

2012 WPRA Circuit Finals Rodeo Ground Rules

Qualifications

For 2012 the WPRA Board refers to WPRA rule 8.4, 8.5 and PRCA rule B14.3 – B14.3.1: **A WPRA member who is a non-US citizen will be eligible to participate in the PRCA/WPRA circuit finals rodeo of her Circuit designation for the 2012 dues paying year providing such member meets the Required Participation Rodeo Rule as outlined in WPRA Rule 8.8.2.**

Hardship provision to the Required Participation Rodeo Rule

A contestant, who had not competed at the required number of Circuit rodeos because of a hardship, must apply in writing to the Circuit Board of Directors for exemption, that application must be submitted for consideration prior to the Circuit cut-off date. Contestant(s) receiving a hardship must enter the Circuit Finals Rodeo during the entry period. Contestants who enter a circuit finals rodeo and who have met the required participation count will be taken first to fill all positions. Should there be any positions still available, those contestants receiving a hardship will then be used to fill remaining positions. If, after taking all qualified contestants and those receiving hardships, there are still positions open WPRA rule 8.8.3.1 may come into effect.

Entries

Entries will close approximately twenty (20) days prior to the first performance and will be listed in at least two (2) issues of the WPRN or listed on the WPRA website. Exceptions are those Circuit Finals Rodeos held prior to the WPRA rodeo year cut-off date (September 30, 2012); these Circuit Finals Rodeos will close approximately fourteen (14) days prior to the first performance.

All contestants must make an official entry through Central Entry Office (PROCOM) prior to entry closing time.

For those Circuit Finals Rodeos held in January, Circuit Finals Rodeo contestants will be accepted for a Circuit Finals Rodeo on last year's card. Contestants who have not bought current year membership card must purchase WPRA insurance policy prior to first performance of the Circuit Finals Rodeo. **Contestants, who have not bought current year membership card, must purchase daily rodeo insurance policy prior to first Circuit Finals Rodeo performance. Should a contestant qualify for the RNCFR, contestant must renew their current year membership by the RNCFR member dues deadline as listed in WPRN or listed on the WPRA web site.**

Qualification cut-off will be regular WPRA year-end (September 30, 2012) unless Circuit Finals Rodeo is scheduled within thirty (30) days of this cut-off date. In this case (or any time a Circuit Finals Rodeo is held prior to year-end cut-off) cut-off date will be thirty (30) days prior to the first performance of the Circuit Finals Rodeo. Any rodeo which has its last performance after the cut-off date will be recorded for the following year. Rodeo in question must end on or prior to cut-off date to count for current year.

Any variation of cut-off dates must be approved by the **WPRA and published on the WPRA web site.**

Entry to Fill Open Positions

Entries to fill open positions after the books have closed will be made in accordance with WPRA rule 8.8.3.1.

Positions will be filled in the following order from among those contestants who entered the circuit finals rodeo:

- 1) Non-qualifiers who have selected the circuit as their designated circuit, who are financially eligible and competition eligible, and who have satisfied the requirements of the 40%/15 rule shall be accepted as circuit finals rodeo contestants, in order of their ranking in the circuit standings until all the available positions have been filled.
- 2) If positions are still available, contestants who have not met the requirements of the 40%/15 rule may fill the remaining positions in order of their ranking in the circuit standings.

Non-qualifiers will be eligible for the Circuit Finals Rodeo awards only and will not be eligible for Circuit year-end awards, titles, or advancement to the National Circuit Finals Rodeo.

Substitutions

Prior to the first go round, a substitute entry will be allowed. Substitutes will be the highest ranked eligible contestants available who have made an official entry through PROCOM. Circuit President will contact highest ranked eligible contestant who entered. If not enough eligible contestants enter, then Circuit President will contact highest ranked eligible contestant according to Circuit standings. PROCOM WILL ONLY RECOGNIZE CIRCUIT PRESIDENT MAKING SUBSTITUTE ENTRY.

Penalties and Exceptions

Contestants who **enter** Circuit Finals Rodeo and fail to compete may be fined \$250, **payable to the WPRA**. Fine may be waived only if contestant notifies **Circuit President** seventy-two (72) hours prior to the first performance **and** a substitute entry is found.

Turn Outs

A contestant turning out in any go-round will be fined \$50 per go-round turned out, **payable to the WPRA**. In addition, WPRA rule 8.10.1 will apply: All circuit year-end awards or titles or advancement to the National Circuit Finals Rodeo will be forfeited by a CFR contestant who fails to enter and compete in all go rounds at the Circuit Finals Rodeo unless such CFR contestant has entered and follows release procedures as outlined in the Official Circuit Finals rules. Championship title, recognition and awards will go to the next highest ranked CFR contestant who competed in all go-rounds at the Circuit Finals Rodeo.

Releases

Contestants who have entered the CFR and make a valid release or visible injury due to an injury sustained at the CFR are still eligible for year-end awards, titles and advancement to the NCFR. Contestants must follow WPRA release procedures as outlined in rule 10.7 and visible injury procedures as outlined in rule 10.7.2. If valid release or visible injury is granted, contestant may not compete at any other rodeo during the duration of the circuit finals rodeo.

Entry Fees

Entry fees are a minimum of \$75 per go-round.

Pay Off

The payoff for the WPRA Barrel Race will follow the same payoff schedule as PRCA events. 5% of the purse will be withheld and payable to the WPRA.

No circuit finals rodeo will be allowed a short go-round. All contestants will compete in the same number of go rounds.

PRCA rule 14.4.1.1: The \$3 fee charged each contestant per rodeo designated as a "circuit fee" (per Bylaw B15.9.3.2) shall be distributed as follows: 1) the first \$1 will go to the Circuit Finals rodeo prize money; 2) the remaining \$2 shall be divided at 40% for the circuit finals rodeo prize money, 10% to the circuit finals rodeo contract personnel, 20% to the circuit finals rodeo stock contractors, and 30% to the circuit board of Directors for circuit expenses.

Tie Breakers

In case of tie for year-end champion, winner will be the contestant finishing highest in the average at the Circuit Finals Rodeo. If still tied, go to tie breakers. The same tie breaking procedures will be used in determining the Circuit Finals Rodeo average winner or for any continued qualifications including the National Circuit Finals Rodeo. 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 title will advance as the average champion.

1. First tie breaker will be single fastest time in any go round at the finals.
2. Second tie breaker will be the second single fastest time in any other go round at the finals.
3. Third tie breaker will be the qualifier's standings prior to the Finals competition.
4. Non-qualifiers will be eligible for average awards only. No year-end awards or advancement to the NCFR.

Competition Positions

Two go round circuit finals rodeos: First go round positions will be according to the qualifiers' standings from top to bottom. The second go round positions will be reversed.

Three go round circuit finals rodeos: Position for the first go round will be according to the qualifiers' standings from top to bottom. The second go round positions will be reversed. Third go round positions will be a random draw at the rodeo by the secretary.

Four go round circuit finals rodeos: First go round positions will be according to the qualifiers' standings from top to bottom. The second go round positions will be reversed. Third go round positions will be a random draw at the rodeo by the secretary and fourth go round positions will be reversed.

Tie Breaker

Determining position order where times are identical will be the same as the tiebreaker procedures listed within these ground rules.