

4-H Rodeo Rules

General Rules:

1. Designated emergency medical personnel and/or ambulance must be readily available at all rodeos.
2. Each club must have their own chaperone.
3. Host club and community are not responsible for injuries.

Member Eligibility:

1. 4-H Project Rodeos are open to all 4-H members enrolled in a 4-H equine project who are working on or have completed Horsemanship Level 2 and who have had prior training in each event entered. Steer/cow riding is open to any 4-H member, who can show proof of training for this event.
2. 4-H Invitational Rodeos are open to any 4-H member who can provide documentation for prior training in each event entered. An Invitational Rodeo is open all 4-H members for the 2004-2005 4-H club year. Eligibility is being reviewed for the 2005-2006 4-H club year.
3. If the event is run in age categories, the breakdown is as follows: (ages as of January 1st of current year): Juniors 9-11 years, Intermediates 12-14 years, and Seniors 15-20 years. The committee may determine alternate categories (i.e. skill levels).

Member Responsibility:

1. All participating members must have read the current 4-H Rodeo Rules.
2. All members must wear proper western attire including - cowboy hat or helmet, heeled cowboy boots (pull on recommended) and long sleeved shirt when they enter the arena, including one (1) hour before and one (1) hour after the rodeo.
3. It is the responsibility of the contestant to check with the rodeo office in case there is a change in the program.
4. Contestants are responsible for confirming entries before the beginning of the rodeo.
5. Contestants must be ready to go in the arena for their event, also ready to return to the arena for ribbon presentation.

Safety Gear:

1. Helmets, flak jackets and protective mouth gear are mandatory in steer/cow riding. A facemask is strongly recommended.
2. A riding helmet may be worn in any rodeo event without risk of penalization.

Horse Project Records:

1. A 4-H horse project record book must be available on request for a member's project horse to be used at a 4-H rodeo.
2. A copy of a member's Level Assessment may also be requested.

Acceptable 4-H Rodeo Events

- The 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch sanctions the following events as approved 4-H rodeo events. All applicable rules and guidelines for each event can be found in the 4-H Rodeo Manual available from the 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch. All rules must be strictly adhered to.
 - ❖ Barrel Racing
 - ❖ Break Away Roping
 - ❖ Goat Tying
 - ❖ Pole Bending
 - ❖ Steer Riding
 - ❖ Team Roping
 - ❖ Keyhole
- To add an event to the list of acceptable 4-H rodeo events, a proposal must be submitted to the 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch with the appropriate assessment tools, rules, guidelines and safety precautions for review. The review process can take up to one (1) year.
 - ❖ If the proposal is approved, the event will be added to the list of Acceptable 4-H Rodeo events. The added event will be included in the 4-H Rodeo Manual or will be available as an addendum to the 4-H Rodeo Manual.
 - ❖ The 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch and Alberta 4-H Council reserves the right to reject the proposal or to recommend changes to the proposal for re-submission.
 - ❖ The 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch will notify the proposal's contact person in writing with the decision and follow-up action.
- Any rodeo events organized by the organizing committee not contained on the above list are not approved/sanctioned by the 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch. The 4-H Program/Alberta 4-H Council will assume no responsibility for injuries or insurance claims relating to non-sanctioned events.

Inspection Committee:

1. Inspection committee is to be made up of a minimum of two (2) people. It must contain at least one (1) person from each club hosting a 4-H rodeo in that region that year. They are to report to the rodeo office early the day of the rodeo.
2. Inspection committee is responsible for the humane treatment of animals. Animals used for rodeo must be inspected before the rodeo. No sick, lame, sore or injured animals shall be permitted in the draw at any time. No animal shall be beaten or cruelly prodded behind or in front of the chutes. The inspection committee has the right to disqualify any contestant for using a horse that is obviously lame, sore or injured in any way.
3. Any person seen being abusive to their horse, (member or parent) before, during or after the rodeo will result in disqualification of contestant by the inspection committee.

Conduct:

1. Any person found interfering with or harassing any Judge or Official will be asked to leave.
2. Members are expected to abide by the "4-H Member Code of Conduct" which prohibits the use of alcohol, tobacco products, or non-prescription drugs while attending any 4-H event. Any participant found using any of these substances will be disqualified and any points or earnings for the day forfeited.
3. All points that day will be taken away from 4-H contestants for excessive use of profanity before or during the rodeo.

Complaints/Grievances/Appeals:

1. Any complaints/grievance/appeals with two signatures other than the complainant, or family member as well as the complainant's are to be presented to the rodeo committee in written form within thirty (30) minutes of the infraction. A fee may be assessed.

Rodeo Officials:

1. Two (2) timers to be used for each run.
2. At least one (1) arena judge for each run in speed and roping events.

Suggested Point System:

1. Ribbons, 1-6 place will be awarded in each event. In case of a tie, ties will be awarded ribbons.
2. Points are awarded for each rodeo event as follows:

1 st	6 points	4 th	3 points
2 nd	5 points	5 th	2 points
3 rd	4 points	6 th	1 point
3. Unless there are less than 6 entrants, then points will be awarded based on entries for example: 3 entries – points would be 3 for 1st, 2 for 2nd, 1 for 3rd.
4. If there is a tie for points at a rodeo, the points will be split, for example: 3 contestants tie for 1st. Add points from 1st to 3rd = 15 points divide by 3 = 5 points will be awarded to each of the contestants who tied for first. Points for 4th to 6th will be awarded to the next three contestants. If it is a 4-way tie divide by 4 etc.
5. In the event of a tie in points after the series of rodeos, the person with the most qualified runs/rides will be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, then an average time/score will be used to determine the winner.

These rules are the minimum provincial requirements for hosting a 4-H Rodeo.