

COVID-19 Rodeo Rules

The Ontario High School Rodeo Association and Rawhide Entertainment Inc, are working to adopt a set of COVID-19 Rules and Guidelines to provide our members opportunities to rodeo. These rules and guidelines should serve as minimum requirements and may be adjusted accordingly to continue to provide a safe environment to prevent the uncontrolled spread of COVID-19. Every rodeo is unique and therefore no “one-size-fits-all” roadmap to success exists. It is important that we maintain standards to protect all members and fans of the sport through social distancing guidelines and continued sanitizing efforts.

These rules and guidelines have been established from physicians and health department recommendations. By applying basic infection control principles to each situation, the risk of disease spread can be diminished.

The focus is to have our people work together in regulating rodeo for the betterment of our community and providing our members a livelihood and an opportunity to participate in this culturally significant event.

Our association will also work with the health department to review these rules to ensure there are no additional requirements.

1 COVID-19 Symptoms, Social Distancing, and Stay Safe

- 1.1 If members are experiencing flu-like and COVID-type symptoms, they will be advised to “please not participate” and to leave the rodeo grounds to protect the health of all members.
 - 1.1.1 Flu symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, muscle/body aches, headaches, and fatigue.
 - 1.1.2 COVID-19 symptoms: fever, tiredness, dry cough. Some people may experience aches/pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat, and diarrhea.
- 1.2 It is important to maintain social distancing and health requirements for the protection of contestants, stock contractors, contract personnel, rodeo committee personnel, volunteers, and fans when possible, and when not to wear a face covering.
- 1.3 Individuals should not congregate in groups larger than 10 individuals at any given time.
 - 1.3.1 Safe distance of at least six feet apart is preferred or a mask is suggested to be worn.
- 1.4 There will be no rodeo office or rodeo check-ins. If you have to turn out of the rodeo please email info@ohsra.ca.
- 1.5 Rodeo Committees and contract personnel should minimize and limit the exchange of items between contestants.
- 1.6 Any and all meetings for the rodeo should observe a safe distance of at least six feet and all attendees wear a face mask over the nose and mouth.
- 1.7 Local and/or county health department recommended sanitizing solutions can be implemented.

2 Rodeo Secretary

- 2.1 Rodeo Secretary shall work with only one contestant or Rodeo Committee personnel at any time.
- 2.2 Rodeo Secretary shall minimize contact and exchange of items with contestant, stock contractors and contract personnel.
- 2.3 All draws will be provided to contestants ahead of the rodeo and will be their responsibility to print their own copies. There will be no rodeo secretary office.
- 2.4 Rodeo draw personnel (judges, secretary, timers, etc.) shall wash hands or use hand sanitizer prior to entry and wear face masks covering the nose and mouth and after draw is completed.

3 Riding Events

- 3.1 Social distancing for riding event contestants and stock contractors is imperative for the rodeo. All personnel on the chutes, except for the contestant, shall be required to wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth.
- 3.2 The back of the bucking chutes is limited to essential personnel only. This requirement is to protect the safety and health of all individuals involved.
 - 3.2.1 Non-essential rodeo personnel are not permitted in and around the chutes.
 - 3.2.1.1 *Essential personnel include, but not be limited to, contestant, helper, flank man, judge, gatemen, chute boss, neck rope man, head man.*
 - 3.2.1.2 *Any person not listed above and not physically helping the contestant and animal to exit the chute should be considered non-essential.*
- 3.3 Each contestant shall be allowed one helper
- 3.4 Stock Contractor should provide one flank man per delivery side of the bucking chutes.
- 3.5 One back judge per side of the chute, if applicable.
- 3.6 Contestants will be staged per the number of available chutes, respecting the social distance of members. Rodeo Committee to provide warm-up areas to stage riding event contestants, limiting congestion on the bucking chutes to follow social distancing recommendations. Staging areas should be sufficient to allow for social distancing guidelines (groups of 10 or less).
 - 3.6.1 Contestants and helpers in warm-up areas should wear a face mask over the nose and mouth.
 - 3.6.1.1 *As soon as a contestant's animal is loaded into the bucking chute, he and his helper should be on the chute, following the chute boss's directions concerning cinching and rolling.*
- 3.7 Chute Bosses shall be required to wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth.
- 3.8 Pick-up men, bullfighters and barrelmen should have ready access to disinfectant spray during riding events to wipe themselves down as necessary.
- 3.9 At the end of the ride, the contestant shall exit the arena to the stripping chute. Contestants will gather any equipment and return to their vehicle and not linger, unless serving as a helper for an upcoming contestant. You can stay as long as social distancing guidelines are followed.

4 Timed Events

- 4.1 One contestant in the arena at any time and must exit after each run.
- 4.2 Contestants shall not congregate in groups larger than 10 people and follow social distancing guidelines. Contestants should wear face masks covering nose and mouth when not competing.
- 4.3 All timed event personnel, including pens, should wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth. Please adhere to local/county/ health department rules.
- 4.4 All contestants should practice safe distancing and line up accordingly.
 - 4.4.1 Contestants should not have their horses side-by-side unless a safe distance can be maintained.
 - 4.4.2 The next two contestants can help him if he needs it
- 4.5 Personnel allowed in the timed-event boxes include Contestant, hazer, pusher, head man, next two contestants may be in the box to help the current contestant
 - 4.5.1 Contestants enter the arena when called upon.
 - 4.5.2 Contestants should not congregate near entry and exit gates.
- 4.6 Rodeo Committee to designate a waiting area for contestants following social distancing guidelines and if six feet separation is not possible, contestants are required to wear face masks covering the nose and mouth. Tie- Down Roping, Team Roping, Barrel Racing and Break Away Roping
- 4.7 Contestant shall exit arena at end of run and follow social distancing guidelines.

5 Judges

- 5.1 Judges shall wear face masks covering nose and mouth.

6 Announcers, Secretary, Timer(s), Sound, Scoreboard Personnel

- 6.1 The announcer stand (tables, seats, microphones, scoreboard, sound boards, etc.) shall be wiped down before and after each performance with a sanitized solution of bleach and water.
- 6.2 If possible, provide at least six feet of distance between personnel and mark accordingly.
- 6.3 Contract personnel, excluding announcer(s), should wear face masks over the nose and mouth if within six feet of other personnel.
- 6.4 Limit access of personnel to announcer stand during all performances.

Rodeo Committee COVID-19 Guidelines

1 General Strategies

- 1.1 Perform a risk assessment to determine where members and public interact and focus efforts there.
- 1.2 Keep ill Rodeo Committee personnel at home and encourage ill fans to stay home.
- 1.3 Clean and disinfect items, entry/exit locations, doors, railings, etc. as often as possible, with the focus on highly congested and congregation areas.
- 1.4 Use [EPA-registered disinfectants](#) to clean. As with any EPA-registered product, carefully read the label and only use the product as described in its directions.
- 1.5 Physical barriers and physical distancing are your best lines of defense.
- 1.6 Limit physical contact to the greatest extent possible.

2 Box Office Recommendations

- 2.1 Box Office personnel should wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth.
- 2.2 Minimize the exchange of items (tickets, cash, credit cards) from box office personnel and fans.
- 2.3 Box Office personnel should wear protective gloves and throw away prior to exit of box office.
- 2.4 Box Office personnel shall wipe customer windows, tables, doors, handles, and other common areas with a sanitary solution of bleach and warm water regularly.

3 Spectator Seating, High Traffic and Congested Areas

- 3.1 Rodeo Committee to remind fans on the importance of wearing face masks covering the nose and mouth.
- 3.2 Provide sanitizing stations.
- 3.3 In highly congested areas, try to provide six feet markings to follow social distancing recommendations.
- 3.4 Place signage around spectator seating and highly congested areas regarding safe distancing.
- 3.5 Rodeo Committee should seek ways to disinfect spectator seating and heavily congested areas after each performance.

4 Spectator Seating and Community Events

- 4.1 Rodeo Committees shall work with local/county health departments for approval and regulations.
- 4.2 Rodeo Committee should seek ways to disinfect spectator seating and heavily congested areas after each performance.
- 4.3 Rodeo Committee should provide at least six feet distance from arena wall and/or rails to protect fans and rodeo personnel.
- 4.4 Rodeo Committee to provide extra bleacher seating to monitor social distancing and capacity requirements according to provincial guidelines.
- 4.5 Seating capacity for Shearing Competition to be spaced according to guidelines.