



## **65th ANNUAL NAVAJO NATION FAIR INDIAN RODEO GROUND RULES**

### **ENTRY ELIGIBILITY**

The 65th Annual Navajo Nation Fair Indian Rodeo (NNFIR) shall be open to all Native American contestants who have a blood quantum of one fourth (1/4) American Indian heritage or who are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe. The Special Events Section (SES) of the Navajo Nation Fair reserves the right to request for proof of blood quantum or enrollment status. Failure of a contestant to show proof of blood quantum or enrollment when requested by SES may be cause for disqualification of the contestant, and forfeiture of entry fees and any money won at the rodeo.

### **APPLICABLE RULES**

The rules of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Inc. (PRCA) shall be applied for all men events. The rules of Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) shall apply to all ladies events. When PRCA/WPRA rule books conflict with the local NNFIR ground rules, the local (NNFIR) ground rules listed in this document shall prevail.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

The SES and Navajo Nation assume no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property, or stock of any participants, whether a contestant or not. Each participant, by the act of participation, waives all claims against SES, the committee for injuries he/she or his/her property may sustain. All contestants and non-contestants hazers must sign a release form before accessing the arena.

### **CONTESTANT DRESS CODE**

Each contestant who competes in the rodeo shall wear proper western attire when competing. Proper attire shall refer to wearing a cowboy hat, long sleeve shirt, western boots and pants. During the performance any contestant who enters the competition arena shall wear the proper western attire. Failure to comply shall result in being asked to leave the arena by appropriate rodeo official, arena director or rodeo committee member. This rule shall also apply to contestant helpers, i.e. cattle pushers, chute helpers, arena helpers, etc.

### **CONTESTANT CONDUCT**

The conduct and demeanors of each contestant entered at the 65th Annual Navajo Nation Fair Indian Rodeo shall be appropriate as to ensure the positive image and integrity of the sport of rodeo. Flagrant and inappropriate conduct and behavior shall not be permitted on the rodeo grounds including

uses of foul or profane language towards rodeo officials, rodeo committee members, other rodeo contestants, spectators, volunteers and security personnel. Such conduct shall be cause for removal from the premises of the rodeo arena and disqualification from the rodeo in all the events entered, forfeitures of entry fees paid and any money won. Contestants shall not use or have in possession any intoxicating alcoholic beverage or illegal drugs on or around the premises of the rodeo grounds. (It is illegal and a crime on the Navajo Nation to possess or consume intoxicating liquor or illegal drugs). Each contestant shall abide by the contest rules and ground rule set forth herein.

### **CONTESTANT PASS/OFFICE CHARGE**

Each contestant will pay a one-time office charge of \$25.00. This fee must be included with contestant's entry form. Each contestant will receive a back number which shall serve as a contestant rodeo and parking pass for admission into the rodeo grounds. Contestants must have their back number in their physical possession in order to enter parking lot. If not they will be required to pay \$4.00 parking fee (non-refundable). The contestant must be in possession of their assigned back number and a picture ID to receive any winnings. The contestant must wear their back number on their back at all times while on the rodeo grounds. Contestants shall not allow other persons use their back number for admission into the rodeo grounds. Sharing of back numbers is strictly prohibited and if a contestant violates this provision, the contestant will be disqualification from the rodeo in all the events entered, forfeit entry fees paid and any money won. Each contestant will also receive one (1) companion pass that will be punched upon entrance to the rodeo grounds for each performance. ***The companion pass shall only be punched two (2) times and is valid only at the rodeo performances on Saturday and Sunday only. After the companion pass has been punched two (2) times, the pass becomes void. Violation of this rule may result in the removal of the companion pass from contestant/companion.*** Non-contestant Hazer must pay Office Charge of \$25.00 to receive back number/parking pass.

### **CONTESTANT CHECK-IN**

Every contestant must check-in at the Rodeo office to pick up his/her back number and sign a release form prior to competing. Contestant must wear their back number at all times while on the rodeo ground. Non-contestant hazers must sign a release form and pick up a hazer back number at Rodeo Office prior to entering the arena. Rodeo Secretary Office will be open two hours prior to start of slack or performance for contestant check-in.

### **HUMANE TREATMENT**

Each contestant shall ensure the humane treatment of all animals in and around the premises of the rodeo grounds. Any contestant who mistreats or abuses any animal by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he or she may be disqualified in all the events the contestant is entered at the rodeo for the remainder of the rodeo. Any entry fees paid and money won shall be forfeited in the event of disqualification. The contest officials (judges) shall have the authority to enforce the rules and issue sanctions within their discretion. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

### **RODEO SLACK / PERFORMANCES**

- Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM TE 1st go slack: SW, TD, TR, LB, LR
- Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM TE 2nd go slack: SW, TD, TR, LB, LR and 1<sup>st</sup> go (all) of LT.  
7:00 pm RE Slack – 10 BB, 10 SB and 20 BR
- Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M. 1st Performance
- Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Performance Saturday, September 11 1:00 PM 3<sup>rd</sup> Performance
- Sunday, September 12 12:00 P.M. (Noon) 4<sup>th</sup> and Final performance and Final 4 Showdown

### **ENTRIES**

Entries for the 65th Annual NNFIR will open on July 15, 2011. Entry forms will be available on the website – [www.navajonationfair.com](http://www.navajonationfair.com) – and at other Indian rodeos. Mail-in entries will close on August 15, 2011. All entry forms and payment for entries must be sent to: Navajo Nation Fair Indian Rodeo, Post Office Box 2370, Window Rock, AZ 86515. Payment for entry fees must be by money order or cashier's check. NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED. All contestants shall pay entry fees for the contest events entered in FULL at the time of entry closing of entries on August 15, 2010. Entry fees are \$200.00 for all events except Ladies Teams which is \$150.00. A one-time office charge of \$25.00 must be included with your payment. Mail-in entries must be received by August 15, 2011 regardless of the postmark date. Entry fees in the team roping shall be paid in full by both team members (partners) at the time of entry closing to be considered entered. If entry fees are not paid in full by entry closing (August 15, 2011) the entry will be subject to the rules for late entries. Late entries will be accepted for any position not filled during the regular entry period. Late entries will be by walk-ins only and will incur a \$20.00 late fee. All walk-in entries must be paid with money order or cashier's check. NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED. Walk-in entries will be taken from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Thursday, September 1, 2011 at the Rodeo Office at the Dean C. Jackson Memorial Arena. Positions will be posted on [www.navajonationfair.com](http://www.navajonationfair.com) prior to opening of late entries. Walk-ins will receive their position when entering. There will be no call backs for walk-in entries.

## **DOCTOR RELEASES / VETERINARY RELEASES**

Any contestant needing to doctor release must provide a medical release signed by a doctor to the Rodeo Secretary a minimum of six (6) hours prior to the start of the performance the contestant is entered in or by 5:00 PM on the day prior to a slack performance. Contestant office charge or any late entry fee will not be refunded. Doctor Releases made after the six (6) hour deadline or after competition on contestant's first head of stock will not entitle the contestant to any refund. A timed event contestant may draw out of the rodeo on a veterinary release. Contestant must provide Rodeo Secretary with a signed release from a certified Veterinarian. If the withdrawal from the rodeo is made prior to 5:00 PM on the day prior to the draw of the first go-round the contestant shall be eligible to receive a refund of his/her entry fees however office charge or any late entry fee will not be refunded. Draw outs after the 5:00 PM deadline or after contestant competes in the first go-round will not entitle the contest any refund. Refunds will be issued at the convenience of the Rodeo Secretary.

## **TIMED EVENTS**

Ladies Team Roping (LT) will be one go round with no finals and will all be held during slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 8:00 AM. Tie Down Roping (TD), Steer Wrestling (SW), Team Roping (TR), Ladies Breakaway Roping (LR) and Ladies Barrels (LB) contestants shall compete in two complete go-rounds with the first go round being held in a slack. The contestants with the top thirty (30) best times will compete during the three (3) performances with ten (10) contestants per performance/event and the remaining contestant will compete on their 2nd go competition during the 2nd go slack performance which will be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 8:00 AM. Those contestants competing during the performances will be allowed to trade performance by making trade with the Rodeo Secretary. Deadline for making trades will be one hour after the top 30 list is posted at the Rodeo Office. Only horses used during actual competition in the event will be allowed in the box during any timed event and/or noncompetitive runs. All contestants who have completed their runs shall immediately exit the arena. The arena shall always remain clear of non-competing contestants while events are in progress. Only those personnel who are authorized to be in the arena shall remain in the arena. The timers in the time events shall blow a whistle at the end of a set time limit indicating a "no time".

## **RIDING EVENTS**

In Bareback Riding (BB), Saddle Bronc Riding (SB) and Bull Riding (BR) only those who are entered in the rodeo and authorized personnel shall be allowed to be in the contestant area. All riding events contestants must pick up their back numbers prior to one (1) hour before the start of the performance in which they are schedule to compete. Any contestants failing to check in by the designated time will not have stock loaded. Riding event contestants will appear in front of the chute to receive acknowledgement during grand entry. Violation of this rule may result in a fine penalty in the amount of \$20 per occurrence and further violation may result in the disqualification from the rodeo in all the events entered, forfeitures of entry fees paid and any money won from the performances.

## **FINALS ROUND QUALIFICATION**

In all events except Ladies Team Roping (LT) there will be a finals round. The qualification to the finals round shall be on the following basis: For the Bareback (BB) and Saddle Bronc (SB) contestants with the ten (10) highest combined scores from the previous two go-rounds will qualify for the finals. In the event of a tie, the highest go-round score from any previous go-round shall be the tiebreaker. For the Bull Riding (BR) contestants with the ten (10) highest single score will qualify for the finals. If there are ties in scores in the BR causing the number of contestants to exceed ten (10), a random draw will be used to determine which contestant(s) will compete in the finals round. For the timed events the contestants with the ten (10) lowest combined times from the previous two go rounds will qualify for the finals. In the event of a tie, the lowest go-round time from any previous go-round shall be the tiebreaker.

## **PAYOUT**

Prize money payout for the 65th Annual NNFIR will be made by check and no checks will be released to anyone but the winning contestant. For all events with finals, \$25.00 per contestant will be placed in the final go pot. Payoff scale will be according to the PRCA/WPRA rulebooks. Contestant must submit and complete a W-9 form with proper identification numbers and present two forms of identification (one must be picture ID) to receive prize money check(s). All contestants earning \$600.00 or more will receive a 1099 form for any prize and money won from the Navajo Nation at the end of the calendar year. The NNFIR Rodeo Secretary will do payoff checks at the end of each go-round. Rodeo office hours will be posted on the post board. Any prize money check that has to be replaced for any reason after Sunday, September 11, 2011 will incur a \$25.00 replacement fee which will be deducted from the replacement check.

## **ALL AROUND**

All Around Champions must compete in two or more events. The Contestants who wins the most money in two or more events will win the All Around title. If no contestant wins money in two or more events, the contestant entered in two or more events who wins the most money will win the All Around title. Money won by ladies in the men's TR will count for the Ladies All-Around.

1. Men's All Around – Men's Events – BB, SB, BR, SW, TD, and TR (1 run only counts)
2. Ladies All Around – Ladies Events – LB, LR, LT and TR (1 run only counts)

## **TIEBREAKERS FOR AWARDS**

In any event if any awards are given and there is a tie, the contestant who shall receive the primary award will be determined by a coin flip. The loser of the coin toss will receive the secondary award, if any.

## **EVENTS:**

**BULL RIDING – BR – Limit 80 Entries – \$200 fees** – PRCA Rules for this contest apply. There will be one go round with finals (10). The contestants with the ten (10) highest score after the long go-round will compete in the finals. Stock Draws will be posted at the Rodeo Secretary Office one hour prior to start of performance. If contestant has not checked in prior to this time, his draw will not be posted and will not be loaded. No trades allowed.

**SADDLE BRONC RIDING – SB – Limit 30 entries – \$200 fees** – PRCA Rules for this contest apply. There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). The contestants with the ten (10) highest total scores after the two long go-rounds will compete in the finals. Stock draw will be posted at the Rodeo Secretary Office one hour prior to start of performance. If contestant has not checked in prior to this time, his draw will not be posted and will not be loaded. No trades allowed.

**BAREBACK RIDING – BB – Limit 20 entries – \$200 fees** – PRCA Rules for this contest apply. There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). The contestants with the ten (10) highest total scores after the two long go-rounds will compete in the finals. Stock draw will be posted at the Rodeo Secretary Office one hour prior to start of performance. If contestant has not checked in prior to this time, his draw will not be posted and will not be loaded. No trades allowed.

**TIE DOWN ROPING – TD – Limit 60 entries – \$200 fees** – There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). Entire first go round will be completed in the slack on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. The top thirty (30) contestants from the first go will compete on their second go run during

one of the three performances. There will be ten contestants in each performance. Contestants will be placed slowest to fastest with trades being allowed in performances only. All other contestants will complete their second run in slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. 2<sup>nd</sup> go slack competition will be in reverse order of 1<sup>st</sup> go runs with the top thirty (30) contestants pulled out. The contestants having the ten (10) best times on two head will compete in the finals. In the Tie Down Roping missed or extra cattle will not be tied. Stock draw will be posted one hour prior to start of slack or performance. There will be a 30 second time limit in the Tie Down Roping.

**STEER WRESTLING – SW – Limit 70 entries – \$200 fees** – There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). Entire first go round will be completed in slack on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. The top thirty contestants from the first go will compete on their second go run during one of the three performances. There will be ten contestants in each performance. Contestants will be placed slowest to fastest with trades being allowed in performances only. All other contestants will complete their second run in slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. 2<sup>nd</sup> go slack competition will be in reverse order of 1<sup>st</sup> go runs with the top thirty (30) contestants pulled out. The contestants have the ten (10) best times on two head will compete in the finals. We ask contestants in the steer wrestling to help with position splits one hour prior to slack or performance. Please check your position after splits, if not workable inform the chute boss prior to the loading of cattle. Stock draw will be posted one hour prior to start of slack or performance. There will be a 30 second time limit in the steer wrestling. Hazers not entered must check in with the Rodeo Secretary to sign release forms and receive hazer back number prior to entering arena.

**TEAM ROPING – TR – Limit 200 entries – enter 2x – \$200 fees/man** – There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). Contestant may enter two (2) times (partners cannot switch ends to re-enter, must enter with 2 different partners). Entire first go round will be completed in slack on Tuesday, September 6, 2010 starting at 8:00 AM. Top thirty (30) teams from first go will compete on their second go run during one of the three performances. There will be ten teams in each performance. Teams will be placed slowest to fastest with trades being allowed in performances only. All other teams will complete on their second run in slack Wednesday, September 7, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. 2<sup>nd</sup> go slack competition will be in reverse order of 1<sup>st</sup> go runs with the top thirty (30) contestants pulled out. The teams having the ten (10) best times on two head will compete in the finals. Stock draw will be posted one hour prior to start of slack or performance. There will be a 30 second time limit in the Team Roping. Teams will be allowed three (3) loops in the finals round and Final Four round only. If a team member needs to be replaced in the second go-round for legitimate reasons, Rodeo

Secretary must be notified prior to competition to avoid disqualification. Any team using a replacement will not be eligible for advancing to final round and will be competing for second go prize money only. Replacement must already be entered in the NNFIR rodeo in an event other than team roping.

**LADIES BARRELS – LB – Unlimited entries – \$200 fees** –The Women’s Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) rules shall apply with the following exceptions: There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). Entire first go round will be completed in slack on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. Top thirty (30) contestants from the first go will compete on their second go run during one of the three performances. There will be ten contestants in each performance. Contestants will be placed slowest to fastest with trades being allowed in performances only. All other contestants will complete on their second run in slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. 2<sup>nd</sup> go slack competition will be in reverse order of 1<sup>st</sup> go runs with the top thirty (30) contestants pulled out. The contestants who have the ten (10) best times on two runs will compete in the finals. The ground will be worked by tractor after every ten (10) runs. Runs shall include any turn-out or draw out position.

**LADIES BREAKAWAY ROPING – LR – Limited 80 entries – \$200 fees** – WPRA (Women’s Professional Rodeo Association) rules apply with the following exceptions: There will be two go-rounds with finals (10). Entire first go round will be completed in slack on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 starting at 8:00 AM. The top thirty (30) contestants from first go will compete their second go run during one of the three performances. There will be ten contestants in each performance. Contestants will be placed slowest to fastest with trades being allowed in performances only. All other contestants will complete on their second run in slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011, starting at 8:00 AM. 2<sup>nd</sup> go slack competition will be in reverse order of 1<sup>st</sup> go runs with the top thirty (30) contestants pulled out. The contestants who have the ten (10) best times on two head will compete in the finals. Stock draw will be posted one hour prior to start of slack or performance. There will be a 25 second time limit in the Ladies Breakaway. A qualifying time shall constitute a clean neck catch only; the loop must pass over the calf’s head or contestant will be disqualified. One loop only permitted.

**LADIES TEAM ROPING – LT – Limit 35 entries \$150 fees/woman –** WPRA (Women’s Professional Rodeo Association) rules apply with the following exceptions: This is an all woman event with both team members being of the female gender. There will be one go-round with no finals and

will all be held during slack on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 8:00 AM. Contestant may enter only one time. Only one loop at each end allowed in the Ladies Team Roping. Stock Draw will be posted one hour prior to start of slack. No Finals or Final Four qualifications in this event.

### **THE FINAL FOUR SHOWDOWN**

To qualify for the Final Four Showdown, the four contestants who finish in the top four positions in each event, (there is no final four showdown competition in Ladies Team Roping) from the aggregate scores of the regular rodeo shall be eligible to compete. In the event of a tie for qualification the tiebreaker to determine the top four contestants shall be determined by the contest with the lowest any single time or the highest score from the 65th Annual Navajo Nation Fair Indian Rodeo. In the event any contestant is unable to compete in the Showdown, the next highest seeded contestant from the rodeo's aggregate score or time shall be eligible to compete. It shall be the responsibility of each contestant who qualifies to compete in the Final Four Showdown to immediately contact the Arena Director and confirm to their draw for the showdown. Failure to confirm draw with the Arena Director at specified time may result in the forfeiture of the position to the next highest qualifying contestant in that event. The rules for the Final Four Showdown shall be the same as the rules of the 65th Annual Navajo Nation Fair Indian Rodeo with the following exceptions: Team Ropers will be allowed to use three loops. An injured partner may be replaced by one of the ropers from the short go-round only. Tie Down Ropers and Breakaway Ropers may carry a second loop.

### **SHOWDOWN PAY-OFF**

The payoff in the Final Four Showdown will be "winner take all" in the amount of \$2,000.00 per event. In the event of a tie, the amount will be split equally among the tying contestants. In event of a no qualification in any of the event, the money will revert back to the sponsor and it will be the sponsor's discretion to decide the deposition of the prize money.

Approved by:

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Norma Bowman, Fair Manager  
Special Events Section, NPRD