

CONTENTS:

SECTION 1 – ROPING RULES

SECTION 2 – JUDGING RULES

SECTION 3 – LIVESTOCK RULES

SECTION 4 – MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1

ROPING RULES

1.1 Loops – Roping a steer without turning the rope loose will be considered no catch. Roper must dally to stop a steer. If steer is roped by one horn, the roper is not allowed to ride up and remove the loop or put the loop over the other horn or head with his/her hand(s).

1.2 Legal Catches – There are only three legal head catches: 1) Around both horns; 2) Half a head; 3) Around the neck. If the hondo passes over one horn and the loop over the other, the catch is illegal. If a loop crosses itself in a head catch, it is illegal. This does not include heel catches. Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if the rope goes up heels. All bridle catches are considered illegal.

1.2.1 Questioned Catch – Any questioned catch will be decided by judge(s). If a field judge, aka Flagger tells a header to hold a steer so that the Flagger may inspect the head catch, and the header does not do so, the team may receive a no-time.

1.3 Time Taken – Time will be taken when the steer is roped and secure between both partners and both horses are facing the steer with ropes dallied and tight. Both horses front feet must be on the ground and ropers must be mounted when the time is taken. The steer must be standing up when roped by its head and heels. Time is taken when the flag is dropped, however, that time is not official until indication is given by the Flagger or Field Judge to the timer or secretary. The Flagger may flag a team out after the time is taken on a run, based on an illegal head catch or illegal heel catch, the steer was not secure or any other factor that was not clear when the time was taken.

1.4 Tie On Rule – Age for men heelers will be 60 years old during the calendar year (Jan-Dec). Birthdays that occur anytime during the membership year are valid on January 1st of the roping season. Female heelers may tie-on with no age restrictions.

1.5 Cross Fire – will not be permitted. Animals must be in tow before the heel rope is released.

1.6 Heeler Ropes Front Foot – if the front foot or feet come out of the heel loop prior to the header facing and thus calling for time, the time will be counted. The Flagger, i.e., judge will not allow an extra time for a front leg to come free.

1.7 Header Ropes Any Leg – should a header rope any leg, it's an automatic no time. Under no circumstance will be the header be allowed to fish-out the leg.

1.8 Dropped Rope – A dropped rope that must be recoiled is considered a thrown rope.

1.9 Arena Clear – Should a team call for a steer before the arena is clear, and are subsequently interfered with by the steer or team still in the arena, this will not be recognized as interference and they shall NOT receive a rerun.

SECTION 2

JUDGING

2.1 JUDGES PARTICIPATION – Flag passing is not permitted. Producers shall not permit FFlaggers to rope in a roping event he/she is flagging unless there are rotations, and another flagger is available to flag an entrie rotation where a flagger is participating.

2.2.1 JUDGES CONTROL – The field Flagger has an obligation to control the domain within the boundaries of the arena.

2.2.2 JUDGES DECISION, QUESTIONING A CALL - A contestant may request a Flagger to explain what a call was, however, this explanation is not a discussion or debate and the roper should immediately exit the arena after receiving the explanation. The Flagger has performed his/her function of making the call. Any question or further discourse concerning the call should be addressed directly to the contractor/producer immediately. The decision of the field judge is **NOT** final, the event contractor or WSTR official after studying all the information has the right to override a call they believe is incorrect. If the contractor/producer's decision overrides that of the Field Judge and that ultimate decision results in the awarding of purse monies, the producer is required to inform WSTR of that decision and the circumstances surrounding that decision.

2.3 SURRENDERING A RUN - If in the opinion of the Field Judge one or both members of a team stops competing during the course of a run, the Judge has the right to stop the run and disqualify the team.

2.4 PROBLEM HORSES - If a roper has had the opportunity to enter the box and can neither get the rope horse in the box, nor bring the horse under control while in the box, and in the opinion of the Judge this situation has become excessive (holding up the roping) a three strike notice will be given. If the roper does not call for the steer on the 3rd attempt the Judge has the option of declaring a no-time on the run. The Judge will give the roper an option of accepting the no-time or drawing out of the event and receiving a refund. No refund will be offered if this situation occurs in the short round.

2.5 CALLING FOR A STEER - Steer belongs to the ropers when called for by the header. Except for mechanical failure the team accepts the situation "as is" regardless of what happens.

2.6 DECLARING A STEER OR PULLING UP – During the course of the run, if the roper is visibly fouled or can visibly see that he/she is, or will be fouled, he/she must declare by PULLING UP or attempting to pull up and not try to go on with the contest. If the roper does not declare by pulling, up he/she accepted the situation as it occurred.

2.7 ROPER TOUCHES THE GROUND - A team will be disqualified if at any time during the course of a run a roper touches the ground.

2.8 CONTESTANT DISQUALIFICATIONS - A. Being under the influence of liquor and/or illicit drugs in the arena; consuming alcoholic beverages and/or illicit drugs in the arena; B. Rowdyism or quarreling within the arena; C. Mistreatment of stock; D. Not being ready to compete when called upon.

2.9 WS BARRIER will be required at all WSTR events. A 5-second penalty will be added for beating the barrier. The penalty for beating the heel barrier will always be the same as the penalty for beating the head barrier.

2.9.1 HEADER BARRIER EYE – shall be set at 9 feet from the headers butt bar, unless box construction prevents those measurements.

2.9.2 HEELER BARRIER EYE – shall be set at 11 feet from the heelers butt bar, unless box construction prevents those measurements.

2.9.3 STEER BARRIER EYE – shall be set at 9 inches from the end of open chute gates. Contractor is permitted the option of setting the steer eye up to one and one half feet from the open chute gates in some 13, 15 and higher ropings based on cattle speed.

2.9.4 LENGTH OF HEAD START – contractors are instructed to adjust the placement of front chute to allow the majority of cattle to be turned at the halfway mark of the arena, based on cattle speed.

2.9.5 HEIGHT OF ELECTRIC EYES - Height of barrier shall be from 32 to 36 inches, with the exception of angle eyes.

2.9.6 BARRIER/TIMER MALFUNCTION - Should a barrier/timer malfunction during the natural course of a competition either for the roper or against the roper, the Field Judge may offer the option of awarding a rerun or removing the barrier penalty. (The steer need not be qualified on to receive a rerun.) However, there shall be no question or disagreement that this situation occurred.

SECTION 3

LIVESTOCK

3.1 NUMBER OF CATTLE - Stock contractors are required to have a minimum number of cattle equal to one-third the number of teams in the largest day of the competition.

3.1.2 REMOVAL FROM DRAW - WSTR, or WSTR official(s), reserve the right to withdraw any steer from the herd at any time. Head duckers, draggers, stoppers, eliminators, unusually slow cattle and cattle that turn back into the corners shall be pulled from the herd immediately as they surface during the WSTR qualification roping. Removal from draw does not result in a rerun for the team roping a steer removed from the

herd. However, a rerun may be awarded if in the opinion of the producer, supported by the opinion of the Field Judge and/or officials working the roping, that a steer in question did not afford a team the opportunity to compete.

3.1.3 INSPECTION - Roping stock will be inspected by the producer prior to the first event. 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 crippled during the course of the roping, that animal shall be removed from the competition immediately. Animals removed from the arena pursuant to this section shall be placed in a situation as isolated and comfortable as possible to reduce stress.

3.2 HUMANE TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK - If a roper excessively abuses an animal by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he/she shall be disqualified and forfeit all entry fees. The Field Judge or other WSTR official shall immediately inform the announcer that the ropers has been disqualified and the announcer will immediately announce the disqualification due to unnecessary roughness of livestock.

3.2.1 HORNWRAPS - All Roping Stock will have horn wraps, which offer protection for both the ears and the base of the horns.

3.2.2 ROPES - WSTR strongly discourages the use of 3/8 scant ropes.

3.2.3 PRODDING - No animal shall be treated inhumanely or prodded excessively. Standard electric prods shall be used as little as possible. Animal shall be touched only on the hip and shoulder area with prod. Animal shall not be touched with a prod while in the roping chute itself.

3.2.4 FAILURE TO HEED WARNING - Any contestant who fails to heed an initial warning from a Field FFlagger that he/she is mistreating an animal he/she will forfeit their entry fees in all divisions for the remainder of that event.

3.2.5 RUN STOPPED BY THE JUDGE – the Field Judge may stop a run at anytime he/she observes an injured animal, to remove that animal from competition. This action will result in a rerun for contestants.

3.3 Visibly Injured Roping Stock - If the roping stock is visibly injured as the run begins, including a broken horn, the team must declare themselves by pulling up immediately.

3.4 Broken Horn - If in the opinion of the Field Judge a non-visible broken horn existed prior to the beginning of a run, he has the option to declare a rerun. However, no rerun shall be awarded where clearly the broken horn was caused by the run itself, or if the judge suspects the broken horn occurred during the run. If run is completed and time taken, even though a broken horn is clearly visible, time shall stand and the Field Judge will remove that animal from the draw.

3.5 CATTLE REMOVED FROM DRAW - WSTR reserves the right to withdraw any steer from the herd at any time. Reruns will be awarded by the F Field FFlagger based on the criteria of “opportunity to compete” as described in our rerun policy below and not automatically as a result of a steer removed from the herd. Cattle sorts occur throughout all ropings, and may merely indicate a speed sort.

3.6 RERUNS (Qualification Ropings) –Reruns are handled differently than Finale Reruns as described in Finale information. As it pertains to Qualification Ropings, reruns will be determined by the Field FFlagger and will be offered without a request from the roper. If a FFlagger does not award a rerun on a steer that a team feels did not afford them the opportunity to compete, they may ask for an explanation, but not argue or discuss the lack of rerun with the FFlagger. They may immediately request a review by the roping Contractor/Producer who has the final decision on the call.

3.6.1 ABILITY TO COMPETE –is the only criteria used to determine reruns. In addition there are two different perspectives on ability to compete. Flaggers are instructed to give the benefit of the doubt to ropers in any 50-50 “ability to compete” decision within the first three go-rounds of any event. However, the decision criteria will be different within the short-round. Short rounds will be held to a much stricter judgment. This is not a 50-50 situation, and there must be ABSOLUTELY NO-DOUBT to the FFlagger, that a team did NOT have a fair ability to compete, before a rerun will be awarded.

Ability to compete does not come into play when it appears to the FFlagger that a contestant, or a rope horse, or lack of riding skill causes the problem (head horse doesn’t rate and sets up the steer, heeler turns in at the head and causes the steer to drag, etc) “Ability to compete” decisions are NOT situations where a steer merely slows down as the ropers approach, steers that run to the left fence, steers that are heavy and step out of the corner instead of hopping, trot instead of hop, and a host of other reasons that some ropers feel should afford them a rerun. “Ability to compete” decision might involve an excessively fast steer, or excessively slow steer. Otherwise, drawing between the bottom and top of the herd is still a variable of the sport.

3.7 ANIMAL ESCAPES ARENA - If any animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and time stopped. Contestants will get animal back for a lap-and-tap start (no-barrier), and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying. If time is not recorded, the decision of the flag judge shall be final.

SECTION 4

MISCELLANEOUS RULES

4.0 TRIAD CLASSIFICATIONS - WSTR utilizes the TRIAD classification system which is owned and operated by United States Team Roping Championships. By utilizing TRIAD classifications WSTR is able to accept USTRC memberships at WSTR ropings, and USTRC accepts WSTR memberships at their ropings. WSTR operates a classification office which acts as a liaison between WSTR members and TRIAD. The WSTR classification office monitors the raising and lowering of TRIAD handicaps as they apply specifically to WSTR members. In addition, WSTR facilitates first time handicaps, appeals and double numbers for WSTR members directly with TRIAD. WSTR classifications are synced with TRIAD handicaps and any change with a TRIAD handicap changes correspondingly with WSTR. When a WSTR member's classification changes, notification will come from a TRIAD representative by phone, certified mail, regular mail service, or in person.

4.1 SPORTSMANSHIP - WSTR reserves the right to disqualify any roper who does not act in a sportsmanlike, reasonable, or professional manner. Disqualified ropers forfeit all fees.

4.2 RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE AND DRAW-OUT TEAMS – WSTR reserves the right to refuse service or draw-out any team for inappropriate conduct, conflicts with management, or any other disputes that cannot be settled prior to an event.

4.3 DRESS CODE – *Finale Events* - Cowboy attire is required at the Finales in Las Vegas, and Heartland Ropings. Cowboy attire is defined as shirts with a sewn on collar, full buttoned front styling, with long sleeves (sleeveless shirt not permitted) and cowboy boots or approved laced cowboy shoes with a heel. Ladies attire does not require sewn collars or full sleeves, but should be in good taste. Men and women must wear a cowboy hat or no hat, ball caps not permitted..

4.4 DRESS CODE – *Qualification Ropings* - Shirts must have a collar and at least two buttons for men. The collar rule does not apply to ladies, but attire should be in good taste. Men must wear a cowboy hat or no hat at all WSTR qualification events. Caps will no be permitted, however, contractors/producers may wave the hat rule during inclement weather (excessive wind, rain, etc). At qualification ropings ladies are permitted to wear style caps, and event caps, but are not permitted to wear corporate caps.

4.5 HOME VIDEOS - Recording for personal use will be permitted, however, in any event where commercial video services or live internet feed is offered, public usage is strictly prohibited. Unauthorized reproductions, internet postings or commercial sales of home videos is strictly prohibited.

4.6 PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RELEASE - By payment of membership in or entry into a WSTR Finale or qualification event, ropers grant permission to the rights of their image, likeness and sound of their voices as recorded on audio or video tape without payment or any other notice or consideration. These images may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed and ropers waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein their likenesses appears. Additionally, ropers waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of a image or recording. Material may be used for diverse promotional and educational purposes within an unrestricted geographical area.

4.7 MAJOR OFFENSES - Quarreling or fighting in the arena. Mistreatment of livestock. Misrepresenting or falsifying a classification number. Attempting to fix, threaten, bribe, influence or harass any WSTR official at any time, in or out of the arena, or arguing with a judge at a time when an event is in progress. Engaging in, or attempting to engage in, any action threatening, berating, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or striking a roping official, a roping spectator, any official representative or employee of the WSTR or any WSTR Contestant.

4.7.1 PENALTY FOR MAJOR OFFENSES - Ropers attempting to fix, threaten, bribe, influence or harass any WSTR official at any time, in or out of the arena, or talking with a judge or timer while an event is in progress will automatically be disqualified, forfeit entry fees, and face potential disqualification from future events at the discretion of a WSTR officer..

4.8 Up and Back – will be permitted at qualification ropings.

4.9 FAILURE TO COMPETE IN SHORT ROUND - A team who fails to compete in any short round is automatically disqualified from the aggregate and thereby forfeits all money, prizes, related to the aggregate.

4.9.1 ROPING OUT OF ORDER – or missing a short round constitutes immediate disqualification.

5.0 UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE

Full and Unconditional Release for Participation

PARTICIPANTS HAVE READ AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO THE RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT and further agree that no oral representations, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made. Cruz Bay Publishing, Inc., aka World Series of Team Roping has the right to refuse entry to anyone for any reason it deems necessary, including but not limited to classification issues. Questions or concerns should be directed to the WSTR Office at 505-898-1755.

Each participant is fully aware, completely understands, and accepts that participation in the Event, whether as a contestant, independent contractor, employee, volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor or spectator, is dangerous and that the events and activities associated

with, relating to, arising out of, and concerning this participation present substantial, serious, and real risks of personal injury or death to the participant, and the loss of, damage to, or destruction of the participant's personal property including livestock.

In Consideration of being permitted to participate in, enter upon and use the **South Point Hotel and Casino and Equestrian Center, and associated facilities, Coast Hotels and Casino Inc. dba Orleans Arena and its parent and affiliated entities, and associated facilities** for the event of the World Series of Team Roping and its individual events, the participant for himself/herself and all persons under his/her management and control including minor children, does acknowledge the dangers inherent in horse related events, and in the use of the facilities, fully and completely accepts and assumes these substantial, serious, and real risks whether or not apparent, known, unknown, foreseen, unforeseen, present, or contingent, and whether or not caused by any negligence of the Released Parties, or the negligence of any contestant, volunteer or spectator including but not limited to, any negligence associated with the design or designing, staging, supervising, maintaining or in any way presenting, conducting or sponsoring the Event, further does agree to use extraordinary care and prudence in his/her activities and those of charges, and does:

HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE the organizers or any subdivision thereof, chairmen, agents, officials, and does;

HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS Gaughan South LLC dba South Point Hotel and Casino and associated facilities, Coast Hotels and Casino Inc. dba Orleans Arena and its parent and affiliated entities, Cruz Bay Publishing, Inc., dba World Series of Team Roping, its sponsors, its agents, servants, employees, and representatives from any claim, demand, or liability for personal injuries or property damage arising from participation or use and enjoyment of the event and facilities. **ROPERS YOUNGER THAN 21 NOT ELIGIBLE TO ROPE IN THE #13, #12, #11, #10, #9, #8.** Parents of ropers younger than 18 who participate in the #15 acknowledge the full and unconditional release for participation for their child.