

Open Gate Rule Book for the 2026 Fall Series.

We welcome you to the Open Gate Cowboy Church's Fall Series. We hope you enjoy your time with us. Below are the rules and regulations for the fall series. Each rider is expected to abide by said rules or action will be taken that could result in disqualification or removal from the arena.

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DATES:

Series dates will be held on September 11th, October 9th, November 6th, November 20th and December 11th.

TIMES:

Books will open at 5:15pm and they will close at 6:15pm. Draws will be posted and the first divisions will begin at 6:30pm sharp.

FEES:

Membership fee = \$45 per person

Event = \$10 per event

Exhibitions = \$5 per. They will run before each event.

DRESS CODE:

Jeans and boots. Or heels down. NO REVELING TOPS/ NO SPAGHETTI STRAPS.

Cowboy hats are optional.

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POINT SYSTEM:

The point system will be a standard 5 point system. Example below.

1st = 5 points

2nd = 4 points

3rd = 3 points

4th = 2 points

5th = 1 point

Age Divisions:

- Little Disciples = 0 - 6
- Kingdom Juniors = 7 - 11
- Riders of Faith = 12 - 16
- Warriors in The Saddle = 17 and up

Riders that need assistance are welcome to join. Just please understand riders with assistance shall not place higher than riders that do not receive assistance. (Assistance is defined as someone passes the timer line on foot leading the horse and/or walking besides the horse)

How to qualify for awards.

1. You must pay the membership fee by the 2nd show.
2. Participate in 3 events per show.
3. Participate in 4 out of the 5 shows.

Line up of events.

1. Cajun Sled Race- \$10 per person
2. Poles- \$10
3. Goats- \$10 + \$10 stock fee
4. Pony Express- \$10
5. Barrels- \$10

Payout.

Payout will only be paid to 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

1st will be \$3

2nd will be \$2

3rd will be \$1

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Event Rules:

Cajun Sled Race-

The cajun sled race will be two man teams. One is on horse back and one will be in the "sled". The rider must pull their partner in the sled from the timer, around the barrel (which will be on the 3rd barrel mark), the partner in the "sled" must get out at the 3rd barrel, grab the sack and jump back into the "sled" while holding the sack. Then the rider must take off again and pull their partner in the "sled" back past the timer to make a clean run.

Disqualifications- if the rider passes the timer without their partner in the sled.

Poles-

1. The pole pattern is to be ran around 6 poles.
2. The distance from the starting line to the first pole shall be 21 feet and spacings between poles shall be 21 feet apart. The end pole must be 20 feet minimum from the arena fence.
3. Poles must be in a straight line.
4. Horse may start from either the left or the right side of the 1st pole and then run the remainder of the pattern.

Scoring and penalties -

1. Knocking a pole over will result in a 5 second penalty. Per pole.
2. If the horse crosses the timer before the pattern has been completed, that will result in a no time.
3. Not following the designated pattern will result in a no time.
4. Breaking forward motion will result in a no time.

Goats-

Nanny flipping- this is for the "little disciples" age division (0-6). This will have a 3 foot rope staked 100 feet away from the starting line. Which is the timer line. The goat will be staked at this rope. For this age division an adult is allowed to hold the horse for the kid to dismount. The adult is not allowed to touch the child. The child is to ride down the area, dismount and flip the goat. When the goat is laying on the ground the designated flagger will drop the flag to stop timer.

Goat tying- this is for the "kingdom jrs" and up. This will have a 10 foot rope stakes at 100 foot from the starting line. Which is the timer line. The goat shall be stacked at this point for the entire event. Each goat shall be picked according to the age division to ensure that it is fair for

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the ages riding. 3 of the goats legs must be tied with a pigging string or qualified rope. Once the goat is tied, the rider must put his/her hands in the air to stop the timer. The designated flagger will drop the flag to signal the time to stop. The goat must stay tied for 6 seconds.

Scoring and penalties: Rider will receive no time if they touch the goat after they put their hands up if their 6 seconds is not up yet.

If the rider's horse runs over the goat or the rope the rider will receive a 5 second penalty.

Reruns: if there are any malfunctions with any of the equipment provided by Open Gate Cowboy Church or the stock contractor, the rider will be granted a rerun.

Pony Express-

This event is to test a rider's skills. The event will consist of a jump, barrel and saddle bags.

There will be a jump 40 feet away from the timer line. The jump will be two poles crossing in the middle. The middle shall stand approximately at 12 inches.

There will be a barrel standing at the 3rd barrel marker for the clover leaf pattern. The barrel will have a set of saddle bags on it.

To be able to complete the event for a qualified time, the rider shall cross the timer, jump the jump. Go around the barrel to either the left or the right, whatever they prefer, grab the saddle bags, go back towards the jump, jump the jump and finally cross the timer to stop the clock.

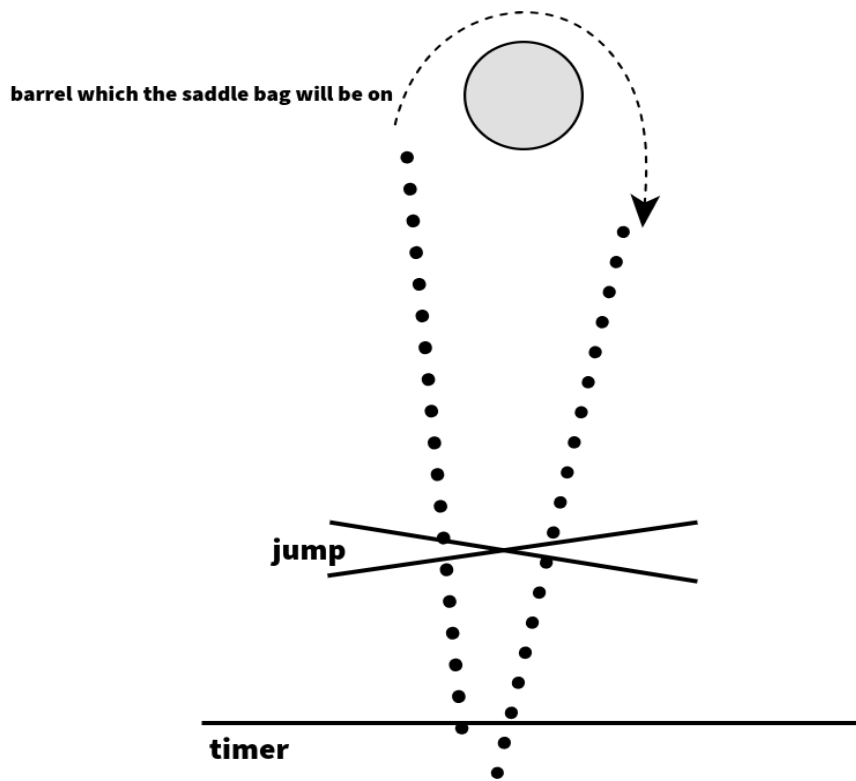
Scoring and penalties: if the rider drops the saddle bags, they are allowed to retrieve the bags but it will result in a 5 second penalty.

If the rider crosses the timer line without the saddle bags, he/she will receive no time.

If the rider knocks over the barrel or a pole to the jump it will result in a 5 second penalty.

BELOW IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE EVENT SHOULD LOOK.

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Barrel Racing-

***** Starting line and barrel placement is subject to change due to ground and weather conditions*****

1. Barrels shall be marked and used for the whole event.
2. The barrel shall be placed at a minimum of 20 feet from the arena fence.
3. The front two barrels shall be 20 yards from the timer line

The max distance between the first two barrels shall be 35 yards if the arena conditions allow.

The two front barrels shall be a maximum 35 yards from the third barrel if arena conditions allow.

4. When starting from the right barrel, there will be one right turn and two left turns. When starting from the left barrel there will be one left turn and two right turns.

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Scoring and penalties: there will be a 5 second penalty for any barrel knocked over. If the horse crosses the timer at any time while the pattern is ongoing it will result in a no time. As well as if the horse breaks forward motion, it will result in no time.

Disclaimers:

- **These events are subject to weather conditions. Open Gate Cowboy Church is dedicated to keeping the horses and their riders safe. They will make calls that they best see fit.**
- **No rider will be allowed to enter the arena without first signing the required paperwork, including liability release forms.**
- **All horses must have a current coggins to be on the grounds.**
- **PRIZES may vary.**
- **All payments for the RODEO ENTRY FEES are cash only.**
- **No refunds. Unless stated otherwise.**
- **This is a space for everyone to feel welcomed. Any unruly behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, as well as poor horsemanship will not be tolerated.**