

Report of the Health & Safety Committee to the 29th IGRA Annual Convention

The Health & Safety Committee met at 1:00 pm on Friday November 15, 2013. Ten people representing 9 associations were present. Thank you to the committee members.

Among the topics discussed were ongoing support and encouragement to groups producing educational programs such as gymkhanas, rodeo schools, roping clinics, and so on.

We have noticed that tasking the Rodeo Review Trustee with filling out the injury reports, then forwarding to Chute Coordinator and Arena Director for their review, and input has worked very well. So Trustees, good job and thank you.

We discussed the practice of not running Calf Roping and Break-Away Roping back-to-back. We feel this is a "best practice" in order that the calves get a rest in between events.

There were no reports of animal injuries and/or abuse received that I did not see any on the Rodeo Checklists. If this is true, it's amazing, and we should be very proud of our efforts in the area of animal welfare and continue our ongoing vigilance.

We reviewed the injuries reported in 2013. Of the 15 rodeos held, 14 plus Finals, 10 reported a total of 28 injuries to human participants. Five did not report, which either means they didn't have injuries or they just didn't report them.

The injured were comprised of 18 men, 7 women, and 3 individuals whose gender was not declared.

Three of the reported injuries involved overheating, including 1 official and 1 volunteer. One of the bull injuries involved a volunteer.

The rodeos experiencing reported injuries are as follows:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Sacramento | 5 |
| Houston | 4 |
| Chicago | 4 |
| Little Rock | 3 |
| Kansas City | 3 |
| Phoenix | 2 (unreported, including 1 at rodeo school) |
| Oklahoma City | 2 |
| Santa Fe | 2 |
| Las Vegas | 1 |
| Calgary | 1 |
| Finals | 1 |

In terms of frequency of injuries on a per event basis, Deco had 7, followed by Bulls and Flags with 5 each. Here's the breakdown:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Rodeo School | 1 |
| Bulls | 5 |
| Steers | 1 |
| Dogging | 4 |
| Flags | 5 |
| Deco | 7 |
| Drag | 4 |
| Goats | 1 |

This is an impressively low number of injuries given the number of events held.

Training opportunities outside of actual rodeos are clearly beneficial. Remaining hydrated is critical. We had 3 instances of overheated participants this year (that were reported).

The Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Beverage stations need to be accessible. Depending on the layout of an arena, additional beverage stations may need to be available. This could be as simple as having cases of water at the roping chute end of the arena in addition to what is available in the contestant area or chute area.
2. Request that the announcer remind volunteers, contestants and officials to keep hydrated.
3. Make the Injury Report available to rodeo schools, gymkhanas, etc, and encourage that the reports be completed and submitted as necessary. (Form will be revised to be suitable for non-rodeo events).
4. Develop and publish preferred raking patterns for speed events.
5. Request that the Rodeo Review Trustee investigate unreported injuries, to the extent possible, with a view towards making them reported injuries.
6. Have hand sanitizer available for participants at both ends of the arena.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Griffin, Chair
Health & Safety Committee

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
11/15/13

| NAME | ASSOCIATION | VOTING |
|-----------------|-------------|--------|
| Amy Griffin | ILGRA | X |
| Terry Covington | TGRA | X |
| Linda Frazier | MGRA | X |
| Diane Ross | DSRA | X |
| Judy Davidson | ARGRA | X |
| Tom Seaman | TGRA | |
| Joseph Olney | GSGRA | |
| Jack Morgan | CGRA | |
| Doug Holmes | AGRA | X |
| David Blunk | NGRA | X |