

RODEO TERMINOLOGY

ADDED MONEY — The portion of prize money that is put up by the rodeo to attract contestants to the rodeo for competition. Entry fees are combined with the added money for the payoff to winners of the events

BARRIER — The rope stretched across the front of the box that the contestant's horse comes out of. In the timed events, the stock is given a pre-determined head start. The amount of head start depends on the arena conditions and is called the score. The contestant's horse cannot break the barrier before the stock crosses the score line or contestant gets 10 seconds added to his time.

BREAKING THE BARRIER — When a contestant rides through or breaks the barrier before it is released. Breaking the barrier adds a penalty of ten seconds to the contestant's time.

BRONC REIN — A thick rope, 1-1/2 to 2 inches in diameter that is attached to the halter of a saddle bronc horse. The rope can be longer than 6-1/2 feet, and is used to provide balance, and to give the cowboy something to hold on to.

BULL ROPE — A flat woven rope, no larger than 9/16th of an inch in diameter with a bell attached to it. The rope is wrapped around the bull's body, just behind the front legs, and then around the cowboy's hand, to help secure the cowboy to the bull.

CATCH AS CATCH CAN — A calf roper is allowed to catch the stock any way he chooses so long as he turns loose of the rope when throwing the loop, and so long as the rope holds the calf until the roper reaches it.

DALLY — A turn of the rope around the saddle horn after the animal has been caught.

ENTRY FEE — The money paid by the contestant before competing in a rodeo. Contestants must pay separate entry fees for each event they enter.

FAIR CATCH — In team roping, the header must catch the steer around the horns, head, or neck. This is also called a legal catch.

FLAGMAN — The official who signals the end of elapsed time in timed events.

FLANK STRAP — A padded strap placed in front of a horse's back legs to initiate bucking action. Either a soft cotton rope or padded strap is worn by bucking bulls.

GO-ROUND — When all contestants in an event have competed one time, it is called a go-round.

HAZER — In the steer wrestling event he is the cowboy that rides on the opposite side of the steer and keeps the stock running straight down the pen for the contestant.

HEAD WRAP — A leather device that is placed around a steer's horns in team roping to prevent damage to the steer's head.

HEADER — The cowboy that ropes the steer around the horns, head, or neck in team roping.

HEELER — The cowboy that ropes the hind legs of the steer in team roping.

HOOEY — The knot used by calf ropers to hold the wraps used to tie three of the stock's feet together after the calf has been thrown. This knot is known as a half hitch to most people outside of rodeo.

LEGAL CATCH — In team roping, the header must catch the steer around the horns, head, or neck. This is also called a fair catch.

NECK ROPE — A loose rope around a calf roping horse's neck through which the lariat is passed. It prevents the horse from turning away from the calf once it is caught and the roper has dismounted. Timed event cattle also wear a neck rope, and it provides the means to give the calf or steer a head start. The rope is tied together with a piece of string and it breaks loose from the animal when the barrier is released.

NO TIME — If no time is given to a contestant's run, it means the stock was not properly caught, tied, or thrown, or a barrel racer has run off the pattern.

PICKUP MAN — The cowboy on horseback who assists the bareback and saddle bronc riders in dismounting from their stock.

PIGGIN' STRING — A small rope about six feet long used by calf ropers to tie the animal's feet together.

PRODUCER — The individual that runs the rodeo and is responsible for bringing all the elements together into a fast, smooth running, and exciting production.

PURSE — The money paid to the winners of each rodeo event. It equals the total of the added money and entry fees.

RANK — A very hard animal to ride.

RE-RIDE — Another ride given to a saddle bronc, bareback bronc, or bull rider in the same go-round when either the stock or the cowboy is not afforded a fair opportunity to show their best. This can be caused by things like a chute-fighting animal, a fallen animal, etc.

RE-RUN — A second run by a timed event contestant because a judge has ruled the contestant did not have a fair chance the first time.

RODEO SECRETARY — The person responsible for collecting entry fees, recording official times/scores, paying the contestants their winnings, and sending the office (headquarters) the results of the rodeo, as well as the sanctioning fees. Usually works as a timer, as well.

ROWEL — The circular, notched, bluntly pointed, and freewheeling part of a spur. Any competitor using spurs that will cause a cut is disqualified.

STOCK CONTRACTOR — The person or organization that provides all the livestock used in the rodeo events.

TIMERS — The persons responsible for marking a contestant's time for each timed event. There must be at least two timers who agree on each contestant's time for calf roping, team roping, steer wrestling, and barrel racing. The timers are also responsible for marking the eight seconds during the saddle or bareback bronc, and bull riding events.

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