

M. B. R. A. RULES
Effective January 2011

Membership applications and signed waivers, accompanied by the appropriate fees, are due by May 1st each year and are valid until April 30th of the following year. Notice will not be given. The Individual membership fee for 2011 is \$25.00 and the Family membership fee is \$50.00. All applications will be subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Membership cards will be issued to those accepted for membership in the association.

With the exception of new members, membership applications received after June 1st will be levied a \$10.00 late fee. As for Exhibitions; with the exception of new members, membership applications received after the closing date of the Exhibition s entry form will be levied a late charge that is double the yearly fee.

For Jackpots, exhibitors, except for pony and small fry, must either be an M. B. R. A. member or apply for a temporary membership. Temporary members will be charged a \$10.00 temporary membership fee per event. Temporary members are subject to approval by the Board of Directors and will be bound by all the rules, regulations and policies of the M. B. R. A. and will also be subject to any penalties that may be imposed as a result of the violation of said rules, regulations and policies. The temporary fees, together the signed waiver and application form are to be remitted to the M. B. R. A. Board of Directors by the Jackpot organizer, for approval, prior to the start of the event.

SECTION ONE

Competition rules

1. The judge may prohibit the use of bats or equipment that he/she may consider severe. The judge may disqualify a contestant for excessive abuse.
2. All horses entered in a class must be assembled in ample time for runs to start on time and continue without delay. They must remain in readiness in case of a tie. A contestant will have **30** seconds to make his/her way to the ring after his/her number is called. Failure to do so will result in elimination. The decision of the judge is final.
3. Riders are to be given a signal to enter the ring. Upon entering the ring, there will be no further signal.
4. Any time a horse or rider crosses the start line, time will begin.
5. If an equipment breakage occurs; and provided the horse or rider does not start the timer the rider will be placed at the end of the running order, allowing at least five minutes from the time

of breakage to repair the equipment.

6. A rerun shall be granted if the timer fails to work or; if the barrels are not properly placed on their markers. When this occurs then that horse/pony shall be given a rerun after all the others in that class have run. If the timer fails in any re-ride that person may have their class fee back or another re-ride, it is the rider's option.

7. At exhibitions, when a horse or rider goes off pattern and returns across the timer line then they must leave the arena immediately.

8. In the event a rider drops a piece of clothing or equipment the contestant will not remain in the ring after his/her pattern is completed. One of the show officials will return the dropped item to the warm up ring.

9. If a pole or barrel is hit by a horse, pony or rider in such a manner that it hits the ground or hits the ground and rights itself, that run will be assessed a five seconds penalty for a knock down. Picking up a pole and moving it will also result in a five second penalty.

10. In the event of a tie for first place only, a runoff must be held. Ties for other placings will be left as is. However, for example, if a tie occurs for second there will be no third place award. The prize money of the tied placings will added be with the next placing and split.

11. In the event of a tie for an overall award, barrels will be run off to determine the winner.

12. In the event of a tie, if the first contestant is disqualified in the runoff, the horse/pony declared the winner in the runoff must rerun the pattern within two seconds of the original time or the runoff must be held again.

13. With the exception of small fry a handler may not position a horse or pony as to gain an advantage, nor shall the handler physically encourage the horse or pony.

14. A running order will be drawn. Horse/pony will run in the order of draw except when one rider has more than one entry. When the number of entries allow, a rider with more than one entry will be allowed a space of at least five entries between each of his/her mounts. ***At Exhibitions the show committees, after consulting with the Board of Directors, may draw both barrels and poles*** as follows: the first run at random; in subsequent runs, the fastest ½ of the preceding class (excluding knockdowns) will run after the slowest ½. Spacing for riders with more than one entry will be reduced but still accommodated when possible. At exhibitions the running order must be posted at least an hour before the start of the class.

15. Each show committee with input from the Board of Directors, will determine the number of horses between rakes. This must be decided prior to the first draw and the number must remain the same for all classes for the entire day. Once the draw is posted, the rake must remain as marked regardless of scratches or no shows.

16. Judges are required to ensure that the course is properly set. For the barrels it is recommended that the starting line be set in the same place in the same arena each time. The start/finish line and the barrel positions should be permanently marked and must remain the same throughout the entire event unless decided upon otherwise by the board of directors.

17. An electric timer must be used at all times. This is the responsibility of the show committee. Horses are to be timed on the nose.

18. Starting line marker and electric timers are to be set a good distance apart in the arena, at least as far apart as the first and second barrels are set.

19. A minimum distance (or as close as possible to) of 50 feet must be made available between the finish line and the end of the arena to give a reasonable stopping distance. Any situation where the distance can be increased should be taken advantage of.

20. Forty five gallon drums must be used for barrels. Barrels must be empty, with closed ends. If metal barrels are not available, plastic barrels, with a proper bottom, may be accepted at the directors discretion.

21. In barrel racing, the 1st and 2nd barrels must have at least a 15 foot space from the fence and the 3rd barrel at least a 20 feet space from the fence. The distance between the first and third barrels and the second and third barrels must be equal.

22. In pole bending, begin setting the pattern at the far end of the arena (opposite the start/finish). The first pole must be a minimum of 21 feet off the fence. The remaining poles must be 21 feet apart (centre of pole to centre of pole) with a 21 foot space from the top pole to the finish line.

23. In down and back, the barrel must be 110 feet from the start/finish line.

24. Small fry riders that complete the pattern without a handler, even if off course, will placed ahead of riders who have been lead around the course.

Dress Code & Equipment

25. Western type equipment must be used.

26. Competitors must be dressed neatly and cleanly at all times. Apparel must include a western hat or helmet; jeans, and western type boot.

At Exhibitions: A long sleeved western shirt with collar must be worn.

At Jackpots: Long or short sleeved shirts (not sleeveless) of a western design may be used at jackpots. No hoodies, jackets or sweat shirts.

These rules also applies to the warm up ring 30 minutes prior to the event. Handlers, when in the ring, also must be neatly dressed.

Show committees, with approval from the Board of Directors, may require the stricter dress code.

27. At Exhibitions competitors must return to the ring for presentations, dressed as above, with horses tacked up and neatly presented.

28. Hats must remain on a contestant's person for the entire time that they are in the ring. If a contestant loses their hat they will first receive a verbal warning, second time losing a hat, and thereafter, they will be disqualified from that run. It should be noted that the first warning stands for the entire show or jackpot. Hat chin straps and tie downs are permitted.

29. Riders 18 years of age and under, as of January 1st of the current show year, must wear a C. S. A. approved helmet, properly fastened, in competition and on show premises at all times when mounted. (Note, bicycle helmets are not appropriate)

SECTION TWO

Divisions

The M. B. R. A. divisions are Small Fry, Pony, Youth, Novice and Open and the following rules determine the division you can show in.

1. A horse/pony may not be shown by more than one person in a class, except for small fry.
2. Animals to be shown as ponies must be 14.2 hands high and under and regardless of size, must be measured by 2 directors; or 2 people appointed by the directors; prior to the start of their M. B. R. A. showing season. All animals will be measured according to M. B. R. A. specifications. These specifications will be provided. The M. B. R. A. will give the owner(s) or Person(s) Responsible written confirmation of the measurement which then must be presented at the time of entry to any M. B. R. A. show.
3. Small Fry are 10 years of age and under as of January 1st of the current show year. Small Fry must ride a pony and cannot enter any other divisions. Once a small fry enters another division in a show where small fry classes are offered they are no longer classified as small fry. Small Fry cannot accumulate points in another division.
4. Ponies must be ridden by a youth and may enter youth classes. Once a pony enters another division, except Youth, in a show where pony classes are offered, they are no longer classified as pony for the rest of the show season. Ponies cannot accumulate points in another division, except for Youth.
5. Youth are 18 years of age and under as of January 1st of the current show year. No person 18 years of age and under may ride/or handle a stallion at M. B. R. A. sanctioned events.
6. Open Barrels - A horse or rider that runs within 0.50 seconds of the winning Open Barrel

Race time, in a class on the same day under the same conditions, will be classified as Open division horse or rider.

7. Open Poles - A horse or rider that runs poles in 21.999 seconds or less will be classified as an Open division horse or rider
8. Once a rider has proven him/herself an Open Rider they shall remain so indefinitely.
9. No Open Rider shall ever race an open horse in the Novice horse division.
10. An Open Rider may race a Novice horse in the Novice division.
11. A Novice Rider may race an Open horse in the Novice Horse division.
12. To be re-classified as Novice Horse, a horse must run barrels or poles slower than 0.50 seconds of the average time of the top five Open horses for three consecutive runs.
13. If you are bumped from the novice division twice in the same year you must remain in the open for the remainder of the year and then reapply, in writing, to the Board of Directors to be returned to the novice division before the start of the next year.

SECTION THREE

Show Sanctioning

1. In order for a show to be M. B. R. A. pointed, the show must have a minimum of \$500.00 available per day. The M. B. R. A. secretary or president must receive notice of the show, in writing, at least two months in advance stating the minimum amount of added money per day and the number of runs in each division per day. Established pointed shows have priority for show dates.
2. a) Upon approval of a jackpot, an approval letter will be sent and must include the current rules and break down of prize money.
b) Jackpot organizers will provide the M. B. R. A. with a list of any charges that competitors will be asked to pay, in addition to their class fees, (i.e. head fees, stall fees, timer, bedding, campers), together with any restrictions with regard to stabling, in advance of the event, so it can be posted on the website.

Divisions

3. All M. B. R. A. pointed jackpots must offer Small Fry and Pony divisions, followed by Youth, Novice and Open Divisions. Barrels, poles, and dash for cash must be offered in all divisions. (Note there is no Novice Dash). Jackpots must run classes in the following order, Barrels, Poles with Dash at the end. The Small Fry and Pony divisions will be run in their

entirety prior to the start of any other division.

Exceptions need approval by the Board of Directors at the time of the show date application.

In addition to the above; M. B. R. A. club shows will offer the following classes. These classes are optional for non-club sponsored shows.

4. 3D Barrel Race. Open to all riders. This class must be run at the end of all other classes

Divisions are determined by time brackets, not by the order of finish.

-1st division - Fastest time in the class and those who place in this division

-2nd division - Fastest time in the class plus one second and those who place in the division

-3rd division - Fastest time in the class plus two seconds and those who place in the division.

Knockdowns are considered no time. All contestants must make a good faith effort to run the pattern as fast as their ability will allow.

3D Payout:

- In a 3D payout, the total jackpotted entry fees of a class are to be divided equally. 33.3% to the 1st division; 33.3% to the 2nd division (1 second off fastest time), and 33.3% to the 3rd division.

Each division will be paid as follows:

1st: 50%

2nd: 30%

3rd: 20%

5. Junior Horse Barrel Race

- This class, if offered, must be run prior to Youth Barrels

- Jr. Horse Barrel Class will be open to horses 5 and under as of January 1 of that year. Entries must produce proof of age at time of entry.

Payouts, Points and Placings

6. For pony and small fry divisions, jackpots must provide ribbons and /or prizes for each class plus a high point prize.

7. Entry fee per class is \$20.00 for Open; \$10.00 for Novice; \$5.00 for Youth; Pony and Small Fry are free.

8. With the exception of the last show of the season, if a show committee limits either horses/ponies or riders in any way it can no longer be considered an M. B. R. A. pointed event.

9. A prize list must be posted prior to the beginning of the show, at all M. B. R. A. jackpots, stating the amount of prize money per class, the entry fee per class, as well as the percentage of entry fees added back, which must be a minimum of 85%.

10. All pointed classes to be run before any added classes with the exception of pony and small

18. For year-end awards the point tally will be based on the number of entries in each class. For example, if 15 run, the first place will be awarded 15 points, seconds place 14 points and so on. All that finish the class will be awarded points. There will be no point awarded to horses/ponies that are disqualified. Example, if 30 run and 2 are disqualified first place horse/pony will receive 30 points and so on to the last placed horse/pony who will receive 3 points. The two disqualified will each receive zero points for that run.

19. In the event of a tie for a year end champion award the winner will be determined by the horse/rider with the greatest number of first place finishes and if a tie still exists the horse/rider with the greatest number of seconds place finishes, and so on.

20. In the Open & Novice division points will be carried with the horse/pony regardless of horse/pony - rider combination for individual shows and year-end awards.

In the Youth, Pony and SmallFry divisions the points are to be individually counted for each horse/pony/rider combination.

In the Youth, Pony and SmallFry divisions only, when a horse/pony dies or is injured for the entire season and ceases to run in all divisions, the rider can transfer their M. B. R. A. number and points to a new horse/pony. Proof, in the form of a vet certificate, must be approved by the Board of Directors in order for this to be done. If the horse or pony is sold during the season they forfeit their points.

SECTION FOUR

Miscellaneous/Conduct

It is the responsibility of the competitor to know the rules. Should any disputes arise regarding the interpretation or enforcement of the rules, a competitor may appeal to the show representative, who in turn will contact the Board of Directors who will decide the matter.

No horse/pony shall be turned out in any area normally used for riding.

Horses/ponies must not be left unattended in either the show ring or warmup area.

No horse/pony will be tied anywhere in the warmup ring, show ring or chute area.

Once the class had started, the chute area and any area between the warmup ring and the chute must be kept clear at all times with the exception of the person on deck.

All competitors are entitled to equal use of barrels and poles set up for practice purposes and equal use of the warm up area in general.

When sponsors flags are available they will be paraded around the arena prior to the start of the race. The members involved in that show will decide among themselves who should carry the

flags. Consideration is to be given to the running order of that day's racing. However, should a member flatly refuse to carry a flag without a valid reason then they will lose all points earned at that specific show with regards to the M. B. R. A. year end awards.

Points of Conduct

It is understood that the M. B. R. A. has adopted a zero tolerance for drug use. Administering any substance to an animal so as to gain an advantage is strictly prohibited. The M. B. R. A. has adopted a drug policy which all competitors and members must adhere to. \$5.00 per entry will be charged at all events run by the M. B. R. A. to offset the cost of this policy.

In addition to the above, any of the following actions may result in suspension or disqualification from the M. B. R. A.

during the competitive year

- Use of abusive language or attempting to threaten, bribe, influence or harass any contestant or show official

- Abuse of any horse/pony, in any way, including but not limited to; excessive whipping or beating of a horse/pony.

- Excessive or persistent spurring, or jabbing a horse/pony in the mouth

- Riding an obviously exhausted, lame or injured horse/pony

- Exhibiting with excessive raw or bleeding sores

- Competing under the influence of alcohol or drugs

- Any other conduct that, in the opinion of the board of directors is not in the best interest of the M. B. R. A. or its members

All members shall conduct themselves in a courteous and sportsman like manner at all times, at all M. B. R. A. sanctioned events, and to respect not only the rules and regulations of the M. B. R. A. but the rights of others who attend and compete in such events.

When a situation arises where the Board of Directors are called upon to render a decision, that decision will be made by a majority of the directors present at that event.

If the directors feel that they are unable to render a decision at that time then the matter will be held over for a period of no less than 2 weeks and all subsequent decisions regarding the matter at hand will be made by a majority of all the Board of Directors.

If, in the opinion of the board of directors, an outside arbitrator needs to be used then all matters relating to this must be dealt with within 30 days.

In all instances the Board of Directors have the right to determine when, where and how the matter shall be heard and shall provide an opportunity for anyone alleged to have contravened the M. B. R. A. Rules to respond prior to rendering a decision

If the Board of Directors decides that there has been a violation of any kind, then that person(s) will be notified of the decision and be made aware of the penalties involved either verbally, or in

writing, as determined by the Board

The decision of the Board of Directors in all instances will be considered final.

These rules will be reviewed by the Board of Directors from time to time and will be adjusted as they see fit.