

**Hawaii Keiki Rodeo Association
Official Rules 2025-2026**





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Vision Statement:

To empower and inspire Hawaii's youth through the sport of rodeo, fostering a strong sense of community, developing life-long skills, and preserving a shared love for the paniolo way of life.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association is to nurture the next generation of rodeo athletes by providing safe, educational, and competitive opportunities that build skills, confidence, and character—enriching positive values, community spirit, and a deep respect for our western and island heritage.

Core Values:

1. **Community:** We believe in the power of 'Ohana—creating a supportive rodeo family where everyone feels welcome.
2. **Integrity:** We compete with honesty, fairness, and respect for each other, our animals, and our traditions.
3. **Courage:** We inspire our youth to face challenges with bravery, on horseback and in everyday life.
4. **Responsibility:** We teach with stewardship for our horses, our land, and our communities.
5. **Tradition:** We honor Hawaii's paniolo roots and rodeo heritage while passing proudly to future generations.
6. **Growth:** We encourage every rider to develop their skills, confidence, leadership, and a lifelong love for the rodeo spirit



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Board of Directors

President: Jeff Cabral.....808-936-3501
 Vice President: Brian Demattos.....808-936-6172
 Secretary: Zerín Menino.....808-785-9461
 Rodeo Secretary: Krystal Macanas.....808-430-2365
 Treasurer: Krystal Macanas.....808-430-2365

At-Large Members

Sheldon Mattos.....
 Gregg Menino.....
 Jonathan Arakaki.....
 Mike Smith.....



Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in any events hosted or sanctioned by Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association, all contestants must be actively enrolled in school. This includes public school, private school, or an accredited homeschool program.

Proof of current enrollment may be required upon request. Failure to provide verification or evidence of active enrollment may result in disqualification from current and future events.

Contestant Conduct

1. **Respect** – Contestants shall treat fellow participants, volunteers, officials, spectators, animals, and all property with respect at all times.
2. **Sportsmanship** – Contestants must demonstrate good sportsmanship, whether in victory or defeat. Poor attitudes, unsportsmanlike conduct, or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
3. **Safety** – All actions must promote the safety and well-being of all individuals and animals involved. Any behavior that endangers others or animals may result in disqualification.
4. **Substance-Free Environment** – The use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices, or illegal substances by contestants during any HKRA-sanctioned event is strictly prohibited.
5. **Representation** – Contestants are ambassadors of the Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the organization, their families, and the rodeo community.

Enforcement:

Violations of this conduct policy may result in verbal warnings, disqualification from an event, suspension, or permanent removal from the association, based on the severity of the infraction. Disciplinary actions are at the discretion of the HKRA Board of Directors.

By entering an HKRA event, contestants and their families acknowledge and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.



Attire

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Contestant Attire Policy (Ages 9–13)

To promote tradition, pride, and safety in the sport of rodeo, all contestants ages 9–13 are required to wear full cowboy attire when competing in any HKRA-sanctioned event. This includes:

- A long-sleeve or short-sleeve button-up shirt with collar
- Cowboy boots (**NO** tennis shoes or sneakers)
- A cowboy hat

The only exception to this rule is if the contestant is wearing official HKRA-branded apparel, which may include an HKRA hat and/or HKRA shirt.

Contestants not in compliance with the attire policy may be disqualified from the event at the discretion of the event officials. We appreciate your kokua in maintaining the values and traditions of rodeo in Hawai'i.



Entries

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Entry Policy

All entries for Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association (HKRA) events must be submitted by the indicated postmarked or hand delivered deadline. Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstances.

To be considered valid, each entry must:

- Be completed in full
- Include all required signatures
- Be accompanied by full payment

Accepted forms of payment include:

- Cash
- Check or Money Order (payable to *Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association* or *HKRA*)
- Venmo (@HawaiiKeikiRodeo | code: 5958 | Note: Participants Name)

Incomplete entries, unsigned forms, or entries without payment will not be processed.

We appreciate your cooperation and support in keeping the registration process organized and efficient.



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Scratching/Withdrawal from Rodeo

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Scratch & Withdrawal Policy

If a contestant needs to withdraw from the rodeo or scratch from any event, notification must be made by **Wednesday at 4:00 PM** prior to the scheduled rodeo.

To receive a refund:

- The contestant must notify HKRA of their withdrawal by the **Wednesday 4:00 PM deadline**.
- A full refund will be issued, **minus a \$20.00 office fee**.

Withdrawals or scratches after the deadline will not be eligible for a refund under any circumstances.

To report a scratch or withdrawal, please contact our Rodeo Secretary:

Krystal Macanas

📞 808-430-2365

Your cooperation ensures smoother planning and a better experience for all participants.
Mahalo!



Humane Animal Treatment

The Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association (HKRA) is firmly committed to the humane and respectful treatment of all animals involved in our rodeo events. The welfare of livestock is a top priority, and every effort will be made to ensure animals are handled with care, dignity, and in accordance with established rodeo and animal welfare standards.

Policy Guidelines:

- All animals must be treated with kindness and respect at all times—before, during, and after each event.
- Abuse, neglect, or excessive force toward any animal will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification, suspension, or permanent removal from HKRA events.
- Only qualified personnel may handle livestock during events.
- Contestants are expected to use equipment that is safe, humane, and in good condition.
- If an animal is injured or unfit for competition, it will be removed from the event and given appropriate care.

HKRA reserves the right to take immediate disciplinary action in any instance where the humane treatment of animals is compromised. Our rodeo community is built on kuleana (responsibility), respect, and aloha—for each other and for the animals that make this sport possible.



Discrepancies and Grievances

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Discrepancies & Grievances Policy

All discrepancies, concerns, or grievances related to event outcomes, judging, or rule enforcement must be addressed immediately and respectfully.

- Concerns must be brought directly to the Flag Man.
- The Flag Man will review the issue and discuss it with the Arena Director.
- Together, the Flag Man and Arena Director will make a final decision, which will be considered binding.

All grievances must be made before the start of the next event. Once the next event has begun, no further discussion regarding the previous event will be considered.

In lieu of age, contestants in the 8 & under divisions may have a parent or legal guardian approach the Flag Man on their behalf to express concerns or ask for clarification.

HKRA is committed to fairness, respectful communication, and a positive experience for all contestants and families. Mahalo for your cooperation.



Penalties and Disqualifications

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Penalties and Disqualifications Policy

The Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association (HKRA) is committed to maintaining a fair, safe, and respectful rodeo environment. All participants are expected to follow HKRA rules and uphold the values of sportsmanship, integrity, and animal welfare.

Penalties

Penalties may be issued for rule violations and will be determined by rodeo officials. Penalties may include time additions, point deductions, or warnings, depending on the infraction.

Examples of infractions that may result in penalties:

- Contestant not wearing required attire (e.g., no cowboy hat, improper shirt)
- Failure to be in the arena when called
- Dropping or losing control of livestock due to lack of preparation or negligence
- Improper use of tack or equipment (if not grounds for disqualification)
- Minor unsportsmanlike behavior (e.g., poor attitude or verbal complaint not made through proper channels)



Disqualifications

Disqualifications are issued for serious or repeated violations and will result in the contestant being removed from the event. Additional consequences may include suspension from future HKRA events.

Examples of infractions that may result in disqualification:

- Intentional mistreatment or abuse of livestock (striking, dragging, or excessive roughness)
- Cheating (tampering with event setup, falsifying entry information, using illegal equipment)
- Failure to comply with the entry policy, including non-payment or incomplete paperwork
- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including profanity, arguing with officials, or disrespectful behavior toward other contestants or spectators
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices, or illegal substances during HKRA events
- Disregarding event rules or repeated violation of attire policy after warning

Enforcement

All penalties and disqualifications will be enforced at the discretion of the Flag Man, Arena Director, and/or HKRA Board of Directors. All decisions are final and will be made in alignment with HKRA rules and values.



Points System

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Points System

The Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association (HKRA) utilizes a standardized point system to recognize contestant performance across all sanctioned events throughout the season. Points are used to determine **event standings, year-end awards, and All-Around titles.**

Individual Events – Points Breakdown:

Points are awarded to the **top 10 contestants** in each event as follows:

- **1st Place** – 10 points
- **2nd Place** – 9 points
- **3rd Place** – 8 points
- **4th Place** – 7 points
- **5th Place** – 6 points
- **6th Place** – 5 points
- **7th Place** – 4 points
- **8th Place** – 3 points
- **9th Place** – 2 points
- **10th Place** – 1 point



Ties:

In the event of a tie, the points for the tied placings will be **added together and split evenly** between the tied contestants. The next placing(s) will be adjusted accordingly.

Example:

If two contestants tie for 2nd place:

- 2nd place = 9 points
- 3rd place = 8 points
- Total = 17 points \div 2 = **8.5 points each**

The next placing awarded will be **4th place**.

Team Events (e.g., Team Roping and Ribbon Mugging):

In team events, **each team member will receive the full amount of points** based on the team's placing. For example:

- A team that places 1st will earn 10 points per member
- A team that places 2nd will earn 9 points per member
- And so on through 10th place



Year-Finals Rodeo

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association Year-End Finals Rodeo

The Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association (HKRA) will host a **Year-End Finals Rodeo** to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of our contestants throughout the season. This special event brings together all qualifiers from each division to compete for **championship titles, All-Around honors, and year-end awards.**

Eligibility for Year-End Finals Rodeo:

To qualify for the HKRA Year-End Finals Rodeo, contestants must meet the following criteria:

- **Participate in a minimum of two (2) regular season rodeos**
- **Compete in any given event at least two (2) times during the regular season in order to qualify for Finals in that event**
- **Be in good standing** with HKRA, including:
 - Up-to-date on all entry fees and payments
 - In compliance with conduct and attire policies
 - Submission of all required forms and waivers

Only those contestants who meet these criteria will be eligible to compete at the Finals and earn points toward year-end event and All-Around awards.



All-Around Points:

The **All-Around Champions** will be determined by the **accumulated points from qualified individual and team events only** (this will not include leadline, sheep riding, or calf riding events). Contestants must:

- Accumulate the **highest total points** across eligible events
- Be **in good standing** and meet all entry and eligibility requirements

In the event of a **tie** in All-Around standings, the contestant with the **most 1st place finishes** will be awarded the title. If still tied, the winner will be determined by head-to-head results or the contestant with the most total events entered.

We look forward to celebrating a successful season with all of our keiki contestants and their families. Mahalo for your dedication, sportsmanship, and aloha for rodeo!

Participation Gifts Policy

Participation gifts are awarded as a token of appreciation to a contestants commitment and dedication throughout the season. To be eligible to receive a participation gift, contestants must meet **all** of the following criteria:

1. **Qualify** for the Year-End Finals
2. **Enter** the Year-End Finals by submitting the required entry forms by the stated deadlines.
3. **Compete** in the Year-End Finals event.

Only contestants who **qualify, enter, and compete** in the Year-End Finals will be eligible to receive a participation gift. No exceptions will be made.



Sheep Riding

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Sheep Riding Rules

Sheep Riding is a beginner rough stock event designed to introduce young contestants to the fundamentals of rodeo in a safe and supportive environment. The following rules apply to all participants:

Eligibility:

- Contestants must weigh 50 lbs or less to participate
- Contestants must weigh in with full gear (including vest, helmet, boots, etc.) on the day of the event
- Weight will be verified at check-in; failure to meet the weight requirement will result in disqualification from the event

Gear & Equipment:

- Participants must provide their own riding gear, which includes:
 - Protective helmet
 - Protective vest

Ride Time Requirement:

- Contestants must remain on the sheep for a minimum of 6 seconds to receive a score
- Time begins when the sheep crosses the plane of the chute
- If a contestant is bucked off, touches the ground, or voluntarily dismounts before 6 seconds, no score will be awarded



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Re-Rides:

- Re-rides are not guaranteed and will be given only at the discretion of the Event Director
- Possible reasons for re-rides include:
 - Sheep falls or fails to leave the chute properly
 - Equipment failure not caused by the contestant
 - Unsafe or unfair start as determined by officials

Additional Notes:

- All decisions made by the flagman, Arena Director and Event Director are final
- Any behavior that compromises the safety of the contestant, animal, or others may result in disqualification
- The humane treatment of animals and respectful behavior from contestants and families is expected at all times



Calf Riding

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Calf Riding Rules

Calf Riding is an introductory rough stock event designed to help young riders build confidence and skill in a safe, structured environment. The following rules apply to all contestants participating in Calf Riding at HKRA events:

Eligibility:

- Contestants must weigh no less than 51 lbs and no more than 120 lbs
- Contestants must be 13 years of age or younger
- Contestants are required to weigh in with full gear on the day of the event (including helmet, vest, boots, etc.)
- Weight and age will be verified at check-in; failure to meet eligibility will result in disqualification from the event

Gear & Equipment:

- Contestants must provide their own riding gear, which must include:
 - Protective helmet
 - Protective vest
 - Riding rig or rope

Ride Time Requirement:

- Contestants must remain on the calf for a minimum of 6 seconds to receive a qualified score
- The clock starts when the calf's front shoulder crosses the plane of the chute gate
- If a contestant is bucked off, touches the calf or the ground, or dismounts voluntarily before 6 seconds, no score will be given



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Re-Rides:

- Re-rides are not guaranteed and may be granted only at the discretion of the Event Director
- Valid reasons for a re-ride include:
 - Calf stumbles or fails to exit the chute properly
 - Equipment malfunction not caused by the contestant
 - Any unsafe or unfair condition as determined by event officials

Additional Notes:

- All decisions made by the flagman, Arena Director and Event Director are final
- Any behavior that compromises the safety of the contestant, animal, or others may result in disqualification
- The humane treatment of animals and respectful behavior from contestants and families is expected at all times



Dummy Roping

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – 4 & Under Dummy Roping Rules

The 4 & Under Dummy Roping event is designed to introduce our youngest keiki to the sport of roping in a fun, encouraging, and structured environment. The following rules apply:

Age Divisions:

- Ages 4 and Under
- Ages 5-8

Event Guidelines:

Time Limit

- Contestants will have a 1-minute time limit or a maximum of 3 loops, whichever comes first

Loop Limit

- Contestants are allowed a maximum of 3 loops per run

Starting Position

- All contestants must begin behind the designated start line
- Time begins when the contestant crosses the designated start line
- The goal is to successfully rope the dummy's head in the fastest time

Penalty Rules:

- A Penalty Line will be clearly marked behind the roping dummy
 - If the contestant crosses this line while roping, a 5-second penalty will be added to their time



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- If a contestant walks up to the dummy and places the rope on without swinging, an additional 5-second penalty will be added
- All penalties are cumulative and will be added to the contestant's final time

Additional Guidelines:

- Contestants may be assisted in holding or managing their rope prior to the run, but must throw the loop themselves
- Only three loop attempts are allowed, even if the time limit has not expired
- In the event of a successful catch, the fastest clean run (with penalties, if applicable) will determine placing
- If no catch is made within the time or loop limit, a no time will be recorded

Sportsmanship & Safety:

- Parents and guardians are encouraged to support with aloha and allow the contestant to participate independently as much as possible
- The event is meant to be fun, safe, and educational – all contestants will be recognized for their efforts
- All decisions will be made by the flagman and arena director



Goat Undecorating

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Goat Undecorating Rules

Goat Undecorating is a beginner timed event designed to introduce younger keiki to goat events in a fun, age-appropriate, and safe setting. The objective is for the contestant to race to a goat and remove a ribbon from its tail as quickly as possible.

Divisions & Goat Handling:

- **4 & Under Participants:**
 - The goat will be held by an assistant to ensure safety and control during the contestant's run
- **5–8 Year Old Participants:**
 - The goat will be tethered with a 10-foot rope and will be let loose when the contestant begins their run

Event Objective:

- Contestants will run from the start line to the goat
- The goal is to remove a ribbon from the goat's tail and raise it clearly in the air to stop the clock

Time Limit:

- Each contestant will have a maximum of 1 minute (60 seconds) to complete the event
- If the ribbon is not removed within the time limit, the contestant will receive a no time



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Rules:

- Time begins when the contestant crosses the start line
- Time stops when the contestant removes the ribbon and raises it clearly above their head

Penalties & Disqualifications:

- Rough handling or unsafe behavior will result in immediate disqualification
- Failure to raise the ribbon clearly may result in a delayed time stop
- If the goat becomes untied or escapes before or during the contestant's attempt, a re-run may be granted at the discretion of the flagman and Arena Director

Parent & Family Involvement:

- Encouragement and cheering from parents, family members, and supporters is highly encouraged!
- However, the physical act of removing the ribbon must be done by the contestant



Goat Tying

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Goat Tying Rules

Goat Tying is a timed event that combines horsemanship, athleticism, and skill. The following rules apply to all Goat Tying contestants participating in HKRA-sanctioned events.

Divisions & Eligibility:

- **Age 9–13:**
 - Boys and Girls eligible to compete
- **Age 14–18:**
 - **Girls only** eligible to compete

Event Format:

- Each contestant will have a 1-minute (60-second) time limit to complete their run
- The event begins when the contestant crosses the start line and ends when they signal completion of their tie
- Contestants ride to the goat, dismount, flank the goat, and tie any three legs together

Knot Requirements:

- **Boys (ages 9–13):** Must use a calf tying knot
- **Girls (all divisions):** May use a standard goat tying knot

Ties must hold for a 6-second count after the contestant has stepped back and cleared the goat. The time count begins when the contestant signals completion by raising their hands and stepping away from the goat.



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Goat Handling:

- If the goat is down when the contestant arrives, the goat must be daylighted (lifted off the ground enough to clearly show it had the opportunity to regain its feet) before tying
- Any three legs may be tied
- The goat string must not be made of wire rope or contain any wire core

Completion & Disqualification:

- No time will be given if the contestant touches the goat or the string after signaling completion
- If a contestant becomes stuck or tangled, they must request help from the flagman
- No time will be awarded if:
 - The goat is run over by fault of the horse
 - The goat breaks away due to fault of the horse
 - the goat kicks out of the tie before the full 6-second count is completed

Horse & Rope Penalties:

- If the contestant's horse crosses the goat rope or comes into contact with the goat or its rope before the contestant signals completion, a 10-second penalty will be added to the final time
- If the horse causes the goat to break loose, the contestant will receive a no time



Tie Down/Calf Roping

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Calf Roping Rules

Calf Roping is a timed event designed to showcase horsemanship, roping skill, and handling of livestock. Contestants are expected to demonstrate precision, control, and sportsmanship. The following rules govern HKRA-sanctioned Calf Roping events:

Age Divisions:

- **Ages 9–13:**
 - Boys and Girls eligible
- **Ages 14–18:**
 - Boys only

General Rules:

- One loop only is allowed per run
- Contestants must tie any three legs of the calf
- Contestants must come out of the heeling box
- The catch pen gate will remain open during the run
- Contestants will have a 1-minute (60-second) time limit



Legal Catch & Roping Requirements:

- Any catch is legal as long as the rope passes over the calf's head
- A neck rope must be used
- The rope must hold the calf until the roper reaches it; if the rope comes off before contact, it will result in a no time

Barrier & Penalties:

- A 10-second penalty will be added for a broken barrier
- No blocking of the catch pen is allowed

Calf Handling:

- Calf must be daylighted (lifted off the ground enough to show it had the chance to regain its feet) before tying
- If the calf falls on its spine at any point during the run, a no time will be given
- If the calf is dragged more than 8 feet, the contestant will receive a no time

Completion & 6-Second Rule:

- After tying the calf, the roper must remount the horse and take at least one step forward
- The 6-second count begins when the contestant has:
 - Remounted the horse
 - The horse takes a step forward
- The calf must remain securely tied during the entire 6 seconds to receive a time



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Disqualifications:

- No time will be awarded if:
 - The rope fails to hold the calf until the roper makes contact
 - The calf is dragged over 8 feet
 - The calf falls on its spine
- If the contestant becomes stuck or tangled, they must request help from the flagman to avoid disqualification



Breakaway

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Breakaway Roping Rules

Breakaway Roping is a timed event that tests a contestant's roping accuracy, timing, and horsemanship. The rope is tied to the saddle horn with a breakaway string and is intended to release when the calf is roped. The following rules apply to all HKRA-sanctioned Breakaway Roping events:

Age Divisions:

- **Ages 5–8:**
 - **No barrier penalty**
- **Ages 9–13:**
 - 10-second penalty for breaking the barrier
- **Ages 14–18:**
 - 10-second penalty for breaking the barrier

Event Setup & Procedure:

- Contestants will come out of the heeling box
- HKRA will provide the breakaway string
- A solid color flag must be tied at the end of the rope for visibility
- Catch pen gate will remain open throughout the run
- No blocking of the catch pen is allowed
- Once the steer enters the catch pen, a no time will be awarded



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Roping Requirements:

- Catch-as-catch-can style roping is allowed; however, the rope must pass over the steer's head to be considered legal
- One loop only is permitted
- The rope must release from the contestant's hand for the run to count
- A dropped or fallen rope is considered a thrown rope and will be judged accordingly
- Contestants must be mounted when time is taken
- Physically pulling or breaking the rope away from the saddle horn (by hand or otherwise) will result in a no time

Animal Handling & Conduct:

- Humane treatment of animals is mandatory at all times
- Rough or abusive handling of livestock will result in immediate disqualification
- Contestants, family members, and supporters are expected to uphold the values of sportsmanship, safety, and aloha

Scoring & Officiating:

- The run is complete, and time is recorded, when the rope breaks free from the saddle horn due to a legal catch
- The flagman's decision is final
- All rules are enforced at the discretion of the flagman and arena director



Lead Line Barrels

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Lead Line Barrels Rules

Lead Line Barrels is a beginner, non-speed event designed to safely introduce young keiki to barrel racing while being guided by a parent, guardian, or designated handler. Safety, encouragement, and fun are the priorities of this event.

Age Divisions:

- Ages 4 & Under
- Ages 5–8

Event Format:

- The contestant will ride the horse through a clover leaf barrel pattern led by a handler on foot
- A lead line rope must connect the horse and the lead liner at all times throughout the run
- The handler may not let go of the lead rope at any point during the pattern

Penalties:

- A 5-second penalty will be added for each barrel knocked over
- If the lead line is dropped or disconnected at any time, the contestant will receive a no time



Barrels

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Barrel Racing Rules

Barrel Racing is a timed speed event in which contestants ride a horse in a cloverleaf pattern around three barrels. This event emphasizes horsemanship, control, and precision.

Age Divisions:

- **Ages 5–8: Boys & Girls**
- **Ages 9–13: Boys & Girls**
- **Ages 14–18: Girls Only**

Event Pattern:

- The cloverleaf pattern is the only approved pattern for this event
- Contestants may choose to go to the right or left barrel first, but must complete the full cloverleaf pattern without deviation

Arena Maintenance:

- The arena will be dragged at regular intervals to maintain safety and fairness
- Drag intervals will be determined by the HKRA Board and may vary based on entries or ground conditions



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Pattern Infractions:

- A no time will be awarded for a broken pattern
- A broken pattern is defined as:
 - Breaking forward motion to retrace tracks in an attempt to correct the pattern
 - Crossing the plane of the electric eye before completing the cloverleaf pattern in its entirety

Barrel Penalties:

- 5-second penalty for each barrel knocked over

Re-Runs & Equipment:

- No re-runs will be granted due to faulty or broken equipment provided by the contestant
- Contestants are responsible for ensuring their tack and gear are in safe, working condition before competing

Judging & Timing:

- Runs will be timed using an electric eye timing system, with a stopwatch backup
- The flagman and arena director have final authority on penalties, pattern infractions, and disqualifications



Lead Line Pole Bending

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Lead Line Poles Rules

Lead Line Poles is a beginner, non-speed event designed to safely introduce keiki to pole bending with the assistance of a parent, guardian, or designated lead liner. The focus of this event is control, encouragement, and fun.

Age Divisions:

- Ages 4 & Under
- Ages 5–8

Event Pattern:

- The event will use 4 poles set in a straight line
- Contestants will follow a modified pole bending pattern around the 4 poles as directed by event officials
- The horse must weave through the poles in both directions, completing the full pattern

Lead Line Requirements:

- The contestant will ride the horse through a 4 pole, pole pattern led by a handler on foot
- A lead line rope must connect the horse and the lead liner at all times throughout the run
- The handler may not let go of the lead rope at any point during the pattern



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Penalties:

- A 5-second penalty will be assessed for each pole knocked over
 - A no time will be given if:
 - The lead line is dropped
 - The pattern is broken or not completed
-

Pole Bending

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Pole Bending Rules

Pole Bending is a timed event that tests a rider's horsemanship, coordination, and control as they weave through a set pattern of poles. Contestants must demonstrate precision, consistency, and safe handling of their horses.

Age Divisions:

- **Ages 5–8: Boys & Girls – 4 Pole Pattern**
- **Ages 9–13: Boys & Girls – Standard 6 Pole Pattern**
- **Ages 14–18: Girls Only – Standard 6 Pole Pattern**



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Pattern Requirements:

- Contestants may start on either the right or left side of the first pole
- The pattern must be run in continuous forward motion
- A standard weaving pattern must be completed down and back through the poles
- The 5–8 division will run a 4 pole pattern
- The 9–13 and 14–18 divisions will run a 6 pole pattern, spaced 21 feet apart

Broken Pattern Definition & Policy:

- A broken pattern is defined as:
 - Breaking forward motion to retrace tracks in an attempt to fix the pattern
 - Crossing back through the electric eye before completing the pattern correctly
- If a pattern is broken:
 - The contestant may finish their run for experience, but may not start over
 - A no time will be awarded for any broken pattern

Penalties:

- 5-second penalty for each pole knocked over



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Re-Runs & Equipment:

- No re-runs will be granted for faulty or broken equipment furnished by the contestant
- Contestants are responsible for ensuring their tack and gear are secure and safe before entering the arena

Arena Maintenance:

- The arena will be dragged at regular intervals as determined by the HKRA Board to ensure safe, consistent footing for all riders

Judging & Final Decisions:

- Runs will be timed using an electric eye timing system, with a stopwatch backup
- Final rulings regarding penalties, disqualifications, or pattern breaks will be made by the flagman and Arena Director



Team Roping

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Team Roping Rules

Team Roping is a timed event in which two contestants, a header and a heeler, work together to rope a steer as quickly and cleanly as possible. Precision, teamwork, and safe handling of livestock are the foundation of this event.

General Rules:

- Each team consists of a Header and a Heeler
- The run begins when the steer breaks from the chute and ends when both header and heeler have completed their catches and the run is flagged

Timing & Flagging:

- Roping will be flagged on the heeler (time stops when the heeler ropes the hind feet and has a full controlled dally)
- The catch pen will remain open during the run
- Once the steer enters the catch pen, the team will receive a no time



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Legal Catches:

- The Header must rope:
 - The neck

- Headers may fish out a front leg only if:
 - The correction is made prior to dallying and before the steer is turned or bent
 - If not corrected in time, the team will receive a no time

- The Heeler must rope:
 - Both hind feet for a clean run
 - One hind foot results in a 5-second penalty

Penalties:

- 10-second penalty for breaking the barrier
- One hind foot caught results in a 5 second penalty
- No time will be awarded if:
 - The catch pen is blocked
 - The steer enters the catch pen before the run is completed
 - The steer falls with all four feet out (i.e., is completely down) during the run
 - Either roper fails to make a legal catch
 - The heeler ropes two feet before the header has turned the steer



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Arena Conduct & Safety:

- No blocking of the catch pen will be allowed at any time
- Horses and livestock must be treated humanely at all times
- Rough or abusive handling of horses or steers will result in disqualification

Judging & Final Decisions:

- All decisions regarding catches, penalties, and disqualifications will be made by the flagman and Arena Director



Ribbon Mugging

Hawai'i Keiki Rodeo Association – Ribbon Mugging Rules

Ribbon Mugging is a team event that highlights partnership, coordination, and roping skills. Teams work together to rope and mug a steer and race to the barrel to call for time.

Team Composition:

- Each team must consist of one boy and one girl or two girls
- One contestant serves as the Roper, the other as the Mugger

General Event Rules:

- The Roper must rope the steer and dismount
- The Mugger catches and controls the steer to allow ribbon retrieval
- The ribbon must be removed from the steer's tail and run to the barrel

Timing & Completion:

- Time stops when:
 - Both contestants are holding hands
 - One contestant is touching the barrel together
 - And both the ribbon and rope are in hand



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Legal Run Requirements:

- the steer must be roped over the head with a legal catch (neck only)
- The Roper's rope must be cleared from the saddle horn at the moment the roper's feet touch the ground during dismount
- Both roper and mugger must physically touch the steer before time can be called
- Teams must not drag the steer at any time during the run
- Holding hands and touching the barrel together is required to stop time—no time will be given otherwise

Penalties:

- A 10-second penalty will be assessed for breaking the barrier

Disqualifications & No Time:

- **No time** will be awarded for:
 - Failure to touch the steer by both team members
 - Failure to clear the rope from the horn upon dismount
 - Dragging the steer
 - Not touching the barrel, while holding hands, to stop the clock

Conduct:

- Horses and livestock must be treated humanely and respectfully
- Unsportsmanlike conduct or rough handling will result in disqualification



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