

**PINEYWOODS YOUTH RODEO ASSOCIATION
RULE BOOK
2023-2024**

This rule book of Pineywoods Youth Rodeo Association “PYRA” and the PYRA bylaws govern the operation of the organization and events.

The Association shall issue all PYRA members a rulebook each year via website.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in PYRA is open to any boy or girl in the United States, Canada or Mexico who is 19 (nineteen) years of age or under and has never been married or annulled. The Association shall provide a membership application form to a prospective member who desires one.

PYRA events are open to members and non-members. Non-members must pay fees as outlined on PRYA entry form and are not eligible for year-end prizes or any side-pot money if offered in a particular event. In the event PYRA is associated with any other organizations that recognize PYRA as a “qualifier” for a finals event in that organization (such as Jr NFR, The Patriot, The American, Vegas Tuffest Jr World Championship, for example) Non-members may enter the “qualifier” if also entered in the PYRA rodeo in which the “qualifier” is held. Non-members may not enter PYRA finals.

AGE GROUPS

PYRA offers competitive events in the following age groups:

6 & under
7-9
10-13
14-19

Ages are determined as of August 1st of the current PYRA rodeo season.

Contestants must compete in their age group. Contestants may enter up an age group only if an event is not offered for that contestant in his or her age group.

Contestants must furnish a copy of their birth certificate and a notarized minor’s release and Covid release at the first rodeo he or she enters.

PYRA also has a 5 & Under Non-Competitive age group. The 5 & Under Non-Competitive age group will have its own rules, dues, qualifications, leaders, and committees. It operates separately from the PYRA competitive age group events. Membership dues, membership requirements, event rules, points, and year end prizes contained in this rule book do not apply to the 5 & Under Non-Competitive contestants. Contestants entering this age group are not considered “members” of PYRA as that term is defined in the PYRA bylaws.

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND ENTRY FEES

Membership Dues for all Competitive Age Groups is \$75.00 per year for each child. Membership packets will also contain information regarding advertising and fundraising requirements, if any.

Entry fees, late fees, non-member fees, and charges for each rodeo will be set forth in the entry blanks provided in the membership packet for the current year. Note, fee schedules on entry forms from prior years are null, void, and subject to change. You must have entry forms submitted by the postmark deadline on the entry form to avoid late entry fees. Except for finals weekend, late entries can be made by phone at the call-in times designated on the entry form. NO CALL IN FOR THE FINALS.

All entry fees must be paid prior to competition.

Membership Fee for 5 & Under Non-Competitive Age Group will be set by the director of the 5 & Under Non-Competitive Director(s).

PYRA POINT AWARD SYSTEM

Only members are eligible to receive points at any rodeo.

Points will be figured up to a 10-point system for all Competitive Age Groups allocated as follows:

- 1st place receives 10 points
- 2nd place receives 9 points
- 3rd place receives 8 points
- 4th place receives 7 points
- 5th place receives 6 points
- 6th place receives 5 points
- 7th place receives 4 points
- 8th place receives 3 points
- 9th place receives 2 points
- 10th place receives 1 point

When two or more contestants tie or split two or more placings, then the points that should go to the respective places that are tied, should be added together and divided by number of contestants that tied for them.

Non-member contestants will not be eligible for points. There will be two placings: (1) for jackpot and (2) for PYRA members' points.

PYRA FINALS AND YEAR END AWARDS

The PYRA finals are open to only paid members of the PYRA.

Contestant must attend and have competed in 6 of the points rodeos, excluding the finals, to compete at the PYRA finals. Contestants must also have competed in the specific event he/she wishes to enter at the PYRA finals in at least 6 regular season points rodeos. For example, to enter breakaway roping at the PYRA finals, the contestant must have entered and competed in breakaway roping during the regular season in at least 6 of the rodeos.

Finals will consist of two go-rounds with points given in each go-round. Monies will be paid in both go-rounds. Points will be awarded in both go-rounds. No average points are given. No jackpot only entries allowed.

To be eligible to receive year-end event awards, you must have participated in said event at 6 of the points rodeos.

To be eligible to win All-Around in any age group, the contestant must have entered and competed in at least 2 different PYRA events during the regular season points rodeos (excluding the finals.) The contestant must also have competed in at least 6 regular season points rodeos in each of those same 2 events thereby making him/her eligible under these rules to compete at the finals in those same 2 events. For example, a contestant who enters and competes in breakaway roping in at least 6 regular season points rodeos and also enters and competes in goat tying in at least 6 regular season points rodeos is eligible to compete in both breakaway roping and goat tying at the finals and is also eligible to win All-Around in his/her age group.

Awards will be given to the top 5 point earners for the year in each event. Points will be added from each points rodeo and each go round of the finals to determine top point earner in each event. All-Around in each age group are determined by adding all points earned by contestant in each event he/she competed during regular season points rodeos and finals. This includes points earned in an event for which the contestant did not compete in at least 6 regular season points rodeos as long as the contestant meets the All-Around eligibility requirements in the preceding paragraph.

For an event to award a saddle to the year end champion there must be a minimum of 5 contestants entered in said event at 6 of the points rodeos excluding finals. If this requirement is not met a sponsor would be required to award a saddle.

In the event of a tie in year-end, All-Around, tie will broken and placement determined by the contestant winning the most 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th places. If tie still exists, the Association will average times.

PYRA will offer 14-19 tie down and 14-19 girl breakaway ropers the opportunity to enter 2 times during each regular season points rodeo and during finals. Each entry will be considered a single entry for purpose of jackpot and points. For example, if contestant wishes to enter tie-down 2 times at a points rodeo, contestant must pay 2 separate entry fees. Upon his/her first

entry, contestant will compete against all contestants entered in that same contest and will be awarded jackpot money and points according to the procedures set forth in these rules. Upon his/her second entry, contestant will compete against all contestants entered in that same contest and will awarded jackpot money and points according to the procedures set forth in these rules. There will be no averaging of times to determine points or position for jackpot payout. Contestant may earn up to 20 points during the rodeo if he/she enters two times.

Any side-pot money offered in 14-19 tiedown and 14-19 girl breakaway will follow the same procedure for entering and payout as set forth herein.

14-19 tie down and 14-19 girl breakaway will offer one set of year end prizes and awards even though contestants will be allowed to enter and compete two times in each regular season points rodeo and at finals (finals eligibility requirements still apply). All points earned by contestant will be added from each points rodeo and each go round of the finals to determine the top point earner in each event. All points earned by 14-19 tie down and 14-19 girl breakaway contestant will be considered for his/her All-Around points.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the regulations set forth by the Local, County and State Officials, the PYRA Executive Board of Directors and its Event Directors reserve the right to cancel or reschedule rodeo weekends at any time with a majority vote. The year end awards will be based on the number of rodeos that we are allowed to have. The PYRA Board will determine the number of places to be awarded prizes at the finals based on the amount of rodeos/fundraisers that take place.

PAYOFF OF PRIZE MONEY

All entry fees in the event will be paid back in prize money as follows:

1-6	Entries	100%				
7-12	Entries	60%	40%			
13-18	Entries	50%	30%	20%		
19-25	Entries	40%	30%	20%	10%	
26 or more	Entries	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%

Contestant must pay all entry fees and any fines or late fees prior to competing in event.

Jackpot payout will be 65%.

If not enough contestants qualify for the number of places to be paid in any event, those contestants qualifying will be paid according to the payoff schedule.

4 contestants qualify	40%	30%	20%	10%
3 contestants qualify	50%	30%	20%	
2 contestants qualify	60%	40%		
1 contestant qualifies	100%			

If no one qualifies, the money will be divided evenly among all who competed, but this money shall be considered ground money.

SIDE POT

PYRA may offer a side-pot in any event at the discretion of the PYRA Board of Directors. Side-pots will not be offered at the finals. In the event PYRA offers a side-pot in any event during a regular season points rodeo, contestants entered and eligible to compete in that event for which the side pot is offered may also enter the side-pot by notifying the rodeo secretary and paying side-pot entry fees prior to competing in said event. Entry fees for any side-pot are in addition to the entry fees required to enter the event. Side-pot entry fees will be set by PYRA.

All side-pot entry fees will be paid back in prize money as follows:

1-6	Side-Pot Entries	100%				
7-12	Side-Pot Entries	60%	40%			
13-18	Side-Pot Entries	50%	30%	20%		
19-25	Side-Pot Entries	40%	30%	20%	10%	
26 or more	Side-Pot Entries	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%

Side-pot payout will be 90%.

If not enough side-pot contestants qualify for the number of places to be paid in any event, those side-pot contestants qualifying will be paid according to the payoff schedule.

4 contestants qualify	40%	30%	20%	10%
3 contestants qualify	50%	30%	20%	
2 contestants qualify	60%	40%		
1 contestant qualifies	100%			

If no one qualifies, the side-pot payout (90%) money will be divided evenly among all who competed.

GENERAL GROUND RULES

Every effort will be made to provide adequate judges, timers, and flagmen.

All contestants are required to read the rules carefully, particularly those relating to the contestants and events in which they will enter. Failure to understand rules will not be accepted as an excuse.

The management, its agents, or employees of the PYRA approved rodeo assumes no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property, or stock of any owner, contestant, or assistant. Each participant by the act of entering, waives all rights or claims against the management, its agents, or employees, for injuries he or his property may sustain. All PYRA members must have on file a notarized minor's release.

Contestants must be on hand to answer call of the Directors and must comply with all reasonable rules of the management of each particular contest or exhibition held under auspices of the PYRA as long as they do not conflict with PYRA rules. When in the opinion of the Event Director or Arena Director, sufficient number of contestants is present for an event, there will be no delay because of others not present.

Upon notification of the Secretary of the PYRA by the officials of any approved rodeo, that if any of the following offenses have been committed, a contestant shall automatically be suspended as of the date of commission of the offense, until reinstated by a majority vote of the PYRA Board of Directors. If a parent tries to influence or interfere with a Judge or Official in any manner, the contestant will be automatically disqualified. This includes judges, timers, secretary, or officials.

The following offenses will not be tolerated and will be enforced by the President or Vice President. These offenses are subject to automatic disqualification and suspension of a parent/guardian and/or contestant.

1. Drinking of alcoholic beverages in the arena.
2. Possession or use of illegal drugs or any other type intoxicant.
3. Rowdiness or quarreling in the actual domain of the arena.
4. Mistreatment of stock.
5. Refusing to contest on an animal drawn.
6. Cheating or attempting to cheat.
7. Misconduct of parent or guardian of any contestant.
8. Should any contestant fail to meet any financial obligations of a membership rodeo, the facts shall be reported to the Secretary of the Association, and the contestant shall be barred from participation in any membership rodeo until obligations are met.

Contestants are required to postmark entries by the date stated on entry forms, or call-in the entry on the specified date, call-in entries will result in a late fee per rodeo day. Anyone not adhering to deadlines will be assessed a per day late fee.

It is each member's responsibility to find out when they are to perform.

Contestants may draw out of any event up to 24 hours before first performance. After that time, contestants may draw out with verification of illness or injury to the contestant or extreme emergency. You forfeit the awards fund and the Association fee when you draw out. Final decision will be left up to Rodeo Officials. Failure to do so will mean forfeiture of fees.

Any person entered in a PYRA approved show who is not contesting in the proper age group will be put on the PYRA Suspended List and will not be allowed to enter any more PYRA shows until all money that was won in improper age group is refunded.

Any member who gives a bad check shall be fined \$25.00 for the first offense; \$100.00 for second offense. After the second offense, the Association will no longer accept a personal check from the member. They must pay by cash, money order or cashier's check, and will not be allowed to enter until their obligations have been met.

Contestants may enter either 6U age group, 7-9 age group, 10-13 age group, or the 14-19 age group. Contestant cannot enter multiple age groups in same event. Contestant must remain in age group throughout the remainder of the point year. Contestant may enter an event in another age group if that specific event is not offered in their own age group. (Any points earned will count toward event only and not all-around.)

PROTEST: If anyone wishes to file a protest at a rodeo, they must go to the Event Director and voice their protest before the conclusion of the event. The Event Director will inform them to write out their protest and post a \$100.00 cash protest bond and present it to the Rodeo Secretary. The Executive Directors, Arena Director, and Event Director present at that performance will make the decision regarding the protest. The meeting will be held immediately after that particular performance. Protests are allowed only on rule infractions and not on judgment calls by the officials. If complaint is ruled "valid" the protest fee is refundable.

The contestant entered in the event must wear complete western attire in arena during performance or slack. This includes boots, Western saddle and long sleeve shirt. Hat rule waived, but **NO CAPS ALLOWED IN THE ARENA.**

The PYRA Board of Directors and rodeo judge will decide upon any rule not covered in PYRA Rule Book. Texas High School/Junior High Rodeo Association rules should be followed in absence of specific PYRA rule.

All stock will be numbered and drawn for in the goat tying and dogging events. All calf roping and team roping steers will be chute run.

Contestants' positions must be drawn for each performance in each event.

All contestants must have a current coggins on all horses entering the rodeo grounds.

GENERAL ROPING & CHUTE DOGGING RULES

There shall be two or more timekeepers, a field judge, a scoreline judge and as many other officials as the local management finds necessary. Arena conditions will determine start and scoreline, but a short score of six (6) to fifteen (15) feet is desirable.

If automatic barrier fails to work, contestant or team will get stock back only for a qualified time. Should barrier break at any other point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats barrier, or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten (10) second penalty. If the short end of the barrier rope is lying any distance from the chute post, it will be considered a broken barrier. The barrier judge may overrule this if

it is evident that the barrier malfunctioned. The starting flag must be tied to the barrier across the front of the roping box. No one will be allowed past the score line. Pusher may not follow the calf/steer out of chute until the neck rope breaks and roper has passed the barrier line. If automatic barrier fails to work and stock is brought back, contestant will receive another animal during or immediately after the same performance. Animal to come from re-run or extra stock due to chute run of stock. If the barrier fouls contestant, contestant must pull up and declare the foul.

Under no conditions can a roper build a second loop in the arena, except in the team roping. Even though a second loop may be carried on the saddle, it can, under no circumstances, be rebuilt if it touches the ground. Roping without releasing loop from hand is not permitted.

Once the roper/dogger calls for their stock, he belongs to roper/dogger. Roping box is part of the arena.

Contestants must compete in order he/she is drawn. Calves and steers to be chute run.

Roper must start horse from back corner of box. Judge may flag contestant out for failure to do so.

In any timed event, if the animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal from re-run or extra stock due to chute run of stock with lap and tap start, and time already spent, plus any penalty, will be added to time used in qualifying. If time is not recorded, the decision of the flag judge shall be final. Roping/Dogging box is considered part of the arena.

In all timed events, a penalty of ten (10) seconds will be assessed for breaking the barrier. Barrier equipment must be inspected before each event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.

In no case may stock of a different general size be substituted for a complete go-round after one go-round has been completed. This is to eliminate one contestant on one size stock and other contestants on another size stock in the same go-round, this making unfair competition.

If the roper is in the box and the chute opens without the ropers nod, he/she must pull up and not continue the run. The contestant will be given another run after the judge confirms the call. Next run will be next animal in chute. All calls are final by the judge.

STEER WRESTLING

Age 14-19

***** PYRA IS NOT OFFERING STEER WRESTLING THIS YEAR**

I. General Rules

Contestants may change horses between Go's in Steer Wrestling. Dogging Box – shall be part of the arena during dogging events.

Refer to Score Line Diagram in the back of this rulebook.

Once score line has been set in timed events it will not be changed in that go, nor can length of box be changed.

Lap and Tap – No barrier to be used. If barrier judge is used to flag the start, he shall flag the animal when animal's nose crosses the starting line.

The line judge must have a tape measure in his possession in case the short end of the barrier is carried. The pigtail of the barrier should not exceed 10 inches in length. A longer pigtail on a barrier will often be carried when the barrier should have been broken. If the pigtail is carried more than 10 feet from the pin, the barrier may be waived, providing the contestant did not obviously beat the barrier. However, if the contestant has obviously broken the barrier you may still impose a beating-the-barrier penalty.

Should the barrier break at any point other than designated breaking point, the decision is up to the barrier judge. If contestant obviously beats the barrier, but the staples are pulled or barrier rope is broken and string unbroken, barrier judge may assess a ten-second fine. Otherwise this will not be considered a broken barrier.

If automatic barrier does not work but time is recorded, contestant will get time, but there will be no penalty for broken barrier.

If automatic barrier fails to work and official time has not started, contestant will get stock back if stock is qualified on in the field, therefore entitling contestant to a re-run without penalties.

If automatic barrier fails to work and stock is brought back, contestant must take same animal over during or immediately after the same performance.

If barrier equipment hangs on animal and contestant tries the animal, he accepts animal. If contestant pulls up, he will receive the same animal back.

Steer belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:

- a. In any timed event, if an animal escapes from the arena, the field judge will drop flag and all watches will be stopped. Contestant will receive original animal back with a lap-and-tap start. Time already accumulated will be added to time used to complete the qualifying run. If time is not recorded, the contestant will receive a 10-second penalty for any jump or any loop used.
- b. In cases of mechanical failure.

c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by barrier, contestant shall get his steer back, providing contestant declares himself by pulling up.

Time to be taken between two flags.

It shall be the arena director's responsibility to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.

This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.

II. Time Limit

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit. The judge will determine legitimate time allowed before contestant calls for animal.

III. Event Rules

This event is open to boys only.

This event should not follow girl's pole bending event or barrel racing in the same arena. If so, arena must be dragged before steer wrestling event.

Contestant must furnish own hazer and horse.

Anyone jumping from the off side in the steer wrestling must notify the rodeo secretary when entering, and if possible, the barrier should be arranged on the off side for such contestants.

Hazer must be an PYRA member or adult. They are subject to contestant rules if acting as a hazer, a violation of rule by hazer will disqualify the contestant they are helping.

Hazer must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer.

Contestant is considered working with steer when steer leaves the box.

Steer must be caught from horse.

If contestant jumps at steer, he accepts him as sound.

If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer.

After catching steer, wrestler must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down.

If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown down before being brought to a stop or is thrown by wrestler putting animal's horns into the ground, it must be let up to all four feet and then thrown.

Steer will be considered thrown down only when it is lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head straight.

Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged.

Contestant and hazer must use the same horse they leave chute with.

Hazer will be allowed to catch dogger's horse.

Contestant is required to turn steer's head so that he can get up.

A steer falling in the opposite direction the steer wrestler is attempting to throw him (dog fall) the contestant may choose to turn the steer's head to correspond with the leg position to make this a legal fall.

The dogger has one attempt to jump the steer in the length of the arena. At any time the steer turns back in any direction and is not moving in a forward direction towards the end gate the run is over. This will be ruled by the judge's discretion and his/her ruling will be final.

IV. Scoring and Penalties

In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.

Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.

Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.

There will be a ten second penalty assessed for breaking the barrier.

Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of steer or his horse.

Any violation of any rule by hazer will disqualify the contestant they are helping.

Hazer must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer. Failure to observe this rule will receive no time.

If hazer bats steer, or contestant's horse, contestant will receive no time.

A ten second penalty will be assessed in any case in which barrier judge rules that dogger's feet touch the ground before flag line is crossed.

If any part of the pusher breaks the plain of the chute gate before the steer releases the barrier, the contestant receives a no time.

No rattling of chute. A timed event contestant may not have someone rattle the chute for him. This applies in both the performance and the slack. The contestant and/or person rattling the chute shall be disqualified.

When the contestant calls for the steer, no further assistance can take place after that. No encouragement can take place by the assistant after the contestant calls for the steer. If the helper starts the horse or holds the horse in any way that affects the scoring process, contestant will receive a no time.

Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts in any way to tamper with steers or chute.

Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all Rodeos.

V. Re-runs

In any timed event if an animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and watches stopped. Contestant will get animal back with lap and tap start, and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying plus barrier penalties, if any.

No re-run will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant.

If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a re-run before the contestant leaves the arena.

A steer must be re-run before it is used by another contestant. Fresh steers may be added to the herd after they have been bulldogged from horseback and thrown down. It is the responsibility of the steer wrestlers to throw the cattle, at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.

If fresh steers are missed in the steer wrestling, any steer missed in competition must be thrown down immediately following the performance or section of slack in which the steer was drawn. Such steer shall be thrown down by a person appointed by the Steer Wrestling Event Director. Each steer missed in competition is to be thrown no more than one time.

When both the digital clocks malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a re-run at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any barrier penalties. If barrier penalties, then lap and tap start.

In steer wrestling, if an animal fails to break the neck rope and time is officially started by the contestant, that animal belongs to the contestant. However, if time is started by the animal and the steer wrestler and hazer remain behind the plain of the barrier for approximately 10 seconds that animal should be considered a sulking animal and replaced using the misdraw procedure, at judge's discretion.

VI. Optional Rules

Electric timers are optional.

VII. Equipment

Cattle neck ropes on steers must be tied with string, or rubber bands.

No metal snaps or hardware shall be used on cattle neck ropes in the steer wrestling event.

Adjustable slide shall be used on all cattle neck ropes in steer wrestling event.

The steer wrestling chute must have at least 30 inches clearance inside the chute and at the gate when in an open position.

In steer wrestling the score may be no longer than the length of the steer wrestling box, minus six feet, unless other arrangements are approved by the arena director.

Length of box to be measured from center of back end of box to center of barrier.

A mechanical barrier must be used and there must be at least a 12-foot box.

VIII. Livestock Requirements

Cattle used for steer roping, or other events shall not be used for steer wrestling.

Animals used for this event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.

Fresh steers added to bunch that have not been used must be bulldogged from horseback and thrown down. It is the responsibility of steer wrestlers to throw the cattle at a time mutually agreed upon with the stock contractor.

When fresh cattle are used, any fresh steer not thrown down during competition will be thrown down after completion of go-round. Contestants will be responsible to throw down such steers under the supervision of the arena director.

Contestant will not be required to compete on a crippled steer or steer with broken horn.

During any performance if a steer escapes the chutes or pens before it is called for by the contestant, or if an automatic barrier fails to work and the stock is brought back, that steer will be returned by the arena director and the labor crew during or at the end of that performance in the same manner originally worked or brought to the pens for contesting. At least several head of animals will be brought back together. No animal may be re-penned by itself. Decisions will be made by the arena director about when stock is re-penned.

Boys Steer Wrestling Cattle:

- a. A minimum weight of 450 lbs.
- b. A maximum weight of 550 lbs.

IX. Officials

There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.

A field flag judge must ask contestant if he wants a second jump. Once a contestant has been flagged out, he will receive no stock back.

Barrier judge is responsible to change barrier string whenever it may have been weakened, or on request of next contestant.

Barrier judge shall keep a record of the length of the barrier trip rope each performance to assure the same start for contestants each performance.

Barrier equipment must be inspected by the judge before each timed event. If equipment is faulty, it must be replaced.

Barrier judge shall be sure that nobody can stand close enough to barrier or barrier equipment to tamper with same.

Height of barrier in timed events shall be from 32" to 36" measured at the center of the box.

The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the judges, and their decision will be final.

Field flagger is required to watch contestant and steer until animal is turned loose.

CHUTE DOGGING Age Groups 10-13, 14-19

Contestants are allowed one helper (tail man) in the chute; however, the helper cannot pass the plane of the chute gate.

Score line will be marked in front of the straight away chute. It will be set at ten (10) feet in front of the chute. This measurement will be made with chute gate in the closed position.

The line (barrier) judge will flag the start when the animal's nose crosses the score line. Time shall be taken between two flags.

A straight away chute must be used and all chute dogging runs must run from the same chute.

With steers loaded in straight away chute, dogger gets in chute beside the steer, right hand in front of or behind right front shoulder. When dogger calls for the steer, the chute gate will be opened. Dogger must keep right hand in front of or behind shoulder until the steer's nose crosses the score line. If dogger moves into throwing position or touches either horn before steer's nose

crosses score line there will be a ten (10) second penalty added to time. If steer is thrown before crossing the score line, the dogger will be disqualified.

If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer.

After crossing the start line, dogger must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down.

If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown before being brought to a stop or is thrown by dogger putting animal's horns into the ground, it must be let up to all four feet and then thrown.

Steer will be considered thrown down only when it is lying flat on its side, or on its back with all four feet and head straight.

Dogger must have hand on steer when flagged.

A steer falling in the opposite direction the dogger is attempting to throw him (dog fall) the contestant may choose to turn the steer's head to correspond with the leg position to make this a legal fall.

All contestants will have a thirty (30) second time limit.

RIBBON ROPING Age Groups 7-9, 10-13

Not offered in 14-19 age group

A neck rope must be used. Rope must be tied on.

Catch as catch can. Any catch that holds the calf is legal. Rope must hold calf until roper touches calf.

Roper must rope calf, dismount and remove ribbon with mugger assisting in holding the calf and run back across finish line. Calf does not need to be flanked.

Roper must cross finish line to get time. Flag judge will flag time when roper crosses finish line with ribbon in hand and give to judge or team will receive a no time.

Ribbon must be removed by Roper. Any part of the ribbon is legal. If there is no ribbon on the calf when the roper gets to it, for whatever reason, he/she shall be entitled to the same calf over.

If roper gets calf over due to ribbon coming off, etc., and broke out on first run, he/she gets calf over lap and tap plus ten (10) second barrier penalty.

The back gate will be open with a sixty (60) second time limit for both groups.

Contestants are allowed only 1 loop in all age groups throughout the regular rodeo season for safety reasons. At the Finals 2 loops will be permitted. If the roper intends to use two (2) loops, he must carry two ropes and use second rope for second loop.

The time line will be set at the judge's discretion.

It will be up to the roper to secure a mugger. Mugger must be a contestant of the rodeo in the 14-19 age group or a parent of a contestant. If the mugger is a contestant, he/she must be in full western attire. Judge's discretion as to who may mug if certain age group or parent of contestant is not available.

BREAKAWAY ROPING

Age Groups 7-9, 10-13, 14-19

The PYRA will furnish the breakaway string for all age groups. Contestants are allowed only 1 loop in all age groups throughout the regular rodeo season. At the Finals 2 loops will be permitted. If the roper intends to use two (2) loops, he must carry two ropes and use second rope for second loop. The rope must be tied with string so when the calf is roped, rope will break from the saddle horn. The loop must go over the calf's head and the time will stop when the string breaks from the saddle horn. The field judge shall be able to consult an appointed helper (mounted or dismounted). Calf must break string with no assistance from roper or roper will be flagged out.

If flagman flags on an illegal catch, roper will receive calf from lap and tap with added time, only if carrying two loops.

A **white** flag must be tied next to saddle horn at the end of the rope to assist the flag judge in flagging breakaway. The breakaway string must be as strong as the barrier string used at the rodeo. The back gate will be closed on the 7-9 age group and the 10-13 age groups with a sixty (60) second time limit. The 14-19 girls' and the 14-19 boys age groups the back gate will be open with a thirty (30) second time limit. In all of these age groups, rope must go over the head.

Ropers must have a bell collar catch. At the Finals, the back gate will be closed and roper will be allowed to carry two (2) loops.

Contestants are allowed only 1 loop in all age groups throughout the regular rodeo season. At the Finals 2 loops will be permitted. Should the roper miss with both, he must retire and no time will be given. Roping calf without releasing loop from hand is not permitted. Roper cannot rope calf before barrier neck rope comes off.

DOUBLE MUGGING

Age Groups 7-9

A neck rope must be used.

Catch-as-catch can.

Contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf. Contestant must receive no assistance of any kind from outside. If horse drags calf, field judge may stop horse and any penalty for such offense can only be assessed by flag judge.

Rope must be tied hard and fast. Contestant must rope the calf, dismount the horse and go down the rope at which time the mugger will flank the calf and roper must cross and tie three (3) feet. If calf is down when mugger reaches it, the calf must be let to its feet and thrown by hand. If mugger's hands are on the calf when calf falls, calf is considered thrown by hand. Rope must hold calf until mugger gets hands on the calf.

After roping the calf, roper must dismount and wait for mugger to throw calf by hand. Mugger holds foreleg and gives foreleg to roper. At this time, mugger can assist in holding calf down in a way that calf is unable to gain its feet. After roper has completed tie and throws hands in air signaling time, mugger must step away from calf. Mugger cannot aid roper in gathering calf's legs to tie the calf. Feet must be crossed and tied with at least one wrap and hooley.

Mugger may remove rope from calf (before roper has finished the tie) if necessary for safety reasons. This will not disqualify the run, however, after roper has signaled for time, the rope may not be removed until judge has signaled to do so. Contestants are not required to keep the calf tied for 6 seconds.

Under any circumstance, roper will be disqualified for removing the rope from calf after signaling for time, until the tie has been passed on by the field judge.

Contestants are allowed only 1 loop throughout the regular rodeo season for safety reasons. At the Finals 2 loops will be permitted. If the roper intends to use two (2) loops, he must carry two ropes and use second rope for second loop.

Excessive dragging of a calf, 10 feet or more, may result in a 10 second penalty if deemed necessary by the field judge.

It will be up to the roper to secure a mugger. Mugger must be a contestant of the rodeo in the 14-19 age group or a parent of a contestant. If the mugger is a contestant, he/she must be in full western attire. Judge's discretion as to who may mug if certain age group or parent of contestant is not available.

The back gate will be open with a sixty (60) second time limit. At the Finals, the back gate will be closed and two (2) loops will be allowed if carried.

TIEDOWN CALF ROPING

Age Groups 10-13, 14-19

At rodeos, the Event or Arena Director will determine length of score.

There shall be two or more timers, a field judge and a barrier judge. Time to be taken between two flags. Arena conditions will determine score and length of score. Animals used in the event should be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.

If there must be a re-run on calves to complete a go-round, all calves must be tied down before any stock is run to the satisfaction of the Calf Roping Director and at least one (1) judge. If after one go-round has been completed, a fresh calf has to be used, the calf must be roped and tied before the running, but if extra calves have been tied at that rodeo, they will not be considered fresh.

A neck rope must be used.

Catch-as-catch can.

Contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf. Contestant must receive no assistance of any kind from outside. If horse drags calf, field judge may stop horse and any penalty for such offense can only be assessed by flag judge.

Rope must be tied hard and fast. Contestant must dismount, go down rope and throw calf by hand and cross and tie three feet. To qualify as a legal tie, there shall be at least one wrap around all three legs and a half-hitch. If calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be let up to his feet and thrown by hand. Rope must hold calf until roper gets hand on calf. If the calf falls down while the roper's hands are on calf, he will be considered thrown by hand. Tie must hold and three legs remained crossed until passed on by the judge, and roper must not touch calf after giving finish signal until judge has completed his examination. If tie comes loose or calf gets to his feet before the tie has been ruled a fair one, the roper will be marked a no time.

In the 10-13 age group a penalty of five (5) seconds will be assessed if the roper does not allow the calf up to his feet to be thrown by hand.

In the 14-19 age group if the calf is down when the roper reaches it, the calf must be let up to his feet and thrown by hand.

The field judge will pass on the tie of calves through use of a stop watch, timing six (6) seconds from the time roper has remounted and rode up permitting slack to calf. Rope must be lying on the ground. Rope will not be removed from calf and rope must remain slack until field judge has passed on tie. If contestant's rope is off calf when time is signaled, six (6) second time limit will start when roper clears calf.

Field judge must watch calf during the six (6) second period and will stop watch when a calf kicks free to determine whether calf was tied long enough to qualify.

Under any circumstance, roper will be disqualified for removing rope from calf after signaling for time, until the tie has been passes on by the field judge.

Contestants are allowed only 1 loop in both age groups (10-13 & 14-19) throughout the regular rodeo season for safety reasons. At the Finals 2 loops will be permitted. If the roper intends to use two (2) loops, he must carry two ropes and use second rope for second loop.

Excessive dragging of a calf, 10 feet or more, may result in a 10 second penalty if deemed necessary by the judge.

The back gate will be open with a sixty (60) second time limit for the 10-13 age group and a thirty (30) second time limit for the 14-19 age group. At the finals, the back gate will be closed and two (2) loops will be allowed if carried.

TEAM ROPING (Jr. & Sr.)

Barrier length will be determined by the Event or Arena Director.

Contestant may enter twice only. You may enter up and back or with other partners. You must switch ends when roping up and back. Due to being able to enter twice, the points will be split evenly between the two partners. (i.e. 1st place receives 10 points – header will receive 5 and heeler will receive 5) If a team containing a non-member places in the top 10, only that partner who is a member will receive points. The non-member's points will not be carried down to the next placing. Each team will receive the respective points given for whatever placing they end up. (Any questions please see a director.)

LEGAL CATCHES:

1. Around both horns
2. Around the neck
3. Half a head

Optional: Heeler can dally or tie off. (This applies to the Jr. age group only)

If hondo passes one horn and the loop over the other, the catch is illegal. Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope goes up heels. One hind foot receives five (5) second fine. If loop crosses itself in a head catch, it is illegal. This does not include heel catches. Three (3) loops will be allowed. Thirty (30) second time limit with back gate closed for the Sr. division. Sixty (60) second time limit with back gate closed for the Jr. division. No cross firing. Total of three (3) loops allowed.

GENERAL SPEED EVENT RULES

Electric timer will be used at all PYRA rodeos and a second electric timer as backup.

Should for any reason the barrels or poles are not placed on the correct stakes, the age group affected will be rerun.

Should both timers fail a rerun will be awarded with any penalties being carried over to the rerun.

Contestant will be allowed legitimate time from the time she enters arena until her time starts by Field Judge or electric eye. The alley is considered part of the arena.

Different contestants in the same competitive age group (6 & Under Competitive, 7-9, 10-13, 14-19) are not allowed to ride the same horse in the barrel racing, pole bending or straightaway barrels.

Western type equipment, including saddle, must be used in ALL EVENTS.

A holding pen will be used for the next 5 contestants in ALL SPEED EVENTS. If contestant does not want to use the holding pen due to problems with horse, he/she must get permission prior to the event from the event director and/or judge.

The drag will be after five (5) names on the draw no matter the actual runs on the ground.

It will be at the judge's discretion if forward motion is broken.

BARREL RACING

Age Groups 6&U, 7-9, 10-13, 14-19

The contestant may start on either the right or left barrel, but when starting on the right barrel, there will be one right turn and two left turns around the barrels. When starting on the left barrel, there will be one left turn and two rights turns around the barrels.

The barrels must be a least fifteen (15) feet from the fence and the start/finish line must not be less than fifteen (15) yards from the end of the arena.

The suggested distance is thirty (30) yards between barrels #1 and #2 and thirty-five (35) yards between barrels #1 and #3, and thirty-five (35) yards between barrels #2 and #3. However, the distance should be set according to the arena size.

There will be a five (5) second penalty for each barrel knocked over, even if it bounces back upright.

There will be a disqualification for not following the pattern.

Barrels must not have any obstructions on them.

Starting line and all barrels must be marked permanently for the entire show. The manner in which it is usually done is to take a short length of rope three (3) feet and tie several knots in one end. Dig a hole with post hole diggers one (1) to one and one half (1 ½) feet deep. Tamp down dirt around the rope and leave the excess rope sticking above ground.

GOAT RIBBON PULLING

Age Group 6 & Under

There is not a set distance from the starting line to the goat, but a minimum of fifty (50) yards is desirable. Arena conditions will govern this distance.

The goat should be tied to a stake with a rope ten (10) feet in length. Stakes should be pounded completely into the ground so that no part of it is visible.

The goat holder will hold the goat at all times with the goat and rope stretched tight in a straight line towards the marked finish line. The holder will hold the goat while the contestant gets the ribbon from the goat's tail. A short length of ribbon approximately ten (10) inches or more in length must be fastened with a rubber band to the goat's tail.

The time will start when the contestant crosses the starting line and will stop when the contestant crosses the finish line marked behind the goat.

The judge shall mark the finish line ten (10) feet behind the goat. It is the contestant's responsibility to get the ribbon across the finish line.

The judge will flag the run at the crossing of the line, however if the contestant crosses the finish line without a ribbon (or hair if no ribbon is on the goat) they will receive a no time. The contestant should return the ribbon to the judge after the run is complete.

The contestant must be mounted on a horse and must ride from the starting line to the goat and dismount from the horse without assistance. A contestant may not have someone act as a holder to catch and hold the horse for the contestant to dismount. Touching the contestant by the holder will result in a no time.

The contestant must pull the ribbon from the goat's tail and cross the finish line with all or a portion of the ribbon. If the goat does not have a ribbon for any reason, the contestant should pull hair from the goat's tail and cross the finish line with the hair.

If the contestant's horse comes in contact with the goat or holder prior to the contestant crossing the finish line a ten (10) second penalty will be assessed.

If the goat should break away because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will be disqualified.

If the goat should break away any other time, it will be left up to the judge's discretion whether the contestant will get a rerun.

Boys and Girls will compete together in one group and points will be given accordingly to contestant placings. A thirty (30) second time limit will be given and all contestants will compete on the same goat. The goat may be changed during the course of the age group only if the field judge deems it necessary due to injury or an unsuitable animal.

GOAT TYING

Age Groups 7-9, 10-13, 14-19

There is not a set distance from the starting line to the goat, but a minimum of fifty (50) yards is desirable. Arena conditions will govern this distance however.

The goat should be tied to a stake with a rope ten (10) feet in length. Stakes should be pounded completely into the ground so that no part of it is visible. The contestant must be mounted on a horse and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount from the horse, throw goat by hand, cross, wrap and tie any three (3) feet together with leather string or pigging string and stand clear of the goat.

If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, the goat must be cleared of the ground before tie is made.

No more than five (5) consecutive runs on goat in each age group.

In the 7-9 and 10-13 age groups boys will compete against boys and girls will compete against girls.

Boys will be required to tie with a piggin string and girls with a goat sting in the 7-9, 10-13, and 14-19 age groups.

In the 14-19 boys and girls will compete together.

Contestants must compete on the goat number drawn for him/her before time will be official.

The tie will be passed on by a field judge and if it is not secure for six (6) seconds, the contestant will receive a no time.

Timing will start when the contestant crosses the starting line and will stop when the contestant signals the completion of the tie.

If the contestant's horse crosses over the rope or goat, or if the contestant's horse come in contact with the goat or rope prior to the contestant signaling for time, a ten (10) second penalty will be assessed.

If the goat should break away because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will be disqualified. If the goat should break away any other time, it will be left up to the judge's discretion whether the contestant will get a rerun.

If rerun is given, it must be taken in same position drawn.

Contestant will receive a no time for touching the goat or tie string after signaling he/she is finished.

7-9 age group will have a sixty (60) second time limit. All other age groups will have a thirty (30) second time limit.

POLE BENDING

Age Groups 6&U, 7-9, 10-13

The Pole Bending pattern is to be run around six (6) poles. Each pole is to be twenty-one (21) feet apart and the first pole is to be twenty-one (21) feet from the starting line.

For each pole that is knocked over, there will be a five (5) second penalty, even if pole bounces back upright.

There will be a disqualification for not following the pattern.

A contestant may use a standing or running start; right or left.

STRAIGHTAWAY BARRELS

Age Groups 6&U, 7-9, 10-13, 14-19

The contestant may start on either the right or left side of the first barrel.

The barrels will be sixty (60) feet apart with no set distance from the timer to the first barrel.

There will be a five (5) second penalty for each barrel knocked over, even if it bounces back upright.

There will be a disqualification for not following the pattern.

JUDGE'S DECISION WILL BE FINAL.

THIS RULE BOOK WAS COMPILED FOR A PURPOSE. IT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL TO FOLLOW IT.

IT IS THE INTENT OF THE PYRA TO USE THE SAME RULES AS THE THSRA WITH RESPECT TO THE EVENT RULES EXCEPT THAT THE PYRA WILL PROMULGATE ITS OWN RULES AS TO THE LIVESTOCK TO BE USED. TO THE EXTENT THAT A PYRA EVENT RULE DIFFERS FROM THAT OF THE THSRA, THE PYRA RULES WILL CONTROL.