

HELL'S HALF ACRE RODEO
GROUND RULES

The following Ground Rules govern all Hells Half Acre Rodeo performances, slack, jackpot events, and exhibitions.

Unless otherwise stated herein, Hells Half Acre Rodeo may recognize applicable INFR, PRCA, WPRA, NHSRA, or other recognized rodeo association rules where appropriate. In the event of a conflict, these Ground Rules shall prevail.

Participation in Hells Half Acre Rodeo constitutes full acceptance of all Ground Rules and official decisions made by rodeo officials.

ALL DECISIONS OF THE RODEO COMMISSIONER SHALL BE FINAL.

I. LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

- A. Rodeo activities are inherently dangerous and involve risks of serious bodily injury, death, property damage, or livestock-related accidents.
- B. By participating in or attending Hells Half Acre Rodeo events, all contestants, parents, guardians, spectators, and participants voluntarily assume all risks associated with rodeo activities.
- C. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Hells Half Acre Rodeo, the Rodeo Committee, stock contractors, sponsors, judges, volunteers, arena owners, Tribal entities, and rodeo personnel shall not be held liable for injuries, losses, theft, damages, or accidents arising from participation in or attendance at rodeo events.

II. MINOR CONTESTANTS

- A. All minor contestants must have signed parental or legal guardian consent and liability waiver forms on file prior to participation.
- B. Parents or legal guardians assume responsibility for the conduct and participation of minor contestants.
- C. Minor contestants may be required to provide proof of age, school eligibility, or additional documentation as required by rodeo officials.
- D. Rodeo officials reserve the right to refuse participation to any contestant failing to meet eligibility or documentation requirements.

III. CONTESTANT ENTRIES AND CHECK-IN

- A. Contestants must enter during the officially announced entry period using approved entry methods.
- B. Late entries, unauthorized substitutions, or unapproved entries will not be accepted without approval from the Rodeo Commissioner or Rodeo Secretary.
- C. All contestants are required to check in prior to competition and pay all required fees before competing.

IV. CONTESTANT CONDUCT

- A. All contestants and participants are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner.
- B. Harassment, intimidation, threats, abusive conduct, or misconduct of any kind toward any Hells Half Acre Rodeo official, secretary, timer, judge, commissioner, volunteer, or personnel shall not be tolerated.

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C. Violations of conduct rules may result in immediate disqualification, removal from the premises, suspension, forfeiture of winnings, or banning from future events.

D. Contestants may also be held responsible for the conduct of parents, guardians, family members, traveling partners, or supporters accompanying them to rodeo events.

V. DRESS CODE AND ARENA SAFETY

A. Contestants shall present themselves in proper attire while competing and while participating in official rodeo activities.

B. Protective equipment is strongly encouraged in all events and may be required in certain events at the discretion of rodeo officials.

C. Unsafe equipment or attire may be prohibited by rodeo officials.

VI. ORDER OF EVENTS AND OFFICIAL DRAWS

A. Rodeo officials shall determine the official order of events and contestant draws.

B. Event schedules, draw positions, and performance orders may be modified due to weather, safety concerns, livestock conditions, or operational necessity.

C. Contestants shall compete in the positions drawn unless otherwise approved by rodeo officials.

VII. ENTRY FEES, ADDED MONEY, AND PAYOUTS

A. Entry fees shall be determined by Hells Half Acre Rodeo.

B. Secretary fees, stock fees, electric eye fees, and other approved fees may be deducted from contestant entry fees.

C. Added money and payouts are subject to adjustment based on the number of entries received in each event.

1. Events with fewer than ten (10) contestants may have reduced or adjusted added money.

2. Events with fewer than five (5) contestants may have reduced payouts, reduced added money, or contestants may compete for awards or buckles only.

D. If only one contestant records a qualified ride, score, or time in an event, all remaining payout positions shall revert back to the Rodeo Committee.

E. Payout structures and prize distributions shall be determined by rodeo officials and may be posted or announced prior to competition when practicable.

F. In the event of a tie, rodeo officials may determine the outcome by split payout, reride, runoff, ride-off, or coin toss.

G. Contestants are responsible for collecting their own winnings unless prior arrangements are approved.

VIII. LIVESTOCK, PROPERTY, AND FACILITY RULES

A. All livestock, rodeo property, facilities, equipment, and grounds shall be treated respectfully and safely at all times.

B. Unnecessary roughness or abuse toward livestock shall not be tolerated.

C. Any contestant or individual damaging property or facilities may be held financially responsible.

D. Unsafe, reckless, abusive, destructive, or negligent conduct may result in disqualification, removal from rodeo grounds, suspension, or banning from future events.

E. Rodeo officials shall determine what constitutes unsafe or unacceptable conduct.

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IX. ALL-AROUND AWARDS

- A. Eligibility for All-Around awards shall require participation in at least one (1) roughstock event and one (1) timed event.
- B. Final determination of eligibility, scoring, and award qualification shall be made by rodeo officials.

X. DISPUTES AND PROTESTS

- A. Contestants must first bring concerns or disputes to the Rodeo Secretary.
- B. The Rodeo Secretary shall refer the matter to the Judges for review and determination.
- C. The Judges may consult with the Rodeo Commissioner as needed to resolve disputes or interpret rules.
- D. The Rodeo Commissioner retains final authority over all disputes, interpretations, disciplinary matters, and official decisions.

XI. FINAL AUTHORITY

Participation in the Hells Half Acre Rodeo is considered a privilege and not a right. All contestants, participants, personnel, and affiliated individuals are required to comply with the official Ground Rules, policies, and directives established by rodeo management.

Any matter not specifically addressed within these Ground Rules shall be determined by the Rodeo Commissioner or designated rodeo officials.

The Rodeo Commissioner reserves the sole authority to interpret, amend, modify, enforce, or apply these Ground Rules as deemed necessary for the safe, fair, and orderly conduct of the rodeo and related activities.

All official decisions concerning eligibility, contestant conduct, competition procedures, livestock matters, safety issues, disciplinary actions, rule interpretations, scoring, and payout determinations shall be final and binding upon all participants.