestock.** Any Stock Contractor desiring to provide livestock to the Finals Rodeo must submit a list of nominations for specific eligible livestock which Stock Contractor will supply if selected, to the MSRA Event Director (of the respective events) no later than one (1) month prior to the Finals Rodeo. After stock nominations have been made, any Stock Contractor pledging stock who withdraws from Finals Rodeo participation shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500, said amount to be set by full vote of the Board of Directors, and said Stock Contractor shall not be eligible to take stock to the Finals Rodeo for the following year.

- e. **Provision of Riding Event Livestock, Which Have Not Met the Two-Performance Rule.** Any Stock Contractor providing riding-event livestock to the Finals Rodeo in violation of the provisions of paragraph above shall be fined \$250 and he shall be disqualified from bringing riding-event livestock to the following year's Finals Rodeo.
- 5) **Selection of Livestock.** Selection of all Finals Rodeo livestock shall be made by the Event Directors from among eligible livestock, which are to be supplied by eligible Stock Contractors. Each Event Director shall be responsible for selecting stock for the event he represents. An Event Director may select livestock which has not been nominated by a Stock Contractor provided 1) the livestock selected is eligible, 2) the stock is to be supplied by an eligible Stock Contractor, 3) the Stock Contractor has pledged and nominated livestock from his herd, and 4) the Stock Contractor agrees to supply that particular stock. If any of these four conditions are not met, livestock which has not been pledged and nominated may not be selected. No bareback or saddle bronc horses with a history of having to be pulled out of the chute or stalling will be selected for the Finals Rodeo. Event Directors shall select the proper number of head of riding event livestock in each event no later than 2 weeks prior to the Finals Rodeo.
  - a. **Riding Event Director Assistance.** Each Riding Event Director shall select two people from the top 12 in the Championship Standings to assist in the selection of the livestock for the Finals Rodeo. The Event Director shall have the final decision.
- 6) **Finals Personnel**
  - a. **Eligibility.** To be eligible to work the Finals Rodeo, Pick Up Men, Bull Fighters, Secretaries, Timers, Barrel Man/Specialty Act and Announcer must be a member in good standing and must have been contracted or will be contracted to work in at least one (1) first approved MSRA rodeo in the year that the Finals Rodeo is being held. Any Personnel wishing to work the MSFR must submit an application to the Board of Directors. If, in the event that no Pickup Men, Bull Fighters, Secretaries, Timers, Barrel Man/Specialty Act or Announcer submit applications, the Board of Directors has the right to hire any contract personnel needed to fulfill the needs of the Finals Rodeo.
    - ii. **Pick Up Men.** No later than two weeks prior to the Finals Rodeo, the top 12 bareback and saddle bronc riders, at the time of voting, will vote for two pick up men, with the written and signed votes accepted through the MSRA Office.
    - ii. **Bull Fighters.** No later than two weeks prior to the Finals Rodeo, the top 12 bull riders, at the time of voting, will vote for two bull fighters, with the written and signed votes accepted through the MSRA Office.
    - iii. **Judges, Secretary, Timer, Barrel Man/Specialty Acts and Announcer.** No later than two weeks prior to the Finals Rodeo, personnel will be voted on by the Board of Directors.
  - b. **Authorities and Responsibilities.**
    - i. **Negotiate Contracts.** The MSRA Board of Directors shall negotiate any and all contracts and leases necessary or desirable to further the Finals Rodeo.
    - ii. **Finals Rodeo Contract Personnel.** The MSRA Board of Directors is responsible for the hiring of the contract personnel for the finals rodeo. No seated board member shall vote to elect themselves to a paid position at the MSFR.

iii. **Finals Judges.** Must have judged at least three first approved MSRA Rodeos in order to be able to be nominated to judge at the finals.

7) **Timed Event Attempts.** At the MSFR, the allowed number of attempts in each event (i.e. Number of loops or jump attempts in the timed events) is to be determined by the Event Director. The number of attempts is to be notified to contestants at time of entry for the MSFR.

8) **Animal Condition and Appearance.** Any rough stock or timed event stock being used at the MSRA finals needs to be in acceptable appearance as stated in the Humane Treatment of Rodeo Animals section of the MSRA rulebook.

- Any stock displaying below standard appearances will be sent home at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The stock contractor bringing the animal will face up to a \$500 fine for each offense.
- Any contestant's animal that is displaying below standard appearances will be sent home at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The contestant and owner of the animal will both face up to a \$500 fine for each offense.

9) **Timed Event Livestock.** There must be two (2) extras for each pen of timed event livestock.

**\*\* RODEO APPROVAL \*\***

- 1) **General.** The MSRA has provided rules and regulations in these Bylaws, the Official Rodeo Rules, and various ground rules, for the operation of individual rodeos. In order to receive MSRA approval of a rodeo, the respective stock contractor must meet all applicable requirements of these Bylaws, the Official Rodeo Rules and applicable ground rules, and must agree to abide by all MSRA rules and regulations, as set forth in these Bylaws, the Official Rodeo Rules and any applicable ground rules. The MSRA reserves the right to withdraw Members from any rodeo that does not conform to these rules.
- 2) **Application for Rodeo Approval.**
  - a. **Application.** A stock contractor must submit an application (on the appropriate official MSRA approval form) for MSRA approval of a rodeo to the MSRA Board of Directors. The MSRA may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny the application for rodeo approval.
  - b. **Deadline.** Rodeos desiring an MSRA sanction of their rodeo must make an application to the MSRA office in time to be published for at least 30 days for publication before the date of the first performance. Any notification after that, but at least 10 days before the books open, the stock contractor will be liable for the cost of notifying the membership. Application shall state events, prize money, entry fee, stock charges, date books open and close and the name, address and phone number of the person in charge of books.
  - c. **Application Information.** With respect to scheduling of performance or slack, the application for approval must set forth the time all performances start and the day(s) and time(s) when slack will be run.
  - d. **Co-Approvals.** Stock Contractors must have one (1) first approved MSRA rodeo before any co-approval requests will be approved
- 3) **New Rodeo Incentive.** Stock Contractors are eligible to receive 2% of a New MSRA only approved rodeos purse or 1% of a new co-approved rodeos purse only if the MSRA is the first sanction on the co- approval. The rodeo must be a new rodeo and not sanctioned the previous year.  
All rodeos that are MSRA only with no co-sanction shall receive 1% of the 10% sanction fee every year after the new year status.
- 4) **Stock Contractors.** The stock contractor and rodeo secretary must be cardholders of the MSRA. Stock contractors are responsible for their secretary.
  - a. **New Stock Contractors.** As of May 31, 1997, prior to a Stock Contractors 1st approved rodeo, acceptance into the Mid-States Rodeo Association will be granted upon approval of the Board of Directors. Any new stock contractor shall have one (1) show with one (1) Board of Director in attendance in order to become an approved stock contractor of the Mid-States Rodeo Association.
  - b. **New Stock Contractor Assistance.** New Stock Contractors and/or Producers will be assisted by a board member appointed by the Board of Directors for three (3) rodeos. The appointed assistant will see that these rodeos conform to MSRA standards and report any violations.
  - c. **Stock Contractors Review.** All stock contractors and/or producers will be reviewed by the Board of Directors each year at the last board meeting, before the annual banquet. Producers and Stock Contractors will be notified of status and any violations after this same board meeting.

- d. **Co-Approvals.** Stock Contractors must have one (1) first approved MSRA rodeo before any co-approval requests will be approved. If co-approved rodeo is scheduled prior to the first approved MSRA rodeo the stock contractor will be required to submit \$1500 to the MSRA office. The money will be refunded after the completion of the first approved MSRA rodeo. If the first approved rodeo is cancelled for any reason other than weather the \$1500 will be forfeited to the MSRA and any co-sanctioned rodeos remaining will have the MSRA sanction removed.

5) **Ground Rules.** Stock contractor requesting special competition ground rules must submit a copy of the proposed ground rules and an explanation of the reason for the requested change along with the application for approval at least 90 calendar days prior to the first scheduled competition of the rodeo and must be approved by the appropriate Event Directors and the Board of Directors. Any special ground rules approved by the MSRA will be enforced by the MSRA, and corresponding fines will be assessed and collected by the MSRA.

6) **Entries.** Fully sanctioned MSRA rodeos must have unlimited entries.

- a. **Limited Entries.** A stock contractor may limit entries and still conduct an MSRA approved rodeo. No championship points shall be awarded, but all rules shall apply. A contractor must have at least three fully sanctioned rodeos during each season for each limited stock rodeo. Rodeos sanctioned by the MSRA in the previous year cannot revert to a limited entry rodeo. Unlimited call in, and ten will be drawn for each event. Call in to find out who is up will be the same.
- b. **Slack.** At any rodeo where the number of entries necessitates the running of slack, slack will be designated to accommodate all entries.

7) **Events.** All MSRA rodeos must have eight standard events: bareback bronc riding, tie-down roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, bull riding, cowgirls barrel racing, cowgirls breakaway and team roping. Ranch Bronc Riding is an optional event. **All standard events must be run in the performance. Upon a special request a ground rule to the 8-standard events in the performance may occur based on a letter from the rodeo committee designating that these are their wishes for their rodeo. BOD will approve the sanctioning on a case-by-case basis.**

8) **Special Events.** Upon special application, the Board of Directors may accept any rodeo or rodeo event, which is deemed by the Board of Directors to reflect substantially upon the business reputation and public image of the MSRA.

9) **Purse Money.** A stock contractor must comply with all rules pertaining to prize money and purse money as set forth in the Bylaws and the Official Rodeo Rules.

- a. **Minimum Purse Money Added by a Rodeo.** To receive MSRA approval, the minimum purse requirements for all sanctioned rodeos is \$500.00 for each of the eight major events.
- b. **Prize Money per Event.** Prize money will be set by each individual sponsor, except that all entry fees must be added to the purse and listed as such on advertising for the rodeo. It is highly recommended that all entry fees and added money in the championship events be equal.

- c. **Previous Year Prize Money.** A rodeo, regardless of previous sanction, cannot reduce its prize money in any event as compared to its previous year without showing sufficient cause to the MSRA office and/or the Board of Directors.
- d. **Added money: Added money shall be the same for all 8 events. Must have board approval for special added money for an individual event.**

10) **Provide Ambulance.** The stock contractor shall cause an ambulance or first response team, licensed in the jurisdiction where the rodeo is held and fully approved to transport patients, to be at the rodeo arena during all performances and slack. It is highly recommended that a doctor also be on the grounds. Any stock contractor failing to comply with this rule will be subject to a \$250 fine per performance and/or section of slack for which the Rodeo Committee is in violation. The Rodeo will be stopped until adequate transport is available.

11) **Post Ground Rules.** Any approved ground rules for an individual rodeo must be posted in the arena secretary's office during the rodeo.

12) **Access of Members.** Any stock contractor receiving MSRA rodeo approval shall allow any competing MSRA contestant (along with one (1) guest), contract personnel, MSRA Officers and MSRA Board of Directors, access to rodeo grounds at no charge, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors. If guests/personnel will be charged entry to the rodeo grounds, the information and cost MUST be included on sanction/rodeo approval forms.

13) **Access to Arena.** No person shall be allowed in the arena during a rodeo performance unless entered in an event, or unless he has signed an MSRA-approved waiver releasing the stock contractor from liability. This rule shall be enforced by the arena director.

14) **Access of MSRA Officer or Director.** Any officer or director of the MSRA shall have access to any part of the rodeo enclosure or arena when representing the MSRA on official business.

15) **Entry Fees, Charges and Payment.**

- a. **Payment of Entry Fees and Charges.** The allowed method of payment of entry fees will be cash. Entry fees for the year-end Finals Rodeo may be paid by check.
- b. **Payment Required.** Unless drawn out due to ineligibility, inactive status or failure to meet qualifications, contestants without a legitimate doctor release or draw-out are required to pay entry fees and related charges at all rodeos they have entered.

16) **Entry Fees.**

- a. **Event Director.** Any reference in the Chapter to an "Event Director" shall mean the appropriate Contestant Representative to the MSRA Board of Directors.
- b. **Entry Fee Determination.** Entry fees in all events shall be determined by the Entry Fee scale in the Entry Fees section.

17) **Additional Charges.**

- a. **Finals Fee.** At which time the contestant pays entry fees, he will also pay a \$10 charge per entry. This fee will not be added to the payoff, but will revert to the MSRA Office to subsidize the Finals Rodeo.

18) **Duties of the Arena Secretary.**

- a. **Submissions.** Complete rodeo results MUST be into the MSRA Office NO later than two (2) business days after completion of the final performance of the rodeo. All other materials are required to be submitted by the arena secretary to the MSRA Office, such as, sanction fees master entry sheets, judges' cards, secretary's official recording sheets, results sheets, confirmation number sheet and copy of posted ground rules are to be mailed to the MSRA office immediately upon completion of each rodeo and not later than five (5) days. A fine of \$50.00 will be imposed for each violation.

- b. **Arrive at Rodeo.** It is suggested that the secretary be at the rodeo arena two (2) hours before each performance.
- c. **Contestant Card Numbers.** Secretaries are responsible for obtaining an entrant's card number when an entry is called in and will require all contestants to show a current MSRA membership card or MSRA office receipt or money order receipt for the purchase of such card.
- d. **Suspended List.** Secretaries are to check and reject any person who is currently on the suspended list. If known, they are to call to the attention of the judges any person or persons who may obtain entry through falsification (using another member's card or card number, etc.) Any such person or persons who 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.
- e. **Collect and Submit Fees.**
  - i. **Entry Fees and Charges.** Arena Secretaries are required to collect all entry fees and additional charges from all contestants entered at individual rodeos prior to the start of competition.
  - ii. **Notify MSRA of Those Failing to Pay.** Following each rodeo, but not later than 7 days, the arena secretary must submit to the MSRA Office a list of the names of any Members who did not pay entry fees and/or additional charges, along with the amount of those unpaid fees and/or additional charges. Any arena secretary failing to submit this list will be subject to a \$50 fine.
  - iii. **Withholdings from Purse and Entry Fees.** MSRA rodeos are not subject to a sanction fee (in dollars and cents) from the rodeo committee or stock contractor, however, (10) Ten percent of the gross prize money (entry fees and added money totaled) will be deducted by the secretary before winning contestants are paid and shall be mailed to the MSRA office in care of the MSRA secretary. Failure to submit this money with rodeo results and other materials required to be submitted will be subject to a \$50 fine, said fine to double progressively for each additional violation.
- f. **Rodeo Proceedings and Results.**
  - i. **Prize Money.** Arena Secretary is responsible for calculation and distribution of prize money. If the arena secretary intentionally mishandles prize money or entry fees, or falsifies rodeo records in any way, he or she will be suspended from the association. The stock contractor will be responsible for debts in connection with their secretary's actions.
  - ii. **No Deduction for Horse Percentage Money.** Arena secretaries shall not deduct any timed-event/ horse-percentage money from prize money checks.
  - iii. **Rodeo Results.** Arena secretary shall be responsible for recording and submitting to the MSRA Office all results from the individual rodeo, along with a list of all events held.
  - iv. **Responsibility for Errors.** Arena secretary will be responsible for reviewing the individual rodeo results and correcting any errors before submitting said results to the MSRA Office.
  - v. **Membership Numbers.** Arena secretary shall be responsible for submitting correct contestant membership card numbers and all other required information regarding entry status on all results forms submitted to the MSRA Office.

- vi. **Post-Slack Order.** The Stock Contractor has the option to state how slack will be run and must post slack and order of event prior to the first performance and shall be posted in the arena secretary's office.
- vii. **Post-Stock Draw.** The arena secretary shall post the stock draw for all events in the arena secretary's office.
- viii. **Scores and Times.** Scores and times of each contestant must be posted upon completion of each go round.

19) **Postponements and Cancellations.**

- a. **Performance.** A rodeo performance may not be postponed or canceled unless the Rodeo Committee spokesman, stock contractor and a MSRA official agree that it would be a physical impossibility to hold the performance. In the event no MSRA official is present, a Contestant Card Member should represent the contestants.
- b. **Rescheduling.** Only that performance or section of slack which had to be postponed will be rescheduled. Such postponed performance must be rescheduled within 48 hours or the start of the subsequent go-round, whichever comes first.
- c. **Postponement & Turn Outs.** Any rodeo performance or designated slack does not start on time; all turnout fines will be waived for the entire performance or section of slack. Contestants will still be responsible for their entry fees.
- d. **Order of Competition.** In case of postponement, the order of competition, of contestants, for that postponed performance will be maintained exactly as drawn. Stock for the postponed performance will be redrawn for the timed events.
- e. **Inclement Weather.**
  - i. **Refunded Entry Fees.** In the event of inclement weather, if performance is postponed and contestants cannot be present for the rescheduled performance, they shall be refunded their entry fee.
  - ii. **Draw Outs.** In case of a rain out, the contestants who are competing that night, who intend to draw out, must do so that night by advising the rodeo secretary of their intentions to draw out.
  - iii. **Vote To Compete.** If inclement weather occurs and it is agreeable to stock contractor and committee, cowboys that are to contest during that performance shall have the right to vote (each event separate) whether to contest or not, 51 percent of the vote will govern.
  - iv. **Points.** All points will count.

20) **Publication of Notice.** Unless otherwise stated, any notice through publication in the MSRA Bulletin must be listed at least 15 days prior to the entry closing date of a rodeo.

21) **National Anthem.** At every U.S. rodeo sanctioned by the MSRA, the National Anthem will be played and the American flag presented.

22) **Contestant Seating.** If management provides satisfactory seats for the contestants, the MSRA will urge all contestants to stay out of the arena when they are not scheduled to compete.

23) **Contestant Warm Up Area.** If sufficient space is not available to exercise contestants' animal, rodeo management or sponsor will make arrangements to have the arena available for exercising of contestants' animal up until one hour prior to rodeo performance.

24) **Rodeo Advertisement.** All MSRA rodeos must be advertised as championship rodeos.

25) **Barrels.** Barrels used in MSRA cowgirl's barrel racing contest must be regulation 55-gallon metal barrel size. Barrels must be two (2) tone of identical colors; no solid colored barrels, if

barrels are sponsored, then they may have a sleeve and/or be multi-colored. Both ends of the barrel must be enclosed.

- 26) **Box Pads.** Each stock contractor must provide box pads for each box in the timed events.
- 27) **Automatic Timers.** The use of an automatic timer is required and is to be furnished by the Stock Contractor. Scores from automatic timers will be recorded to the automatic timer's full capacity. In the event that an automatic timer fails, two timekeepers are also required.
- 28) **Stock Contractor Help.** The Stock Contractor will be responsible for all help including men turning out stock for timed events.
- 29) **Required Contract Personnel.**
  - a. In order to be an approved MSRA rodeo, a MSRA stock contractor will be required to have at least two bullfighters, along with two pickup men per performance.

**30) Co-Sanction Rough Stock Event.** Co-Sanction rough stock events from November 1<sup>st</sup>-March 31<sup>st</sup>. Events must be sanctioned by an association and is open to unlimited entries. Events must be approved by the MSRA board of directors and riders must be a MSRA card holder before competing for money to count towards MSRA event standings. Cards must be purchased from the MSRA secretary before this event. A \$15.00 fee(\$10 FF & \$5 SCF)must be paid by the contestant to the event secretary and must be sent into the MSRA office for money to count towards event standings. The secretary must be noted on sanction forms and put up a \$250.00 bond that will be refunded after the last event of the allotted season. Only one event a month may be sanctioned, it will be determined by the board of directors to approve more than one event per month.

#### \*\* RODEO JUDGES \*\*

- 1) **Sanction Judges List.** A sanctioned judges list shall be prepared and maintained in the MSRA office, as judges are qualified. To qualify for this list a person must be a member in good standing, pass a current judges test and be approved by the Board of Directors and/or the Judges Commissioner. Additional judges will be added to the sanctioned list as they become available during the fiscal year.
- 2) **First Year Judges.** No two "new" judges may judge together at the same rodeo. ("New" will

be defined as a first year MSRA judge).

- 3) **Removal from Judges List.** Judges may be removed from the approved judges list when sufficient cause is shown to the Board of Directors by five (5) written complaints about any one judge during the fiscal year. The judge must appear before the Board of Directors before re-instatement will be made.
- 4) **No Stock Contractor Judges.** Under no circumstances will a stock contractor or owner of the stock be allowed to judge his own stock or act in any official judging capacity.
- 5) **Judges Must Know Rules.** All judges will know and understand all rules governing rodeo as set forth in the MSRA rule book and any valid ground rules enacted and will be responsible for enforcing and upholding the same. All decisions will be left to the discretion of the judges.
- 6) **Judges Vests.** When judge's vests are furnished, judges are responsible for the care and maintenance of same and will wear them during all paid performances of rodeo at which they judge.
- 7) **Competing Judges.** Timed event contestants may work his event while judging by hiring a qualified judge to judge his event. The person hired must be approved by that event director or any three (3) contestants in that event; it must be the same person for all performances and slack.
- 8) **Judge Cannot Continue.** Should anything happen to the judge during the course of a rodeo so he could or would not judge the remainder of rodeo in riding events or flagging field, the secretary will divide the total purse in proportion to the number of contestants that have finished contesting in each event up to the point the judge became Incapacitated and pay off accordingly. A new judge will then be elected, and the remainder of the events affected judged and paid off as if it were another rodeo.
- 9) **Finals Application.** You must fill out a written application by the specified date to be eligible to work the finals. Application and date will be published in the bulletin. (It is then requested that those that fill out an application be contacted prior to their name being put on a ballot to be sure they are interested and available to work the finals.)
- 10) **Judges Arrival to Rodeo Grounds.** Judges will be on the grounds at least four (4) hours prior to the first performance of a rodeo and at least two (2) hours before each performance thereafter, unless other arrangements are made with the stock contractor.
- 11) **Judges Must Total Score.** Judges must total own score sheets and remain with arena secretary until complete payoff is announced.
- 12) **Rodeo to Continue Regardless of Dispute.** In all cases of dispute, the rodeo will proceed without delay under the existing rules of the MSRA and the matter of said dispute shall be settled by the judges.
- 13) **Explanation of Re-Rides.** When a re-ride is awarded, the judges are to include a brief explanation on his judge's card, stating why the contestant was awarded a re-ride.
- 14) **Judges Check Sheets.** Judges must fill out and complete the judges check sheet and turn it in to the rodeo secretary at the end of the rodeo. Failure to do so may result in a fine. Check sheets will be given to approve judges upon request.
- 15) **Judges must have judging sheets filled out properly & completely and turned in by the end of the performance. If not completed properly they will be fined \$250 and progressively double each offense after.**



**\*\* OFFICIAL RODEO RULES \*\***

- 1) **Official Rodeo Rules.** The rules governing the fairness or conduct of the competition at MSRA rodeos, the safety of contestants and livestock and the definition of rodeo events shall be referred to as the “Official Rodeo Rules,” which shall be published separately from these Bylaws but which shall have the weight and legal effect of Bylaws of the MSRA, provided, however, that in the event of a conflict between a Bylaw and a Rule, the Bylaw shall prevail.
- 2) **Amendment of Rules.** The Official Rodeo Rules may be amended or modified in accordance with the procedures set forth herein. Proposed changes are to be put on the table for two full months of consideration before finalized.
  - a. **Proposals.**
    - i. **Submission and Publication of Proposal.** Any Member or Director to the Board of Directors may submit a rule change proposal requesting an addition to, a deletion from or a modification of the Official Rodeo Rules. Such rule change proposal shall be made in writing, shall state the reasons therefore and must be received by the Board of Directors no later than two months prior to the general membership meeting. Any such proposal shall be published in the official MSRA publication and/or website no less than once per month for two months, and shall not be acted until a general membership meeting held at the end of the rodeo season. A proposal which is received after the submission deadline shall not be considered until the following year.
    - b. **Proposal Consideration.** Once a proposal has been published in the MSRA Bulletin in accordance with these Bylaws, the general membership shall evaluate each properly submitted rule change proposal. The general membership shall adopt, reject or table such a rule change proposal. The general membership may amend or modify such rule change proposal before adopting, rejecting or tabling such proposal. The general membership shall table a proposal only if additional information is needed or desired before a decision is made, in which case the rule proposal can be tabled only until the next general membership meeting, at which meeting the general membership must adopt or reject the proposal, if it is not withdrawn.
    - c. **Notification of Rule Changes.** All rule changes will be published in the official MSRA publication and/or MSRA website following the general membership meeting.
      - i. **No Rule Changes Effective During Current Rodeo-Year.** No rule changes shall be made so as to be effective during the current rodeo-year.

**\*\* RODEO ENTRIES \*\***

1. **Phone Line.**
  - a. All MSRA rodeo entries shall be taken by the Central Entry Office.
2. **Entries.**
  - a. **Call-ins.** If an MSRA member phones in his entry and gives a valid MSRA number, his name shall be accepted by the secretary without requiring entry fee to be paid until

said member reaches his destination. Immediately upon his arrival at the rodeo, member shall find the secretary and make payment of fees due. No stock will be given until entry fee is paid. All Locals Must Pre Pay Fees at time of entering through Rodeo Sports Network

- i. **Members.** Card holding members will have preference during entries over nonmembers when entering rodeos.
- ii. **Limits.** All entries will be by telephone or online with no entries taken at the rodeo office, except local entries. Maximum four (4) entries per call (not per rodeo) with a team roping team being counted as one (1) entry. However, when positions are drawn with no trade outs, there will be no limit on the number of entries per phone call.
- iii. **Team Roping.** All team roping will be enter twice by either switching ends or switching partners unless a minimum of \$500 per side heading/heeling for a total of \$1000 is added in the team roping. Rodeo committee and/or producer will have the option of having enter once/enter twice when this requirement is met, but must designate such on the sanction contract. All team roping will be dally unless otherwise specified on sanction application before rodeo is approved.
- iv. **Liable.** Any MSRA member calling an entry in for another contestant will be liable for all the entry fees of the person and must present a valid MSRA card number for each contestant for whom he is calling. Secretary is to record the name of the caller.
- v. **Unofficial Entries.** Entries given to anyone other than the official rodeo secretary will be disregarded. No entries shall be taken prior to official published time of entry or after official closing of books. Any exception to this rule must be taken before the event has started. Rodeo secretary is subject to a \$50 fine for any violation of entry rules.

- b. **Times.** Books will remain open a minimum of three (3) hours for one rodeo and one (1) additional hour for each additional rodeo. A maximum of three (3) rodeos will be allowed per call in time. Books must close at least 48 hours prior to the first performance where positions are drawn and at least 24 hours prior to the first performance where positions are not drawn. Exception being where opening performance is in afternoon, then the 24 hour requirement is waived.
- c. **Late Entries.** A stock contractor, at his option, may leave the books open up to the first contested performance of that event, providing that performance is not filled. He may leave the books open only for event and performance needing to be filled. No other entries need be taken.
- d. **Low Entries.** Stock Contractor has the option of canceling an event when less than four (4) contestants are entered. Event may be cancelled up to 24hrs prior to the first performance of the rodeo. Notification of the cancellation must be made to the Entry Office and the MSRA Event Director by the stock contractor. It is the contestants' responsibility to contact the office to verify event cancellations. Award points will be counted regardless of number of entries.
  - i. **Cancellation Turn Out.** If contestant is entered in multiple events and one event is cancelled by the stock contractor due to low entries per rule 2.d., the contestant may draw out of all events without turnout penalties.

- e. **Number of Go Rounds.** The number of go-rounds of competition in any single event will be determined by the rodeo management (rodeo committee, stock contractor and/or producer) unless otherwise advertised. It is highly recommended that at rodeos not having an abundance of contestants in any event, or events, that two or more head or runs be given in these events
- f. **Scheduled Competition Performance.** All entrants must compete during performance requested by the rodeo secretary.
- g. **Posting of Draw** All rodeo secretaries must post the draw for all MSRA first-approved rodeos online a minimum of 48 hours prior to the first performance and no more than 48 hours after a rodeo entries close. If the rodeo secretary is unable to do so, they must provide that information to the MRSA association secretary within that same time frame to post online and pay \$200 convenience fee to the association.

3. **Minimums and Maximums.**

- a. **Minimums.** All rodeo secretaries must accept a minimum of 7 contestants in each event, except saddle bronc and bareback bronc riding, in which a minimum of 3 contestants must be accepted, before calling a performance full.
- b. **Waiting List.** When entering a rodeo and a given performance is full, a waiting list will be formed on a first-come, first-served basis for that performance. When other performances are full, the secretary will then use the waiting list.
- c. **Verification.** Contestant will be responsible for verifying whether his entry has been accepted.
- d. **Slack Preference.** A contestant is allowed to enter slack as a preference even when slack is after the performance. Slack will only be run if the maximums are met in all performances. Stock Contractor has the right to accept slack if performance maximums are not met.
- e. **Drawing Out.** There shall be no drawing out after books close (exception being Rain Out rule). When positions are not drawn and contestant requests a specific performance and the secretary guarantees that performance, the contestant will not be allowed to draw out later than 1 ½ hours before the books close.

4. **Position Drawn Rodeos.**

- a. **Trade Outs.** All rodeos drawing for positions will trade out, unless consent is given by the Board of Directors.
  - i. **Time of Trade.** Trade outs will be allowed on a designated date and time after entries are closed(trades must be completed at least 48 hours prior to first performance.) After trade outs are closed no trade outs or position changes will be allowed. Splits in the Steer Wrestling will need to be approved by rodeo judge before rodeo starts. Trade outs will be taken by Rodeo Sports Network only for MSRA first approved rodeos.
  - ii. **First Come, First Served.** Secretary must trade out on a first come, first served basis as far as possible. All entrants who are not MSRA members may be traded at the secretary's discretion.
- b. **Entry Preferences.** When a rodeo draws for a particular performance during which a contestant will compete, the contestant will tell the rodeo secretary the performance he prefers to compete in, if he has a preference, when calling in his entry.

- i. **Multiple Entries.** A contestant working two or more events in a single rodeo that draws positions may request that he compete in all events during the day that is first drawn for him in a single event.
- c. **Positions Drawn.** Positions will be drawn when entries close. There must be a call back phone and time. Rodeo Sports Network will draw positions. Contestants will be responsible for calling back RSN or look online for draw results.

5. **Entry Fees.**

- a. **Determining Entry Fees.** The following scale will be used in determining entry fees, in accordance with added money.
- b.

\$500-\$750 ADDED	\$60-\$80 Fees
\$751-\$1,000	\$70-\$100 Fees
\$1,001 or more	\$80-\$150 Fees
- i. **Team Roping.** Team roping entry fee will be per man.
- ii. **Deviations.** Permission must be granted by the Board of Directors for any deviation in the entry fee schedule.
- iii. **Rodeo must add at least \$500 per standard event.**
- iv. **Team Roping Stock charge.** When \$500 per side is added in the team roping event and it is an enter once rodeo, a maximum of \$20 stock charge (\$10 per contestant) may be charged.
- v. **When Team Roping is enter once, fees shall be.**

\$500 to \$750 per side	\$80 to \$120 Fees
\$751 or more per side	\$100 to \$200 Fees
- c. **Additional Charges.**
  - i. **Finals Fee.** At which time contestant pays entry fees, he will also pay a \$10 charge per entry. This fee will not be added to the payoff, but will revert to the MSRA Office to subsidize the Finals Rodeo.
  - ii. **Stock Charge.** MSRA sanctioned rodeos, which add \$500 or more per event, and offer all eight (8) standard events can charge a maximum \$15.00 stock charge fee at the stock contractor's discretion. The stock charge for Team Roping will be divided between the team. The stock charge for Team Roping will be a maximum of \$7.50 per contestant.
  - iii. **CES Fee.** There will be a \$5.00 fee paid per contestant.
- d. **Paying Fees.** Entry fees cannot be paid with a check.
- e. **Not Returning Fees.** No rodeo shall be responsible for the returning of a contestant's entry fee if he has contested in the event once during the rodeo. Until a contestant has received a marking, the contestant has not contested.
  - i. **Injury.** A contestant entering two (2) or more events cannot contest in one event and get entry fees back in other events unless he is hurt in the first scheduled event. If a contestant is entered in other events which he can prove he is unable to contest, then the entry fees for those events must be returned.
- f. **Day Money.** If day money is to be paid, entry fees will be up to the discretion of the stock contractor, but will not exceed \$10.00. All contestants are required to participate.



**\*\*DRAWING STOCK\*\***

1) **General.**

- a. **Drawing.** All stock in contest events must be drawn by number by a judge, using plastic poker chips when possible. In the event poker chips are unavailable, numbers may be folded to a uniform size on paper. Stock draws must be conducted so that any entrant may witness the draw, provided that a judge may require any individual who does not maintain businesslike behavior to leave the draw area.
  - i. **Drawing or Competing on Same Head of Stock.** No contestant (or identical team in the team roping) may compete on or draw the same head of stock twice at any one rodeo in the same event, except in the case of a reride in the riding events or a rerun in the timed events in the same go-round.
  - ii. **Competing on Stock Drawn.** A contestant must compete on the stock drawn for him unless he has been awarded a reride or rerun by the judges.
- b. **Posting.** All stock and contestants for other events to be posted one (1) hour in advance of each performance.
- c. **All Start alone/First approved rodeo listings on the MidStates Website must have the number of Contestants that will be in the performance in each event.**
- d. **Mount Money Charges for Turn Outs.** If a contestant turns out in accordance with the official turn out Rules, and if exhibition animals are necessary, such contestant may be required to pay mount money charges.
- e. **Final Go-Round.** In a final go-round, stock shall be drawn and assigned in reverse order, with the lowest qualifier receiving stock drawn first and the highest qualifier receiving stock drawn last.
- f. **Misdraws.**
  - i. **Misdraw Defined.** Any animal drawn to a contestant who must be replaced will be considered a misdraw.
  - ii. **Herd Defined.** In the timed events, herd shall be defined as those animals designated prior to the start of the first go-round to be used in a given event. Once a herd has been established for a rodeo, no animals may be added to the herd.
  - iii. **Extra Defined.** In the timed events, if pens are drawn from the pre-designated herd, at least one more animal than the number of contestants should be drawn to be used in the case of a misdraw. Following the cattle draw, that animal (or animals) remaining shall be considered the extra(s). In case the extra(s) are not used for that given performance or section of slack, said extra shall be placed with those animals not already included in a competition draw or a pen draw, unless the subsequent pen ends the run on the cattle.
  - iv. **Four Misdraws.** If four or more head are misdraws, all unused stock shall be put back in the draw box and redrawn.
  - v. **Misdraw Discovered Prior to a Performance or During Slack.** In case of a misdraw discovered prior to a performance, or any time during the slack:
    1. If one or more extras are available, all animals not competed on below the misdraw up to the end of the run on the cattle shall be eligible to be drawn. One animal is drawn, that being the animal assigned to the contestant with the misdraw. The contestant who originally had that

animal will be assigned the extra. All other contestants will be assigned the animals originally drawn for them.

2. If no extras are available, all unused animals below the misdraw up to the end of the run on the cattle shall be eligible to be drawn, with the last unused animal drawn in that run designated the extra.

vi. **Misdraw Discovered After the Start of a Performance.** In case a misdraw is discovered after the start of a paid performance:

1. If an extra is available, the contestant involved will automatically be assigned the extra, regardless of a possible difference in runs on the cattle.
2. If no extras are available, the contestant involved will not compete as scheduled, but shall compete later in the performance or immediately after. A replacement animal will be drawn from all animals left in the run. If a contestant is scheduled at the end of a run and no animals are available from that run, one will be drawn from the herd.

g. **Tie-down Roping, Steer Wrestling, and Team Roping Draw If One Animal for Every Entry.** At rodeos where there is one animal for every entry, the Event Director shall establish the herd and shall also designate those animals, which shall be deemed extras, but not part of the original herd. Once the herd is established, one animal will be drawn per each contestant in the go round.

2) **Riding Events.**

- a. **Turn Out.** Stock shall not be drawn for a riding event contestant if he has notified the Rodeo Secretary prior to the stock draw that he will turn out (as defined Official Turnout Rules).
- b. **New Animals.** In all riding events, no new animals will be put in the draw, unless previously bucked.
- c. **Animals Used in Slack.** If a riding event animal is drawn for the slack twice at a given rodeo, that same animal must be included in the performance draw at least once. If 15 or more animals are used in a performance, any rodeo may have an animal in the slack three times before it has to be in a performance. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine imposed on the stock contractor of \$50 per animal so used.
- d. **Draw for Rerides and Go-Rounds.** In all riding events, a complete go-round will be drawn for at one time, if there is more than one go-round, and the results of said drawing will be posted at least one hour before the first performance. No more than two (2) feature animals may be held out of the re-rides.
  - i. **Animals Drawn for a Reride.** Any riding event animal drawn for a reride, but not used in that go-round, may be held out of the draw for re-rides in the following go-round along with the feature animals, and then will be returned for the go-round draw after the re-rides have been drawn. An animal can be drawn for a re-ride only one time in a go-round.
- e. **Procedure for Drawing Riding Event Stock.**
  - i. **Where Pens Are Set by Stock Contractor.** The stock contractor shall include in the pen at least one more animal per performance than the number needed for competition. A single animal shall be drawn from each pen and shall be considered the designated reride for that performance. Two (2) of the animals per performance may be featured, but must be so indicated prior to reride

draw, and thus held out of the reride draw. After the reride for a given performance has been drawn, all featured animals for that performance are to be returned to the draw.

f. **Using a Horse in Bareback & Saddle Bronc.** Bucking horses cannot be used in both the saddle bronc riding and the bareback riding at the same rodeo.

g. **Final Round of Multiple Go Round Rodeo.**

- i. **Selection.** Selection of individual riding event stock for a final go-round in that event will be accomplished by a mutual agreement among an Event Director or his duly designated appointee, the Primary Stock Contractor (MSRA Board of Directors for the Finals Rodeo), and a judge. There may be a different judge for each event. At least two head of additional stock will be available for re-rides. Re-rides for the short go-round will be designated by the Event Director or his appointed representative. The order of the re-rides may be set by the Event Director or his appointed representative.
- ii. **Qualification of Stock for Final Round.** In the riding events, any animals designated for the final go-round must be drawn at least one time in regular competition at that rodeo in that event unless otherwise approved by the Event Director.

h. **One Day Rodeo Performances** shall have the same amount of chips as cowboys before the draw is done in all rough stock events.

3) **Timed Events.**

a. **Turn Out.** Stock shall not be drawn for a contestant if he has notified the rodeo secretary prior to the drawing of stock that he will turn out, as defined by the Official Turnout Rules.

b. **Pens of Stock.**

- i. **Drawing Pens.** Pens must contain the exact number of animals as contestants for each performance. No pens of stock in the timed events may be drawn for more than one day in advance. Pens of stock shall be drawn by a judge; if a judge is not available at the time it is necessary for a pen of cattle to be drawn for the first section of competition, the stock contractor and secretary may draw that pen, preferably with a timed event contestant to witness the draw.
- ii. **Stock Selected for a Pen But Not Used.** Stock already drawn for a pen, but not drawn for competition, shall be placed with those animals not already included in a competition draw or a pen draw.

c. **Draw.**

- i. **Procedure.** Stock shall be drawn by a judge of the particular event (provided he is not contesting in that event) not more than four (4) hours before the performance or section of slack, and not less than one (1) hour before the performance or section of slack. The arena secretary shall provide the judge with an exact copy of the draw. There will be no closed drawings held. Performance positions and stock must be drawn in all timed events, including the cowgirls' barrel racing.
- ii. **No Stock to Be Held Over.** In timed events, no drawn stock can be held over from one performance to the next or overnight.
- iii. **Stock Drawn One Run and One Go-Round at a Time.** Stock shall be drawn one run and one go-round at a time. All cattle in the herd will be run

one time before any cattle will be run twice, etc. When this procedure becomes impossible due to a split performance, the draw will include remaining cattle that have been competed on the least number of times. Immediately after a split performance, the draw will then revert to the cattle that have been competed on the least number of times. Any animal drawn will be considered competed on. Extras may be added only if competed on an equal number of times at that rodeo, unless otherwise approved by the Event Director.

- iv. **Individuals Exhibiting the Stock.** The individual or individuals exhibiting stock are subject to all Rules and fines pertaining to timed-event competition.
- v. **Slack.** Slack in timed events shall be drawn immediately following the event in which it is run. When slack is not run immediately after the performance, slack will be drawn not more than one (1) hour before slack is scheduled.
- d. **Contestant Positions.** Positions for contesting during each rodeo performance and stock must be drawn in all timed events, including cowgirls' barrel racing. Positions may be drawn by the secretary.
- e. **Final Round of Multiple Go Round Rodeo.**
  - i. **Selection of Final Go Round Cattle.** All timed event cattle competed on at a rodeo by finalists in an event will be used when drawing for final head for that event, excluding any cattle used in a prior performance the same day.

#### \*\*RODEO ACTIVITY\*\*

- 1) **Timing of Competition on Stock.**
  - a. **First Section of Event on a Program.** No stock in any event, except for re-rides or re-runs, may be competed on before the first section of that event on the program; and no stock in that event can be held back for a contestant beyond the end of the event on the program for the performance (except for rerides or reruns). Any deviation from this rule may be authorized by a judge if deemed necessary to prevent a production delay caused by a failure of equipment or breakdown in part of the facility.
  - b. **Slack.** In slack, no stock in any event may be competed on before that event is scheduled. All animals drawn for that event must be run as scheduled prior to the start of the next event. Likewise, no stock may be held beyond the end of the competition for that draw, or the end of the run in that event, as the case may be.
- 2) **Inability of Contestant to Compete.**
  - a. **Contestant May Be Held Back.** If a contestant is unable to compete at a rodeo due to sickness or injury, he may be held back until later in the go round with the consent of both judges and stock contractor. If held back, contestant may not compete at any other rodeo until he has competed in the performance to which he was held back.
  - b. **Timed Events.** In the timed events, sick or injured contestants shall not be held back past the original end of the run on the cattle.

- 3) **Announcement of Times or Markings.** All times or markings, whether for performance or slack, shall be announced. Any announcement of times or markings shall be deemed unofficial until posted. The announcer must announce accurately the information received from the judges. If a judge makes a correction to a time or marking, the correction must be announced. Failure to announce corrected information shall be a \$25 fine.
- 4) **Location of Contestants during Rodeo.**
  - a. **Seating for Contestants When Not Scheduled to Compete.** If the management of a rodeo provides satisfactory seats for the contestants, the MSRA urges contestants to stay out of the arena when they are not scheduled to compete.
  - b. **Must Not Interfere With Press, Photographers, or Spectators.** Contestants in the arena must not interfere with the work of the Bona fide press and professional photographers, or with the view of the spectators. The arena director or judge may enforce this Rule and shall have the authority to require contestants to take any action necessary to eliminate such interference.
- 5) **Grand Entry and Parades.**
  - a. **Participation by Members.** All contestants must participate in grand entries upon the request of the management. Rider may be excused by judge and/or management with good reason.
- 6) **Contract Personnel.**
  - a. **Must Not Interfere with Competition.** Contract personnel shall not interfere with competition. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action at the Board of Directors' discretion.
  - b. **Photographers.** All photographers entering an MSRA arena shall hold a current MSRA membership card, excluding the press.
- 7) **Arena Conditions.**
  - a. **Ground Preparation.** Ground preparation for MSRA events at MSRA approved rodeos should be approved by a majority of the event directors, any judge or the stock contractor prior to the start of the rodeo. The ground must be laid flat prior to the rodeo, with no deep ground. Sandy ground must be watered and packed.
  - b. **Riding Event Chutes.** Riding event chutes must have support for the contestant's feet when he is in the chute. Chute signage may not impair rider's ability to place feet in chute slats. Signs which so impair the rider's ability to place feet in chute slats are to be immediately altered. Riding event chutes must have a platform in the back of said chutes which must extend the full length of the chute.
  - c. **Unsafe Arena Conditions.** If the arena conditions are deemed at any time to be unsafe by a majority of the event directors present, any judge or the stock contractor, competition may be stopped until which time the arena conditions are deemed satisfactory by the individual or individuals who initially determined that arena conditions were unsafe.
    - i. **Contestant Vote.** If arena conditions are deemed unsafe, each events contestant's may vote to compete or not. If majority votes to compete, all contestant fees will remain in the pot for payoff. If contestant elects not to compete, they will be considered a turn out and all points will count. If majority elects **not** to compete, event will be stopped and be paid off as has been run, remaining contestants will get their entry fees back and points will not count.

- d. **Lighting Over Event Chutes.** The stock contractor and/or Rodeo Committee shall ensure that there is adequate lighting over the timed event and riding event chutes at all indoor and night rodeos. The stock contractor and a contestant at stock contractors' request shall notify the Rodeo Committee of any lighting deficiency.

8) **Slack and Events.**

- a. **Slack.** Slack shall be produced under the same conditions as a paid performance. Stock contractor may be reported for violation of this rule at the discretion of the judge(s). First offense will constitute a warning; second and subsequent offenses will constitute a \$100 fine for each offense.
- b. **Order of Performance.** The order of performance events may not change once a go round has started without the consent of the event Director and all judges. If the events are changed and a contestant gets turned out because of the change, contestant should be assigned his original stock, if possible.
- c. **Events Held During the Performance.** Unless otherwise approved by the event director, all events must be held within the confines of time allowed during the regular performance for the presentation of MSRA events, and must be listed on all materials presented to the general public which set forth the MSRA events to be held during the regular performance. The announcer may not dismiss the spectators at an MSRA approved rodeo until all events listed on the program have been held, unless an event has been cancelled.
- d. **Contestant May Not Talk With Judge or Timer.** No contestant may talk to a judge or timer in any way while an event is going on. Questions may be addressed to a judge no sooner than at the end of the event for that performance or section of slack. Any contestant violating this regulation shall be reported to the MSRA Board of Directors by the judges.
- e. **Vehicles Causing Ruts in Arena Ground.** If a vehicle is to enter the rodeo arena either during or immediately prior to a performance or section of slack, thereby causing ruts to be left in the arena ground, either (i) the vehicle must enter the arena only after the steer wrestling is completed, or (ii) the arena ground must be re-prepared prior to the beginning of the steer wrestling competition.

9) **Timers and Timing.**

- a. **Must Be Members.** All MSRA approved rodeos must use at least two timers who are members.
- b. **Timing.** Two hand-held digital watches must be used in the timed events and rough stock events. In timed events, all digits beyond tenth will be ignored (except in the Barrel Racing, see Barrel Racing rules for timers). Official time shall be the average of the two times, ignoring any digits beyond the tenths. If one of the two timers misses the start or stop, is delayed in starting or stopping the watch, or if the watch used by one timer malfunctions, that timer shall declare the problem to the other timer and only the time recorded by the other timer will be used.
- c. **Electronic Timers/Scoreboards.** Any rodeo using electronic timers for MSRA approved events shall be required to use a minimum of two back up hand held stopwatches.
- d. **Positioning of Timers.** Timers will work from the same location during all competition in MSRA events.

- e. **Changing Timers.** Timers for a rodeo may not be changed after the first competition of an MSRA approved rodeo, except for sickness or injury; by request of an MSRA official because of timers' incompetence; or through agreement of the stock contractor and an MSRA official. Timer(s) who time first competition of a particular event must time that event for the duration of that rodeo.
- f. **Riding Event Buzzer.** During all riding events, if background music is not subdued or eliminated, an extra loud buzzer must be provided.

10) **Judges and Judging.**

- a. **Changing Judges.** Neither the barrier judge, field flag judge nor riding judges may be changed during the course of the rodeo, except in the case of sickness or injury.
- b. **Markings.** Markings in the riding events shall be totaled by both judges, verified by the arena secretary. Judges shall post the final scores after each performance.
- c. **Turn Outs and Mount Outs.** Judges are required to mark on their books anyone turning out stock, and which animals were mounted out in the riding events or run in the timed events. Judges shall report the same, in full, to arena secretary.
- d. **Barrier Penalties.** Barrier judges shall keep a record of all barrier and field penalties. They will be furnished with a complete list of contestants by the arena secretary. Following each performance or section of slack, the barrier judges shall verify that the arena secretary has properly recorded the barrier and field penalties. Judge must signal timer as soon as he determines the barrier has been broken.
- e. **Rough Stock.** The judge on the hinge side of the chute gate shall serve as a backup timer in rough stock events, with the judge on the latch side as the primary timer. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop his watch when, in his opinion, the contestant has been disqualified for any reason, or when he hears the whistle or horn, whichever comes first. In either instance, the judge will refer to his watch for time verification on each ride. In any instance where the time is eight or more seconds on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a marking without penalty. In the instance the whistle blows before the eight seconds, the judge must go with the whistle.
- f. **Judge's Decision Final.** With respect to matters the authority over which has been specifically delegated to the judges by these Rules or the Bylaws, decisions of the judges will be final and may not subsequently be overturned by action of the MSRA, its officers or directors, or any other party, subject to the misconduct procedure set forth by the MSRA. Any judge, however, who does not perform his duties in compliance with these Rules, or who otherwise abuses his position, will be subject to disciplinary action by the MSRA Board of Directors. The penalty for such improper conduct shall be a minimum fine equal to the judge's pay for one performance of that rodeo and/or ineligibility to judge.
- g. **Authority to Have Interfering Individual Removed.** A judge shall have the authority to request that any person be removed from the arena if that person, in the judge's opinion, is interfering with the contest event.
- h. **Judges Sheets.** Judges sheets, with stock draws, must be provided to judges by rodeo secretary for all performances and slack. Failure to provide proper judges sheets shall result in a \$50 fine to rodeo secretary.

- 11) **Rodeo Attire.** All Members shall wear cowboy hat or protective helmet; a long sleeved western shirt and cowboy boots in and around the arena throughout the rodeo performance and slack. The following will be exceptions: clowns, bullfighters, and barrelmen who must wear appropriate footwear, clothing, and headgear that is conducive to the procurement of their individual jobs in a safe and professional manner. Photographers shall not be required to wear hats. Contestants in the bareback and bull riding may roll up the sleeve of the riding arm to the elbow only. Dress code to be in effect  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before scheduled performance and throughout slack.
- 12) **Contestant Numbers.** When contestant numbers are furnished, all participants must wear these numbers to enter the arena and to receive their stock. Anyone without a number may be excluded from the arena. Participants must wear their numbers in a conspicuous place visible to the judges and spectators.
- 13) **Contestant Conduct.** All contesting members will at all times conduct themselves in an exemplary manner upholding the MSRA purpose and shall present themselves in a neat, clean and orderly cowboy or cowgirl manner. Anyone assisting a participant will adhere to the MSRA rulebook, including conduct and dress rules. The participant will be responsible for his or her assistant's dress and conduct. This rule shall be enforced by the rodeo officials and/or management.
- 14) **No Instant Replays.** No photos or videos will be used to change a judges marking or decisions or be considered by the board.

**\*\* PAYOFF \*\***

- 1) **Calculation of Payoff.** The payoff for a MSRA event at a MSRA-approved rodeo shall be based on the added purse money plus contestants' entry fees, less the eight (10) percent deduction.
  - a. **Determination of Number of Contestants.** The number of contestants, for purposes of determining the total amount of entry fees, shall not include contestants who properly doctor release or draw out in accordance with these Official Rodeo Rules prior to their scheduled competition in first go-round. Only entry fees actually paid prior to the performance will be used to calculate the payoff.
  - b. **(10) Ten Percent Deduction.** (8) Eight percent of the purse money and entry fees shall be deducted from the total prize money, before determining the number of places to be paid.
- 2) **Determining Prize Money for Each Go-Round and/or the Average.** Add all purse money and entry fees per event. Deduct ten (10) percent from this total. This figure is referred to below as the Total. (In the team roping, divide this Total by two before continuing on.) The distribution of prize money between go-rounds and the average may then be determined as follows:
  - a. **One Go-Round.** The entire Total should be used for prize money for the one go-round.
  - b. **Two Go-Rounds and Average.** Prize money for the average is the same as for each go-round. Divide Total by three. The result is the prize money for the average and each go-round.
  - c. **Three Go-Rounds and Average.** Prize money for the average is one-and-one-half times the go-round. Divide Total by nine. Multiply the result by two to obtain amount of prize money for each go-round and by three to obtain amount of prize money for the average.
  - d. **Four Go-Rounds and Average.** Prize money for the average is two times the go-round. Divide the Total by six and the result will be the prize money for each go-round. Twice the result will be the prize money for the average.
- 3) **Number of Placings and Percentages of Prize Money.** The number of placings and percentage of prize money distributed to each placing shall be based as follows:
- 4) Cowgirl Breakaway, Steer Wrestling, Tie Down, Team roping.

1-3 pays 1 place (100%)
4-7 pays 2 places (60-40%)
8-14 pays 3 places (50-30- 20%)
15-21 pays 4 places (40-30- 20-10%)
22-30 pays 5 places (30-25- 20-15-10%)
31-60 pays 6 places (29-24- 19-14-9-5%)

61 and over pays 8 places (23-20-17-14-11-8-5-2)

## Barrel Racing Payoff

<u>Number of Entries</u>	<u>Monies</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
1-4	1	100%
5-8	2	60%, 40%
9-15	3	50%, 30%, 20%
16-25	4	40%, 30%, 20%, 10%
26-35	5	33%, 25%, 19%, 13%, 10%
36+	6	32%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9%, 5%

- 5) **Payoff in Go-Rounds.**
  - a. **Amount of Money and Number of Places.** Determine amount of money and number of places for each go-round using procedures outlined above.
- 6) **Payoff in the Average.**
  - a. **Amount of Money and Number of Places.** Determine amount of money to be used in the average. Average may pay equal placing as go-round or one additional placing than go-rounds as determined by the Board of Directors.
  - b. **Contestant Must Compete in Every Go-Round.** A contestant must compete in every go-round to qualify for the average.
- 7) **Prize Money Not Collected during Payoff.** Prize money not collected by contestants at time of payoff following the final performance of the rodeo, will be mailed to contestants or MSRA office within 7 days or secretary will be fined \$50.
- 8) **Ground Money.** Ground money (entry fee less stock charge and MSRA sanction and finals fee) will be paid to the stock contractor. Added money will be returned to the sponsor of added money.
- 9) **MSFR Finals Payoff.** For the Mid States Finals Rodeo, special payoff to be determined by the MSRA Board of Directors, pending total added money and entry fees.

**\*\* DRAWING OUT AND ENTRY FEE REFUND \*\***

- 1) **No Refund of Entry Fees Once a Contestant Has Competed.** If a contestant has competed in an event once during a rodeo, that contestant's entry fees for that event will not be returned. If said contestant is entered in other events in which he is unable to contest, the entry fees for those events must be returned.
  - a. **Exception in Case of Injury in First Go-Round where a Re-run/Re-ride is due.** If a contestant is injured while competing in the first go-round of an event and has not been disqualified up to the point of injury, his entry fees will be refunded if a re-ride or re-run is due in that event.
- 2) **Team Roping.**
  - a. **Replacement of Partner.** If one partner in the team roping does not show, the other partner will have the right to choose a partner from the contestants that are already entered in the rodeo or draw out and be refunded his entry fees. No contestants may go more times than allowed to make up the team. The rodeo secretary must be notified before the draw. After one man is declared not there and another partner is substituted, you cannot change back to the original partner. The team will draw stock in the original position.
    - i. **Notification to Arena Secretary.** If the arena secretary has been notified of a team roper's turn out, doctor release, or draw out, the partner must notify the arena secretary prior to the cattle draw of first go-round competition if he is drawing out or if he is replacing his partner and who his replacement partner will be. If the secretary is not notified, the contestant will be subject to entry fee payment, will be disqualified from the team roping for that rodeo, and no cattle will be drawn.
    - ii. **Responsibility of Entry Fee.** The partner that didn't show will be liable for his own entry fees and no turn out fine can be charged. Original contestant fees will be sent to the office and not be calculated in the payoff. The replacement contestant fees will be used in the payoff.
  - b. **Replacement of Team Roper in Second or Subsequent Go-Rounds.** If a team roper's partner is unable to compete in the second or subsequent go-round due to a visible injury or doctor release, the remaining partner may obtain a replacement partner from among those contestants entered in that rodeo who are not already entered in the team roping, provided that the originally-entered team competed in the first go-round. This newly established team will not be eligible for the average payoff. Any money won in a go-round by the new member of the newly established team will not count as Championship Points. The original member of the original team will be allowed championship points for go rounds only, average points will not count. The replacement partner shall not be responsible for entry fees.

**\*\* TURN-OUT, VISIBLE INJURY OR ILLNESS AND  
DOCTOR RELEASE PROCEDURES \*\***

- 1) **Turn Out.**

- a. **Definition.** A turn-out is when a contestant refuses to take stock drawn for him or when contestant fails to show up at a rodeo in the performance or slack in which he or she is to compete prior to his or her event.
- b. **Not Eligible for Average Payoff.** Any contestant turning out at any time in an event will not be eligible for any average payoff in that event but will be eligible to compete on all other stock at that particular rodeo.
- c. **Eligible to Compete on Other Stock.** If a contestant turns out in an event at a particular rodeo, he will still be eligible to compete on all other stock at that particular rodeo. \*See d.
- d. **Fines.** All contestants who are drawn into a performance and do not compete must pay the \$50.00 turn-out fine. All contestants who are drawn into slack and who do not compete must pay the \$50.00 turn out fine unless their entry fees are paid prior to the first slack event, then the turn out fine will be waived. All turn-out fines will be waived if the contestant has a valid vet release or doctor release.
  - i. **Fine Distribution.** All turn-out fines collected by the office will be split 60 percent to the stock contractor and 40 percent to the association, for performance or slack in which animal was turned out.

- 2) **Visible Injury or Illness.**
  - a. **Procedure.** A contestant may turn-out due to a visible injury or illness, provided notification of such a turn-out is authorized by a judge at the given rodeo. In the case of a visible injury turn-out to be authorized by a judge, the judge is to grant a visible injury release only if there is an obvious injury or illness; otherwise, the contestant must have a letter from a doctor verifying the injury or illness. In this instance, the contestant shall remain eligible to enter or compete in any MSRA rodeo following the performance which he has turned out because of a visible injury or illness.
  - b. **Entry Fees, Turn-Out Fines and Mount Money.** The entry fees of contestants turning out due to a visible injury or illness shall remain in the payoff if contestant competed on stock. All turn-out fines and mount money charges will be waived, provided the following conditions are met:
    - i. A doctor verification form, or visible injury or illness has been noted by the judge of a given rodeo.
  - c. **Not Eligible for Average Payoff.** A contestant turning out due to a visible injury or illness in an event will not be eligible for any average payoff in that event, except in the instance where every contestant in that event has turned out at least once.
- 3) **Doctor Release/Vet Release.**
  - a. **Procedure.** A contestant may doctor release, or vet release in the Cowgirls Barrel Racing only, thus waiving all obligations for entry fees, turn-out fines, and mount monies, provided: A) Contestant has an injury or illness which prevents him from competing in one or more events for which he is entered at a rodeo; B) Contestant notifies the rodeo Secretary (or member of the Board of Directors if unable to contact rodeo secretary) of the intended doctor releases no later than three hours prior to the performance for which the contestant's first go-round competition is scheduled and C) A doctor verification on doctor's letterhead bearing the doctor's name, address and phone number, signed by a licensed doctor, is received by the MSRA Office within seven days of the date of the last performance of the first rodeo for which the

contestant doctor released. Failure to submit such a doctor's verification will result in a fine equal to the entry fees for the event in question plus an additional \$50.

b. **Ineligibility Period.** Any contestant who draws out of an event due to injury or vet release must adhere to the following terms regarding ineligibility in the event being released from:

- **First usage:** Cannot compete for 5 days after point of turn out.
- **Second usage:** Cannot compete for 10 days after point of turn out.
- **Third usage and all thereafter in same fiscal year:** Cannot compete for 30 days after point of turn out. Contestants competing before the above stated guidelines will be held liable for all entry fees plus turn-out fines.

i. **Competing While Ineligible.** Contestants competing before the above stated guidelines will be held liable for all entry fees plus turn-out fines and will forfeit any money, points or awards won at the rodeo in which he competed while ineligible.

c. **Competition in another Event.** A contestant who doctor releases in one event may compete in another.

d. **Central Entry Office Charge.** A contestant will be charged the \$5 Central Entry Office charge for each rodeo from which he doctor releases.

## \*\*RODEO LIVESTOCK\*\*

- 1) **Numbering of Livestock.**
  - a. **Identification of Riding Event Livestock.** All riding event livestock must have a permanent number brand (either hot brand or a freeze brand). No duplicate numbers will be allowed.
  - b. **Identification of Timed Event Cattle.** All timed event cattle will be numbered with legible brands or ear tags. No other means of numbering will be acceptable. Numbers for the stock to stay the same for the entire year. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a \$50.00 fine. (Fine will be doubled for each offense).
- 2) **No Switching of Events.** No steers may be switched in events unless approved by the event Director prior to the time of entry closing. Fine shall be \$100 per head per competition per event.
  - a. **Exception.** Timed event cattle may be used in cowgirls breakaway roping.
- 3) **Running of Timed Event Stock.** All timed event stock shall be run through event chutes and through the arena prior to start of contests, where conditions permit.
- 4) **Supply of Timed Event Cattle.** Each stock contractor producing MSRA sanctioned rodeos must have the following minimum number of acceptable stock:
  - a. 13 proven bucking horses
  - b. 8 bucking bulls
  - c. **10 roping calves**
  - d. **10 bull dogging steers**
  - e. **10 team roping steers**

Only those animals needed to contest the events covered under the MSRA sanction contract need be carried, provided rules are satisfied under Drawing Livestock section of rulebook.
- 5) **Fines for Stock Shortage.** In the event of stock shortage, the stock contractor shall be fined as follows:
  - a. First Offense: \$100 for each animal short
  - b. Second Offense: \$200 for each animal short
  - c. Third Offense: \$400 for each animal short
- 6) **Elimination of Unsatisfactory Animals.** An event Director or judge may declare a particular animal unsatisfactory. Upon notification, either written or verbal (with verbal notification supported with documentation), the stock contractor shall eliminate such animal(s) from competition draw. Continued use of said animal(s) after notification will result in a \$250 fine per competition to the stock contractor. Unsatisfactory animals may be reinstated with approval by the event Director if the request is made in writing.
  - a. **Riding Event Livestock.** Any contestant competing in the riding events on an unsatisfactory animal used after notification shall be given an option of a re-ride. An “unsatisfactory” animal shall be defined as recurring instances where the animal: is dangerous in the chute, runs off, fights the chute, flips, falls, stumbles consistently, runs into fences, stops, is a head slinging bull or has a bucking pattern that makes the animal extremely dangerous to contestants. Additionally, riding event stock shall also be considered unsatisfactory when the animals use consistently results in a re-ride for a contestant or where its removal is necessary for animal humane reasons.
    - i. **No Change of Events.** If an animal has been declared unsatisfactory for an event, that animal may not be used for another event without the approval of the event Director.

- b. **Timed Event Livestock.** A timed event Director may declare a timed event animal, or herd of animals, unsatisfactory if the animal (1) is considered by the timed event Director to be unhealthy or not suitable for competition, (2) has in the past caused safety concerns for a contestant or his horse, (3) would cause an uneven competition if used (4) has in the past demonstrated a disposition to act in a manner which may cause bylaw or rule violations or humane problems if used in a timed event, or (5) does not comply with one or more provisions of the MSRA bylaws or rules or if such animals use would result in a violation of one or more bylaws or rules. At a given rodeo, the declaration of an animal as being unsatisfactory must be done prior to the establishment of the herd for that given rodeo. Should an entire herd be declared unsatisfactory in accordance with guidelines established above, the stock contractor would be allowed ten days from date of notification to replace that entire herd with acceptable cattle.

7) **Animals with Horns.**

- a. **Trimming the Horns.** Stock contractors will be expected to cooperate in trimming the horns of steers that are not able to pass through the timed event chute.
- b. **Steer Wrestling Cattle.** The horns on steer wrestling cattle must be blunted to the size of a dime. Horns must be no less than 10" on each side. Failure to abide by this Rule will result in a \$50 fine levied against the stock contractor.
- c. **Team Roping Cattle.** All team roping cattle shall be protected by horn wraps. The horns on team roping cattle must be blunted to the size of a dime. Failure to abide by this Rule will result in a \$50 fine levied against the stock contractor.
- d. **Bulls.**
  - i. **Blunting of Horns.** All horned animals used in the MSRA bull riding event shall have their horns blunted to at least the diameter of a half dollar. Upon direction of the MSRA Bull Riding Director or his duly designated appointee, any animals' horns may be shortened to any length deemed necessary for competition. If the above specifications are not adhered to, said animal shall be removed from competitive status until the requirements set forth herein are satisfied.
  - ii. **Inspection of Horns.** Judges are to inspect bulls' horns at least two hours prior to performance. If bulls are not available at that time, inspection will be allowed up to the time of competition. If the horns are considered too sharp, the stock contractor must immediately tip the horns, or the contestant shall have the option of a reride. If a bulls horns are not tipped immediately, the stock

contractor shall be fined \$50 for the offense, with the fine progressively doubling for each such offense thereafter. Judges shall notify the MSRA office of bulls that need to be tipped. If those bulls are not tipped by the next time they are out, the fine to the stock contractor will be \$100 for the first offense, progressively doubling thereafter.

8) **Use of Animals.**

- a. **No Use Other Than Contest Events.** An animal used in the contest events of an MSRA rodeo may not be used in any way, other than in the contest events of that rodeo, until after the last time that animal has been used in the contest events at that rodeo, unless otherwise approved by the Event Director. Failure to abide by this Rule shall result in a \$50 fine per head per competition levied against the stock contractor.
- b. **No Holding Steers Year to Year.** Steers cannot be held over a 12 month period for use in the steer wrestling and team roping events, unless approved by the event director.

9) **Specifications of Animals.** All stock contractors will endeavor to keep a uniform set of cattle for each timed event.

- a. **Tie Down Roping Animals.** All tie down roping animals must be either same breed or of equal cross. Weight for tie down roping animals shall be a minimum of 200 pounds and a maximum of 300 pounds with fresh tie down roping animals not to exceed a maximum of 260 pounds. Any deviation must be approved by the Event Director. There can be no more than a 50-pound deviation in weight from the smallest to the largest tie down roping animal in the herd. Any tie down roping animal not meeting the requirements as specified, the Event Director or designated appointee, has the right to remove immediately (but prior to the establishment of the “herd” for the competition) that tie down roping animal from the herd for the duration of the rodeo. If removal causes a shortage in the herd, the stock contractor may be subject to stock shortage fine, pending Board of Directors Evaluation.
- b. **Steer Wrestling Cattle.** **Steers only** may be used in the steer wrestling event. All steer wrestling cattle must weigh a **minimum of 450** pounds, and a maximum of 600 pounds per head. All steer wrestling steers must have a 10”minimum horn length.
  - i. **All steer wrestling steers must be numbered with ear tags in left ear only and have second identification branded on the left body or horns. Ear tag and body/horn numbers must match. Ear tags will be button type, no Z type tags with sharp piercing point will be allowed and stock contractors will be fined per animal for not complying for any and all steers whether or not they are leased or owned by stock contractor,**
- c. **Team Roping Cattle.** The maximum weight for animals that are to be used in team roping is 700 pounds per head, and the minimum weight is 450 pounds per head. All team roping steers must have a minimum of 8 inch horns on both sides of the steers head.

**d. Breakaway Cattle.** Tie down roping cattle may be used in the breakaway roping. Calves used may be either polled or horned, but not mixed. Horned calves used in this event must have less than 1 inch of horn developed on either side. Weight for the calves shall be a minimum of two hundred twenty-five (225) pounds and a maximum of three hundred (300) pounds.

10) **Fresh Cattle.** All timed event cattle (fresh cattle previously not used) shall be run, caught and thrown or tied down, before putting them in the draw, and cattle that cannot clear the chute will be eliminated from the draw or tipped before being used.

11) **Each event director has authority to pull stock charge for unsatisfactory stock. If stock is considered unsatisfactory by event director, stock can be cut and condemned.**

**\*\* HUMANE TREATMENT OF RODEO ANIMALS \*\***

**1) Treatment of Animals.**

- a. **Arena Construction.** Chutes, corrals, mangers, etc. must be constructed to prevent injury to stock. All areas in which stock is kept and the arena shall be free of 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.
- b. **Prods.** Human livestock prods shall be used only when necessary and only on appropriate areas of the animals' body (i.e. neck, chest, shoulder, and hips). Hot shots will not be used on moist membranes (i.e. eyes, nose, mouth, genitals, or rectal areas). No other prods (such as pointed sticks) are allowed. Absolutely no other electrical devices may be used.
- c. **Penalties for Tampering or Mistreatment.**
  - i. **Tampering.** Any member tampering with competition livestock will be disqualified for the remainder of that particular rodeo and will be subject to a \$50 fine.
  - ii. **Mistreatment.** Arena help may be fired and/or contestant may be disqualified for any mistreatment of stock. Judges, directors, stock contractors, producers, and other contestants will be responsible for enforcing this rule.
  - iii. **Abuse.** Any individual deliberately abusing livestock in a MSRA rodeo arena, regardless of whether the abuse happens during a qualified or unqualified run, will be removed from the arena, totally disqualified from that rodeo, and fined \$50.
- d. **Chute Fighting Animals.** Stock that becomes excessively excited, so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly, or in any way appears in danger of injuring itself, should be released from the chute, except when it would endanger the stock to be released because of leg position, etc.
- e. **Flanks.** All horse and bull flanks are to be provided with protective lining. 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 foreign objects will be allowed on flanks or tied to tail.
  - i. **Horse Flanks.** Horse flanks shall be of the quick release type.
- f. **Fireworks.** Use of fireworks on any animal will be prohibited.
- g. **Loading.** Timed event cattle shall not be loaded in the release chute more than 3 minutes before the beginning of that event.

**2) Injured Animals.**

- a. **Use of.** No sick or injured animals, whether discovered before or after the draw, will be permitted to be used in competition. In the timed events, blinded animals or animals with bad eyes will not be permitted to be used in competition. Contestants timed event horses are permitted if can be humanely competed on.
- b. **Inspection for.** Animals will be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated before drawing. Judge will be responsible for inspection.

- c. **Transport.** A conveyance of a type on which injured animals 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.
- d. **Receiving.** A pen, corral, or truck bed shall be available to receive injured animals removed from the arena.
- e. **Brands/Wounds.** All fresh brands or wounds will be treated as soon as possible and as often as necessary.

3) **Arena Conditions.** If judges and a majority of event directors feel that arena conditions are inhumane or unsafe, contestants will have the option of drawing out in accordance with rules under Rodeo Approval and postponement.

4) **Health and Physical Appearance of Animals.**

- a. Any animal whose appearance is below standard shall not be eligible for use at any given MSRA approved rodeo. This applies to all rough stock, timed event stock and contestants' animals. This determination shall be made at the judges' discretion. Below standard animals are those who display:
  - i. Visibly underweight or undernourished bodies
  - ii. Any uncovered or untreated injury
  - iii. Any visible disease or fungus
- b. Any judge(s), contestant(s) or stock contractor found to be using animals displaying any of the above problems at an MSRA approved rodeo will be fined up to \$150 for the first offense and double for each subsequent offense thereafter.
- c. Any judge filling out a Judges Humane Checklist and falsely stating animal(s) appearance as acceptable where the animal(s) are proved to be below standard shall be fined \$300 for the first offense and will face membership suspension on subsequent offenses.

5) **Animal Welfare.** In the timed events, both boxes will be required to have  $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood (not OSB) 4'x4' sheets in the corners behind the box pads. Plywood must be fastened to the panels. If permanent arena with pipe butt bar as and established corner, rule does not apply.

6) **Box Pads. 4'x4' box pads are required in the timed event boxes.**

**\*\* RIDING EVENTS \*\***

**1) General Rules for All Riding Events.**

- a. **Markings.** The ride and animal are to be marked separately. Ride will be marked according to how much rider spurs the animal. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from zero to 25 per judge on both bucking animal and rider. By using the full spread, the total may reach a maximum of 100 points.
- b. **Timing.** All riding events shall be timed for eight seconds, that time to start when animal's inside front shoulder passes the plane of the chute gate. All riding event contestants must complete the eight second qualification limit to be eligible for a marking.
- c. **Judges' Official Markings.** Judges in the riding events at all MSRA rodeos will submit to the arena secretary their markings for all events for that performance immediately following the completion of the performance. These markings shall be termed official markings when posted and/or verified by the judges and may not be changed once submitted.
- d. **Free Hand and Foreign Objects.** In all riding events, contestant may use his free hand against any foreign object (pick-up men, fence, etc.) that obstructs his ride, at the discretion of the judges.
- e. **Use of Flags to Indicate Disqualification.** Rodeo judges will use flags to indicate a disqualification violation. Judges are to also indicate disqualification violations by already-established hand signals.
- f. **Drawn Animal Becomes Sick or Injured.** If an animal that is drawn in a riding event becomes sick or injured before it is competed on, a judge must pass on the animal's inability to be used before it can be shipped or replaced in the draw.
- g. **Use of Prods Prohibited, Except For Chute Stalling.** In riding events, use of prods and similar devices is prohibited. The only exceptions shall be in the saddle bronc riding and in the bareback riding, and only in the case of a known chute stalling animal and only if agreed upon by the contestant, the stock contractor, and the judge before the contestant's competition begins and may only be used from the back of the chutes. In this instance, the prod shall not exceed 12 inches in length. Use of a prod without the agreement of the contestant, stock contractor, and the judge before the contestant's competition begins in the saddle bronc riding and the bareback riding, or use of a prod in the bull riding at any time, shall result in a fine of \$50 to the stock contractor of record, and the contestant will receive an automatic option of a re-ride. Use of a prod in excess of 12 inches in length shall result in a fine of \$25 charged to the stock contractor of record.
- h. **Holding On To The Gate.** Any riding event contestant who holds on to the chute gate, thus preventing the gate from being opened, after he has

indicated he is ready will be fined \$50 for the first offense, with the fine progressively doubling thereafter.

- i. **Cinch Riggings, Cinch Saddles and Pull Ropes.** Contestants may cinch riggings, cinch saddles and pull ropes from either side in all riding events. Middle flank belongs to the bronc rider; however, flank cannot be pulled further back than the break unless permission is granted by the stock contractor.
- j. **Contestants Cannot Flank Animals.** No contestant in an event can flank animals for the rest of contestants in this event, unless agreed to by the rest of the contestants

**2) General Rules for Bareback and Saddle Bronc.**

- a. **Spur Out Rule.** To qualify for a marking, bareback or saddle bronc rider must have the rowels of the spurs touching the horse above the break of the shoulders when horse's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute.
- b. **Stalled Horse.** If a horse stalls in the chute, either judge shall tell rider to take his feet out of the horse's neck and the spur out rule will be waived.
  - i. **Disqualification for Failing to Abide By Rule.** Rider shall be disqualified for not following judge's instructions to take feet from neck of horse stalled in chute as described under "Stalled Horse" section above.
- c. **Foul at the Gate.** If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider is fouled at the gate, the spur out rule will be waived.

**3) Re-rides.**

- a. **Contestant May Not Influence Judge.** Contestants shall not influence the judges by asking for a re-ride at any time. Violation of this Rule shall constitute a Class III violation.
- b. **Judge Shall Inform Contestant of His Options.** If re-ride is given, judge shall inform contestant of his marking, and an option of a re-ride. Contestant may refuse the re-ride and take the marking. Contestant must notify judge immediately of his decision to accept or reject the option upon learning which animal would be used as a re-ride and the time of the re-ride.
- c. **Circumstances Warranting a Re-ride.**
  - i. **Discretion of Judge.** Re-rides will be given at the discretion of a judge. Reasons for possible re-rides include the following: if an animal stops or fouls rider, stock contractor's equipment fails, if animal falls to its belly or side, performance of animal is inferior as compared to the rest of the herd or, if by stock contractor's or flank man's own admission, the flank man did not flank the animal properly. No re-ride will be given if a contestant's own equipment breaks. Judge may have the option to watch the next ride prior to offering a re-ride.
    - 1. **Options of Contestant.** If a Contestant is granted a re-ride under this section, he may take the same animal for the re-ride, provided the stock contractor is willing and a mutually agreeable time can be arranged. All re-rides must be the

same day as the performance or slack. If a contestant opts to accept the re-ride on the same animal, he must take the marking for the re-ride, unless there is a foul or the stock contractor's equipment fails on the re-ride.

2. **Re-ride Animal Already Drawn for Another Contestant.**

If an animal that is drawn for a re-ride already is drawn for another contestant in that or a later go-round, the contestant entitled to the re-ride shall compete on the animal first.

- ii. **Contact between Arena Personnel and Animal.** If any arena personnel come in contact with a bareback or saddle bronc horse before the qualified time has elapsed and if the contestant makes a qualifying ride, contestant will be given a marking with an option of a re-ride. If any arena personnel come in contact with a bareback or saddle bronc horse before the qualified time has elapsed and contestant is unable to make a qualifying ride because of the impact, contestant will be given a re-ride, provided contestant made a qualifying ride up to the point of the infraction.
- iii. **Inferior Animal Performance.** If an animal's performance is inferior and that animal is already drawn for another contestant, that contestant must qualify on that animal before re-ride may be given. If, in the opinion of the stock contractor and judges, that animal needs to be taken out of the draw, the contestant who had him drawn will be given the option of accepting the designated re-ride or drawing out.
- iv. **Chute-Fighting Animal.** If, in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two honest efforts on a chute-fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride drawn for him.
- v. **Flank Breaks in Bareback Riding.** Rider may be given a re-ride on same horse if flank comes off or breaks. A bareback rider may have the option of a re-ride, or of accepting a marking if flank comes off the animal, provided the contestant has completed a qualified ride. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride, but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off.
- vi. **Flank or Halter Failure in Saddle Bronc Riding.** A saddle bronc rider may have the option of a re-ride, or of accepting a marking if flank comes off the animal, provided the contestant has completed a qualified ride. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride, but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off. If a flank comes off, rider may have re-ride on same horse. If halter breaks, rider may have a re-ride, provided contestant has made a qualified ride up to the time the halter breaks, and provided that the halter does not belong to the contestant.

- vii. **Animal Deliberately Throws Itself.** If, in the opinion of the judges, an animal deliberately throws itself, the rider shall have the choice of the same animal again or he may have an animal drawn for him from the re-ride animals.
- viii. **Bull Riders Knocked off at the Chute or fall by a Bull.** Riders who are knocked off at the chute, or whose bull falls, shall be entitled to a re-ride at discretion of judges.
- ix. **Flank Comes Off a Bull.** A bull rider may have the option of a re-ride, or of accepting a marking, if the flank comes off the animal, provided the contestant has completed a qualified ride. A contestant will only have the option of a re-ride if the flank comes off the animal, and the contestant did not complete a qualified ride, but was qualified up to the point of the flank coming off. The re-ride may be given on the same animal, if the stock contractor is willing, or a re-ride animal, if so requested by the contestant.
- x. **Outside Help Used to Restart a Riding Event Animal.** If a riding event animal stops after an initial start, and any outside help is used to start it again, contestant will not be required to qualify in order to be awarded a re-ride.

**d. Procedure for Drawing a Re-ride.**

- i. **Designated Re-ride.** In the case of riding event stock injuries, replacement stock should be the designated re-ride for the performance for which the injured animal was scheduled for competition. Any re-ride thereafter will be drawn from and turn outs for that performance, provided those animals have not been mounted. A replacement designated re-ride should be drawn immediately from the turn outs for that performance. If there are not any turn outs, use the procedure set forth in “Draw of Re-ride Order”.
- ii. **Draw of Re-ride Order.** Prior to each performance or section of slack, judges will draw a re-ride order, using the designated re-ride (if not already awarded because of an injured animal) as the first re-ride. Contestants given a re-ride will receive the animal that directly correlates with the order re-rides were accepted. Animals mounted out shall be used in the reverse order of the re-ride position draw with the first two animals in the re-ride order remaining available for re-rides until after the last contestant who is entered has competed. At least two animals must be brought to the arena for re-rides (including the designated re-ride).
- iii. **Procedure Where More Re-Rides Are Awarded Than There Are Animals Available.** If more rerides are awarded than there are animals in that performance or slack re-ride draw, the remaining contestants who have not received a re-ride animal will be drawn re-rides from the performance immediately following that performance or section of slack which the contestant originally competed in, using the same procedure as outlined in “Designated Re-ride” and

“Draw of Re-ride Order”. This procedure will be repeated until all contestants’ awarded re-rides have been drawn re-rides. These re-rides will be competed on during the performance or section of slack the animals were designated to be bucked, or at a time mutually agreeable to both stock contractor and contestant.

1. **Last Go-Round.** In the case of the last performance of a go-round, if there are more re-rides awarded than there are animals in re-ride draw, then all animals bucked the last day of the rodeo shall be declared exempt and the re-rides will be comprised of all unused re-rides (both designated re-rides and turned-out stock) from prior performances and slacks in that go-round.
2. **List of Available Re-rides for Last Performance.** In the last performance of a go-round, when all re-rides from previous performances have been used, the stock contractor must provide the judges with a list of available animals from which re-ride animals can be drawn. These animals must have been in the original draw of this rodeo in this event. The stock contractor can exempt 1/3 of available animals prior to the re-ride draw.
3. **Finals.** In a finals, any turned-out animal shall be considered the first re-ride animal. Should there be more than one turned-out animal, an order will be drawn. If more re-rides are required, the designated re-ride(s) will be used. Should more re-rides be needed than those available, 1/3 of the animals from the short go-round pen can be featured and additional re-rides necessary will be drawn from that finals pen.

**\*\*Bareback Riding\*\***

- 1) **One-Handed Rigging.** Riding shall be done with one-handed rigging.
  - a. **Rigging Requirements.** Rigging shall be leather and shall not be more than 10 inches in width at the handhold and not over 6 inches wide at the "D" ring. Latigo cannot be blocked in the "D" ring. Riggings will use a standard "D" ring to be set to sit flat on a horse's back when cinched. No freaks will be allowed. Only rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold. There will be no rawhide restrictions with the exception of no rawhide may be within 1 inch of the back of the rigging body excluding the "D" ring wrap which may be no more than 2 inches up from the bottom of the body. The rigging body must also be spread 9 inches apart at the back of the rigging 4 inches down from the center. The handle bars under the rigging body must be tapered down to at least 1/4 inch at the end of the handle bar.
    - i. **Modified Rigging Requirements.** Rigging shall be leather and shall not be more than seven (7) inches in width top center, front to back and over 6 inches at the "D" ring. There may be a concave inset at the center back of the body, not to be over one (1) inch deep and not over eight (8) inches in width. Rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold and tapered down the full length of the body to allow it to wrap around the "D" ring inset. Also, there may be full rawhide around the "D" ring inset not to be over four (4) inches in length.
  - b. **No Fiberglass or Metal in Riggings or Hand Holds.** No fiberglass or metal will be allowed in riggings or handholds. Only leather or rawhide is allowed for hand-hold, with a maximum of 3/4 inch of rawhide allowed. Flat-head rivets and/or screws and "t" nuts are allowed to secure hand-hold. The only other metal allowed will be in the "D" rings.
  - c. **Cinches and Latigos.** Cinches on bareback riggings shall be made of mohair or neoprene and shall be at least 8 inches in width at the center, but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" rings. Latigos must be of leather only.
  - d. **No Quick Trips.** No quick trips are allowed on bareback riggings.
- 2) **Bareback Pads.** Required bareback pads are to completely cover the underside of the rigging, and are to extend a full 2 inches behind the rigging.
  - a. **Pads Must Cover Underside of Rigging.** Pads used under riggings must be leather-covered on both sides. No hair pads will be allowed. Only a high density foam pad, at least 3/4 inch thick will be allowed. In addition, the pad must have leather over the bars 3/16 inch thick extending at least 1/2 inch on both sides and the back of the handle bars.
  - b. **Leather Attached to the Pad.** In addition to the pad, a piece of leather a minimum of 3/16 inch thick and 4 inches square must be glued or sewed to the pad, and centered in comparison to the total body length of the rigging. This piece of leather shall be placed so that 1/2 inch of it extends behind the rigging and the remaining 2 inches are under the rigging.
- 3) **Approval of Riggings and Pads.** Stock contractors will have the right to have judges pass on whether riggings and pads satisfy the requirements listed above.

Judges shall determine whether pads are satisfactory. If judges rule the pads are not satisfactory, contestant will be warned for the first offense. Any offense thereafter shall result in immediate 15-day ineligibility.

- 4) **Rider's Glove.** The rider's glove will be a plain glove with no flaps, rolls, wedges or gimmicks. An extra piece of leather may be used at the base of the little finger only. It must be on the inside of the glove and is not to extend out from the seam more than 5/8 inch and can be no more than 5/8 inch thick.
  - a. **Use of Palm Piece.** A palm piece may be used in glove, which will be at least 1 inch wide and 3 inches long, and will be glued in.
- 5) **Use of Adhesives.** There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on rigging or on rider's glove. Benzoin may be used.
- 6) **Disqualification of Rider.** Any of the following shall disqualify a rider, at the discretion of the judges:
  - a. Riding with rowels too sharp or locked;
  - b. Being bucked off; touching animal, equipment, or person with free hand/arm. One arm must be free at all times;
  - c. Rigging comes off horse, with or without breaking;
  - d. Violating the spur out rule;
  - e. Taking any kind of finger tuck, finger wrap, or use of finger tape. Violators shall be disqualified and may also be subject to fine;
  - f. If rider has been advised he is next to go, failing to be above the animal with his glove on when previous horse leaves the arena.
    - i. **Spur Rowels.** Spur rowels must have five or more points. The first reported offense shall subject contestant to a warning; every offense thereafter shall result in immediate 15-day ineligibility.
- 7) **Inability to Free Hand.** If, in the opinion of the pickup men and/or stock contractor, a bareback rider is unable to free his hand from the rigging after a qualified ride or after declaring by double grabbing, he shall be fined \$100. A contestant fouled or bucked off before or after the whistle will not be fined. Judges are required to report the offense.

**\*\*Saddle Bronc Riding\*\***

- 1) **Contestant Saddle Specifications.** All riding must be done with saddles that meet the following MSRA specifications. Contestants not meeting these specifications will be disqualified and declared ineligible to compete for 30 days and subject to fine.
  - a. Rigging: Three-quarter double; front edge of "D" ring must pull not further back than directly below center of point of swell. Standard E-Z or ring-type saddle "D" must be used, and cannot exceed 5-3/4 inches outside-width measurement.
  - b. Swell Undercut: Not more than 2 inches - 1 inch on each side.
  - c. Gullet: Not less than 4 inches wide at center of fork of covered saddle.
  - d. Tree: Saddles must be built on MSRA-approved tree and must conform to the following specifications, with a reasonable added thickness of 1/2 inch for leather covering: Fork 14 inches wide Height 9 inches

- maximum Gullet 5-3/4 inches wide Cantle 5 inches maximum height; 14 inches maximum width.
- e. Stirrup Leathers: Must be hung over bars. Front cinch on bronc saddles shall be mohair, and shall be at least 8 inches in width at the center, but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" or rings. Latigos must be of leather only.
- 2) **Standard Halter.** Stock contractors may furnish their own halters and contestants must use them, subject to approval of judges on fitness of halter. Halters must have adjustable nose bands. Standard halter must be used, unless agreement is made by both contestant and stock contractor.
- 3) **Riding Rein.** Riding rein and hand must be on same side. The rein must be attached on the bottom of the halter noseband unless fastening to the throat latch is mutually agreed by the stock contractor and the contestant.
- 4) **Saddling of Horses.** Horses shall be saddled in chute. Rider may cinch own saddle. Middle flank belongs to rider, but contractor may have rider put flank behind curve of horse's belly. Flank cinch may be hobbled.
- 5) **Disqualification of a Rider.** Any of the following shall disqualify a rider, at the discretion of the judges:
  - a. Changing hands on rein.
  - b. Losing or dropping rein before pre-designated time.
  - c. Wrapping rein around hand.
  - d. Losing stirrup.
  - e. Touching animal, equipment or person with free hand/arm. One arm must be free at all times.
  - f. Riding with locked rowels, or rowels that will lock on spurs, and/or rowels not dulled.
  - g. Violating the spur out rule.
  - h. Dry resin may be used on chaps and saddle. Anyone using any other foreign substance shall be disqualified and declared ineligible to compete for 30 days; also subject to fine. (The judges will examine clothing, saddle, rein and spurs, and exception will be made if local rules make it necessary for the covering of spur rowels.) If a rider who has been advised he is next to go, failing to be above the animal with his glove on, if used, when previous horse leaves arena.

**\*\*Bull Riding\*\***

- 1) **Riding Requirements.** Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without hand-hold.
  - a. **Rope Width.** All bull ropes are to be made out of not larger than nine sixteenths (9/16) inch rope.
  - b. **Hooking Spurs.** Ropes cannot be used that have any knots, wires or other aids for the purpose of placing spur therein.
  - c. **No Knots or Hitches.** No knots or hitches to prevent rope from falling off bull when rider leaves him.
  - d. **Bell.** Rope must have bell. Bell must be under belly of bull.
  - e. **No Hooks or Posts.** Hooks or posts shall not be used on bull ropes.

- f. **Ring.** A ring which is significantly larger than the width of the rope may be used on a bull rope. However, under no circumstance can a contestant use a ring and take a wrap. If a ring is used, no twists in the rope are allowed. The rope must go through the ring, then straight back across the palm.

- 2) **Riding Requirements.** Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without hand-hold.
- 3) **Requirements for Marking.** If rider makes qualified ride with any part of rope in riding hand, he is to be marked.
- 4) **Contestant May Request Ruling on Whether Bull Is Properly Flanked.**  
Contestant will have the right to request judges to determine whether or not bull is properly flanked to buck to best of its ability.
  - a. **No Bull Tails under Flank Straps.** No bull tails will be allowed under flank straps.
  - b. **Use of Horse Flanks in Bull Riding.** Horse flanks will be allowed in the bull riding provided that the tail of the flank strap is not long enough to touch the ground once pulled.
- 5) **Spurs.** Rider shall not use sharp spurs. Only five (5) point plain or notched spur rowels (one rowel per shank) may be used in the bull riding. Locked rowels will not be allowed. Rowels must be able to turn one quarter inch (1/4").
- 6) **Pulling Contestant's Rope.** Only two people may pull the rider's rope. If more than two people pull rope rider will be instructed to loosen rope and re-pull. Judges will have the right to control excessive pulling of the bull rope.
- 7) **Horn Specifications.** No bull may be put in the draw until his horns have been dulled and reduced to specifications set forth under rodeo stock section.
- 8) **Rosin.** Riders may use dry rosin and glycerin only on glove and rope.
- 9) **Disqualification of Rider [in Bull Riding]:** Any one of the following shall disqualify a rider, at the discretion of the judges:
  - a. Being bucked off.
  - b. Touching animal, equipment or person with free hand/arm. One arm must be free at all times.
  - c. Using sharp spurs, or placing spurs or chaps under the rope when rope is being tightened.
  - d. Using locked rowels.
  - e. Not having a bell on bull rope.
  - f. When a bull rider who has been advised he is next to go is not above the animal with his glove on when previous bull leaves the arena.
  - g. Placing spurs in bull rope or bell strap before leaving the bucking chute (catching a knot).

**\*\*TIMED EVENTS\*\***

**1) General - Equipment:**

a. **Barrier.**

- i. **All Timed Events Must Use Barrier.** All timed events will be run from behind an automatic barrier. If there is no barrier then the contractor will be fined \$50.00.
- ii. **Height.** The height of the barrier in timed events shall be from 32-36 inches, measured at the center of the box. Once the barrier height has been set for a rodeo that height must remain for the entire rodeo.
- iii. **No Automatic Slack Catchers.** Automatic slack catchers may not be used.
- iv. **Side Pull Barrier.** Barriers in the timed events must be side-pull barrier with pulley and neck rope pulling from side of chute.
- v. **Barrier Flag.** The barrier flag must be on the barrier instead of on the neck rope of the timed event cattle whenever possible. Flag to be 10" x 10" and be of white or red color.
- vi. **Barrier Equipment.** The stock contractor of record for each rodeo shall be responsible for furnishing adequate barrier equipment.
- vii. **Barrier Rope.** Only hand twisted polyethylene rope will be used on timed event barrier.

a. **Chutes.**

- i. **Automatic Trip Gate.** All timed event chutes shall have an automatic trip gate with horizontal bars, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors and event Director.
- ii. **Clearance.** The timed event chute must have at least 28 inches clearance inside the chute, and the gate when in an open position for steer wrestling, team roping.

b. **Length of Timed Event Box.** Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors, the box for each timed event must be at least 16 feet in length, and the boxes must be the same length. Box may not be changed during the course of the rodeo.

**2) General – Judges’ Responsibilities.**

- a. **Change Barrier String.** Barrier judge is responsible for changing barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of next contestant.
- b. **Adjust Barrier Neck Rope.** Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier neck rope for each performance and section of slack, to assure the same start for contestants in each performance and section of slack. Barrier judge shall adjust the length of the neck rope when necessary.
- c. **Inspect Barrier Equipment.** The judge before each timed event must inspect barrier equipment. Barrier knot will be tight against pulley. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced. Should barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the barrier judge shall determine whether the contestant caused the break. If contestant obviously beats

barrier, or barrier rope is broken and string is unbroken, barrier judge may assess a 10 second fine against the contestant.

- d. **Flag Start.** If a barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
- e. **Prevent Tampering With Barrier Equipment.** Barrier judge shall ensure that no person can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.
- f. **Placement of Flag Judge.** Flag judge shall position himself for tie down roping and break away roping at the end of the arena, allowing him to come towards the roper. In steer wrestling and team roping, field judge shall place himself on the right hand side of the timed event box when facing the timed event chutes. Judge must maintain this position for every contestant.

3) **General – Competition Rules.**

- a. **Hat.** All contestants must start with hat on.
- b. **Breaking Through Barrier.** Contestants shall start from behind a barrier. A 10 second penalty will be added for breaking or beating the barrier. Barrier will not be considered broken unless ring falls within 8 feet of post.
  - i. **Breaking Plane of Barrier.** A contestant must be on his horse and his horse must break the plane of the barrier with his draw breaking the plane of the scoreline before he is allowed to compete.
- c. **Official Time Start.** Official time will start when animals' nose crosses score line.
- d. **Barrier Failure.** If barrier fails to work but the flag operates correctly and time is recorded, contestant or team will receive that time. Barrier penalty will be waived unless barrier is obviously beaten by contestant.
- e. **Judge Mistakenly Flags Contestant.** If a flag judge mistakenly flags a contestant, he may require the contestant to run again, regardless of recorded time; judges' decision must be made immediately following original run. In timed events where barrier is used, any penalties incurred during the original run will be added to the re-run. If barrier has been broken on original run, contestant will get stock back lap and tap.
- f. **Lap and Tap.** Any time a contestant gets a re-run and gets stock back lap and tap, re-run time will start when the contestant crosses scoreline, which is to be flagged by the judge.
- g. **Failure of Official Time to Start.** If official time has not started, contestant or team will receive stock which contestant originally drew if contestant has qualified on that stock. If barrier was obviously beaten, the barrier penalty will be applied to the rerun.
- h. **Contestant Is Fouled.**
  - i. **Fouled by Barrier.** If, in the opinion of the barrier judge, the barrier equipment fouls a contestant, the contestant shall be entitled to a rerun on his original stock, provided that contestant declares immediately. Any penalties incurred on original run will be added to re-run.

- i. **Animal Which Escapes from Chute or Pen.** During any performance/slack, if an animal in a timed event escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by contestant, or if the flag fails to work and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over, during or immediately after the same performance or section of slack.
- j. **Drawn Animal Becomes Sick or Injured.** If an animal that is drawn in a pen in a timed event becomes sick or injured before it is competed on, a judge must pass on the animal's inability to be used before it can be shipped or replaced in the draw. In that instance, that animal is to be removed from the draw (or herd) for the remainder off the rodeo. If the animal is injured prior to competition but the injury is not detected until after the run has started, contestant must declare immediately and must not compete on that animal. Contestant will receive a rerun on a different animal.
- k. **Wrong Animal Ran.** If wrong animal is given to a contestant, he shall be given the correct animal drawn for him and time on incorrect animal shall be disregarded.
- l. **Animal Escaping from Arena.** In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop his flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive his original animal with a lap and tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10 second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
  - i. **Escape With Rope on Animal.** If a rope is on animal when animal escapes from the arena, contestant will receive the same animal with a lap and tap start, with the rope on it in chute. Any accumulated time shall be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10 second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
- m. **Contestant Must Make Effort at a Second Loop or Jump.** Contestant must make an effort at a second loop or jump or be flagged out automatically. Once a contestant has been flagged out, he will receive no stock back.
- n. **Time Not Recorded For Contestant With Another Loop or Jump Coming.** If time is not recorded when a field flagger flags out a contestant who has another loop or jump coming, the contestant has the option of taking the animal back, with a lap and tap start, with 10 seconds added to the new time.
- o. **Returning Animals.** An animal that must be returned will be returned during, or at the end of, that performance or section of slack. A minimum of three animals will be brought back together. The decision as to when stock will be rerun will be made by the stock contractor and judge. No animal will be penned separately.
- p. **Request for Change in Order of Performance.** If splitting of horses is necessary and contestant wishes to request a change in the performance competition order, such a request must be made to the arena secretary.

Contestants can only be moved far enough to accommodate the split on a horse. Violation of this rule will result in a \$50 fine.

- i. **Compete in Order Drawn.** In all sections of the timed events, the original position order must be maintained, unless contestants are riding the same horse and their positions must be split. In such case, the first contestant drawn for a position not riding this horse shall be moved up to the position to be split, unless the judges authorize a further split because of arena conditions. Competing out of position is not cause for re-run.
- ii. **No Consecutive Runs on Same Horse.** In timed events, provided there are other qualified horses on the rodeo grounds, no consecutive runs shall be allowed on the same horse, or horses, unless approval is granted by the stock contractor.
- q. **Contestant May Dismiss Individuals from Box.** Within the confines of the timed event box, it is the privilege of a contestant to dismiss someone from the box or have up to three persons in the box for assistance. He may instruct the judge to either remove or allow other people in the box.
  - i. **Cattle Pusher.** The individual pushing the cattle in the timed events cannot leave the mouth of the chute until the animal has crossed the scoreline. Penalty for failure to abide by this Rule will be a \$25 fine charged to the contestant.
  - ii. **No Rattling of Chute.** A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be fined \$25.
  - iii. **Horses Allowed in Box.** Only the horses needed during actual competition in the event will be allowed in the boxes during any timed event and/or noncompetitive runs. Offender is subject to a \$25 fine for the first offense, with that offense progressively doubling thereafter.
- r. **Recoiled or Rebuilt Rope.** In roping events, a dropped rope that must be recoiled and/or rebuilt shall be considered a thrown rope.
- s. **Neck Ropes must be tied With String.** Neck ropes must be tied with string. No metal snaps, elastics or hardware shall be used on neck ropes in the timed events, which extend beyond the end of the gate.
- t. **Competition must be From Same Box.** All timed event contestants must compete from the same box designated for their event, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors at time of rodeo approval.
  - i. **Team Roping** – Header must start from left box (as viewed from the box facing the arena); Heeler must start from right box.
  - ii. **Steer Wrestling** – Steer wrestler must start from left box; Hazer must start from right box.
  - iii. **Tie Down Roping** – Right box must be used.
- u. **Failure of Animal to Pull Neck Rope.** In the timed events, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the

animal and contestant (tie down roper, steer wrestler and hazer, or header and heeler) remains behind the plane of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds, that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure. If contestant attempts to compete on animal, no re-run is to be given, i.e., jumping at steer or throwing rope.

- v. **Contestant Calls for Animal.** Once contestant calls for animal, he accepts the animal. *Refer to pg. 73 3j. and pg. 75 4b.*
- w. **Neck Rope Turns or Stops Animal.** If barrier equipment stops animal or turns animal back, animal will be brought back and decision of judge will determine if stock is re-run.
- x. **Hanging Horns.** No re-runs will be given due to hanging of a horn or horns in chute.
- y. **Exhibition Runs.** All exhibition runs will run without the barrier, under discretion of the stock contractor.
- z. **Interference by arena personnel.** If any arena personnel (pick-up men, clown, announcer, etc...) interfere with a timed-event competition, the contestant may at the discretion of the judge, receive a rerun providing he/she has made a qualified run up to the point of interference and the contestant declares himself/herself at the time of the interference.

4) **Arena Personnel.**

- a. **Arena Personnel.** There shall be two or more timekeepers, a score line judge, a field judge and a qualified person to tie jerk line around steer's neck and freed jerk line from box, and as many other officials as necessary.
- b. **Interference by Arena Personnel.** If any arena personnel (pickup men, clowns, announcers, etc.) interfere with a timed event competition, the contestant may, at the discretion of the judge, receive a rerun providing he has made a qualified run up to the point of interference and contestant declares himself at time of interference.

5) **Neck rope.**

- a. **Neck rope lengths.** All neck rope lengths are to be set by the judges and/or event director, in accordance with the official Rodeo Rules, unless otherwise approved at the time of rodeo approval. The event Director may, prior to the start of the initial competition stock draw at a given rodeo, approve the lengthening or shortening of the neck rope by no more than 18 inches over Official Rodeo Rule guidelines. Once the neck rope has been set, it shall not be changed at that rodeo, nor shall the length of the box be changed.
- b. **Tie Down & Breakaway Roping.** In the tie down & Breakaway roping, the minimum length of the neck rope will be the length of the box minus 7 feet 6 inches.
- c. **Steer Wrestling.** In steer wrestling, the minimum length of the neck rope will be the length of the box minus 9 feet.
- d. **Team Roping.** In team roping, the minimum length of the neck rope will be the length of the box minus 4 feet.

6) **Scoreline.**

- a. **Steer Scoreline Length.** Scoreline for steers in the Team Roping and Steer wrestling will be 24 inches beyond the length of the neck rope.

- b. **Calf Scoreline Length.** Scoreline for calves in the Tie Down & Breakaway Roping will be 18 inches beyond the length of the neck rope.

**\*\*Tie-Down Roping\*\***

**1) Tie-down Roping.**

a. General Requirements. Catch as catch can, any catch is legal. Must be caught from horse. Contestant must rope calf, 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 calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be let up to his feet and be thrown by hand. If roper's hand is on the calf when calf falls, calf is considered thrown by hand. Rope must hold calf until roper gets hand on calf. Three legs must remain crossed and tied for 3 seconds, as timed by the judge, from the time the roper signals completion and clears calf, until approved by the judge. Roper must not touch calf after

signaling that he is finished until after the judge has completed his examination. Roper will be disqualified for removing rope from calf after signaling for time, until the tie has been passed on by the field judge. Flag judge must watch calf during the 3 second period and will stop the watch when a calf kicks free, using the time shown on the watch to determine whether calf was 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 "no time." Untie man must not touch calf until the judge passes on tie.

- a. **Two Loops Permitted.** Two loops will be permitted (may not rebuild loop, a second rope is required), catch-as-catch-can, and should the roper miss with both, he must retire and will be marked "no time." Roping the calf without releasing the loop from the hand is not permitted. If roper intends to use two loops, he must carry two Ropes and must use second rope for second loop. If a second rope is used, the first rope must first be released from either the saddle or the calf. Violation of this Rule shall be a Class III Offense for mistreatment of animals.
- b. **Time Limit.** There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the tie-down roping. A whistle indicating "no time" shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30-second span. Roping a calf after the 30-second whistle has sounded shall be a Class III Offense for mistreatment of animals. This Rule shall not apply to legal ties completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than 30 seconds.
- c. **No Dragging of Calf.** A neck rope must be used on the horse, and contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf. Contestant must receive no assistance of any kind from outside. If the horse drags the calf at least five feet, field judge may stop horse. The fine for unintentionally dragging a calf five feet but less than ten feet shall be \$25. The fine for unintentionally dragging a calf ten feet or more shall be \$50. Intentionally dragging a calf, regardless of distance, shall

result in a \$100 fine for each offense, plus possible disqualification. Intentional shall be defined as caused by contestant.

d. **Jerk-Down Rule.** The Jerk-Down Rule will be in effect at all MSRA first approved rodeos.

- i. **Definition of Jerk-Down Rule.** A jerk-down will be defined as a calf coming straight over backwards landing on head or spine.
- ii. **Jerk-Down Penalty.** A minimum fine of \$125 will be imposed if the calf is roped or handled in an intentional and rough manner. Fines for unintentional jerk downs may be waived if fresh or unconditioned calves are used.

**\*\*Steer Wrestling\*\***

1) **Steer Wrestling**

- a. **General Requirements.** After catching steer, wrestlers must bring it to a stop or change direction, then twist steer down by applying hold to head and or horns. If steer is knocked down, tripped or thrown by putting horns into ground, or any other obvious illegal fall, steer must be let up on all four feet and thrown again. Steer will be considered down only when it is lying flat on its side, with head and all four feet in the same direction and legs clear from under him. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged. The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the judges and their decision will be final.
- a. **Falling Steer.** In the steer wrestling, if in the opinion of the line judge, if the animal falls before it crosses the scoreline, the contestant shall be entitled to a rerun on his original stock, provided that the contestant declares immediately and did not attempt to compete on stock. There will be no penalty added to the rerun if, in the opinion of the line judge, the contestant did not deliberately beat the barrier and if the contestant declares himself immediately. If the originally drawn animal cannot be re-ran, the contestant will run the extra (where an extra is available) or have a steer drawn for him according to the mis-draw procedure.
- b. **Loose Steer.** If steer gets loose after wrestler has jumped from the horse, wrestler may take no more than one step to catch steer. If contestant misses or loses steer, flagman must ask contestant if he wishes another jump. Contestant must reply at once.
- c. **Furnish Hazer and Horses.** Only one hazer is allowed. Contestant must furnish own hazer and horse. Steer must be caught from horse.
- d. **No Assistance.** Hazer must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer. Failure to observe this Rule will disqualify contestant.
- e. **Addition of Fresh Steers.** Fresh steers may be added to the herd after they have been bulldogged from horseback and thrown down. It is the responsibility of steer wrestlers to throw the cattle, at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.
- f. **Limit on Use of Steer Wrestling Cattle.** Steer wrestling cattle may not be used in any other event and team roping cattle may not be used in the

steerwrestling event.

- g. **After Completed Run.** Contestant is required to turn steer's head so it can stand up after time has been recorded.
- h. **Time Limit.** There will be a 30 second elapsed time limit in the steerwrestling. A whistle indicating "no time" shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30 second span. This Rule shall not apply to legal throws completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than the 30 seconds.
- i. **Fresh Steers Thrown Down If Missed in Competition.** If fresh steers are missed in the steerwrestling, any steer missed in the competition must be thrown down immediately following the performance or section of slack in which the steer was drawn. Such steer shall be thrown down by a person appointed by the Steerwrestling director. Each steer missed in competition is to be thrown no more than one time.
- j. **Animal Inspection.** Animals used for this contest will be closely inspected before each performance, and objectionable animals will be eliminated. Contestant will not be required to compete on a crippled steer or steer with a broken horn. If contestant jumps at steer, he accepts him as sound.

**\*\*Dally Team Roping\*\***

- 1) **Dally Team Roping.**
  - a. **General Rules.** Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one rope. If there are more than two go-rounds, each team will be allowed 3 throws in all. At all 1 go round and 2 go round rodeos, only 2 loops per team shall be allowed. Roping steers without turning loose the loop will be considered no catch. Roper must rope, dally and change direction of steer. Any roper 60 years of age or older may tie hard and fast. Championship Points in the header category will be awarded only to the contestant who entered as the header; likewise, Championship Points in the heeler category will be awarded only to the contestant who entered as the heeler.
    - i. **Header/Heeler Championship Points.** At rodeos where three loops are allowed, if the header (the contestant who starts from the header's box) misses with his first loop, and the heeler (the contestant who starts from the heeler's box) chooses to rope the head, any Championship Points won shall be counted toward the Header Championship Point Standings and the Heeler Championship Point Standings in accordance with the original Header and Heeler designation indicated at time of entry for that rodeo.
    - ii. **Barriers.** All headers shall start from behind a barrier. A 10-second penalty will be added for breaking or beating a barrier.
  - b. **Requirements for Roping.** Field judge shall drop flag when steer is roped by its head and heels, and both horses are facing steer in an L or better with ropes dallied and tight. Horses' front feet must be on ground and ropers must be mounted for flag to drop. Steer must be standing up when roped by head and heels.

- c. **Throwing Heel Loop.** The direction of the steer's body must be changed before the heel loop can be thrown. However, if the steer stops, it must only be moving forward for the heel loop to be legal. Any heel loop thrown before the completion of the initial switch will be considered a crossfire and no time will be recorded.
- d. **Steer Roped by One Horn.** If steer is roped by one horn, roper is not allowed to use his hands to remove loop or put loop over other horn or head, loops to be only changed by 'fishing'.
- e. **Heeler Roping Front Foot.** If the heeler ropes a front foot or feet in the heel loop, this is a foul catch. Neither contestant may remove the front foot or feet from the loop by hand. However, should the front foot or feet come out of the heel loop by the time the field judge drops his flag, time will be official.
- f. **Legal Head Catches.** There will be only three legal head catches:
  - i. Around both horns.
  - ii. Half a head.
  - iii. Around the neck.
- g. **Illegal Head Catches.** The following shall be illegal head catches:
  - i. If hondu passes over one horn and the loop over the other.
  - ii. If loop crosses itself in a head catch.
  - iii. If loop is in the steer's mouth.
- h. **Heel Catches.**
  - i. **Behind Both Shoulders.** Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope goes up heels.
  - ii. **One Hind Foot.** One hind foot receives a five-second fine.
- i. **Inspection of Catches.** Any questions as to catches in this contest will be decided by the judges. Contestants must hold dally for field inspection by the judge, if the header does not do so, the team may receive a "no-time".
- j. **Time Limit.** There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the team roping. A whistle indicating "no time" shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30-second span. This Rule shall not apply to legal catches completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than 30 seconds.
- k. **Flag with Loops Still Coming.** If flagman flags out team which has loops coming, team shall get animal back, lap and tap with same catch on head if animal has been roped.

**\*\*Cowgirls Barrel Racing\*\***

- 1) **Cowgirls Barrel Racing.**
  - a. **Special Events.** It is highly recommended by the MSRA if arena is used for special events, such as horse shows, TV filming, etc., during rodeo barrels for these events be set at least 20 feet from stakes used in MSRA competition.
  - b. **Two Contestants on Same Horse.** Two contestants may ride the same horse.
    - i. **Notify Secretary.** Contestant must notify the rodeo secretary if two contestants are riding the same horse, and if they request a split. First contestant will remain in drawn position and second contestant must be moved to the bottom of the draw in that section.
- 2) **Dress Code.** Standard MSRA Regulation dress code, in addition, helmets are acceptable for any MSRA Rodeo competition.
- 3) **Barrel Race Details**
  - a. **Barrels.** Barrels used in MSRA cowgirls' barrel racing contest must be regulation 55 gallon metal barrel size. No pads or ties may be used on or around barrels. Barrels must be two (2) tone of Identical colors; no solid colored barrels, If barrels are sponsored, then they may have a sleeve and/or be multi-colored. Both ends of the barrel must be enclosed.
  - b. **Barrel Setting.** Barrels are to be set on inside of each stake in a cloverleaf pattern.
  - c. **Arena Signs.** Arena signage should remain in place for slack competitions. Same barrels must be used throughout entire rodeo.
  - d. **Number of Contestants in Arena.** There is to be only one contestant horse in the arena at a time during the barrel race, without exception.
  - e. **Entry Gate.** Entry gate(s) will remain the same for all contestants during the entire rodeo. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
  - f. **Exit Gate.** Exit gate(s) will remain the same for all contestants during the entire rodeo. Failure to comply will result in disqualification, unless, if in the judge's opinion, every effort was made to comply.
  - g. **Start/Finish Line.** The start/finish line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire rodeo.
    - i. **Start Line Definition.** The Start line is defined as the plane across the entire arena, fence to fence, regardless of the position of the electric timers. Crossing the start/finish line anytime outside the electric timer results in a no time.
  - h. **Running Start.** The contestant is allowed a running start. Gate(s) must be safe and fair for all contestants.
  - i. **Center Gate.** If arena gate is to be used as a center gate and contestant is required to run in, the barrel pattern should be situated in such a manner as is centered to the gate with the first- and second-barrel equal distance from the gate.
  - j. **Starting Pattern.**
    - i. **Center Gate.** If the gate is Center, the contestant must keep forward motion toward the first barrel.

- ii. **Side or Corner Gate.** If a side or corner gate, a spin or a pivot is acceptable in either direction.
- k. **Knocking a Barrel.** Contestant will be assessed a five (5) second penalty for knocking over a barrel before horse and rider cross eye/flag line completing run. Touching barrel is permitted.
  - i. **Barrels Standing When Cross Start/Finish Line.** 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. No flipped barrels.
  - ii. **Resetting Barrel by Judge.** If a barrel is knocked down, the judge not flagging line or qualified personnel approved by the judge, will reset barrel in proper place
- l. **Resetting Barrel if Bumped or Moved.** Barrel must be set back on inside of marker, if barrel is moved.

4) **Judges.** There shall be two (2) judges in the barrel race. Both judges are to be in the arena, one to flag and to watch that a correct pattern has been run and one to reset barrels.

- i. **Setup.** Judges measuring and marking the barrel position MUST post one copy of the measurements with the rodeo secretary or will be subject to a fine. Judges shall initially set barrels on markers and shall check barrel and eye markers prior to each rodeo performance.
- ii. **Flagging.** Flag judge shall flag each contestant's horse's nose at the start/finish line. The flagman's place must be visibly marked and the flagman may only leave his place in an emergency.
- iii. **Unsafe Ground.** A judge shall have the right to stop the barrel race during a performance or slack due to "unsafe ground" conditions and will follow rule under "unsafe ground conditions" in the Rodeo Activity section of this rule book.

5) **Reruns.** Re-run to be given contestant at judges' discretion should contestant be fouled. Any penalties incurred during original run will be added to re-run. If original run was clean, penalties incurred during re-run will not count. If an entire performance is re-run, then all contestants will run over and any penalties will be disregarded. Announcer is to notify of timer malfunction after the completion of the run. Reasons for re-running are as follows.

- i. Barrel not in proper place.
- ii. Flagman not in proper place.
- iii. Ground rule not followed for complete rodeo.
- iv. Electronic timer malfunction (*potentially and refer to pg. 84 15c*).

- a. **Cannot Notify All Contestants.** In the event the barrel is off a marker or the flag man not in the correct position and all contestants cannot be notified the rodeo will be paid off as separate rodeos so prize money is not sacrificed at that rodeo.
- b. **Fouls.** If a contestant feels she has been fouled during a competition run, she must immediately declare herself to the judge (i.e. pull up) for the option for a rerun. This does not apply to unsafe ground conditions.

- c. **Equipment Failure or Horse Falling.** There will be no re-runs given for broken equipment or if the horse falls.
- d. **Time of Rerun.** If a re-run is to be given, the contestant will be given the option of running either after the last barrel racer or after the performance.

6) **Exhibition Runs.** A contestant cannot make any exhibition runs until all her competition runs at that rodeo have been made. Contestant cannot have an exhibition run made by another person on her contest horse until all competition runs have been made on that horse. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification and a fine of \$50.

7) **Practice Runs.** No practice runs will be permitted for the duration of the rodeo, after the barrels have been staked, with barrels sitting on or closer than 15 feet from the stakes used in MSRA competition.

8) **Talking To Judges.** There shall be no talking to flagman, timekeepers or judges during the barrel racing event or shall be fined \$25.

9) **Disqualification**

- a. **Not Ready When Called.** Contestant will be disqualified for not being ready to contest when her name is called by the judge or announcer.
- b. **Missing Pattern.** Contestant will be disqualified for missing pattern, consisting of a cloverleaf pattern, consisting of one right and two left turns, or vice versa.
- c. **Not Mounted When Cross Start/Finish Line.** Contestant must be mounted on her horse when she crosses the finish line. Horse and rider must cross the finish line at the same time.
- d. **Crossing Score line before Completing Pattern.** Contestant will be disqualified, if after crossing score line and being flagged by the flagman, she recrosses score line before completion of a true cloverleaf pattern run.
- e. **Working Barrel Pattern.** Once the barrel pattern has been staked, no person shall work a horse within 15 ft of barrels or stakes at any time prior to the barrel racing competition. Failure to comply will result in disqualification and/or a \$50 fine.
- f. **Start Contest without Hat.** Barrel racers will be required to enter the arena and begin contest barrel run with hat on. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate disqualification for remainder of rodeo.
- g. **Secretary/Timer to Note Time If Disqualified.** Secretary/timer shall make note of recorded time if contestant is disqualified for any reason.

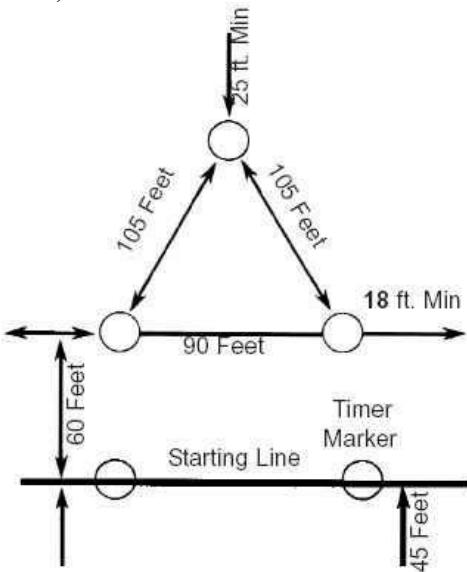
10) **Ground Preparation**

- a. **Ground Preparation.** Stock Contractor is required to prepare ground with necessary equipment in the arena to be consistent throughout the event..
- b. **Ground Must Be Worked After 12 Contestants.** Ground must be worked after twelfth (12) position/draw and before the thirteenth (13) position/draw, regardless of turnouts.
- c. **Slack.** In slack, the entire arena must be prepared as in rule 10.a. immediately before the slack begins and after the twelfth (12) position/draw.

11) **Unsafe Arena Conditions.** If the arena conditions are deemed at any time to be unsafe by the judge and/or the stock contractor, competition may be stopped until such time as the arena conditions are deemed satisfactory by the individual or

individuals who initially determined the arena conditions were unsafe. If arena conditions cannot be changed and improved to make conditions safe, event may be cancelled by judge and/or stock contractor.

12) **Barrel Pattern**



- a. **Standard Course.** If arena size permits, a standard pattern should be set and no larger. The standard course for Barrel Race is: ninety (90) feet between barrel one (1) and two (2); one hundred five (105) feet between barrel one (1) and three (3) and between barrel two (2) and three (3); sixty (60) feet from barrels one (1) and two (2) to the score line. Score line should be at least sixty (60) feet from end of arena, if arena allows, and not less than forty five (45) feet.
- b. **Smaller Arenas Where Standard Course is Not Possible.** The following shall be used in smaller arenas: Barrels one (1) and two (2) should be at least eighteen (18) feet from the sides of the arena. In extra small arenas they may be less. In no instance should they be any closer than fifteen (15) feet from the sides of the arena.
  - i. In small arenas, it is recommended the pattern be reduced proportionately to a standard barrel pattern. By no means shall the stopping distance be less than forty five (45) feet.
- c. **Third Barrel Distance from End of Arena.** Barrel three should be no closer than twenty five (25) feet to the end of the arena.
- d. **Pattern in Relation to Center Gate.** Barrel pattern should be situated in such a manner as is centered to the gate with the first and second barrel equal distance from the gate.
- e. **Run Out Alley.** A “run out” alley may be included as part of the stopping distance, when necessary, or when the overall length of the arena does not allow for forty five (45) feet stopping distance. Decision is subject to Event Director approval. An open gate into a “safe” alley may be used as part of

the forty five (45) feet stopping distance when necessary and upon Event Director Approval. A “safe” alley must be a minimum of ten (10) feet wide, meaning that there will be a minimum of ten (10) feet between any obstructions in the alley. Alley way and any subsequent crossbars must be a minimum of twelve (12) feet high. Any bars, boards, wires or cords crossing the alley floor must be covered with dirt. The alley must be well lit, free of people and horses and have a dirt floor. The stopping distance in the alley must be at least as long as the stopping distance provided in the arena.

### 13) Marking Barrels

- a. **With Center Gate.** Determine from which gate contestants will enter the arena from and mark pattern accordingly. If arena gate is to be used as a center gate, and contestant is required to run in, barrel pattern must be situated in such manner as is centered to the gate with the first and second barrel equal distance from the gate. If contestant is not required to run in, a standard pattern must be set, and no larger, as arena size and conditions permit.
- b. **Markers/Stakes.** You may use a pointed metal stake, horseshoe or can with a chain or rope attached to the end of it. Cover the object, leaving only chain or rope on top of the ground. Markers should be buried at the location of each barrel, so the barrels will be in the same place during each complete go round. Permanent markers should be set for the timer. Overhead lasers may be used to mark barrel pattern.

### 14) Electric Eye Setup

- a. **Equipment Necessary.** Complete electric eye timer plus two (2) stopwatches to be operated manually.
- b. **Markers.** Permanent markers shall be put in the ground for the electric timer. Electric timers shall be placed on the score line no closer than the width of the first two (2) barrels for the electric eye to be centered in each performance.
- c. **Placement.** When setting electric eye on the markers, center of eye should be positioned over point where marker comes out of the ground.

### 15) Timing

- a. **Electric Timers.** Use of electric timers will be required. Time to be taken to the full capacity of the timer. They must be backed up by two timers using digital stop watches.
- b. **Stop Watch Times.** Stop watch times MUST be recorded for each run.
- c. **Timer Malfunctions.** If the electric timer fails to work, contestant will receive a rerun. If the electric eye fails to work for more than three contestants the backup times will be used as official times for that rodeo for all contestants. All stop watch times shall be averaged and paid off accordingly. If one of the two timers misses the start or stop or is delayed in starting or stopping the watch, or if the watch used by one timer malfunctions, that timer shall declare the problem to the other timer and only the time recorded by the other timer will be used.
  - i. **Timer Fee Refunded.** If manual stop watch times are required to be used for all contestants, the \$3.00 timer fee will be refunded to

all contestants. (This is to be either picked up at the rodeo or will be put in contestant's account - money will not be mailed).

ii. **Second and Subsequent Go Rounds.** If the electric eye fails to work, regardless if it is the first performance, every attempt should be made to make the electric eye work for the remaining performances.

**\*\*Cowgirls Breakaway Roping\*\***

- 1) **Cowgirls Breakaway Roping General.** This event shall be performed following the same general rules as tie down roping under the usual common rodeo standards and conditions.
- 2) **Number of Loops.** There shall only be one loop allowed (including the Mid States Finals Rodeo). A contestant is NOT allowed to rebuild her loop.
- 3) **Time.**
  - a. **Time of Run.** Time will be called from drop of barrier flag to the break of rope string from the saddle horn.
  - a. **Start Behind Barrier.** Horse must start from behind a barrier. A ten (10) second penalty will be added to time for breaking the barrier.
  - b. **Limitations.** All regional rodeos, as well as the Mid-States Finals shall have a time limit set in the cowgirls breakaway roping of 25 seconds with an open gate. The run must be completed before the calf's nose passes the plane of the let-out gate, if the run hasn't been completed before the calf's nose breaks the plane of the let-out gate it will be considered a no time.
- 4) **Ropes.** Ropes are to be tied to saddle horn with a nylon string. A knot must be at the end of the rope with the string tied at the knot. A visible flag must be attached at the end of the rope. If the flag falls off of the rope AFTER the contestant calls for her calf, the contestant will NOT be flagged out. Nothing may be used on the rope to keep loop from drawing tight.
  - a. **Judges Inspection.** The ties will be inspected by the line judge before the contestant enters the box. If the tie is not acceptable to the judge, the contestant must re-tie her string immediately in the arena.
- 5) **No Knots in Breakaway Ropes in Front of the Tie String.** No knots in breakaway ropes in front of the tie string.
- 6) **Rope Must Break Away From Horn.** The calf must break the rope away from horn. The contestant will receive a no time should she break rope from saddle horn herself.
- 7) **Calves Must Be Run and/or Followed on Horseback.** Calves used must be run and/or followed on horseback at discretion of the breakaway roping director.
- 8) **Calves Head Must Pass through the Loop.** The ONLY legal catch in the breakaway is a bell-collar catch. (i.e. in front of the shoulders) Clarification - rope must pass over calf's head and draw tight around the neck. If any extremities are in the loop when the string breaks, example: Figure 8 of a tail, leg or rope dropped below the calf's tail head, the run will be considered a no time. If the string breaks with the extremity in the loop and then goes back around the neck of the calf, the run will still be a no time.

- 9) **Fouled Neck Rope.** Contestants fouled by neck rope or neck rope stays around the calf, will be given a rerun if the foul is declared immediately by pulling up. If rope is thrown, no rerun will be given.
- 10) **Disqualifications.**
  - a. **Barrier Flag Must Drop.** The contestant shall not attempt to rope the animal until the barrier flag has been dropped. Any attempt by a contestant to position her horse behind the barrier, enabling the contestant to rope the animal without leaving the barrier or box shall be considered a disqualification.
  - b. **Rope Must Not Pass through Bridle.** Rope may not pass through bridle, tie-down, neck rope or any other device, or contestant will be disqualified.
  - c. **Pulling Rope off Saddle.** The contestant shall receive no time should she break the rope from the horn by hand or touch the rope or string after slack has been pulled, If the rope dailies or will not break free when the calf reaches the end of it, the contestant will receive a no time.
  - d. **Catching Calf without Releasing Rope.** Roping the calf without releasing the loop from the hand is not permitted.
- 11) Breakaway roping is an event for females only.
- 12) If a line person is designated by the judge, the line person must remain in the same spot for all runs, performance, and slack.
- 13) A contestant must remain in the saddle until the rope breaks off the saddle horn. If for any reason, a contestant comes off prior to rope breaking off of the horn, the contestant is disqualified.
- 14) Once a contestant calls for her calf, no further assistance can take place. No physical outside assistance can take place after the contestant calls for her calf. Without limitation, examples of prohibited conduct include: whipping/slapping, movement with, in front or behind the horse as it leaves the corner/box or holding/pulling the rein. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, the contestant will receive a no time.

## “Ranch Bronc Riding”

Ride as ride can for 8 seconds. A standard working saddle must be used. Bronc or committee saddles are not allowed. No hobbling of one or both stirrups. Horse must be saddled, as he would for everyday use. Stirrups can have no bindings to hold stirrups forward, nor can they be hobbled under the horse's girth. The back cinch must be hobbled to the front cinch with hobble strap no longer than 10 inches. If carrying a rope, it must be tied to the rope strap only. Saddle pads should not be used. Saddles should have full or 7/8" double rigging, no centerfire rigging.

Saddles will be inspected by the judges. Violations will result in disqualification. A regular bucking horse halter with one rein must be used and shall be provided by the rider. If the rider's equipment fails or breaks there will be no reride. If the flank strap comes off before the 8 seconds, horse falls to its belly or on its side, or fouled at the gate, this will result in an option for a re-ride.

Ranch Broncs must have been bucked from a bucking chute at least one time with a rider (not a dummy) before being eligible to be used at a Rodeo.

Points will be awarded for the difficulty of the horse and for the degree of aggressiveness, control, and exposure demonstrated by the rider. Points will be calculated using 1-25 for the rider and 1-25 for the animal by each judge.

Contractors can post additional ground rules for this event and must have posted near the draw sheets at time of paying entry fees.

Ranch Bronc Riding when offered at a Ranch Rodeo Event may be co-sanctioned with the MSRA if the following criteria has been met: (co-sanction will be allowed for the 2023 MSRA scheduled year only)

1. A \$150 sanction fee must be paid to the MSRA office per schedule event
2. \$10 per contestant MSRA finals fee.
3. Ranch Bronc Riding is a separate event offered for MSRA card holders only. Contractor cannot limit entries for this event.
4. Minimum of \$300 added
5. Sanction must be approved by the MSRA Board and posted on the website for at least 10 days before entries are open.
6. Ranch Rodeo Producer shall be responsible for taking Ranch Bronc Riders entries.
7. Results must be sent to the MSRA office within 48 hours after event by via email or text. Judges' sheets and Rodeo worksheet for this event along with sanction fees and finals fee Must be mailed to the MSRA office within 10 days.