

A large, faint watermark of the MHA Rodeo Association logo is centered in the background. The logo features a silhouette of a cowboy on a bucking horse within a circular frame, with the text 'MANDAN HIDATSA ARIKARA' below it. Below this is a shield-shaped emblem with 'NATION' and 'RODEO' written on it, and 'ASSOCIATION' at the bottom. The year '2025' is also visible. The entire logo is flanked by two large, stylized feathers.

MHA Rodeo Association Rule Book

2025

MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION Rulebook

ARTICLES

The name of this Association is the MHA Rodeo Association. The MHA Rodeo is a corporation under the Three Affiliated Tribes. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION has been formed for the following purposes:

1. To organize rodeo committees, stock contractors and contestants within the bounds of the Ft. Berthold Indian Reservation for their mutual protection and benefit.
2. To insure just amount of prize money.
3. To secure competent, honest judges and officials in all events.
4. To cooperate with the management of all rodeos in which members participate.
5. To create a point award system in order to determine champions in each of the standard events at the end of each rodeo season.
6. To promote the Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara Nation & western traditions, sportsmanship and true competition in rodeo.
7. To keep membership fees, entry fees, and all other expenses low so rodeo is affordable for families.
8. To keep purse monies and all other production costs as reasonable and fair as possible so as to make rodeo financially encouraging for each committee and contractor.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I –

Section 1: Name. This organization is a Tribal non-profit corporation organized and chartered under the laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes/Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation (“MHA Nation”), and shall be known as the **MHA Rodeo Association**, referred to as “the Committee” in this document.

Section 2: Purposes. The Committee is organized and chartered for the following purposes:

- a. To oversee and manage the rodeo activities, events, and operations within the exterior boundaries of the Ft. Berthold Indian Reservation.
- b. To carry out programs, services, and other projects involving rodeo and related rodeo livestock matters on behalf and for the benefit of the enrolled MHA members within the exterior boundaries of the Ft. Berthold Indian Reservation.
- c. To generate revenue, after costs of the Committee, for the benefit of cultural and social programs which will promote and enhance the health and the economic, cultural and social wellbeing, of the resident members of all segments of the MHA Nation.

ARTICLE II – Membership

Section 1: Eligibility for Membership. Any person who is a paid member and in good standing of the MHA Rodeo Association. Membership dues are initially set annually and may be adjusted from time to time in the discretion of the Board of Directors. Each membership shall be documented in the Committee’s records books by the Secretary.

Section 2: Honorary Membership. Honorary members shall have all the privileges of membership, except the right to vote or hold office. The Board of Directors shall vote on granting or revoking any honorary memberships by a majority vote.

Section 3: Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members, who shall be appointed by the Tribal Business Council Representatives. Only Enrolled Members of the MHA Nation shall be eligible to serve on the Board.

Section 4: Board Member Termination (Resignation, Expulsion and Delinquency).

(a) Any Board Member may resign from the Committee upon that Member’s written request to the Segment Council Representative and the MHA Rodeo Association.

(b) Any Board Member may be expelled by the TBC Representative for misconduct or other reasonable grounds.

ARTICLE III – Meetings

Section 1: Board of Directors Meetings. The Board of Directors shall set their regular meeting calendar at the first organizational meeting of each year. Additional Board of Director special meetings may be called by the Chairman or by the written request of three Board Members. The written request must state the purpose of the meeting and be given at least two (2) days prior to the meeting by phone, fax or email.

Section 2: Committee Meetings. Committee meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman or three members of the Board of Directors. Notice must be given at least two (2) days prior to the meeting by phone, fax, or email. Notice of any such meeting need not be given to any person who shall, either before or after the meeting, submits a signed waiver of notice or who attends such meeting without protesting, prior to or at its commencement, the lack of notice to him or her.

Section 3: Meetings Called by Members. Any Board Member in good standing may submit a petition in writing to the Chairperson requesting a special meeting. The Chairman and/or 4 Board Members may review this petition and determine if a special meeting should be called.

Section 4: Quorum. At any duly called meeting of the Board of Directors the majority of the Members being present (4) shall constitute a quorum; at committee meetings, a majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5: Agenda & Minutes. Adequate minutes are required of all official meetings of the Board of Directors, committees, subcommittees, and task forces. Minutes should include time, date, location and names of those people present and absent. Minutes should be brief, yet accurately reflect all actions taken and should include approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Section 6: Rules of Order. The chair having called the meeting to order shall conduct business as follows: (1) Roll Call; (2) Reading and approval of the Minutes of last regular/special meeting; (3) Subcommittee Reports; (4) Unfinished (old) business; (5) New Business; (6) Adjournment.

Section 7: Parliamentary Committee. The current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be the final source of authority in all questions of parliamentary procedure when such rules are not inconsistent with the Charter of the Authority.

ARTICLE IV – Board of Directors - Officers

Section 1: Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the seven Members of the Authority. The government and policy-making responsibilities of the Committee shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which shall control its property, be responsible for its finances, and direct its affairs.

Section 2: Determination of Officers. The Board of Directors at its first regular meeting of a year shall organize for the coming year. All Directors shall take office on the first day of the new year and serve for their prescribed term or until their successors assume the duties of office.

Section 3: Election of Officers.

(a) The Chairman shall be elected biannually by a majority of the Board Members at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors. If a Board Member cannot be present to submit a vote, they may be contacted via telephone for a vote during this election meeting. If no candidate receives a majority vote of the Board Members, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the run-off election shall be elected to the position.

(b) The remaining officer positions for the following calendar year, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary, shall be elected at the last regular meeting of a year for the following year in the same manner as for Chairman. The election process will be conducted in the following order: Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Each position is filled by election by a majority vote of the Board Members.

Section 4: Duties of Officers.

(a) Chairman. The Chairman shall serve as the chief officer of the Committee and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to sign all documents of an official character pertaining to the Committee and appoint all subcommittees unless otherwise ordered. The Chairman shall be a voting member. The Chairman shall enforce the observance of the by-laws and decide on all disputed points of order. The Chairman shall attempt to preserve a quorum when members request permission to depart before adjournment of the meeting. The Chairman shall have the power to call special meetings. Business at special meetings shall be limited to the subject(s) mentioned in the call. The Chairman shall, determine all committees, select all committee chairmen, and assist in the selection of committee personnel, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

(b) Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall exercise the powers and authority and perform the duties of the Chairman in the absence or disability of the Chairman.

(c) Treasurer. The treasurer shall be responsible for the safeguarding of all funds received by the Committee and for their proper disbursement. Such funds shall be kept on deposit in financial institutions or invested in a manner approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall exercise his duties in accordance with the Policies and Procedures as adopted and amended from time to time by the Board of Directors. The treasurer shall cause a monthly financial report to be made to the Board of Directors.

(d) Secretary. The Secretary shall serve as secretary to the Board of Directors and cause to be prepared minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and special documentation as designated by the Chair.

(e) Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) may be appointed or hired by the Board of Directors. The CEO shall be charged with the general supervision and management of the office and affairs of the Committee. The CEO shall serve on the Board of Directors, and prepare notices, and agendas. The CEO shall serve as advisor to the Chairman, assemble information and data, and prepare special reports as directed by the Board of Directors. The CEO shall be responsible for the preparation of an operating budget covering all activities of the Committee, subject to review of the Executive Committee and approval of the Board of Directors. The CEO shall also be responsible for all expenditures within the approved budget allocations.

Section 5. Directors Have no Individual Authority.

(a) The CEO shall have authority over the day-to-day operations, as well as the hiring and termination of the heads of each division of the Committee, subject to the due process rights of such employees as provided in the Personnel Policy.

(b) The individual Directors shall have no independent authority to take any action on behalf of the Committee and shall not attempt to “micro-manage” or otherwise wrongfully interfere with the operations of the Committee. Individual Directors shall have no authority for the hiring or termination of any employees. The CEO shall be answerable to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V – Committees

Section 1: Appointment and Authority. The Board of Directors shall appoint all committees and committee chairmen. The Chairman may appoint such ad hoc committees and committee chairmen as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the Committee. Committee appointments shall be at the pleasure of the Chairman and shall serve concurrent with the term of elected Chairman unless a different term is approved by the Board of Directors. It shall be the function of committees to make investigations, conduct studies and hearings, make recommendations to the Board of Directors, and to carry on such activities as may be delegated to them by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Limitation of Authority. No action by any member, committee, division, employee, or director shall be binding upon, or constitute an expression of, the policy of the Committee until it shall have been approved or ratified by the Board of Directors. Committees shall be discharged by the Chairman when their work has been completed and their reports accepted, or when, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, it is deemed wise to discontinue the committees.

ARTICLE VI – Finances

Section 1: Funds. All fund management shall be as proscribed in the Policies and Procedures of the Committee approved by the Board of Directors. Checks written on the Committee account shall be cosigned by two members of the board of directors. These will be designated and documented with board minutes. All designated Board Members and the CEO shall have access to the Cornerstone Bank account records and other financial information of the Committee. All checks will require two signatures.

Section 2: Accounting and Annual Review. The accounts of the Committee shall be monitored by a CPA accounting firm to be hired by the Committee and reviewed annually as outlined in the Policies and Procedures after the close of business on December 31 of each year. The review shall at all times be available to members of the MHA Nation Rodeo Association and to the TAT Tribal Business Council.

ARTICLE VII – Use of Funds

Section 1: Procedure. The Committee shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in the Charter and these Bylaws. To that end, the Committee may use its funds for rodeo activity promotion, donations, and any other purposes consistent with the Charter and these Bylaws.

Section 2: Salary of Board Members and Expenses. The Board Members of the Committee shall receive a reasonable salary to be set on or before January 1 for the ensuing year by the Tribal Business Council. The Board of Directors shall establish a per diem allowance for Board Members. Extraordinary expenses for such items as travel must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Salary of President, General Manager and Staff. A President, General Manager and staff may be appointed or hired by the Board of Directors for the day-to-day management of the Committee business. The Salary of the President, General Manager and staff shall be established by the Board of Directors and may be modified from time to time. Salaries of staff employees shall be recommended by the President or General Manager, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – Bylaws; Amendments

Section 1: Review of Bylaws. Bylaws will be reviewed no less than every two years. The official Bylaws shall be distributed to all Board Members and a copy shall be filed with the Secretary of the TAT Tribal Business Council.

Section 2. Amendment of Bylaws. These Bylaws may be amended by an approval of four Members, providing the notice for the meeting includes the proposals for amendments. Any proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Board Members in writing, stating the reason why the change should be adopted, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which they are to be acted upon. Such changes can be recommended only at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors. All changes in by-laws will be forwarded to the Secretary of the TAT Tribal Business Council Three Affiliated Tribes.

GENERAL RULES

Membership and Dues

1. Members shall abide by all rules and regulations of the Association and are bound by same.
2. Yearly memberships shall consist of single, family, senior and junior cards.
3. An unlimited number of permits to compete may be purchased but no points won on a permit will be counted for year-end standings. If a contestant wishes to upgrade a permit to a membership, the full cost of a membership must be paid. No points won on the original permit or permits will transfer to the subsequent membership.
4. Membership rates will be determined on an annual basis by the Board.
5. Membership Criteria:
 - **Seniors is 50+**
 - **Juniors is 17 and under as on Jan 1 of current year**
 - **Novice is 8 and Under**
 - **Family is considered Parents/Guardians and minor children within the household.**
6. Membership cards must be held by directors, contestants, announcers, pickup men, bullfighters, central entry, contractors and judges. All membership categories must be paid up before they can exercise their membership privileges. Any tardy membership payments will be deducted from their rodeo earnings.
7. Preference for staffing and contractors will be: 1. MHA Nation Members 2. Enrolled Members from any federally recognized tribe 3. All others
8. Recipients of year-end and finals rodeo awards must attend the designated awards ceremonies. Persons failing to attend will be assessed a fine in the amount of \$100 unless they have informed the MHA Rodeo Office prior to the awards ceremonies that they will not be attending and have assigned a person to pick up their awards.
9. Any contestant that chooses not to compete in the finals rodeo forfeits their right to receive any awards that they would otherwise be entitled to win.
10. Selection of rodeo livestock for the "stock of the year: awards will be conducted by event directors by contacting all entered finals contestants.

Approval, Point Awards, Finals

1. The following are the standard events at an MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION approved rodeo. These events include bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, ranch bronc riding, women's ranch bronc riding, bull riding, tie down roping, steer wrestling, team roping, ladies barrel racing, ladies breakaway roping, jr. breakaway roping, jr. bull riding, jr. barrel racing, novice barrel racing, Sr Team Roping, and senior breakaway roping. The Board shall have the discretion to approve or disapprove a rodeo according to the circumstances.

2. A system of points rather than dollars won will be used to determine event champions. The breakdown of points for placing at each rodeo in each event will be as follows: If four places are paid, points will be awarded to six places.

1st.....	400 points
2nd.	350 points
3rd.....	300 points
4th.....	250 points
5th.....	200 points
6th.....	150 points

If an event pays 6 places by virtue of increased entries and or added money, points will be awarded to eight places.

7th.....	100 points
8th.....	50 points

If an event pays 8 places by virtue of increased entries and or added money, points will be awarded to 10 places.

1st	500 points
2nd.	450 points
3rd.....	400 points
4th.....	350 points
5th.....	300 points
6th.....	250 points
7th.....	200 points
8th.....	150 points
9th.....	100 points
10th	50 points

The points for the finals rodeo will be awarded in the same manner as the payoff. Points will be awarded for each go-round. Average points will be awarded 2 places beyond money at the finals. Finals award winners to be determined by total time or points.

3. Awards will be given at the end of the year-to-year end champions and MHA Incentive winners.
4. A contestant must compete in 50% or more to be eligible to compete at the finals.
5. Open contestants in the finals shall vote for bareback, saddle bronc, and bull of the year if they compete in those events. Those animals eligible to be on the ballot must be in the draw at the finals.
6. The MHA Nation Board will set up the finals rodeo.
7. If a member abuses or mistreats an animal by any unnecessary competitive or non-competitive action (inside the arena or on the rodeo grounds), they may be disqualified. Violators of the rule shall be reported to the board. The board, upon hearing the evidence is such an instance, could then fine or disqualify the contestant, or both, as appropriate. A minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense. The fine will be progressively doubled with each offense. All complaints to be in writing and postmarked within 5 days of the incident. The offense to be acted upon at the next meeting. No electricity of any kind may be used during competition in the arena. There shall be a minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense.
8. There will be a \$500.00 fine for anyone who turns outs at the finals unless approved by the board of directors.

Blacklist

1. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION will post and maintain an MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION suspended or blacklist.
2. Any member may be fined, suspended, or both for any of the following reason:
 - a. Turn out or no show will be the total entry fee that the Association sets plus \$100 fine.
 - b. Non-payment of entry fees will be fees plus 1st Offense \$150 Fine 2nd Offense \$250 3rd Offense Blacklisted for remainder of season.
 - c. Fighting, quarreling, or causing trouble in or out of the arena as it relates to the rodeo.
 - d. Intentional damage to property
 - e. Harassing rodeo committee, staff or secretary.
 - f. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - g. Attempting to fix, threaten, bribe, influence or harass the judge at any time between the opening and closing dates of an approved rodeo, in or out of the arena, or for talking with the judge or timer while an event is in progress. Violators of this rule shall be reported to the Board by the judge involved, or by the arena director, or stock contractor of the rodeo where violation occurred. The Board, upon hearing the evidence in such an instance, could then fine or suspend the contestant, or both, as appropriate.
 - h. Delay of Rodeo: the first offense will be \$50.00. Fines to be doubled for each offense. Fines to be levied by the Board of Directors, judges or arena director.
3. A judge has the authority to fine on the spot and suspend from that rodeo, any contestant he feels is harassing him. Said fine shall be a minimum of \$100.00 and can be more by Board decision. Contestant to be blacklisted and appear before the Board before he can be removed from blacklist.
4. The MHA Rodeo Association Board will keep a blacklist

Committee & Rodeo Arenas

1. The local rodeo committee shall be responsible to maintain the rodeo arena in sound condition with fences, chutes and corrals in good repair. The arena ground will be worked before each performance and slack session. The barrel pattern must be worked or raked after the ladies' barrel racing event a source of good drinking water must be available and accessible
2. Local committees are responsible for providing any other equipment necessary for rodeo competition.
3. The rodeo arena must be available for contestants use up to one hour before the start of the performance or slack session. However, this provision may be waived in the event that other activities are taking place within the arena.
4. The host committee will be responsible for ambulatory equipment for injured livestock, an inured animal sled is preferred along with an implement to pull the sled. If a sled is not available a panel and implement capable of lifting 2,500 must be on site.

RODEO REGULATIONS

General

1. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION assumes no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to person, property, or stock of any owner, contestant or assistant. Each participant, by the act of his entry waives all claims against the management and the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION for injuries he or his property may sustain. All contestants must sign a waiver of liability. Liability must have parent's signature and be notarized for contestants under 18 years of age.
2. The announcer must announce all scores and times.

3. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION Board has the right to declare any stock unsatisfactory and any so declared will be taken from the draw.
4. The management of each MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION approved rodeo shall be required to provide an ambulance with trained attendants on hand during the performances and slack of that rodeo.
5. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION is not responsible for the entry fees of those contestants who do not show up at a rodeo but will pay the stock contractor the stock charge.
6. Stock is not to be fed in the arena during the rodeo. If stock must be fed in the arena, the rodeo committee must have the arena worked satisfactorily the same for all performances and slack.
7. If a member abuses or mistreats an animal by any unnecessary competitive or non-competitive action (inside the arena or on the rodeo grounds), they may be disqualified. Violators of the rule shall be reported to the board. The board, upon hearing the evidence is such an instance, could then fine or disqualify the contestant, or both, as appropriate. A minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense. The fine will be progressively doubled with each offense. All complaints to be in writing and postmarked within 5 days of the incident. The offense to be acted upon at the next meeting. No electricity of any kind may be used during competition in the arena. There shall be a minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense.
8. The barrels will be removed from the arena 1 hour before the performances and slack.
9. Rodeos and date must be approved by the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION Board.
10. MHA RODEO Association assumes no responsibility or liability for any physical injury or damage to the person, property or livestock of any owner, lessee, contestant, committee personnel, contestants' assistance or special contractor. Each rodeo contestant by the act of a formal entry to compete waives any and all claims against the MHA Nation and the local rodeo committee for any physical injury, stress or property damage or loss sustained at any time.

Secretary and Rodeo Office

1. The MHA Rodeo Association Board provides the arena secretary, shall be responsible for the secretary's actions, and is liable for secretary's mistakes or discrepancies in the payoff or in the handling of entry fee monies.
2. Committees to be responsible for providing flags poles, whistles, barrels, rakes and other equipment as necessary.
3. Rodeo secretaries must provide a list of the winners, money won, and times to the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION secretary for recording toward the standings. This list must be signed by the rodeo secretary or the producer of the rodeo. President, stock contractor, and secretary must have copy of this list.
4. Rodeo secretary must make the payoff at the end of the rodeo.
5. All fines and no shows shall be called into the central entry system and the Association secretary the Monday following the rodeo.
6. No one is allowed to contest at an MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION rodeo until the no show is paid.
7. The MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION does not guarantee the no show entry fees to the purse. No show moneys will go into the purse if the entry fees are collected before the payoff is figured for that rodeo.
8. Ground money will be split between qualifying contestants and association.

Payoff

1. Entrance fees plus prize money shall be totaled in each event to determine the payoff.

- All Events
 - Four places
 - Riding events \$0-\$2999 pays 4 places
 - Timed Events \$0-\$1999 pays 4 places
 - Split as follows: 40%, 30%, 20%, 10%
 - Six places
 - Riding events (capped at 6) \$3000+ pays six places
 - Timed Events: \$2000-\$4999
 - Split as follows: 29%, 24%, 19%, 14%, 11%, 8%, 5% and 2%
 - Eight Places
 - Timed Events (Capped at 8): \$5,000 plus pays 8
 - Splits as follows: 23%, 20%, 17%, 14%, 11%, 8%, 5% and 2%
- Where there are 5 or less contestants in an event two places are to be paid at a 60%/40% split
- Team Roping
 - All payouts in the team roping will be calculated based upon per person per end. All team roping payouts must be split prior to determining number of places paid
- Ground Money
 - Ground money will be split between qualifying contestants and the association

Central Entry

1. **All contestants shall enter through central entry system.**

2. Entries shall be taken in accord with the method determined by the Board.

3. Contestants may enter a rodeo after the closing of the normal central entry time period through the central entry telephone. Late entries will be taken during the designated time on the rodeo poster, but entries taken during this late entry period will require \$25 late fee. This additional entry fee money will be split between the association and the central entry secretary as compensation for their inconvenience in making the changes to the judges' sheets and programs. None of this additional entry fee goes to the purse. Trades are allowed with a \$15 fee.

4. The person who enters others is responsible for the entry fee of those entered.

Entry Fees

1. Rodeo secretary must turn into the Association office immediately after each rodeo the names of any member contestants who did not pay entry fees, the names of members entering any contestants who did not pay entry fees, and the amount of these unpaid entry fees must be listed.

2. An entry fee as determined by the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION Board shall be charged each contestant in each event he enters.

3. Any contestant who is injured or suddenly taken ill at a rodeo in which he is contesting shall have his entry

4. Medical and veterinary releases must be received within 7 days of the rodeo missed. Veterinary releases in the barrel race only.

5. No refund of entry fees once a contestant has competed.

Contestants

1. A contestant may draw out of a rodeo through the central entry number during the appointed draw out time, as determined by the Board.

2. MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION members or rodeo officials shall not drink in the arena, behind the chutes,

and shall not be under the influence of alcohol during the performance, and/or slack.

3. Contestants must wear a hat, boots, and long-sleeved shirt with collars and buttons or snaps while in the rodeo arena, during performances, slack and one hour prior to the start of the rodeo. Western attire will be a long-sleeved shirt with a collar and buttons or snaps. No tennis shoes or competition shoes of any kind allowed, even if approved by other rodeo associations. Offenders may be fined \$25.00 by the Executive Committee providing the offenders have been warned. A warning constitutes an announcement from the crowd's nest or by any MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION official or Board member. Dress code fines to be doubled for each offense. All contestant helpers must be in western attire. Fines will be levied against the contestant. Fines may be levied by the Board.
4. It is the responsibility of each contestant to read the rules carefully, especially those relating to events in which they compete. Failure to understand rules is not an excuse.
5. Contestants must wear numbers while competing if they are provided by the management. Contestants may be required to ride in the grand entry. Contestants in the arena must not interfere with the vision of the paid spectators.
6. At judges' discretion, any contestant who has been advised they are next to compete and are not ready or take too much time to get ready to compete may be disqualified.
7. A barrel racing contestant that competes out of turn according to the official judge's sheet will result in a \$100 fine.
8. Ages for junior contestants will be 17 and under as of January 1 of that year.
9. While a contestant may have occasion to ask a judge for clarification of a decision during an event, contestants may not be argumentative or use abusive language in any way toward a judge. Contestants who wish to protest a judge's decision or lodge a complaint of any kind may do so by addressing the Arena Director in written form. Oral complaints will not be accepted or acted upon in any formal way.
10. Medical releases and veterinary releases must be received within 7 days of the missed rodeo. Veterinary releases for the barrel race only.
11. Stock that is loaded will be turned out after the contestant has been called 3 times. The contestant will receive a no time or no score. Entry fee and \$50 progressive fine will need to be paid.
12. If a member abuses or mistreats an animal by any unnecessary competitive or non-competitive action (inside the arena or on the rodeo grounds), they may be disqualified. Violators of the rule shall be reported to the board. The board, upon hearing the evidence in such an instance, could then fine or disqualify the contestant, or both, as appropriate. A minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense. The fine will be progressively doubled with each offense. All complaints to be in writing and postmarked within 5 days of the incident. The offense to be acted upon at the next meeting. No electricity of any kind may be used during competition in the arena. There shall be a minimum of \$150.00 fine for the first offense. Fine money collected from an abuse should be given to the contractor involved.
13. If a contestant's equipment fails, he/she shall not receive a rerun.
14. It is the contestant's responsibility to see when their event is and when he/she is up. If a contestant competes on the wrong animal, it will be a no time.
15. Judge/Arena Directors may assess a \$50.00 progressive fine for delay of rodeo.

STOCK Drawing of Stock, Positions, and Rerides

1. Stock contractors, rodeo secretary, or director from local committee, or a director from the Board may make the draw if no judge is present one hour before rodeo. All drawing of stock must be conducted so that any entrant may witness the draw.
2. Positions must be drawn for immediately at the close of entries by the central entry secretary.
3. There must be as many as four exact copies made of the draw. One copy to be posted, one copy for each judge, and one or more copies for the secretary's records. Receptacle containing the numbers to be drawn must be held above the drawing judge's head and numbers recorded between each draw. These numbers must be recorded on the posted copy, the judges' copies and the secretary's copy.
4. Stock for rerides may be chosen by the contractor but the order of reride stock must be drawn by the judges prior to the rodeo performance.
 - a. Any stock in the original draw that is turned out, this means not contested upon or bucked exhibition, automatically goes into the re-ride if needed. If in the chute, the turn out will be the first one used.
5. Judge must announce the option of a re-ride at the time the score is announced. Contestant must make a decision whether to accept the score or the re-ride as soon as the option is given to him.
6. All junior stock will be drawn the same as senior stock.
7. The draw shall be posted where all contestants can examine it.
8. Stock may be turned out if the contestant fails to show or if he is stalling and wasting too much time, or if called three times. Delay of Rodeo: the first offense will be \$50.00. Fines to be doubled for each offense. Fines to be levied by the Board of Directors, judges, or arena director.
9. It is the responsibility of the contestant to see that he/she competes on the stock drawn for him/her. If a contestant competes on the wrong animal, it will be a not time.
10. A contestant will receive time/score on an animal only if he has competed on the animal drawn for him. The part of the rule regarding an animal being the contestants after he nods for him pertains only to the condition of the animal (injuries, broken horn, crippled, etc.) and his position in the chute. The only exception to competing on livestock other than that originally drawn for a contestant will be in the case of an animal injured after the draw and prior to competition, then a substitute animal will be drawn.
11. If in the opinion of the judges, a rider makes two (2) honest efforts to get out on a chute fighting animal and is unable to do so, he may have a re-ride.
12. Any animal that becomes excessively excited so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly or tries repeatedly to jump out of the chute or in any way appears to be in danger of injuring itself should be released immediately. The contestant to be given another animal.
13. No untried horses or bulls shall be used in the draw.
14. All horned animals used in the bull riding shall have their horns blunted to at least the diameter of a half dollar.
15. Animals for all events will be inspected before the draw, and no sore, lame, sick, or injured animals or animals with defective eyesight will be permitted in the draw at any time. Should an animal become sick or be injured between the time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled for use in competition, that animal shall not be used in competition and another animal shall be drawn for the contestant. This is the responsibility

of the judges.

16. One arm must be free of animal and equipment at all times during ride, but contestant may use his free hand against any foreign objects (pickup men, fences, etc.) that obstruct his ride.
17. Rider may be given a re-ride if the flank breaks or comes off provided he completes a qualified ride.
18. If horse turns out backwards the contestant will receive a re-ride.
19. Time on the rough stock shall start when the inside shoulder of the animal breaks the plane of the chute.
20. All stock will be drawn with the exception of Jr Team Roping, Ranch Broncs, and Jr Bull riding.
21. Minimum number of timed event cattle needs to be 1/3 of the contestants in events.
22. Drawing Timed Event Stock. Breakaways will all have their own pens. O p e n Team roping will be a separate pen from the JR/Sr Team roping. Prior to each performance and slack, the judge will draw an animal for each contestant scheduled to compete in that performance. If all animals are used and more are needed, return all to the draw. Any remaining animals will start the draw for the next performance. If more animals are needed for that performance only those not competed on in that performance are drawn from.
23. All fresh timed event cattle be run (tie down calves to be tied, steer wrestling steers to be thrown) before the rodeo. A \$50.00 fine to be levied for each pen of cattle that are not suitable. The fine to be doubled for each offense.
24. Judges, Arena Director and/or Chute Boss may declare particular animals unsatisfactory due to health, condition of the animal, or consistent irregular performance. Upon notification, either written or verbal (verbal notification supported with documentation). Stock contractors shall eliminate such animal from competition draw. Continued use of said animal(s) after notification will result in a \$50.00 fine per competition. Unsatisfactory animals may be reinstated by those same event directors or the executive committee.
25. Contractors must run animals through before slack for both timed event and rough stock.

Slack

1. Slack time will be determined by rodeo committee and advertised as such. A slack time shall be advertised for every rodeo.
2. Order of slack will be as follows: **Steer wrestling, tie down, lady's breakaway, Sr breakaway, barrels, Jr barrels, novice barrels, Jr breakaway, team roping, Sr team roping, Jr team roping**
3. Events may be split into sections due to numbers of contestants or stock numbers

Judges

1. There shall be a minimum of two qualified judges per approved rodeo. The qualification will be determined by Executive Committee.
2. MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION will hire the judges for the rodeos.
3. Judges must attend a clinic in the last three years to be on the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION judges list. Judges who have distinguished themselves by virtue of their experience and/or competition shall be exempt from the clinic attendance rule.
4. Judges may not compete at and judge at the same rodeo.
5. If there is a question, the judge must make a decision before the end of the event.

6. The time for all rough stock events, both junior and senior, shall be (8) eight seconds. Official time shall be kept by one or both judges. The committee timer shall keep back up time and blow the whistle as well.
7. While a contestant may have occasion to ask a judge for clarification of a decision during an event, contestants may not be argumentative or use abusive language in any way toward the judge. Contestants who wish to protest a judge's decision or lodge a complaint of any kind may do so by addressing the Executive Committee or Arena Director in written form. Oral complaints will not be accepted or acted upon in any formal way.
8. The judges will be responsible for setting up the barrel pattern and marking the barrels **and barrier equipment**.
9. An arena diagram will be provided to each rodeo committee that is to be filled out by at least one judge and any contestants helping to mark the barrels.
10. Judges will use a disqualification flag and stopwatch for the three rough stock events
 - The flag will be thrown immediately upon a disqualification by contestant
 - Judges will take the longest time between two stop watches as the official time for qualifying 8 second's draws
 - No video tape may be used to influence a judge's decision
 - If a judge is hired and fails to appear or provide an approved substitute that judge will be fined at the discretion of the judge
11. The judges must note all penalties and rule infractions on their judges' sheets, sign them and return them to the rodeo office.
12. Judges will be requested to mark the rough stock animals on score sheets even though the rider was disqualified
- 13.

Timers

1. There shall be one experienced timer working the rodeo.
2. If timed event stock gets out of the arena, timers will stop the watch.
3. Never stop your watch when the contestant is competing until the judge clearly signals time. If there is any doubt in your mind as to the judge's signal, one timer should stop her watch and the other keep the time going, until the judge can clarify his signal. If the judge did signal time, the first time shall be taken; if not, the second timer will have the correct time.
4. There must be two timers at every rodeo at all times. Timers may be replaced in different events, but the same timer must time all of whatever event she first timed.
5. Timers should ideally not be closely associated with the contestants. This is not always possible, so a sincere effort will be acceptable.
6. Time on the rough stock shall start when the inside shoulder of the animal breaks the plane of the chute.
7. Timers must record stopwatch times as well as electric eye times in the barrel race. Both stopwatch times to be recorded in tenths. Electric eye times in 1000's.
8. All timed events shall be timed in tenths of a second rather than hundredths when the stop watches are used. All stopwatch times shall be read in tenths only. No rounding off to the nearest number shall be used.
9. The time for all rough stock events, both junior and senior, shall be (8) eight seconds. Official time shall be kept by one or both judges. The committee timer shall keep back-up time and blow whistle as well.

10. There will be a 30 second time limit, except for open barrels 45 seconds and juniors and novice 60 seconds.
11. Whenever the field flagger drops the flag record the time even though it may result in a no time. (Record the time, put a line through the time, put no time next to it.)

Committee

1. The local rodeo committee shall be responsible to maintain the rodeo arena in sound condition with fences, chutes, and corrals in good repair. The arena ground will be worked before each performance and slack session. The barrel pattern must be worked or raked after lady's barrel racing even. A source of good drinking water must be available and accessible.
2. Have the grounds worked the same for slack and performances.
3. If there is a center gate, use it whenever possible.
4. Proper watering of the arena
5. Fifty-five-gallon metal barrels must be supplied for the barrel race. No tires allowed on barrels and the barrels must be closed on both ends.

Barrier Judge

1. A tape measure is an absolute necessity for any barrier judge. Score line: Calf roping and breakaway: minimum length will be the length of the roping box minus four (4) feet. Maximum length of the score will be eighteen (18) feet. Steer wrestling: the score may be no longer than the length of the steer wrestling box minus six (6) feet, unless the box is less than fourteen (14) feet. In that instance the length of the score would be the maximum length of the box minus five (5) feet. Team roping: the minimum length of the team roping score line shall be the length of the box minus four (4) feet. Indoor arenas: all measurements minus one (1) foot.
2. Barrier and neck rope must be braided poly at least 3/8 inches. Neck ropes must be tied with string. An adjustable slide must be used on all neck ropes used in the timed events. Barrier height should be 32 to 36 inches measured in the center.
3. The neck rope is the only part of the barrier that may foul a contest to MHA Rodeo Association a rerun, but the contestant must stop and declare immediately.
4. Prior to each performance measure rope length to score line with pin in place. Measure from front of chute gate to end of neck rope and make sure this given length is maintained throughout the entire rodeo. All barrier measurements should be written in the judge's book and turned into the secretary. Barrier and gate should be put into operation and tested, to make sure that everything is in proper working order. Barrier string (where rings are attached) should be checked prior to first contestant and each run thereafter. Make sure there is an ample supply of string. Replace string regularly since it may become frayed or worn. All broken barriers should be recorded in the judge's book even though the stock may be missed. Barrier string will be furnished by the Judges.
5. Ropes, pulleys, and all equipment needed to set up barriers and open gates shall be provided by judges.
6. Animal belongs to contestant when he calls for him, regardless of what happens, except in cases of mechanical failure of the barrier.

Field Flagger

1. If animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped, and watches stopped. Contestant will get the animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying. If time is not recorded, the decision of the judge will be final.
2. Neither timers, barrier judge, nor field flag judge may be changed during the course of the rodeo except in the case of sickness or by request of association officials in agreement of stock contractor and rodeo committee.
3. At least several head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-penned by himself. Decision will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.
4. In the calf roping, a field flagger should position himself far enough down the left side (right-hand tie) of the arena fence, being against the fence, so that he has full view of the calf and the roper as he rides toward the contestant to inspect the throw and tie. The best approach after the roper has caught his calf is a position at a 45-degree angle behind and to the side of the contestant. This will enable him to tell if the calf was allowed to regain his feet. In the steer wrestling, the field flagger should position himself on the left-hand side of the arena by the dogging box. When the steer wrestler passes, follow him down the left-hand side of the arena. If he is unable to follow the dogging horse, the flagger should be positioned so that he will be on the side where he is best able to see the steer's head and all four feet. In the team roping, the field flagger should be positioned on the left of the chute about 45-degrees from the score line and ten to fifteen feet down the arena. In the breakaway roping, the field flagger should position himself against the fence on the far end of the right side of the arena so he will have full view of the calf and the roper and can see when the rope breaks free.
5. Field flagger judge will not flag the contestant out until time is recorded. Judge to flag time, then flag the contestant out if run is not legal.

**** Riding Events ****

General Rules for All Riding Events.

Riding Event Animals. A stock contractor that is a current MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION member will furnish all riding event animals. The riding event animals must be bucked at two separate rodeos to qualify for the finals.

Markings. The ride and the animal are to be marked separately. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from zero to 25 per judge on both the bucking animal and rider. By using the full spread, the total may reach a maximum of 100 points.

Timing. All riding events shall be timed for six or eight seconds, that time to start when animal's inside front shoulder (or hip, if animal comes out backwards) passes the plane of the chute gate. All riding event contestants must complete the eight-second time limit to be eligible for a marking. Judges in arena shall carry a stopwatch for the official time.

Time Limit. All contestants have 45 seconds to nod for the gate or will be given a no time. Contestants need to utilize the lead ups.

Use of Prod ("Hotshot"). Rider must tell one judge, flank man, and/or stock contractor if he does not want his draw touched with hotshot. If a contestant requests no hotshot be used, no reride will be awarded if the animal stalls or runs off. However, if the animal slips, falls, or the rider is fouled, a reride may be awarded. No hotshots used on the animal once they are in the arena.

Rerides. Rerides will be given at the discretion of a judge. Reasons for possible rerides include the following: if an animal stops, throws itself or fouls rider, animal comes in contact with arena personal, stock contractor's equipment fails, performance of animal is inferior or has become sick or injured prior to being bucked or if an

animal comes out backwards in horse events only. No rerides will be given if the contestant's equipment breaks. I

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, they may be given a reride.

Flank Comes Off or Breaks. Rider may be given a reride on the same animal if flank comes off or breaks. If rider has made a qualified ride, they may have the option of a reride or accepting the marking by the judges. A contestant will only have the option of a reride 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.

Animal Deliberately Throws Itself. If in the opinion of the judges an animal deliberately throws itself, the rider or contractor shall have the choice of the same animal again or they may have the first available reride animal.

Contact Between Pickup Men and Animal. If pickup men or any horse in arena come in contact with a bucking animal before the qualified time elapses, the contestant shall have the option of a reride, if a qualified ride is made up until the infraction. Negligence regarding an animal injures.

Negligence- Contestants will be fined for number of animals for negligent death or injury to the animal.

Bareback Riding.

One-Handed Rigging. Riding shall be done with one-handed rigging.

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 horse's back when cinched. No fiberglass or metal riggings or handholds. No freaks will be allowed. **Single Layer of Leather or Sheepskin Under Hand Hold.** Rider may have a single layer of leather or sheepskin under handhold, which will extend at least 1 inch on both sides of the center of the handhold and which shall be glued down.

Cinches and Latigos. Cinches on bareback rigging shall be made of mohair and at least 8 inches in width at the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" rings. Latigos must be of leather only.

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. 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick will be allowed. In addition, the pad must have leather over the bars $\frac{3}{16}$ inch thick and extending at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch on either side and back of the handlebars. Also, a piece of leather a minimum of $\frac{3}{16}$ inch thick and 4 inches square must be centered in comparison to the total body length of the rigging. The piece of leather shall be placed so that $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of it extends behind the rigging and the remaining 2 inches are under the rigging.

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.

Rider's Glove. The rider's glove will be a plain glove with no flaps, rolls, wedges, or gimmicks. 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.

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 on glove.

Spur Out Rule. To qualify for a marking a bareback rider must have the rowels of the spurs touching the horse above the break of the shoulders when the horse's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute. If in the opinion of the judges a rider is fouled at the gate, the spur out rule will be waived.

Stalled Horse. If a horse stalls in the chute, either judge shall tell rider to take their feet out of the horse's neck (yelling, "go on") and the spur out rule will be waived. Rider shall be disqualified for not following judge's instructions to take feet from neck of horse stalled in chute.

Disqualification of Rider. Any of the following will disqualify a rider:

- a. Riding with rowels too sharp or locked.
- b. Being bucked off.
- c. Touching animal, equipment, or person with free hand. One arm must be free at all times.
- d. Violating the spur out rule.
- e. Rigging coming off horse, with or without breaking.
- f. Taking any kind of finger tuck, finger wrap, or use of finger tape. Violators shall be disqualified and may also be subject to fine.
- g. If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal with their glove on when the previous horse leaves the arena.

Inability to Free Hand. Contestants may be subject to fine by the board upon discretion of the pickup men, judges, event director, and/or stock contractor if a bareback rider is unable to free their hand from rigging after a qualified ride or after declaring by double grabbing. The fine shall be \$25.00. 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.

Saddle Specifications. All riding must be done with saddles that comply with the following specifications:

- 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches outside width measurement.
- b. Swell Undercut: Not more than 2 inches – 1 inch on each side.
- c. A) Gullet: Not less than 4 inches wide at center of fork of covered saddle.
- d. A) Tree: Saddles must be built on standard tree and must conform to the following specifications, with a reasonable added thickness of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch for leather covering:

Fork – 14 inches wide

Height – 9 inches maximum

Gullet – 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide

Cantle – 5 inches maximum height; 14 inches maximum width.

e. Stirrup Leather: must be hung over bars.

f. No freaks allowed.

Cinches and Latigos. Front cinch on bronc saddle shall be made of mohair and at least 8 inches in width at

the center but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" rings. Latigos must be of leather only.

Standard Halter. Halters must have adjustable noseband and be at least 1 ½ inches wide. Standard halter must be used unless agreement is made by both contestant and stock contractor. Contestant may furnish their own halter.

Riding Rein. Riding rein and hand must be on same side. Contestant must furnish own rein.

Saddling of Horses. Horses shall be saddled in chute. Rider may cinch own saddle. Saddles shall not be set too far ahead on horse's withers. Either stock contractor or contestant has the right to call the judges to pass on whether or not horse is properly saddled and flanked to buck its best. Middle flank belongs to rider, but contractor may have rider put flank behind curve of horse's belly. Flank cinch may be hobbled.

Spur Out Rule. To qualify for a marking a saddle bronc rider must have the rowels of the spurs touching the horse above the break of the shoulders when the horse's front feet hit the ground on its initial move out of the chute. If in the opinion of the judges a rider is fouled at the gate, the spur out rule will be waived.

Stalled Horse. If a horse stalls in the chute, either judge shall tell rider to take their feet out of the horse's neck (yelling, "go on") and the spur out rule will be waived. Rider shall be disqualified for not following judge's instructions to take feet from neck of horse stalled in chute.

Disqualification of Rider. Any of the following will disqualify a rider:

- a. Riding with rowels too sharp or locked.
- b. Being bucked off.
- c. Touching animal, equipment, or person with free hand. One arm must be free at all times: d. Violating the spur out rule.
- e. Changing hands on rein.
- f. Losing or dropping rein before pre-designated time.
- g. Wrapping rein around hand.
- h. Losing stirrup.
- i. If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal when the previous horse leaves the arena.

Use of Adhesives. There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on saddle or on rider's chaps.

Ranch Broncs

1. 8 second ride
2. Standard working saddle must be used
3. No hobbling of one or both stirrups
4. Horse has to be saddle as if was being used for everyday use
5. Flank cinch must be hobbled to front cinch with hobble strap no longer than 10 inches.
6. Rope must be free except for the rope strap, no tying rope to anything but the rope strap.
7. Stirrup leathers must be standard leathers.
8. Saddle blankets and pads are not to be used
9. Saddles should have full or 7/8 double rigging, no centerfire or 5/8 or ¾ rigging allowed.
10. Saddles will be inspected before unsaddling in the stropping chute. Violations will result in immediate disqualification in the ranch bronc during for that round
11. A regular bucking horse halter with one rein must be used

12. Points will be awarded for the difficulty of the horse and also for the degree of aggressiveness, control and exposure demonstrated by the rider.
13. If the rider believes he was fouled "Foul" must be yelled in the first 3 seconds of the ride and then continue to make best ride possible throughout the 8 second ride. A re-ride may be awarded at the judge's discretion.

Women's Ranch Broncs

1. 6 second ride
2. Standard working saddle must be used
3. No hobbling of one or both stirrups
4. Horse has to be saddle as if was being used for everyday use
5. Flank cinch must be hobbled to front cinch with hobble strap no longer than 10 inches.
6. Rope must be free except for the rope strap, no tying rope to anything but the rope strap.
7. Stirrup leathers must be standard leathers.
8. Saddle blankets and pads are not to be used
9. Saddles should have full or 7/8 double rigging, no centerfire or 5/8 or 3/4 rigging allowed.
10. Saddles will be inspected before unsaddling in the stropping chute. Violations will result in immediate disqualification in the ranch bronc during for that round
11. A regular bucking horse halter with one rein must be used
12. Points will be awarded for the difficulty of the horse and also for the degree of aggressiveness, control and exposure demonstrated by the rider.
13. If the rider believes he was fouled "Foul" must be yelled in the first 3 seconds of the ride and then continue to make best ride possible throughout the 6 second ride. A re-ride may be awarded at the judge's discretion.

Bull Riding.

Riding Requirements. Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without handhold.

Rope. Rope must have bell; bell must be under belly of bull. No knots or hitches to prevent rope from falling off bull when rider leaves him. Rope must come off bull after ride has been completed.

Pulling of Rope. No more than two people may be allowed to pull contestant's rope.

Flanking of Bull. No bull tails will be allowed under flank straps. Horse flanks will be allowed, provided that the tail of the flank strap is not long enough to touch the ground once pulled.

Horn Specifications. No bull may be put in draw until his horns have been blunted to at least the diameter of a half-dollar.

Disqualification of Rider. Any of the following will disqualify a rider:

- a. Being bucked off.
- b. Touching animal, equipment, or person with free hand. 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. Not having a bell on bull rope.
- e. If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal with their glove on and the previous bull leaves the arena.

Use of Adhesives. There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on rope or on rider's glove.

TIMED Events General Rules

1. Barrier judge is responsible for changing barrier string whenever it may have weekend or on request of next contestant
2. A ten (10) second penalty will be added for breaking or beating the barrier.

3. Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced. Should barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats barrier or barrier rope is broke and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a 10 second penalty.
4. If barrier flag man is used, animal is to be flagged when animals nose crosses the starting line, or score line in front of the line judge
5. Once score has been set in the timed events, it will not be changed at that rodeo, nor can length of box be changed.
6. In order for time to be considered official barrier flag must operate. The barrier flag should be on the barrier pole or barrier instead of on the neck rope of the timed event cattle.
7. If neck rope fails to work, but time is recorded, contestant or team will get time. Barrier penalty will be waived unless obviously beaten by the contestant.
8. If official time has not started, contestant or team will get stock back if stock is qualified on in field. If barrier was obviously beaten, the barrier penalty will be applied to the rerun.
9. If in the opinion of the line judge, contestant is fouled by barrier, ropers shall get their calf or steer back providing contestant declares himself by pulling up immediately.
10. Animal belongs to the contestant when he calls for it regardless of what happens, except for mechanical failure and if in the opinion of the line judge, the contestant is fouled by the barrier or the rope does not come off of the animal or the animal does not cross the width of the score line (which is the width of the boxes at the length of the score line) before it crosses the length of the score line. Animal will be given over with no penalty if in the opinion of the judge, the contestant did not deliberately beat the barrier and if the contestant accepts the animal, he accepts the animal as sound.
11. If time is not recorded when a field flagger flags out a contestant who has a second loop or jump coming, the contestant has the option of taking the animal back, lap-n-tap, with 10 seconds added to the new time.
12. Out Gate is to remain open in timed event except for steer wrestling.

Tie Down roping

1. Rope must be tied hard and fast. Contestant must rope calf, dismount, go down the rope and throw calf by hand and cross and tie any three feet. To qualify as a legal tie there shall be at least one wrap around all three legs (or all three legs must be tied together) and secured with a half hitch. (EXAMPLE: One wrap around two legs, third leg wrapped to one or both of first two.) If calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be elevated high enough that it has the opportunity to regain its feet. If roper's hand is on the calf when the calf falls, the calf is considered thrown by hand. Rope must hold calf till roper gets hand on calf. Tie must hold and three legs remain crossed until passed on by the judge, and roper must not touch calf after giving finished signal until after judge has completed his examination. If tie comes loose or calf gets to his feet before the tie has been ruled a fair one, the roper will be marked no time.
2. Tie Down roping is one loop only.
3. 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 horse drags calf, field judge may stop horse and any penalty for such offense can only be assessed by the flag judge.
4. In the event a contestants catch rope is off a calf after completion of tie, the six second time periods are to start when the roper clears the calf.
5. The field flag judge will pass on the tie of calves through the use of a stopwatch, timing six seconds from the time the rope horse takes his first step forward after the roper has remounted. Rope will not be removed from calf and rope must remain slack until field judge has passed on tie.
6. Flagger must watch calf during the six second period and will stopwatch when a calf kicks free using the time shown on the watch to determine whether calf was tied long enough to qualify.
7. Under all circumstances, roper will be disqualified for removing rope from calf after signaling for time,

before the tie has been passed by the field judge.

8. Roping calves shall weigh a minimum of 165 pounds, maximum 265, and should be uniform size. Roping calves must be permanently marked for the season.
9. Neck ropes must be tied with string. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on neck ropes in the timed events. Barrier judge is responsible to see that neck rope is placed on calf properly.
10. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge and a barrier judge, time to be taken between two flags. Arena conditions will determine score, length of score to be set by arena director and timed event spokesman or director, stock contractor and judges.
11. Fresh calves shall be tied down prior to the first performance or slack. Draw will not be posted until after this is done.
12. Calves must be lined the same throughout the rodeo. Liners will be straight out the far side of the heading box however far the timed event contractor wishes.
13. There will be an open gate excluding those rodeos where there is an average. If at any time during the run any part of the calf crosses the catch pen gate, he is considered home and free and no time will be given.
14. There will be a 30 second time limit excluding penalties in the calf roping.
15. Animal belongs to contestant when he calls for him, regardless of what happens, except in cases of mechanical failure of the barrier.
16. All changes in order to split horses etc., must be made before the performance or slack begins.
17. A contestant will receive a no time and a fine for the run if he brings the animal over backward, (between 10 and 2 on a standard clock), with the animal landing on the back of his head with all four feet in air.

Steer Wrestling

1. Contestants must furnish own hazer and horses. Steer must be caught from horse. Only one hazer is allowed.
2. If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer. **After catching steer, wrestler must change directions or bring steer to a stop and twist him down.** If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown down before being brought to a stop or is thrown by a wrestler putting animal's horn into the ground, it must be let up on all four feet and then thrown. Steer will be considered down only when it is lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet straight. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged. The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the discretion of the judges.
3. Hazer must not hit steer in the face before catch is made or render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer. Failure to observe this rule will disqualify contestant. Contestant and hazer must use the same two horses they leave the chute with.
4. An automatic barrier must be used and there should be at least a twelve-foot box.
5. Neck ropes must be tied with string. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on neck ropes in timed events. It is the barrier judge's responsibility to see that neck rope is placed on the steer properly.
6. A weight limit shall be placed on dogging cattle: a minimum of 400 pounds and a maximum of 550 pounds per animal. Horn length to be at least nine inches and bulls are permitted with director approval.
7. If dogger misses or loses steer, flag man must ask dogger if he wishes another jump. Dogger must reply at

once.

8. Cattle used for team roping shall not be used for steer wrestling.
9. When fresh steers are used, any fresh steers not thrown down during competition will be thrown down before the next performance. Contestants will be responsible to throw down such steers under the supervision of the arena director or stock contractor.
10. Arena conditions will determine score, length of score to be set by arena director and timed event director or spokesman, if present, subject to the conditions set forth herein.
11. In steer wrestling the score may be no longer than the length of the steer wrestling box minus six feet unless other MHA Rodeo Association measurements are approved by the steer wrestling director or representative.
12. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge and a barrier judge, time to be taken between two flags.
13. Animals used for this contest should be closely inspected and objectionable ones eliminated. Contestant will not be required to compete on a crippled steer or a steer with a broken horn. Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts in any way to tamper with steers or chutes.
14. Field flagger is required to watch contestant and steer until animal is turned loose. Contestant is required to turn steer's head so he can get up. Arena director may report infractions.
15. All cattle must be permanently marked for the season.
16. Animal belongs to contestant when he calls for him, regardless of what happens, except in cases of mechanical failure of the barrier.
17. Closed gate policy.
18. There will be a 30 second time limit excluding penalties in the Steer Wrestling.
19. All changes in order to split horses etc., must be made before the performance or slack begins.
20. The horns in steer wrestling cattle must be blunted to the size of a dime. Failure to abide by this may result in the stock contractor being fined \$25.00 per head per run. Stock contractors will be expected to cooperate in trimming the horns of steers that are not able to pass through the timed event chute.

Team Roping

1. Cattle will be drawn for. Header will start behind a barrier. There will be a ten second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier. If steer gets out of the arena, flag will be dropped, and the roper gets the steer back lap and tap with the time added which was taken when the steer left the arena. Team roper behind barrier must throw first loop at head.
2. Each contestant will be allowed to carry one rope. There will be a limit of two loops in the Team Roping. Roping steers without turning loose the loop will be considered no catch. Roper must dally to stop steer. No tied ropes allowed, except heelers over 50 years of age. Dropped loop will be considered thrown loop.
3. Field judge shall drop flag when steer is roped by its head and heels, and both horses are facing steer in line 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.
4. All changes in order to split horses etc., must be made before the performance or slack begins.

5. Steer must not be handled roughly at any time, and ropers may be disqualified if, in the opinion of the field judge, they have intentionally done so. IF HEADER ACCIDENTALLY JERKS STEER OFF HIS FEET OR STEER TRIPS OR FALLS, HEADER MUST NOT DRAG STEER OVER EIGHT FEET BEFORE STEER REGAINS HIS FEET OR THE TEAM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
6. Broken rope or dropped rope will be considered no time, regardless of whether time has been taken or not. Flagger may ask ropers to hold dallies until catches are inspected. Any questions as to catches in this contest will be decided by the judges. Illegal catches may not be taken off by hand by either roper.
7. If steer is roped by one horn, roper is not allowed to ride up and put rope over other horn or head with his hands.
8. If 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 flag judge drops his flag, time will be counted.
9. There shall be two timers, a barrier judge and a field flag judge, time to be taken between two flags. Arena conditions will determine score, length of score to be set by arena director and timed event director or spokesman, if present, subject to the conditions set forth herein.
10. Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
11. Neck ropes must be tied with string. No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on neck ropes in the timed events. It is the barrier judge's responsibility to see that neck rope is placed on steer properly.
12. Throwing heel loop. The direction of the steer's entire 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 or in the switch will be considered a crossfire and no time will be recorded.
13. LEGAL CATCHES
 - a. There will be only three legal head catches, around the neck, both horns, half a head.
 - b. Head catch with one front leg is illegal.
 - c. If Hondo passes over one horn and the loop over the other, catch is illegal.
 - d. No figure eight head catches.
 - e. Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope goes up heels.
 - f. Catch must be above hoof.
 - g. One hind foot receives a 5 second penalty.
 - h. Figure eight catch is permissible on heels only - if loop crosses itself in a head catch it is illegal. I. Rope in steers mouth is illegal.
14. Once steer is past heel loop, it is considered a missed loop.
15. Ropers must dally; coils dropped over horn will be considered no time.
16. Ropers may not take off any illegal catch until told to do so by judge.
17. Judge has right to inspect all catches and dallies.

18. If a team roper draws out after position is drawn, in accordance with the regulations of the official rule book or does not appear before the performance at which he is scheduled to compete, the man or men entered with him may get another partner or partners from among any of the entered contestants, except team ropers already entered the legal limit of times in the event.
19. There will be an open gate rule. If at any time during the run, any part of the steer crosses the catch pen gate, he is considered home and free and no time will be given.
20. All roping cattle must be permanently marked for season.
21. Ropers may not enter single. If one partner does not show up, the one that does will not be fined. The one not showing up will be fined.
22. There will be a 30 second time limit, excluding penalties in the Team Roping.
23. Animal belongs to contestant when he calls for him, regardless of what happens, except in cases of mechanical failure of the barrier.
24. Stock contractors will be expected to cooperate in trimming the horns of steers that are not able to pass through the timed event chute.
25. Roper may be competed on the same head of stock.
26. If steer escapes arena with head loop on steer. Flag will be dropped, and contestant will get steer back with lap and tap and the team will rope the same steer.
27. Should a header rope any leg, it's an automatic no time and under no circumstance will the header allowed to fish the leg out.
28. Contestants may enter two times. Cannot be the same team twice but contestants can switch ends.

Ladies Barrel Racing

1. The starting and finish line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire rodeo. Markers shall be on the outside of the barrels. The contestant is allowed a running start. Time shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose reaches the finish line. The starting and finish line are the same. The three barrels must all be the same size and at no time can they be less than 50-gallon barrels. No tires are allowed on the barrels and the barrels must be closed on both ends.
2. Contestant may go around either the right barrel first, making the first turn to the right and then two turns to the left: or the left barrel first, making the first turn to the left and then two turns to the right.
3. Contestants will be assessed a five-second penalty for each barrel knocked over. Touching a barrel is permitted. Should barrel be knocked over and it sets up on opposite end, the five-second penalty will be assessed. Barrel must be set back on the marker before next contestant competes.
4. Contestant will be disqualified if she crosses the finish line before finishing the pattern, or if the pattern course is not followed correctly.
5. If a contestant's name has been called three times with no response, the contestant will be flagged out and will not receive a re-run.
6. If horse falls or similar incident occurs, the contestant will be disqualified and shall not receive a re-run.
7. All contestants must be in proper rodeo attire while in the arena 1 (one) hour prior to rodeo or slack time, and during competition at an MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION approved rodeo.

8. Anyone who tampers with the barrel pattern after it is set and marked will be fined by MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION Board of Directors as they see fit.
9. If a contestant wishes to make a practice run prior to a rodeo performance, the barrels must be set at least 10 (ten) feet off the markers. No contestant is allowed a practice run in the arena after a performance (or slack) has begun.
10. If equipment is available and if time permits, the ground must be worked before the slack and after the equivalent number of contestants drawn for a performance have competed. Raking around the barrels is encouraged after every 6 (six) contestants.
11. Should, for any reason, the barrels not be placed on the marks, or the flagman is not in the correct place, things must be put in correct order and all contestants who ran on the incorrect course must re-run with no penalty. Judge must make decision that barrels were not on marker. Should this happen, contestants and judges should be notified, then judge and arena director will set the time for re-run.
12. Should the marker be gone, and a tape measure be used to set up the barrel pattern, that will be sufficient, and no re-run will be allowed.
13. The judges will be responsible for setting up the barrel pattern and marking the barrels.
14. The number of runs raked between shall remain consistent throughout a rodeo's duration.
15. Turnouts and vet releases are included in the count for when to rake.
16. The barrels will be removed from the arena 1 hour before the performances and slack.
17. If a barrel racer runs out of order it will be a no time.
18. There will be a \$25.00 fine for practicing on the barrel stakes.
19. Any discrepancies not covered by the MHA rulebook shall revert to the WPRA rulebook
20. Contestants must be mounted when entering the arena and the horse may not be lead past the plane of the arena gate.

Barrel Pattern

1. Barrels must not be closer than 20 (twenty) feet from the fence under any circumstances.
2. The standard course should be used wherever possible. The standard pattern course for the barrel race is a.
 - 90 feet between barrel 1 and 2.
 - b. 105 feet between barrel 1 and 3 and between 2 and 3.
 - c. 60 feet from barrels 1 and 2 to score line.
 - d. 30 to 45 feet from shoreline to chutes (or fence).
3. The standard pattern course for the barrel race may be reduced to accommodate for smaller arenas.

Method for Marking Barrels

1. A brightly colored, 2–3-foot rope, fastened to a 6–10-inch spike should be used to mark the barrels.
2. Dig a hole approximately 1-1/2 feet deep, depending on the type of ground. Drive the spike into the bottom of the hole. Tamp the dirt in securely around it, leaving about one to two feet of rope out of the ground.

3. The markers should be buried at the location of each barrel. By using this method, the barrels will be in the same place during the entire rodeo.
4. The starting line will also be marked by this method. Markers are to be buried approximately 6 feet inside the fence on both sides of the arena at the location in which the electric eye is to be placed. It is recommended that the starting line also be marked on the fence with a ribbon or paint.
5. Barrels shall be marked using a 100-foot measuring tape. Add 5 feet on the tape in order for correct measurement between barrel 1 and 3; 2 and 3. The person measuring the barrel pattern must make an arc on the ground from barrel 1 to barrel 3 and then from barrel 2 to barrel 3. Where the arc crosses are where the third barrel marker must be placed. This will ensure equal distance for barrel racers who run to either the right or left barrel first.
6. The starting line must also be correctly measured back from barrel 1 and barrel 2, so the distance is the same to ensure barrel racers going either to the right or left the same opportunity.
7. All measurements must be turned into the rodeo secretary before the first performance.
8. Markers shall be on the outside of the barrels.

Electronic Eye Timer

1. Equipment necessary: Complete electric eye timer plus two stopwatches to be operated manually.
2. Complete electric timer must be backed up by a flag judge who will stand directly behind timer post in the arena. One timer will record the time that appears on the electric eye-controlled readout. Additional timers will operate the back-up watches and will record the times from both stopwatches.
3. When the electric eye is used, there will be electric eye times and flag times kept in the crowd's nest, secretary's book and timer's sheet.
4. The electric eye timer will be placed in the arena on the permanently marked spots on the score line, a maximum distance of 140 (one hundred forty) feet apart. At no time will the electric eye be set inside the pattern of the first two barrels.
5. Field flagger must be positioned in the same location during each performance (including slack) and must remain in that location for the duration of the barrel race. The same judge must flag all contestants at each performance (including slack) for the entire rodeo. The judge who is not flagging is responsible for checking the proper placement of each barrel before the barrel race and is responsible for re-setting tipped over barrels.
6. Contestants may be requested to help mark barrels and to help set up the electric eye.
7. Stopwatch times will be recorded in 10ths of a second. When electric eye is used, the barrel race will be timed in 1000's.

Electric Timer Failure

1. Manual back up times are to be used for those electronically missed:
 - a. When the manual back up times are used, 2 zeros will be added to the 10ths.
 - b. Electric eye times will remain unaltered.
2. If an electric eye timer malfunctions for 51% of all contestants entered at a rodeo, then flag times will be used for the entire rodeo.

Ladies' Breakaway Roping

1. Cattle to be drawn for from a separate pen than was used for tie down roping.
2. Length of score can be set by judges or contractors.
3. Contestant can use only one loop.
4. A time limit of 30 seconds shall be enforced.
5. The only legal catch will be a bell collar catch for ladies' breakaway only. Bell collar catch defined as the animal's whole head with no extremities. The loop must first pass over the animal's head.
6. Ropes are to be tied to saddle horn with color coded string furnished by the MHA RODEO ASSOCIATION and a 12 by 12 square or larger any color flag is to be attached and tied at the horn or behind the horn. Flag must be attached to rope when time is taken.
7. The contestant will receive no time should she break the rope away from the saddle horn by hand. However, if the rope should dally around the horn, the contestant may ride forward, undally the rope and then stop her horse to make the rope break away.
8. A barrier will be used in this event and a 10 second penalty added if it is broken.
9. Roping the calf without releasing the rope from the hand will result in a no time.
10. There will be an open gate. Any time a calf crosses the catch pen gate it is considered home and free, and the contestant receives a no time.
11. All roping calves must be permanently marked for season.
12. If calf is roped and crosses the catch pen gate before the rope breaks free it will be a no time. If calf is roped and the 30 second limit whistle blows before the rope breaks it will be a no time.
13. Cattle will be drawn
14. Any discrepancy will be left up to the judge and his decision is final.
15. Animal belongs to contestant when she calls for him, regardless of what happens, except in cases of mechanical failure of the barrier.
16. All changes in order to split horses etc., must be made before the performance or slack begins.
17. Breakaway calves weight limit shall be a minimum of 175 pounds and a maximum of 350 pounds. Horns up to two inches accepted.

Junior Breakaway Roping

1. Open to juniors (boys and girls) 17 and under as of January 1.
2. The same rules apply as in the ladies' breakaway, except the bell collar catch.
3. The calf's head must pass through the loop. The rope may draw up on any part of the calf's body behind the head and breakaway.

Junior Team Roping

1. Open to juniors (boys and girls) 17 and under as of January 1.
2. May enter twice.
3. Follow open rules

Junior Bull Riding, Open to junior contestants only.

1. The same rules apply as in the bull riding.

Junior Barrel Race

1. Open to juniors (boys and girls) 17 and under as of January 1.
2. The same rules apply as in the like senior event.

Novice Barrel Race

1. Open to junior contestants 8 and under as of January 1.
2. The same rules apply as in the like senior event.

Senior Breakaway Roping

1. Limited to contestants 50 years of age and older as of January 1.
2. The roper must rope from behind a barrier and start from the either box. The legal catches are whole head, half head, or horns.
3. Rules for this event are the same as for ladies' and junior breakaway with the exception that steers will be used.
4. All breakaway ropers shall use a color-coded string furnished by the Judges.