

2012 RNCFR GROUND RULES

Oklahoma City, OK

March 29-April 1, 2012

I. CONFIRMATION:

- A. Circuit Presidents must confirm entries by calling **PROCOM (1-800-234-7722)** between **12:00 p.m. MT on Wednesday, March 7th**, and **12:00 p.m. MT on Thursday, March 8th, 2012.**
- B. RNCFR Contestants, in order to be eligible, must have their 2012 WPRA membership paid in full no later than **5:00 PM MT, Tuesday, February 28th, 2012.** Contestants must also meet all competition and financial eligibility requirements.
- C. Entries for the RAM National Circuit Finals Rodeo will be taken from each of the twelve (12) WPRA geographical circuits. The Year-End Event Champion and the Circuit Finals Rodeo Average Champion have the opportunity to advance to the RNCFR. If the Year-End Event Champion and Circuit Finals Rodeo Average Champion is the same individual, the second qualifier will be determined by the highest ranked eligible (by the Dollar-Won and the Required Participation Rodeo Rule) year-end contestant in that event, in that Circuit, who entered her respective Circuit Finals Rodeo in that event. Should either of the qualifying contestants in a Circuit decide not to, or be ineligible to, advance to RNCFR, the advancement opportunity will be passed onto the next highest ranked eligible (by the Dollar-Won and the Required Participation Rodeo Rule) year-end contestant in that event, in that Circuit, who entered her respective Circuit Finals Rodeo in that event. In the event that there is a tie in the average, and one of the contestants is also the year-end champion, that contestant will advance as the year-end champion. The remaining contestant that tied for the average will advance as the average champion.
- D. Contestant Entry fees will be \$550. Contestant Entry Fees will be paid by WPRA administration.
- E. Contestants will be permitted to trade positions at the RNCFR with the contestant from the same circuit, **within the same event, and only if agreed upon by both contestants. No other changes, substitutions or parameters will be accepted when making an official entry for the RNCFR. Position changes must be made by notifying Procom prior to 2:00 MT p.m. Monday, March 26th, 2012.** You will receive a confirmation number for that position trade. When making a trade, a contestant will only be allowed ONE (1) trade and that trade will include both go-rounds. No on-site or 2nd go-round only trades will be allowed.

- F. Any RNCFR Participant or official using foul language in the arena, either audibly or by obviously mouthing the word, or using any obscene gesture, will be fined. **Conduct Detrimental to Public Image** Refer to Rule 9.3.17, and will be assessed a minimum initial fine of \$250, that fine doubling progressively for each offense there after. WPRA members competing at the RNCFR will abide by all By-Laws and Rules of the WPRA.
- G. Money won at the RNCFR will **NOT** count towards WPRA pro rodeo Standings nor will it count as money won for qualifications into limited entry rodeos.

II. **FORMAT:**

- A. The RNCFR format shall include two go-rounds, semi-final (Top 8), and final (Top 4) rounds. All RNCFR contestants will compete in both go-rounds. Eight contestants with the fastest total times from rounds previous to the Semi-Finals /Finals performance in each contest event shall compete in the Semi-Finals round. The top four contestants in each event in the Semi-Finals shall advance to the Finals. In the Finals the four contestants with fastest times will compete for placing and the RNCFR Championship. Contestants advancing to the Semi Finals and the Finals will not carry forward times. Average times will not be calculated in the semi-finals/final rounds. Scores for advancement to the Final round shall be determined on a single time from the Semi-Final round, unless not enough qualifiers, then revert to the tie breaker to fill remaining position(s). In the semi-finals/finals, where a contestant is disqualified, injured **or turns out for any reason**, the next fastest time(s) will then advance. Where a tie occurs, advancement to and within the semi-finals / finals will be determined as follows:

AVERAGE SPLITS TIE BREAKER (advancement and awards): Fastest time in **any** go-round. If still tied, advance all ties.

GO ROUND SPLITS:

SEMI-FINALS TIE BREAKER: Fastest total time in the average. If still tied use the fastest time in **any** go-round. If still tied, advance all ties.

FINALS TIE BREAKER: Fastest time in the semi finals. If still tied, use semi-finals tie breaker. If still tied, use the fastest time in **any** go-round. If still tied, advance all ties.

III. PAYOFF

- A. Sixty percent of the total prize money will be paid in the first two go-rounds and average. The remaining 40% will be paid in the Semi-Final and Final performance. There will be six places in each go-round and average (split 33%, 25%, 18%, 12%, 7%, 5%); There will be four places paid in the Semi-Finals and Finals (split 40%, 30%, 20%, and 10%), 20% of the total payoff goes into each.

1st Go	20% - Pays 6 places
2nd Go	20% - Pays 6 Places
Average	20% - Pays 6 Places
Semi-Finals	20% - Pays 4 Places
Finals	20% - Pays 4 Places

- B. In the Top 8 Round Semi Final and Top 4 Final Round, if fewer than the number of places to be paid qualify in the payoff, the tie breaking procedure will be used to determine the remaining places with the remaining places receiving ground money equivalent to that place, however this will not be posted as money won. If no one qualifies, the money will be divided evenly among all who competed; this money shall be considered **ground money** and will **not** be posted as money won.

IV. SUBSTITUTIONS and DRAWING OUT:

- A. Turn Outs, Visible Injury, & Releases: If for any reason (including a valid doctor release) a contestant is unable to compete, the next qualified contestant (based on ground rule I.C.) from that circuit which the contestant is a T.O., V.I., or D.R. from, in that Circuit season's standings, will be substituted. Substitutions will not be allowed after the first go-round is completed. Substitutions will be handled as outlined under "TURN OUTS" (V.B.).

V. TURN OUTS:

- A. Contestant who enters the RNCFR and fails to compete in any go-round will be **fined \$250**. Fine may be waived only if contestant notifies **PROCOM** 72 hours prior to the first performance and a substitute entry is found or contestant is injured in a previous go-round at the RNCFR. **If substitute entry is not found, contestant is responsible for the \$550 entry fee and \$250 fine.**

VI. CONTESTING POSITIONS:

- A. **First go-round:** In order to provide the opportunity for the Circuits to have equal representation at each performance, a separation of contestants from every circuit, by performance, has been established.

One entry from each circuit in every event will compete during the first four performances. PROCOM shall cause the selection of the entry to be made using a format similar to a flip of a coin to decide which contestant of the two qualifiers in an event will compete in the first and fourth or second and third performances. A random draw will be completed as to the order of contestants in each performance in all events.

- B. Second go-round:** Reversed from first go-round.
- C. Top 8 Semi Final Round:** The WPRA barrel racing competition order for the Semi Final Round will be a random draw
- D. Top 4 Final Round:** The WPRA barrel racing competition order for the Final Round will be a random draw.

VII. TIMED EVENTS:

A. General:

1. WPRA contestants will be furnished a stall, provided the horse is used in rodeo competition. Contestants must either supply shavings or purchase shavings on site. Additional stalls will be available for non- competitive horses at \$35 per stall for the duration of the rodeo. Stalls will be available from Wednesday, March 28th thru Sunday April 1st.
2. Any contestant who circles in the arena after being allowed to enter for competition will be **fined \$100, with that fine progressively doubling.**
3. Any contestant warming up horse in unauthorized area will be **fined \$100. The RNCFR will be providing an authorized warm up area. Be sure to ask about it at check in.**

IX. AWARDS:

- A.** The RNCFR Event Champion is the Top 4 Round Event Champion and will be the recipient of the RNCFR championship buckle.
- C.** At the conclusion of each event during the Top 4 Round, the event champion must take a victory lap. During the victory lap, the contestant will receive their champion buckle and have photos taken.
- B.** In case of a tie for the RNCFR champion, tiebreaker as outlined under "Go Round Splits" will be used to determine RNCFR Event Champion.
- C.** The RNCFR Champion Circuit title and bronze trophy will be awarded to the high money-winning Circuit. In case of a tie, co-circuit champions will be acknowledged on the trophy and monies awarded will be split among circuit champions.

X. REPORTING TIME:

- A. All ***TIMED*** event contestants must check in with the RNCFR secretary on Thursday, March 29th, beginning at 11:00 CT a.m. and must have completed check-in by 12:00 CT p.m. Timed event contestants will immediately go to an orientation meeting. Attendance required at the meeting to receive contestant coat. Contestants should be in appropriate attire for pictures.
- B. Any contestant missing this deadline may receive a fine of **\$100**, however, if any contestant willfully or purposely missed the deadline, contestant may be disqualified from RNCFR competition by action of the RNCFR Committee.
- C. All check-in and orientation meetings will be at the rodeo arena.
- D. Barrel racers will be scheduled one practice time to ride with barrels set on stakes. The practice time is scheduled for Thursday, March 29 8:00am-9:00am only.

XI. CONTESTANT NUMBERS:

- A. Contestants must wear numbers on their back at all times while competing. Contestant failing to wear her number while competing will be **fined \$100**.

XIII. AUTOGRAPH SESSION:

- A. Autograph schedule/sessions will be provided prior to your arrival. **Failure to attend an assigned autograph session will result in a \$100 fine.**

XIV. PASSES:

- A. Each contestant, stock contracting company, and contract person will be given one companion ticket for each performance. The RNCFR Committee has ruled these tickets will be marked **"NOT FOR EXCHANGE OR RESALE."** They can be exchanged among contestants themselves, but not at the box office. Membership cards or companion passes will not be accepted for admittance.

XV. PARKING:

- A. There will be separate parking area for RNCFR contestants and personnel. Each contestant, stock contracting firm, and contract personnel will receive 1 parking pass. Additional passes, or replacement of lost passes, can be purchased at the cost of \$5 per pass.

XVI. RNCFR OFFICES:

- A.** The RNCFR production office is located at the State Fairgrounds / State Fair Arena.
- B.** All operations (rodeo secretary, media, and general manager's offices) will be coordinated together.