



2026 First Frontier Circuit Finals Rodeo Ground Rules:

1. All Contestants are required to attend the Mandatory Contestant Meeting (located at Hollywood Casino in Grantville, PA) on Wednesday, January 13th, 2027 before the back number ceremony. Failure to be present for the meeting will result in a \$100 fine.
2. All Contestants are required to check in with the Rodeo Secretary before the mandatory contestant meeting between 6p-7p on Wednesday, January 13th at the Hollywood Casino in Grantville, PA. Late check-in fine will be \$100.
3. All Contestants are required to get their headshot photo taken in the underspine of the Farm Show Arena between 11:15a - 12:30p before the Exceptional Rodeo on Thursday, January 14th.
Full western attire is required. Full western attire is defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, cowboy boots, and jeans. If a headshot is not taken and/or proper dress code is not followed there will be a \$50 fine assessed.
4. All Contestants are required to attend the Exceptional Rodeo on Thursday, January 15th, 2026. Contestants must check in with the designated board member at the **beginning and end** of the event. Contestants must be present for the entire event. Full western attire is required. Full western attire is defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, (**cowboy boots not required**), and jeans. Failure to do so will result in a \$100 fine.
5. Each Contestant will be assigned and required to be present for the autograph signing session for **one** of the rodeo performances on the upper concourse hallway of the New Holland Arena. This will be assigned and coordinated by your event representative. A final list will be submitted by your event representative to the board and you will not be allowed to switch after that list is released. Full western attire is required. Full western attire is defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, cowboy boots, and jeans. Failure to show up to your assigned performance will result in a \$100 fine.
6. The extra animals, which are run after each performance, cannot be run by contestants entered in that event. run will be a competition run exactly like any other run in the performance. Under no circumstances can a horse be used to run the extras that are, or will be, used in the finals by any contestant. The person running the extras must be a PRCA card holder, and that information (name and card number) must be given to the Timed Event Representative on the board. Violation of this ground rule will constitute an initial \$500 fine and will be progressively doubled for each violation thereafter. Only horses used to run the extras will be allowed in the arena after the performance.
7. If a timed event animal escapes, or is replaced for any reason, or a rerun is given for any other reason, the first available extra will be used and remain in that pen. The escaped animal would then become the first extra for that pen the next time that pen is used.
8. For any instance in which a contestant is granted a rerun by the judges, the contestant must take the first available extra in the draw and must be competed on during that performance.
9. If a timed event animal escapes the confines of the arena when the contestant is still eligible to compete, the flag will be dropped and the contestant must take the first available extra in the draw, lap and tap, adding this new time to the elapsed time from the original draw to find the official time for the competition.
10. During the barrel racing, there will be a drag at exactly half way in each performance. There will not be hand rakes after each run unless otherwise determined is needed by the WPRA Director and Judges due to safety concerns.

11. Contestants receiving go-round and year-end awards must be present at the awards ceremonies. Full western attire is required. Full western attire is defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, cowboy boots, and jeans. Failure to do so will result in a \$50 fine.
12. Contestants must be off the Farm Show Property (with their horses and tack) by 8am on Sunday, January 17th, 2027. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$250.
 - a. Complete ignorance of the deadline, to the extent that someone is two hours past the deadline, that contestant will not be allowed to get a stall in future years and will have to find alternative means of boarding their horses off the premise of the finals, as well as be fined \$500.
13. Contestants are NOT permitted to move their assigned stall location.
14. Glass bottles are NOT permitted in the stall area.
15. Any illicit drugs that are used or found to be on the premises of the Farm Show Complex or Penn Harris Hotel will result in disqualification and you will be asked to leave the premises. This will be strictly enforced by local law enforcement, and security cameras will be in use at all times by the properties.
16. All manure MUST be taken and dumped outside of the building in the designated areas.
17. In accordance with the PRCA Rulebook (B10.7.11), no person shall be allowed in the arena during a rodeo performance until competing in their event. No person shall be in the rodeo arena 2 hours before each performance. This rule shall be enforced by the Arena Director. At no time during the rodeo performance will a minor child be allowed in the arena, behind the bucking chutes, or behind the timed event chutes/pens. Failure to comply will result in a PRCA fine of \$150.
18. All timed event stock will be run through on Thursday, January 14th starting at 7:00am. Only qualifying contestants are permitted to be in the arena while THEIR event's stock is being run through. Full western attire is required. Full western attire is defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, cowboy boots, and jeans, no sweatshirts.
19. Contestants are not permitted to bring their horses into the stall area until noon or later on Wednesday, January 13th.
20. The use of video boards will be used at this year's rodeo. Any contestant using foul language in the arena, either audibly or by obviously mouthing the words, will be fined in accordance with Rule R11.4.6, of the PRCA Rulebook "Conduct Detrimental to Public Image" and, for barrel racers, the WPRA Rulebook and will be assessed a minimum initial fine of not less than \$250, that fine doubling progressively for each offense thereafter.
21. All livestock and horses being brought into the complex must comply with all the veterinary requirements outlined with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and PA Farm Show. This includes Coggins, Health Papers, and Vaccinations. Any animals brought onsite without the proper documentation will be forced off the premises and not allowed back on for the duration of the rodeo.
22. Stalls will be provided for all timed event contestants at \$55 each. Only ONE stall is allowed per contestant, per event. The only exception will be for Steer Wrestlers, which may have another stall for a hazing horse. Each steer wrestler is granted the option for two stalls, but is not entitled to a second stall if it is not being used strictly for a steer wrestling and/or hazing horse. Stalls are NOT permitted to be "resold" to other contestants. If determined that a horse is stalled for any reason other than the intended purpose, both the contestant and person "selling" the stall will be fined \$500 and be required to stall off site in future years. Only one horse may be in a stall at any time. All additional animals will be required to be taken off the premises. Stall request forms must be submitted by November 23rd WITH payment. Failure to do so will result in you having to find your own means of boarding and transportation on and off the premises each day. Stall forms will be sent out to all contestants and will need to be completed via an online application form.

23. Tack Stalls will be provided in and around the stall barn. Tack stalls will be shared with multiple people. Tack stalls will remain unlocked. Your property is your responsibility. The rodeo committee will not be held responsible for anything that goes missing.
24. One bag of shavings OR one bale of straw will be provided free of charge with your stall(s). Any additional shavings or straw will be the responsibility of the Contestant to bring or buy from the vendor on site. On the Stall Form Application, you are permitted to purchase additional shavings/straw that will be in your stall upon arrival.
25. General Code of Conduct is expected to be observed at all times from Contestants and their family. Contestants are expected to comply with requests from the Rodeo Committee, Board of Directors, Farm Show Officials, Production Manager/Arena Director, and/or Judges. Excessive disregard, as determined by the Rodeo Committee, Board of Directors, Farm Show Officials, Production Manager/Arena Director, and/or Judges will result in a \$200 fine per occurrence, and can result in disqualification from the remainder of the rodeo finals. This also extends to behavior at the Host Hotel.
26. Contestant Not Ready to Perform in Rough Stock Events: A contestant not ready when called during a performance will be fined \$100, per occurrence, at the discretion of the Arena Director and/or Judges. The definition of "ready when called" for rough stock events will be defined as: Bareback Riding: The contestant must be over the horse with his hand in the rigging when the previous horse leaves the arena. If the contestant is first to compete, this would be when the flag horse leaves the arena or as instructed by the chute boss and/or judges. If a contestant has a fair opportunity to compete and does not call for his competition animal within 45 seconds of being instructed to start, delaying the production of the rodeo, a fine of \$100, per occurrence, will result at the discretion of the Arena Director and/or Judges. This fine compounds for every 45 second interval that lapses after being told to start.
- Saddle Bronc Riding: The contestant must have the horse cinched (front & rear) with the rein measured, and be in the chute, mounting the horse when the previous horse leaves the arena. If the contestant is first to compete, this would be when the flag horse leaves the arena or as instructed by the chute boss and/or judges. If a contestant has a fair opportunity to compete and does not call for his competition animal, delaying the production of the rodeo, a fine of \$100, per occurrence, will result at the discretion of the Arena Director and/or Judges. This fine compounds for every 45 second interval that lapses after being told to start.
- Bull Riding: The contestant must be pulling the rope when the previous bull leaves the arena. If the contestant is first to compete, this would be when the flag horse leaves the arena or as instructed by the chute boss and/or judges. If a contestant has a fair opportunity to compete and does not call for his competition animal, delaying the production of the rodeo, a fine of \$100, per occurrence, will result at the discretion of the Arena Director and/or Judges. This fine compounds for every 45 second interval that lapses after being told to start.
27. Timed Event Contestants Not Ready to Compete- If in the opinion of the Arena Director and/or the Judges, if a contestant is not "ready when called" the contestant will be subject to a \$100 fine, per occurrence. By definition, "ready when called" shall mean that the contestant must be riding into the box when the previous animal leaves the arena. If a contestant is the first contestant in team roping and tie down roping, they shall be riding into the box, and in steer wrestling, riding into the arena when the flag (sponsor) horse leaves the arena or as instructed by the arena director and/or judges. This fine compounds for every 45 second interval that lapses after being told to start. Contestants sharing competition horses, must notify the rodeo secretary of competing back

to back, at which time splits will be made. Sharing/changing horses does not constitute exemption from the 45 second rule.

28. If at any point, at the discretion of the Arena Director and/or Judges, (R8.13) Mistreatment of Animal. Any member who mistreats an animal anywhere on the grounds of a facility shall be fined no less than \$500 and, **depending on the severity of the offense, may be declared ineligible, suspended, suspended from PRCA privileges and/or expelled.**
29. Each Contestant will be provided with a wristband for themselves and one companion. Contestants will be given the opportunity to get (2) free tickets to each performance. These tickets must be requested by 12/15 via online application sent out to all qualifiers. After that, all tickets will be released to the general public and the committee will have no access to additional comp tickets.
30. Each go-round winner will be required to take a victory lap and partake in a short interview following your event.
31. All areas behind the chutes will be considered part of the arena. To gain access to this area, contestants must be dressed in full western attire, and have their back numbers visible. Contestants must wear back number at all times in the Complex. Back numbers must be clearly visible on the outside of a vest or jacket, at all times upon entrance to and while in the arena whether competing or not.
32. Only rodeo contestants with a valid contestant card will be allowed behind the bucking chutes and in the chute or arena area. Anyone caught with an invalid number (one not belonging to them) will have that number confiscated. Anyone giving their number to someone else will be disqualified.
33. Only one contestant plus the chute help, flank man, TV personnel, and rodeo staff will be allowed on the platform behind the bucking chutes.
34. Contestants may be permitted on foot behind the boxes only in designated areas and only during the event in which they are competing, for the purpose of watching the start of that event. Contestants are strictly prohibited from entering, walking through, or standing in the designated barrel racing alleyway at any time.
35. Each contestant is permitted to have one additional person in the box with them. That individual must exit the box area immediately following the contestant's run or ride. All persons entering the arena or box area must have the appropriate wristband for access.
36. NO CHILDREN: Are allowed behind chutes, on chute level, or in the arena during or before each rodeo performance. No exceptions. This is to ensure the safety of contestants, rodeo personnel, stock and children themselves. Violation will result in immediate removal from the premises.
37. Any person in the arena without Full Western Attire, defined as wearing a long sleeve button down shirt, a cowboy hat, cowboy boots, and jeans will be fined \$25 per occurrence.
38. All timed events will have a dedicated pusher for all contestants. No one other than that designated person will be permitted in the chute at any time. All "pushes" will be the same for everyone, no deviations will be allowed.
39. At the request of the committee, entry openings for the rodeo will take place in mid-November.