

# THE AMERICAN RODEO CONTENDER TOURNAMENT

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### QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES, RULES OF ADVANCEMENT AND POTENTIAL PAYOUTS

#### 1. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITORS

- 1.1. The American Rodeo and the Contender Tournament include the following three (3) categories of Athletes eligible to compete in and win prizes/awards subject to the parameters stated herein:
  - 1.1.1. Contender Athlete
    - 1.1.1.1. An Athlete that has earned a position into The American Rodeo by advancing through the Contender Tournament
    - 1.1.1.2. Contender Athletes are eligible for the Contender Bonus subject to parameters found in Section 6.
  - 1.1.2. Invited Contender Athletes
    - 1.1.2.1. PRCA/WPRA 6-20:
      - 1.1.2.1.1. An Athlete that finished 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in the immediately preceding year's final Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) World Standings in the Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping (Heading & Heeling) and Tie-Down Roping;
      - 1.1.2.1.2. An Athlete that finished 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in the immediately preceding year's final Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) World Standings in the Barrel Racing and Breakaway Roping.
      - 1.1.2.1.3. PRCA/WPRA 6-20 Athletes are automatically qualified to enter and compete in one (1) of the three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals with the payment of an eligibility (entry) fee of \$500. A service charge will be added to all fees.
      - 1.1.2.1.4. These fifteen (15) Athletes will be distributed amongst the three (3) Regions to compete with no more than five (5) in each Discipline per Region and will have a trade deadline imposed of **December 28 by 5 PM CST in writing by both parties communicated via email to [competition@tetonridge.com](mailto:competition@tetonridge.com) should they wish to trade regions.**
      - 1.1.2.1.5. Each Athlete is eligible to compete in one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals with a maximum of five (5) positions available in each Region.
      - 1.1.2.1.6. If a PRCA/WPRA 6-20 Athlete had already competed in the Contender Tournament process prior to receiving Invited Contender Athlete invitation, they are not entitled to a refund of any fees paid in the Contender Tournament.

- 1.1.2.1.7. If an Invited PRCA/WPRA 6-20 Athlete declines his/her position and/or is injured and unable to compete, the invited position will not roll down to the next placing Athlete.
- 1.1.2.1.8. These Athletes are eligible for the Contender Bonus subject to parameters found in Section 6.
- 1.1.2.2. Other Invited Contender Athletes:
  - 1.1.2.2.1. As part of the unique nature of this competition, at its sole discretion which shall not be subject to challenge or appeal, Teton reserves the right to grant the opportunity to compete in the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo to certain Athletes and be eligible for the Contender Bonus. These Athletes must have paid eligibility fees and/or competed in The American Rodeo Contender Tournament process.
  - 1.1.2.2.2. These Athletes are eligible for the Contender Bonus subject to parameters found in Section 6.
- 1.1.3. "Top 5" Athlete
  - 1.1.3.1. Is a top 5 finisher from the immediately preceding year's final PRCA World Standings in the Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping (Heading and Heeling) and Tie-Down Roping.
  - 1.1.3.2. Is a top 5 finisher from the immediately preceding year's final WPRA World Standings in Barrel Racing and Breakaway Roping.
  - 1.1.3.3. "Top 5" Athletes have an invitation to compete in The American Rodeo Round of 10
  - 1.1.3.4. "Top 5" Athletes are not eligible for the Contender Bonus.
  - 1.1.3.5. If an Athlete declines a "Top 5" invitation position into The American Rodeo, he/she is ineligible to compete in any further 2025 The American Rodeo competitions in the same Discipline, and he/she will not be eligible to compete within the Contender Tournament in that same Discipline seeking an opportunity to compete for the Contender Bonus. If said "Top 5" Athlete had already competed in the Contender Tournament process prior to receiving a "Top 5" Athlete invitation, he/she is not entitled to a refund of any fees paid in the Contender Tournament.
  - 1.1.3.6. If a "Top 5" Athlete declines a position and/or is injured and unable to compete, the invited position will not roll down to the next placing Athlete.
  - 1.1.3.7. Should an Athlete earn or receive a position(s) in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals prior to receiving a "Top 5" invitation, that Athlete's position(s) in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals is vacated and will then be awarded to the next eligible placing Athlete from same vacated method of advancement ("Drop-Down Contender") from that respective contender Discipline. If the Drop-Down Contender is already qualified into the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, Teton will continue to work through the overall placings to fulfill the open position. Said "Top 5" Athlete is not allowed to further compete in the Contender Tournament and is not entitled to a refund of fees.
- 1.2. In advancement situations, if a Contender Athlete must draw out due to a medical or veterinary release before competition begins, a deadline to confirm attendance may be enforced by Teton. Said Athlete will be replaced by the next highest placing eligible Athlete.

## **2. COMPETITION/ADVANCEMENT STRUCTURE FOR THE TIMED EVENTS:**

- 2.1. The American Rodeo Contender Tournament will be divided into three (3) Contender Tournament Regions: Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events West, Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events Central and Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events East. Overview of the advancement structure follows in this section. Each Discipline has unique circumstances and details specific to each Discipline, which are found in said Discipline's Competition Structure section of these Rules. If there is a discrepancy between information found in Section 2 and the individual Discipline's Competition Structure section of rules, the individual Discipline's Competition Structure section of rules supersedes.
- 2.2. An Athlete is only awarded an automatic advancement position(s) toward the Contender Tournament Regional Standings on qualified times.
- 2.3. The American Rodeo Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events:
  - 2.3.1. Are events that have been selected by Teton and/or its approved sanctioning bodies to provide advancement opportunities for Athletes.
  - 2.3.2. Each Region will be assigned qualifying events per Timed Event Discipline that are specific to stated Region.
  - 2.3.3. Eligibility (Entry) Fees (fees to compete) are Discipline specific. \$400 per entry in Breakaway, Tie-Down and Steer Wrestling, \$400 or \$500 per entry in Barrel Racing depending upon jackpot payout and \$750 per man in Team Roping (subject to approval by Teton). All entry fees will have service fees imposed.
  - 2.3.4. Declaring A and B runs: Athlete must declare A and B runs before the Contender Tournament Qualifier starts. Athletes must enter twice at the same event to have an A and B run total in their Discipline standings, with the exception of entering once and getting an AA qualifier. (i.e., Athlete is automatically qualified with an AA position.)
  - 2.3.5. There are two (2) different ways to earn advancement positions from the Contender Tournament Qualifying Events to the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
    - 2.3.5.1. Automatic advancement based on Athlete's placing in a Contender Tournament Qualifier Event. The number of entries in the Contender Tournament competition at the qualifying event determines the number of automatic advancement positions available at the event. (See Figure 2). If there is a tie for the last automatic advancement position at a Contender Tournament Qualifying Event, all Athletes tied for that position will earn automatic advancement.
    - 2.3.5.2. A minimum of 95 Contenders (plus ties) will be issued an invitation to each Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
  - 2.3.6. Automatic advancement positions are awarded specific to the stated Region of the Contender Tournament Qualifying Event.
  - 2.3.7. No trading of qualification positions is allowed between Regions. i.e., a qualified Athlete must compete in the specific Regional Semifinals and Finals in which he or she originally achieved qualification. (Trades are only allowed for PRCA/WPRA 6-20 ranked Athletes.)

- 1.1. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, Redemption Round and Regional Finals
  - 1.1.1. Each Region will hold a Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals with a Redemption Round, and Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
  - 1.1.2. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals:
    - 1.1.2.1. Format of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will be determined by each individual Discipline.
    - 1.1.2.2. A qualified run is required for automatic advancement from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
    - 1.1.2.3. Athletes eligible to compete at the Contender Regional Semifinals:
      - 1.1.2.3.1. Athletes that received Automatic Advancement from said Region's Contender Tournament Qualifying Events.
      - 1.1.2.3.2. Will fill positions up to the total of 125 through buy-in entries, the number to be determined by Teton Ridge with entry deadlines published in the Athlete e-newsletter at least 30 days prior to each Regional Semifinals.
      - 1.1.2.3.3. The 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> ranked Athletes from the immediately preceding year's PRCA/WPRA World Standings will be extended an Automatic Advancement to one of the Regions.
        - 1.1.2.3.3.1. These fifteen (15) Athletes will be distributed amongst the three (3) regions to compete with no more than five (5) in each Discipline per Region.
        - 1.1.2.3.3.2. These Athletes will be assigned one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals to compete in according to Figure 1. Athletes will be allowed to trade per parameters set forth in Rule 1.1.2.1.4.
        - 1.1.2.3.3.3. These Athletes will pay the required eligibility fee of \$500.
        - 1.1.2.3.3.4. The 6-20 invited Athletes may achieve additional Contender Tournament qualifications to the Semifinals via Automatic Advancement according to Contender Tournament qualification parameters.
        - 1.1.2.3.3.5. Teton will impose an entry deadline or cutoff date for 6-20 Athletes to commit to the Regional invitation.
      - 1.1.2.3.4. Any other invited Athletes and/or exemptions selected by Teton.
    - 1.1.2.4. Advancement from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals:
      - 1.1.2.4.1. The top ten (10) Athletes with the fastest aggregate times in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will automatically advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
      - 1.1.2.4.2. Entries placing outside the top ten (10) may enter the Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round.
      - 1.1.2.4.3. Athletes must have made at least one preliminary go-round run in order to enter the Redemption Round.
  - 1.1.3. Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round
    - 1.1.3.1. Fees to compete in the Redemption Round are \$1,000 per entry.
    - 1.1.3.2. The top three (3) Athletes with the three fastest single times from the one-head Redemption Round competition will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.

- 1.1.3.3. For details on the format of the Redemption Round, refer to the details in the individual Disciplines.
- 1.1.4. Contender Tournament Regional Finals
  - 1.1.4.1. Consists of as many as fifteen (15) Athletes. Athletes eligible to compete in the Contender Regional Finals:
    - 1.1.4.1.1. The top ten (10) Athletes with the fastest aggregate times from the Contender Tournament Semifinals.
    - 1.1.4.1.2. The top three (3) Athletes with the fastest qualified times from the Redemption Round.
    - 1.1.4.1.3. The highest placing Athletes, (1) per Discipline who qualify via the ACT Finals Qualifier at the following Teton designated American Rodeo Super Contender Rodeos: Rodeo All-Star Denver (Central), San Francisco Cow Palace Rodeo (West), Festival St Tite Quebec (East), Kimes Ranch Breakaway Roping (West), Barretos Rodeo (Central – bull riding, barrel racing, breakaway roping and team roping).
    - 1.1.4.1.4. For clarification refer to details in the individual disciplines.
- 1.2. Contender Tournament Finals
  - 1.2.1. Athletes from all three (3) Regions compete together in said Discipline.
  - 1.2.2. There is one (1) way to qualify to compete in the Contender Tournament Finals:
    - 1.2.2.1. The top five (5) placing Athletes from each of the three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Finals in each Timed Event Discipline.
- 1.3. The American Rodeo Round of 10
  - 1.3.1. There are two (2) ways to be eligible to compete in The American Rodeo Round of 10:
    - 1.3.1.1. The top five (5) placing Athletes in each Timed Event Discipline from the Contender Tournament Finals.
    - 1.3.1.2. The “Top 5” in each Timed Event Discipline from the immediately preceding year’s PRCA/WPRA World Standings.
  - 1.3.2. Top four (4) placing Athletes from The American Rodeo Round of 10 will advance to The American Rodeo Round of 4. If there are no qualified times, or not at least four (4) qualified times, any remaining positions will be filled according to event-specific tie-breakers. **No Athletes drawn back into The American Round of 4 are eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if they were a Contender Athlete.**
- 1.4. The American Rodeo Round of 4
  - 1.4.1. There is one (1) way to be eligible to compete in The American Rodeo Round of 4:
    - 1.4.1.1. The top four (4) placing Athletes in each Discipline from The American Rodeo Round of 10 will compete in The American Rodeo Round of 4.
  - 1.4.2. The American Rodeo Champion in each Timed Event Discipline will be determined based on the fastest qualified time in The American Rodeo Round of 4.

## 2. COMPETITION/ADVANCEMENT STRUCTURE FOR THE ROUGHSTOCK EVENTS:

- 2.1. The American Rodeo Contender Tournament will be divided into three (3) Contender Tournament Regions: West, Central and East. Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events for the Roughstock Events will be a direct entry to the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals with the potential option of a Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events. Overview of the advancement structure follows in this section.
- 2.2. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals and Regional Finals

- 2.2.1. Each Region will hold a Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals and Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 2.2.2. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals:
  - 2.2.2.1. Format of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will be the same for each roughstock Discipline.
  - 2.2.2.2. A qualified ride is required for automatic advancement from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals. In the occurrence there are not enough qualified scores to fill advancement positions, any remaining qualification spots will be filled based on buck off times in said Discipline, (longest ride time gets in first), and if buck off times are tied, the tie will be broken by Athlete scores and then broken by random draw if still tied.
  - 2.2.2.3. Athletes eligible to compete at the Contender Regional Semifinals:
    - 2.2.2.3.1. Athletes must pay a direct buy-in fee of \$1,000 per entry plus service charge. The entry fee will consist of a \$500 deposit, which is non-refundable and due upon entry plus a balance of \$500, which is due at said Regional Semifinals. Entry fees must be paid by credit card, no cash payments can be accepted.
    - 2.2.2.3.2. An Athlete may enter one (1) time in each Discipline in each Regional Semifinals.
    - 2.2.2.3.3. The 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> ranked Athletes from the immediately preceding year's final PRCA World Standings in said Discipline.
      - 2.2.2.3.3.1. These fifteen (15) Athletes will be distributed amongst the three (3) regions to compete with no more than five (5) in each Discipline per Region.
      - 2.2.2.3.3.2. These Athletes will be assigned one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals according to Figure 1 to compete in. Athletes will be allowed to trade per parameters set forth in Rule 1.1.2.1.4.
      - 2.2.2.3.3.3. These Athletes will pay a \$500 eligibility fee at time of entry, which is non-refundable.
    - 2.2.2.3.4. Any other invited Athletes and/or exemptions selected by Teton.
- 2.2.3. Contender Tournament Regional Finals
  - 2.2.3.1. Consists of ten (10) Athletes total. Athletes eligible to compete in the Contender Regional Finals:
    - 2.2.3.1.1. The top ten (10) Athletes with the highest total score(s) from the Contender Tournament Semifinals, plus eligible American Rodeo Contender Qualifiers per **Rule 1.1.4.1.3.**
    - 2.2.3.1.2. If there are not ten (10) qualified rides from the Contender Tournament Semifinals, contestants will be added based upon buck off times from the Semifinals with the longest times being added first. **Tied buck off times will be broken by athlete score and if still tied then by random draw (per rule 2.2.2.2 above) amongst tied Athletes.**
  - 2.2.3.2. Advancement from the Contender Tournament Regional Finals:
    - 2.2.3.2.1. The top five (5) Athletes with the highest total score(s) will advance to the Contender Tournament Finals.
    - 2.2.3.2.2. If there is a tied score, the tie will be broken by the tied Athletes' total score(s) from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.

- 2.2.3.2.3. If an American Rodeo Super Contender qualifying Athlete is part of a tie, that tie will be broken by a ride off to advance.
- 2.2.3.2.4. In the occurrence there are not enough qualified score(s) to fill advancement positions, any remaining qualification spots will be filled based on scores (NOT buck off times) from the other Regional Finals in said Discipline with the highest placing average score advancing first, then single score, then if still tied random draw amongst tied Athletes.
- 2.3. Contender Tournament Finals
  - 2.3.1. Athletes from all three (3) Regions compete together in said Discipline.
  - 2.3.2. There is one (1) way to qualify to compete in the Contender Tournament Finals
    - 2.3.2.1. The top five (5) placing Athletes from each of the three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Finals in each Roughstock Event Discipline. If not enough qualified rides, see rule 2.2.3.2.4 to fill.
  - 2.3.3. The top five (5) Athletes with the highest total score in each Roughstock Event Discipline of the Contender Tournament Finals will advance on to the American Rodeo Round of 10.
    - 2.3.3.1. If there is a tie for the last advancement position, tied Athletes' score(s) from the Contender Tournament Regional Finals will be used to break the tie.
    - 2.3.3.2. If there are not five (5) qualified rides in the Contender Tournament Finals, any remaining qualification spots will be filled based upon scores (not buck off times) beginning with average, then short go, then long go in said Discipline. If still tied, the tie will be broken by highest rider score from the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 2.4. The American Rodeo Round of 10
  - 2.4.1. There are two (2) ways to be eligible to compete in The American Rodeo Round of 10:
    - 2.4.1.1. The top five (5) Athletes with the highest total score in each Roughstock Event Discipline from the Contender Tournament Finals;
    - 2.4.1.2. The "Top 5" in each Roughstock Event Discipline from the immediately preceding year's PRCA World Standings.
  - 2.4.2. Top four (4) Athletes with the highest total score will advance to The American Rodeo Round of 4.
    - 2.4.2.1. If there is a tie for the last position, the tie breaker will be as follows:
      - 2.4.2.1.1. If the tie is between a Contender and a "Top 5," the tie breaker will be awarded to The Contender.
      - 2.4.2.1.2. If the tie is between two (2) or more Contenders, the tied Athlete with the highest total score in the Contender Tournament Finals will advance.
      - 2.4.2.1.3. If the tie is between two (2) or more "Top 5" Athletes, the tie will go to the tied Athlete with the highest ranking from the immediately preceding year's NFR Average ranking in said Discipline. If still tied, the tie will be broken by rank in the preceding year's PRCA World Standings in said Discipline.
    - 2.4.2.2. If there are not four (4) qualified rides in the American Rodeo Round of 10, any remaining qualification spots will be filled based on buck off times in said Discipline, (longest ride time gets in first), and if buck off times are tied, the tie will be broken by Athletes' highest total score from the Contender Tournament Finals.
- 2.5. The American Rodeo Round of 4
  - 2.5.1. There is one (1) way to be eligible to compete in The American Rodeo Round of 4:



- 2.5.1.1. The top four (4) Athletes with the highest total score in each Discipline from The American Rodeo Round of 10 compete in The American Rodeo Round of 4.
- 2.5.2. The American Rodeo Champion in each Roughstock Discipline will be determined based on the highest total score in The American Rodeo Round of 4.
  - 2.5.2.1. If There is a tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place, tie breaker will be as follows:
    - 2.5.2.1.1. The tied Athletes will compete again, on one (1) additional head, to determine the Champion. Athlete with the highest total score in the ride off wins the Championship. If still tied, the tied Athletes are named Co-Champions. If neither Athlete receives a score in the ride-off, the tied Athletes are named Co-Champions. Co-Champions are not eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if he/she is a Contender Athlete.
    - 2.5.2.1.2. If there are no qualified rides in the Round of 4, then all four Athletes compete again. If no qualified rides result, the championship will be determined by buck-off times. Championships determined by buck-off times are not eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if he is a Contender Athlete.
    - 2.5.2.1.3. Ties for second or third place will be treated and reported as ties.

### **3. ADVANCEMENT STRUCTURE OF TIMED EVENT DISCIPLINES**

#### **3.1. Barrel Racing**

- 3.1.1. Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Events
  - 3.1.1.1. Advancement to the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals
    - 3.1.1.1.1. An Athlete/horse combination is considered an Individual Contender "Team" with automatic advancement being tracked per "Team".
    - 3.1.1.1.2. An Athlete may advance multiple times to a single or to multiple Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals so long as each advancement is earned as part of a separate "Team" (i.e. different horse).
    - 3.1.1.1.3. An Athlete may enter a Contender Tournament Qualifying event multiple times as long as each entry is on a different horse.
    - 3.1.1.1.4. A horse may be used only one time (by one rider) in any Contender Tournament Qualifying event.
      - 3.1.1.1.4.1. If an Athlete earns an automatic advancement in a Region, he/she must advance in said Region and will not be eligible to earn an advancement on that horse in any other Region.
    - 3.1.1.1.5. If a "Team" is in the standings of multiple Regions, the "Team" will only be awarded an advancement position in the Region where the Team is ranked the highest in the standings and said Team will not be awarded an advancement position in any other Region. All positions vacated by that "Team" will be filled by the next highest eligible Athlete "Team" in the Region of the vacated spot.
- 3.1.2. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals
  - 3.1.2.1. Once in any Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, an Athlete may substitute horses as he/she advances between each level of competition.



However, beginning with the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, a horse may only compete one (1) time during each level regardless of the Region or the Athlete riding the horse.

- 3.1.2.1.1. For clarification, the two go rounds of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals are considered one (1) level of competition so Athlete must ride the same horse in each go round of the Contender Regional Semifinals.
- 3.1.2.1.2. For clarification, all three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals are considered one (1) level of competition.
- 3.1.2.2. Format
  - 3.1.2.2.1. Two (2) full rounds with a separate Redemption Round.
  - 3.1.2.2.2. Run positions for the 1<sup>st</sup> go round will be randomly drawn. Run order for the 2<sup>nd</sup> go round will be reverse order of the 1<sup>st</sup> go round. (1<sup>st</sup> go 1-125; 2<sup>nd</sup> go 125-1)
  - 3.1.2.2.3. Top ten (10) fastest times of the two-run aggregate of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
  - 3.1.2.2.4. An Athlete that did not advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals via the top ten (10), is eligible to enter the Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round Race.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.1. The Redemption Round Race will be one (1) run.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.2. Cannot scratch both rounds and be eligible to enter and compete in Redemption Round. Must compete at least once to be eligible to compete in the Redemption Round.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.3. An Athlete can enter the Redemption Round Race one (1) time for each non-advancing run in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.4. Fee to enter the Redemption Round Race is \$1,000 per entry.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.5. The Athletes with the three (3) fastest qualified times in the Redemption Round Race will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
    - 3.1.2.2.4.6. If there is a tie for the last advancement position(s) in the Redemption Round Race, the Athletes' times on the two-run aggregate in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will break the tie with the fastest time advancing.
  - 3.1.2.2.5. Ties for advancing from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will be broken by the Athletes' fastest one (1) qualified time in either round of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals. If still tied, the tie will be broken by mutually agreed upon run off or by a coin flip.
- 3.1.2.3. An Athlete can only advance one (1) time from each Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals to each Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 3.1.2.4. If an Athlete places 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Redemption Round Race of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals on multiple horses, the highest placing horse advances to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals and the

next highest placing Athlete from the Regional Semifinals Redemption Round Race will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.

3.1.3. Contender Tournament Regional Finals

3.1.3.1. The Contender Tournament Regional Finals will be composed of as many as fifteen (15) Contenders – the top ten (10) placing Athletes from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, plus the Athletes with the three (3) fastest qualified times from the Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round Race, plus any American Rodeo Super Contender eligible qualifiers.

3.1.3.2. Format

3.1.3.2.1. One (1) full round.

3.1.3.2.2. Run positions will be randomly drawn.

3.1.3.2.3. Times from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals do not roll forward except for tie-breaker purposes.

3.1.3.2.4. Top five (5) fastest qualified times from each of the Contender Tournament Regional Finals advance to the American Rodeo Contender Finals. If there is a tie for the last advancement position, qualified times (fastest time in either Semifinals go-round) from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will break the tie with the fastest of the tied Athletes advancing. If still tied, the tie will be broken by mutually agreed upon run off or by a coin flip. If an American Rodeo Super Contender qualifying Athlete is part of the tie for the last advancing position, that tie will be broken by mutually agreed upon run off or by a coin flip.

3.1.3.3. An Athlete can only have one (1) advancement position into the Contender Tournament Finals regardless of the horse he/she is competing on. If an Athlete is in the top five (5) of more than one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Finals, said Athlete will advance to the Contender Tournament Finals from the Region based on his/her placing in the Contender Tournament Regional Finals and Semifinals. The vacated position will roll down to the next highest placing Athlete from the Region where the vacated spot occurred.

3.1.4. The Contender Tournament Finals

3.1.4.1. The Contender Tournament Finals consists of 15 Athletes – the top five (5) placing Athletes from each of the three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Finals.

3.1.4.2. Format:

3.1.4.2.1. One (1) full round.

3.1.4.2.2. Run positions will be randomly drawn.

3.1.4.2.3. Times from any other rounds of competition do not roll forward except potentially for tie-breaker purposes.

3.1.4.2.4. Top five (5) fastest qualified times in the Contender Tournament Finals advance to The American Rodeo Round of 10. If there is a tie for the last position, the tie breaker will go to the Athlete that placed highest in his/her Contender Tournament Regional Finals. If still tied, the tie breaker will go to the Athlete that placed highest in his/her Contender Tournament Semifinals average in his/her region. If still tied, tiebreaker will go to fastest time in the Semifinals.

3.1.5. The American Rodeo Round of 10

- 3.1.5.1. The American Rodeo Round of 10 consists of ten (10) Athletes – the five (5) contender Athletes that advanced from the Contender Tournament Finals plus the “Top 5” finishers from the immediately preceding year’s final WPRA Barrel Racing World Standings.
- 3.1.5.2. Format:
  - 3.1.5.2.1. One (1) full round
  - 3.1.5.2.2. Run positions will be drawn randomly within each of the two groups (Contenders and “Top 5”). The two lists will then be combined so that the run order alternates between a “Top 5” and a Contender beginning with a Contender. (i.e., Contenders draw at 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and “Top 5” Athletes draw at 2, 4, 6, 8, 10).
  - 3.1.5.2.3. Times from any other rounds of competition do not roll forward except potentially for tie-breaker purposes.
  - 3.1.5.2.4. The top four (4) fastest qualified times in The American Rodeo Round of 10 advance to The American Rodeo Round of 4. If there is a tie for the last position, the tie breaker will be as follows:
    - 3.1.5.2.4.1. If the tie is between a Contender and a “Top 5”, the tie breaker will be awarded to The Contender.
    - 3.1.5.2.4.2. If the tie is between two (2) or more Contenders, the tied Athlete with the fastest qualified time in the Contender Tournament Finals will advance.
    - 3.1.5.2.4.3. If the tie is between two (2) or more “Top 5” Athletes, the tie will go to the tied Athlete with the highest ranking from the immediately preceding year’s final WPRA Barrel Racing NFR average standings. If still tied, the tie will be broken by rank in the preceding year’s WPRA World Standings.
- 3.1.6. The American Rodeo Round of 4
  - 3.1.6.1. The American Rodeo Round of 4 consists of the Athletes with the top four (4) fastest qualified times in the American Rodeo Round of 10.
  - 3.1.6.2. Format:
    - 3.1.6.2.1. One (1) full round.
    - 3.1.6.2.2. Run positions will be determined by random draw.
  - 3.1.6.3. The one (1) fastest qualified time in The American Rodeo Round of 4 will be crowned The American Rodeo Barrel Racing Champion.
    - 3.1.6.3.1. If there is a tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place, tie breaker will be as follows:
      - 3.1.6.3.1.1. The tie goes in favor of the Athlete with the fastest run from the Round of 10 to determine the Champion. If still tied, the Athletes are named Co-Champions. Co-Champions are not eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if he/she is a Contender Athlete. Ties are all split with money from tied places being distributed evenly among tied Athletes.
    - 3.1.6.3.2. Ties for any other places will be treated and reported as ties.

3.1.6.3.3. Payout for tied places will be combined and split evenly between the tied Athletes.

**3.2. Breakaway Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Steer Wrestling and Team Roping**

3.2.1. Contender Tournament Qualifying Events

3.2.1.1. Advancement to the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals

3.2.1.1.1. An Athlete may advance up to two (2) times to each Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.

3.2.1.1.2. If an Athlete earns an automatic advancement in a Region, he/she must advance in said Region.

3.2.2. **Team Roping Qualifying Events**

3.2.2.1 For purposes of the Team Roping a Team is defined as one (1) Entity.

3.2.2.2 Teton will produce three (3) designated Contender Tournament Open Team Ropings in conjunction with each of the three (3) ACT Regional Semifinals rodeos.

3.2.2.3 In Team Roping, a Team may enter each Contender Tournament two (2) times. An Athlete can rope with the same partner two times at the same Region. Ropers cannot split Teams to create a new Team.

3.2.2.4 The 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> ranked Teams from the immediately preceding year's final PRCA Team Roping World Standings may enter the ACT Regional Semifinals Open Roping.

3.2.2.5 These Athletes will be assigned to one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals according to Figure 1 in which to compete. Athletes will be allowed to trade per parameters set forth in Rule 1.1.2.1.4 with no more than five (5) 6-20 Teams per Region. These Athletes will pay \$500 per roper per entry to compete in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals Open Roping.

3.2.2.6 A Team (1 Entity) cannot advance twice to the Regional Finals in the same Region.

3.2.2.7 A Team may enter an ACT Regional Semifinals Open Roping even if he/she has already qualified for that Contender Tournament Regional Finals, but only to win money and not to advance. If a Team already has a qualification to that Contender Tournament Regional Finals and the Team places, they will vacate their qualification spot and the next highest placing Team in the aggregate would fill it.

3.2.2.8 If one partner from a Regional Finals qualifying Team must vacate due to doctor release or visible injury the other member of the qualifying Team may replace his/her injured partner with the next highest ranked roper in line to qualify for the Finals.

3.2.1. Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals

3.2.1.1. Format: Two (2) full rounds with a separate Redemption Round

3.2.1.1.1. Run positions for the 1<sup>st</sup> go round will be randomly drawn. Run order for the 2<sup>nd</sup> go round will be reverse order of the 1<sup>st</sup> go round. All **A** runs and single runs go first in the draw and all **B** runs go second in the draw. (i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> go 1-125; 2<sup>nd</sup> go 125-1)

3.2.1.1.2. Top ten (10) fastest times of the two (2) head aggregate of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals (including Team Roping) will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.

- 3.2.1.1.3. An Athlete or a Team that did not advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals via the top ten (10), or who did but has an additional Semifinals qualification position that did not advance, is eligible to enter the Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round.
- 3.2.1.1.4. Cannot scratch both Semifinals rounds and be eligible to enter and compete in Redemption Round. Must compete in at least one Semifinals round to be eligible for Redemption Round.
- 3.2.1.1.5. The Redemption Round will be one (1) long go.
- 3.2.1.1.6. An Athlete or Team can enter the Redemption Round up to two (2) times for each non-advancing run in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
- 3.2.1.1.7. Entry fee to enter the Redemption Round is \$1,000 per entry.
- 3.2.1.1.8. The Athletes with the three (3) fastest times in the Redemption Round will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 3.2.1.1.9. If there is a tie for advancement in the Redemption Round, a one-head rope off or run off will break the tie with the fastest time advancing.
- 3.2.1.1.10. Ties for advancing from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will be broken by the Athlete with the fastest one (1) qualified time in either round of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals advancing. If still tied, the tie will be broken by a run/rope off.
- 3.2.1.2. An Athlete or Team can only advance one (1) time from each Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals to each Contender Tournament Regional Finals. If an Athlete places twice in the top ten (10), the Athlete's highest placing position will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals. The next highest placing Athlete from the Regional Semifinals aggregate will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 3.2.1.3. If an Athlete wins 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Redemption Round of the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals, the next highest placing Athlete from the Regional Semifinals Redemption Round will advance to the Contender Tournament Regional Finals.
- 3.2.2. Contender Tournament Regional Finals
  - 3.2.2.1. The Contender Tournament Regional Finals will be composed of as many as fifteen (15) Contenders – the top ten (10) placing Athletes from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals plus the top three (3) Athletes from the Contender Tournament Regional Redemption Round, plus any American Rodeo Super Contender eligible qualifying Athletes.
  - 3.2.2.2. Format
    - 3.2.2.2.1. One (1) full round.
    - 3.2.2.2.2. Run positions will be randomly drawn.
    - 3.2.2.2.3. Times from the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals do not roll forward except for tie-breaker purposes.
    - 3.2.2.2.4. Top five (5) fastest qualified times from each of the Contender Tournament Regional Finals advance to The American Rodeo Contender Finals. If there is a tie for the last advancement position, the Athlete with the fastest aggregate time in the

Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals will advance. If still tied, the Athlete with the fastest one individual qualified time between the two Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals rounds will advance. If still tied, the tie will be broken by mutually agreed upon run/rope off.

3.2.2.2.5. If an American Rodeo Super Contender qualifying Athlete is part of a tie for the last advancing position, that tie will be broken by a ride off or run off.

3.2.2.3. An Athlete can only have one (1) advancement position into the Contender Tournament Finals. If an Athlete is in the top five (5) of more than one (1) Contender Tournament Regional Finals, the Athlete will advance based on his/her first advancement position earned to The American Rodeo Contender Finals. Any other advancement positions to The American Contender Finals vacated by that Athlete will be rolled down to the next highest placing eligible Athlete in the Contender Tournament Regional Finals with the vacated position.

### 3.2.3. The Contender Tournament Finals

3.2.3.1. The Contender Tournament Finals consists of 15 Athletes – the top five (5) placing Athletes from each of the three (3) Contender Tournament Regional Finals.

3.2.3.2. Format:

3.2.3.2.1. One (1) full round.

3.2.3.2.2. Run positions will be randomly drawn.

3.2.3.2.3. Times from any other rounds of competition do not roll forward except for tie-breaker purposes.

3.2.3.2.4. Top five (5) fastest qualified times in the Contender Tournament Finals advance to The American Rodeo Round of 10. If there is a tie for the last position, the tie breaker will go to the Athlete or Team that placed highest in his/her Contender Tournament Regional Finals. If still tied, the tie breaker will go to the Athlete or Team that placed highest in his/her Contender Tournament Semifinals average in his/her region. If still tied, tiebreaker will go to fastest time in the Semifinals.

### 4.2.5. The American Rodeo Round of 10

4.2.5.1. Each Discipline in The American Rodeo Round of 10 consists of ten (10) Athletes: the five (5) Athletes (or Teams) that advanced from the Contender Tournament Finals plus the “Top 5” finishers from the immediately preceding year’s final PRCA/WPRA World Standings in their respective Discipline.

4.2.5.2. Format:

4.2.5.2.1. One (1) full round.

4.2.5.2.2. Run positions: The “Top 5” and five (5) Contender Athletes or Teams (according to header ranking) will alternate run positions beginning with a “Top 5” Athlete or Team first. The “Top 5” will run in opposite order of the immediately preceding year’s final PRCA/WPRA World Standings rankings and the five (5) Contender Athletes or Teams will run in order of slowest time to fastest time from the Contender Tournament Finals. (i.e., #5 ranked PRCA/WPRA “Top 5” Athlete or Team, followed by the 5<sup>th</sup> place finishing Contender Athlete or Team from the Contender

Tournament Finals, followed by the #4 ranked PRCA/WPRA “Top 5” Athlete or Team, followed by the 4<sup>th</sup> place finishing Contender Athlete or Team from the Contender Tournament Finals continuing that pattern until all have competed.)

- 4.2.5.2.3. Times from any other rounds of competition do not roll forward, except potentially for tie-breaker purposes.
- 4.2.5.2.4. The top four (4) fastest qualified times in The American Rodeo Round of 10 advance to The American Rodeo Round of 4. If there is a tie for the last position, the tie breaker will be as follows:
  - 4.2.5.2.1.1. If the tie is between a Contender and a “Top 5” Athlete or Team, the tie breaker will be awarded to The Contender.
  - 4.2.5.2.1.2. If the tie is between two (2) or more Contenders, the tied Athlete or Team with the fastest qualified time in the Contender Tournament Finals will advance.
  - 4.2.5.2.1.3. If the tie is between two (2) or more “Top 5” Athletes, the tie will go to the tied Athlete with the highest ranking from the immediately preceding year’s NFR aggregate in the respective Discipline. If still tied, the tie will be broken by rank in the preceding year’s World Standings in the respective Discipline.

4.2.6. The American Rodeo Round of 4

- 4.2.6.2. The American Rodeo Round of 4 consists of the Athletes or Teams with the top four (4) fastest qualified times in The American Rodeo Round of 10.
- 4.2.6.3. Format:
  - 4.2.6.3.1. One (1) full round.
  - 4.2.6.3.2. Run positions will be randomly drawn.
  - 4.2.6.3.3. **Team Roping Only:** Run positions will be based on qualified times from The American Rodeo Round of 10 with the Teams with the slowest advancing qualified time competing first and the Team with the fastest qualified time competing last.
- 4.2.6.4. The one (1) fastest qualified time in each Discipline of The American Rodeo Round of 4 will be crowned The American Rodeo Event Champion.
  - 4.2.6.4.1. If there is a tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place, tie breaker will be as follows:
    - 4.2.6.4.1.1. The tied Athletes will compete again, on one (1) additional head, to determine the Champion. Athlete with the fastest qualified time in the run-off or rope off wins the Championship. If still tied, the Athletes are named Co-Champions. If neither Athlete receives a qualified time in the run-off, the Athletes are named Co-Champions. Co-Champions are not eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if he/she is a Contender Athlete.
  - 4.2.6.4.2. Ties for any other places will be treated and reported as ties.
  - 4.2.6.4.3. Payout for tied places will be combined and split evenly between the Athletes. Ties are all split with money from tied places being distributed evenly among tied Athletes or tied Teams.



## 5. PAYOUT PROCEDURES / PRIZE MONEY

- 5.2. The Payout Schedule for the Contender Tournament Regional Finals, Contender Finals, and The American are attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 5.3. The Payout for the Contender Tournament Events, Regional Semifinals, and Redemption Round will be determined on the number of entries each event has with distribution of eligibility fees paid based on the following:
  - 5.3.1 Breakaway, Tie-Down, Steer Wrestling: \$25 of eligibility fees per entry are retained as a stock charge by the producer of the Qualifier. \$125 per entry paid out in the Contender Tournament Semifinals; \$250 of eligibility fees are paid out at The American Contender Tournament Finals and The American.
  - 5.3.2 Regional Semifinals Redemption Rounds: 20% of entry fees paid back.
  - 5.3.3 Roughstock Events: 40% of eligibility fees are paid out in the Contender Tournament Regional Semifinals.
- 5.4. Each Athlete must complete an Athlete Agreement and submit a FORM W-9 for US citizens / PERMANENT RESIDENTS or a FORM W-8 for ALL OTHER ATHLETES (i.e., foreign/international residents) in the name of the Athlete. Earned prize money will not be paid without a current FORM W-9 or W-8 on file. Teton shall issue Forms 1099 (or equivalent) as required, in accordance with applicable law.

## 6. CONTENDER BONUS PAYOUT PROCEDURES

- 6.2. Eligibility for the Contender Bonus:
  - 6.2.5. Athletes who have advanced through The American Rodeo Contender Tournament AND win his/her respective individual final Discipline AND are crowned The American Rodeo Event Champions will be eligible to win the Contender Bonus in accordance with Sub-Section 6.1.1.1 and 6.1.1.2 below. Additionally, Invited Contender Athletes shall be eligible in accordance with Sub-Section 6.1.1.1 below.
    - 6.2.5.2. Qualified Rides/Times:
      - 6.2.5.2.1. Between The American Rodeo Round of 10 and The American Rodeo Round of 4, Athletes must have a minimum of two (2) qualified rides/runs earning an official score/time in order to be eligible for the Contender Bonus. (Regardless of the number of opportunities to earn a qualified score/time.)
  - 6.2.6. In the occurrence that The American Rodeo All-Around Champion is not crowned a specific event champion, the All-Around Champion will NOT be eligible for the Contender Bonus.
- 6.3. The Contender Bonus will be disseminated to eligible The American Rodeo Event Champions, as follows:
  - 6.3.5. If two (2) or more event champions are eligible, the money will be evenly split between the number of eligible event champions.
    - 6.3.5.2. Should a Co-Champion(s) be named, Co-Champions are not eligible for the Contender Bonus regardless of if he/she is a Contender Athlete.
  - 6.3.6. In the occurrence of only one (1) eligible champion, the full Contender Bonus of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will be paid to the one (1) eligible event champion.
  - 6.3.7. In the occurrence that there are no eligible event champions, the full one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will carry forward to the next year's (2026) The American Rodeo competition.

- 6.3.8. The Contender Bonus will be issued to the Champion and recorded on the entry within thirty (30) days of the close of competition, thereby ending Teton's responsibility.
- 6.3.9. The Contender Bonus payment(s) will be payable by check or ACH and if by check will be mailed to the Champion at the address on file with Teton within thirty (30) days after the show.
- 6.4. Strict Athlete Adherence: Athletes must strictly comply with the above-mentioned rules in order to qualify and be eligible for the Contender Bonus. Any deviations therefrom can result in disqualification from eligibility or forfeiture of the Contender Bonus, as solely determined by Teton.

## 7. GENERAL RULES

- 7.2. For all purposes in connection with The American Rodeo, including, without limitation, qualification and eligibility for the Contender Bonus and all other events that are part of The American Rodeo, Athletes must strictly comply with all rules and policies as applicable to The American Rodeo including, without limitation, those contained in Sections 6.1 – 6.3 above; the General Rules below; all other provisions and policies contained herein; all other provisions of the Athlete Agreement, as all rules and policies that are posted in or around the venues, or otherwise announced by Teton. All determinations in connection with violations of any of the foregoing shall be made by Teton in its sole discretion and shall be final and not subject to challenge or appeal.
- 7.3. Honest Effort:
  - 7.3.5. Teton and its designated rodeo officials shall have the right to determine whether an Athlete violates the Honest Effort Rule and to determine whether to apply one or more of the sanctions set forth below, in their sole discretion, which shall not be subject to challenge or appeal:
    - 7.3.5.2. Disqualification from the round in which the violation occurred and any remaining rounds of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo;
    - 7.3.5.3. Return of any and all prize money or prizes won in connection with the round in which the violation occurred and any prior rounds and/or events of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo;
    - 7.3.5.4. And prohibition from competing or participating in any future Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo related events.
  - 7.3.6. The following acts or omissions shall be deemed to be violations of the Honest Effort Rule with respect to the events set forth below:
    - 7.3.6.2. Barrel Racing Discipline: In the Barrel Race, an Athlete who fails to ride, using appropriate equipment, his/her horse through the electric eyes (unless The American Rodeo officials rule the Athlete's horse refuses beyond his/her control) shall automatically be deemed not to have given an honest effort. Once the Athlete has ridden his/her horse through the electric eyes, it is the sole responsibility of Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials to determine whether the Athlete has given an honest effort. In making this determination, the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials will consider whether the Athlete has made a good faith effort to successfully complete the event and record a qualified time to the best of that Athlete's ability.
    - 7.3.6.3. Breakaway Roping, Team Roping, Tie-down Roping, and Steer Wrestling Disciplines: In these timed events, an Athlete who fails to ride, using the appropriate equipment, his/her horse across the score line (unless The Contender Tournament and/or American rodeo officials rule that he/she was fouled leaving the box) shall automatically be deemed to have not given an honest effort. Once the Athlete has ridden his/her horse across the score line,

it is the sole responsibility of Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials to determine whether the Athlete has given an honest effort. In making this determination, Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials will consider whether the Athlete has made a good faith effort to complete the event and record a qualified time to the best of his/her ability.

7.3.6.4. Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, and Bull Riding: In Roughstock events, an Athlete who fails to ride, using appropriate equipment, his horse or bull out of the chute (unless Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials rule the livestock stalled within the chute or the Athlete was fouled coming out of the chute) shall automatically be deemed to not have given an honest effort. Specifically, the Bareback Rider must have his hand in the rigging and be seated on the horse until the inside shoulder of the horse crosses the plane of the chute gate; the Saddle Bronc Rider must have his feet in the stirrups, seat in the saddle and rein in his hand when the inside shoulder of the horse passes the plane of the chute gate; and the Bull Rider must have his hand in his bull rope with wrap taken and be seated on the bull when the inside shoulder of the bull crosses the plane of the chute gate. Once the Athlete has ridden the horse/bull out of the chute, it is the sole responsibility of Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo officials to determine whether the Athlete has given an honest effort. In making this determination, The American Rodeo officials will consider whether the Athlete has made a good faith effort to complete his/her ride to the best of his/her ability.

7.4. "Prohibited Conduct" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 7.4.5. Failure of an Athlete to fulfill contractual obligations associated with the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo;
- 7.4.6. Cheating or attempting to cheat during any round of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo or any The American Rodeo related events;
- 7.4.7. Attempting to fix or improperly influence the results and/or final outcome of any round of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo or any The American Rodeo-related events;
- 7.4.8. Acting with the intent to affect the outcome of any round of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo or any The American Rodeo related events;
  - 7.4.8.2. Offers, confers, or agrees to confer any benefit on, or threatens harm to:
    - 7.4.8.2.1. A participant in the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo or any The American Rodeo related events, to induce them not to use their best efforts; or
    - 7.4.8.2.2. An official or other person associated with the contest.
- 7.4.9. Acting in a threatening, intimidating, harassing or violent manner toward any persons;
- 7.4.10. Violation of the Athlete Agreement;
- 7.4.11. Violation of applicable law or regulations;
- 7.4.12. Violation of Sub-Section 7.4 (Livestock Welfare); and/or
- 7.4.13. Violation of Sub-Section 7.5 (Offensive Behavior).
- 7.4.14. Teton shall make the determination as to whether an Athlete has engaged in any Prohibited Conduct, including, but not limited to, the conduct listed above and as set forth in Sub-Sections 7.4 and/or 7.5. Any Athlete who engages in any Prohibited Conduct shall be subject to any or all of the following, at the sole discretion of Teton, without waiver of any other rights and remedies under applicable law:

- 7.4.14.2. Disqualification from the round in which the violation occurred and any remaining rounds of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo;
  - 7.4.14.3. Return of any and all prize money or prizes won in connection with the round in which the violation occurred and any prior rounds and/or events of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo; and
  - 7.4.14.4. Prohibition from competing or participating in any future Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo related events.
- 7.5. Livestock Welfare. Teton is committed to the extraordinary care of livestock. It has strict policies prohibiting the use of animal prods of any type (to include, but not limited to, sharp instruments, hotshots, other electric shocking devices, joy buzzers, or vibrators) during any Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo event or round of competition. Approved and designated representatives of the Contender Tournament's and/or The American Rodeo's general stock contractor may carry hotshots for use in the alleys, pens, and dock loading areas to facilitate movement of animals if there appears to be imminent danger to any humans or animals. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in breach of the Athlete Agreement.
- 7.5.5. All Athletes along with their traveling companions/assistants (whether entered in the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo or not) must comply with all Livestock Welfare rules and regulations as they pertain to their personal animals, the animals of the Contender Tournament and/or The American Rodeo's stock contractors, or any other animals with which he/she may come in contact. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations will result in breach of the Athlete Agreement and may result in criminal prosecution or citation if local and/or state animal welfare laws are violated.
- 7.6. Family Event; Offensive Conduct: All Athletes need to remain mindful that both the Contender Tournament and The American Rodeo are family-oriented events and will be broadcasted/streamed live. Athletes must not behave or comport themselves in a manner that is offensive to any social or ethnic groups and that will be appropriate for a family audience. Each Athlete understands and acknowledges that areas in and around the Arena floors will have multiple cameras and microphones that may or may not be visible and that all speech and behavior may be broadcast, recorded and/or displayed on screens at the venue, or elsewhere.
- 7.7. Officials, along with Teton, have the authority to enforce all rules.
- 7.7.5. The American Rodeo is represented, during live competition, by the Arena Floor Director and the Rodeo Producer. Their decisions on non-scoring, production, performance, and procedural issues are final.
  - 7.7.6. Per the Athlete Agreement, all decisions of Contender Tournament Judges and The American Rodeo Judges are final. All scores and times, once calculated and approved by the Rodeo Secretary and the Judges are final.
  - 7.7.7. Athletes may not approach the judges during the live event unless the judge initiates the conversation. Further, Athletes may not attempt to intimidate, persuade, or harass judges in any way inside or outside of the Arena, including, without limitation, appeals for re-rides. Failure to comply will result in disqualification from any further rounds of The American Rodeo 2026 and potential disqualification of future events.
- 7.8. Back Numbers: Athletes must wear 2025 The American Rodeo Back Numbers at all times when competing at The American Rodeo. Back numbers will grant entrance and serve as a credential to access the Arena.
- 7.8.5. Athletes advancing to The American Rodeo Round of 10 will be required to wear a back number when competing but will receive a credential to access the stadium.
- 7.9. Order of Events: The order of events for each round of competition will be posted in advance.

- 7.10. Attire and Patch Programs: Athlete will be granted the opportunity to wear or display patches of sponsors. Patches and Sponsorship inclusion must follow standard “rodeo display sizes” and must not be vulgar or offensive in any way.
  - 7.11. Media and Press Expectations
    - 7.11.5. Athlete agrees to be available for media interviews, live event interviews, social highlights, and press requests during the days/evenings he/she is participating within The American Rodeo and/or American Contender Tournament.
    - 7.11.6. Athlete agrees to take head shots, hard shots, and video sound bites upon arrival to his/her first round of competition.
    - 7.11.7. Athlete agrees to make good faith efforts to be available for public appearances, sponsorship activations, meet and greets, promotional activities, etc. to better promote the rodeo industry, western lifestyle, and The American Rodeo.
    - 7.11.8. American Rodeo Champions in any discipline may be requested and required to participate in the following promotional activity: interviews, photo shoots and promotional activities. Champions shall participate in any required scheduled interviews, photo shoots and promotional activities such as pre- or post-show press conferences, interviews, or rider meetings to promote The American if requested and appropriate travel stipend is supplied as necessary.
  - 7.12. Athlete Stipulations:
    - 7.12.5. Gender: There is no gender requirement for Bareback Riding, Bull Riding, Team Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Saddle Bronc Riding, Steer Wrestling, or Barrel Racing. All Breakaway Roping Athletes must be female, as denoted on their original birth certificate.
    - 7.12.6. Age: There is no general age requirement for timed events, however, there is an 18+ year age requirement for all Roughstock Disciplines. Minors shall be required to provide Teton with a duly executed Parental Consent in the form to be provided by Teton, prior to being permitted to compete.
- END OF DOCUMENT

**Exhibit "A"**

**CONTENDER TOURNAMENT & THE AMERICAN GUARANTEED PAYOUTS**

**Contender Tournament**

**Regional Finals Payout**

\$20,000 Purse (per discipline)

Place	Amount
1	\$10,000
2	\$5,500
3	\$2,500
4	\$1,500
5	\$500

**The American**

**Round of 10 Payout**

\$3,000 Purse (per discipline)

Place	Amount
5	\$500
6	\$500
7	\$500
8	\$500
9	\$500
10	\$500

**Contender Tournament**

**Finals Payout**

\$40,000 Purse (per discipline)

Place	Amount
1	\$15,000
2	\$10,000
3	\$6,000
4	\$3,000
5	\$1,000
6	\$500
7	\$500
8	\$500
9	\$500
10	\$500
11	\$500
12	\$500
13	\$500
14	\$500
15	\$500

**The American Rodeo**

**Finals Payout**

\$140,000 Purse (per discipline)

Place	Amount
1	\$100,000
2	\$25,000
3	\$10,000
4	\$5,000

**\*\*Ground Money**

If not enough contestants qualify for the number of places to be paid in an average or a go round, the remaining places shall be divided evenly among those contestants who did qualify. If no one qualifies, the prize money shall be divided evenly amongst all who competed. This money is considered ground money.

**FIGURE 1. 2024-25 AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS SCHEDULE**

*PRCA/WPRA Athletes ranked 6-20 in each Discipline will be placed in the following Regional Semifinals according to the following:*



**AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT WEST REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS & FINALS**

**January 9-11, 2025 - Las Vegas, Nevada - South Point Arena**

#6, #9, #12, #15, #18 seeded to West Region Semi-Finals



**AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT EAST REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS & FINALS**

**January 23-25, 2025 – Lexington, Kentucky - Alltech Arena**

#7, #10, #13, #16, #19 seeded to East Region Semi-Finals



**AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT CENTRAL REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS & FINALS**

**February 13-15, 2025 – Tulsa, Oklahoma - Tulsa Expo Ford Truck Arena**

#8, #11, #14, #17, #20 seeded to Central Region Semi-Finals

**FIGURE 2.**

**Contender Tournament (Qualifying) Regional Events Automatic Advancement Positions**

Event Entries	Automatic Advancement
1-5	1 Automatic Advancement places
6-10	2 Automatic Advancement places
11-15	3 Automatic Advancement places
16-20	4 Automatic Advancement places
21-25	5 Automatic Advancement places
26-30	6 Automatic Advancement places
31-50	8 Automatic Advancement places
51+	10 Automatic Advancement places

*\*\* Must have a qualified time to earn advancement.*



**FIGURE 3.**

**Contender Tournament Entry Fee Scale**

Roughstock Direct Buy-In Entry Fees - \$1,000

Breakaway, Tie-Down and Steer Wrestling Entry Fee - \$400

Barrel Racing - \$400 at open rodeos. \$500 Entry Fee (if fees are set to include \$125 local producer jackpot subject to special approval by Teton)

Team Roping - \$750 per man

PRCA/WPRA 6-20 ranked athletes in all disciplines - \$500

Redemption Round Entry Fees - \$1,000

NHSRA and NIRA fees subject to special approval by Teton in coordination with each respective association.

*\*\*All entry fees will have service fees imposed.*

