

**25th IGRA Silver Anniversary Convention
Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville Hotel**

Rodeo Rules Committee Meeting

Friday, November 13, 2009

High Park Rooms 2 & 3

8:30 am start time

Agenda

1. Review Robert's Rules of Order, etiquette, and agenda.
2. Introductions – confirm sign-in sheet(s) completed
3. Review protests filed for 2009 rodeos
4. Review post-rodeo reports for areas of concern.
5. Review rule proposals – reiterate only 1 person to vote per association
6. New Business
7. Announcements

We will be following Robert's Rules of Order and ask everyone to remain as professional and polite in all discussions.

Please print a copy of the proposed rule changes and bring with you.

RR-C1	RULE I Assn Requirements	Stall Fees
RR-C2	RULE II New Contestant Meeting	
RR-C3	RULE III Contestant Rodeo Numbers	
RR-C4	RULE III Online Registration	
RR-C5	RULE III Registration	Delete Mailer
RR-C6	RULE III Registration	Preregistration
RR-C7	RULE III Registration	Late Fees
RR-C8	RULE IV Timers	Camp Event
RR-C9	RULE V Judges	
RR-C10	RULE VII Livestock	Clarification of Steers
RR-C11	RULE VII Rough Stock	Quick Release
RR-C12	RULE VII Livestock	Steer Riding to Jr Bulls
RR-C13	RULE X Rodeo Review Request	Version II
RR-C14	RULE XI Genl Rules	Timing Entry to Arena
RR-C15	RULE XI Genl Rules	Professional Conduct
RR-C15B	RULE XI Genl Rules	Professional Conduct
RR-C16	RULE XI Genl Rules	Physical Inspection
RR-C17	RULE XI Genl Rules	Gate or Chute Malfunction
RR-C18	RULE XI Genl Rules	Fighting
RR-C19	RULE XI Speed Events	Barrel Pattern
RR-C20	RULE XII Roping Events	Break-Away Roping
RR-C21	RULE XII Rough Stock	Chute Dogging
RR-C22	RULE XII Goat Realignment and Exchange	
RR-C23	RULE XII Re-rides and Rowels	
RR-C24	RULE XII Speed Events	Raking
RR-C25	RULE XII Team Roping	
RR-C26	RULE IX Rodeo Awards	
RR-C28	RULE XII Wild Drag Race	
RR-C29	RULE I Assn Requirements	
RR-C30	RULE III Registration	
RR-C31	RULE VI and RULE XII	Removing Bronc Riding
RR-C32	RULE X Protest Forms	
RR-C33	RULE III Registration	
RR-C34	RULE VIII Point Awards	
RR-C35	RULE XI Genl Rules	Scratches
RR-C36	RULE XI Genl Rules	Rodeo Year
RR-E1	RULE II Contestant Req	Stall Fees
RR-E2	RULE II Contestant Req	Editorial
RR-E3	RULE XII Chute Dogging	Editorial 1 F 7
RR-E4	RULE XII Rough Stock Genl	Qualified Ride
RR-E5	RULE XII Rough Stock	Clarification
RR-E6	RULE XII Steer Deco	Cleanup
RR-E7	RULE XI Genl Rules	Dress Code Cleanup
RR-R1	RULE XII Location of Camp Judges	Recommendation
RR-RR-A1	Castration in Cattle Welfare Issues	

RR-C1

RULE I – ASSOCIATION REQUIREMENTS

20. Provide at no charge, a minimum of one (1) horse stall per contestant entering horse events. Contestants requiring additional stalls for horses may be required to pay a stall fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per horse stall for the rodeo weekend.

A. To reserve a stall, the contestant bringing horse(s) must either complete the horse/stall reservation portion of the mailed entry form, or register online with the IGRA online registration form. Accompany either entry form with a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) deposit per horse stall reserved.

B. Contestant's stall reservation deposit shall be refunded at registration or may be used to pay rodeo entry fees. If a refund is due a contestant, it must be refunded by cash at registration. Host association may charge a fifty dollar (\$50.00) **twenty-five dollar (\$25.00)** late fee to contestants who did not reserve the adequate number of horse stalls on their entry form.

C. Additional stalls requested for tack or other purposes will be charged at the discretion of the host association. This fee must be published prior to the opening of contestant registration and cannot exceed the actual cost of the stall. No additional fees, deposits, or charges will be assessed by any association to contestants without a prior approved and published variance from the Board of Directors.

D. If any pre-registered contestant does not show up for the rodeo without notifying the Rodeo Secretary, their \$25 (per horse stall) deposit will be forfeited to the host association.

RULE III – REGISTRATION

8. Except for the non-refundable entry fee deposit and horse stall reservation deposit, all prepaid monies are eligible for refund if notified prior to the close of registration.

RR-C2

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

12. All new contestants must attend a mandatory contestant meeting with roll call conducted by the Arena

Director or their designee. The meeting time and place will be posted at registration and on the association's Web site. Any questions or rule clarifications from all contestants or rodeo personnel may be addressed at this meeting. Attendance is required in order to compete or the contestant will be disqualified and all entry fees will be forfeited, unless both the Rodeo Secretary and the Arena Director excuse the contestant from the meeting.

12. The Arena Director will hold a mandatory meeting and roll call for new contestants before the start of the rodeo. The Rodeo Secretary will post the time and place of the meeting at rodeo Registration. Attendance is required in order to compete; non-attending contestants will be disqualified and all entry fees will be forfeited. Items to be discussed include, but are not limited to, dress code, use of alcohol and drugs, tie down and safety persons, shared riggings, knowledge of rules, animal safety and welfare, and other general information. Any questions or rule clarifications from all contestants or rodeo personnel may also be addressed at this meeting.

RR-C3

Contestant Rodeo Numbers – Going Green–reducing reliance on Paper.

RULE III – REGISTRATION

11. Rodeo Numbers.

A. Numbers will be on reinforced tear-resistant white material, a minimum of eight (8) by ten (10)

inches in size. A medical information form is to be printed on the reverse side of each number. Numbers must be a minimum of four (4) inches high, Arial or Helvetica font in portrait format. Numbers will be issued in numerical sequence from a series of 100 to 998.

B. Number must be worn on the contestant's back at all times during their specific events.

C. Number must be visible when competing and cannot be folded to eliminate or cover the sponsor name.

D. The contestant's badge (which includes the contestant's rodeo number) will gain the contestant admittance to the grounds, contestant area, and chute areas.

E. Lost, stolen, or forgotten number or badge will be replaced for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00), which will go to the host association.

F. No competing will be allowed without an authorized issued number worn on the contestant's back.

G. Chest protectors may be worn over the contestant's number in all rough stock and camp events. If the

Scorekeeper or secretarial staff is unsure of a contestant's identity, they may request a contestant to

remove the vest to show their number before competing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification and forfeiture of fees for that event.

1. Contestant Rodeo Numbers & Access Badges.

A. Contestant Rodeo Numbers must be visible on the contestant's back at all times during Roping and Speed events.

B. Chest protectors may be worn over the contestant's number in all rough stock and camp events. If the Scorekeeper or secretarial staff is unsure of a contestant's identity, they may request a contestant to remove the vest to show their number before competing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification and forfeiture of fees for that event

C. The contestant's access badge (which displays the contestant's rodeo number) will gain the contestant admittance to the grounds, contestant area, and chute areas.

D. Lost, stolen, or forgotten number or badge will be replaced for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00), which will go to the Host Association.

E. Contestant will be disqualified from any event if they do not display their IGRA Contestant Rodeo Number in compliance to the above rules.

23. (New) Contestant Rodeo Numbers (Material/Embroidered/Screen Print Option)

a.) Contestant will be provided a Material Rodeo Number at each Rodeo's registration. All Material Numbers will be on reinforced tear-resistant white material, a minimum of eight (8) by ten (10) inches in size. A medical information form is to be printed on the reverse side of each number. Numbers must be a minimum of four (4) inches high, Arial or Helvetica font in portrait format. Numbers will be issued in numerical sequence from a series of 400 to 799.)

b.) Contestant may request an assigned three digit rodeo number for competition purposes by the IGRA Secretary. Contestant can choose the option to have their contestant # embroidered or screen printed on the back of their shirts in a manner that must follow these guidelines: Must be Black Colored Numbers a minimum of four inches in height, of Arial or Helvetica Font, in portrait format with a solid white background a minimum of eight (8) by ten (10) inches in size. Numbers will be issued in numerical sequence from a series of 002 to 399, and will be offered by seniority of contestant's IGRA registration date. Contestant must maintain the quality of these numbers and can risk disqualification for faded or non-legible Rodeo Numbers to the Scorekeepers or Rodeo Secretary. It is also a suggestion for contestants who wear protective vests, to consider a smaller version of the above (contestant number) on their upper sleeve to assist officials in identifying contestants while wearing a protective vest.

RR-C4

RULE III – REGISTRATION

6. Entry fees for IGRA-sanctioned rodeos will be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per person, per go-round, per event to be distributed as follows:
 - A. Seventeen dollars (\$17.00) to contestant Day Money.
 - B. Four dollars (\$4.00) to the host association.
 - C. Two dollars (\$2.00) to be held in escrow by IGRA to be used as Day Money for Finals Rodeo.
 - D. One dollar (\$1.00) to support contestant online registration infrastructure.
 - E. Fifty cents (\$.50) to be held in escrow by IGRA to be used for the sole purpose of financing an arena for Finals Rodeo (see Standing Rule IX, Section 2).
 - F. Fifty cents (\$.50) to the IGRA general fund.

RR-C5

Rule III – Registration

2. Host association will send their rodeo information (tri-folds), horse stall information, approved variances, minimum prize money, etc., to those contestants whose entry forms are received at least eight (8) days prior to the rodeo, fifteen (15) days for rodeos outside of the United States. The contestant mailing should be ongoing as form are received, with the last mailing postmarked a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the rodeo, fourteen (14) days for rodeos outside of the United States.

RR-C6

RULE III – REGISTRATION

1. It is the responsibility of each contestant to enter online or mail the entry form to the host association in order to receive an information packet.
2. Host association will send mail their rodeo information (tri-folds), horse stall information, approved variances, minimum prize money, etc., to those contestants whose **mailed** entry forms are received at least eight (8) days prior to the rodeo, fifteen (15) days for rodeos outside of the United States prior to the rodeo. The contestant mailing should be ongoing as form are received, with the last mailing postmarked a minimum of seven (7) (14) days prior to the rodeo, fourteen (14) days for rodeos outside of the United States.

New #3 (re-number accordingly)

3. Host association will e-mail their rodeo information (as stated in above rule #2) to those contestants whose on-line registrations are received at least 14 days prior to their rodeo. E-mail can also direct the contestants to the association web page where this information is located.

5. Entries.

A. With exceptions listed in paragraph E below, all entries for all contestants with an IGRA-assigned contestant number must be complete and postmarked by a government postal service or electronic date-time stamp for online registrations between the rodeo entry opening date and fifteen (15) days prior to the rodeo first performance. For those rodeos held outside the United States, entries must be postmarked by a government postal service or electronic date-time stamp for online registrations between the rodeo entry opening date and twenty-two (22) days prior to the rodeo first performance.

A. Contestants with an assigned IGRA number, must mail a completed Contestant Registration form with a postmark date no less than twenty (20) days prior to the rodeo's first performance.

B. Contestants with an assigned IGRA number, must complete an On-Line registration form with a date-time stamp no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the rodeo's first performance.

B. It is the contestant's responsibility to assure their entry form includes all team member names (and IGRA numbers if possible) by close of registration.

1. Non-compliance with the completion of team entries will result in the contestant(s) not participating in the event.

2. In the event of a dispute regarding team members, those entry forms with matching team members will be recognized as a complete team, and those not matching will be refunded their entry fee for that event.

C. Registration must be for three (3) hours and cannot end less than five (5) One (1) hours prior to the beginning of the first event.

6. Entry fees for IGRA–sanctioned rodeos will be twenty–five dollars (\$25.00) per person, per go–round, per event to be distributed as follows:

A. Seventeen dollars (\$17.00) to contestant Day Money.

B. Four dollars (\$4.00) to the host association.

C. Two dollars (\$2.00) to be held in escrow by IGRA to be used as Day Money for Finals Rodeo.

D. One dollar (\$1.00) to support contestant online infrastructure.

E. Fifty cents (\$.50) to be held in escrow by IGRA to be used for the sole purpose of financing an arena

for Finals Rodeo (see Standing Rule IX, Section 2).

F. Fifty cents (\$.50) to the IGRA general fund.

All of the two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) portion of contestant entry fees designated to be held in escrow by IGRA and the fifty cents (\$.50) to go into the IGRA general fund shall be paid to IGRA simultaneously with the contestant day/prize money at the awards program. In the event there is no Finals Rodeo held, refer to Standing Rule X, Sections 5 and 6 for disbursement of these funds.

7. Entry fees for Finals Rodeo will be twenty–five dollars (\$25.00) per person, per go–round, per event, will be combined with any contestant money held in escrow, and will be distributed as follows:

A. Twenty–one dollars (\$21.00) to contestant Day Money.

B. Four dollars (\$4.00) to IGRA in support of Finals Rodeo.

8. Except for the **seventy–five dollar (\$75.00)** non–refundable entry fee deposit and horse stall reservation deposit, all prepaid monies are eligible for refund if notified prior to the close of registration.

RR-C7

RULE III – REGISTRATION

5. Entries.

- D. Late entry forms or additional event entries will only be accepted at registration at an additional flat fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Late fees must be collected and go to the host association.
- E. Additional fees do not apply to:
 - 1. First-time contestants (defined as an individual who has never been assigned a four (4) digit IGRA number.
 - 2. A contestants who has have been assigned a four (4) digit IGRA number within the previous 30 days.
 - 3. A contestant entering or adding speed events.
 - 4. A contestant entering or adding camp events.
- F. Additional fees apply to:
 - 1. A contestant entering or adding rough stock events at registration.
 - 2. A contestant entering or adding roping events at registration.
- G. All entry fees and additional fees paid during registration must be paid in cash, certified check, money order, or credit card (if accepted/available by the host association) only.

D. Late Entries: Associations have the discretion to allow late entries, and to charge late fees for late entries or additional events. They must publish this information on their Web site (for Contestants), and include this information in the Contestant information packet.

- 1. Late entries or additional event entries can be accepted only at registration.**
- 2. A maximum flat fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) may be collected at registration and will remain with the host association.**
- 3. Late entry or additional event late fees apply only to contestants who have been assigned a four (4) digit IGRA Contestant number greater than 30 days from registration date, and whom are entering or adding rough stock or roping event(s).**

RR-C8

RULE IV – TIMERS

5. Hand stopwatches will be used as the official time for events where an electronic timing light is not to be used.
 - A. For camp events, there will be one (1) or two (2) stopwatches per team (see General Rules for Camp Events).
 - B. For rough stock riding events, the official time will be a stopwatch held by one of the Judges.
 - C. For roping events and Chute Dogging, there will be three (3) hand stopwatches used.
 - D. All times will be recorded.
 - E. The high and low hand stopwatch times are not used, and the hand stopwatch time in the middle is the official time.
 - F. If only two (2) hand stopwatch times are available, the average time will be used with no round offs.
 - G. If only one (1) hand stopwatch time is available, the contestant will have the option of accepting that time or rerunning the event. The contestant must make their decision prior to any other contestant competing in the event.

4. Camp Events.
 - A. General Rules for Camp Events.
 5. Each Goat Dressing and Steer Decorating Camp Event team will have one (1) two (2) Timers and a certified Scorekeeper/Secretary. Each Wild Drag Race team will have two (2) Timers. The second Timer in Wild Drag Race can be a Scorekeeper/Secretary.

RR-C9

RULE V – JUDGES

1. All Judges must be IGRA– certified **for the current rodeo year and** in good standing.
2. A Judge has the authority to request that any person be removed from the arena if that person, in the Judge’s opinion, is interfering with the contestant event.
4. Newly certified Judges shall be considered to be Rookie Judges until they have worked in all judging positions. Rookie Judges shall not be assigned to finish flag any roping events or Chute Dogging prior to their third (3rd) IGRA–sanctioned rodeo.
5. Every reasonable attempt should be made by the Judge(s) to **must** notify contestants **Announcer** of any disqualifications or Penalties in Speed and Roping Events. **Announcer must announce these penalties or disqualifications to inform the contestant(s).**
6. **Judges must notify contestants being penalized or disqualified in Rough Stock and Camp Events prior to the contestant leaving the arena.**
7. **In all timed events, Judges and/or Timers must record times for all contestants / teams / go’s.**
8. **Judges must note the Rough Stock Riding Score Sheet with the reason for the DQ. It would be beneficial to quote the rule that was not followed, if possible.**
9. Barrier Judges shall **must** keep a record of all barrier penalties. **Judges** will be furnished a complete list of contestants by the Rodeo Secretary, and their records and the Scorekeeper's must correspond.
10. Pattern Judges shall **must** keep a record of all penalties and **broken pattern** disqualifications. They **Judges** will be furnished a complete list of contestants by the Rodeo Secretary, and their records and the Scorekeeper's must correspond.

Italicized is not to be included in the changes Reasoning:

This is being added as all contestants have the right to protest (request the review of) a decision. Not knowing why, or what they were penalized for, or disqualified for, denies them this right. In chute Dogging there are two situations for penalties. In a manner to educate and improve the skill, the contestant needs to know why they are being assessed a penalty.

Italicized is not to be included in the changes Reasoning: *This is being proposed in case a decision is changed, it allows a contestant / team to keep their original time. Currently, they would not record the time, and it would lead to a re-ride. This could eliminate the need for several re-rides.*

An example of the above, Barrel Race – #4th contestant has a time of 16:34:08, and #5 contestant has a time of 21:49:05 Judge mistakenly marks the Broken Pattern on contestant #4, and when contestant looks at placings on the board, sees he is not on the list, and checks with Secretary. Secretary confirms the Judge marked his as a broken pattern, but how could you have a broken pattern with a 16:34:08. Judge's sheet does not match the Scorekeepers, and as long as all times are recorded, this is corrected with no re-rides. If you have a similar situation in Steer Decorating and the Judge / Timer / Scorekeeper get confused and DQ a Team for a ribbon dropping, but the incorrect team get's the DQ, if contested, it could be corrected as long as all times are recorded. Currently the Team that incorrectly got the DQ would have to re-run the event, and if their original time was competitive, is unfair.

RR-C10

RULE VII – RODEO LIVESTOCK

6. Livestock Requirements.

A. Bulls, minimum of 1,200 pounds, non-horned or with horns blunted to a minimum diameter of a

fifty-cent piece, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges.

B. Broncs, minimum of 1,000 pounds, been previously bucked, and proven capable of the event.

C. Riding steers, minimum of 900 pounds, non-horned or with horns blunted to a minimum diameter of

a quarter, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. Cows and/or heifers may be used for Steer

Riding if riding steers are not available of the proper weight. If cows and/or heifers are used, then

steers may not also be used.

D. Team Roping steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the

minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. These steers cannot be

used for any other event, must have been previously roped, and wear protective horn wraps during the

event.

E. Chute Dogging steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the

minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. These steers cannot be

used for any other event, must have been previously dogged or wrestled, and have not been previously

used for Team Roping.

F. Camp event steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the

minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges, and have been previously

handled.

G. Calves, no more than a 30-pound difference between animals in the herd.

H. Common goats, minimum height of 25–30 inches at shoulder, and be similar/same in breed, height,

and size. No Billy goats or fainting goats.

I. No animal with steel reinforcing bar or plaster on the horns shall be allowed in the competition.

J. The utilization of Steers in the above specified events, is for safety considerations. We expect all Steers to have followed the guidelines of the Veterinary Community for proper castration. Associations must request for proof of castration if a Stock contractor brings

young bulls for any of our events that specifically state the use of Steers. Associations will be fined for the utilization of young bulls in any event that specifies the use of Steers, and will be fined \$100.00 per intended use and will be responsible for any replacement costs associated with obtaining the required stock. A variance must be requested by the Host Association (in compliance with IGRA rules) to use Junior Bulls for the Steer Riding Event. Rodeo Resources has a reference document titled: Castration in Cattle – Welfare Issues. Excerpt as follows:

A. Castration is deemed a necessary practice in U.S. cattle production systems. The procedure is primarily advocated to reduce damage to animals, humans, and facilities by decreasing aggressive male behavior. Several techniques have been developed for castration. Less pain has been associated with early castration (younger than 2 months of age) and is, therefore, recommended. (See Rodeo Resources Document – Castration in Cattle – Welfare Issues)

Part of this proposal is the inclusion of the Document: Castration in Cattle – Welfare Issues to Rodeo Resources.

RR-RR-A1 (Rodeo Rules Resources)

RR-C11

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

E. Bareback Bronc Riding

1. Rider will be disqualified if he/she does not have the animal rigged and ready to go when called by the official.

(NEW #2 – move others accordingly).

2. Quick release buckle is optional on bareback rigging.

C. Bull & Steer Riding.

1. Rider will be disqualified if he/she does not have the animal rigged and ready to go when called by the official.

(NEW #2 – move others accordingly)

2. Quick release buckle is optional on bull rope on the off- side .

RR-C12

RULE VII – RODEO LIVESTOCK

6. Livestock Requirements.

A. Bulls, minimum of 1,200 pounds, non-horned or with horns blunted to a minimum diameter of a fifty-cent piece, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges.

B. Broncs, minimum of 1,000 pounds, been previously bucked, and proven capable of the event.

C. Riding steers, minimum of 900 pounds, non-horned or with horns blunted to a minimum diameter of a quarter, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. Cows and/or heifers may be used for Steer Riding if riding steers are not available of the proper weight. If cows and/or heifers are used, then steers may not also be used.

C. Junior Bulls – Minimum of 1200 pounds, non-horned or with horns blunted to a minimum diameter of a fifty-cent piece, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges.

D. Team Roping steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. These steers cannot be used for any other event, must have been previously roped, and wear protective horn wraps during the event.

E. Chute Dogging steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges. These steers cannot be used for any other event, must have been previously dogged or wrestled, and have not been previously used for Team Roping.

F. Camp event steers, 400–500 pounds, and must have minimum of seven-inch horns, blunted to the minimum diameter of a dime, with smooth, rounded, and non-jagged edges, and have been previously handled.

G. Calves, no more than a 30–pound difference between animals in the herd.

H. Common goats, minimum height of 25–30 inches at shoulder, and be similar/same in breed, height, and size. No Billy goats or fainting goats.

I. No animal with steel reinforcing bar or plaster on the horns shall be allowed in the competition.

RULE VI – APPROVED EVENTS

1. Rough Stock Events.

A. Bull Riding.

B. Bareback Bronc Riding.

C. Steer Riding.

C. Jr. Bull Riding

D. Chute Dogging.

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

14. Rough Stock Riding Requirements.

A. Have all required equipment for their events.

1. Appropriate rigging for the event in good condition.

2. Glove for riding hand.

3. Bull/Steer Riding bell and bell loop to attach bell to rigging loop.

4. Nylon latigos for Bareback Bronc Riding.

5. Pre–arranged assistant to help pull your rigging.

6. Pre–arranged assistant to act as “safety” while setting your ride.

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

A. General Rules for Riding Events.

6. It is recommended, but not required, that all contestants planning on participating in either Bull

Riding or Bareback Bronc Riding, have successfully completed two (2) qualified rides at a previous

IGRA–sanctioned rodeo in Steer Riding **or Jr. Bull Riding**, attended an IGRA–approved rodeo school or have previous experience in these events outside of IGRA.

C. Bull & Steer **Jr. Bull** Riding.

RR-C13

RULE X – RODEO PROTEST PROCEDURES

1. The Rodeo Protest Procedures exist only to document questionable or controversial decisions or actions during a rodeo for inclusion with the Rodeo Review Board's records. Decisions by a Judge or any other Rodeo Official are final, and are subject to review or repeal only by the Judge or Rodeo Official himself/herself.
2. When a protest is being reviewed, the Announcer will be advised and will make an announcement that the event is under protest. The Secretary will be advised and will post a notice on the posting board that the event is "Under Protest." If the protest is upheld, the Announcer will make the appropriate announcements. If overturned, the Rodeo Secretary/Staff will remove the "Under Protest" posting, and will post the new running order/contestant line up.
3. The Trustees attending the rodeo shall select a Trustee to serve as Protest Chair for the rodeo. If possible, the Trustee should not be a contestant or working on the staff of that rodeo.
4. Procedure.
 - A. If a contestant has a protest, he/she will verbally register their complaint with the Protest Chair. A contestant may register a protest only in an event in which the contestant is competing.
 - B. The Chair will contact affected areas for information, inform any/all contestants involved in or affected by the protest, and inform the contestant(s) of any result.
 - C. If the contestant is still dissatisfied, then...
 - a. The contestant will complete the official Protest Form and submit it to the Protest Chair. Protests for the events in the first go-round must be submitted before the start of the second go-round; protests for the final go-round of events must be complete before the start of the Rodeo Review Board's post-rodeo meeting.
 - b. The Chair will document in writing their own actions under Paragraph B of these procedures and encourage any involved parties to do the same. Involved parties should make every effort to do so before the start of the Rodeo Review Board's post-rodeo meeting.
 - c. Chair will collect any written reports and present them, along with the contestant's Protest Form, to the Rodeo Review Board at its post-rodeo meeting.
 - d. The reports and the Protest Form will be forwarded to the IGRA Secretary after the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The Secretary will provide a copy of each protest to the Rodeo Rules Committee chair and to any other appropriate committee chair within fifteen (15) days of the conclusion of the rodeo.
5. Protest forms (Exhibit J) will be made available at each rodeo. They will be located at a designated place at the rodeo, convenient to the contestants next to the event control sheets.
6. The Ethical Practices Review and the Rodeo Protest Procedures shall be separate and distinct processes. The Ethical Practices Review Board (EPRB) shall consist of the Trustees as stated in the Code of Ethics. They shall have complete and final authority in decisions concerning the Code of Ethics.
7. Contestant issues forwarded in writing from the Contestant Liaison Committee chair to the Board of Directors shall be answered in writing to the Contestant Liaison Committee chair within thirty (30) days after the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

RULE X – RODEO REVIEW REQUEST PROCEDURES

- 1. The Rodeo Review Process exists to assist in the resolution of questionable decisions by any Rodeo Official during a rodeo, track them for possible improvement, and direct them to the effected committees for review, improvement, and feedback.**
- 2. Officials' decisions are subject to review only by the Rodeo Review Officials who have received a Rodeo Review Request Form from a Contestant.**
- 3. Contestants and Trustees should use this process to assist in improving our Officials' competency and professionalism.**
- 4. Rodeo Review Forms (Exhibit J) will be available at each Rodeo at the contestant posting board next to the event control sheets.**
- 5. During the Pre-Rodeo Trustee Meeting, Trustees will appoint two Rodeo Review Trustees for each Rodeo, whose names will be posted on the Contestant Posting Board next to the event Control Sheets. These Rodeo Review Trustees should be situated in an area that allows unobstructed view of the events, yet convenient to the contestants. They should make a concentrated effort to view all goes of all events, with respect to those events that are historically "protested".**
- 6. Procedure.**
 - A. Contestants may submit a Rodeo Review Request only in an event in which the contestant competes in. A Rodeo Review Request must be presented to the Rodeo Review Trustees no later than 15 minutes from the end of the last event of each days performance. Contestant must use the official Rodeo Review Request Form.**
 - B. Contestant must complete the Rodeo Review Request Form and present it to one of the Rodeo Review Trustees.**
 - C. Rodeo Review Trustee will contact the involved official(s) and present the concern or questionable decision. This should be done as quickly as possible, without a serious delay of the rodeo, but with fairness and equality to all involved.**
 - D. Rodeo Review Trustees will document the response from the Official on the Rodeo Review Form. Rodeo Official, and any other involved individual may also respond in writing to the Rodeo Review Request and ask that it be added to the form.**
 - E. Rodeo Review Trustees will contact Contestant(s) (that requested the review) with the Officials' response.**
 - F. If the Rodeo Review Trustees feel there is a valid concern on the issue, they can call a Trustee Meeting to discuss the situation, and what the resolution should be. Only the Trustees as a group can determine what is the best positive outcome to the situation.**
- 7. The Rodeo Review Report must be completed in detail, presented at the Post Rodeo Review Meeting, and included in the meeting minutes. Trustee Chairing the Post Rodeo Review Meeting must send all submitted Rodeo Review Forms to the IGRA Secretary within 3 days from the end of the Rodeo. IGRA Secretary will provide a copy of each Rodeo Review Report to the Rodeo Rules Committee Chair(s), and all effected Committee Chairs within 15 days from the conclusion of each rodeo.**

RR-C14

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

30. The Arena Director or their designee for speed events, and the Judge for all other events, will notify each contestant/team when the arena is set/clear for their competition. If the contestant/team performs their event before the arena is set/clear, they will be disqualified for that event. For all horse events, the arena should be cleared of animals, contestants and staff not immediately participating in the go of any particular event. The contestant is not offered the arena until all interference is removed. **Arena Director will time the 60 second rule for contestant to enter the Arena from the time the contestant is notified by either the Arena Director or their designee.**

RR-C15

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

10. The EPRB may take disciplinary action against any IGRA participant (including suspension of IGRA privileges) for any activity deemed to be detrimental to the image, sportsmanship, or welfare of IGRA (see Standing Rule V).

(Will Move to new Section: New **RULE XIV: Professional Conduct and Ethical Issues**)

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES (move all below to New Rule XIV as below)

11. Any contestant can be disqualified by the Rodeo Director or any certified rodeo official and will forfeit all entry fees and will be ineligible to receive rodeo moneys, awards, or points. Written documentation must be filed with the Trustees at the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The following shall be considered reasons for disqualification.

A. Fighting.

B. Attempting to fix an event or bribe a Judge and/or rodeo official.

C. Entering the arena or contestant area under the influence or in possession of alcohol, narcotics, or illegal drugs of any kind.

D. Inhumane treatment of animals.

E. Illegal or unauthorized drugging of animals.

F. Intentionally subjecting the rodeo or IGRA to bad publicity.

G. Contestants working rodeo livestock other than participating in the event or without authorization from the local rodeo officials.

H. Any intentional attempt to change the order of livestock.

I. Sharing of contestant numbers and/or passes.

J. Excessive abusive language, gestures, or intimidation of any kind towards any rodeo official.

K. Unauthorized entry into secretarial area.

L. Abusive language or gestures towards any spectator, contestant, or volunteer at registration, the rodeo, or awards ceremony (subject to review by the Rodeo Director).

Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X).

Placements, which may have occurred prior to the disqualification, will be recalculated based upon the remaining eligible contestants.

12. A contestant who is disqualified three (3) times within five (5) consecutive IGRA rodeo Years under Rules 9 and 11 above will be suspended from IGRA-sanctioned rodeos for one (1) calendar year from date of third (3rd) disqualification.

13. Intentional or unintentional delay of rodeo may cause a contestant(s) to be disqualified from that day's event.

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

14. Each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XI Sections 9 and 11. Multiple infractions may result in the Board of Trustees determining that the contestant will be ineligible to compete in IGRA-sanctioned rodeos or referring the matter to the EPRB for further action. Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo at which the disqualification occurred. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days then send notification to the contestant and notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files.

Move above section to Rule XIV as shown below

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

Move below to Rule XIV as shown below

15. Any contestant will be disqualified by any rodeo official and will forfeit all moneys earned, awards received, and points for any of the following:

A. Bad checks. A returned rodeo related check (examples are: entry fees, stable fees, and fines), received in the local host association office will mean immediate ineligibility for IGRA–sanctioned rodeos/events.

1. To regain eligibility, the face value of the check, the bank charge, and any collection fee must be paid in full.

2. Should the check later be determined to be uncollectible, suspension from IGRA may result (see Bylaws Article IV, Section 4, and Paragraph D).

B. Non–payment of entry fees, stable fees, or other rodeo fees/fines.

Move below to Rule XIV as shown below

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

16. Each IGRA–sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XI, Section 15, Paragraphs A and B. Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo or within five (5) days of the host association being notified at which the disqualification occurred. Notification shall also be sent to those Member Associations, which are hosting a sanctioned rodeo in the next four (4) weeks. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days send notification to the contestant and will notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files. Removal of the contestant’s name from the disqualified list is the responsibility of the Association issuing the disqualification.

The below was moved to Contestant Requirements , remove the following:

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

21. All contestants are required to wear long–sleeve shirts, long pants, western hat, and boots that minimally cover the ankle and have a heel. The contestant will be disqualified if a Western hat is NOT on the contestant’s head when they enter the arena to compete, including the roping boxes, bucking chutes, and designated runway. After entering any portion of the arena, contestants in horse speed events, breakaway and team roping must retain their hats throughout their time in the arena or they will be fined five dollars (\$5.00). A contestant may choose to wear protective headgear, and the requirement for wearing a western hat is waived. No other waivers on required attire will be granted to contestants because of injury or for any other reason. No rolled or pushed up sleeves will be allowed except on the riding arm only during rough stock events. This dress code rule does not apply to any camp events; however, closed toe shoes of some type MUST be worn in the arena for the start of all events. In addition, a contestant wearing clothing that allows the contestant’s genitalia to be exposed will not be allowed to begin competition

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

26. Only a contestant may scratch himself/herself from any or all events. Secretarial staff must be made aware of the scratch as soon as possible. If it is known that a contestant is missing because of a medical emergency (injury or illness), whether personal or related to a family member, close friend or relationship, the contestant will be considered a scratch. In team events another contestant not already entered in the affected event may replace a contestant scratched due to a medical emergency. If scratches affect two or more teams, members of different teams may be allowed to combine. In the case of Wild Drag Race, teams may only combine so long as an original member of a team, who has not scratched for reasons mentioned above, is not displaced from competition. One or more teams not performing due to the combination of team members are then considered a scratch, but for the purpose of prize money and placements, the number of teams entered in any effected event remains the same as at the close of registration. If a contestant returns from the medical emergency, he/she may continue the rodeo as registered. If any

IGRA official determines a contestant is unfit to understand his or her own safety, the contestant may be disqualified from any or all further events. The determining official shall inform the contestant when this determination has been made after consulting with the contestant, the Protest Chair, and one other IGRA official.

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

Only a contestant may scratch himself/herself from any or all events. Secretarial staff must be made aware of the scratch as soon as possible. If a contestant returns from the medical emergency, he/she may continue the rodeo as registered.

3. (Renumber all following appropriately)

3. SPEED EVENTS.

A. General Rules for Speed Events.

6. After a maximum of ten (10) riders, the travel area around all barrels and end poles shall be at least Hand mechanically raked to ensure safe and fair completion of the course for each rider and horse. If it is discovered that the arena has not been raked after ten (10) contestants, then any contestants affected by this non-compliance will be allowed to request a rerun. **Hand Raking is not considered to be safe nor adequate for our commitment to animal welfare.**

RULE X – RODEO PROTEST PROCEDURES (not part of this section)

6. The Ethical Practices Review and the Rodeo Protest Procedures shall be separate and distinct processes. The Ethical Practices Review Board (EPRB) shall consist of the Trustees as stated in the Code of Ethics. They shall have complete and final authority in decisions concerning the Code of Ethics.

7. Contestant issues forwarded in writing from the Contestant Liaison Committee chair to the Board of Directors shall be answered in writing to the Contestant Liaison Committee chair within thirty (30) days after the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

New RULE XIV: Professional Conduct and Ethical Issues:

A. EPRB – Ethical Practices and Review Board:

1. All participants involved in IGRA Sanctioned Events are to uphold the IGRA code of conduct. Including conduct in the highest regard for professionalism, respect, and support of IGRA's intents and purposes. Any conduct that is viewed as controversial, disrespectful, or unprofessional can lead to suspension of IGRA privileges and can be initiated by any IGRA participant (Contestant, Volunteer, Official, etc).

2. The Ethical Practices Review Board is a separate and distinct process from the Rodeo Protest Procedures. The Ethical Practices Review Board (EPRB) shall consist of the Trustees as stated in the Code of Ethics. They shall have complete and final authority in decisions concerning the Code of Ethics.

3. The EPRB may take disciplinary action against any IGRA participant (including suspension of IGRA privileges) for any activity deemed to be detrimental to the image, sportsmanship, or welfare of IGRA (see Standing Rule V).

B. Professional Conduct & Disqualifications:

1. The Rodeo Director or any certified rodeo official may disqualify a contestant/team from an event after observing excessive roughness or intentional harm to an animal, such as kicking, hitting, slapping, etc., before, during, or after the event. Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X).

2. A contestant may be disqualified by the Rodeo Director (or any certified rodeo official) and will forfeit all entry fees and will be ineligible to receive rodeo moneys, awards, or points. Written documentation must be filed with the Trustees at the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The following shall be considered reasons for disqualification.

A. Fighting.

B. Attempting to fix an event or bribe a Judge and/or rodeo official.

C. Entering the arena or contestant area under the influence or in possession of alcohol, narcotics, or illegal drugs of any kind.

D. Inhumane treatment of animals.

E. Illegal or unauthorized drugging of animals.

F. Intentionally subjecting the rodeo or IGRA to bad publicity.

G. Contestants working rodeo livestock other than participating in the event or without authorization from the local rodeo officials.

H. Any intentional attempt to change the order of livestock.

I. Sharing of contestant numbers and/or passes.

J. Excessive abusive language, gestures, or intimidation of any kind towards any rodeo official.

K. Unauthorized entry into secretarial area.

L. Abusive language or gestures (towards any spectator, contestant, or volunteer) at registration, the rodeo, or awards ceremony (subject to review by the Rodeo Director).

Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X). Placements, which may have occurred prior to the disqualification, will be recalculated based upon the remaining eligible contestants.

3. A contestant who is disqualified three (3) times within five (5) consecutive IGRA rodeo Years under Rules XIV B. 1 & 2 above will be suspended from IGRA-sanctioned rodeos for one (1) calendar year from date of third (3rd) disqualification.

4. Each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XIV B. 1 & 2. Multiple infractions may result in the Board of Trustees determining that the contestant will be ineligible to compete in IGRA-sanctioned rodeos or referring the matter to the EPRB for further action. Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo at which the disqualification occurred. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days then send notification to the contestant and notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files.

5. Any contestant will be disqualified by any rodeo official and will forfeit all moneys earned, awards received, and points for any of the following:

A. Bad checks. A returned rodeo related check (examples are: entry fees, stable fees, and fines), received in the local host association office will mean immediate ineligibility for IGRA-sanctioned rodeos/events.

1. To regain eligibility, the face value of the check, the bank charge, and any collection fee must be paid in full.

2. Should the check later be determined to be uncollectible, suspension from IGRA may result (see Bylaws Article IV, Section 4, and Paragraph D).

B. Non-payment of entry fees, stable fees, or other rodeo fees/fines.

6. Each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XIV B. 5 Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo or within five (5) days of the host association being notified at which the disqualification occurred. Notification shall also be sent to those Member Associations, which are hosting a sanctioned rodeo in the next four (4) weeks. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days send notification to the contestant and will notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files. Removal of the contestant's name from the disqualified list is the responsibility of the Association issuing the disqualification.

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

9. The Rodeo Director or any certified rodeo official may disqualify a contestant/team from an event for both go-rounds after observing excessive roughness or intentional harm to an animal, such as kicking, hitting, slapping, etc., before, during, or after the event. Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X).

10. The EPRB may take disciplinary action against any IGRA participant (including suspension of IGRA privileges) for any activity deemed to be detrimental to the image, sportsmanship, or welfare of IGRA (see Standing Rule V).

11. Any contestant can be disqualified by the Rodeo Director or any certified rodeo official and will forfeit all entry fees and will be ineligible to receive rodeo moneys, awards, or points. Written documentation must be filed with the Trustees at the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The following shall be considered reasons for disqualification.

A. Fighting.

B. Attempting to fix an event or bribe a Judge and/or rodeo official.

C. Entering the arena or contestant area under the influence or in possession of alcohol, narcotics, or illegal drugs of any kind.

D. Inhumane treatment of animals.

E. Illegal or unauthorized drugging of animals.

F. Intentionally subjecting the rodeo or IGRA to bad publicity.

G. Contestants working rodeo livestock other than participating in the event or without authorization from the local rodeo officials.

H. Any intentional attempt to change the order of livestock.

I. Sharing of contestant numbers and/or passes.

J. Excessive abusive language, gestures, or intimidation of any kind towards any rodeo official.

K. Unauthorized entry into secretarial area.

L. Abusive language or gestures towards any spectator, contestant, or volunteer at registration, the rodeo, or awards ceremony (subject to review by the Rodeo Director).

Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X).

Placements, which may have occurred prior to the disqualification, will be recalculated based upon the remaining eligible contestants.

12. A contestant who is disqualified three (3) times within five (5) consecutive IGRA rodeo Years under Rules 9 and 11 above will be suspended from IGRA-sanctioned rodeos for one (1) calendar year from date of third (3rd) disqualification.

13. Intentional or unintentional delay of rodeo may cause a contestant(s) to be disqualified from that day's event.

14. Each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XI Sections 9 and 11. Multiple infractions may result in the Board of Trustees determining that the contestant will be ineligible to compete in IGRA-sanctioned rodeos or referring the matter to the EPRB for further action. Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo at which the disqualification occurred. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days then send notification to the contestant and notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files.

15. Any contestant will be disqualified by any rodeo official and will forfeit all moneys earned, awards received, and points for any of the following:

A. Bad checks. A returned rodeo related check (examples are: entry fees, stable fees, and fines), received in the local host association office will mean immediate ineligibility for IGRA-sanctioned rodeos/events.

1. To regain eligibility, the face value of the check, the bank charge, and any collection fee must be paid in full.

2. Should the check later be determined to be uncollectible, suspension from IGRA may result (see Bylaws Article IV, Section 4, and Paragraph D).

B. Non-payment of entry fees, stable fees, or other rodeo fees/fines.

16. Each IGRA-sanctioned rodeo shall provide IGRA a list of contestants disqualified under Rodeo Rule XI, Section 15, Paragraphs A and B. Notice shall be sent to the IGRA Secretary by Wednesday following the rodeo or

within five (5) days of the host association being notified at which the disqualification occurred. Notification shall also be sent to those Member Associations, which are hosting a sanctioned rodeo in the next four (4) weeks. The IGRA Secretary shall within seven (7) days send notification to the contestant and will notify the Rodeo Auditor to make proper notations in the computer files. Removal of the contestant's name from the disqualified list is the responsibility of the Association issuing the disqualification.

26. Only a contestant may scratch himself/herself from any or all events. Secretarial staff must be made aware of the scratch as soon as possible. If it is known that a contestant is missing because of a medical emergency (injury or illness), whether personal or related to a family member, close friend or relationship, the contestant will be considered a scratch. In team events another contestant not already entered in the affected event may replace a contestant scratched due to a medical emergency. If scratches affect two or more teams, members of different teams may be allowed to combine. In the case of Wild Drag Race, teams may only combine so long as an original member of a team, who has not scratched for reasons mentioned above, is not displaced from competition. One or more teams not performing due to the combination of team members are then considered a scratch, but for the purpose of prize money and placements, the number of teams entered in any effected event remains the same as at the close of registration. If a contestant returns from the medical emergency, he/she may continue the rodeo as registered. If any IGRA official determines a contestant is unfit to understand his or her own safety, the contestant may be disqualified from any or all further events. The determining official shall inform the contestant when this determination has been made after consulting with the contestant, the Protest Chair, and one other IGRA official.

27. No pets will be allowed in the rodeo arena, chutes, holding pens, or other areas specified by the rodeo facility or host association. Pets in authorized areas must be under the owner's control. If pets are not allowed anywhere at the facility, a contestant will not be allowed to compete until the pet is removed from the facility or kept in a vehicle or horse trailer. If the pet is seen anywhere on the facility after being warned of the "no pet rule", the contestant responsible for the pet being at the facility will be disqualified from the rodeo by the Rodeo Director.

RR-C15B

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

10. The EPRB may take disciplinary action against any IGRA participant (including suspension of IGRA privileges) for any activity deemed to be detrimental to the image, sportsmanship, or welfare of IGRA (see Standing Rule V).

Move From General Rules to new section **RULE XIV: Professional Conduct and Ethical Issues #7**

- 7.) The EPRB may take disciplinary action against any IGRA participant (including suspension of IGRA privileges) for any activity deemed to be detrimental to the image, sportsmanship, or welfare of IGRA (see Standing Rule V).

RR-C16

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

20. Chute Coordinator and Arena Director determine if any chutes or any areas of the arena are unsafe or unsuitable for a particular event. This will include a physical inspection of all areas (pens, loading and return alleys, etc.) where livestock may be exposed to potential hazards. Providing that the Scorekeeper and Announcer are notified prior to the change, actual exit order from the chutes may be changed by the Chute Coordinator or Arena Director in consideration of contestant/stock/staff safety, equipment failure, or overall flow of the rodeo.

Move from General Rules to RULE VII – RODEO LIVESTOCK
And add as new #10 and re-number remaining accordingly

RULE VII

10.) The Chute Coordinator and Arena Director will inspect and examine all Bucking Chutes, Roping Chutes, Loading pens, Alleyways, and Arena for any unsafe or unsuitable conditions for our events and/or Animals. This inspection must be done prior to each rodeo performance. This will include a physical inspection of all areas (previously noted) where livestock may be exposed to potential hazards.

RR-C17

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

37. If chute gate "latch hangs up" but the animal is still released, the contestant must immediately request a re-ride. If the contestant continues to compete, they have accepted the conditions, and a re-ride will not be granted for the gate "latch hanging up."

Rationale:

During the review of the Rodeo Rules (pocket version) I observed a few areas that may need to be revisited during the Rodeo rules committee meeting at convention 2009.

Please review the following:

#1 In the general, roping, rough stock, or speed events sections there is no mention of gate "hang up" the only place I found this was in Steer Decorating page 97.

9. If chute gate "hangs up" but the steer is still released, the team must immediately drop the rope, and request a re-ride. If the team continues to compete, they have accepted the conditions, and a re-ride will not be granted for the gate "hanging up."

Due to an occurrence during chute dogging I feel this rule needs review to be placed in the General rules.

(Unless under re-rides for instance page 68 b. 4) Arena equipment failure applies to this situation)

It appeared at the rodeo everyone was under the assumption that the contestant should not have been offered a re-ride due to the hinge malfunctioning due to they accepted the conditions.

RR-C18

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

11. Any contestant can be disqualified by the a joint decision of the Rodeo Director or and any another certified rodeo official **for any of the below situations. and A Disqualified Contestant** will forfeit all entry fees and will be ineligible to receive rodeo moneys, awards, or points. Written documentation must be filed with the Trustees at the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The following shall be considered reasons for disqualification.
- A. Fighting.
 - B. Attempting to fix an event or bribe a Judge and/or rodeo official.
 - C. Entering the arena or contestant area under the influence or in possession of alcohol, narcotics, or illegal drugs of any kind.
 - D. Inhumane treatment of animals.
 - E. Illegal or unauthorized drugging of animals.
 - F. Intentionally subjecting the rodeo or IGRA to bad publicity.
 - G. Contestants working rodeo livestock other than participating in the event or without authorization from the local rodeo officials.
 - H. Any intentional attempt to change the order of livestock.
 - I. Sharing of contestant numbers and/or passes.
 - J. Excessive abusive language, gestures, or intimidation of any kind towards any rodeo official.
 - K. Unauthorized entry into secretarial area.
 - L. Abusive language or gestures towards any spectator, contestant, or volunteer at registration, the rodeo, or awards ceremony (subject to review by the Rodeo Director).

Appeals by the contestant/team may be made through the Rodeo Protest Procedures (refer to Rodeo Rule X). Placements, which may have occurred prior to the disqualification, will be recalculated based upon the remaining eligible contestants.

New #12: In the event of a contestant disqualification (Rule 11), the points accrued, and money awarded in team events will stand for the non-disqualified partners in those events earned prior to the disqualification. Those team members may pick up replacement partner(s) but the replacement partner(s) must be contestants already competing in the Rodeo. Points accrued and money awarded in events prior to the disqualification, will be recalculated accordingly.

12. **13.** A contestant who is disqualified three (3) times within five (5) consecutive IGRA rodeo Years under Rules 9 and /or 11 above will be suspended from IGRA-sanctioned rodeos for one (1) calendar year from date of third (3rd) disqualification.

RR-C19

- A. Barrel Racing (refer to Exhibit P – Barrel Racing diagram).
1. Fifty-five (55) gallon closed metal barrels must be used. The barrels must be brightly colored or covered with barrel wraps.
 2. The course must be measured exactly. If the course is too large for the available space, the pattern should be reduced, depending on the arena size.
 - a. Minimum distance of **at least** fifteen feet (15') between the side walls and barrels one (1) and two (2).
 - b. Minimum distance of thirty feet (30') between barrel three (3) and the back wall.
 - c. Minimum distance of thirty feet (30') between barrel one (1) and the start/finish line.
 - d. Recommended minimum stopping distance of at least forty feet (40').
 - e. **Arenas with an alleyway that is off-set from the center, require the pattern be measured from the center of said alley to ensure equal distances to either the left or right barrel.**
 3. When measuring the arena for the barrel course, ample room must be left for horses to complete their turns and stop at the finish. The barrels shall be placed consistently in relation to the marker and made as level as possible.
 4. At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run one of the prescribed patterns in Exhibit P.
 5. Knocking over a barrel shall carry a five (5) second penalty. A contestant may touch the barrel with his/her hands in Barrel Racing.

RR-C20

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

2. ROPING EVENTS.

C. Mounted Break–Away Roping.

1. Contestant has a maximum thirty (30) **forty–five (45)** second time limit, not including possible penalties.
2. Time starts when contestant signals for release of calf and when calf's nose clears the chute gate.
3. Once the legally–roped calf pulls rope and breaks the string attached to the saddle horn, Judge drops flag to stop time.
4. Contestant must remain mounted on horse during their go.
5. Two (2) loops are permitted. If a contestant intends to use two (2) loops, contestant must carry two (2) ropes and must use the second rope for the second loop. A loop that touches the ground is considered to be an expended loop.
6. Ropes must be secured to the saddle horn with string with no excess slack in string. If the string securing either rope breaks or comes untied from the saddle horn prior to being thrown by the contestant, that rope may not be used in the event.
7. Calf must break rope from saddle horn to be a legal catch. An easily visible piece of cloth or plastic flagging must be attached within three feet (3') of the end of the rope to enable the Field Flag Judge to flag the breakaway more accurately. If the second rope falls from the saddle before it is used, the first rope may not be used to build a second loop.
8. Catch as catch can. Clean catch. The loop must go completely over the calf's head and then catch around the neck, leg(s), belly, or any combination of these body parts. Calf must break rope from the saddle horn. If calf steps out of loop before rope is broken from the saddle horn, the roper may use the second loop.
9. Loop must be thrown. Roping the calf without releasing the loop is not permitted. Roper cannot ride up and snare or put the loop around the calf. The loop must be released from the roper's hand prior to having any portion of the calf's head within the loop.
10. Penalties.
 - a. Ten (10) second penalty assessed if crossing the barrier line before the calf's nose clears the chute gate.

11. Disqualification.

- a. If the string securing rope breaks or comes untied from the saddle horn prior to being thrown by the contestant, that rope may not be used in the event.
- b. Abusive treatment of any animal during the event.
- c. Roping the calf without releasing rope after the catch.
- d. Accidental or intentional dally or hang up of rope.
- e. Not having an easily visible piece of cloth or plastic flagging attached within three feet (3') of the end of the rope.
- f. Roping the calf before the horse's tail has cleared the barrier line.
- g. Dismounting or falling off horse before time is stopped with a legal catch.
- h. Running the calf into the fence or return gate while demonstrating blatant disregard for safety of the calf as ruled by the Judge.
- i. Roper breaks rope away from the saddle horn.
- j. Roping calf without throwing or releasing the rope in a manner to snare or "place" loop around calf's head.
- k. Not releasing loop from roper's hand prior to having any portion of the calf's head within the loop.
- l. Signaling for release of calf when Judges are not ready.

RR-C21

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS

F. Chute Dogging.

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit with optional one (1) minute time limit at state/province rodeos. There will be a mandatory thirty (30) second time limit at the National Junior High Finals.

1. Bucking chute shall be part of the arena during dogging events.
2. Once score line (gypsum line) has been set it will not be changed in that go.
3. Score line will be parallel to bucking chutes. It will be set at ten (10) feet in front of bucking chute. The measurement will be made with chute gate in the closed position.
4. The line (barrier) judge will flag the start when the animals' nose crosses the score line.
5. Steer belongs to contestant when he calls for it, regardless of what happens, with the following exceptions:
 - a. In any timed event, if animal escapes from the arena, 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.
 - b. In cases of mechanical failure.
 - c. If in the opinion of the line judge contestant is fouled by chute, contestant shall get his steer back, providing contestant declares himself by pulling up.
6. Time shall be taken between two flags.
7. It shall be the arena directors' 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.
8. This event shall not be conducted with an open catch pen gate at any rodeo.
9. All steers shall be turned out in the same direction and the same chute will be used.
 1. A left delivery chute must be used and all chute dogging runs must be made from the same chute.
 2. With steers loaded in bucking chute, dogger gets 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.
 3. It is the contestant's responsibility to check for broken horns.
 4. There will be a designated helper assigned by the Arena Director. The helper cannot pass the plane of the chute gate.
 5. Contestant is considered working the steer when the steer leaves the chute.
 6. If steer gets loose, dogger may take no more than one step to catch steer.
 7. After crossing the start line, wrestler must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down.

8. If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown 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.
 9. 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.
 10. Wrestler must have hand on steer when flagged.
 11. Contestant is required to turn steer's head so that he can get up.
 12. 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.
1. In order for time to be considered official, barrier flag must operate.
 2. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
 3. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
 4. Contestant will be disqualified for any abusive treatment of steer.
 5. Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts in any way to tamper with steers or chute.
 6. Time should be taken with the average of two (2) times at all rodeos.
 7. Dogger will be disqualified if animal is thrown before start line.
 8. If steer falls on it's own before nose crosses line, steer must be let up and not thrown until steer's nose crosses line.
 9. There will be a 10 second penalty added if dogger moves right arm to the right horn (throwing position) before start line. This will be referred to as breaking the barrier.
2. Exclude rule #7.
1. There shall be two or more timers, a field flag judge, and a barrier judge.
 2. The fairness of the catch and throw will be left to the judges, and their decision will be final.
 3. Field flagger is required to watch contestant and steer until animal is turned loose.
 4. Barrier judge will stand on the start line on right side of the steer and flag when the animal's nose crosses the line indicating the start of the run.
 5. Field flagger will flag when the animal is legally thrown indicating the end of the run.
1. A whistle may be used to signal when the steer has crossed the start line.
 2. The same judge can be used to flag the start and the finish.

RR-C22

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

D. Goat Dressing.

1. **Event requires two (2) Judges.**
 2. **Event is run in heats (re-number appropriately)**
 3. **Team event with two (2) contestants on each team.**
 4. **Timer will straddle the start/finish line approximately ten feet (10') to the side of the starting point**
 5. **All shorts shall be the same size, style, and brand**
 6. **Goats must be adequately spaced to avoid interference. Goats shall be tethered with a ten foot (10') [+ (plus) or – (minus) three inches (3'')] soft cotton rope to a weighted object, which the goats cannot drag.**
 7. **Dog harnesses will be used to tether the goats.**
 8. **Goats must be held stationary at the point furthest away from the start line .**
 9. **To prevent interference, all contestants competing in later heats shall remain in back of a line that is fifteen feet (15') behind and off to the side of the start/finish line.**
 10. **Contestants will stand at starting line fifty feet (50') from the point at which the goat is tethered.**
 11. **Time begins when the Start Judge drops the flag and blows the whistle.**
 12. **The team runs to their goat and as one (1) member of the team holds the goat, the other team member puts shorts on both back legs with one (1) leg of the goat in each leg hole of the shorts.**
 13. **Time will stop when all four (4) feet of the contestants have crossed the start/finish line**
 14. **Each Timer must give a hand signal to the Judge when they stop the time.**
1. Team event with two (2) people on each team.
 2. Goats must be spaced so that they cannot tangle up with each other. Goats shall be tethered with a ten foot (10') [+ (plus) or – (minus) three inches (3'')] soft cotton rope to a weighted object, which the goats cannot drag. Dog harnesses will be used to tether the goats. Goats must be held stationary at the point furthest away from the start line until the Judge drops the flag and blows the whistle. The shorts shall all be the same size, style, and brand. Goats shall be exchanged after a maximum of eight (8) heats. The number of heats per goat will be announced prior to the running of the first heat. Revised 01/01/09 119 IGRA Rodeo Rules .
- New # 15: The Arena Director has sole discretion to change the goats at any time in consideration for their health and safety in respect for our commitment to animal welfare.***
3. Contestants will stand at starting line fifty feet (50') from the point at which the goat is tethered. To prevent interference, all contestants competing in later heats shall remain in back of a line that is fifteen feet (15') behind and off to the side of the start/finish line.
 4. A Judge will flag and whistle the start. The team runs to their goat and as one (1) member of the team holds the goat, the other team member puts shorts on both back legs with one (1) leg of the goat in each leg hole of the shorts.

5. The Timer will stand on the start/finish line approximately ten feet (10') to the side of the starting point. The contestants must cross the start/finish line in front of the Timer. Time will stop when all four (4) feet of the contestants cross the start/finish line. Each Timer must give a hand or head signal to the Judge when they stop the time.

6. Disqualification.

a. Throwing the goat or unnecessary roughness.

b. The shorts are not over the tailbone of the goat when contestants cross the finish line.

c. Crossing the finish line behind the Timer.

d. Either contestant “Jumps the Start” or False Starts.

e. Both legs of the Goat are in one leg of the shorts.

7. Event is run in heats.

8. Event requires two (2) Judges.

RR-C23

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

B. Re-rides.

1. If the Judge declares that a contestant is eligible for a re-ride, the Judge shall inform the contestant of their score and an option of a re-ride prior to the next contestant competing. Contestant may refuse the re-ride and take the score. Contestant must notify the Judge immediately of their decision to accept or reject the option. **Re-Rides must be completed during that go of that event, and contestant should be moved to the end of the running order for that event but still within their gender.**

E. Bareback Bronc Riding

New #5 – (Move all other's sequentially down by numeric order)

5. If the rider chooses the use of spurs, loose rowel spurs must be used. The rider is not to use sharp spurs.

RR-C25

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

D. Team Roping.

1. Team has a maximum sixty (60) second time limit, not including possible penalties.
2. Contestant can rope only one time **twice** in this event per day as a header or as a heeler. **Contestants highest placing will only be used for points towards all-around, Finals, and World Champion calculations .**
3. All changes in lists of roping order due to sharing horses must be made before any stock for that event is loaded in the chute. After stock is loaded, ropers must rope in order listed.
4. Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one (1) rope. Each team is allowed three (3) throws in all. "Dally" is defined to mean at least one (1) complete turn around the saddle horn.

RR-C24

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

3. SPEED EVENTS.

A. General Rules for Speed Events.

6. After a maximum of ten (10) riders, the travel area around all barrels and end poles shall be at least hand raked **must be machine** raked to ensure safe and fair completion of the course for each rider and horse. If it is discovered that the arena has not been raked after ten (10) contestants, then any contestants affected by this non-compliance will be allowed to request a rerun.

10. Disqualification.

a. Dismounting or falling off the horse during the timing of the event.

b. Broken pattern or crossing traveled path.

c. Any part of the rider or horse breaks the lane of the start/finish line other than according to the prescribed pattern.

d. Excessive use of a bat, crops, whip, rope, or spurs, at the Judge's discretion.

e. Taking more than 60 seconds to cross the electronic start line after being signaled from the Arena Director that the arena was set. Arena Director may waive this rule due to unusual circumstances for that particular arena.

11. Barrel Pattern and Flag Pattern must be moved so as to not have Barrel 3 and the End Pole in Flag Race in the same place.

Rationale: (health and safety)

Hand raking is not considered safe in many associations, and does not provide a safe arena condition for our competitors and their horses.

It has become very common for the Barrel and Flag Race Events to be run back to back.

Using the same start line, and Barrels (1&2), requires only changing barrel 3 with the end pole.

We have seen this area become hazardous, and have seen several horses trip, stumble and fall.

In consideration for our commitment to safety and care for our animals, this must be addressed, and must be enforced.

RR-C26

RULE IX – RODEO AWARDS

7. World Gay Rodeo Champion Acknowledgement.
- A. The World Gay Rodeo Championship will be awarded to the contestant in each individual event that earns the highest cumulative points in that event for the rodeo year, inclusive of Finals Rodeo Day Money.
- B. The World Gay Rodeo Team Championships will be awarded to the contestants who earn the highest cumulative points in that team event and position for the rodeo year, inclusive of Finals Rodeo Day Money. Awards will be awarded to the **top two** Team **Ropers Roping header, Team Roping heeler, top three** Wild Drag Contestants male, Wild Drag female, Wild Drag-Drag, and the top two (2) contestants in Steer Decorating, and two (2) contestants in Goat Dressing.
- C. In the event two (2) World Gay Rodeo contestants should earn an equal cumulative point award, the tie will be broken by giving one (1) point to each contestant for each first (1st) place their Finals Rodeo events. Contestant with the highest point value will be awarded the All-Around title. If a tie still exists, continue to award one (1) point to each contestant for each second (2nd) place in their Finals Rodeo events. Contestant with the highest point value will be awarded the All-Around title. If a need arises, continue this process in “placing” until the tie is broken.

RR-C28

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

4. Camp Events.

C. Wild Drag Race.

1. Team event with three (3) **contestants** people on each team. A maximum of two (2) teams will be allowed to compete at the same time.
2. Steer is in bucking chute for safety reasons. **Steer is positioned in bucking chute facing the hinged end of the gate.**
3. Each Association will provide steer will have a minimum of six (6) halters with a and soft cotton ropes with the following dimensions:
 - a. twenty-five foot (25') long [+ (plus) or – (minus) one foot (1')]
 - b. From three-quarter inch (3/4") up to one and one-half inch (1 1/2") diameter rope attached.
 - c. Knots are **not** allowed in rope.
 - d. Rope must be securely attached to halter.
 - e. No spring snaps other than large “bull clips” will be permitted. The halter and rope are to be provided by Rodeo Sponsor.
 - f. Ropes must be uniform in diameter.
4. The finish line shall be seventy feet (70') from the chutes.
5. The team.
 - a. **Shall be composed of 3 Contestants of the following Genders: one Male, one Female, and a third contestant of either Gender referred to as the “Drag”.** Female must be female. Female stands ten feet (10') in front of the chute holding the rope attached to the steer. She is the only person allowed to touch the rope until the gate opens.
 - b. The drag may be male or female. The drag must wear female-type clothing **(Minimum of a one piece dress, or skirt and top)** and a wig. Drag stands behind the seventy-foot (70') line for the start of the event and is the team member who must ride the steer across the finish line.
6. **Start Positions:**
 - a. **Female Contestant stands ten feet (10') from chute holding the rope attached to the steer.**
 - b. **Male Contestant stands forty feet (40') from chute.**
 - c. **“Drag” Contestant stands seventy feet (70') from chute.**
7. **Start Judge will start the event in a position that he can observe all contestants at the start, and will drop his flag and blow his whistle to signal the start.**

8. The Event:

- a. When the chute gate opens, the male and the drag may run to assist the female in bringing the steer across the seventy-foot (70') line.
 - b. Once all four (4) hooves cross the seventy-foot (70') line the first time, the drag may then mount the steer.
 - c. The drag must **then** be legally mounted before the steer has any hoof on or across the finish line.
 - d. Time stops when all four (4) hooves of the steer, with legally mounted drag, cross the finish line in the direction toward the chutes.
9. **(Move to #8.)** Steer belongs to the team at the whistle/flag start. If the gate “hangs up”, but the steer is still released, the team must immediately request a rerun. If team continues to compete, they have accepted the conditions, and a rerun will not be granted for the gate “hanging up.”
10. Male and female may assist to help get the steer with mounted drag across the finish line. If team loses their steer, they may recapture their own steer. Capturing another teams' steer will result in disqualification.
11. There is one (1) way for the drag to be legally mounted on the steer, and that is straddling the steer's backbone with one (1) leg (which is at least that portion of the leg extending from the knee down) on each side of the steer and below the ridge of the backbone. The drag may be facing forward or to the back of the animal. If the drag is sliding off the steer, the drag must still maintain the minimum mounted position described in this section.
12. If the drag touches the ground before the steer has completely crossed the finish line, the team must bring the steer back across the finish line in order to make another attempt.
13. Each team in the Wild Drag Race shall have a **Finish** Judge, and the **Finish** Judge shall be placed in a position at the finish line that would allow an unrestricted view of the finish line.
14. A rerun will be given if the Judge drops the flag because of an injured animal, animal escaping the arena, or equipment failure.

RR-C29

RULE I – ASSOCIATION REQUIREMENTS

11. Post contestant event control lineup sheets for both performance and slack in a specified area convenient to the contestants prior to the first event a second set of control/line up sheets for the public to view.

RR-C30

RULE III – REGISTRATION

2. Host association will send their rodeo information (tri-folds), horse stall information, approved variances, minimum prize money, etc., to those contestants whose entry forms are received at least eight (8) days prior to the rodeo, fifteen (15) days for rodeos outside of the United States. The contestant mailing should be ongoing as form are received, with the last mailing postmarked a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the rodeo, fourteen (14) days for rodeos outside of the United States.

RR-C31

RULE VI – APPROVED EVENTS

1. Rough Stock Events.
 - B. Bareback Bronc Riding.
6. Livestock Requirements.
 - B. Broncs, minimum of 1,000 pounds, been previously bucked, and proven capable of the event.

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.
 - E. Bareback Bronc Riding

And delete all references to bronc riding.

RR–C32

RULE X – RODEO PROTEST PROCEDURES

4. Procedure.
 - C. If the contestant is still dissatisfied, then...
 - d. The reports and the Protest Form will be forwarded to the IGRA Secretary after the Rodeo Review Board meeting. The Secretary will provide a copy of each protest to the Rodeo Rules Committee chair and to any other appropriate committee chair within fifteen (15) days of the conclusion of the rodeo.

Protest forms are posted electronically and do not need to be mailed.

RR–C33

RULE III – REGISTRATION

New #2. New Contestant Pre–Registration: New contestants wishing to compete in any IGRA Sanctioned Rodeo must be a member of a recognized IGRA Association, and may (is encouraged to) pre–register with the IGRA Secretary at minimum of 30 days prior to the first rodeo they wish to compete in. IGRA Secretary Contact Information (e–mail, phone, address) will be listed on the IGRA Web Page. (Create a Link for New Contestant Registration)

A. Any interested individual who would like to compete in any IGRA Sanctioned rodeo may fill out and return the New Contestant Pre–Registration Form to the IGRA Office that must be postmarked, or electronic time stamped no later than 30 days from their first rodeo they wish to compete in. (Form is available on the IGRA. Com web site under New Contestant Registration)

B. Within one week following receipt of a New Contestant's pre–registration, the IGRA Executive Office will discuss with the new contestant the two options below:

1.) Mailed in Registrations – Location of Forms and Rodeo Information as well as instructions for Mailing in Rodeo registrations.

2.) Electronic Registration – set the new contestant up for online registration, include instructions on how to register for a rodeo on–line, and provide direction on where to find Rodeo Association information.

C. Contestant will be offered the option to receive a current IGRA Rule Book from the IGRA Secretary, or to access the IGRA rule book located on the IGRA.com website.

D. Contestant will be informed that their Host Association must verify their current membership to the IGRA Secretary prior to competing at any IGRA Sanctioned Rodeo. (This would alleviate the expense of printing many un–used Rodeo Rule books, and eliminate the cost of shipping these to the associations. Any associations requesting these, should send in an order to the IGRA Secretary prior to Scheduled printing)

Re–number following accordingly

RR-C34

RULE VIII – FINALS RODEO/WORLD GAY RODEO CHAMPION SELECTION PROCESS

1. Point Awards.

A. Finals Rodeo points are equal for all events, and awarded per performance to the first eight (8) places as follows.

<u>1st place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>50 points</u>	<u>5th place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>30 points</u>
<u>2nd place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>45 points</u>	<u>6th place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>25 points</u>
<u>3rd place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>40 points</u>	<u>7th place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>20 points</u>
<u>4th place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>35 points</u>	<u>8th place</u>	<u>≡</u>	<u>15 points</u>

B. For **Finals Invitations and** World Gay Rodeo Championships, points are awarded per performance in each event to the first eight (8) places as follows.

1 st place Points	=	8% of Day Money
2 nd place Points	=	7% of Day Money
3 rd place Points	=	6% of Day Money
4 th place Points	=	5% of Day Money
5 th place Points	=	4% of Day Money
6 th place Points	=	3% of Day Money
7 th place Points	=	2% of Day Money
8 th place Points	=	1% of Day Money

C. In team events, each team member will receive full points for placing.

2. For **Finals Invitations and** World Gay Rodeo Championships, only the outlined points (see Rodeo Rule VIII 1.B.) for that contestant's placing will be tracked and will not include unearned Day Money that was added money, added purse, added prize, rolled up to any contestant, or any additional monetary award that an association or individual may choose to add to the event.

3. Each contestant's best six (6) point placements in each event will count towards the Finals Rodeo selection for a maximum of 300 points.

RR-C35

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

26. Only a contestant may scratch himself/herself from any or all events. Secretarial staff must be made aware of the scratch as soon as possible. If it is known that a contestant is missing because of a medical emergency (injury or illness), whether personal or related to a family member, close friend or relationship, the contestant will be considered a scratch. In team events another contestant not already entered in the affected event may replace a contestant scratched due to a medical emergency. If scratches affect two or more teams, members of different teams may be allowed to combine. In the case of Wild Drag Race, teams may only combine so long as an original member of a team, who has not scratched for reasons mentioned above, is not displaced from competition. One or more teams not performing due to the combination of team members are then considered a scratch, but for the purpose of prize money and placements, the number of teams entered in any effected event remains the same as at the close of registration. If a contestant returns from the medical emergency, he/she may continue the rodeo as registered. If any IGRA official determines a contestant is unfit to understand his or her own safety, the contestant may be disqualified from any or all further events. The determining official shall inform the contestant when this determination has been made after consulting with the contestant, the Protest Chair, and one other IGRA official.

26. Contestant Scratch in an Event

- a. Only a contestant may scratch himself/herself from any or all events.
- b. Secretarial staff must be made aware of the scratch as soon as possible.
- c. If it is known that a contestant is missing because of a medical emergency (injury or illness), whether personal or related to a family member, close friend or relationship, the contestant will be considered a scratch.
- d. In team events another **registered** contestant not already entered in the affected event may replace a contestant scratched due to a medical emergency.
- e. If scratches affect two or more teams, members of different teams may be allowed to combine.
- f. In the case of Wild Drag Race, teams may only combine so long as an original member of a team, who has not scratched for reasons mentioned above, is not displaced from competition.
- g. One or more teams not performing due to the combination of team members are then considered a scratch, but for the purpose of prize money and placements, the number of teams entered in any effected event remains the same as ~~a~~ the close of registration.
- h. If a contestant returns from the medical emergency, he/she may continue the rodeo as registered.

New 27. Contestant Disqualified by IGRA Official

- a. If any IGRA official determines a contestant is unfit to understand his or her own safety, the contestant may be disqualified from any or all further events.
- b. The determining official shall inform the contestant when this determination has been made after consulting with the contestant, the Protest Chair, and one other IGRA official.

RR-C36

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

1. The IGRA rodeo Year will begin **with IGRA University** on January 1 and end on **at the conclusion of IGRA Convention** December 31.

RR-E1

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

8. Must enter a minimum of either one (1) event each day, or two (2) events if only competing on one (1) day **to register**. The **contestant's (mailed or online) pre-registration entry** form must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of at least the minimum required in order to compete under this rule \$75.00. If a contestant then "no shows" for the rodeo, the deposit submitted will be forfeited to the host association.

9. Must reserve a the appropriate number of horse stall(s) for horse(s) via (mailed or online) **pre-registration** form with a \$25 (per horse stall) refundable stall deposit. Contestants requiring additional stalls for horses may be required to pay a stall fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per stall for the rodeo weekend if published by the association prior to that rodeo's registration deadline. A pre-registered contestant who does not show to the rodeo will forfeit their stall reservation deposit(s). Refer to Rodeo Rule I, Number 20.

10. Contestants are provided one stall at no cost. Contestants reserving additional stalls may be required to pay a stall fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per additional stall for the rodeo weekend, if published by the host association prior to that rodeo's registration deadline.

New #11. (re-number all following accordingly)

Any pre-registered contestant who fails to complete contestant registration, will forfeit their pre-registration deposit(s).

RR-E2

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

3. **Contestants** Hauling livestock, bear the responsibility to know the State or Province laws and/or rules regarding health certificates/coggins tests for each State or Province that he/she is traveling in or entering. It is also the contestant's responsibility to have the necessary paperwork (health certificate/coggins certificate) that complies with each State's or Province's laws and/or rules. State laws can be found at Web site <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/sregs/> (U.S.) and www.inspection.gc.ca (Canada).

7. Prior to the close of registration, contestant or contestant's representative must notify the Rodeo Secretary of **arrival** beyond the close of registration due to unforeseen circumstances. A contact phone number for the secretary must be included in the preregistered contestant information. Registration may be allowed with the approval of the Rodeo Secretary. All entry fees and signatures must be collected prior to the start of the first rodeo event.

RR-E3

Below is to separate two steps.

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

F. Chute Dogging.

7. Contestant must then use their strength and skill in a manner to **either:**
 - a. change the direction of the steer without crossing its path
 - b. bring the steer to a stop.

RR-E4

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

A. General Rules for Riding Events.

1. Any animal that becomes excessively excited so that it gets down in the chute repeatedly, or tries to jump out of the chute, or in any way appears to be in danger of injuring itself or the contestant, should be released immediately and pulled from competition at by the Chute Coordinator's and Arena Director's discretion and the rider given a new animal.

4. A qualified ride will be six (6) seconds. Time begins when the animal's inside shoulder passes the plane of the chute gate. Time will stop once the contestant touches the ground or has been disqualified. One (1) non-Rookie Judge shall serve as the official timer in the rough stock riding events. The second Judge shall serve as backup timer. All riding events shall be timed for six (6) seconds. The Judges shall start their stopwatches when the animal's inside shoulder passes the plane of the chute gate. The Judges shall stop their stopwatches when in their opinion the contestant has been disqualified for any reason or dismounts the animal. In either instance where the time is six (6) seconds or more, the contestant shall be entitled to a score. If the horn, whistle, or buzzer sounds earlier than the required six (6) seconds, the contestant will be scored if there are at least four (4) seconds on the official stopwatch. If there are less than four (4) seconds on the official stopwatch, the contestant will be offered a ride or no score. The backup stopwatch will only be used if the Judge with the official stopwatch time had his/her vision obstructed at the end of the ride.

4. **A qualified ride will be timed for six (6) seconds.**
- a. **Time begins when the animal's inside shoulder passes the plane of the chute gate. (Judges shall start their stopwatches when the animal's inside shoulder passes the plane of the chute gate.**
 - b. **One non-rookie Judge shall serve as the official timer, 2nd Judge is back up timer. The backup stopwatch will only be used if the Judge with the official stopwatch time had his/her vision obstructed at the end of the ride.)**
 - c. **Time will stop once the contestant touches the ground or has been disqualified. (Judges shall stop their stopwatches when in their opinion the contestant has been disqualified for any reason or dismounts the animal. In either instance where the time is six seconds or more, the contestant shall be entitled to a score.)**
 - d. **If the horn, whistle, or buzzer sounds earlier than the required six (6) seconds, the contestant will be scored if there are at least four (4) seconds on the official stopwatch. If there are less than four (4) seconds on the official stopwatch, the contestant will be offered a re-ride or no score.**

RR-E5

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

1. ROUGH STOCK EVENTS.

A. General Rules for **Rough Stock** Riding Events.

RR-E6

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

B. Steer Decorating.

1. Team event with two (2) people on each team.
2. In consideration of Safety, Steers are to be positioned in alternating (every other) chutes, if possible, for safety reasons. **Always facing hinged end of chute.**
3. Each steer will have Association must supply a soft cotton twenty-five foot (25') [+ (plus) or – (minus) one foot (1')] long by three-quarters inch (3/4") up to one and one-half inches (1 1/2") diameter rope to include a metal ring with an inside diameter of two and one-half inches (2 1/2") to three inches (3") metal ring **is to be used for the event. No knots in rope are allowed.**
4.
 - New 4. **The end of the rope with the ring** is to be attached on horns of a horned steer such that the ring end of the rope is behind the steer's horns, and the ring end of the rope points away from the arena side of the chute. The rope is not to be tightened around the horns of the steer before the start of the event.
 - a. (New 5.)No Mulie (non-horned) steers will be allowed. Rope to be furnished by host association. No knots are allowed in ropes. Ropes must be uniform in diameter. Event requires horned steers that meet the stock specifications.
 - b. **(#6)** Ribbon must be a minimum of seven-eighths inch (7/8") to a maximum of one and one-quarter inch (1 1/4") in width and twenty-four inches (24") in length minimum and must be made of prefab cloth ribbon with a finished edge.
 - c. Ribbons will be made available to all teams at the beginning of the event.
 4. The team.
 - a. **Team is comprised of two contestants.**
 - b. One (1) team member stands ten feet (10') from the chutes holding the rope.
 - c. Second (2nd) team member stands at least forty feet (40') from the chutes holding the ribbon.
 5. The event.
 - a. Time begins and steer belongs to the team as the Judge blows whistle and drops the flag.
 - b. When the chute gate opens, contestants must haze steer across ten foot (10') line. Chute gate will remain open until completion of each heat.
 - c. **Once all four feet have crossed the ten foot (10') line, the following must occur:**
 - d. **Contestant with Ribbon must tie ribbon on steer's tail.**
 - e. **Contestant with Rope must remove the Loop from the Steers head.**
 - 6.

f. Once both above have been completed, the Contestant with the Ribbon must tag the timer in the chute they started in.

g. Time ends when the Contestant with the Ribbon has tagged their assigned timers hand.

Judge will verify as he/she runs up to tie ribbon on steer's tail all four (4) feet of the steer must clear the ten foot (10') line before ribbon can be tied or rope removed. The person standing ten feet (10') from the chutes holding the rope is responsible for removing the rope from the steer and the person standing behind the forty foot (40') line holding the ribbon is responsible for tying the ribbon and tagging the timer.

7. Time ends when the ribbon is tied on the steer's tail, the loop of the rope has been removed from the steer's horns, and the member of the team who tied the ribbon on the tail touches the Timer assigned to their team.
8. If a team loses their steer, they must recapture their own steer.
9. If chute gate "hangs up" but the steer is still released, the team must immediately drop the rope, and request a re-ride. If the team continues to compete, they have accepted the conditions, and a re-ride will not be granted for the gate "hanging up."
10. Disqualification.
 - a. Contestant crosses their start line prior to the Judges signal to start.
 - b. Contestant tags Timer before the loop of the rope is completely removed from the **steer's head**.
 - c. Ribbon is not tied to steer's tail when Timer is touched.
 - d. Ribbon is not tied by the contestant who started at the forty foot (40') line.
 - e. Timer is touched before the loop is removed from both horns.
 - f. Capturing another team's steer.
 - g. Attempting to decorate the steer or remove rope from horns before all four (4) feet of the steer clear the ten foot (10') line.
 - h. Contestant touches unassigned Timer.
 - i. Any action deemed as abusive to the animal (kicking, slapping, whipping).

RR-E7

RULE XI – GENERAL RULES

21. All contestants are required to wear long-sleeve shirts, long pants, western hat, and boots that minimally cover the ankle and have a heel. The contestant will be disqualified if a Western hat is NOT on the contestant's head when they enter the arena to compete, including the roping boxes, bucking chutes, and designated runway. After entering any portion of the arena, contestants in horse speed events, breakaway and team roping must retain their hats throughout their time in the arena or they will be fined five dollars (\$5.00). A contestant may choose to wear protective headgear, and the requirement for wearing a western hat is waived. No other waivers on required attire will be granted to contestants because of injury or for any other reason. No rolled or pushed up sleeves will be allowed except on the riding arm only during rough stock events. This dress code rule does not apply to any camp events; however, closed toe shoes of some type MUST be worn in the arena for the start of all events. In addition, a contestant wearing clothing that allows the contestant's genitalia to be exposed will not be allowed to begin competition

This has been moved to Contestant Requirements and was supposed to be removed from General Rules.

Excerpt as follows:

RULE II – CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

13. Required Dress Code.
- A. All contestants are required to wear long-sleeve shirts, long pants, Western hat, and boots that minimally cover the ankle and have a heel.
 - B. The contestant will be disqualified if a Western hat is NOT on the contestant's head when they enter the arena to compete, including the roping boxes, bucking chutes, and designated runway. After entering any portion of the arena, contestants in horse/speed events, Mounted Break-Away and Team Roping must retain their hats throughout their time in the arena or they will be fined five dollars (\$5.00).
 - C. A contestant may choose to wear protective headgear, thus the requirement for wearing a Western hat is waived. No other waivers on required attire will be granted to contestants because of injury or for any other reason.
 - D. No rolled or pushed up sleeves will be allowed except on the riding arm only during rough stock events.
 - E. This dress code rule does not apply to camp events; however, closed toe shoes of some type must be worn in the arena for the start of all events.
 - F. In addition, a contestant wearing clothing that allows the contestant's genitalia to be exposed will not be allowed to begin competition.

RR–R1 (Recommendation to Judges)

RULE XII – RULES FOR EVENTS

4. Camp Events.

A. General Rules for Camp Events.

8. A team will be disqualified if any of the team members' feet step on or cross the start line before the start of the event by the Judge.

We recommend that the Judges determine a set location for the Start Of camp events, so they are able to view the starting positions of contestants for violation of the above rule.

Goat Dressing should be easy to address by situating the Start Judge to either side of the start lines.

Steer decorating could be relatively simple, by moving to either side of both teams, in a manner to watch all four lines?

Wild Drag – Maybe the Finish Judges should watch the third line for “false starts” and the Start Judge situate similar to Deco?

Judge may have to locate themselves to one side of both teams in a manner to observe the start. Standing in the middle disables them from watching all start lines, and could interfere with the event.

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CE

Article #8 (1.5 contact hours)

Refereed Peer Review

Castration in Cattle: Techniques and Animal Welfare Issues

KEY FACTS

- Castration is an accepted and important animal husbandry procedure in today's beef industry.
- Castration of very young animals is apparently less stressful than castration of older animals.
- Additional research is needed to accurately evaluate the effects of various castration methods on the welfare and production performance of calves at different ages.

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Matthew H. Poore, PhD

Glenn M. Rogers, DVM, MS, DABVP

ABSTRACT: Castration is deemed a necessary practice in U.S. cattle production systems. The procedure is primarily advocated to reduce damage to animals, humans, and facilities by decreasing aggressive male behavior. Castration is also advocated to improve carcass quality. Pointing to European practices, some have argued that castration is painful and would not be a necessary procedure in cattle production if changes were made in management practices to facilitate finishing intact bulls. However, this argument fails to recognize the intensive management and higher animal numbers processed in U.S. cattle production systems. The technique employed and the timing of the procedure may have a substantial effect on both actual and perceived pain. Several techniques have been developed for castration. All of them appear to produce some pain. Although local anesthesia may be advocated to reduce pain associated with castration, it may actually elevate the animal's stress from increased handling. Less pain has been associated with early castration (younger than 2 months of age) and is, therefore, recommended.

Castration or orchiectomy of young bulls is an animal husbandry procedure that has been practiced for centuries. There are written accounts from as early as the sixteenth century on how to perform the procedure.¹ The various indications for castration include prevention of aggressive male behavior, control of unwanted matings, and consumer prejudices against beef from intact male animals.^{2,3} Many techniques have been tried and either adopted or discarded. Increasingly, the humane aspects of typical animal husbandry procedures (e.g., castration, tail docking, dehorning) are being questioned. This article reviews numerous techniques that have been used as well as animal welfare concerns regarding castration. Differences in carcass characteristics and morbidity and mortality associated with castration, although important, are not the focus of this article.

CASTRATION TECHNIQUES

Many different techniques have been developed for castrating cattle. Kent and colleagues⁴ conducted a survey in the United Kingdom and found the emasculator to be the most popular method of castration, followed closely by surgical

castration and elastrator bands (43%, 39%, and 32%, respectively). Based on 1997 figures released by the U.S. National Animal Health Monitoring System,⁵ surgical castration is the preferred method used by cow/calf producers in the United States. Herd size tended to be a factor in the method of castration performed, with larger producers using primarily surgical castration and smaller producers almost as likely to use elastrator bands as surgical castration. These figures are based on the 74.5% of cow/calf producers that responded to the survey and indicated castration was performed before weaning. Castration techniques used postweaning were not surveyed. The length of time required to perform most castration techniques is essentially the same, once the user has become proficient. Because routine castration techniques are familiar to most veterinary practitioners, only brief discussions of some older techniques, as well as a few novel approaches that require further research before adoption, are presented.

Surgical

Several methods of surgical castration have been described in the literature.⁶ The basic techniques are similar, with most differences described relating to the animal's age and size or the operator's preference. Excessive hemorrhage and ascending infection from the incision site are the most commonly encountered surgical complications.⁶

Operators may use any type of clean, sharpened blade or an instrument specifically designed for scrotal incisions, such as a Newberry castrating knife. Methods described include incising over each testis separately, transecting and removing the ventral third to half of the scrotum, or incising the ventral half of the scrotum through its lateral aspects (i.e., using a Newberry castration knife).⁶ The common goal with each method is to establish an opening large enough to allow drainage and prevent fluid accumulation.

A modified closed technique involving testis removal after incising the common tunic and removing most of the spermatic cord is commonly performed on bulls of various weights. Closed and open techniques have also been described. The closed technique leaves the common tunic intact and is recommended for bulls under 500 lb. The open technique requires that all tunics be separated from the testicular vasculature, with the tunics and vasculature then ruptured in two steps. The open procedure is generally used on bulls over 500 lb.⁶ Once the testis is exposed and retracted to reveal the spermatic cord, the calf's size and individual preference play a major role in the choice of technique.

Young calves may have their testes removed with only

manually applied traction to compress the vasculature and provide hemostasis. When calves over 45 kg are castrated, manual traction of the spermatic cord has led to recoil of the ductus deferens into the abdominal cavity, which may form an adhesion with the abdominal wall and subsequent small intestinal obstruction due to incarceration of the bowel.^{7,8} Larger calves require a method that crushes or ligates the vessels. Although this method is not commonly used in the field, ligation of the vessels has been accomplished with resorbable suture material or hemostatic clips (e.g., resorbable Cast-clip® [K-Vet, Inc., Washington, KS]).⁹ Metal ligatures should not be used in animals intended for slaughter because of damage to equipment and the potential for human consumption. An emasculator, such as the Frank, Hausman, or White emasculator, can be applied alone or in addition to ligatures.⁶ Emasculators that crush the spermatic cord should be held in place for at least 30 seconds. Some emasculators only transect the spermatic cord, while others transect and crush the cord. Double-crush emasculators, such as the Serra or Reimer, are advocated by some practitioners for very large bulls.

A more recently introduced instrument, the Henderson® castrating tool (Stone Manufacturing & Supply Co., Kansas City, MO; Figure 1) is recommended by the manufacturer for use in all ages of calves. After clamping the tool onto the spermatic cord, it is attached to a variable speed drill. Steady tension is maintained on the testis while the spermatic cord is twisted until it ruptures. This technique reportedly crushes vessels, ensuring adequate hemostasis. We are not aware of any published reports investigating the safety and efficacy of this device.

Nonsurgical

Most nonsurgical methods involve interrupting the blood supply to the testes or scrotum without hemorrhage. There are also methods, which cause scarring or atrophy of the testes, that do not aim to interrupt the blood supply.

Several companies produce elastrator bands and the instruments with which to apply them correctly. Banding has been advocated for bulls from birth to approximately 600 lb and is frequently used to castrate even larger bulls in feedlots. The earlier the band is applied, the less stressful it is believed to be for the animal. Banding causes ischemic necrosis of the testes, eventually leading to testicular atrophy and sloughing of the scrotum. This method requires the operator to place the specially designed elastic band around the neck of the scrotum proximal to the testes.

The size of the band depends on the size of the calf.

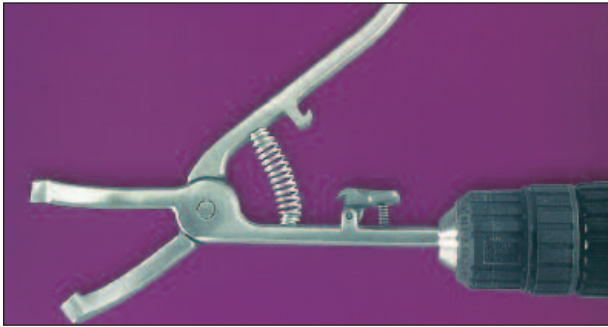


Figure 1—Henderson[®] castrating tool (Stone Manufacturing & Supply Co., Kansas City, MO) attached to a rechargeable variable-speed drill. After the incision is made and the testis is manually retracted, the tool is clamped on the spermatic cord just proximal to the testis. The drill is activated and with steady tension each testis is twisted until the spermatic cord ruptures. The twisting action encourages hemostasis.

In calves younger than 1 month, a small ring, similar to an O-ring, is placed with a device that stretches the elastator band to allow it to be slipped over the testes. Larger bands are recommended for older calves with larger testes. The large bands are constructed of latex tubing. Once the band is placed, it is tightened using a specially designed ratchet device that evenly distributes pressure over the band surface. A grommet is crimped over the end to securely fasten the tubing (Figure 2). Excess tubing is trimmed at the grommet. It is important that an appropriately sized band is used and adequate tension is applied to the band. Bands that are not tight enough do not adequately constrict the blood vessels, leading to excessive pain, swelling, and complications, such as scirrhous cord (Figure 3). Immediate rebanding is advocated in these cases. Overtightened bands are likely to break; however, this generally occurs during band application, and rebanding can be performed immediately. Both the Callicrate Bander[®] (No-Bull Enterprises, LLC, St. Francis, KS) and the EZE Bloodless Castrator[®] (Cowboy Creations, Huson, MT) have been modified so that band tension is monitored



Figure 2—The Callicrate Bander[®] (No-Bull Enterprises, LLC, St. Francis, KS) is used to place a thick latex band (*shown*) around the neck of the scrotum above the testes. The band is tightened and fastened in place, causing ischemic necrosis of the testes and scrotal sac.

and the device stops before overtightening.

Before placing the band, both testes must be below the band. It is also important when placing the band to ensure that the calf does not have an inguinal hernia. Tetanus has been reported in banded calves¹⁰; therefore, it is strongly recommended that older calves be vaccinated with tetanus toxoid 7 to 10 days before banding. When calves are banded at birth, tetanus has not been reported to be a common problem; however, the risk should be considered.

Emasculatomes were designed to castrate calves without some of the potential health hazards of surgery or elastration. With this method, the scrotum is not opened and the testicular vasculature is only crushed, not cut. When performed properly, this method eliminates the chance of infection and excessive hemorrhage. It is suggested for use only in immature males because older males have larger cremaster muscles that may prevent adequate vasculature crushing.

Appropriate instrument maintenance and proper technique are crucial for effective results. The instrument must never be applied across the entire width of the scrotal neck because this will damage the superficial blood supply to the scrotal skin, leading to necrosis and sloughing (not unlike the concept of elastators). Also, applying the instrument across the entire scrotum may not completely crush the testicular vasculature, possibly leaving the calf intact. The emasculatome should be placed across each spermatic cord individually as the cord is held against the lateral wall of the scrotal neck. Bulls should be separated for 3 to 6 weeks from females to allow the testes to atrophy completely.⁶ Steers castrated with emasculatomes may appear intact to an uninformed buyer due to the remaining scrotum and atrophied testes, resulting in discounts on these animals at sale. Emasculatomes have not been widely used in the United

AVMA Policy on Castration and Dehorning of Cattle¹⁹

“The AVMA supports the use of procedures that reduce or eliminate the pain of dehorning and castrating of cattle. These procedures should be completed at the earliest age practicable. Research in developing improved techniques for painless, humane castration and dehorning is encouraged. In addition, it is recommended that viable alternatives to castration and dehorning be developed and applied.”



Figure 3—A calf with scirrhus cord, a consequence of improper elastator band placement. The excess fibrous tissue often contains abscesses and draining tracts.

States since the eradication of screwworms in the 1960s.

A product previously marketed involved the injection of a sclerosing agent (i.e., lactic acid) directly into the testes, which led to atrophy of the germinal tissue.^{11–13} This product is no longer available in the United States. This method was recommended only for calves less than 70 kg, and the dose depended on weight.¹³ Healing time after castration was found to be faster than with other methods. Although this was an innovative idea, problems occurred in the application. The time required to perform the procedure effectively was increased, and the practitioner had to be careful when injecting the lactic acid to ensure equal distribution throughout the testis.¹⁴ Extratesticular injection of the chemical led to necrosis of surrounding tissues.¹¹ In the studies reviewed, a large percentage (18% to 50%) of calves were not castrated or were unilaterally castrated. This may have been related to the weight of the calves because many were over the 70 kg recommended weight.^{11,12}

Another interesting concept is vaccination of calves against luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH), also known as gonadotrophin-releasing hormone (GnRH).^{15,16} The vaccine induces antibodies to LHRH, which causes slight testicular atrophy, interrupts sperm production, and decreases testosterone production, thus eliminating behavioral problems. Once antibody titers fall, the testes develop, and bulls show normal secondary sex characteristics.¹⁷ Current research at the University of California, Davis, suggests that cattle can be adequately immunized against GnRH with two injections, the first at 1, 4, or 6 months of age with a booster at 12 months of age.¹⁸ At 16 months of age, aggressive behavior was

decreased in immunized bulls compared with nonimmunized bulls during exposure to a novel pen environment. When anti-GnRH titers were assessed at 16 months of age, they appeared to be declining for animals initially vaccinated at 1 or 4 months of age. The bulls initially vaccinated at 6 months of age had titers that still appeared to be increasing; however, all animals were slaughtered at 16.4 months of age (weighing 1000 to 1200 lb).¹⁸

If researchers can develop a safe and inexpensive vaccine for castration, it would be revolutionary. The concerns of animal welfare activists could be addressed, and the beef industry could still produce cattle that are more easily handled than bulls. However, these animals would likely need to be marketed through special channels to avoid the discounts generally received for intact calves.

ANIMAL WELFARE ISSUES

Recently, public concern has been raised over various routine animal husbandry procedures and the perceived pain or stress associated with these techniques. In the United Kingdom, legislation has been in place for several years specifying the acceptable age and method of castration without anesthetic agents (cattle over 2 months of age must be surgically castrated using local anesthesia).²⁴ The AVMA has a policy on the animal welfare aspects of castration; however, it is brief and provides only a foundation for developing personal guidelines (see box on p. S68).¹⁹ The Federation of Animal Science Societies *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching* advises that castration is least stressful when performed at a few days of age. Local anesthesia is recommended for calves older than 2 to 3 months of age or greater than 230 kg if spermatic cords are crushed or surgical castration is performed.²⁰ However, the guide also states that local anesthesia was not advantageous when using specialized instruments for bloodless castration in older animals.²⁰

Most of the difficulty in developing more stringent policy guidelines centers on the practitioner's inability to accurately assess pain in animals. Another major difficulty in addressing animal welfare issues is the tendency toward anthropomorphism. Many people assume that any stimulus that could be stressful or painful to humans would also be so to animals.²¹ Kitchell and Erikson²² sum up the difficulty in addressing pain in animals: "Pain is a complex physiologic phenomenon; it is hard to define satisfactorily in human beings, and it is extremely difficult to recognize and interpret in animals." Most of the research on the pain associated with animal husbandry practices has been performed in sheep. However, pain responses are known to be different not only among species but among individuals of

the same species.²³ Nevertheless, comparative research shows that lambs and calves tend to react similarly, although calves apparently are slightly less sensitive than lambs to certain types of painful stimuli.²⁴

Cortisol

There are numerous studies that evaluate blood cortisol concentrations in animals subjected to routine husbandry procedures. Cortisol increases very rapidly (within minutes) in response to stressful stimuli; however, it also declines rapidly (4 to 6 hours).²⁵⁻²⁹ A complicating factor is that increases in cortisol have also been recorded in response to seemingly pleasant stimuli (e.g., anticipation of feeding).³⁰ Other confounding factors in studies measuring cortisol response were time of day cortisol measurements were gathered and whether the timing of sample collection was consistent. It is well established that blood cortisol concentration has a circadian pattern.²⁹

Studies using cortisol as a measure of the pain associated with the use of various castration methods are equivocal. Some authors argue for the use of banding,^{28,31} while others present results indicating that surgery is the least stressful method of castration.³² In a study of 3- to 6-week-old lambs, Shutt and colleagues³² found higher cortisol concentrations in surgical castrates but argued that behavioral evidence of pain was lower than in banded castrates. Macaulay and Friend³¹ stated that 4-month-old calves appeared to be most stressed by surgical castration (versus using emasculator or chemical castration) for the first 2 hours after the procedure (end of the observation period). Chase and colleagues³³ found that bulls surgically castrated at approximately 21 months of age had a higher rise in cortisol immediately after castration than did bulls castrated by banding ($P < .03$). Bulls castrated surgically in this experiment did have local anesthetic administered before castration. Because surgical castrates were restrained longer than banded castrates (3 additional minutes for anesthetic to take effect), it is plausible that the acute increase in cortisol was associated with increased restraint time.³³ Bulls castrated by both methods had higher cortisol concentrations for 36 days after castration than did the controls, but the difference was only significant on day 2 ($P < .04$).³³ King and colleagues²⁹ castrated calves at different ages (78 and 167 days) and by different methods (surgical or emasculator). They found no difference in cortisol concentrations (measured for 30 hours) in 78-day-old calves castrated by either method. Calves surgically castrated at 167 days of age had lower cortisol concentrations 2 minutes after the procedure but higher concentrations at 6 hours after the procedure than emasculator castrates ($P < .05$).²⁹ Robertson and colleagues³⁴ compared surgical, emasculator, and elastrator band

castration in calves at 6, 21, and 42 days of age. They found that the 21-day-old calves exhibited the least cortisol increase during the 3-hour observation period. Although banding produced the least intense cortisol response in calves at all ages, cortisol concentrations remained elevated longer with banding than with surgical or emasculator castration. The study concluded that perceived pain based on behavioral response was not the same as pain based on changes in cortisol concentration.³⁴

Other Objective Parameters

Some investigators have measured changes in blood leukocytes and β -endorphins following castration.^{27,32,33,35,36} β -Endorphin concentrations vary but tend to return to normal in a time frame similar to that of cortisol.^{27,32} Total white cell counts increased in castrated cattle but returned to normal in less than 7 days.^{33,36} More research is needed before measurements of leukocytes and β -endorphins can be objectively used to reflect the degree of stress. Body temperature has also been measured as an indicator of inflammation and stress reaction to castration; however, no differences in technique or values outside the normal reference range were noted.³⁷

Behavior

Behavior has been extensively studied and offers some insight into pain responses in animals.^{24,38,39} When behavior has been monitored, researchers recorded activity that deviated from normal or that was seen more often than in noncastrated controls, such as foot stamping, tail wagging, licking at lesions, lateral recumbency, and restlessness, which were considered stress behaviors. Molony and colleagues⁴⁰ conducted a long-term study on the behavior of 1-week-old calves castrated by surgery, emasculator, or elastrator bands. They found that stress behavior persisted for up to 42 days in calves that were banded.⁴⁰ This study followed behavior longer than any other study reviewed. Robertson and colleagues³⁴ observed behaviors for a 3-hour period after castration in calves at 6, 21, and 42 days of age that were castrated by surgery, emasculator, or elastrator bands. They concluded that emasculator was the least stressful method of castration but noted that stress behaviors still occurred at the end of the observation period, most notably in the banded group.³⁴

Feed Intake and Average Daily Gain

In studies measuring feed intake, castration by emasculator or surgery decreased feed intake for 1 to 2 weeks by 0.5 to 1 kg ($P < .05$).^{25,26} Emasculator castrates had decreased feed intake during the first week and surgical castrates had decreased feed intake for the second week compared with uncastrated controls

($P < .05$).²⁵ Average daily gain (ADG) has also been assessed in the period following castration.^{25,26,33} Most studies support that there is at least some initial decrease in ADG; however, opinions differ as to which technique causes the most decrease. Chase and colleagues³³ found an insignificant decrease ($P \leq .13$) in ADG over a 35-day period between control bulls and bulls castrated at approximately 21 months of age by banding or surgery (controls gained 0.93 kg/day versus 0.42 kg/day in banded calves and 0.64 kg/day in surgical castrates). In a study using 5½-month-old bulls, Fisher and colleagues²⁵ found that ADG from day 0 to day 35 after castration was lower in surgical castrates than in emasculatome castrates ($P < .05$). This difference was primarily due to a decrease in ADG from day 0 to day 7.²⁵ In another study, Fisher and colleagues²⁶ found a decrease in ADG from day 0 to day 7 in surgical castrates versus control bulls ($P < .01$). There was no difference between the groups from day 8 to day 28 postcastration ($P > .05$).²⁶

Technician Variability

The level of technician experience and expertise could result in obvious variability in the outcome of castration procedures. Professional training in aseptic technique is also a variable in performance of castration. Technique and instrument cleanliness make little difference during the actual procedure but likely affect subsequent morbidity and mortality.

Local Anesthesia

The use of anesthetics affects the perception of the pain involved in castration. The anesthetic most often used is lidocaine, which is generally injected directly into the spermatic cord for local anesthesia.⁴¹ Sedatives or general anesthesia are rarely used and then only in older, mature bulls. Caulkett and colleagues⁴² described a method of epidural anesthesia with xylazine for use in the castration of mature bulls. There are several arguments for and against the use of anesthesia. The use of anesthetics in cattle is extralabel because it has not been approved in the United States. After surgery, lidocaine wears off rapidly, especially since most of it is removed with the testis. Fisher and colleagues²⁵ found that during the initial 2 hours after the procedure, the cortisol response was lower if lidocaine was used, assuming time was allowed for the anesthetic to take effect (15 minutes). They also found that ADG was improved in the first 7 days after surgical castration if lidocaine was used ($P < .05$).²⁵ In practical field situations, allowing sufficient time for appropriate anesthetic administration and effect may be perceived as a serious detriment to processing efficiency. When large numbers of bulls are processed (as in large feedlot opera-

tions), slowing the speed of processing by a few minutes per animal substantially increases processing costs and may increase handling-associated stress.

Faulkner and colleagues⁴³ described the use of intravenous butorphanol and xylazine before castration and found no difference in acute stress response between calves castrated with the anesthetic protocol or without administration of systemic anesthetics. In this study, the time between drug administration and the start of the procedure was approximately 90 seconds, posing the question of the adequacy of the interval between drug administration and castration.⁴³ In cattle, especially beef cattle, handling may be stressful.⁴⁴ Physical restraint, such as occurs in a squeeze chute, results in elevated cortisol levels independent of the performance of stressful procedures.^{14,25} The use of anesthetic agents for castration increases animal handling times. Although short-term pain may be decreased, increased handling time increases the stress associated with the castration procedure. In the United States, producers and veterinarians who perform routine castrations in herd or feedlot environments generally do not use an anesthetic, even in large bulls.

CONCLUSION

Castration is a common animal husbandry procedure in today's beef industry. Currently, there does not appear to be a good objective measure of pain in calves with which to compare castration techniques and make solid recommendations. Observation of behavior, although subjective, appears to be the most reliable measure. Additional research is needed to evaluate the effects of various castration methods on the welfare and production performance of calves of different ages. The only consistent finding in the literature is that younger animals appear to be less affected. When older calves are castrated, addition of local anesthetic to the protocol may be of value in decreasing pain. Further research is warranted into post-castration performance improvement if anesthetics and/or analgesics are added to the protocol.

We generally recommend surgical castration, particularly for cow/calf producers. Regardless of which technique is used, it is strongly recommended that calves be castrated before 2 months of age, if possible. Practitioners working with feedlot and backgrounding operations know that calves are often not castrated before leaving the farm of origin. Therefore, the attending veterinarian should assess the environment and technical skill of the operators, and the appropriate method of castration should be recommended for each specific operation. Future developments may lead to increased use of immunocastration. This method addresses concerns with associated pain, especially in cases in which environment and operator expertise are poor.

Veterinarians must be concerned with minimizing pain associated with such procedures as castration and encourage producers to give proper consideration to this important animal welfare issue. Having researched these difficult questions enables practitioners to present a balanced view of the procedures and logically debate their necessity.

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3. Immunocastration involves vaccination against
- testosterone.
 - spermatozoa.
 - GnRH.
 - follicle-stimulating hormone.
 - spermatic fluid.
4. Injection of lactic acid into the testes (i.e., chemical castration) is no longer practiced in the United States because
- it is extremely expensive.
 - extensive training is needed to perform the procedure.
 - human contact with the product is dangerous.
 - its results were inconsistent.
 - none of the above
5. Which factor has the most potential as a long-term indicator of the pain associated with castration?
- behavior
 - blood cortisol concentration
 - blood endorphin concentration
 - total white blood cell counts
 - none of the above
6. Castration has been referred to in literature as early as the
- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| a. 1900s. | d. 700s. |
| b. 1500s. | e. 300s. |
| c. 1100s. | |
7. Increases in bovine plasma cortisol have occurred in response to which of the following?
- castration
 - dehorning and/or tail docking
 - anticipated feeding
 - sexual stimulation
 - all of the above
8. Based on the 1997 National Animal Health Monitoring System survey, the preferred method of castration among cow/calf producers in the United States is
- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| a. vaccination. | d. elastrator bands. |
| b. chemical castration. | e. surgical technique. |
| c. emasculator. | |
9. The Henderson® castrating tool is used to perform what type of castration?
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. vaccination | d. elastrator bands |
| b. chemical castration | e. surgical technique |
| c. emasculator | |
10. The Callicrate® bander is used to perform what type of castration?
- vaccination
 - chemical castration
 - emasculator
 - elastrator bands
 - surgical technique

ARTICLE #8 CE TEST

The article you have read qualifies for 1.5 contact hours of Continuing Education Credit from the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. Choose the best answer to each of the following questions; then mark your answers on the postage-paid envelope inserted in *Compendium*.

- Which of the following parameters has been studied as a method to assess pain of castration?

a. plasma cortisol	d. behavior
b. weight gain	e. all of the above
c. white blood cell counts	
- The recommended minimum length of time that emasculators should be held in place to adequately crush the spermatic vasculature is ___ seconds.
 - 15
 - 30
 - 45
 - 60
 - 120