

# Ground Rules

The banner features a red and blue background with white and yellow text. At the top left, it says '2 EVENTS / 1 WEEKEND' and 'NOVEMBER 12-15'. To the right, it says 'Extraco Events Center Coliseum Arena Waco, TX'. In the center, there's a large graphic for 'ELITE BARREL RACING' with 'OVER \$100,250 ADDED MONEY'. On the right, there's a circular logo for 'WPRA World Finals 2026' with 'Nutrena' branding. Below these, there are two columns of event details. The left column lists 'Thursday Night Warm-Up Race 4D', 'Friday Elite Open 5D', 'Saturday Elite/TQHA Open 5D', and 'Sunday Elite Open 5D'. The right column lists 'BARREL RACING' (2027 RODEOHOUSTON QUALIFIER), 'ROPING' (Breakaway • Heading • Heeling • Tie Down), and '2027 RODEOHOUSTON & FORT WORTH QUALIFIER AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT QUALIFIER'. Logos for 'BIB', 'TQHA', 'WPRA', and 'BOOT BARN' are also present.

2 EVENTS / 1 WEEKEND  
**NOVEMBER 12-15**  
Extraco Events Center Coliseum Arena Waco, TX

**ELITE** BARREL RACING  
OVER **\$100,250** ADDED MONEY

**WPRA**  
World Finals  
★ 2026 ★  
Nutrena

**ELITE BARREL RACING**  
Thursday Night Warm-Up Race 4D  
Friday Elite Open 5D  
Saturday Elite/TQHA Open 5D  
Sunday Elite Open 5D

**WPRA WORLD FINALS**  
**BARREL RACING**  
2027 RODEOHOUSTON QUALIFIER  
**ROPING** Breakaway • Heading • Heeling • Tie Down  
2027 RODEOHOUSTON & FORT WORTH QUALIFIER  
AMERICAN CONTENDER TOURNAMENT QUALIFIER  
**BOOT BARN** TQ ROPING

## OFFICIAL GROUND RULES OF ELITE BARREL RACING - NOVEMBER 12 - 15, 2026

### 1. Entering the Elite

- \* Entry is online/email only.
- \* Use the Add Form to add to your existing entry. You can add a horse, incentives, stalls, RVs, etc., with no additional processing fee. The add form is on the [forms](#) page.

### Entry Deadlines:

- \* **Online | Email without a late fee:** Sept. 7 – Nov. 2, 2026
- \* **Elite Late Entries:** Any entry received after Nov. 2, 2026, will pay a \$30 late fee per rider. There are no late entries for the WPRA classes.
- \* **Onsite Entries:** All onsite and online entries are taken up to run 50 in Warm-up race and run 100 in Open 1, 2 and 3 races with a \$30 late fee
- \* **Add On (if you are already entered)** – You can enter onsite or with the email form up to run 50 of the warm-up race and run 100 of open race 1, 2, and 3.
- \* **Draw-out Deadline:** Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. for both WPRA and Elite.
- \* **Draw** is a random draw. There is no guarantee what order your entries will be drawn. If you were a late entry, you will be in the late draw.

## 2. Late Entries and Late Entry Draw

- \* Late entries received after Nov. 2, 2026, \$30.00 late fee/per rider and placed in late entry draw.
- \* Late entries will be accepted online, by email, or onsite up to run 50 in the warm-up and run 100 in Open race 1, 2 and 3.
- \* ***No Late Entries for WPRA Events.***
- \* The late entry draw will be a random computer draw posted outside the office and on the website after run number 50 in the Warm-up race and run 100 in Open 1, 2, and 3 races.
- \* Late entries taken onsite are charged a \$30 late fee per entry. (No late fee if you are adding on to your existing entry – please use the Add Form.)

## 3. Drawing Out

- \* Draw-out deadline is Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. After the deadline, no refunds will be given for any reason.
- \* The Draw-out Form must be returned by EMAIL or in person by the deadline to receive a draw-out refund.
- \* The Draw-out form is for entry fees, stall fees, and RV fees, shavings less a 25% service charge.
- \* We do not need a doctor or Vet release.
- \* A Draw-Out Form can be found on the [Forms](#) page.

## 4. Elite Open Race(s) 1, 2, & 3 Format

All Open Races will be .5-second splits with a progressive payout.

- \* **Open Warm Up** Elite 4D Thursday | \$2,000 added | 75% payout | .5 second splits | \$60 EF
- \* **Open Race 1** Elite 5D Friday | \$5000 added | 75% payout | .5 second splits | \$75 EF
- \* **Open Race 2** Elite | TQHA 5D Saturday | \$20,000 added (see details) | 75% payout | .5 second splits | \$100 EF
- ~ \$10,000 Added Texas Born Incentive (on Open race 2) | \$40 EF (details below).
- ~ \$10,000 Added Texas Stallion Incentive (on Open race 2) | \$40 EF (details below).
- \* **Open Race 3** Elite 5D Sunday | \$5,000 added | 75% payout | .5 second splits | \$75 EF
- \* All three open races are Xtreme, BBR, and WPRA approved.
- \* Buckles & Custom Jackets to Open race D winners.
- \* If all placings/checks in a D are not filled, the remaining places/checks will be divided equally in that division.
- \* If a division is not filled at all, the checks will be split among the other divisions.
- \* **Open Race Age Incentives:**
- \* There are three age incentives in all 3 Open races. Youth 18 and under, Adult 19-49, and Seniors 50 & over.
- \* Age will be based on the contestant's age on the first day of the race.
- \* Entry fee is \$30, and entry into incentives is optional.

\* 4D format with .5-second splits.

\* 80% equal payback

### **5. Open Race Approvals (PENDING APPROVALS)**

\* WPRA Approved: Elite Warm-up race, Open Race 1, Open Race 2, Open Race 3.

\*BBR Approved: Elite Warm-up race, Open Race 1, Open Race 2, Open Race 3.

\* Xtreme mini million: Warm-up, Open 1,2, and 3.

### **6. Elite Open Warm-Up 4D \$2,000 added**

\* Thursday, Nov. 12 @ 6:00 pm

\* Open 4D | 75% payback | .5 second splits | \$60 EF

\* WPRA, BBR, Xtreme Approved

### **7. Elite Open 1 | \$5,000 added Open 5D**

\* *Open 5D | 75% payout | .5 splits | \$75 EF*

\* Eligibility: Open to anyone

\* Buckle & Custom Jacket to D winners

\* Side Pots: Adult, Youth, and Senior Incentives \$30 EF

\* Approvals: Xtreme, BBR, and WPRA

### **Elite Open 2| TQHA \$20,000 added to Open 5D *sponsored by TQHA***

\* *Open 5D | 75% payout | .5 splits | \$100 EF*

\* Eligibility: Open to anyone

\* Buckle & Custom Jacket to D winners

\* Side Pots:

\* \$10,000 added Texas Born added side pot | \$40 EF. (Details below).

\* \$10,000 added TQHA Stallion Incentive side pot | \$40 EF. (Details below).

\* WPRA Gold Card side pot \$35 EF \$500 added

\* Approvals: Xtreme, BBR, and WPRA

### **Elite Open 3 | \$5,000 added Open 5D**

\* *Open 5D | 75% payout | .5 splits | \$75 EF*

\* Eligibility: Open to anyone

\* Buckle and Custom Jacket to D winners

\* Side Pots: Adult, Youth, and Senior Incentives \$25 EF

\* Approvals: Xtreme, BBR, and WPRA

### **8. WPRA Races Entry Fees**

\* Boot Barn Pro Rodeo Barrels \$15,000 Added - \$300 EF (can only enter one horse).

~ 2027 Rodeo Houston Qualifier

~ Division Circuit Side pot - \$50 EF \$500 added.

~ Gold Card Side pot - \$35 EF \$500 added.

\* Permit Only Race \$5,000 Added- \$250 (can only enter one horse)

~ If entering the Pro Rodeo Barrels, you must also enter the Permit Only Barrels.

~ Permits will run in the Pro Rodeo Barrels class. Time will carry over to the Permit Only Barrels.

~ Division Circuit Side pot - \$50 \$500 added.

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\* Futurity \$5,000 Added- \$300

\* Derby \$5,000 Added - \$300

\* Division Circuit Side pot - \$50 Entry Fee, \$500 added

~ 2026 & 2027 WPRA Members

~ Side-pot off of the SATURDAY WPRA Pro Rodeo Barrels, Permit Only, and will count towards 2027 applicable standings.

\* Gold Card Side Pot – \$35 Entry Fee, \$500 added

~ 2026 & 2027 WPRA Active Gold Card holders, Side-pot off of the FRIDAY WPRA Pro Rodeo Barrels or Elite Open Race 1

~ You must have a current 2026 or 2027 WPRA Active Gold Card to be eligible.

~ Only one horse may be entered in this side pot

~ Does not count toward Divisional Circuit Standings

~ 100% of the added money and 75% of the entry fees going into the purse

## 9. Incentives and Side pots

**\*WPRA Approved:** Open Race 1, Open Race 2, Open Race 3, Warm-up 4D race are WPRA Approved.

**\*BBR Approved:** Open Race 1, Open Race 2, Open Race 3, Warm-up 4D race are WPRA Approved.

**\* Xtreme Million Approved**

\* \$500 entry fee for each time you run.

\* Enter up to 4 times during the event.

\* Everyone who enters will have their time placed in an Xtreme Mini Million 5D Side pot.

\* Your times from the Warm-up, Open Race 1, Open Race 2, and Open Race 3 can roll into this high-paying side pot.

\* Enter on their website! [HERE](#)

\* **Open Race Age Incentives:** EF \$30 each

\* There are three age incentives within Open Race 1, 2, and 3.

~ Youth 18 & under

~ Adult 19-49

~ Senior 50 & over.

\* Age will be based on the contestant's age on the first day of the race.

\* 4D format with .5-second splits.

\* 80% equal payback

\* **TQHA Incentives** (Only on Open Race 2) EF \$40

*\*TQHA MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL - Any TQHA memberships purchased between September 15, 2025, and November 15, 2026 (before Open Race 2 Saturday, Nov. 14), will be valid until Nov. 30, 2027.*

***Stallion Incentive \$10,000 added.***

~ Open to horses of all ages.

~ Owner and Rider must be a TQHA member. [Membership form](#)

~ Straight pay 5 places – 60% (horse owner) / 40% (stallion owner) split.

~ Payout will come from the TQHA office.

~ 75% payback, 100% of added money

~ It is NOT an AQHA-judged event.

~ Your horse must be offspring from a nominated 2026 TQHA Stallion to be eligible.

~ A list of eligible stallions can be found on the TQHA website.

~ Please include a copy of your papers when you enter. If entering online, please email a copy to the office.

***Texas Born incentive \$10,000 added***

\* \$10,000 added Texas Born side pot | \$40 EF | 80% payback

~ Open to AQHA Texas-born horses (must say born in TX on your papers).

~ Rider must be a TQHA member to enter this side pot. [Membership form](#).

## **9. Stalls & RVs**

\* Barn will be open for check-in on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

\* Stall office is open 24 hours for stall and RV check-in.

\* Shavings must be purchased from the arena for \$14.00 per bag. **No outside shavings are allowed.**

\* No portable panels or tying horses to the trailers overnight is allowed if stalls are available.

\* Stalls are pre-assigned.

\* If you want stalls together, one person in your group must buy all the stalls.

\* Stalls are for specified stall nights. If you need to stay Sunday night, make arrangements in the stall office ahead of time.

## **10. Stall Pricing**

\* Tuesday – Sunday \$135

\* Wednesday – Sunday \$115

\* Thursday – Sunday \$95

\* Friday – Sunday \$70

\* Saturday – Sunday \$35

**\*\*NOTE:** We do not re-sell stalls or provide refunds for unused nights. Once you purchase your stall, it is yours for the timeframe you have paid for.

## **11. Stall Mats**

\* Stall Mats are available for purchase only.

\* \$390 per mat

\* Performance Stall Mats - 6' x 9' black portable mat

\* You can purchase a mat at a discounted price and it is yours to take home!

## **12. Shavings**

\* Shavings - \$14 per bag

Absolutely **NO** outside shavings are allowed. Shavings must be purchased through entry form, or on-site in the stalling office.

## **13. RV Pricing**

\* Tuesday – Sunday \$190

\* Wednesday – Sunday \$155

\* Thursday – Sunday \$120

\* Friday – Sunday \$85

\* Saturday - Sunday \$50

## **14. Exhibitions**

\* You must be entered in a race to exhibition.

\* These are available online only and are non-refundable.

\* \$5 each, limit 15 per day per person.

\* Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm.

\* Thursday, November 12, 2026, 8:00 AM - 2:00 pm. WPRA Fut/Derby Exhibitions will be 2:00 PM-4:00 PM (must check-in by deadline to receive this exhibition)

# **Elite General Rules**

## **OFFICIAL RULES OF ELITE BARREL RACING**

### **1. Horse Substitution**

You may substitute a horse; however, if the horse is already entered, you cannot change the draw position or run the horse in the same section. Any horse substitution must be made with the show secretary in writing using the Change form. All horse changes must be submitted on a Change Form before the first horse runs in the race, and a \$10 fee will apply.

## **2. Rider Substitution**

Any rider substitution/change must be made with the show secretary in writing using the change form before the first horse runs. \$25.00 fee

You can change a horse OR rider, but not both.

## **3. Selling a Run**

Selling a run is not allowed. You must draw out completely. If spots are still available, they can enter as a new entry.

## **4. Check-In**

Upon arrival, you must check in at the Stall Office for stalls or RVs. The stall office is open 24 hours during the event. WPRA contestants must check-in for their back numbers in the glassed-in room inside Door 11. Elite Open contestants do not have to check-in, but we encourage all contestants to visit the area outside of the Event Office to confirm their race positions using the QR Codes that will be posted and check all incentives.

Draw numbers for your entry can also be found on [www.elitebarrelracing.com](http://www.elitebarrelracing.com) prior to the event.

## **5. Stalls**

NOTE: ALL STALLS AT WILL BE PRE-ASSIGNED. ONE of the contestants in your group MUST reserve ALL needed stalls to guarantee your stalls will be together. Please do not send any requests to be stalled together. There is not a hauling partner form.

## **6. Dress Code**

All contestants must wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, a Western Hat (minimum 2 1/2" brim), and cowboy boots or equestrian sports shoes. Caps are not permitted. NOTE: If the hat falls off and lands in the alleyway or arena, a \$10 dress code fine will be assessed. Helmets are not required, but all contestants are encouraged to wear one. Anyone not wearing the proper attire in the arena will be assessed a \$50 fine. All fine money will be going to the Elite Barrel Racing Scholarship Program.

## **7. Sportsmanship**

All contestants and their family members are expected to display good sportsmanship at all times. No level of abuse toward any animal at this event will be allowed. Foul language,



misconduct, or abusive comments spoken

to any contestant, spectator, staff member, or arena personnel will result in immediate contestant disqualification and no refund of entry fees. Contestants are also responsible for traveling companions and their family members.

## **8. Photos and Video**

Elite Barrel Racing Productions photographs and records each contestant's individual run. Flash will be used on all runs and cannot be requested to be turned off. These photos/videos are the property of Elite Barrel Racing Productions, and decisions made by Elite Barrel Racing Productions management as a result of viewing photos and/or videos are final.

## **9. Fines**

100% of all fines will be donated to the Elite Barrel Racing Scholarship Program.

## **10. Returned Credit Card Charges**

For any reason, there is a \$40 service charge on all returned or charged back credit card charges. If a charge back credit card fee is not replaced with a cashier's check or money order within 30 days after the check is dated, the contestant will be put on the "ineligible" list.

## **11. Dogs**

Dogs must be on a leash at all times.

## **12. Vendors**

Vendor Forms are available on the website. There shall be no selling of any merchandise or professional service on the arena grounds, in stalls, or at trailers without a vendor contract with Elite Barrel Racing Productions. Vendor forms are available at [www.elitebarrelracing.com](http://www.elitebarrelracing.com)

## **13. Turn Out Rules**

The contestant shall identify themselves to the Gate Man and be in the holding area five horses before their run. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. The Gate Man will be located next to the alleyway going into the arena. The contestant's name will be called by the Gate Man three times, if the contestant is not in the arena by the third call, they will be disqualified. Only one horse may be in the alleyway at any time. Remember the three official calls come from the Gate Man, not the Announcer.

## **14. Time Begins**

Any time a contestant crosses the starting line, the time will begin.



## **15. No Time**

A "No Time" will be given to the contestant for the following reasons:

- If the contestant "circles" their horse after entering or exiting the arena. (Definition of the Arena is past the plane of the alley)
- If the contestant breaks or misses the barrel pattern.
- If the contestant runs out of turn. It is the contestant's responsibility to know their draw position.
- If a contestant knocks over a barrel. A "no time" will also be given if a barrel is knocked over and it sets up again on either end. Touching a barrel, including keeping it from falling, is permitted without penalty.
- If the contestant's horse or rider falls during the run in such a manner as to break the pattern or if the rider falls off the horse after entering past the plane of the alley
- Unable to get the horse in the arena within a 60-second time limit.
- If a horse stops forward motion.
- If you feel that you have been fouled for some reason, you must pull up and declare the foul to the gateman.

## **16. Time Limit**

If a contestant is in the holding pen and attempts to enter the arena, but cannot get the horse down the alleyway, the gateman, after the second call, will give the rider 60 seconds to enter the arena. At the end of 60 seconds, if the horse has not broken the plane at the end of the alleyway into the arena, the rider will be disqualified. (The reason for this rule is the contestant's safety, the other contestants in the holding area, and the employees.)

## **17. Barrel Moved**

If a barrel moved off its marker during competition, it must be reset before the next competitor's run.

## **18. Horse and Rider Rule**

Contestants may run any horse, regardless of ownership, but a horse can only be run once in each section.

## **19. Horses in Arena/Alley**

Only one horse may be in the arena, or alleyway, at any time during the competition. (The reason for this rule is the safety of the contestant. Accidents can occur where the assisting horse gets in front of the contestant horse, and the contestant horse then decides to go and runs into the assisting horse.)

A horse can be assisted to the mouth of the alley, but people on foot are not allowed in the alley or the arena once the horse and rider have entered the arena. There will be no whipping of a horse from the ground in the holding pen area or alley entrance. The gateman will enforce these rules implicitly.

## **20. Re-Runs**

Re-runs shall be granted if the official and backup timers fail to work correctly unless a barrel has been turned over, resulting in a no-time. If the barrels are not placed properly on their markers, a re-run shall also be granted without any penalties being applied; however, any penalty occurring on the re-run shall result in no time. If a rider feels that they have been fouled or compromised in any way, it is the rider's responsibility to pull up and declare the foul to the gateman.

## **21. Training in Arena**

Contestants who are given "no time," either for breaking the pattern or knocking down a barrel, may complete the pattern. However, at its discretion, show management may ask a rider who is taking excessive time to train to leave the arena immediately. If such a request is not complied with, a \$25 fine may be assessed.

## **22. Fastest Run Possible**

Contestants must attempt to make the fastest run possible. Any obvious attempt to "pull up" or pace their run may result in the following penalties- 1st Offense - Warning, 2nd Offense - \$50 fine, 3rd Offense - one year on the "ineligible" list at Elite Barrel Racing Productions events.

## **23. Tie for Prizes**

If any contestants' times are tied, the prize money will be split equally. Numbered poker chips will be drawn and prizes will be awarded based on the order of highest to lowest, with the highest number receiving the largest prize.

## **24. Payout Requirements**

All payouts go to the rider. Your social security number must be on file to receive your money, which you must provide when you enter. You must have a current [signed W9](#) on file to receive payout. Checks must be cashed/deposited within 90 days, or all monies will be forfeited.

## **25. Disqualifications**

Any act deemed prejudicial to the best interests of Elite Barrel Racing Productions may result in the contestant's disqualification, with no refund of entry fees. The contestant may also be placed on the "ineligible" list for Elite Barrel Racing Productions. These acts may include but are not limited to the following:

- Using abusive or intemperate language or attempting to threaten, bribe, influence, or harass any contestant, spectator, staff member, or Arena Personnel. Also, any remarks made with the intent to cast aspersions on the character or integrity of an Elite Barrel Racing Productions staff member or management member.
- Moving or attempting to move markers at any time.
- Use of electronic and/or remotely controlled devices to alter the outcome of a run.
- Abuse of a horse in any way, either on the ground or in the saddle. No Whipping a horse from the ground by a bystander.
- Abuse of an animal in the show arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition
- Competing while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Misidentifying a horse in any Elite Barrel Racing Productions Barrel Race class.
- Misidentifying a rider in any Elite Barrel Racing Productions Barrel Race class.
- Other conduct that is not in the best interest of Elite Barrel Racing Productions or its contestants.
- Failure to make good on a returned check to Elite Barrel Racing Productions or any other association with a cooperative agreement with Elite Barrel Racing Productions on the returned checks.
- The Elite Barrel Racing Productions Management, at their sole discretion, shall have the authority to disqualify or deny entry to any horse they deem dangerous to the rider or to other individuals, animals, or property.

## **26. Safety**

Safety is a prime objective in this barrel race. If you have a horse that could be dangerous to yourself, other contestants, or other horses, DO NOT come to this barrel race. Any horse or contestant deemed dangerous by the Elite Barrel Racing Productions management will be disqualified, and entry fees will not be refunded.

## 27. Rules

The management of Elite Barrel Racing Productions reserves the right to create any new rule or modify any existing rule to better the sport of this barrel race. Please note that the rules appearing on the boards at the event take precedence over the website and any other postings. All announcements at the show supersede printed material.

## 28. Postponement of Event

Elite Barrel Racing Productions reserves the right to postpone any barrel race due to a natural or manmade disaster. We do not like to put these conditions on any event but feel it is unfair if only a small percentage of barrel racers can attend. Any monies collected will be refunded. If any event is postponed, we will reschedule it for a future date. No postponement or cancellation will be made due to a lack of entries.

## 29. Coggins and Health Paperwork Requirements

1.
  - All contestants with animals must have the following documents for their animals to enter the property:
    - Out of state horses: Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, issued within thirty (30) days or a valid equine interstate passport or equine identification card, current, issued within six (6) months.
    - Both instate and out of state horses: Negative equine infectious anemia (EIA) test (also known as "Coggins Test") within twelve (12) months.
    - You can email current paperwork to [intern@hotfair.com](mailto:intern@hotfair.com) and we will have it on file ahead of time.
  - **ALL CONTESTANTS are required to bring required documents to the Check-In Booth at Gate #5 upon entering the grounds so that Elite Barrel Racing staff can obtain a copy per Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) regulations. Contestants without proper paperwork will be asked to leave the property immediately. ABSOLUTELY NO ACCEPTIONS!**

## WPRA Ground Rules



[WPRA Barrel Racing Ground Rules 2026](#)



[WPRA Roping Ground Rules 2026](#)