

OFFICIAL GROUND RULES

2020 NATIONAL FINALS BREAKAWAY ROPING | Arlington, TX

December 8-10, 2020

I. ENTRIES:

- A. The top 15 Breakaway Ropers in WPRA Pro Rodeo Breakaway World Standings, as of September 30, 2020 qualify to enter.
- B. Contestants must confirm entry by calling the PRCA Central Entry Office (PROCOM) between 10:00 A.M. (Mountain Time) Monday, October 26, 2020 to 10:00 A.M. (Mountain Time), Tuesday, October 27, 2020.
- C. Qualified contestants not confirming their intent to compete by 10:00 A.M. on October 27, 2020 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 from 10:00 am - 11:00 pm on Monday, December 7th at the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Fort Worth. There will be a meeting following check in.
- B. Stalls will be available beginning Monday, December 7, 2020. Each contestant will be allowed one (1) stall for four (4) nights, providing the horses are subject for use at the National Finals Breakaway Roping. Each breakaway roper will be allowed one non-transferable stall, **which must be confirmed at time of entry through PROCOM**, at the official Contestant Stalling area, provided the horse is used in the rodeo and housed onsite. Any horse found not being used for competition at Globe Life Field or not belonging to the contestant assigned to the stall, will result in a \$250 fine assessed to the person assigned the stall. This fine will progressively doubled for every 24-hour period, the animal remains in the stall. Tim Parker, the contestant stall manager, will be the only one authorized to issue extra stalls. Extra stalls will be issued on availability and no contestant will be issued more than one extra stall until all initial requests are filled. Contestants requesting an extra stall will need to submit their request to Tim Parker (208-320-1866) by November 1. Anyone not checking into their assigned stall or stalls by 2 p.m. CT Monday, Dec. 7 or notifying Tim Parker to release their stall or stalls by the deadline specified above shall be subject the person to a \$250 fine.
- C. For performance days, the warmup area will be open at 9:00am for contestant

warm-up. Each performance will start at 10:00 AM.

- D. NO PETS will be allowed in the arena.
- E. 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. Be 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 it will result in disqualification from the 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 down the 3rd base line through gate by the Team Roping box. 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 hat on head while in box, with no assistance in keeping on or taking off said hat 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 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 sign a receipt acknowledging receipt of the National Finals Breakaway Roping Covid-19 Ground Rules and sign a Covid-19 Release and HIPPA Authorization. Anyone who fails to abide by the National Finals Breakaway Roping Covid-19 Ground Rules will be fined \$1,000 for each occurrence.

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 with a Top 8 Semifinals and a Top 4 Finals. The first four go rounds will be run on December 8 starting at 10:00 AM. The fifth through eighth go-rounds will be run on December 9 starting at 10:00 AM. The ninth and tenth go-rounds, the Top 8 Semifinals and Top 4 Finals will be run on December 10 starting at 10:00 AM. The top eight contestants based on the

fastest total time on the most number of qualified runs during the first ten go-rounds will advance to the Top 8 semifinals. If ties result in more than 8 contestants to advance, the contestant with the single fastest time in any go-round will advance. If still tied, the contestant with the next single fastest time in any go-round will advance. Continue with this procedure until ties are broken. This procedure will also be used to determine the competition order in the Semifinals and Finals of tied contestants among the top 8 and top 4. The contestants with the 4 fastest qualified times in the semifinals will advance to the finals. If there are less than 4 qualified times in the semifinals, only contestants with qualified times will advance. If ties result in more than 4 contestants to advance to the finals, refer to the rankings coming into the Semifinals.

- 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. A turn out in this instance will not eliminate the contestant from contention for advancement to the semifinals. Contestant must notify a Judge of her intention to turn out prior to the next go round, and provide her with the official doctor releases 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 (i) from the go-round in which the violation occurred and (ii) from contention for advancement to the semifinals in the event for which she did not give an honest effort. 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 rules 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 first ten go-rounds will pay six places.

The purse allotted to the semifinals and finals will be three times what is allotted to a go round. Eight places will be paid for the semifinals and finals. The four contestants advancing to the finals from the semifinals will be paid for first through fourth place based on fastest times in the finals. If there are less than four qualified times in the finals, the remaining places will be paid based on fastest times in the semifinals. The contestants who do not advance to the finals from the semifinals will be paid for fifth through eighth place based on fastest times in the semifinals. The remaining places to be paid to contestants with no qualified times in the semifinals will be based on their competition ranking coming into the semifinals.

- B. All go-round monies and semifinals/finals 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		Top 8/4 Round: \$42,692.31	
1.	\$4,411.54	1.	\$11,313.46
2.	\$3,486.54	2.	\$9,178.85
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 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 four pens of cattle. Pen #1 will be used for the first, fifth and ninth go rounds and will be run from the Steer Wrestling chute. Pen #2 will be used for the second, sixth and the tenth go-rounds and will be run from the Tie Down Roping Chute. Pen #3 will be used for the third go-round, the seventh go-round and the Semifinals and will be run from the Steer Wrestling chute. Pen #4 will be used for the fourth, eight and the Finals and will be run from the Tie Down Roping chute. The calves used for the Semifinals will be selected by the WPRA Breakaway Roping Director or her appointee from pen #3. The calves for the Finals will be selected from pen #4.

IX. COMPETITION ORDER:

- A. First through tenth go-rounds: Reverse of Season Standings coming into the NFBR, dropping down two contestants to begin the competition of each go-round.
- B. Semifinals Top 8 – competition order based on fastest time on the most qualified runs from the first 10 go-rounds. Order will be slowest to fastest time on the most qualified runs.
- C. Top 4 Finals – slowest to fastest from the semifinals.

- D. Tie breakers for position:
 - 1. Fastest total time on the most qualified runs in the first ten go-rounds.
 - 2. Fastest time in a single go-round, continuing until all ties are broken.
- E. 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:

- A. Drawing order for first 10 go-rounds drop down two contestants each go round.
- B. Semifinals & Finals – animals used for the semifinals and finals will be selected by the event representative or her appointee prior to the stock draw for the third performance. Animals in the pens that will be used for the 9th and 10th go-rounds will be exempt from use in the semifinals and finals.
 - 1. Animals will be randomly drawn to eight positions in the semifinals and four positions in the finals prior to the 3rd performance. For semifinals, the top eight contestants will be placed in those positions based fastest time on the most qualified runs in the first 10 go rounds. The contestant with the fastest total time on the most qualified runs from the 10 go-rounds will be placed in the 8th position, the contestant with the next fastest time will be placed in the 7th position, and so on until all eight positions are filled. The contestants will compete on the animals already drawn to those corresponding positions.
 - 2. In the finals, animals will be drawn to the four positions. The contestant with the fastest time in the semifinals will be placed in the fourth position and the contestant with the slowest time will be placed in the first position. The contestants will compete on the animals already drawn to those corresponding positions.
 - 3. In the semifinals and finals, a contestant may compete on an animal that she has previously competed on in one of the first ten performances.