

2009 JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS WPRA GROUND RULES

1. QUALIFIERS

- A. By entering to compete in the 2009 JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS (“CHAMPIONSHIPS”) to be held in Omaha, Nebraska September 24-26, 2009, you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of these ground rules, the CHAMPIONSHIPS Patch Sponsorship Rules Addendum and all other Addenda and Exhibits to these Ground Rules, 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 CHAMPIONSHIPS contestants will be required to sign a CHAMPIONSHIPS specific liability waiver prior to receiving their contestant back number.
- B. Twelve qualifiers for the CHAMPIONSHIPS shall be the top 12 contestants in the 2009 Wrangler Million Dollar Tour Standings (including money won at the Justin Boots Playoffs: Puyallup, WA). Each person who qualifies and confirms her intent to compete must also complete and sign “WPRA Release and Waiver and Choice of Venue” form, and this document must be received by the Rodeo Secretary prior to the first scheduled competition in order to be eligible to compete.
- C. Should there be a tie for the final qualifying spot, only 12 will qualify, and the tie will be broken in favor of the contestant with the highest total money won at WPRA-sanctioned rodeos during the 2009 Rodeo Year at PRCA-sanctioned rodeos which end on or before **September 11, 2009**.
- D. Rankings coming into the CHAMPIONSHIPS will be from highest to lowest, per the official 2009 Wrangler Million Dollar Tour Standings (including money won at the Justin Boots Playoffs: Puyallup, WA).
- E. **Competition Confirmation.** Contestants must confirm intent to compete by calling **PROCOM from 11:00 AM Wednesday, September 16, 2009 to 11:00 AM Thursday, September 17, 2009**. Contestant must be Financially Eligible and Competition Eligible at time of entry closing.

2. CONTESTANT INFORMATION

- A. **Check-In:** CHAMPIONSHIPS Contestants are required to check in at the Rodeo Secretary’s office (or designated area determined by the Rodeo Secretary) between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. on the day of the first performance. At that time each contestant will receive a packet of information and credentials. Failure to check in during this time will result in a \$250 fine. All CHAMPIONSHIPS personnel with the exception of CHAMPIONSHIPS contestants will be required to have an arena specific photo card to be allowed on the competition arena floor.
- B. **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.
- C. **Meeting Rehearsal:** CHAMPIONSHIPS Contestants are required to attend a meeting and rehearsal, scheduled for 1:00 P.M. the day of the first performance. Contestants are

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

to be dressed in WPRA-rodeo-arena attire for photographs taken during and immediately following the contestant rehearsal. Failure to attend the meeting and the rehearsal shall result in a \$250 fine for each event missed.

- D. **Stalls:** One stall per contestant will be available at no cost. Stalls will be located at the Qwest Center. Horses will be accepted for stalling beginning on Wednesday, September 23 at 5 p.m. No extra stalls will be available. All contestant horses must be removed from the stalls no later than 12 p.m. on Sunday, September 27. Failure to do so shall constitute a \$500 fine per horse left in the stalls past the deadline. Contestants will be responsible for purchasing or providing bedding for their stall. Bedding for purchase will be available on site.
- E. **Parking:** One parking pass per CHAMPIONSHIPS contestant will be provided. All vehicles improperly parked on property (on sidewalks, grass or in fire lanes as deemed by facility management) will be towed at owner's expense.
- F. **Horses:** All horses must be removed from the Qwest Center Arena no later than 11 p.m. each day. Failure to do so shall constitute a \$500 fine per horse left in the building past the deadline. An outdoor warm-up arena will be provided for contestant horses. Per facility management, horses are not allowed on sidewalks or grass areas.
- G. **Tour Patches:** Two CHAMPIONSHIPS patches will be distributed at the time of check-in and must be worn at all times in the arena.

3. GENERAL

- A. **Official Rodeo:** The CHAMPIONSHIPS 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. **Prize Money to Count toward Standings:** All prize money earned at the CHAMPIONSHIPS will count as Championship Points and will be applied to 2009 Championship Standings, unless contestant designated the CHAMPIONSHIPS as an "Unofficial Entry Rodeo" at time of entry.
- C. **No Circuit Points:** Dollars won at the CHAMPIONSHIPS will **not** count toward circuit standings.
- D. **No Competing in Other Rodeos or Rodeo Events During CHAMPIONSHIPS:** Contestants may not compete at a rodeo or rodeo event other than the CHAMPIONSHIPS from the day of the first performance through the day of the last performance. However, those contestants who do not qualify for the Semi-Finals will not be required to participate in any function on or after the semi-finals round performance. If a contestant, who qualifies for the semi-finals round, does compete in a WPRA-sanctioned rodeo, or any event other than the CHAMPIONSHIPS, that contestant will immediately be disqualified from the CHAMPIONSHIPS and will forfeit any prize money or bonus money in addition to incurring a \$2,500 fine.
- E. **Conflict with the Last Performance:** Any CHAMPIONSHIPS contestant, who has qualified for the semi-finals round and is scheduled to compete at another rodeo adding \$3,000 or more on the same day as the last performance of the CHAMPIONSHIPS, will

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

be moved, if possible, at the second rodeo in accordance with WPRA rules outlined in Rule 10.3.5.6 of the WPRA Rulebook. Contestants who have not qualified for the semi-finals round will not be moved, nor will they be required to participate in any functions on or after the semi-finals round performance.

- F. **Doctor Releases:** Valid doctor releases (or vet releases) will be accepted. Should it be necessary to doctor release, (or vet release) contestants are to follow procedures outlined in Part 10.7 of the WPRA Rulebook. Failure to follow those procedures will result in fines pursuant to Section 4B of these Ground Rules. A contestant using the doctor release procedure shall also be subject to the ineligibility periods as set forth in the WPRA Rule Book.
- G. **Determination of Event Champion/Event Winners:** The Event Champion will be that person who wins the Finals on Saturday, September 26, 2009. In case of a tie the Finals, the Event Champion will be determined based on the fastest time or highest score in the Semi-Finals. If still tied, the Event Champion will be determined based on the fastest time or highest score on the best average following the two previous go-rounds. If still tied, the Event Champion will be determined based on the rankings coming into the CHAMPIONSHIPS. Second and subsequent places in each event will be determined in the same manner.
- H. **Victory Lap:** The event winner for each performance must be prepared to take a victory lap following her event. In addition, the event winner for each performance are to be prepared to be introduced either in the arena or on the stage, as requested by Production Manager, immediately following the last bull rider. Failure to take the victory lap or to be available for introduction following the performance will result in a \$100 fine for each violation.
- I. **All Contestants Introduced Each Performance**
Contestants will be introduced during opening ceremonies or during closing ceremonies immediately following the introduction of the winners of each performance. Failure to be available for this contestant introduction will subject contestant to a \$100 fine for each offense.
- J. **Autograph Sessions: All CHAMPIONSHIPS contestants** are required to participate in an autograph sessions following each performance, in which they compete, unless excused due to injury. Failure to participate in the autograph session shall result in an initial \$250 fine, that fine doubling progressively for each reported offense thereafter. Any contestant who does not qualify for the semi-finals will be excused from the autograph session after that performance only.
- K. **Patch Sponsorships:** No CHAMPIONSHIPS participant may wear or display in the Competition Arena of the CHAMPIONSHIPS (including the areas behind the chutes and the moat) 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. Participants will be notified at the CHAMPIONSHIPS contestant meeting of any CHAMPIONSHIPS Patch Sponsorship Rules that more specifically apply to the CHAMPIONSHIPS.
- L. **Back Numbers:** Each contestant will be furnished with a CHAMPIONSHIPS 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 CHAMPIONSHIPS back

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

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 CHAMPIONSHIPS back number in the same location on the vest or jacket. Failure to wear the CHAMPIONSHIPS back number in its entirety as outlined above will result in a fine of \$1000 for the first offense, \$2000 for the second offense, \$4000 for the third offense, and disqualification from the CHAMPIONSHIPS for the fourth and subsequent offense. A contestant may be fined without warning and may be subject to immediate disqualification if the offense takes place during the semi-finals or finals. If a contestant distributes his/her back number to another individual for use or admission into the event, a fine of \$250 per incident will be levied.

- M. **Honest Effort:** All contestants competing in a performance must give an honest effort. If it is determined by a unanimous vote of all Pro Officials assigned to officiate that event that a contestant did not give an honest effort, she will be (i) disqualified from the go round in which the violation occurred and any remaining go rounds, (ii) disqualified from contention for the average payoff in the event for which that contestant did not give an honest effort and (iii) assessed a fine in the amount of \$500.
1. Barrel Race: In the barrel race, a contestant who fails to ride, using appropriate equipment, her horse through the electric eyes (unless the Pro Officials rule the contestant's horse refuses beyond the contestant's control) shall automatically be deemed not to have given an honest effort. Once the contestant has ridden her horse through the electric eyes, it is the sole responsibility of the Prof Officials to determine whether a contestant gives an honest effort. In making this determination, Pro Officials should consider whether the contestant has made a good faith effort to successfully complete the event and record a time.
- N. **Foul Language:** Any contestant using foul language in the arena, either audibly or by obviously mouth the words, will be fined in accordance with **WPRA Rule 9.3.17** and will be assessed a minimum initial fine of \$1,000, that fine doubling progressively for each offense thereafter.
- O. **Time limits:** Barrel racers must run in and run out. Time limit is 30 seconds (does not include penalties). Venue-specific ground rules will be posted in the rodeo secretary's office. Failure to adhere to these ground rules will result in a \$100 fine.
- P. **Buckle Presentation:** Go-round event winners each evening will be required to attend a Buckle Presentation Ceremony at 11 p.m. at the Hilton Omaha. Failure to participate shall result in an initial \$250 fine.

4. TURN OUT OR DOCTOR RELEASE SUBSTITUTIONS PRIOR TO COMPETITION

- A. If for any reason a contestant is unable to compete, the next contestant in the official 2009 Wrangler Million Dollar Tour Standings (including money won at the Justin Boots Playoffs: Puyallup, WA) in the event will be substituted. Substitutions will not be allowed once the first go-round starts.
- B. Once confirmation of intent to compete has been made, the following turn out fines will apply:

Notified turn out prior to 5:00 PM September 21	\$ 1,000.00
Notified turn out prior to 5:00 PM September 24	\$ 2,000.00

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

Non-notified turn out

\$ 3,000.00

Notification of turn outs must be called into PROCOM during their regular business hours.

5. TURN OUT OR DOCTOR RELEASE AFTER START OF COMPETITION

- A. Contestants must compete in the first go-round in order to continue participating in the CHAMPIONSHIPS.
- B. A non-valid turn out after competing at the CHAMPIONSHIPS will result in disqualification, loss of monies won, and \$3,000 fine.
- C. Contestant Injured in Semi-Finals Who is Eligible to Advance to Finals: If a contestant is injured during the Semi-Finals and is eligible to advance to the Finals, and requires the attention of the official CHAMPIONSHIPS Medical Staff, the doctor will determine if the contestant is capable of competing. If the contestant is capable of competing, he must be ready when called upon for his finals stock. If the doctor rules the contestant is not capable of competing, the next eligible contestant in the event will advance to the Finals.

6. FORMAT

- A. CHAMPIONSHIPS will be two full go-rounds, with an average, with the last performance consisting of a semi-finals and finals.
- B. Advancement to the semi-finals and finals will be as follows:
Advancement to the semi-finals: The top eight average leaders following two go-rounds will advance to the semi-finals. No scores or times from the previous go-rounds will be carried forward to the semi-finals (except for purposes of breaking ties, as described below). The eight contestants advancing to the semi-finals will be ranked according to the average following the two go-rounds. Tie breakers as outlined in section 8.C.1 of these ground rules will apply to the qualification for the semi-finals and to the ranking of the semi-finalists.
- C. Tiebreakers:
 - 1. For Advancement to the semi-finals:**
Should there be a tie for the final qualifying spot(s) for the semi-finals based on the average following two go-rounds, or if there is a tie in the ranking of any of the 8 qualifiers coming into the semi-finals, ties will be broken as follows:
 - a. Fastest time or highest score in a single go-round. If still tied, then second fastest time or second highest score in a single go-round. If still tied, then
 - b. Ranking coming into CHAMPIONSHIPS (see paragraphs 1.D and 1.E for rankings).
 - 2. For advancement to the finals:**
Should there be a tie for the final qualifying spot(s) for the finals based on the fastest time or highest score in the semi-finals, ties will be broken as follows:
 - a. Average following two full go-rounds. If still tied, then

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

b. Tie breaking procedure outlined in 6.C.1 of these ground rules.

Should any one or more qualifiers for either the semi-finals or the finals be injured and unable to compete, the next highest qualifier will advance.

7. PAYOFF

A. For the full go-rounds, should there be fewer qualified times than the number of places to be paid, the payoff, eligibility for Championship Points, etc. shall be handled according to WPRA Rule 11.1.4.

B. For the semi-finals and finals, if fewer than the numbers of place to be paid qualify in the payoff; the tie breaking procedure as outlined in 6.C of these Ground Rules will be used for remaining places. In the event of a tie (involving a qualified score or time) in the semi-finals or the finals, the payoff for the corresponding places will be split between the contestants who tie, even though a tie may be broken to determine the contestant who advances to the next round, wins the Event Championship, etc. If no one qualifies in a go-round or in the semi-finals or finals, all money for that go-round, semi-finals or finals, as the case may be, will be divided evenly among all who competed. Any money paid to a contestant did not make a qualified ride or qualified time shall be considered ground money and will not be posted as money won and will not count for championship points.

C. Payoff, per event, for each of the full go-rounds & average: **\$17,599.55**

1 st	\$5,807.85
2 nd	\$4,399.89
3 rd	\$3,167.92
4 th	\$2,111.95
5 th	\$1,231.97
6 th	\$879.98

D. Payoff, per event, for the semi- finals: **\$17,599.55**

1 st	\$7,039.82
2 nd	\$5,279.87
3 rd	\$3,519.91
4 th	\$1,759.96

E. Payoff, per event, for the finals: **\$33,128.57**

1 st	\$13,251.43
2 nd	\$9,938.57
3 rd	\$6,625.71
4 th	\$3,312.86

8. COMPETITION ORDER & DRAW ORDER

A. First go-round: Reverse of Standings coming into the CHAMPIONSHIPS.

JUSTIN BOOTS CHAMPIONSHIPS - OMAHA

- B. Second go-round: Reverse of money won in first round.
- C. Semi-finals and finals: Reverse of qualification position for each.
- D. Tie breakers for competition and breaking order: Refer to corresponding tiebreakers as outlined in item 6.C of these ground rules.