

WRCA Youth Ranch Rodeo Team Contestant Qualifications

A youth division has been added to the Working Ranch Cowboys Association (**WRCA**). The goal is to provide an opportunity for interested youth to participate in a **WRCA** recognized activity and to perpetuate the ranching lifestyle to the next generation.

- All contestants must be **WRCA** Members (at any level). A youth level is now available but any **WRCA** membership is acceptable. Memberships can be purchased in advance through **WRCA** or onsite at the rodeo. If purchased in advance will need enough time to get membership card in the mail so it can be presented to secretary at time of entry.
- Maximum age for all contestants is sixteen (16). If sixteen as of January 1, contestant is eligible for the remainder of that year.
- Youth ranch rodeo teams shall consist of five (5) team members. Maximum combined age of all team members may not exceed 65.
- Contestants may compete on up to two (2) teams at each qualifier rodeo. The winning team at a qualifier must be made up of the same contestants at the **WRCA** Youth World Championship Ranch Rodeo (**YWCRR**). Substitutions may be made in unique circumstances.
- Contestants do not need to meet any other criteria to be on a youth ranch rodeo team or to compete in a **WRCA** youth ranch rodeo qualifier or the **YWCRR**.
- Once a youth team qualifies for the **YWCRR** that team may continue to compete in future qualifier rodeos. If any member of a qualified team competes on a non-qualified team and that team wins a qualifier rodeo, that team is not eligible to receive an invitation to the **YWCRR**.

The **YWCRR** shall include five (5) events. **WRCA** youth ranch rodeo qualifiers may alter events as deemed appropriate with approval from **WRCA**.

- Sorting
- Doctoring
- Trailer Loading
- Calf Branding
- Wild Steer Race

All **WRCA** youth ranch rodeo teams agree to abide by the **WRCA** Humane Treatment of Livestock and Contestant Rules of conduct policies.

HUMANE TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK

GENERAL:

These rules are intended to ensure the humane treatment of all livestock and shall be in effect. No animal shall be treated inhumanely by any contestant. **No Exceptions.**

SORE, LAME, SICK OR INJURED ANIMALS:

Animals for all events will be inspected before the draw, and no sore, lame, sick or injured animal or animal with defective eyesight, shall be permitted in the draw at any time. Should an animal become sick or incapacitated between the time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled to be used in competition that animal shall not be used in competition and another animal shall be drawn for the contestant.

REMOVAL OF INJURED ANIMAL:

A conveyance must be available (tractor & sled) and shall be used, where practical, to remove any injured animal from the arena. Conveyance must be large enough to remove a horse or cow. Any injured livestock must be humanely removed from the arena before continuing the performance.

CONTESTANT RULES OF CONDUCT

1. Anyone (contestant or otherwise) entering the arena shall be wearing long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, boots and a cowboy hat. Chaps and spurs are optional.
2. Abuse of either personal animals or event animals (kicking, whipping, tripping, gouging of eyes, or any action which is totally unnecessary) is strictly prohibited. **No Exceptions!**
3. Interference with another team's competition in an event will result in the disqualification of the interfering team and possible expulsion from WRCA in accordance with the WRCA suspension policy.
5. No loud, obnoxious or unsportsmanlike conduct.
6. The violation of any conduct rule could result in Team disqualification.