



**2024**

**Rules and Membership  
Guidelines**

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## **Mission Statement**

Western States Bucking Bull Association (WSBBA) is an organization dedicated to the promotion of the bucking bull industry. Founded by bucking bull breeders, for bucking bull breeders, WSBBA affords its members opportunities to buck their animal athletes at sanctioned events where they can compete against one another for event titles, and year-end championships. WSBBA events are produced with the purpose of enjoying this great sport at a fair and reasonable cost.

## **WSBBA Contact Information**

Western States Bucking Bull Association  
P.O. Box 347  
Jerome, Idaho 83338  
Phone: (208) 644-1260  
Fax: (866) 927-2075  
E-mail: [wsbba@gmail.com](mailto:wsbba@gmail.com)

### **Board Members**

Don Hothem - Chairman (702) 236-4540  
Efren Benavides (775) 934-5517  
Jeff Rupert (208) 420-3785  
Lennie Holden (509) 670-3737  
Wyatt Crowder (303) 710-0924

### **Directors**

Events Coordinator - Don Hothem  
Secretary – Kylee Jo Proctor (435) 773-8268  
Controller - Jamie Rupert (435) 225-3175

## General Regulations and Guidelines

### **Membership:**

WSBBA membership is a privilege. By payment of membership dues and/or event entry fees, participants and/or their agents agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this document, and to be subject to the provisions of the same. In addition, the WSBBA reserves the right to not conduct business with any person and/or entity for any reason, or for no reason at all. Further, the WSBBA Board of Directors (WSBBA BOD) may, in its sole discretion, impose sanctions on any member in the event it determines that doing so is in the best interest of the WSBBA and/or its members.

Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or organization may apply to become members of the WSBBA. Any membership submitted as a firm, partnership, corporation, or organization must individually name all members associated with the membership. Memberships may be cancelled or denied by the WSBBA BOD for any cause deemed detrimental to the best interest of the WSBBA.

As a condition of membership, members must become familiar with and bound by the rules of the WSBBA. Members of the WSBBA expressly agree to have all disputes related to compliance with, or violation of, these rules resolved by the procedures provided in these rules.

Individuals wishing to become WSBBA members will be required to pay an annual membership fee of \$150.00. Annual memberships run from January 1st to December 31 of each year.

### **Year-end Standings/Awards:**

*Bull of the Year* – Points awarded at WSBBA sanctioned events will accumulate to determine year-end champions for Futurity, Derby, and Classic division bulls. See the WSBBA Bull of the Year breakdown below for specific details.

#### *Bull of the Year/Bonus Events*

Less than Six (6) events = Four (4) event scores will count towards the accumulated year-end total.

Less than Eight (8) events = Five (5) events will count.

Less than Nine (9) events = Six (6) events will count.

Nine (9) events or more = Seven (7) events will count.

*Contractor of the Year* – As per each stock contractor at each event, the top bull score for a Futurity, Derby, and Classic division bull will be totaled. Event totals will be accumulated to determine the WSBBA Contractor of the Year.

### **Acknowledgement of Risk:**

By participating and/or attending a WSBBA sanctioned event participants and/or their agents assume the risk inherent in any bovine/rodeo type activity and hold harmless the WSBBA. The Western States Bucking Bull Association, its directors, and/or staff shall not be held responsible for any injury, death, or loss of any animal present at any WSBBA sanctioned event. Nor will the WSBBA, its director, and/or staff be responsible for the injury or death of any person attending any WSBBA sanctioned event.

**Conduct & Misconduct/Cheating:**

*Conduct* –The WSBBA reserves the right to discipline individuals whose actions, both in and outside of the arena, do not reflect positively on the WSBBA. The WSBBA BOD determines whether, when and what discipline will be imposed which may include fines, suspension, and denial or withdrawal of membership.

The WSBBA expects all members and or anyone associated with a WSBBA event, to conduct themselves with honesty, integrity and professionalism at all times. If someone becomes verbally or physically abusive to any WSBBA official, judge, event staff, or other participant, the WSBBA BOD reserves the right to discipline that person(s) as they see fit.

*Cheating* – Misconduct and/or cheating or attempting to cheat shall result in disciplinary actions including, but not limited to, suspension and/or fine. A second offense will result in a suspension for all WSBBA events for not less than one calendar year. A third offense will result in a lifetime ban from all WSBBA events.

**Appeals Procedure:**

Appeal of any disciplinary decision must be made in writing and submitted to the WSBBA office within 30 days of the incident. Each appeal will be reviewed, by the WSBBA BOD, on its own merits. In cases where the WSBBA BOD agrees to overturn a disciplinary action, any associated financial penalties and/or bull points will be refunded. All decisions are final.

**Dress Code:**

All contestants (bull riders and contractors) competing in the rider divisions (Derby, Classic, and Maturity) must wear a western shirt, cowboy hat, and western footwear. Anyone assisting that is visible on or behind the bucking chutes or in the arena must adhere to said dress code.

## Event Rules, Regulations and Guidelines

### **Participation:**

All participants entering bulls in a WSBBA sanctioned event must be in good standing with the WSBBA.

### **Entries:**

Entries will be taken through the WSBBA office or website for any WSBBA sanctioned event. Entry open and close dates will be posted prior to each event. Entry close dates will be 15 days prior to the event date, unless otherwise noted. Entries must be post marked by the entries close date. No entries will be accepted without payment. Methods of Payment – Venmo at @wsbbulls; PayPal at PayPal.me/WSBBA; Online with credit card; Fax with credit card; Check. Late entries are subject to approval by the WSBBA BOD and may incur a late fee of \$50.00.

For a bull to be considered entered in a WSBBA sanctioned event payment must be accompanied by a completed and signed Entry Form.

Bulls must be entered under the same name /hip number for the entire year. Failure to do so may result in the said bull not accumulating year-end points. Please note, Year-end points will not be refigured by the WSBBA for any bull in question due to this failure.

### **Returned Checks:**

Returned checks will incur a \$50.00 fine. A second offense will result in a \$100.00 fine. Any additional offenses are subject to further disciplinary action to be determined by the WSBBA BOD.

### **Bull Age Requirement:**

*Yearling Bulls/Heifers* – To be eligible to compete at any WSBBA sanctioned event the animal(s) must be born between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> one year prior to the year of competition.

*Futurity Bulls* - To be eligible to compete at any WSBBA sanctioned event the animal(s) must be born between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> two years prior to the year of competition.

*Junior Futurity Breeders* – The Junior Futurity Breeder must be between the ages of 9 (or in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade) and 18 years old, on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the Junior Breeder Membership is paid, and in good standing with the WSBBA. Junior breeders are required to be present at the event in which their bull is entered. Junior Breeders must always be accompanied by an adult while they are behind the chutes or in the arena. The Junior Breeder is required to flank their bull. Special circumstances will be considered by the WSBBA.

*Derby Bulls* - To be eligible to compete at any WSBBA sanctioned event the animal(s) must be born between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> three years prior to the year of competition.

*Classic Bulls* - To be eligible to compete at any WSBBA sanctioned event the animal(s) must be born between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> four years prior to the year of competition.

*Maturity Bulls* - To be eligible to compete at any WSBBA sanctioned event the animal(s) must be born between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> five years or more prior to the year of competition.

**Entry Fees:**

At all WSBBA sanctioned events, entry fees may be event specific and will be posted prior to the entry open date. In addition to the bull entry fee there will be a WSBBA Administration Fee equaling \$50.00.

The administration fee consists of the following:

*Office/Secretary Fee - \$25.00*

*Bucking Dummy Maintenance Fee - \$10.00 (For Dummy Bull Registration's only. For all others, the \$10.00 will be classified as 'Miscellaneous' and used where best needed)*

*Website Maintenance Fee - \$10.00*

*Event Production Fee - \$40.00*

Unless noted standard WSBBA Bull entry fees are as follows:

*Yearling Bull – To be determined by the event producer.*

*Futurity Bull – Fees will be no less than \$300.00. Total entry fee equals \$385.00.*

*Derby Bull – Fees will be no less than \$400.00. Contractor is responsible for an additional fee of no less than \$75.00 which is applied towards the bull rider fee. Total entry fee equals \$560.00.*

*Classic Bull - Fees will be no less than \$500.00. Contractor is responsible for an additional fee of no less than \$75.00 which is applied towards the bull rider fee. Total entry fee equals \$660.00.*

*Maturity Bull – To be determined by the event producer.*

Please note, with regards to the Derby, Classic, and Maturity bulls stock contractors at WSBBA sanctioned events are responsible for providing their own rider for the bull entered. Riders can get on more than one (1) bull if the additional bull(s) are not in the same division. No substitutions may be made after the draw unless the bull rider is injured or cannot ride. Bull riders' fees are \$75.00 in addition to the \$75.00 fee from the contractor. All rider fees will be paid in cash to the event secretary at least one (1) hour prior to the event starting time.

**Bull Rider Age Requirements:**

Unless otherwise stated, all bull riders must be eighteen (18) years of age, or older, at the time of the WSBBA sanctioned event to compete.

In some cases eligibility of a specific under-aged bull rider (herby defined as a bull rider not eighteen [18] years of age as of the WSBBA sanctioned event date) will be considered when 1) a specific Event Producer, at their own discretion, approves of under-aged bull riders 2) the under-aged bill rider is at least sixteen (16) years of age at the time of the WSBBA sanctioned event and 3) there is compelling evidence (video, ability references, etc.) to sufficiently justify allowing the under-aged bull rider to compete in WSBBA sanctioned events. The fundamental purpose of the review is to confirm in a reasonable fashion that the under-aged bull rider is qualified in all aspects of bull riding to compete at a WSBBA sanctioned event. An under-aged bull rider is approved to ride in WSBBA sanctioned events only when the WSBBA BOD's approves of the under-aged bull rider's qualifications. Approval is at the sole discretion of the WSBBA BOD's. All decisions are final.



In order to apply for approval, the stock contractor and/or under-aged bull rider must contact the WSBBA Bull Rider Director and request approval for riding in WSBBA sanctioned events. As stated prior, the contractor and/or under-aged bull rider should be prepared to provide compelling evidence showing that the under-aged bull rider is sufficiently qualified to compete in WSBBA sanctioned events.

Upon completion of the WSBBA BOD's review, the contractor and/or bull rider will be notified as to whether the under-aged bull rider will be permitted to participate in WSBBA sanctioned events. Please note, approval can be denied, withdrawn, or suspended by the WSBBA BOD's for any reason deemed detrimental to the best interest of the WSBBA at any time, and for any reason.

An approved under-age bull rider must have a written Parental Permission Consent Form, for each WSBBA sanctioned event, on file with the WSBBA office one week prior to the WSBBA sanctioned event and must be accompanied by the consenting guardian at the WSBBA sanctioned event.

**Entry Limits:**

At all WSBBA sanctioned events the number of entries accepted will be event specific and will be posted prior to the event open date.

**ABBI Co-Sanctioned Event Participation:**

WSBBA Members that choose to participate in the additional opportunities that are offered at WSBBA sanctioned/Co-sanctioned Events are responsible for familiarizing themselves with each individual organization event rules prior to participation. The contractor is responsible for an additional fee of \$100.00 to co-sanction a bull with the ABBI. Please note that the additional ABBI Entry Fee is non-refundable. In addition, a WSBBA co-sanctioned event must have a minimum of twelve (12) ABBI entries for ABBI co-sanctioning to be approved by the ABBI.

**Draw/Chute Position:**

Bucking order will be determined by random draw. If delivery is changed after the draw positioning may be changed at the discretion of WSBBA.

**Animal Withdrawal:**

Prior to entries closing a bull may be withdrawn without penalty or forfeiture of entry fees. After entry closing, owners may still withdrawal animals but will forfeit the animal's entry fees unless a Veterinary Release is obtained. In the event a Veterinary Release is provided to the WSBBA, entry fees will be refunded (excluding the secretary and drug testing fees), but the bull will be ineligible for entry into another WSBBA event for fifteen (15) days from the event date that the bull was withdrawn from.

If a bull is withdrawn from an event, with a Veterinary Release, and the owner has a replacement the owner may petition the WSBBA BOD for approval of the replacement bull.

Video evidence may be used in lieu of a Veterinary Release but will require WSBBA BOD approval prior to entry fees being refunded.

**Event Bull Check-in:**

Unless otherwise stated bull check-in will be between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM on the Friday prior to the event. Any event specific check-in guidelines will be posted as part of the Event Ground Rules. If you plan on arriving early you must contact the event producer at least twenty-four (24) Hours prior to the beginning of bull check-in to insure there will be pen space, and to obtain approval. All bulls competing

in WSBBA-sanctioned events must be housed in pens provided at the event and must be checked-in by the time and date specified. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in fines and/or disqualification and forfeiture of event fees. Only bulls entered in the event may be unloaded unless otherwise agreed upon by the WSBBA and the event producer. Bulls may be penned together prior to the start of the event but must be moved to their designated pen one (1) hour prior to the start of the event. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the bull in question, and forfeiture of that bull's entry fees.

**Health Requirements:**

All animals competing at a WSBBA sanctioned event will be required to have a negative TB and Brucellosis test within one (1) year from the date of the test, and prior to the competition date (specific requirement for individual states may differ so please be sure you are compliance with state animal health laws). A copy of these tests along with a veterinary health inspection will be required prior to an animal being offloaded. Failure to do so will result in the animal in question not being allowed to compete, and the forfeiture of all entry fees for that animal. Any additional requirements will be posted by the WSBBA prior to the entry open date.

**Horns:**

All competing animals at a WSBBA sanctioned event must have their horns tipped (loose horns i.e. "Banana Horns" are excluded from this rule) prior to bull check-in at the event and be determined to be the size of a fifty (50) cent piece with the exception of yearling animals. Yearling animals must have their horns tipped to the size of a twenty-five (25) cent piece. Failure to comply will result in a \$100 fine and may result in the disqualification of the animal in question along with forfeiture of the entry fees for that animal.

**Animal Identification:**

Animals must be branded with a permanent legible ID number. Animals not branded, and/or are without proper brand inspection papers, may be disqualified from any WSBBA sanctioned event with associated fees forfeited.

**Drug Testing:**

WSBBA has a zero-tolerance policy with respects to the use of banned substances in bucking bulls. A banned substance shall be defined as all anabolic steroids and/or any substance prohibited from use in bovine as determined by the Federal Drug Administration. Accordingly, the WSBBA reserves the right, and in their sole discretion, to test any animal at any WSBBA sanctioned event at any time. Any animal found to have been subjected to or treated with a banned substance will be found to be in violation of WSBBA Official Rules and will be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

**Drug Testing Procedure:**

All samples will be collected by a licensed veterinarian or a trained technician of the WSBBA's choosing. Following collection, the veterinarian or technician will divide each sample into A and B containers and containers will be sealed thereafter. All samples will be documented, stored, and shipped in a secure manner consistent with the guidelines and instructions as provided by the testing laboratory. Container A will be sent to the lab for analysis, Container B will be preserved for any possible appeals and will be stored by an authorized agent.

**Drug Testing Discipline:**

Any Stock Contractor whose animal has been found to have tested positive for a Banned Substance shall automatically forfeit all prize money won by such animal competing in an event where such positive sample was collected. Further, a stock Contractor whose animal is found to have tested positive for a banned substance shall be subject to a fine in the monetary amount determined by the WSBBA BOD. Fines imposed in connection with violations of this policy shall have no maximum limit. In addition, said stock contractor may be subject to random testing of all their animals owned or registered in their name, at the Stock Contractor's sole expense. The WSBBA reserves the right to require the testing to be conducted at a laboratory designated by the WSBBA, the cost of which, including but not limited to bull transportation, shall be the sole responsibility of the stock contractor. Finally, the stock contractor shall remain subject to any further action as deemed necessary by the WSBBA BOD.

Refusal to Submit to Drug Testing: Any Stock Contractor who refuses to allow testing samples to be collected from their animal will forfeit all entry fees at the WSBBA Sanctioned event where collection was requested. Additionally, said Stock Contractor will not be allowed to enter or compete in any WSBBA Sanctioned Event until such time as sample collection from the animal in question is allowed.

**Administering Medications at an Event:**

WSBBA does not allow individuals to administer any medication, without approval from the WSBBA, for any reason while the bull is at the WSBBA event. Individuals found administering medication are subject to disciplinary action as determined by the WSBBA BOD, and the bull in question will be disqualified from the event. If an animal becomes sick, lame, or injured while at an event and needs veterinary care and/or needs medication administered, the animal in question will become ineligible to compete and entry fees for the animal will be forfeited.

**Age Verification:**

Bulls may be chosen for age verification, to be performed by an authorized veterinarian, at any time or for any reason as determined by the WSBBA. Bulls that have been age verified through another association will not need to be tested if proper paperwork is presented. Bulls that are tested and found to be too old will be disqualified, and contractor will forfeit all entry fees any winnings associated with the bull in question. Further, the contractor in question may be subject to additional disciplinary actions and/or fines as determined by the WSBBA BOD.

**Electrical Devices and Foreign Objects:**

Any and all electrical devices used to stimulate animals are prohibited from use inside the bucking chutes. Additionally, foreign objects in the flank are prohibited. Any Stock Contractor not adhering to this rule will be disqualified from the competition in its entirety and will forfeit all animal entry fees associated with that WSBBA sanctioned event. In addition, failure to adhere to this rule may result in additional disciplinary actioned as deemed necessary by the WSBBA.

**Competition Format:**

All Derby, Classic, and Maturity bulls will be judged for 8 seconds after breaking the plain of the chute, or until the rider is bucked-off. If a rider makes three (3) 'honest' attempts and cannot get out on a bull, the bull may be disqualified, with all fees associated with the bull in question forfeited.

**Dummies:**

All Yearling and Futurity animals competing at an WSBBA sanctioned event will be bucked using a

WSBBA approved dummy. The Dummy will be applied by designated WSBBA officials. Bulls will be bucked for four (4) seconds unless otherwise noted and posted prior to the event.

**Judging:**

The WSBBA uses a standard 100-point scoring system. Bulls are judged from 1 to 25 using tenth points. All judges’ sheets are signed by the event judges, and results will be posted at the conclusion of each event. Four (4) judges will be used at all WSBBA events with at least two (2) of those judges being ABBI certified. WSBBA uses a variance scoring system set at 1.75. Whenever a judge’s score is two (2) points higher or lower than the next closest judge’s score, that judge’s score will be thrown out. The remaining judges’ scores will be averaged to obtain the bull’s final score.

**Re-bucks:**

A re-buck will be awarded if in the opinion of at least one judge the animal had no chance to fairly compete due to a situation(s) outside the control of the animal, or it’s flank person. Please note, it is the flank person’s responsibility to make sure the bull is properly flanked, and in the case of dummy division bulls that the dummy is satisfactorily attached before calling for the release of the bull. If a dummy prematurely releases a re-buck will automatically be awarded.

**Points:**

Points will be given up to twenty (20) places, or in the case of less than twenty (20) entries for as many bulls as are entered in the division. First place will receive twenty (20) points, or an equal number of points to the bulls entered in the division; second place will receive nineteen (19) points or one (1) point less than the number of bulls entered in the division; so on and so forth until one (1) point is awarded.

**Payout:**

Positions will be paid based on one (1) position for every six (6) animals up to twenty (20) positions. See the WSBBA payout breakdown below for specific details. Payout is determined by the number of entries per each division at each WSBBA sanctioned event.

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>	<b>4th Place</b>	<b>5th Place</b>	<b>6th Place</b>	<b>7th Place</b>	<b>8th Place</b>	<b>9th Place</b>	<b>10th Place</b>
<b>1-6 Entries</b>	100%									
<b>7-12 Entries</b>	60%	40%								
<b>13-18 Entries</b>	50%	30%	20%							
<b>19-24 Entries</b>	40%	30%	20%	10%						
<b>25-30 Entries</b>	38%	27%	19%	10%	6%					
<b>31-36 Entries</b>	37%	26%	17%	11%	5%	4%				
<b>37-42 Entries</b>	33%	24%	15%	12%	9%	4%	3%			
<b>43-48 Entries</b>	30%	22%	15%	12%	10%	5.5%	3%	2.5%		
<b>49-54 Entries</b>	29%	22%	14%	11%	9%	6%	4%	3%	2%	
<b>55+ Entries</b>	28.5%	21.5%	14%	11%	9%	5.7%	4%	3.1%	2.1%	1.1%

Event administration fees are removed from the event entry fee totals prior to the payout breakdown calculations. The event administration fees are as follows:

Event Producer – twenty percent (20%) of total entry fees collected are taken-out for production cost.

WSBBA Finals – ten percent (10%) of the total event entry fees collected are taken-out for WSBBA year-end payouts.

Any ‘added money’ is added to the payout totals after the event administration fees have been deducted. No deductions are taken-out of ‘added money’.

**Event Ground Rules:**

Specific ground rules may exist for WSBBA sanctioned events and will be posted prior to the beginning of the event. Failure to adhere to posted ground rules may result in disqualification, forfeiture of all entry fees, and may also result in fines as determined by the WSBBA BOD.

## Event Production Guidelines

### **Sanctioning:**

Any person(s) may request to sanction an event with the WSBBA. The WSBBA BOD is solely responsible for approving events to be part of the WSBBA. All events approved to be sanctioned by the WSBBA must comply with all WSBBA rules. Further, WSBBA reserves the right to cancel event sanctioning, at any time and for any reason, when it deems it to be in the best interest of the WSBBA. A WSBBA contract must be signed before finalizing any event approval.

### **Arena:**

Ground Preparation – The arena ground must be approved by an WSBBA representative prior to the event beginning.

Chutes – Chutes must be in good working order with a platform in the back extending the full length of the chutes.

Load Lanes – The Load Lanes must be sheeted for the safety of the animals. If they are not lined the producer must receive approval from a WSBBA representative to proceed with the event.

Unsafe Conditions – A WSBBA representative can stop an event, at any time, for what they deem as an unsafe condition until the condition has been addressed and/or corrected.

### **Bull Check-in:**

Event personnel must be present, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the Friday prior to the event, to check-in bulls. All pens, and all other areas critical to the production of the event, must be completely set-up and in good working order prior the start of bull check-in. Failure to do so could result in fines and is at the sole discretion of the WSBBA BOD.

### **Pens:**

Event producers must provide enough individual pen space for all bulls entered. Exceptions may be made for Yearling Bulls, or specific cases agreed upon by the WSBBA and stock contractor. Pens will be a minimum of one hundred (100) square feet (10' x 10').

### **Personnel:**

At all WSBBA sanctioned events, only designated individuals will be permitted to conduct their specified tasks. A list of all designated individuals must be submitted to the WSBBA prior to the event.

Bull Riders: It is the responsibility of each event producer to provide extra bull riders for bulls who do not have riders already designated and/or for unforeseen circumstances.

### **Judging:**

All judges for WSBBA sanctioned events must be named fifteen (15) days prior to the entry closing date and be approved by the WSBBA. In addition to bull judges, the event producer must provide two (2) bull rider judges. Events must use official WSSBA scoring sheets, which will be provided to the event producer prior to the event.

**Insurance:**

Certificate of Insurance by the promoter must be submitted to the WSBBA, and accepted by the WSBBA, prior to the event.

**Ground Rules:**

Specific ground rules must be submitted to the WSBBA 15 days prior to the event.