

MIDSOUTH YOUTH RODEO COWBOYS ASSOCIATION FALL NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the MRCA family. The Board of Directors have met and its rodeo time once again. On the attached pages you will find a schedule of the upcoming fall rodeos and other important information. The dates set are tentative according to arena availability and weather permitting.

We will have the concession stand at our kick-off rodeo in Comanche. This is a wonderful opportunity to raise money for our new year. This is the one and only time as an association to have the concession so we will ask you this one time to donate and help work this concession. Kevin Ensminger, Candi Simms, Robin Muggli, Bubba & Kindra Parker, Rocky Bruce or Ty Phillips will be contacting you with information about what to bring and signing up to work. Remember, it takes everyone's help to make our association a success for our kids!

ENTRY DEADLINE AND RODEO START TIMES

Entry deadline for **all** rodeos will be 9:00 am. This includes Sunday rodeos. The rodeo will start at 10:00 am. Pre-entry forms will be available at the secretary's desk or online. You may pre-enter for the next rodeo weekend or you may enter as many rodeos in advance as you like. Keep in mind your check will be deposited at the following rodeo unless you write a separate check for each weekend. If you do not take advantage of pre-entering, you may only enter one day at a time. Checks are not cashed until the following Monday after the rodeo in which you have entered.

ORDER OF EVENTS –

Mutton Bustin, Calf Riding, Steer Riding, Sr. Bulls, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Ribbon Goat, Goat Tying, Chute Dogging, Team Roping, Breakaway, Ribbon Roping, Tie Down Roping.

FINALS 2009

2009-2010 finals will be held in Duncan, Oklahoma at the Stephens County Fairgrounds. The finals will still be held over Labor Day Weekend, 1st performance is always on Friday night, please make preparations. Special incentives have been offered and we look forward to having a great finals. This will be an exciting time for everyone. Information for the finals will be passed out at a later date. Please remember - to qualify for the finals you must participate in at least 50% of the rodeos as a member, pay membership, pay your honoraries, and be in the top 15 in your event.

HONORARY DUES/MEMBERSHIP

Membership per contestant is \$50.00. **This fee must be paid before ANY points will be counted.** Saturday and Sunday are separate rodeos, please keep this in mind, if you pay on Sunday, your Saturday points **DO NOT** count. Each member must sell \$100 in raffle tickets called "honoraries".

Honoraries are due at the second scheduled rodeo weekend, Feb 13-14 at Coleman, OK, after the first of the year (if joining in fall). If member joins the Association after this date said member has thirty (30) days or the first scheduled rodeo closest to the 30-day deadline. Honoraries will not be accepted through the mail – no exceptions. If you are going to be unable to attend this rodeo, please send your honoraries with someone who will be there. If honoraries are not paid at this time, all your points accumulated will be DROPPED (no exceptions). Points will not begin accumulating again until this fee is paid. This is the members and parents

responsibility to see that these dues and memberships are paid on time. Please also remember that the amount due (per member) is \$100.00.

ENTRIES

Please keep in mind there are **no call-in entries**, please don't expect exceptions. Entry fees must be paid up before 9:00 am. The books will not be re-opened for late entries. Pre-entry forms for the next rodeo will be available at each rodeo.

Also keep in mind that if you pre-enter and something comes up and you cannot make a rodeo you have pre-entered, the entry secretary must know **BEFORE ENTRIES CLOSE AT 9:00 A.M** to have your entry rolled to the next rodeo. **This will not automatically happen.** You must speak to her directly, as messages can be lost or misunderstood. Please contact Deanette at (580) 656-4782 no later than the Thursday night before the rodeo, or have someone let the secretary know for you. If you do not speak to her, the money will be put into the pot for the rodeo you pre-entered and will not be rolled over and no refunds. This does not mean your child will receive points because their name was on the entry sheet; turnouts do not receive points.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please read your rulebook and know the rules of your event(s) and what is expected of each member and family to help our association run smoother.

Contestant must not be older than 19 years of age as of September 1, 2009, be a senior enrolled in school or other accredited curriculum such as home schooling; proof of enrollment as an active student is still required from either source.

Gate charges have not changed. Adults and children 16-years-old and older will pay a fee of \$5.00 per day. Contestants and children under the age of 16 will be free of charge.

New rules or any additions will be available in 2009-2010 rulebooks.

Rulebook: The MRCA rulebook that governs operations of MRCA sanctioned events and MRCA specific events, this rulebook will be the first document referenced when dealing with rule issues during an MRCA rodeo. From time to time there may arise a situation not covered in the MRCA rulebook: in the event this occurs directors and judges should refer to the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) and NHSRA Wrangler Division rulebook. If at any time a situation arises which is not covered in either the NHSRA or MRCA Rule Books the MRCA Event Directors' and Judges' decision will be final.

7-9 Breakaway ropers must not have any length of rope past horn, no excess rope will be allowed to hang past horn (see 09-10 rulebook) with knot of rope and flag tied to horn. Flag may be any color.

In Ribbon Roping, one judge will be required to stand at score line, another judge in field.

Chute Doggin' (see 09-10 rulebook for entire ruling & details) Score line will be parallel to bucking chute. Plane of chute is from hinge and latch. Wrestler's right hand behind the point of steers shoulder, with neither hand touching a horn until nose of steer crosses score line. After crossing the start line, wrestler must bring it to a stop or change its direction and twist it down. If steer is accidentally knocked down or thrown before being brought to a stop or is thrown by wrestler putting animals horn into the ground, it must be let up to all four feet and then thrown. Contestant is required to turn steer's head so that he can get up. There will be a 10 second penalty added if dogger moves

right arm to the right horn (throwing position) before start line. This will be referred to as breaking the barrier.

Membership

Membership fees are \$50 and honoraries are \$100.

Hat rule will be strictly enforced again this year. There will be **NO WARNINGS!** A fine of \$10 will be assessed for any violation of the hat rule. This includes contestant intentionally knocking their hat off or entering the arena without a hat if it is required in their age group.

Team Roping will be the first roping event during regular season and at finals.

Team Roping positions will be drawn, but stock will be chute run by the stock contractor or an official employee of the stock contractor. At finals positions will be as placed by top point earning then descending, stock will be loaded according to draw to fill teams position.

Please keep in mind that all members must have a copy of their birth certificate on file. You must also have a copy of current negative coggins on **any** horse you bring to the rodeo. (Last years will not be kept) A school form is required of all students attending public, private, or home school settings. If these documents are not furnished by second weekend you participate **YOUR POINTS WILL BE DROPPED.**

School verification forms are due the second weekend that you participate as a member. Please be sure and turn these forms in to the membership secretary. This form must also be furnished again in May. Your points will be dropped if not furnished by contestant and parent(s). This is your responsibility.

Scholarship application, all required documents and essay will be due May 1, 2010. Scholarships are offered to any junior or senior in high school that wishes to apply. Form and requirements are included with this information. We give a male and female contestant \$500.00 scholarship award at the finals each year, payable upon enrollment in an accredited college.

To qualify for the finals you must participate in at least 50% of the rodeos as a member, pay your membership, honoraries, and be in the top 15 in your event.

If you know of a potential sponsor, big or little, please contact Jeff Pearson, Dusty Duncan, Tracy Milligan or Robin Muggli. You do not have to be an officer to bring in sponsors. It takes everyone's help. Without our sponsors, we would not be able to give away the year-end awards that we do.

Parent involvement is a must.

We have a committee sign up sheet located at the secretaries table, please be sure to sign up for a position, it takes all of us working together to reach our goal of having a good family oriented association for our youth to participate in and be able to reward them for their year long efforts. Different committees have been formed and we need each and every parent to please sign up to help. Many of the committees involve preparing for the finals, the more work that can be accomplished ahead of time, will only ensure a more organized and beneficial event along with ease of completion. It does not require special talents, only a willing person.

Also, each rodeo, announcers, timers, and back up timers are needed, please help fill these positions. You may not be able to fill this position at every rodeo, but any time you can help is greatly appreciated. The burden lies on each and every one of us to help in any area we can. Please sign up each weekend at the secretary's table.

Finals entries will NO LONGER BE MAILED IN this is no longer an option. You need to prepare in advance and keep up with reminders and listen to announcements on due dates.

Don't forget to check our website for the latest updates on schedules, sponsorship, general information, and directions to the next rodeo.

CONTESTANTS: Due to the increased number of entries, our rodeos are taking just a little longer to run than in years past. In order to keep the rodeo from dragging, please make every effort to be ready when your event starts. When your particular event starts, be ready to go as soon as the contestant in front of you has completed their run/ride. But be sure and watch your director to know you're cleared to go. Check the draw before your event to know your position and be sure that you are entered correctly.

DIRECTORS: We want to keep the kids safe, but as the year progresses we need to make sure contestants are getting in the arena, getting their business done, and getting cleared out so the next contestant can compete. Keep in mind this is directed mainly to the older age groups; it's always a given that the little guys are going to take a little longer.

Something else to take note of: On Saturdays, so that our directors can get the arena set up and ready to go at 10am sharp, we're going to begin closing the arena @ 9:30. All directors need to help get stakes set, positions drawn, and draw posted as soon as possible. If you want to get your horse in the arena before the rodeo starts, you will have until 9:30 to do so. **During Cowboy Church on Sunday morning, the arena will be closed at 9:00am, we want everyone to come, those who do not, please respect those who are attending church service.**

Thanks and Good Luck