

**Official
MRCA
Rodeo Rules**



2022 Edition

(Updated 31 Jan 2022)

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	3
BYLAWS AND MEMBERSHIP	4
1) Definitions	4
2) Membership Rules and Dues	4
3) General Membership Meetings	5
4) Bylaw and General Rule Changes	5
5) Fiscal Year	5
6) Officers and Executive Board of Directors	6
7) Circuit Directors	7
8) Contestant Board	8
9) Financial Liability	8
10) Books and Records	8
11) Indemnification	8
12) Release of Liability	9
13) Parliamentary Authority	10
14) Legal Construction	10
15) Legal Authorities Governing Construction of Bylaws	10
16) Adoption and Certification of Bylaws	10
OFFICIAL RODEO RULES	11
1) Pre Rodeo Activity	11
2) Entry Fees	11
3) Entry System	11
4) Draw Outs, Turn Outs and Late Entries	11
5) Drawing Positions	12
6) Drawing Stock	12
7) Rodeo Activity	12

8)	Contests.....	16
9)	Conduct, Dress Code and Disciplinary Actions	28
10)	Circuit System	30
11)	Rodeo Team Competition.....	31
12)	Championship Points System	33
13)	World Finals Rodeo	34

Welcome to the Military Rodeo Cowboys Association. Your support and input in this organization is highly encouraged and appreciated. This is your association; only you can make it strong.

Executive Board of Directors	
President	Adam Pollard
Vice President	Dan Stewart
Treasurer	CPA Firm Chosen by Board
Director of Rodeo Administration	Wayne Boney
Membership and Communications Director	Val Baker
Member At Large	Steve Wood
Member At Large	Jeremy Wolin
Member At Large	George Patton

LIABILITY STATEMENT

Military Rodeo Cowboy Association (MRCA) members acknowledge that rodeos are dangerous activities and that participation in a rodeo as a competitor, and independent contractor, or volunteer, exposes the participant to a substantial and serious risk of property damage, personal injury or death. MRCA members acknowledge that participation in MRCA sanctioned rodeos will involve such a hazard. Being fully aware that participation in MRCA sanctioned rodeos will expose said member to substantial and serious risk of property damage and/or personal injury or death, said member hereby releases the MRCA, sponsors, any MRCA sanctioned rodeo production entity, their affiliated, related or subsidiary companies, and the officers, directors, employees and agents of each entity of organization from liability for and all property damage, personal injuries or other claims arising from participation in MRCA sanctioned rodeos, including claims known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen, future or contingent. MRCA members shall not now or at any time in the future, directly or indirectly, commence or prosecute any action, suit or other proceeding against the aforementioned arising out of or related to the actions, causes of actions, claims or demands hereby waived, released or discharged by MRCA member. This provision shall be binding upon each MRCA member, his/her spouse, legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns.

BYLAWS AND MEMBERSHIP

1) Definitions

- a) **Active Duty** – personnel currently serving in a component of the military (ie. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard etc.)
- b) **Association** – the Military Rodeo Cowboys Association
- c) **Contestant Board of Directors (CBD)** – personnel elected by the membership of the association to represent them in dealing with competition rules
- d) **Executive Board of Directors (EBD)**– the governing body of the association
- e) **Military Rodeo Cowboys Association (MRCA)** – the association governed by these bylaws
- f) **Reserve** - personnel currently serving in a reserve component of the military (ie. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard etc.)
- g) **Rodeo Secretary(ies)** – the individual at each rodeo responsible for taking entries, recording results and managing the administration of the rodeo
- h) **Rules** – rules of competition as established by the MRCA
- i) **Sponsor(s)** – those entities that provide funding or in-kind services for the association
- j) **Stock Contractor(s)** – those entities that provide rodeo livestock for events
- k) **PRCA** – Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association
- l) **WPRA** – Women’s Professional Rodeo Association

2) Membership Rules and Dues

- a) **Individual Membership:**
 - i) Membership is open to current active duty, guard, reserve, honorably discharged veterans or retired from military service. Dependents are not eligible;
 - ii) Active duty and Reserve must present a copy of Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) as proof of eligibility;
 - iii) Honorably discharged veterans must present a DD214 or Guard equivalent as evidence of service;
 - iv) This member may compete in any sanctioned event
 - v) This member is allowed one vote on selecting event directors to the Contestant Board of Directors;
 - vi) Dues for this membership will be set by the Executive Board of Directors

- b) **Membership Rules**
 - i) Membership dues are set by the Executive Board of Directors and can be changed at any time following a vote of the EBD for the following competition season.
 - ii) Membership applications and supporting documentation as described in the current rule book must be submitted for vetting at least 14 days prior to any rodeo entry.
 - iii) Dues will be paid before the contestant competes in order for points to count.
 - iv) All membership dues shall be paid via electronic payment mechanism approved by the Executive Board of Directors with access to payment mechanism provided on the MRCA website.
 - v) Members who have their membership revoked or those who resign or withdraw their membership will not receive their dues back

- vi) Members who resign or memberships that are revoked or canceled during the current year will not be permitted to rejoin the association until the following year after review and approval of their reinstatement request by the Executive Board of Directors.
- vii) All MRCA Members shall read and know the Rules and By-Laws of the Association
- viii) Failure to know the Rules will not be accepted as an excuse

3) General Membership Meetings

- a) General membership meetings will be held prior to the start of the World Finals Rodeo (WFR) to provide safety and performance information specific to the WFR
- b) Notice of the general membership meetings will be posted on the MRCA webpage and/or sent to membership via mail/email at least 14 calendar days prior to the meeting
- c) Dress code as described in the rodeo rule book established by the Executive Board of Directors will be enforced at all official meetings
- d) Alcoholic beverages are prohibited during all official meetings of any board or committee of the association

4) Bylaw and General Rule Changes

- a) Amendments to the By-Laws and Certificate of Formation are accomplished as follows:
 - i) The By-Laws and Certificate of Formation may be amended by a motion being proposed by a member or the Executive Board of Directors, seconded and submitted to the Executive Board of Directors either verbally during official meetings or via written submission in other circumstances
 - ii) The President may call a vote, and the Secretary will execute the vote at an appropriate time via an appropriate manner
- b) General Competition Rule changes:
 - i) Rule changes may be presented by any member of the association through his or her Event/Circuit Director to the Contestant Board
 - ii) Contestant Board will discuss proposed changes to ensure that new change is beneficial for entire association.
 - iii) The President of the Contestant Board can call for a vote if a Quorum (at least 50% plus 1 of the members) exist and the secretary will initiate this vote and manage the vote count.
 - iv) If vote is approved, the result will be communicated to the Director of Rodeo Administration for inclusion in next Executive Board of Directors meeting.
 - (1) The Executive Board of Directors will discuss and vote on amending the rule book to incorporate the change
 - (a) If approved, the change will be included in the following year's rule book except that urgent safety measures affecting contestants or livestock may be implemented immediately upon approval
 - (b) If disapproved, the Director of Rodeo Administration will communicate the result to the Contestant Board

5) Fiscal Year

- a) The fiscal year of the Military Rodeo Cowboys Association shall be January 1 through 31 December of each calendar year.

6) Officers and Executive Board of Directors

a) **Executive Board of Directors:**

- i) The Executive Board of Directors shall have supervision over the business and all affairs of the MRCA with the power to legally bind contracts, make, adopt, alter or amend the bylaws and rules thereof. Members of the Executive Board of Directors shall be members in good standing according to the membership requirements of the association. Board members must conduct themselves with integrity at all times and set the example for the membership.
- ii) The Executive Board of Directors will consist of the President, Vice President, Director of Rodeo Administration, Membership and Communications Director, and three (3) Members at Large. The Executive Board of Directors reserves the right to add/decrease the number of board members as needed by vote of the board
- iii) Executive Board of Directors members term of office shall be perpetual until a board member resigns or is removed for cause under procedures below
- iv) In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Board of Directors, the board members will form a search committee to identify a qualified candidate to fill the available position and said candidate shall be approved by a vote of 75% of the Executive Board of Directors
- v) At all meetings of the Executive Board of Directors, 50% plus 1 of the Directors shall be required to constitute a quorum to conduct official business
 - (1) Board members may be removed at any time by vote of no confidence by 75% vote of the Executive Board of Directors

b) **President:**

- i) The President is a voting member of the Executive Board of Directors and shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Board of Directors
- ii) The President, assisted by the Treasurer shall submit in December of each calendar year a budget for the following fiscal year to the Board of Directors for approval

c) **Vice-President:**

- i) The Vice-President is a voting member of the Executive Board of Directors and shall assist the President as needed and assume all duties of the President in his/her absence

d) **Treasurer:**

- i) The role of Treasurer will be performed by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) firm selected by vote of the Executive Board of Directors.
- ii) The Treasurer is **not** a voting member of the Board but is appointed by the Executive Board of Directors
- iii) The Treasurer will receive all funds and manage the finances of the association
- iv) The Treasurer will receive and maintain a copy of the approved yearly budget of the association and provide quarterly budget updates to the Executive Board of Directors that include, but is not limited to, monthly receipts and expenditures, balance of funds, both allocated and non-allocated
- v) Expend funds only when clearly authorized (**requires two signatures as approved by the EBD or e-mail correspondence**) and when receipts for expenditures are attached
- vi) Establish a signature authority with the bank that includes the EBD President, Vice President and Director of Rodeo Administration names only
- vii) Disburse all monies as the Executive Board of Directors may direct

e) **Director of Rodeo Administration:**

- i) The Director of Rodeo Administration (DRA) is a voting member of the MRCA Executive Board of Directors and acts as the Operations Officer for the association and fulfills the role of Secretary of the Association. This position will interact with other members of the EBD, Contestant Boards, Sponsors, Stock Contractors, Rodeo Committees, Rodeo Secretaries and others to ensure all administration functions related to business and competition for the association are completed and contests are conducted according to current rule book. Due to the nature of this position, it is anticipated that the DRA will need to be on site at as many rodeos as possible to ensure contests are conducted fairly according to the current rule book. Full duty description for this function will be developed and approved by the Executive Board of Directors.
- ii) During meetings of the Executive Board of Directors
 - (1) announce the business before the board in its proper order;
 - (2) to decide if the questions brought before the board preserve order and decorum;
 - (3) Record all proceedings of the board

f) **Membership and Communications Director:**

- i) The Membership and Communications Director is a voting member of the MRCA Executive Board of Directors. This position will interact with other members of the EBD, Director of Rodeo Administration, Rodeo Secretaries and others to ensure all incoming members are properly vetted, meet all requirements to be in good standing and have the information about the association as designated by the rule book and Executive Board of Directors. Full duty description for this function will be developed and approved by the Executive Board of Directors.

g) **Members At Large**

- i) Members at Large are positions on the Executive Board of Directors without specific duty titles
- ii) Members at Large are voting members of the Executive Board of Directors
- iii) Members at Large will perform all duties as required to assist the board in execution of all official business as needed.
- iv) There will be three (3) of these positions on the board however the number may change as needed by vote of the Executive Board of Directors

h) **Executive Committee (EC):**

- i) The EC is 3 members of the EBD responsible for the day to day operation of the association and will execute all duties as requested by the full Executive Board of Directors
- ii) The EC consist of the following:
 - (1) President
 - (2) Director of Rodeo Administration
 - (3) Membership and Communications Director

7) Circuit Directors

- a) Circuit Directors may be appointed as necessary by the Executive Board of Directors to conduct business as directed by the Executive Board of Directors to promote and organize military rodeos within a specific geographic area.
- b) Circuit Directors will participate as voting members of the Contestant Board

8) Contestant Board

- a) The Contestant Board will be the voice of the contestants through the Director of Rodeo Administration to the Executive Board of Directors regarding rules and conduct of rodeo competition.
- b) The Contestant Board will include:
 - i) Director of Rodeo Administration (non-voting member)
 - ii) Circuit Directors
 - iii) Event Directors for each recognized rodeo event
 - (1) Event Directors are selected by vote of the competitors within their event
 - iv) Contract Act Representative
 - (1) Selected by vote of the contract acts
- c) Members of the Contestant Board will meet prior to the Fiscal Year to elect a Contestant Board President, Vice President and Secretary and Sgt At Arms
- d) Elected positions for the Contestant Board have a two (2) year term without limit to number of terms
- e) The elected officers will be responsible for conducting meetings and documenting outcomes for the Contestant Board
- f) The Director of Rodeo Administration may take part in Contestant Board meetings and shall convey any and all requests/recommendations on behalf of the Contestant Board to the Executive Board of Directors
- g) Contestant Board meetings require a quorum of 50% of the board members to conduct official meeting
- h) Motions for action must be seconded and approved by majority vote of the board members present at a meeting

9) Financial Liability

- a) No member, officer, director, employee, agent, or attorney shall be personally responsible or liable for any debts, cost or judgments imposed upon or against or incurred by the MRCA
- b) The MRCA may carry insurance coverage for each rodeo or event conducted under the MRCA name.

10) Books and Records

- a) The organization shall:
 - i) Keep correct and complete books and records of accounts
 - ii) Shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its members, Board of Directors, and Committees having and exercising any of the authority of the Board of Directors
 - iii) Shall keep at the principal office of record the name's, and addresses of the members entitled to vote.
 - iv) All books and records of the organization may be inspected by any member or their agent or attorney for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.
 - v) Financial books will be audited annually.

11) Indemnification

- a) No director or officer of the Association shall be liable to the Association or its members for monetary damages for an act or omission in such director's capacity as a director of the

Association; except that this Article shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director or officer of the Association for: a breach of a duty of loyalty to the Association or its members; an act or omission not in good faith or that involves intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law; a transaction from which a director or officer received an improper benefit, whether or not the benefit resulted from an action taken within the scope of the office; or an act or omission for which the liability of a director is expressly provided for by statute.

- b) To the extent permitted by law, the Association will indemnify a director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent of the Association who was, is, or may be named defendant or respondent in any proceeding as a result of his or her actions or omissions within the scope of his or her official capacity in the Association. For the purposes of this article, an agent includes one who is or was serving at the Association's request as a director, officer, partner, employee, contractor or trustee.
- c) The Association will indemnify a person only if he or she acted in good faith and reasonably believed that his or her conduct was in the Association's best interests. In case of a criminal proceeding, the person may be indemnified only if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful. The Association will not indemnify a person who is found liable to the Association or is found liable to another on the basis of improperly receiving a personal benefit from the Association. A person is conclusively considered to have been found liable in relation to any claim, issue, or matter if the person has been adjudged liable by a court of competent jurisdiction and all appeals have been exhausted. Termination of a proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or on a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent does not necessarily preclude indemnification by the Association.
- d) The indemnity permitted under these Bylaws includes indemnity against judgments, penalties, (including excise and similar taxes), fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses (including attorney's fees) actually incurred in connection with the proceeding. If the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of the Association, the indemnification is limited to reasonable expenses actually incurred by the person in connection with the proceeding.
- e) Before the Association may pay any indemnification expenses (including attorney's fees), the Association must specifically determine that indemnification is permissible, authorize indemnification, and determine that expenses to be reimbursed are reasonable. The Association may make these determinations and decisions by any one of the following procedures:
 - (1) Majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who, at the time of the vote, are not named defendants or respondents in the proceeding.
 - (2) If such a quorum cannot be obtained, by a majority vote of a committee of the Executive Board of Directors, designated to act in the matter by a majority vote of all directors, consisting solely of two or more directors who at the time of the vote are not named defendants or respondents in the proceeding.
- f) The Executive Board of Directors is authorized to obtain such insurance coverage as it determines are necessary to accomplish the foregoing.
- g) Any repeal or amendment of this Article by the members of the Association shall be prospective only, and shall not adversely affect any limitation on the personal liability of a director of the Association existing at the time of such repeal or amendment. Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, if the Code is amended after approval of an action of this Association to further eliminate or limit the personal liability of directors, then the liability of a director of the Association shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the Code, as so amended from time.

12) Release of Liability

- a) The Association aka the MRCA and co-sponsoring organizations, if any, and their officers, directors, employees, members and agents shall not be responsible for any personal injury, for injury to animals, or for loss or damage to property, occurring at any Association activity. Each member, contractor or consignor shall indemnify and hold harmless the Association, its officers, directors and employees from and against all claims, demands, causes of actions, and expenses of every kind, including attorney's fees, arising out of or related in any manner to the acts or omissions of any member, contractor or consignor, to the actions of any animal under the care, custody or control of the member, stock contractor or consignor or as a result of participation in or attendance at an event or on the grounds thereof. Presentation of signed entry or consignment forms shall be deemed acceptance of the conditions of this rule. In the event an entry or consignment form is not signed or presented, appearance on the grounds of any Association activity as a member, contractor or consignor shall be deemed to be acceptance of the conditions of this rule.
- b) Without assuming the affirmative duty to monitor possible physical or mental handicaps of members, if condition of exhibitors' physical or mental disability comes to the attention of the Association, the individual may be denied participation privileges in Association-approved events until such time as he or she provides the Association with sufficient information to conclusively establish physical or mental capability to participate, without posing a significant risk to the health or safety of the individual and/or the other members in competitions which he or she desires to participate. At Association's sole discretion, the member may be authorized to use special equipment to enhance physical ability to safely participate in MRCA events.

13) Parliamentary Authority

- a) The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised will govern the Association aka MRCA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

14) Legal Construction

- a) To the greatest extent possible, these Bylaws shall be construed to conform to all legal requirements and all requirements for obtaining and maintaining all tax exemptions that may be available to nonprofit corporations. If any provision herein is held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability will not affect any other provision, and the Bylaws will be construed as if they had not included the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision.

15) Legal Authorities Governing Construction of Bylaws

- a) These Bylaws will be construed under Texas law. All references in these Bylaws to statutes, regulations, or other sources of legal authority will refer to the authorities cited, or their successors, as they may be amended from time to time.

16) Adoption and Certification of Bylaws

We the Executive Board of Directors certify the above Bylaws as true and accurate as unanimously approved during an official meeting of the board. Any changes to the Bylaws will be reflected in the next rule book publication.

Military Rodeo Cowboys Association

Official Rodeo Rules

1) Pre Rodeo Activity

- a) The Military Rodeo Cowboys Association (MRCA) provides its own rules for rodeo contestants and will insist that rodeo committees adhere to them. Should these rules be silent for a given situation, the current Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) rule book will be used except in Barrel Racing and Breakaway Roping where the Womens's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) rules will be used. If there is any conflict between the MRCA and PRCA or WPRA rule book, the MRCA rules take precedence. In the event of co-sanctioned rodeos, the co-sanctioning organization's rules will be used unless otherwise noted in the co-sanction agreement.
- b) Special rules for rodeos may be used for certain rodeos and/or events if deemed necessary by the Executive Board of Directors. Special rules will be posted on the website prior to the rodeo date.
- c) The MRCA reserves the right to withdraw its members from competition in any rodeo which does not abide by these rules.
- d) Discrimination against any MRCA member because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, or ethnic origin will not be permitted.
- e) Other than the World Finals Rodeo (WFR), all MRCA Sanctioned and co-sanctioned rodeos will be open to all MRCA members in good standing unless specific limitations are set forth in the rodeo's sanction approval.
- f) Rodeo Committee
 - i) The rodeo committee shall be defined as any individual or group sponsoring a rodeo that is sanctioned or approved by the MRCA

2) Entry Fees

- a) Entry fees will be determined by the MRCA Executive Board of Directors for all rodeos.
- b) A percentage or fixed amount of each entry fee may be deducted for sanction fees, administration cost, or secretary fee.
- c) Rodeo Team entry fees will be \$50 and will be paid through the online website for entries prior to first rodeo performance.

3) Entry System

- a) Individual entries will be made by any member in accordance with the advertised process for each rodeo. This process may include call-in/call-back, online entries or other methods included in any sanction or co-sanction agreement.
- b) Team entries will be made in the same manner as above.
- c) Number of allowable entries for any rodeo will be determined by the MRCA Executive Board of Directors or their designee.

4) Draw Outs, Turn Outs and Late Entries

- a) Definitions
 - i) Draw Outs – when competitor call the entry office and informs them that he/she will not be competing.

- ii) Turn Outs – when a competitor fails to show up at the rodeo or fails to compete while at the rodeo.
- iii) Late Entries – entries made after close of entry books.

- b) Draw Outs may be made prior to or at call-back with no fine assessed. Draw Outs made after this time are finable unless due to military duty or verifiable medical reason. Fines will be assessed by the Director of Rodeo Administration.
- c) Turn Outs are finable and fines will be assessed on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Director of Rodeo Administration.
- d) Late Entries may be taken if it is in the best interest of the rodeo or the association. There is no obligation to accept late entries and the decision to accept late entries is reserved to the MRCA Executive Board of Directors or their designee.
- e) Fines assessed for any reason may be appealed to the full MRCA Executive Board of Directors in writing by the individual. Written appeals may be sent via U.S. Mail or submitted via email to the Director of Rodeo Administration. All appeals must be submitted within 3 calendar days of assessment and contain all documentation that should be considered by the Board to justify repealing the fine.

5) Drawing Positions

- a) There will not be a performance position option. All positions will be posted by random draw.

6) Drawing Stock

- a) Stock will be drawn by a random draw at least one (1) hour prior to commencement of the first performance of the rodeo.
 - i) If the rodeo contains a short-go, the draw for the short go shall be conducted as soon as practicable after completion of the qualifying rounds but no less than thirty (30) minutes prior to the event starting in the short go.
- b) The stock draw will be done by stock number only.
- c) There will be at least four (4) copies of the draw. One publicly posted, one for each judge and at least one or more for the arena secretary.
- d) No contestant will compete on the same head of stock twice at any one rodeo in the same event, except in the case of a reride in the riding events.
- e) In the Bareback and saddle Bronc events, stock cannot be out twice in the same day except for rerides. The designated reride must be different than those animals out in that given day.
- f) In the Bullriding there will be no double back bulls in the slack at two go round rodeos, progressive rodeos or rodeos with a final or short go, unless approved by the MRCA Director of Rodeo Administration.
- g) In the Bullriding, the designated reride must be different than those animals out in that given performance.
- h) For every time a riding event animal is in the slack twice at a given rodeo that same animal must be included in the performance draw at least once.

7) Rodeo Activity

- a) Only the number of qualified contestants, specified prior to the first performance for a short go round or final go round will be eligible to receive the final head of stock. Exception may be made if the committee posts the ground rules before the rodeo begins, stating that should the rodeo be lacking a qualified contestant for the short/final go round, the next available ranking contestant may take his/her place before stock is drawn. No changes in short/final go round contestants is allowed after draw has been conducted.

- b) Markings in riding events and times in timed events shall be announced during slack and regular performances.
- c) No person shall be allowed in the arena during a performance unless entered in an event, or unless they have signed a release of liability and have been approved by the arena director.
- d) Contract Acts not pertinent to the rodeo will be excluded from the arena when not actually performing.
- e) Contract Acts will not interfere with the competition. Failure to comply will result in fines or suspension from the MRCA.
- f) Contestants in the arena must not interfere with the work of bona fide press or professional photographers or view of the spectators.
- g) All MRCA sanctioned and co-sanctioned rodeos must have at least one bullfighter and two pickup men.
- h) Riding event chutes must have support for the contestant's feet when they are in the chute. Sponsor signage must not inhibit competition or contestant preparation.
- i) If the arena conditions are deemed to be unsafe for competition by judges, stock contractor, Contestant Board members or Executive Board members, they may halt the event until such time as conditions are safe to resume.
- j) **Only contestants are allowed behind the bucking chutes or in the timed event pens during the rodeo.**
- k) **Timers**
 - i) Timers must be experienced rodeo timers.
 - ii) Any rodeo using electronic timers shall be required to use a backup hand stopwatch.
 - iii) The timer who times the first performance of a rodeo must time for the duration of the rodeo unless an emergency precludes their fulfilling this requirement.
- l) **Judges**
 - i) Contestants are not allowed to talk to or distract judges and/or timers during an event.
 - (1) Contestant may discuss reride/rerun options with the judge if informed that there is a reride/rerun option.
 - ii) One judge shall act as the backup timer in all riding events. The judge's stopwatch reading shall be used as a means of verification when the length of the qualified ride is in question. The judge shall stop their watch when in their opinion the contestant has been disqualified for any reason or when he hears the whistle/horn, whichever comes first. Judges shall refer to their stopwatch for verification of times on all rough stock rides. In any instance where time is eight (8) seconds or more on the judge's watch, the contestant shall be entitled to a score.
 - iii) Judges shall mark on their books/score sheet anyone turning out stock and which animals were mounted out or run in the timed events and provide this to the arena secretary. The arena secretary shall report such infractions to the MRCA Director of Rodeo Administration with the rodeo results.
 - iv) Markings in the rough stock riding events shall be totaled by both judges and the arena secretary, and posted after each performance.
 - v) Judges have the authority to request that any person be excused from the arena if that person, in the judge's opinion is interfering with the contest event.
 - vi) All judges must be approved through the MRCA office, and have been deemed qualified to hold such a position.
 - vii) Rerides/Reruns will be at the discretion of the judges.

m) **Rodeo Administration**

- i) Arena secretaries shall be MRCA secretarial members in good standing or for co-sanctioned events, members in good standing with the co-sanctioning authority.
 - ii) Contract acts must report to the arena secretary at each rodeo and show their current membership card.
 - iii) If online entries are not used, Arena Secretaries are required to collect all entry fees from all contestants entered at individual rodeos. A current membership card must be presented with entry fees for contestant verification (electronic version is acceptable).
 - iv) Arena secretaries will NOT accept personal checks for entry fees.
 - v) If online entries are not used, Arena Secretaries will be required to collect a fee for finals awards/admin fee and/or any stock charge from all contestants if it pertains to that rodeo as described in the rodeo posting.
 - vi) Unless otherwise noted for each rodeo, all contestants are required to pay their entry fees when entering the rodeo through the online entry system.
 - vii) Arena secretaries will send all judges score sheets and any other correspondence pertaining to that rodeo to the MRCA office within 48 hours following the last rodeo performance.
 - viii) At co-sanctioned events there will be two secretaries (one from the MRCA and one from the co-sanctioning authority), however they may be the same person if needed.
- n) **Announcers**
- i) It shall be a violation of the rules for an announcer to deliberately misrepresent any contest action.
- o) **Prize Money Payoff**
- i) Normally, MRCA entry fees and added monies will be kept separate from any co-sanctioned entries and payoff will be based on MRCA entries only unless the co-sanction agreement prohibits separate prize money. When separated, Non-MRCA members are not allowed to compete for MRCA prize money.
 - ii) The following payoff schedules (no added money and added money) are in place for all regular season rodeos. The WFR and other special designated rodeos will utilize a payout schedule approved by the Director of Rodeo Administration. Co-sanctioned rodeos may use the payout schedule for the co-sanction authority.
 - iii) **No added money:**

ENTRIES	PLACES PAID	PERCENTAGE SPLITS
1-5	1	100
6-10	2	60/40
11-20	3	45/35/20
21-40	4	40/30/20/10
41-70	5	30/25/20/15/10
71-100	6	27/22/18/13/10/5
100+	10	24/18/16/13/9/6/5/4/3/2

i) **Added money:**

ENTRIES	PLACES PAID	PERCENTAGE SPLITS
1-5	2	60/40
6-10	3	45/35/20
11-20	4	40/30/20/10

21-40	5	30/25/20/15/10
41-70	6	27/22/18/13/10/5
71-100	10	24/18/16/13/9/6/5/4/3/2
100+	12	19/15/12/10/9/8/7/6/5/4/3/2

p) Doctor Release Procedures

- i) The MRCA Office shall be notified no later than twenty four (24) hours prior to the performance that a contestant is turning out due to injury.
- ii) A contestant may turn out due to a visible injury or illness at any rodeo, providing notification of such turn out is authorized by a judge at that rodeo.
- iii) If a contestant turns out due to a doctor's release, a copy of the release must be sent to the MRCA Office within seven days from the date of the last performance of that rodeo. Failure to provide satisfactory doctor's release will result in loss of championship points as approved by the Director of Rodeo Administration. First offense will be loss of 20 points and 40 points for each offense thereafter.

q) Rodeo Results

- i) Secretaries are required to submit correct and completed result sheets and rule infraction notices to the MRCA Office following the final performance of a rodeo. All documents must be sent electronically via email or file upload to the Director of Rodeo Administration No Later Than forty eight (48) hours after completion of the final rodeo performance.

r) Rodeo Livestock

- i) Rodeo livestock must be furnished by MRCA approved stock contractors.
- ii) All livestock must be numbered by hot iron and no duplicate numbers shall be permitted. Plastic ear tags may be used as long as there are no duplicate tags. Glue-on "sale stickers" placed on each hip may also be used during each rodeo provided there is no duplicate numbers.

s) Humane Treatment of Livestock

- i) All livestock must be treated in a humane manner at all times.
- ii) No locked rowels, or rowels that will lock or sharpened spurs will be used in the Bareback Bronc Riding and Saddle Bronc Riding.
- iii) Placing fingers in eyes, nose or lips of steers in Steer Wrestling and Chute Dogging is prohibited.
- iv) Animals for all events will be inspected before the draw and no sore, lame, sick or injured animal or animal with defective eyesight shall be in the draw at any time. Should an animal become sick or injured between time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled to be used in competition, the first reride/rerun animal shall be substituted in its place and another reride/rerun animal drawn to ensure adequate reride/rerun stock is available.
- v) No animal shall be beaten, mutilated, or cruelly prodded. Use of electric prods is prohibited.
- vi) Sharp or cutting objects in cinch, saddle girth, or flank straps shall not be permitted. Only sheepskin lined flank straps may be used in Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding with a quick release included.
- vii) Clowns/Bullfighters shall not abuse animals at any time.
- viii) Contestants will be disqualified for any mistreatment of livestock.

- ix) 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 appears to be in danger of injuring itself should be released immediately and the contestant assigned the next available reride/ rerun animal.
- x) Any member found to deliberately violate these rules shall be suspended no less than one calendar year from date of offense and disqualified from and forfeit all money and points at the rodeo where the infraction occurred. A second offense of this nature will result in a minimum three (3) year suspension and the member will have to submit to the Executive Board of Directors for reinstatement. The Executive Board of Directors may reinstate or determine that a longer suspension is in order.

8) Contests

- a) In the event that the MRCA contest rules are silent on a subject, the current PRCA rule book shall prevail in determining direction by judges (except for Barrel Racing and Breakaway Roping where WPRA rules apply).
- b) There must be at least three (3) MRCA contestants/teams entered in an event to constitute a competition and qualify for full championship points in sanctioned events. In the event that this minimum number is not achieved during rodeo entry for a co-sanctioned event, reduced championship points will be used in accordance with Section 12 Championship Points System. This reduced points program may be discontinued at any time by the Executive Board of Directors if they believe it is being used to “game” or somehow gain an unfair advantage or if they believe the membership has grown to such an extent that a different program would better serve the associations goals.
- c) The standard nine (9) events for the MRCA are: Bareback Riding (BB), Saddle Bronc Riding (SB), Bull Riding (BR), Tie Down Roping (TDR), Steer Wrestling (SW), Chute Dogging (CD), Team Roping (TR), Barrel Racing (GBR), and Breakaway Roping (BAR). MRCA sanctioned rodeos will include all events. MRCA Co-sanctioned rodeos are not required to offer all events, however the board will endeavor to get as many events as possible included in the co-sanction agreement.

d) Riding Events

- i) Ride and animal are to be marked separately. Ride will be marked according to how much the rider spurs the animal. Animal will be marked according to how difficult they are to ride. Figures used in marking the riding events shall range from one (1) to twenty five (25) on both rider and animal using the full spread by each judge for potential total of 100 points.
- ii) Judges in the riding events at all MRCA rodeos will deliver their markings (score sheets) to the rodeo secretary at the end of each performance and these shall be termed the official markings. No changes to these marking shall be allowed after they have been delivered to the rodeo secretary. In the event that electronic scoring is used, judges and rodeo secretary shall review the scores at the end of the performance to ensure all electronic entries are correct. No changes of scores may be made after this verification.
- iii) To qualify for a score in Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding, riders must have feet above the break of the shoulders and touching the horse when horse’s front feet hit the ground upon initial move out of the chute (Mark out).
- iv) If a horse stalls coming out of the chute, either judge may declare a “free roll” and the mark out rule is then waived. Rider may continue to, but is not required to have feet above the break of the shoulder once the mark out is waived.

- v) If in the opinion of the judges, a rider is fouled at the gate (rider comes in contact with the surrounding chute and/or gate due to movement of the animal), the judge will offer a re-ride option to the rider.
- vi) Judges will use a red or yellow flag to indicate a violation of the mark out rule and place the flag on the ground visible to all arena personnel when infraction occurs.
- vii) Contestants may pull riggings, cinch saddles and pull ropes from either side in all riding events.
- viii) If an animal in the draw pen is injured or becomes ill prior to competition, a judge must verify the incident and document on score sheet that a re-ride animal is being given to replace the injured/ill stock. The judge will relay this information to the rodeo secretary so that official records are corrected accordingly. This animal is not to be used in any further performances of the rodeo and if drawn for other performances shall be replaced with a designated re-ride animal.
- ix) All riding events shall be scored for eight (8) seconds. Time to begin when the animal's inside front shoulder breaks the plane of the chute gate opening. If animal backs out, the opposite shoulder breaking the plane will be considered the indicator for starting the time.
- x) Use of electric prods once animal is in the bucking chute in the riding events is strictly prohibited at all MRCA rodeos. Any contestant or stock contractor personnel violating this rule will be fined and/or suspended.

e) **Re-Rides**

- i) Re-rides are given at the discretion of the judge unless otherwise mandated within the rule book. Potential reasons for a re-ride include but are not limited to: animal stops, rider is fouled, stock contractor equipment fails, or performance of the animal is inferior in comparison to other animals in that performance. If re-ride is offered, the contestant may take the same animal back (with approval of stock contractor) or accept the next available re-ride from the draw. If contestants chooses the same animal back, they must accept the score given on that animal and will not be eligible for another re-ride unless fouled or equipment failure. Contestant must make immediate decision on accepting re-ride when informed by judge.
- ii) If any arena personnel come in contact with the bucking animal during the contest in the arena before the eight (8) second ride is complete, the contestant will be given a score with option for a re-ride. Contestant must make immediate decision on accepting re-ride when informed by judge.
- iii) If a re-ride is offered by the judge, the contestant will be informed of current score, animal available in re-ride pen and must make immediate decision to accept current marking or take the re-ride. Contestant may take current marking and elect to not accept re-ride and will indicate that decision to the judge once informed of re-ride options.
- iv) Contestants may not influence judges by asking for a re-ride. Contestants are prohibited from initiating contact/speaking with judges during the contest.
- v) If in the opinion of the judges a contestant has made two (2) honest attempts to get out of the chute on a chute fighting animal, the judge may offer a re-ride option from available re-ride pen.
- vi) No re-ride will be given for contestant equipment failure. If the stock contractor equipment fails or flank man indicates they did not get a proper flank on the animal, a re-ride will be offered.

- vii) If a bucking animal stops after initial start and any outside help is used to start it again, the contestant will not be required to make a qualified ride to qualify for a re-ride.

f) **Bareback Riding**

- i) Riding to be done with one-handed rigging.
- ii) Rigging Requirements: Rigging shall be leather and shall not be more than 10 inches in width at the hand-hold 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 a horse’s back when cinched. No freaks will be allowed. Only rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold. There will be no rawhide restrictions with the exception of no rawhide may be within 1 inch of the back of the rigging body excluding the “D” ring wrap which may be no more than 2 inches up from the bottom of the body. The rigging body must also be spread 9 inches apart at the back of the rigging 4 inches down from the center. The handle bars under the rigging body must be tapered down to at least 1/4 inch at the end of the handle bar
- iii) Modified Rigging Requirements: shall be leather and shall not be more than seven (7) inches in width top center, front to back and over 6 inches at the “D” ring. There may be a concave inset at the center back of the body, not to be over one (1) inch deep and not over eight (8) inches in width. Rawhide may be used under the body of the hand-hold and tapered down the full length of the body to allow it to wrap around the “D” ring inset. Also, there may be full rawhide around the “D” ring inset not to be over four (4) inches in length.
- iv) No fiberglass or metal will be allowed in riggings or hand-holds. Only leather or rawhide is allowed for hand-hold, with a maximum of 3/4 inch of rawhide allowed. Flat-head rivets and/or screws and “t” nuts are allowed to secure handhold. The only other metal allowed will be in the “D” rings.
- v) Cinches on bareback rigging shall be made of mohair or neoprene and shall be at least eight (8) inches in width at the center, but may be tapered to accommodate cinch “D” rings. Latigos must be of leather only.
- vi) No quick trips are allowed on bareback riggings.
- vii) Bareback pads are required for all bareback riggings. Required bareback pads are to completely cover the underside of the rigging, and are to extend a full two (2) inches behind the rigging.
- viii) 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 3/4 inch thick will be allowed. In addition, the pad must have leather over the bars 3/16 inch thick extending at least 1/2 inch on either side and the back of the handle bars.
- ix) In addition to the pad, a piece of leather a minimum of 3/16 inch thick and 4 inches square must be glued or sewed to the pad, and centered in comparison to the total body length of the rigging. This piece of leather shall be placed so that 1/2 inch of it extends behind the rigging and the remaining 2 inches are under the rigging.
- x) Stock contractors will have the right to have judges pass on whether rigging and pads satisfy the requirements above. Judges shall determine whether pads are satisfactory. If judge rules the pads are not satisfactory, contestant will be warned and must correct the violation before competing for the first offense. Any offense thereafter shall result in an immediate fifteen (15) day suspension from competition. Any entry fees already paid for rodeos during the suspension are forfeit.
- xi) The rider’s glove will be a plain glove with no flaps, rolls, wedges or gimmicks. An extra piece of leather may be used at the base of the little finger only. It must be on the inside of the glove and is not to extend out from the seam more than 5/8 inch and can be no more than

5/8 inch thick. 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.

- xii) There will be no adhesive material other than dry resin used on rigging or on rider's glove. White athletic tape may be used. Benzoin may be used.
- xiii) Any of the following shall disqualify a ride:
 - (1) Riding with rowels too sharp or locked;
 - (2) Being bucked off;
 - (3) Touching animal, equipment, or person with free hand. One arm must be free at all times;
 - (4) Rigging comes off horse, with or without breaking;
 - (5) Violating the mark out rule;
 - (6) Taking any kind of finger tuck, finger wrap, or use of finger tape. Violators shall be disqualified and may also be subject to fine;
 - (7) If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal with glove on when previous horse leaves the arena.
 - (8) Spur rowels must have five or more points and be dull. The first offense violating this rule shall be a warning with contestant required to correct before competing. Any infraction of this rule thereafter will result in an automatic 15 day suspension from competition. Any entry fees already paid for rodeos during the suspension are forfeit.
 - (9) If, in the opinion of the pickup men and/or stock contractor, a bareback rider is unable to free his hand from the rigging after a qualified ride or after declaring by double grabbing, the rider shall be disqualified and fined 25 competition points. A contestant fouled or bucked off before or after the whistle and hung up will not be fined. Judges are required to report the offense to the rodeo secretary.

g) Saddle Bronc Riding

- i) All riding must be done with saddles that meet the following MRCA specifications. Contestants not meeting these specifications will be disqualified and suspended for thirty (15) days and fined 25 championship points. Any entry fees already paid for rodeos during the suspension are forfeit.
 - (1) 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 3/4 inches outside width measurement.
 - (2) Swell Undercut: Not more than 2 inches – 1 inch on each side.
 - (3) Gullet: Not less than 4 inches wide at center of fork of covered saddle.
 - (4) Tree: Saddles must be built on PRCA approved tree and must conform to the following specifications, with a reasonable added thickness of 1/2 inch for leather coverings:
 - (a) Fork – 14 inches wide
 - (b) Height – 9 inches maximum
 - (c) Gullet – 5 3/4 inches wide
 - (d) Cantle – 5 inches maximum height, 14 inches maximum width
 - (5) Stirrup leathers: Must be hung over bars. Front cinch on bronc saddles shall be mohair, and shall be at least 8 inches in width at the center, but may be tapered to accommodate cinch "D" rings. Latigos must be of leather only.
- ii) Standard Halter – Stock contractors must furnish their own halters and contestants must use them, subject to approval of judges on fitness of halter. Halters must have adjustable nose bands. Standard halter must be used, unless agreement is made by both contestant and stock contractor.

- iii) Riding Rein – Riding rein and hand must be on same side. The rein can only be attached on the bottom of the halter noseband unless fastening to the throat latch is preferred by the contestant.
- iv) 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.
- v) Any of the following shall disqualify a rider:
 - (1) Changing hands on rein;
 - (2) Losing or dropping rein before 8-second whistle;
 - (3) Losing stirrup;
 - (4) Being bucked off;
 - (5) Touching animal, equipment or person with free hand;
 - (6) Riding with locked rowels or rowels that will lock on spurs or rowels not dulled;
 - (7) Violating the mark-out rule;
 - (8) If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal when previous horse leaves the arena.
- vi) Dry resin may be used on chaps and saddle. Anyone using any other foreign substance shall be disqualified and suspended from competition for 15 days and fined 25 competition points. Any entry fees already paid for rodeos during the suspension are forfeit.

h) Bull Riding

- i) Riding to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without hand-hold.
- ii) No knots or hitches to prevent rope from falling off bull when rider leaves him.
- iii) Rope must have bell and bell must be under belly of bull.
- iv) Hooks or posts shall not be used on bull ropes.
- v) A ring which is significantly larger than the width of the rope may be used on a bull rope. However, under no circumstance can a contestant use a ring and take a wrap. If a ring is used, no twists in the rope are allowed. The rope must go through the ring, then straight back across the palm. If the rope has not fallen from the bull before the bull goes to the catch pen, the rider may be subject to a fine of 5 championship points.
- vi) If rider makes a qualified ride with any part of rope in riding hand, the ride will be scored.
- vii) Contestant will have the right to request judges to determine whether or not bull is properly flanked to buck to best of its ability.
- viii) No bull tails will be allowed under flank straps.
- ix) Horse flanks will be allowed in the bull riding provided that the tail of the flank strap is not long enough to touch the ground once pulled.
- x) Rider shall not use sharp spurs.
- xi) No more than two people may be on chute to pull contestant's rope.
- xii) No bull may be put in the draw until his horns have been dulled and blunted to at least the diameter of a half-dollar. Judges are to inspect bull's horns at least two hours prior to performance and if horns are determined to be too sharp, the stock contractor must tip the animal immediately.
- xiii) Any one of the following shall disqualify a rider:
 - (1) Being bucked off;
 - (2) Touching animal, equipment or person with free hand;
 - (3) Using sharp spurs or placing spurs or chaps under the rope when rope is being tightened;
 - (4) Not having a bell on the bull rope;

- (5) If rider has been advised they are next to go, failing to be above the animal with glove on when previous bull leaves the arena;
- (6) Intentionally leaving the chute with spurs hooked or lodged in the bull rope loop(s).

i) Timed Events

- i) If a barrier judge is used to flag the start, they shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.
- ii) Flag judge shall position their self for tie-down roping at the end of the arena, allowing them to come towards the roper. In steer wrestling and team roping, field judge shall place their self on the right-hand side of the timed-event box when facing the timed event chutes.
- iii) Contestants shall start from behind a barrier. A 10-second penalty will be added to the time for breaking or beating the barrier.
- iv) If, in the opinion of the judge, a contestant is fouled by the barrier, the contestant shall be entitled to a rerun on their original stock, provided that contestant declares immediately.
- v) If an animal in a timed event escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by contestant, or if the flag fails to work and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over, during or immediately after the same performance or section of slack.
- vi) If an animal that is drawn in a pen in a timed event becomes sick or injured before it is competed on, a judge must pass on the animal's inability to be used before it can be shipped or replaced in the draw. In that instance, that animal is to be removed from the draw (or herd) for the remainder of the rodeo. If the animal is injured prior to competition but the injury is not detected until after the run has started, contestant must declare immediately and must not competed on that animal. Contestant will receive a rerun on a different animal.
- vii) In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop their flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive their original animal with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
- viii) Within the confines of the timed event box, it is the privilege of a contestant to dismiss someone from the box or have up to three persons in the box for assistance. They may instruct the judge to either remove or allow other people in the box.
- ix) There shall be at least two timers, a barrier judge and a field flag judge. Time shall be determined between two flags.
- x) All timed-event contestants must compete from the same box designated for their event, unless otherwise approved by the Event Representative and the Director of Rodeo Administration at time of rodeo approval:
 - (1) Tie-down Roping – right box (as viewed from the box facing the arena) must be used.
 - (2) Steer Wrestling – Steer Wrestler must start from left box and Hazer from the right box (as viewed from the box facing the arena).
 - (3) Team Roping – Header must start from the left box and Heeler from the right box (as viewed from the box facing the arena).
- xi) If any arena personnel (pickup men, clowns, announcers, etc.) interfere with a timed-event competition, the contestant may, at the discretion of the judge, receive a rerun providing they have made a qualified run up to the point of interference and contestant declares at time of interference.
- xii) All score line lengths are to be set by the Judges and/or Arena Director prior to the start of the rodeo and shall remain the same length and not changed at that rodeo.

j) Tie-down Roping

- i) An automatic barrier must be used at all rodeos for tie-down roping. Length of score line will not exceed eighteen (18) feet. Typical score shall be length of roping box minus four (4) feet. An electronic eye barrier may be used and if so, the score length will be determined by the size of the roping box as determined by the Timed Event Director, Judges and/or Director of Rodeo Administration.
 - ii) Contestant must rope calf, dismount, throw calf by hand and cross and tie any three (3) legs. To qualify as a legal tie, there shall be at least one wrap around all three legs and a half-hitch. If calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be let up to their feet and be thrown by hand. If roper's hand is on the calf when calf falls, calf is considered thrown by hand. Rope must hold calf until roper gets hand on calf.
 - iii) Three legs must remain crossed and tied for six (6) seconds as timed by the field judge, from the time the rope horse has taken first step forward after the roper has remounted.
 - iv) Roper must not touch calf after signaling that they have finished until after the judge has completed their examination.
 - v) Rope must remain slack until field judge approves the tie.
 - vi) If calf kicks free before time has been approved, the Roper will be marked with a "no time".
 - vii) Two loops will be permitted, catch-as-catch-can, and should the roper miss with both loops, they will be marked with a "no time". If roper intends to use two loops, they must carry two ropes and must use second rope for second loop. If second rope is used, the first rope must first be released from either the saddle or the calf. Violation of this rule will result in a penalty of 5 championship points.
 - viii) There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the tie-down roping. A "no time" shall be recorded for exceeding this time limit. This does not apply to legal ties completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than 30 seconds.
 - ix) A neck rope must be used on the horse, and contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf. If horse drags calf more than five (5) feet, a penalty of 5 championship points will be assessed.
 - x) In the tie-down roping event a contestant will receive a "no time" for that run if they bring the animal over backwards (jerk down) with the animal landing on their back or head with all four feet in the air. Violations of this rule will result in a penalty of 5 championship points.
- k) **Breakaway Roping**
- i) An automatic barrier must be used at all rodeos for breakaway roping. Length of score line will not exceed eighteen (18) feet. Typical score shall be length of roping box minus four (4) feet. An electronic eye barrier may be used and if so, the score length will be determined by the size of the roping box as determined by the Timed Event Director, Judges and/or Director of Rodeo Administration.
 - ii) Only one (1) loop will be permitted. Roping the calf without releasing the loop from the hand is not permitted.
 - iii) Ropes are tied to saddle horn with heavy duty string. Bright cloth with dimensions of six by six inches (6"x6") must be attached to end of rope. Bright cloth should be a high visibility color and not be blue or red.
 - iv) Breakaway calves must not weigh over four hundred (400) pounds.
 - v) The calf's head must pass through the loop or contestant will be disqualified.
 - vi) The loop may be drawn up on any part of the calf's body after its head passes through the loop.
 - vii) The field judge shall flag the contestant when the rope breaks away from the horn.

- viii) Contestant will receive no time should they break rope from the saddle horn by hand or by touching rope or string after catch is completed. However, if the rope should dally around the horn, the contestant may ride forward, undally the rope, and then top horse to make the rope breakaway.
- ix) Ten (10) second penalty for breaking the barrier.
- x) There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the tie-down roping. A “no time” shall be recorded for exceeding this time limit. This does not apply to legal ties completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than 30 seconds.

l) Steer Wrestling

- i) An automatic barrier must be used at all rodeos for steer wrestling. Length of score line will not exceed eighteen (18) feet. Typical score shall be length of roping box minus four (4) feet. An electronic eye barrier may be used and if so, the score length will be determined by the size of the roping box as determined by the Timed Event Director, Judges and/or Director of Rodeo Administration.
- ii) Contestant must furnish own horse and hazer. Both contestant and hazer must be MRCA members.
- iii) Steer must be caught from the horse.
- iv) Only one (1) hazer is allowed.
- v) If steer gets loose, steer wrestler may take no more than one (1) step to catch steer.
- vi) After catching steer, wrestler must change direction and bring steer to a stop and twist down. If steer is accidentally knocked down, or thrown by wrestler putting animals horns on the ground, it must be let up on all four feet and then thrown. Steer will be considered down only when it's lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head facing same direction. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged. The fairness of the catch and throw will be left to the judges and their decision is final.
- vii) Hazer must not 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 with which they leave chute.
- viii) Cattle used for steer roping, team roping, cutting or other events shall not be used for steer wrestling.
- ix) All steers used in competition must have been used and thrown in rodeo competition within three (3) weeks of the current rodeo. Any fresh steers in the herd must be bulldogged from horseback and thrown down prior to start of rodeo at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor. Event Director, Director of Rodeo Administration or Judge may make call on need for throwing fresh steers.
- x) There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the steer wrestling. A whistle/horn indicating “no time” shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30-second span. This rule shall not apply to legal throws completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than the 30 seconds.

m) Dally Team Roping

- i) An automatic barrier must be used at all rodeos for dally team roping. Length of score line will not exceed eighteen (18) feet. Typical score shall be length of roping box minus four (4) feet. An electronic eye barrier may be used and if so, the score length will be determined by the size of the roping box as determined by the Timed Event Director, Judges and/or Director of Rodeo Administration.

- (1) Contestants may compete as either a header or heeler at any MRCA rodeo and may “switch ends” and compete again with the same or a different partner during any single rodeo. However, any single contestant can only compete once as a header and once as a heeler during a single rodeo. Any championship points won as a header and heeler shall be combined and considered one event for All-Around qualifications. If a co-sanctioned rodeo allows for more than two (2) runs as described above, then contestants shall indicate at time of entry to the rodeo which two (2) runs will count toward MRCA championship points and the rodeo secretary shall annotate these runs accordingly.
- ii) Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one rope. If there are more than two (2) go-rounds, each team will be allowed three throws in all. At all one (1) and two (2) go-round, only two (2) loops per team shall be allowed (one loop at each end). Roping steers without turning loose the loop will be considered a no catch. Roper must rope, dally and change direction of steer. Any heeler 50 years of age or older in addition to any female heeler contestant may tie hard and fast.
- iii) At rodeos where three (3) loops are allowed, if the header misses with their first loop, and the heeler chooses to rope the head, any Championship points won shall be counted toward the original header/heeler designation at the time of entry for the rodeo.
- iv) All headers shall start from behind a barrier. A 10-second penalty will be added for breaking or beating the barrier.
- v) 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.
- vi) The direction of the steer’s body must be changed before the heel loop can be thrown. However, if the steer tops, it must only be moving forward for the heel loop to be legal. Any heel loop thrown before the completion of the initial switch will be considered a crossfire and no time will be recorded.
- vii) If steer is roped by one horn, roper is not allowed to use their hands to remove loop or put loop over other horn or head.
- viii) 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 judge drops his flag, time will be official.
- ix) There will be only three legal head catches:
 - (1) Around both horns,
 - (2) Half a head,
 - (3) Around the neck.
- x) The following shall be illegal head catches:
 - (1) If hondo passes over one horn and the loop over the other,
 - (2) If loop crosses itself in a head catch,
 - (3) If loop is in the steer’s mouth.
- xi) Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope goes up heels.
- xii) One hind foot receives a 5-second penalty.
- xiii) Any questions at to catches in this contest will be decided by the judges. If a field judge tells the header to hold the steer so the judge may inspect the head catch, and the deader does not do so, the team may receive a “no time”.
- xiv) There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the team roping. A whistle/horn indicating “no time” shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30-second span. This rule shall not apply to legal throws completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than the 30 seconds.

n) **Chute Dogging**

- i) Chute dogging will be done from the bucking chutes and use a ten (10) foot barrier line/score line which shall be clearly visible to the contestant and judges. All contestants will use the same chute during each rodeo performance. Contestant must call for the gate to be opened verbally or with nod of head.
- ii) Hazer on foot may be used but may not interfere with the contestant by touching the steer. If hazer touches the steer, the contestant will receive a “no time.”
- iii) A chute helper inside the bucking chute is permissible to keep animal from backing out of chute and allowing a clean start. The chute helper is not allowed to leave the chute once the gate is opened.
- iv) Time shall start when steer’s nose crosses the barrier/score line.
- v) The steer can be held by either or both hands in the chute. Horns may not be touched until steers nose crosses the barrier/score line. Grabbing a horn before crossing the barrier/score line will result in a 10-second penalty.
- vi) After leaving the chute and crossing the barrier/score line, wrestler must change direction and bring steer to a stop and twist down. If steer is accidentally knocked down, or thrown by wrestler putting animals horns on the ground, it must be let up on all four feet and then thrown. Steer will be considered down only when it’s lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head facing same direction. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged. The fairness of the catch and throw will be left to the judges and their decision is final.
- vii) There will be a 30-second elapsed time limit in the chute dogging. A whistle/horn indicating “no time” shall be blown by the timer at the end of the 30-second span. This rule shall not apply to legal throws completed in less than 30 seconds but which, due to a penalty, are recorded as having taken more than the 30 seconds.

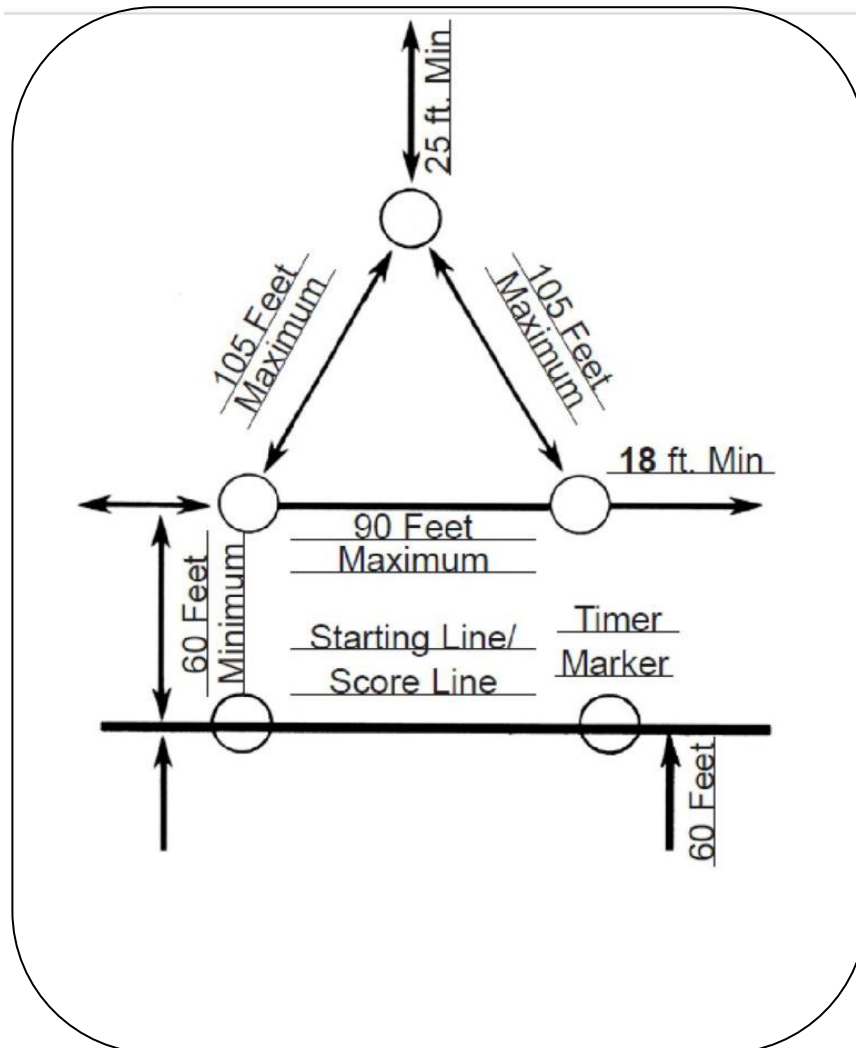
o) **Barrel Racing**

- i) If the MRCA rules for Barrel Racing are silent on a given subject, the current Women’s Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) rules will govern the contest of the event.
- ii) Contestants must run from mouth of the gate or alleyway and move in a forward direction, if gate or alleyway is in center of barrel pattern.
- iii) Contestants cannot be required to begin the run from an offset gate or alleyway. When there is a split or double alleyway, contestants may be required to run from split or double alleyway if they have choice of either alleyway. When center alleyway if used, it will be posted prior to start of rodeo if gate will be open or closed.
- iv) There is to be only one contestant horse in the arena at a time
- v) Barrels are to be set on inside of stakes in a clover leaf pattern.
- vi) Race is run in a cloverleaf pattern around the barrels consisting of one (1) right and two (2) left, or one (1) left and two (2) right turns. If barrel(s) is knocked down, contestant must turn barrel(s).
- vii) Both ends of the barrel must be enclosed.
- viii) There shall be no rubber or plastic barrels or barrel pads used. Barrel covers are allowed for advertising.
- ix) If barrel covers are used, they should be used in slack as well as performances. Same barrels must be used throughout entire rodeo.
- x) Judges are responsible for measuring, staking and marking of the score line before the first performance and verified thereafter for each performance to ensure stakes are in the original positions.

- xi) The start/finish line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire rodeo.
- xii) Electronic eye timers may be utilized. It is judges' responsibility to ensure the timer is in its correct position for each performance.
- xiii) No intentional dismounting in the arena. Violation of this rule results in a "no time".
- xiv) Time will begin when contestant crosses the start/finish line.
- xv) Contestant will be assessed a five (5) second penalty for knocking over a barrel before horse and rider cross start/finish line completing run. Touching barrel is permitted.
- xvi) Barrel must be set back on marker if barrel is moved during a run.
- xvii) Flag judge shall flag each contestant's horse's nose at the start/finish line.
- xviii) Judge(s) have the right to stop the barrel race at any time due to "unsafe ground" conditions.
- xix) Horse and rider must cross finish line at the same time.
- xx) If the arena conditions are deemed at any time to be unsafe by the arena director, judge, Director of Rodeo Administration, Event Director or primary stock contractor, competition will be stopped until such time as the arena conditions are deemed satisfactory by the individual or individuals who initially determined the conditions unsafe. If conditions cannot be made safe, event may be canceled.

(1) Barrel Pattern

- (a) **A standard pattern is always preferred.** The standard pattern for Barrel Racing is: ninety (90) feet between barrel one (1) and two (2); one hundred five (105) feet between barrel one (1) and three (3) and between barrel two (2) and three (3); sixty (60) feet from barrels one (1) and two (2) to the score line. Score line should be at least sixty (60) feet from end of arena if arena allows.
- (b) The following shall be used in smaller arenas.
 - (i) Barrels one (1) and two (2) should be at least eighteen (18) feet from the sides of the arena. In extra small arenas they may be less. In no instance should they be any closer than fifteen (15) feet from the sides of the arena.
 - (ii) Barrel three (3) should be no closer than twenty five (25) feet from end of the arena.
 - (iii) Barrel pattern should be situated in such a manner as is centered to the gate with the first and second barrel equal distance from the gate.



9) Conduct, Dress Code and Disciplinary Actions

- i) Any MRCA member may be subjected to reprimand, loss of championship points, suspension or expulsion by action of the MRCA Executive Board of Directors.
- ii) All fines, penalties, suspensions or expulsions shall be delivered in writing to the member by the Director of Rodeo Administration at the physical mailing address or email address on file with the member's membership application.
- iii) All persons who will be in the arena, behind the chutes or roping box, at the press (announcer) box or are working the rodeo for/with the MRCA are required to be in classic Cowboy Dress. It is the responsibility of all members to follow and enforce this rule.
 - (1) Men – Must wear jeans and long sleeve western style shirt with collar, cowboy boots and a cowboy hat (safety riding helmets may be substituted for cowboy hat during actual competition). Jeans and shirts should be neat, pressed and in good repair. Shirts should be tucked in to jeans. Sleeves of shirts will be worn down unless during competition they are rolled to elbow to accommodate gloves, tape or medical devices.
 - (2) Women – All rules for men apply to women with the exception that women may wear a western style dress in lieu of jeans and shirt.
 - (3) Dress code applies to Bullfighters, Clowns and other Contract acts unless special clothing or footwear is required to perform.
 - (4) Sponsorship patches may be worn on clothing, vests, chaps etc. unless, in the opinion of the Executive Board of Directors, the sponsorship directly conflicts with a national or regional MRCA sponsorship agreement. In that case, contestant must cover or remove the patch while competing.
 - (5) Press and Photographers are exempt from this dress code but encouraged to adhere as close as possible.
 - (6) This dress code is in effect from two (2) hours prior to the rodeo performance until one (1) hour after performance has ended
- iv) Minor Offenses
 - (1) All minor offenses are subject to a penalty of 10 point reduction of championship points and forfeiture of entry fees at the discretion of the Director of Rodeo Administration. Appeals of penalties must be submitted in writing or via email to the Secretary of the Contestant Board of Directors in writing within 7 days of notice of penalty as issued by Director of Rodeo Administration. Contestant Board of Directors shall make a ruling on the appeal at their next scheduled meeting but no later than 30 days prior to the World Finals Rodeo.
 - (2) Offenses:
 - (a) Nonpayment of entry fees or any financial obligation incurred in conjunction with a member's attendance or participation at an MRCA sanctioned or co-sanctioned rodeo.
 - (b) Failure to reimburse authorized individuals for overpayment of prize money.
 - (c) Dress code violation.
 - (d) Use of foul, profane or offensive language anywhere on the rodeo grounds.
 - (e) Failure to wear contestant number when issued.
 - (f) Failure to give advanced notice for turnouts.
 - (g) Failure to submit a doctor verification of illness or injury within seven (7) days of the last performance of the rodeo member was due to compete in.
 - (h) Turning out when a contestant is present, able and healthy enough to compete.
(Automatic forfeiture of entry fees applied)

- (i) Inability for Bareback Rider to free riding hand from rigging within a reasonable time as decided by the judges. (Penalty may include loss of score for that ride at discretion of the Director of Rodeo Administration)
- v) Major Offenses
 - (1) All major offenses are subject to a penalty of 50 point reduction of championship points and/or suspension or expulsion at the discretion of the Director of Rodeo Administration. Major offense penalties will be implemented immediately and member is ineligible to compete in the MRCA until appeals process is completed or member accepts penalty. Appeals of penalties must be submitted to the Secretary of the Contestant Board of Directors in writing or via email within 7 days of notice of penalty as issued by Director of Rodeo Administration. Contestant Board of Directors shall make a ruling on the appeal within 7 days and forward recommendation to the Director of Rodeo Administration for transmittal to the Executive Board of Directors for final decision. Executive Board of Directors may accept or change the recommendation at their discretion after review of the offense. Executive Board of Directors shall make decision within 7 days of receiving the recommendation from the Contestant Board of Directors and immediately notify member of action taken.
 - (2) Offenses:
 - (a) Quarreling or fighting in the arena or on the rodeo grounds.
 - (b) Attempting to fix, threaten, influence or harass an MRCA official at any time, in or out of the arena.
 - (c) Talking or interfering with a judge during an event in progress except when asked by judge to accept or pass on re-ride/re-run option.
 - (d) Engaging in or attempting to engage in any activity threatening, berating, harassing, intimidating, assaulting, or striking a rodeo official, rodeo spectator, or any representative, employee or member of the MRCA.
 - (e) Conduct, speech, appearance or lack of financial responsibility which shall be determined by the MRCA Executive Board of Directors to be significantly detrimental to the public image, reputation, or well being of the MRCA or any MRCA co-sanction partners and sponsors.
 - (f) Being in an Unauthorized Absence (UA), Absent Without Leave (AWOL) or Deserter status.
 - (g) Possessing, consuming, or using alcohol or illegal drugs in the arena or behind the bucking chutes or roping box.
 - (h) Being intoxicated on the rodeo grounds to the point where member's conduct is of such a nature to bring discredit upon the individual, other members of the MRCA or the Armed Forces.
 - (i) Mistreatment of rodeo stock or personal animals used in competition.
 - (j) Discrimination against any individual or group based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, or ethnic origin.
 - (3) In the event the Contestant Board of Directors has not been fully staffed/filled, all appeals will be directed to Vice President of the Executive Board of Directors.

10) Circuit System

- a) **This space is reserved for further development of the Circuit System.**

11) Rodeo Team Competition

- a) The purpose of rodeo teams is to develop a competitive type spirit among all branches of the Armed Forces and within individual commands.
- b) Teams may consist of any number of individuals currently holding MRCA membership in good standing; however, a team entered in competition at any single rodeo may only enter a minimum of two (2) and maximum of ten (10) members. Teams may not have more than one individual entered in a single event counting for points (other than TR which requires two people); however other team members may enter the event on their own. Teams with less than ten (10) members may enter their team members in each event offered at that rodeo but may not have more than one individual entered in a single event (other than TR which requires two people) counting for points; however other team members may enter the event on their own. There is no limit to the number of teams that a branch or command may have in competition; however, a member is only allowed to compete for a single team during any competition year. Members may join teams from other installations if there is not a team at their current installation. Teams may include Retired/Veteran members.
- c) A team captain will be selected by the team to represent the team with the MRCA. The team captain does not have to be a competitor but must be an MRCA member.
- d) Entry fee for team competition will be set at \$20 per rodeo and must be paid prior to rodeo using the online entry system.
- e) Team points will be accumulated at each rodeo by each team as follows:
 - i) Each team entry in a rodeo event will receive championship points for the team in the form of 5 competition points for each member (or team in TR) who competes in a sanctioned rodeo event (BB, SB, BR, CD, TR, SW, TDR, GBR, BAR). In addition to the competition points, team members will earn points for their qualified ride or run based on their scores/times. Even if the team member doesn't place in the money for a rodeo, their score will still be used to determine team points:

Score/Time Placing	Team Points Awarded
1 st	100
2 nd	90
3 rd	80
4 th	70
5 th	60
6 th	50
7 th	40
8 th	30
9 th	20
10 th	10

- ii) Team member points will be combined to reach a total team score for that rodeo. If a team does not have a member entered in an event or does not score a qualified ride/run in an event, they will receive zero points for that event. Maximum number of points available to a team is 945 (9 rodeo events x 100 points + 9 entries for competition points x 5).
- iii) The team with the most points awarded at a rodeo is the team champion for that rodeo. The placing for each team will determine their World Championship Points as follows:

Team Placing	Championship Points Awarded
1 st	100
2 nd	90
3 rd	80
4 th	70
5 th	60
6 th	50
7 th	40
8 th	30
9 th	20
10 th	10

- iv) The team with the most points accumulated at the end of the regular season will be awarded the title of “World Champion Rodeo Team” for that year. There will be no team competition at the WFR, however the Executive Board of Directors may choose to allow a modified version of team competition and if so, rules will be announced prior to the entries opening for the WFR.

12) Championship Points System

- a) The MRCA Executive Board of Directors is the Sanctioning body for all MRCA Sanctioned and Co-Sanctioned rodeos. Only MRCA Sanctioned and Co-Sanctioned rodeos will count toward World Finals Rodeo qualification and world championship titles.
- b) Each contestant who competes in an MRCA rodeo will receive five (5) competition points in each event they compete in that count toward WFR qualification and World Championships. Team Roping will only receive competition points once if they compete twice. (Example: individual competes in BB, TDR and CD but does not get a qualified ride or time; they would receive 5 points for each event for total of 15 points. Individual competes in TR as header and as heeler and TDR but doesn't have a scored run; they would receive 10 competition points.).
- c) Championship points will be awarded to each contestant who makes a qualified ride or time at all MRCA rodeos as follows except for special rodeos where the Executive Board of Directors has authorized use of the Large Rodeo Point System (see below) or for the WFR which has its own point system. If two or more contestants have a tied score, points will be totaled for the first score placing and enough places to accommodate the number of tied scores and the points then split evenly amongst the tied scores (same as splitting money for payouts).
- d) Regular rodeo (Less than \$1000 added money per event) - Championship points if 3 or **more** MRCA contestants are entered in an event:

Event Placing	Championship Points
1 st	100
2 nd	90
3 rd	80
4 th	70
5 th	60
6 th	50
7 th	40
8 th	30
9 th	20
10 th	10

- e) Regular rodeo (Less than \$1000 added money per event) - Championship points if **less than 3** MRCA contestants are entered in an event:

Event Placing	Championship Points
1 st	50
2 nd	40

- f) Large Rodeo Points (Greater than \$1000 added money per event) – Championship points if 3 or **more** MRCA contestants are entered in an event:

Event Placing	Championship Points
1 st	300

2 nd	270
3 rd	240
4 th	210
5 th	180
6 th	150
7 th	120
8 th	90
9 th	60
10 th	30

- g) Large Rodeo Points (Greater than \$1000 added money per event) – Championship points if less than 3 MRCA contestants are entered in an event:

Event Placing	Championship Points
1 st	150
2 nd	135

- h) If a rodeo has multiple go-rounds and an average, the average points will be calculated by multiplying the appropriate points above by 1.5.
- i) Standings will be kept according to points awarded and accumulated throughout the regular rodeo season and used to determine the WFR qualifiers. World championships will be determined by combining regular season championship points with points earned at the WFR. If no WFR is held, then yearend championships will be awarded on points earned through the end of the competition year.
- j) All Around –
- i) Individual rodeo All Around champions will be determined by the contestant earning the most points (including competition points) in two or more events. Team Roping will be considered one event and points won as a header and as a heeler will be combined to determine the points allowed for the All Around.
- ii) To qualify for the World Champion All Around a contestant must earn at least 200 points in each of two (2) or more events. Team Roping points will be combined for Header and Heeler points to create a single total for Team Roping and Team Roping contestants must enter and meet the point threshold for a second event. If no contestant reaches the required 200 points in two or more events, the World All Around championship will not be awarded for that year. (Example: Contestant A earns 150 points in BB and 650 points in CD; they do not qualify for the AA. Contestant B earns 200 points in BB and 200 points in TR; they would qualify for the AA.)

13) World Finals Rodeo

- i) Provided there are financial resources available, there will be held annually a World Finals Rodeo (WFR). WFR contestants will be the top fifteen (15) in each event based on championship points. If a qualified contestant is unable or unwilling to compete, the next individual in the standings will take their place. Cutoff date for WFR qualification will be determined by the Executive Board of Directors.
- ii) Location of the WFR will be determined by the Executive Board of Directors.

- iii) WFR livestock will be determined by the Executive Board of Directors.
- iv) WFR points are awarded as follows:
 - (1) Go Round Points –

Go Round Placing	Points Awarded
1 st	200
2 nd	170
3 rd	140
4 th	110
5 th	80
6 th	50

- (2) Average Points

Average Placing	Points Awarded
1 st	425
2 nd	400
3 rd	375
4 th	350
5 th	325
6 th	300
7 th	275
8 th	250