

Welcome to the
National Senior Pro Rodeo Association

INFORMATION FOR RODEO COMMITTEE



INFORMATION FOR COMMITTEES and/or STOCK CONTRACTORS

Charges in Addition to Entry Fees

In addition to entry fees, there is a \$20.00 NSPRA charge per rodeo that goes to the National Office;

A committee may also charge a stock charge. There is a maximum charge for timed events of \$20 per run.

A committee may also charge up to \$10 per contestant, once per location, as a facility/clean up fee.

The rodeo secretary will be responsible for collecting the stock and facility charges.

**Please note the \$10 per contestant and \$5 for each additional event that previously went to the committee is no longer in effect.



National Senior Pro Rodeo Sample Expenses

Based on 2 rodeos:

Expense:

Livestock:

Rough Stock, Calves & Steers	\$16,000
Feed	\$750

Personnel:

Judges	\$800
Announcer	\$800
Arena Help	\$200
Pick-up Men	\$ **
Bullfighters	\$ **
Secretaries	\$ 500
Timers	\$ 300

<i>Added Money (minimum)</i>	<i>\$2250</i>
Sanction Bond & Fees	\$300
Insurance ² (\$1,000,000 liability)	\$500
Ambulance/ Medics	\$600
Misc. Expenses	\$200

Total Expenses	\$22,850
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**These can be included in price from the stock contractor.

² Insurance rates vary. Some of our stock contractors can name you as an additional insured on their spectator liability policy for no additional costs to you.

Information for the Rodeo Committee

Sanctioning:

All rodeo sanction requests must be filed and approved no later than 45 days prior to the first performance. We encourage you to file your sanction requests months in advance so that you can receive proper advertising in our association's newspaper, Rodeo News, and on our website, www.seniorrodeo.com. Please be sure to contact NSPRA Sanction Chairman Kathy Clemons to schedule your rodeo prior to sending in your sanction forms.

Fees to the NSPRA:

A \$100 refundable rodeo bond should be sent in with your Date Request to hold your date. To be a confirmed rodeo, you will need to send in your sanction information along with your sanction fee of \$100 for each rodeo location. Your rodeo secretary will collect the other NSPRA fees from the rodeo contestants and send these fees to us with her rodeo books.

Entry Fees:

A minimum of \$40 per person, per sanctioned event, is required for entry fees. Currently, most rodeo committees set their entry fees around \$50 - \$75, with higher entry fees set when the added money is substantially increased.

Added Money:

The minimum added money for each rodeo is \$1,000.00; that's \$250.00 in the events of Bareback, Saddle Bronc, Bull Riding, and Steer Wrestling; The suggested added money for each rodeo is \$2,100: \$300 in the events of Bareback, Saddle Bronc, Bull Riding and Steer Wrestling; \$150 in each age category for Team Roping, and \$100 for each age category for Ribbon Roping; \$50.00 in each age category for Calf Roping and Ladies Barrel Racing, and \$50.00 for Ladies Breakaway and Men's Breakaway. Please see Application for Sanctioning.) All rodeo committees are encouraged to increase the amount of added money in the riding events and Steer Wrestling to be more assured of attracting more rough stock contestants and thereby pleasing the paying audience.

Stock Contractors:

All stock contractors must be approved by the Sanction Committee and must have a current NSPRA membership card, which shall cost \$50 annually. Your stock contractor should also be given the sheet entitled, "Attention All NSPRA Timed Event Stock Contractors." This sheet gives them the basic rules pertaining to cattle provided for a NSPRA rodeo. Realizing the unique characteristics of participants in the NSPRA, stock contractors must be responsible for providing suitable stock for the contestants.

Rodeo Secretary:

You may have on your committee someone who can be the rodeo secretary. Your stock contractor may also be willing to provide a rodeo secretary. In either case, the rodeo secretary needs to have a secretary card with the NSPRA, at a cost of \$20 per year. She can buy a combination secretary/timer's card if she prefers (\$20). The rodeo committee or stock contractor, according to which entity provides the arena secretary, will be responsible for the secretary's mistakes or discrepancies in the payoff or in handling of the entry fees.

Timers:

You'll need to provide two timers for the rodeo. Your stock contractor may be able to provide the

timers. Timers must purchase an NSPRA timer's card, at a cost of \$20. Timers for a rodeo may not be changed after the first performance except for a sickness or injury, or by the request of an association official because of the timer's incompetence, or with agreement of the stock contractor, rodeo committee and association official. Timers must work from the same location for the duration of the rodeo.

Judges:

A rodeo committee may request specific judges to judge your rodeo; however, final determination is up to our Judging Coordinator. Any emergency regarding absent judges must be made by the executive and/or directors present at the rodeo. All judges must hold an NSPRA Judges Card, at a cost of \$20 per year.

Entries:

The NSPRA has an in-house entry office which is solely responsible for taking all entries for NSPRA rodeos. No contestant, either a local permit holder or NSPRA member, may enter a NSPRA rodeo without going through the Rodeo Entry Office. Entries are normally taken on Tuesdays, approximately 10 days prior to the rodeo(s). Entries are will also be taken by email at info@seniorrodeo.org for one week prior to the entry date. The Rodeo Entry Office provides the complete contestant list to all rodeo secretaries. In addition, they provide completed judges' and timers' sheets, day sheets and receipts. All information to the secretary is by email.

Grand Entry:

We have someone who can carry the U.S. and Canadian flag for your rodeo, along with our sponsors' flags and banners. Room must be provided on the arena fence for our sponsors' banners. The sponsors' flags must be carried during the Grand Entry. We suggest you ask a local rodeo queen and/or high school rodeo club to help with the flag carrying of your sponsors' flags as well as the NSPRA's sponsors' flags. Many of our members will volunteer to carry these flags in the Grand Entry if you don't have any volunteers available.

Events:

All NSPRA rodeos must have nine standard events (Bareback, Bull Riding, Calf Roping, Ladies Barrel Racing, Ribbon Roping, Saddle Bronc, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Ladies Breakaway Roping and Mens' Breakaway Roping) unless the association grants special permission. A rodeo committee may choose to include exhibition runs, however, those runs must follow the runs made by the competing contestants. A rodeo committee may also include events for the younger set, i.e., mutton bustin', stick horse races; or a businessman roping. These are big crowd pleasers and adding these events to your show will bring in more people to your stands!

Bullfighter:

All NSPRA sanctioned rodeos must have an approved bullfighter in the arena during the bull riding event for each performance (and slack if slack is necessary). Failure to comply with this rule will subject the producer or committee to a \$100 fine for the first offense. Fine will be doubled for each offense.

Ambulance & EMT's:

The rodeo committee is required to furnish an ambulance or first aid vehicle for all rodeo performances where rough stock events are held. Identifiable EMTs must be available during slack times.

Insurance:

Each rodeo committee is responsible for obtaining a spectator liability insurance policy for a minimum \$1,000,000. It is a policy of the NSPRA to have “The National Senior Pro Rodeo Association, Inc.” named as an additional insured on your policy.

Cancellations:

A rodeo committee may cancel its rodeo no later than 45 days prior to the rodeo date. No cancellation of a performance will be permitted within 45 days of the rodeo date unless the opinions of the committee chairman, stock contractor and NSPRA officials deem it a physical impossibility to hold the performance.

Volunteers & Equipment:

One of the keys to a successful rodeo is having enough help and good equipment on hand to maintain the arena. Your volunteers should have experience handling stock and working gates and chutes. Having someone who knows what they’re doing in charge of the bucking and timing chutes can make all the difference in the professional production of your rodeo! In order to avoid injuries to the horses our members ride, the arena should be thoroughly watered and then worked with a rake or drag the two weeks prior to your rodeo. A tractor and operator with a rake/drag needs to be on site during the rodeo performance and slack to rake during the barrel racing and ribbon roping. Appropriate barrels also need to be available.

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Are you interested in finding out more information on putting on an NSPRA rodeo? Call Kathy Clemons, the NSPRA Sanction Chairman at 970-290-8294 to discuss any questions you might have **or** to schedule your rodeo.

Once you decide to put on a NSPRA rodeo, and have your date scheduled with the Sanction Chairman, the next steps are simple:

- 1) Fill in your Date Request and send it with a \$100 rodeo bond to the NSPRA National Office, 2015 W. Wickenburg Way, Wickenburg, AZ 85390. This will hold your rodeo dates.
- 2) Go through the Timeline sheet and Checklist provided in this packet and start scheduling and assigning duties.
- 3) Fill out your sanction form and mail it to the NSPRA National Office along with your sanction fee of \$100 per rodeo location. As soon as the office has these items, we can mark you a “Confirmed” rodeo and start advertising your rodeo on our website, www.seniorrodeo.com, and in our association’s newspaper, *The Rodeo News*.

. **We cannot emphasize enough that getting enough sponsors signed on to support your rodeo is one of the most important things you can do to ensure a successful rodeo!** Our members come into your town and make it a point to visit those businesses that support your rodeo! While many committees hit the feed, ranch, and western wear apparel stores, don’t forget places like restaurants, coin-operated laundry businesses, quick lube locations, mom-and-pop convenience stores, chiropractors, gas stations, and hardware stores. When our members come into your town, these places are businesses they need while they’re away from home! A good idea is to include a restaurant/bar as a sponsor and have the payoffs (for your first rodeo) at that location after the rodeo is over; it will bring in the contestants to pick up their payoff checks and they’ll spend their money at that location. (We’ve found that this only works after the first rodeo, if you’re planning on doing two in a row. Payoffs for your second rodeo are better off done at the rodeo grounds. If you’re doing four rodeos, then the first three could be paid off at another location.) Other committees host a dance with a beer garden after the first night’s rodeo and do the payoffs at the same time-again bringing in the contestants to one or more of your sponsors!

Please do not feel you will be alone in this adventure. There are many resources available to you, including many people who have put on successful rodeos for the NSPRA. The staff at the NSPRA National Office is also here to help with anything you need. Please don’t hesitate to call them with any questions.

**NSPRA Sanction Chairman
Kathy Clemons, 970-284-5320**

STOCK

CONTRACTORS

ATTENTION: ALL NSPRA TIMED EVENT STOCK CONTRACTORS

The NSPRA Board of Directors recently passed a rule that all stock contractors must be approved by the Sanction Committee and must have a current NSPRA membership card which shall cost \$50 annually. (Rule 9.6.3.)

The following rules have gone into effect and have been included with all rule books, sanction packets, etc. These rules will be enforced and penalties will be incurred.

Rule 11.3.1 **Bucking Stock:** All bucking stock must be numbered legibly before drawing.

Rule 14.1.5 **Drawing Stock:** “Contractors are required to furnish at least one-half (1/2) as many cattle as there are ropers or steer wrestlers.”

Rule 24.3.1 **Cattle – Tie Down Roping:** The following weight are appropriate for the age groups in the Tie Down Roping:

40s – no more than 230 pounds

50s – no more than 210 pounds

60s – no more than 190 pounds

68s – no more than 170 pounds

Rule 24.3.2 **Cattle- Tie Down Roping:** Native, Brahma cross and dairy breeds shall not be mixed.

Rule 27.3.1 **Cattle - Ribbon Roping:** In the ribbon roping the appropriate weight shall be:

40s – no more than 240

50s – no more than 220.

60s – no more than 200

Rule 27.3.2 **Cattle - Ribbon Roping:** Native, Brahma cross and dairy breeds shall not be mixed.

Rule 25.4.1 **Team Roping Cattle:** The maximum weight for animals is 700 pounds per head, unless otherwise approved by the event director or spokesman.

Rule 23.3.1 **Steer Wrestling Cattle:** All cattle must be CORRIENTE STEERS and

cannot be held over from one year to the next for use in steer wrestling, except with the approval of the Steer Wrestling Director.

Rule 23.3.2: All steers used in the steer wrestling event must have horns tipped.

This is a summary and not intended to be a complete listing of all the rules pertaining to cattle. Refer to the NSPRA Rulebook.

Stock Contractor Membership Application
National Senior Pro Rodeo Association

All Stock Contractors Must Hold Current Card Before Providing Stock For A Rodeo.

Contact Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

NSPRA Stock Contractor Card ***\$50.00***

Payable to:

National Senior Pro Rodeo Association
2015 W. Wickenburg Way
Wickenburg, AZ 85390

Signature of Applicant: _____

RODEO

SECRETARY

Secretary and Rodeo Office Rules

1. Any person who intends to act as a rodeo secretary must notify the National Office, well in advance of the rodeo, of his/her intentions so that he/she can receive the Association's secretarial packet.
2. All secretaries must hold an NSPRA-issued secretary card.
3. Rodeo positions will be drawn by the NPSRA Rodeo Entry Office. The Rodeo Entry Office will provide timers' and judges' sheets to the rodeo secretary via electronic email. The draw sheets must be posted. Trade outs are permitted through the local secretary and can be made until the stock is drawn.
4. Secretaries are required to return the following to the National Office, postmarked no later than five days after the final performance: a) correct payoff/result sheets with the top six listed with their scores, times and dollars won; b) timers' sheets; c) judges' sheets; d) check to the NSPRA for 7% of the total purse (see below); and for rodeo entries (see below). Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of bond. Secretaries must also submit a valid list of all turn outs and releases and a list of all unpaid entry fees before reimbursements will be made by the NSPRA. Other than entry fees, no debts will be incurred by the NSPRA.
5. All secretaries must list places one through six in every event, if there is a time or score, whether money is paid for all six places or not.
6. Local rodeo secretaries will make available a phone number (or cell number) to take any emergency calls during the rodeo performance.
7. A check must be sent to the National Office within five (5) days of the final performance incorporating the following: a) Seven percent (7%) of the total purse from each rodeo (added money and entry fees), including any and all non-sanctioned events; and b) NSPRA National Office fee collected from contestants; Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the \$100 rodeo bond.
8. Prize money must be paid following the final performance of each rodeo. Any checks not picked up at that time must be mailed to the National Office along with the rodeo books.
9. Secretaries and timers should note that all manual times will be in tenths and electric times will be in hundredths.

All rodeo secretaries will receive a complete NSPRA rulebook upon submission of their application for a NSPRA secretary card.

**The Rodeo Committee and/ or Rodeo Secretary Are
Required to
Pay the Following Items At the Conclusion of Your Rodeo:**

To Rodeo Committee:

The rodeo secretary will be responsible for collecting stock charges and facility charges and will give those monies to the committee.

To the NSPRA National Office:

- 1) 7% of the total purse of each of your rodeos. A worksheet is provided with the secretary packet to figure this amount.
- 2) \$20 Office Charge
- 3) Any other funds collected at the rodeo, such as membership fees, permit fees, ground money, etc.

RODEO JUDGES

Rodeo Judges

All judges for local rodeo committees must be assigned by the NSRPA, from our judges' pool. This does not mean that a local committee cannot request a specific judge they wish to use. It does, however, mean that the NSPRA judging chairman will have the final approval of all judges that will be assigned to NSPRA rodeos. The Chairman will try to comply with the wishes of the rodeo committee and/ or stock contractor, if possible.

All NSPRA Judges are required to purchase a yearly Judges' Card (\$20), along with attending Judging Clinics when provided.

If a committee wishes to hire certain judges, they must indicate the names on the bottom of their sanction form. If the local rodeo committee leaves the line for judges blank, the judging chairman will assign judges immediately on receiving the sanction forms. Once judges have been assigned, they cannot be changed. If you wish to request a judge, please be sure to put that judge's name on the form.

If a committee is hiring a stock contractor to produce a turn-key rodeo and that contractor is hiring all of the personnel, then the stock contractor should be asked his preference prior to the rodeo committee submitting the sanction forms.

The NSPRA has been working hard to improve the judges who are assigned to the NSPRA rodeos. Clinics are being held a number of times each year and judges are being constantly evaluated by our judging chairman.

Should you have any questions on the NSPRA Judging Program,
please contact the National Office at 928-684-9566

Contract Personnel Membership Application
National Senior Pro Rodeo Association

Secretary, Timers and Judges must hold current card.

Name _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Check One:

_____ Judge \$20.00 Card Number _____

_____ Secretary /Timer \$20.00 Card Number _____

_____ Timer (only) \$20.00 Card Number _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Payable to:

National Senior Pro Rodeo Association
2015 W. Wickenburg Way
Wickenburg, Arizona 85390
928-684-9566 Office
928-684-9576 Fax

RODEO

WORKSHEET

AND

CHECKLISTS

Rodeo Work Sheet	Person Responsible	Cost	Date Completed
Stock Contractor			
Judges			
Secretary			
Timers			
Announcers			
Pickup Men			
Bullfighter			
Barrelman			
Chute Boss			
Flag Carriers			
Ticket Sellers			
Ticket Takers			
Ushers			
Security			
Traffic Control			
Doctors / Ambulance / EMT's			
Veterinarian			
Concessions			
Program Sellers			
Cleanup Crew			
Arena			
Arena Rental			
Dirt (Applicable if indoors)			
Chutes			
Holding Pens			
Scoreboard (Optional)			
Sound			
Lighting			
Music			
Ambulance			
Tractors and Harrow Bed			
Sled			
Stock			
Pickup Horses			
Grand Entry Horses			
Feed			
Water			
Local Transportation			
Stalls and Pens for Contestant Horses			
Miscellaneous			
Prize Money			
Printing Tickets			
Ticket-by-Mail Reservations			
Committee Liability Insurance			
Contestant Numbers			
Official Badges			
Reserved Seats - VIP (Optional)			
Reserved Seats - Press			
Public Parking			
RV Hookups			
Overnight Contestant Parking			
Parade and Special Events			

NSPRA RODEO CHECKLISTS

LONG TERM:

- Rough Stock Contractor Agreement**
- Timed Event Cattle Agreement**
- Judges**
- Announcer**
- Arena Contract**
- Motel Reservations**
- Pick Up Men**
- Timers/ Secretaries**
- Insurance**
- Ambulance**
- Ticket Takers/Sellers**
- Porta-Potties / Garbage**
- Program Sales**
- Arena Banners**
- Security**
- Drill Teams**
- Proposals to Sponsors**
- Concessions**
- Advertising**
- News Releases**
- Comp Tickets**
- Groundskeeper**
- Arena Fence Flagging & Barrels (Solid at both ends)**

NSPRA RODEO CHECKLISTS (continued)

ONE MONTH OUT- CHECKLIST:

- Program to printer**
- Inventory Banners and take those in need of repair to sign shop**
- Bill all Banner and Program sponsors**
- Get arena help lined up**
- All Around Prizes**
- Radio/TV copy & print ads**
- Fliers or Posters printed & posted**
- Across-the-Street Banner prepared**
- National Anthem singer or tape**
- Line up Hay for stock contractor**
- Copy of Insurance Binder to NSPRA**
- Window Fliers “We’re Proud to Sponsor the Rodeo” to business sponsors**
- American Flag (and Canadian, if co-sanctioned)**
- Arrange for Banner over Street to be put up**

CHECK LIST FOR WEEK OF RODEO:

- ___ Latest NSPRA standings to announcer**
- ___ Put up arena banners**
- ___ Put out sandwich board**
- ___ Haul Hay to Rodeo grounds**
- ___ Comp tickets to sponsors**
- ___ Cash Boxes & change**
- ___ Do comp pass list for Arena help**
- ___ Alert police about traffic at end of rodeo**
- ___ Call rough stock & timed event contractors with number of entries**
- ___ Keys to rodeo grounds and all gates, doors, etc**
- ___ Day sheet inserts for program**
- ___ Double check porta-potties & garbage**
- ___ Confirm ambulance//EMT's**
- ___ List of sponsors to announcer and posted with secretary**

GROUND

RECOMMENDATIONS

Rodeo Arena Ground Recommendations

Although “*good ground*” is critical to a top rodeo production, it is often either completely forgotten or, at best, improperly prepared. This is truly unfortunate as “*good ground*” is essential not only to provide contestants and horses with the opportunity to perform at their best, but also to provide spectators with comfortable and pleasant entertainment. **Most critical, however, is that the safety of contestants, their horses, and the rodeo livestock depends on good ground.**

The following pointers will aid a committee in proper ground preparation:.

What is “good” ground?

- Consists of a cushion of loosely worked soil 6” to 8” deep.
- Contains enough moisture to hold down dust, but NOT so much as to be slick for a hard-running or turning horse.
- Free of hard clods, rocks, and hard pan.
- Above conditions are maintained in a consistent fashion for all performances and slacks.

What is necessary to prepare “good ground”?

Keep in mind that all arenas are different and require different equipment and handling. Experience is the only authority to consult regarding preparation of a specific arena. If no one on the committee is experienced, consult two or three local barrel racers who have competed in the arena previously. They will know exactly what should be done.

Appoint a committee person who understands the importance of proper ground preparation and is willing to take responsibility for it. Recruit or hire skilled operators for the equipment.

Appropriate equipment:

- Dependable tractor
- Make sure you have the equipment necessary to work the soil-type in the arena.
- Hard-packed soil will require a disc and harrow, but naturally sandy deep ground might require a drag and / or roller.
- Water truck
- Three garden rakes

Preparation:

Work the ground at least once 5 -7 days before the rodeo. Often arenas are hard-packed or have a hard pan, which will require soaking with water and several workings in order to be properly prepared. In addition, tractors and equipment sometimes fail to operate properly.

The type of equipment might be ineffective for the soil- type, too much or too little water might be used or the ground might work up too deep. Thus, advance preparation serves to troubleshoot all of the above possibilities before contestants and spectators arrive.

- Clear the arena and work the ground just prior to the beginning of all performances and slacks.
- Do not allow riding in the arena after working the ground as it will pack quickly.
- Be aware of events requiring special attention to ground during the rodeo.

If the Steer Wrestling should be scheduled after the barrel race, the holes around the barrels must be leveled. Most rodeos schedule the steer wrestling before the barrel race to avoid this, but in the interest of safety, holes around the barrels should be leveled before continuing with any other event. This can be quickly done with the hand rakes. During the Ladies Barrel Race, the ground must be worked between a certain number of barrel racers in each age group if there are a large number of contestants.

- Consult with the Barrel Race Director or her spokesperson as to when the ground should be raked and with what equipment.
- The committee person in charge of ground preparation must coordinate and supervise the activities of the water truck and the tractor operators, making sure that they are on hand to perform their duties at the necessary times and that they perform their duties correctly.
- An inexperienced or inattentive water truck driver can make the ground unsafe just before a performance by putting too much water on the arena.
- An irresponsible tractor driver can hold up the entire performance by not being on the tractor when needed.

Summary

To ensure ground conditions that facilitate top performances that are safe for both contestants and livestock and that provide spectators with an enjoyable experience, remember to:

- Consult and use knowledgeable, experienced people.
- Have the appropriate equipment on hand.
- Begin working the ground a week before the rodeo. Keep it consistently worked for all performances and slacks.

MISCELLANEOUS

INFORMATION



Memo: To Local Committees

We strongly suggest that you run an ad in your local papers, about 4 weeks before your rodeo, to inform local contestants who are not NSPRA members about your rodeo and how to enter on a permit.

With the permit system, a local contestant can enter the rodeo, per location town, without purchasing a membership from the NSPRA, for \$10. The only qualification is that they be over 40 or that they will turn 40 during the calendar year. This will help you draw local crowd favorites who might not otherwise enter your rodeo. Be sure to publish the date of entry, along with the needed phone numbers.

Please let local contestants know that the permit fee, entry fees, and office charges must be paid in advance on the entry date.

Central Entry # 928-684-9566

Release # 928-684-9566

If a contestant who has entered your rodeo later needs to release or turn out of the rodeo, it must be done no less than 3 hours prior to the time they are scheduled to compete or they will owe their entire entry fees.

Rodeo Insurance Reminder!

Each NSPRA rodeo committee is responsible for obtaining a spectator liability insurance policy in a minimum amount of \$1,000,000. The NSPRA recommends visiting with your local insurance agent or Rodeo Specialty Program Insurers at 1-800-338-3313 to determine the type of coverage and policy limits that are best suited to your needs. You will probably be asked by the owners of your rodeo grounds to add them as additional insured on your policy. It is also a policy of the NSPRA to have your committee add “The National Senior Pro Rodeo Association) Inc.” as an additional insured on your policy.

Please send the National Office a copy of your insurance binder, naming the NSPRA as additional insured, to us prior to the start of your rodeo. You may also **fax** the copy of your **insurance binder** to us, at **1-928-684-9576**.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

National Senior Pro Rodeo Association



Recommended Code of Practice for the care and handling of

Rodeo Livestock

History:

The regulations for the care and handling of rodeo livestock have been an important part of the history of the rodeo industry, and have evolved over the years. In the early 1900's, professional rodeo and traveling western shows began to realize that a uniform code of practice was needed to keep their animals safe and productive. In 1947, the Rodeo Cowboys Association took on the task of creating the framework for the modern day rules that govern many rodeo associations. Today, the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Canadian Professional Rodeo Association, International Professional Rodeo Association, Women's Professional Rodeo Association, National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and many others have adopted a uniform set of regulations that protect our animal athletes.

Enforcement:

The NSPRA Code of Practice is based on the rules contained in the NSPRA rulebook. As in any statute, a rule is only as good as the mechanism for enforcing it. To ensure compliance, the NSPRA rule book contains enforcement tools that include fines, suspension and expulsion from the Association.

Objective:

The purpose of this Code of Practice is to promote the proper care and management of all livestock involved in the production of an NSPRA rodeo, including animals belonging to contestants. People in the rodeo industry should be aware of and read the Code of Practice of their respective organizations. It is the responsibility of those working with rodeo livestock to be knowledgeable of the proper care and management of rodeo livestock. In the NSPRA, we take the position that ignorance of our rules is no excuse for mistreatment of rodeo livestock at any time.

General:

- A qualified veterinarian will be on-site or on-call at all performances and all sections of slack.
- An injured animal conveyance is recommended to be available at the rodeo grounds to remove animals from the arena in case of injury.
- A designated area should be available to treat any animals that may be injured.
- Animals used for rodeo events should be handled by competent, experienced personnel, at all times.
- Any animal that becomes excessively excited or lays down in the chute repeatedly, or tries repeatedly to jump out of the chute, or in any way appears in danger of injuring itself or others, may be immediately be released.
- No person will abuse or mistreat any animal by any noncompetitive or competitive action anywhere on the rodeo grounds.
- Livestock will be removed from the arena after each competition is complete.

Equipment:

- Spurs must be dulled.
- No locked rowels may be used on bareback or saddle bronc horses.
- Cinch, saddle, girth and flank straps will be free of sharp or protruding objects.
- The use of standard cattle prods is restricted to the minimum necessary to effectively manage or handle livestock.
- Required bareback pads are to completely cover the bars inside of the rigging, must be at least one inch thick and extend a minimum of one inch behind the rigging.

Facilities:

- Rough stock and timed event chutes will be of such construction as to prevent injury to livestock. Box pads are recommended to be used for timed event box.
- The arena will be as free as possible of rocks, holes and unnecessary obstacles and debris.
- Prior to the arrival of any livestock on the rodeo grounds, all pens, chutes and arena area should be inspected to insure they are in good repair and safe for livestock.

Livestock:

- All animals shall be strong and healthy.
- Animals for all events shall be inspected by a rodeo official prior to the drawing of stock. Any animals that appear to be sore, lame, injured or sick will not be included in the draw. Should an animal become sick or incapacitated between the time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled to be used in competition, that animal will not be used and another animal will be drawn for the contestant.
- Steer horns will be trimmed so that they are able to pass through the timed event chute.

- All team roping cattle will be protected by horn wraps.
- In order to keep bulls and timed event cattle from causing injury to each other, all horned animals will have their horns blunted.
- There will be minimum and maximum weight limits in place for all timed event livestock.
- To safeguard cattle in the calf roping event:
 1. A neck-rope must be used on the horse;
 2. Calves may not be intentionally flipped backwards;
 3. Contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent dragging of calf.
 4. Rope will be removed from calf as soon as possible after “tie” is approved.
- All livestock will be familiarized with the rodeo arena prior to the contest, where conditions permit.
- Any situation not covered in these pages will be referred to the NSPRA rule book.

For further information, contact:

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