

INDIAN RODEO GROUND RULES PAGE 1

September 6-9, 2018 • Dean C. Jackson Memorial Arena, Window Rock, AZ

ENTRY ELIGIBILITY - The 72nd Annual Navajo Nation Fair Open Indian Rodeo (NNFIOR) shall be open to all Native American contestants who have a blood quantum of one fourth (1/4) Native American who are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe. The Navajo Nation Fair Office of the Navajo Nation Fair reserves the right to request for proof of enrollment status. Failure of a contestant to show proof of blood quantum or enrollment when requested may be cause for disqualification of the contestant, and forfeiture of entry fees and any money won at the rodeo.

APPLICABLE RULES - The rules of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Inc. (PRCA) shall be applied for all Men events. The rules of Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) shall apply to all Ladies events. When PRCA/WPRA rule books conflict with the local (NNFIR) ground rules, the local (NNFIR) ground rules listed in this document shall prevail.

RESPONSIBILITY - The Navajo Nation Fair Office and Navajo Nation assume no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property, or stock of any participants, whether a contestant or not. All contestants and non-contestant hazers must sign a release form before accessing the arena. Each participant, by the act of participation, waives all claims against the committee for injuries he/she or his/her property may sustain.

CONTESTANT DRESS CODE - The contestant who competes in the rodeo shall wear proper western attire when competing. Proper attire shall refer to wearing a western cowboy hat, long sleeve shirt, western boots and pants. During the performance any contestant who enters the competition arena shall wear the proper western attire. Failure to comply shall result in being asked to leave the arena by appropriate rodeo official, arena director or rodeo committee member. This rule shall also apply to contestant helpers, i.e. cattle pushers, chute helpers, arena helpers, etc. The area behind the bucking chutes and the timed event chutes are considered to be part of the arena and dress code is required for access to these areas.

CONTESTANTS CONDUCT - The conduct and demeanors of each contestant entered at the 72nd Annual Navajo Nation Fair Open Indian Rodeo shall be appropriate as to ensure the positive image and integrity of the sport of rodeo. Flagrant and inappropriate conduct and behavior shall not be permitted on the rodeo grounds including uses of foul or profane language towards rodeo officials, rodeo committee members, other rodeo contestants, spectators, volunteers and security personnel. Such conduct shall be cause for removal from the premises of the rodeo arena and disqualification from the rodeo in all the events entered, forfeitures of entry fees paid and any money won. Contestants shall not use or have in possession any intoxicating alcoholic beverage or illegal drugs on or around the premises of the rodeo grounds. (It is illegal and a crime on the Navajo Nation to possess or consume intoxicating liquor or illegal drugs). Each contestant shall abide by the contest rules and ground rule set forth herein.

CONTESTANT PASS / ADMIN FEE / CHECK-IN - Each contestant will pay a one-time admin fee of \$25.00. At check-in each contestant will receive a back number which serves as contestant's parking pass for vehicle admission into the rodeo contestant parking area and same back number must be worn (visible) on contestant's back during all competition runs. Lost back numbers will not be replaced. The contestant must be in possession of their assigned back number and a picture ID to receive any winnings. Contestants shall not allow other persons use of their back number for admission into the rodeo grounds. A helper pass for Riding Events will be issued on a performance basis by the Rodeo Secretary. Each contestant must check-in at the Rodeo Office to pick up his/her number and sign a release prior to competing. A Non-contestant Hazer must sign a release prior to entering the arena and **must** pay admin fee of \$25.00 to receive back number. Rodeo Secretary Office will be open two hours prior to start of slack or performance for contestant check-in. Early check-in will be on Monday afternoon, 8:00am.

HUMANE TREATMENT - Each contestant shall ensure the humane treatment of all animals in and around the premises of the rodeo grounds. Contestant mistreating or abusing animal by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he or she shall be disqualified in all the events the contestant is entered. Any entry fees paid and money won shall be forfeited in the event of disqualification. The contest officials (judges) shall have the authority to enforce the rules and issue sanctions within their discretion. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

DOCTOR RELEASES / VETERINARY RELEASES - A Doctor release (signed by a Licensed Medical Physician) or a Veterinary Release (GB only and signed by licensed Veterinarian) must be submitted to the Rodeo Secretary a minimum of six (6) hours prior to the start of the slack/performance for contestant to receive a refund of fees. Contestant office charge will not be refunded.

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ENTRIES - Entries for the 72nd Annual NNFOIR will be **MAIL-IN ONLY**. Entry forms will be available on the website – www.navajonationfair.org – and at other Indian rodeos. Payment for entry fees must be by money order or cashier's check made payable to NAVAJO NATION. Entry fees in the team roping event must be paid in full by both partners at time of entry. Mail-in entries must be sent to: Navajo Nation Fair Office, PO Box 2370, Window Rock, AZ 86515. Entries open August 1, 2018 and close August 22, 2018. All mail-in entries must be received by August 24, 2018, Walk-in entries will be Wednesday, August 29, 2018 from 12:00PM – 6:00PM and Thursday, August 30, 2018 from 7:00AM-7:00PM – no exceptions. After entries close a random draw for positions will be done. Riding Events may feature contestants in the Friday and Saturday performances. Featured contestants may trade performances with other featured contestants.

TIMED EVENTS - Ladies Barrels (LB), Ladies Breakaway Roping (LR), Ladies Teams (LT), Men's Tie down Roping (TD), Steer Wrestling (SW) and Team Roping (TR) first go round shall be held in slack performance on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 8:00 am. Slack order will be LB, SW, TD, LR, TR and LT will be on Friday, September 7, 2018 only to end of first go. Following the conclusion of the 1st go round in all timed events the top 30 slowest to fastest time in each timed event will be placed in the performance beginning Thursday, September 6, 2018, at 7:00 pm, Friday, September 7, 2018, and Saturday, September 8, 2018. The remaining contestants who do not compete in the performance because of no times or slowest times will be going in the slack on Friday, September 7, 2018, at 8:00 am in the same event order as September 6, 2018. The events in the slack will rotate to accommodate the redraw of stock when necessary. Those contestants competing during the performances will be allowed to trade performances by approval of Rodeo Secretary. Deadline for making trades will be one hour after the top 30 list is posted at the Rodeo Office. There will be no finals in the LT.
Team Roping (TR) Contestants may enter two (2) times (partners cannot switch ends to re-enter, must enter with 2 different partners). Replacements will not be allowed in the second go round.

Ladies Barrels (LB) Ground will be worked by tractor after every ten (10) runs. Runs will include any turn-out or draw out position.

Ladies Breakaway Roping (LR) a qualifying time shall constitute a clean neck catch only or contestant will be disqualified. One loop only permitted. **All contestants** who have completed their runs shall immediately exit the arena. The arena shall always remain clear of non-competing contestants while events are in progress. Only personnel authorized shall remain in the arena. All timed events except LB have a 30 second time limit per run. A whistle will be blown by Timers at the end of a set time limit indicating a "no time". Stock draw will be posted at the rodeo office one (1) hour prior to start of slack or rodeo performance.

RIDING EVENTS - Bareback Riding (BB) and Saddle Bronc Riding (SB) will be two go rounds with Finals (top 10). Bull Riding (BR) slack (20) will be one go round with Finals (top 10). BR slack will be held at 8:00 am on Friday, September 7, 2018, if necessary. Contestants and authorized personnel only shall be allowed to be in the chute area. Stock draw will be posted at the rodeo office one (1) hour prior to slack/performance. Back Number or Helper's Armband required for admittance to chute area during slack or during any performance. Helpers must have purchased Wristband. Helpers must have ID and sign a release before Wristband is issued. Check rodeo office schedule for designated time to pick up Helper Wristbands.

FINALS ROUND QUALIFICATION - The qualification to the Finals round shall be on the following basis: The contestants with the ten (10) lowest combined times from the first and second goes in the BB; SB; TD, SW; TR; LB; and LR will qualify for the finals; in the event of a tie, the lowest single go-round time shall be the tiebreaker. In the BR the top ten contestants at the end of the 1st go-round will qualify for the finals. If there are ties in scores causing the number of contestants to exceed ten (10) OR if there fails to be ten (10) qualified scores, a random draw (draw back) will be used to determine which contestant(s) will compete in the finals round. The contestant who compete in the final round through random draw will not be eligible for the average payout and award, and showdown competition.

PAYOUT - Prize money payout for the 72nd Annual NNFOIR will be made by check to winning contestants only. Contestant must complete a W-9 form with proper identification numbers and present two forms of identification (one must be picture ID) to receive prize money check(s). At year-end all contestants earning \$600.00 or more will receive a 1099 form. The NNFIOR Rodeo Secretary will do payoff checks at the end of each go-round. Rodeo office hours will be posted on the post board. No checks will be reissued. **ADDED MONEY & FINALS PAYOUT** - \$6,000.00 will be added in the BB, SB, BR, TD, SW, TR-both ends, LR and LB. Payoff scale will be according to PRCA/WPRA rulebooks with following exceptions: \$1,000 will be held out for payout in the finals round of the BB & SB. \$2,000 will be held out for the payoff in the finals round of the BR, SW, TD, LB and LR.

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ALL AROUND - All Around Champions must compete in two or more events. The Contestants who wins the most money in two or more events will win the All Around title. If no contestant wins money in two or more events the contestant who competes in two or more events who wins the most money will win the All Around. Money won by ladies in the men's TR will count for the Ladies All-Around.

1. Men's All Around – Men's Events – BB, SB, BR, SW, TD, and TR (1 run only counts)
2. Ladies All Around – Ladies Events – LB, LR, and TR (1 run only counts)

TIEBREAKERS FOR AWARDS - In the event of a tie, a coin flip will determine winner.

THE FINAL FOUR SHOWDOWN - To qualify for the Final Four Showdown, the four contestants who finish in the top four aggregate positions in BB, SB, BR, TD, SW, TR, LB AND LR of the regular rodeo shall be eligible to compete. In the event of a tie for qualification, the tiebreaker shall be determined by contestant with the lowest time or the highest score. In the event any contestant is unable to compete in the Showdown, the next highest seated contestant from the rodeo's aggregate score or time shall be eligible to compete. It shall be the responsibility of each contestant qualifying in the Final Four Showdown to immediately contact the Rodeo officials to confirm intentions to compete in the showdown, failure to confirm will result in disqualification and next high seated contestant will compete in the Final Four Showdown.

The Rodeo rules for the Final Four Showdown shall apply: with the following exceptions: Team Ropers will be allowed to use three loops. An injured partner may be replaced by one of the ropers from the short go-round only with a Doctor's release. Tie Down Ropers and Breakaway Ropers may carry a **second loop**.

SHOWDOWN PAY-OFF - The payoff in the Final Four Showdown will be "winner take all" in the amount of \$2,000.00 per event (both sides in TR) A tie will constitute a split equally among the tying contestants. If no qualification in any of the event, the money will revert back to the sponsor.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

	09/04/18	09/05/18	09/06/15	09/07/18	09/08/18	09/09/18
8:00 AM			SLACK-LB, SW, TD, LR, TR & LT	SLACK- BR (if necessary) LB, SW, TD, LR, TR, LT		
12:00 PM						Indian Rodeo Finals WHR FINALS
1:00 PM					Indian Rodeo 3rd Perf 3rd GO WHR	
7:00 PM			Indian Rodeo 1st Perf WHR 1st GO^	Indian Rodeo 2nd Perf WHR 2nd GO^		

EVENTS

EVENTS		ENTRY LIMITS	GO-ROUNDS	FINALS	ENTRY FEES	FINAL FOUR MONEY
BAREBACK	BB	20	1 GO	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
SADDLE BRONC	SB	30	1 GO	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
BULL RIDING	BR	80	1 GO	10	\$175.00	\$4,000.00
TIE DOWN ROPING	TD	60	2 GO SAME DAY	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
STEER WRESTLING	SW	70	2 GO SAME DAY	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
TEAM ROPING	TR	150	2 GO SAME DAY	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
LADIES	LB	UNLIMITED	2 GO SAME DAY	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
LADIES ROPING	LR	80	2 GO SAME DAY	10	\$175.00	\$2,000.00
LADIES TEAM	LT	50	1 GO	NO FINALS	\$175.00	N/A