

2014 GROUND RULES

Wrangler Champions Challenge presented by Justin Boots

1. QUALIFIERS

- A. All qualified contestants are required to complete a Champions Challenge Contract in order to be eligible to enter and compete at any 2014 Champions Challenge Event. Contracts will be available online at www.prorodeo.org under member self-services and are available for online submission. Qualified contestants will also be required to confirm competition participation by calling PROCOM for each and every 2014 Champions Challenge event as listed in the Pro Rodeo Sports News Business Section.
- B. Contestants who qualify in positions 1-7 who are not confirmed by the listed entry closing time as printed in the PSN Business Section for each Champions Challenge Event will be automatically entered by PROCOM and fined \$150 per occurrence.
- C. Contestants who qualify in the positions 8, 9, and 10 who do not confirm their intent to compete in a Champions Challenge event by the listed entry closing time, will be contacted by PROCOM. If said contestants accept and confirm entry at that time, they will be subject to a \$50 fine
- D. By the receipt of your signed contract to compete in the 2014 Champions Challenge, you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of these ground rules, the **PRCA Properties Patch Sponsorship Rules and Regulations** and all other addenda and exhibits to these ground rules, the PRCA Bylaws and Official Rodeo Rules, and for barrel racers, the WPRA Bylaws and Official Rodeo Rules, and any other applicable rules, **including all releases of liability set forth in those documents**. In addition, All Champions Challenge contestants will be required to sign a Champions Challenge specific liability waiver prior to receiving their contestant back number.
- E. Ten qualifiers (10 teams) in each event for the Champions Challenge shall be the top 7 contestants (7 teams) in the 2013 PRCA World Standings and the WPRA pro rodeo standings. The eighth qualifying position will be filled by the 2013 host PRCA Rodeo event winner. The ninth qualifying position will be filled by the 2014 Season PRCA World Standings Leader for each standard rodeo event (to be determined 30 days prior to each Champions Challenge event). The tenth qualifying position will be filled by the 2014 Wrangler Million Dollar Tour standings leader (to be determined 30 days prior to each Champions Challenge event).

Should a contestant who qualifies for a position 1-7 resign from Champions Challenge participation prior to the entry close of the **first** 2014 Champions Challenge Season Event, the declined position shall then be filled by the next highest ranking contestant in the 2013 PRCA World Standings/WPRA Pro Rodeo Standings.

After entries have closed for the **first** 2014 Champions Challenge Season Event, if a contestant qualified in position 1-7 resign from Champions Challenge participation, that position, for each champions challenge season event, will be filled by the next highest ranking contestant in the 2014 PRCA World Standings/WPRA Pro Rodeo Standings (as of 30 days prior to the Champions Challenge Event). Should, a qualifying position be invalid due to an injury or resignation from participation or a prior qualification, that qualifying positions will be filled by the 2014 PRCA World Standings/WPRA Pro Rodeo Standings (as of 30 days prior to the Champions Challenge event).

- F. Each person who qualifies and confirms his/her intent to compete must also complete and sign a "Choice of Venue" form, and for barrel racers, the "WPRA Release and Waiver and Choice of Venue" (contained in Addendums B and C respectively), and these documents must be received by the Rodeo Secretary prior to the first scheduled competition in order to be eligible to compete. This has to be completed for each and every 2014 Champions Challenge Event.
- G. In the team roping, the 7 qualifying headers from the 2013 PRCA World Standings must rope with the top 7 qualifying heelers from the 2013 PRCA World Standings. Any team roping qualifier 1-7 without a designated partner will have a partner assigned by Rodeo Administration, that determination made by a random drawing. The 8th qualifying header position must rope with the 8th qualifying heeler and so on to the 10th qualifying position. The team ropers who qualify in positions 1-7, based off of 2013 PRCA World Standings, are to designate partners by completing a partner pledge by the conclusion of the 2013 Wrangler National Finals Rodeo
- H. Should there be a tie in any event for position #8, the previous year event venue champion, that position will be determined by a random draw conducted by PROCOM. Should there be a tie for the remaining final qualifying spot(s) in any event, only 10 will qualify, and the tie will be broken in favor of those with the highest total **official** money won at PRCA and, for barrel racers, WPRA sanctioned rodeos in that event during the 2014 Rodeo Year at PRCA-sanctioned rodeos which end on or before **30 days prior to the event**. If still tied, the tie will be broken in favor of those with the highest total (official & unofficial) money won at PRCA and, for barrel racers, WPRA sanctioned rodeos in that event during the 2014 Rodeo Year at PRCA-sanctioned rodeos which end on or before 30 days prior to the event. If still tied, PROCOM will do a random draw to determine the qualifier for the position.
- I. Contestants will not be ranked for competition position as each position will be determined by random draw.
- H. Current health papers are required for all contestant horses and will be checked by Champions Challenge Staff prior to entry onto grounds.

2. CONTESTANT INFORMATION

- A. **Check-In:** Champions Challenge Contestants, Champions Challenge Stock Contractors and Champions Challenge Officials are required to check in with the Rodeo Secretary for each Champions Challenge Event. **Specific Location and time will be published for each event in the long listings of the PSN Business Section.** All Champions Challenge personnel with the exception of Champions Challenge contestants will be required to have an arena specific credential to be allowed on the competition arena floor. Failure to attend contestant check-in will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.
- B. **Autographs:** All Champions Challenge Contestants after competition will be required to attend an autograph session to be determined 30 days prior to each event. Contestants will be notified of the autograph session location at the Event contestant meeting. Failure to attend the autograph session will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.
- C. **Contestant Stock Draw:** Champions Challenge Riding and Timed Event contestants may be required to participate in the contestant stock draw to be held following the contestant check-in and contestant meeting. Riding Event Contestants will draw their stock from a set pen selected by the respective Event Representative. Timed Event Contestants will draw their stock from a set pen selected by the respective Event Representative. Failure to participate in the contestant stock draw will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.

- D. **Contestant Meeting & Group Photo:** A Contestant meeting and Group Photo will follow contestant check-in and is a required event function. Contestant Back Numbers will be distributed at the contestant meeting. All other personnel credentials will be available at the rodeo grounds with the rodeo secretary. *Contestants are to be dressed in PRCA/WPRA-rodeo-arena attire for photographs taken during and immediately following the contestant meeting.* Failure to attend the meeting or participate in the group photo will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.
- E. **Tickets:** Contestants and stock contractors will receive no more than one free ticket for each performance to be picked up at the rodeo secretary's office.
- F. **Hazers:** Steer Wrestling contestants are to report the name of their hazer to the Rodeo Secretary at the time of check-in. Any hazer who is not already a contestant must have a back number and is required to sign all releases and any other required documents. The back number entitles only that person access to the arena area.
- G. **PRCA & Event Patches:** Two PRCA patches and Two Champions Challenge patches will be distributed at the time of check-in and at least 1 PRCA patch and 1 Champions Challenge patch must be worn at all times in the arena and at all Champions Challenge related functions. For the barrel racers, two WPRA patches and two Champions Challenge patches will be distributed at the time of check-in and at least 1 WPRA patch and 1 Champions Challenge patch must be worn at all times in the arena and at all Champions Challenge related functions. Failure to wear and both the PRCA & Event Patch will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.
- H. **Team Sponsor Patches:** All Team Sponsored qualifiers are required to wear a minimum of (2) two Team Sponsor patches as well as a color designated Team Sponsor shirt. Team Sponsor patches may be worn in any available position that is approved under the PRCA Patch Program Rules and Guidelines. All CC and Team Sponsor patches will not count against the qualifiers allotment of regular PRCA Patch Program sponsors. Failure to wear Team Sponsor patches will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence.

3. LIVESTOCK

- A. Stock must be inspected by the Livestock Superintendent at time of arrival and must be accompanied by current certified veterinary health papers and certificates as required by the law of the state in which the Champions Challenge is being held. No sick, sore, lame, or injured animal will be accepted or paid for. This includes any animal with a wound which, at the PRCA's sole discretion, is cosmetically questionable. Any bull requiring tipping of horns shall subject stock contractor to a fine of \$100 per horn needing attention.
- B. In accordance with Rule R8.13.1.3 of the PRCA Rulebook, all riding event livestock must have an ownership brand of the PRCA-member Stock Contractor furnishing the livestock. Failure to do so will result in a fine for each animal not so branded.
- C. No horse or bull on which a bareback rigging, saddle, or bull rope normally cannot be placed and/or cinch pulled prior to being loaded in the chute will be eligible for the Champions Challenge. If such animal is brought, and thus causes a delay in production, the stock contractor may be fined.
- D. Each respective Event Representative shall notify PROCOM of the Selected Livestock Pens no later than 5:00 PM (Mountain Time) of the day of each entry closing. Contestants will draw their animals at the contestant stock draw as reference in 2.C.

- E. **Top Stock Bonus:** Wrangler will be awarding a bonus of \$1000 to the top scoring livestock in each of the riding events. This bonus will be paid directly to the PRCA Stock Contractor of Record from PRCA Properties following the event.

4. GENERAL

- A. **Official Rodeo:** Per Rule R1.6.2.1 of the PRCA Rulebook and, for barrel racers, WPRA rule 10.4.1.8 each Champions Challenge Event will be counted as an "Official Entry" rodeo unless contestant designates it as an "Unofficial Entry Rodeo" at time of competition confirmation or unless contestant has previously met the maximum number of allowable "Official Entry" rodeos.
- B. **Championship Points.** All prize money earned at each Champions Challenge Event will count as Championship Points in accordance with Bylaw B12.1.1 of the PRCA Rulebook and, for barrel racers, rule 14.1 of the WPRA Rulebook and will be applied to 2014 PRCA World Standings and, for barrel racers, 2014 WPRA pro rodeo standings, unless contestant designated the Champions Challenge Event as an "Unofficial Entry Rodeo" at time of entry.
- C. **No Circuit Points.** Dollars won at the Champions Challenge Event will not count toward circuit standings.
- D. **Doctor Releases: ONLY** Valid doctor releases will be accepted. Should it be necessary to doctor release, contestants are to follow procedures outlined in Part 7 of the PRCA Rulebook and, for barrel racers, Chapter 10 of the WPRA Rule Book. Failure to follow those procedures will result in fines pursuant to Section 5B of these Ground Rules. A contestant using the doctor release procedure shall also be subject to the ineligibility periods as set forth in the PRCA Rule Book.
- E. **Determination of Event Champion/Event Winners:** The Event Champion will be that person who has the highest score or fastest time at the conclusion of the Event. In case of a tie the Event Champion will be determined from crowd/audience selection.
- F. **Victory Lap:** The event winner for each performance should be prepared to take a victory lap following their event. Failure to take the victory lap or to be available for introduction following the performance may result in a fine of \$250 per violation.
- G. **All Contestants Introduced: All contestants should be prepared to be introduced during opening ceremonies or during closing ceremonies immediately following the introduction of the winners of each event. Failure to be available for this contestant introduction will subject contestant to a fine of \$250 per occurrence.**
- H. **Patch Sponsorships:** No Champions Challenge participant may wear or display in the Competition Arena or anywhere during the promotion of the Champions Challenge (including the areas behind the chutes and the moat, any special event, autograph session or interviews, etc.) any patch or Signage (as defined in the "Rules and Regulations Governing Advertising in an Arena") which is in conflict with PRCA's and/or Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Properties, Inc.'s National Sponsors.
- I. **Back Numbers:** Each contestant will be furnished with a Champions Challenge back number, which must be worn and displayed in its entirety at all times when in the Competition Arena. If a contestant has an existing patch sponsorship involving the cantle/yoke of the shirt, then that contestant may wear the Champions Challenge back number immediately below the existing cantle/yoke patch. If a contestant elects to wear a protective vest or jacket, then that contestant must wear the Champions Challenge back number in the same location on the vest or jacket. Failure to wear the assigned

Champions Challenge back number will result in a fine of \$250 per occurrence and/or disqualification from the Champions Challenge Event.

5. TURN OUT OR DOCTOR RELEASE SUBSTITUTIONS PRIOR TO COMPETITION

- A. If after confirmation of event participation a contestant is unable to compete due to a valid doctors release, the next contestant in the 2014 PRCA World Standings and, for barrel racers, the 2014 WPRA pro rodeo standings (as referenced in 1.C of these ground rules) in the event will fill the position. The injured contestant will then be eligible for further competition at future Champions Challenge events upon the expiration of the applicable doctor release. Contestants must notify PROCOM of any doctors release.
- B. If after confirmation of event participation a contestant is unable to compete due to a valid emergency such as a cancelled flight, extreme weather conditions preventing travel, etc., the next contestant in the 2014 PRCA World Standings and, for the barrel racers, the 2014 WPRA pro rodeo standings (as referenced in 1.C of these ground rules) in the event will fill the position. The emergency released contestant will then be eligible for further competition at future Champions Challenge events upon the receipt of appropriate documentation validating emergency. Contestants must notify PROCOM of any emergency release.
- C. If after confirmation of event participation a contestant turns out of a Champions Challenge event, that contestant will not be eligible to compete for the remainder of the Champions Challenge current season. In this case, the competition position will be filled by the next contestant in the 2014 PRCA World Standings and, for barrel racers, the 2014 WPRA pro rodeo standings (as referenced in 1.C of these ground rules) in the event.
- D. Once confirmation of intent has been made the following release consequences/fines will apply:

<i>Notified turn out</i>	<i>Disqualification from participation for 2014 CC Season AND \$1000.00 fine</i>
<i>Non-Notified turn out</i>	<i>Disqualification from participation for 2014 CC Season AND \$3000.00 fine</i>
<i>DR prior to 30 hour deadline (if NO substitution is found)</i>	<i>\$250.00 fine</i>
<i>DR after 30 hour deadline</i>	<i>\$500.00 fine</i>
<i>DR after 30 hour deadline (if NO substitution is found)</i>	<i>\$250.00 fine</i>

Notification of turn outs or doctors releases MUST be called into PROCOM during their regular business hours. All turnout deadline times are Mountain Time.

*Any Doctors Release that removes a contestant from competition at a Champions Challenge Event will result in that contestant's ineligibility from all PRCA Sanctioned Events per the PRCA Rulebook.

6. FORMAT

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- A. Champions Challenge will be a one go-round, 1 performance event. Contestants will be placed using the random draw procedure by PROCOM.

7. PAYOFF

- A. Should there be fewer qualified rides or times than the number of places to be paid, the payoff, shall be handled according to Rule R5.5.3 of the PRCA Rulebook.
- B. Payoff, per event \$16,000.00 (except the Saddle Bronc Event)
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|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | \$5,440.00 | (per man in TR) |
| 2 nd | \$4,160.00 | (per man in TR) |
| 3 rd | \$3,040.00 | (per man in TR) |
| 4 th | \$2,080.00 | (per man in TR) |
| 5 th | \$1,280.00 | (per man in TR) |
- C. Payoff, Saddle Bronc Event \$12,000.00
- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| 1 st | \$4,080.00 |
| 2 nd | \$3,120.00 |
| 3 rd | \$2,280.00 |
| 4 th | \$1,560.00 |
| 5 th | \$960.00 |

Saddle Bronc Contestants will receive a \$400 appearance fee at the time of check-in.

8. TIMED EVENTS

- A. Stock selection: Cattle used in the timed events shall be selected by the Champions Challenge host PRCA Rodeo Committee, with the approval of the respective Event Representatives. For each pen of cattle, 2 extras must be designated.
- B. Timed Event contestants will enter and exit the arena as directed by the Arena Director.
- C. No more than one man in the box if so requested by contestant.
- D. Only one horse in the box.
- E. A contestant must have hat on head while in box, with no assistance in keeping on or taking off said hat by another person.
- F. The judges have the authority to designate a replacement for an animal fighting or sulking in the chute.
- G. Time limits (not including penalties):
- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| Tie-Down Roping: | 25 seconds |
| Steer Wrestling: | 60 seconds |
| Team Roping: | 30 seconds |
- H. Tie-down animals may be tied prior to the performance to be determined by the Arena Director, the Event Representative and the Director of Rodeo Administration.

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- I. If a timed event animal escapes the chute prior to the contestant calling for him, that contestant will automatically receive the first extra and will compete on that animal in the performance. The originally drawn animal will remain in the herd.
- J. In the Tie-Down Roping Event, only 1 loop per contestant will be permitted.
- K. In the Team Roping Event, only 2 loops per team will be permitted.
- L. In the Steer Wrestling, only 1 jump per contestant will be permitted.

9. RIDING EVENTS

- A. Two judges will be used to score each ride and half points will be used.
- B. Stock selection: Stock for the Champions Challenge will be selected by each respective Event Representative, the host PRCA Event Committee, the Primary Stock Contractor and the Stock Contractor Executive Council. Selected stock must be submitted to PROCOM no later than 5PM (Mountain Time) on the day of entries closing for each respective 2014 Champions Challenge Event.
- C. Pens must be set to have a minimum of 4 animals with the same delivery designation.
- D. No bareback or saddle bronc with a history of having to be pulled out of the chute will be used for the Champions Challenge.
- E. If a Stock Contractor or Stock Contractor's flankman is not ready when called, the Chute Boss (in agreement with the Judges) or the Judges may fine the Stock Contractor. **For flankmen**, the definition of "ready when called" means he/she must have the flank adjusted, gloves on if used, and ready when previous animal (flag/sponsor horse) leaves the arena or as instructed by the chute boss and/or judges.
 - 1. The Chute Boss has the authority to assign a flankman in the absence of the livestock owner or his designated flankman.
- F. Once pens have been set, there will be no changing of those pens unless the changes conform to the Champions Challenge Ground Rules. Any changes on delivery must be by mutual agreement of a Riding Event Representative, livestock owner, or his representative and the chute boss or arena director.
- G. Any turned-out animal shall be considered the first re-ride animal. Should there be more than one turned-out animal, an order will be drawn. If more re-rides are required, the designated re-ride(s) will be used. Should more re-rides be needed than those available, 1/3 of the animals from the short go-round pen can be featured and additional re-rides necessary will be drawn from that finals pen.