

OFFICIAL GROUND RULES

2021 NATIONAL FINALS BREAKAWAY ROPING | Las Vegas, NV

December 6-7, 2021

I. ENTRIES:

- A. The top 15 Breakaway Ropers in WPRA Pro Rodeo Breakaway World Standings, as of September 30, 2021 qualify to enter.
- B. Contestants must confirm entry by calling the PRCA Central Entry Office (PROCOM) between 12:00 P.M. (Mountain Time) on Tuesday, November 9 and 12:00 P.M. (Mountain Time) on Wednesday, November 10.
- C. Qualified contestants not confirming their intent to compete by 12:00 P.M. on November 10 will be called to confirm entry and may be fined \$250.
- D. A NFBR contestant may not compete at or participate in any other rodeo or jackpot from the date of NFBR contestant check-in through and including the date of the final performance of the NFBR.

II. CONTESTANT INFORMATION:

- A. Every contestant must check-in with the NFBR Arena Secretary following the luncheon at the Orleans Hotel and Casino at approximately 1:30 P.M. on Sunday, December 5, 2021. There will be a meeting following check in.
- B. Stalls will be available beginning Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 8 AM. Each contestant will be allowed one (1) stall for three (3) nights, providing the horses are subject for use at the National Finals Breakaway Roping. Any horse found not being used for competition at the Orleans or not belonging to the contestant assigned to the stall, will result in a \$250 fine accessed to the person assigned the stall. This fine will progressively double for every 24-hour period, the animal remains in the stall. All stalls will be managed by Tim Long with Group W.; contestants wishing to arrive on Saturday, December 4 or needing more than one stall will be responsible for the extra charges and will need to make arrangements with Tim at (817)613-6439. Anyone not checking into their assigned stall or stalls by 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 5 or notifying Tim Long to release their stall or stalls by the deadline specified above may be subject to a \$250 fine.
- C. NO PETS will be allowed in the arena.

- D. The NFBR Contestant back number will be the credential for admission to all areas.

III. GENERAL:

- A. For all horses: Current Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and Negative 12 months coggins prior to entry.
- B. All participants by their participation in the NFBR agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the PRCA and WPRA Bylaws and Official Rodeo Rules and these Ground Rules.
- C. Enforcement and interpretation of the PRCA and WPRA Bylaws and Official Rodeo Rules and these Ground Rules during the NFBR shall be handled by the PRCA Judges.
- D. No NFBR participant may wear or display in the competition arena of the NFBR any Patch of Signage (as defined in the "Rules and Regulations Governing Advertising in an Arena") which conflicts with PRCA's and/or Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Properties, Inc.'s National Sponsors. All other provisions of the "Rules and Regulations Governing Advertising in an Arena", a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, shall also be in effect at the NFBR.
- E. All cattle must be ear-tagged before they arrive.
- F. The extra animals which may be run after the performance cannot be run by contestants in that event. Violation of this ground rule will constitute, to the contestant in violation, an initial \$500.00 fine and will be progressively doubled for each violation thereafter.
- G. No horses used in NFBR competition can be used to run the extra animals after each performance. Violation of this ground rule will constitute, to the contestant(s) competing on the horse in violation, an initial \$500.00 fine and will be progressively doubled for each violation thereafter. Any contestant or member designated to run extras taking excessive time to exit the arena will be fined \$250 for the first occurrence, with that fine progressively doubling with each additional occurrence.
- H. The Breakaway Roping Director will designate person or persons to run the extras.
- I. If in the opinion of the Chute Boss and/or the Judges if a contestant is not "ready when called" the contestant will be subject to a penalty. By definition,

“ready when called” shall mean that the contestant must be riding into the box when the previous animal leaves the arena.

Contestants must take their stock within 45 seconds of receiving the all clear from the designated judge. If the contestant exceeds the time limit, except in case of mechanical failure or a problem with the competition animal in the timed event chute in the opinion of the Judges, she will receive a penalty of \$250. For every 20 seconds over the 45-second limit the fine will be progressively doubled. If a contestant exceeds two (2) minutes in the box, the result will be disqualification from that go-round.

- J. Any contestant who circles in the arena at any time will be fined \$100.00.
- K. Rattling the gates (to get horse to score), will constitute a \$250.00 fine to be progressively doubled thereafter to the person doing the rattling and/or the contestant involved.
- L. Contestants will enter arena through the back of the timed event box with the barrier already up. Contestants cannot go past the plane of the barrier. Fine for failure to enter arena accordingly, unless otherwise approved by the NFBR Committee, will be \$100 for first offense and progressively doubled thereafter. Contestants must exit arena immediately after competition. Any contestant taking excessive time to exit the arena will be fined \$250 for the first occurrence, with that fine progressively doubling with each additional occurrence.
- M. No more than one person (entered contestant) in the box if so requested by contestant.
- N. Only one horse in the box.
- O. A contestant must have their hat on their head while in box, with no assistance in keeping it on or taking it off by another person.
- P. The judges have the authority to designate a replacement for an animal fighting or sulking in the chute.
- Q. If a timed event animal escapes or a rerun is awarded for any other reason, the extra will be used. Only escaped animals go back to the herd. The escaped animal will replace the extra that was used.
- R. Reruns will be taken during the same go-round for which the rerun is given except in the case of injuries to contestants as ruled on by the judges. Rerun must be taken before the start of the next-go-round, during a performance.
- S. The roper cannot throw her rope prior to contestant’s horse breaking the plane of the barrier.

- T. The following conduct by any NFBR participant shall be regarded as a Class III offense and may be punishable by fine of no less than \$250.00, ineligibility, suspension, suspension of PRCA privileges and/or expulsion, unless otherwise stated:
 - 1. R11.4.3 Influencing a PRCA Official. Attempting to bribe or influence through physical intimidation any PRCA official at any time, in or out of the arena, or talking with a judge at a time when an event is in progress. WPRA Rule 9.3.11 & 9.3.3-9.3.5
 - 2. R11.4.4 Harassing a PRCA Official or Spectator. Engaging in, or attempting to engage in, any action threatening, berating, harassing, or intimidating a rodeo official, a rodeo spectator, any official representative or employee of the PRCA, or any Member. WPRA Rules 9.3.14 & 9.3.17
- U. Unruly or unmanageable animals, including contestants' horses that endanger NFBR personnel, contestants, or spectators, or that disrupt the production of the NFBR, may be disqualified by the Judges from further use.
- V. Any contestant using foul language in the arena, either audibly or by obviously mouthing the words, will be fined in accordance with Bylaw B10.3.6/WPRA Rule 9.3.17 Conduct Detrimental to Public Image and will be assessed a minimum initial fine of \$250.00.
- W. All Contestants, stock contractors, contract personnel and other credentialed personnel will be required to follow and Covid-19 protocols in place at the time of the event. Notice of any such protocols shall be given in a timely fashion.

IV. DRAWING OUT:

- A. A NFBR contestant may not compete at or participate in any other rodeo or jackpot from the date of NFBR contestant check-in through and including the date of the final performance of the NFBR.
- B. If for any reason a contestant is unable to compete, the next contestant in the WPRA Pro Rodeo Breakaway World Standings season standings will substituted. Substitutions will not be allowed after the first go-round is completed.

V. FORMAT:

- A. Ten go-rounds. The first five go rounds will be run on December 6 starting at 1:00 PM. The sixth through tenth go-rounds will be run on December 7 starting at 1:00 PM.
- B. There will be a designated pusher for all contestants.
- C. There will be an additional liner past the score line.

VI. TURNING OUT STOCK:

- A. Contestant must accept and compete in first go-round to be eligible for further competition at the NFBR.
- B. An injured contestant may, with proper doctor's release from a medical doctor on the official NFBR medical staff, turn out. Contestant must notify a Judge of her intention to turn out prior to the next go round, and provide him with the official doctor release from the NFBR medical staff, no later than two (2) hours prior to the performance or prior to the start of the next go-round if the contestant is injured during a performance. Failure to abide by this deadline will result in a \$250.00 fine.
- C. All contestants competing in a performance must give an honest effort. Failure to give an honest effort as defined herein will result in a fine of \$500 per occurrence, progressively doubling thereafter. Additionally, if it is determined that a contestant did not give an honest effort, she will be disqualified from the go-round in which the violation occurred. For purposes of this ground rule, whether a contestant gives an honest effort will be determined as follows:

A contestant who fails to ride, using appropriate equipment, her horse across the score line (unless the Judges rule she was fouled leaving the box) shall automatically be deemed not to have given an honest effort. Once the contestant has ridden her horse across the score line, it is the sole responsibility of the Judges to determine whether the contestant gives an honest effort. In making this determination, Judges should consider whether the contestant has made a good faith effort to successfully complete the event and record a time.

VII. PAYOFF:

- A. Each of the ten go-rounds will pay six places with eight to be paid in the ten-head average. Average will pay three times the go-round.
- B. All go-round monies and average money will be paid following the final go-round.
- C. Each contestant will receive a \$1,000 stipend.

D. Actual Pay-Off: \$185,000.00

Each go-round: \$14,230.77

Average: \$42,692.30

1.	\$4,411.54	1.	\$11,313.46
2.	\$3,486.54	2.	\$9,178.84
3.	\$2,632.69	3.	\$7,257.69
4.	\$1,850.00	4.	\$5,336.54
5.	\$1,138.46	5.	\$3,842.31
6.	\$711.54	6.	\$2,775.00
		7.	\$1,921.15
		8.	\$1,067.31

VIII. CONTEST RULES:

A. Only clean bell collar catch will be legal.

1. The calf's whole head must pass through the loop or contestant will be disqualified. The loop must be drawn up around the neck with no extremities in the loop and in front of the tail head, when string breaks.
2. If any extremities are in the loop when the string breaks, ex. Figure 8, a tail or leg, rope dropped below tail head, etc. the run will be considered a no time. If the string breaks with the extremity in the loop and then goes back around the neck of the calf, the run will still be a "no time." If an extremity gets in the loop after flagger has dropped the flag, run will be legal.
3. One or more spotters will be positioned on the opposite side from the flag judge, to watch for extremities in the loop when the string breaks.

B. Breaking Plane of Barrier/Neck Ropes

1. Neck ropes must be tied with string. Adjustable slide shall be used on all neck ropes for cattle used in the breakaway roping.

C. Drawing to follow PRCA procedures.

D. Barrier malfunctions will be handled in accordance with PRCA Rule Book.

E. The following rules in the WPRA Rulebook will also be enforced.

1. 4.1.4
 2. 12.3.1-12.3.5.1 – Only one loop will be permitted.
 3. 12.3.8-12.3.13
- F. When a specific WPRA rule does not apply and no approved ground rules are posted, the appropriate PRCA ruling as interpreted by the contest judge shall apply. The decision of the judge shall be final. (Rule 10.2.1)
- G. Contestants must use string provided by the NFBR committee to tie rope to contestants' saddle horn.
- H. There will be three pens of cattle. Pen #1 will be used for the first, fourth, seventh and tenth go rounds. Pen #2 will be used for the second, fifth and the eighth go-rounds. Pen #3 will be used for the third, sixth and ninth go-rounds.

IX. COMPETITION ORDER:

- A. First through ninth go-rounds: Reverse of Season Standings coming into the NFBR, dropping down two contestants to begin the competition of each go-round.
- B. Tenth go-round: Reverse of WPRA Pro Rodeo Breakaway World Standings following ninth go-round World Standings coming into the NFBR + NFBR earnings).
- C. Changes to split horses must be authorized by the Chute Boss. The Chute Boss shall notify the NFBR Arena Secretary prior to the start of each go-round if splits occur.

X. DRAWING STOCK & RUNNING CATTLE:

- A. The order of the draw will be the same as the competition order.
- B. The following procedure will be in place for running the calves at the Orleans Arena on Monday, December 6:
 1. Entire herd will be run chutes through two times.
 2. Then calves will be run through once more time in groups of five without being pushed.
 3. Calves may be lined on right side during run through.

