Rules for "You Gotta Start Somewhere"

Fremont Youth Rodeo Series for the year, October 2023 thru October 2024

Christensen Field Arena, indoor and outdoor available, Fremont, NE

2024 Points will Start October 22 & 23, 2023 and end October 13, 2024

1. Before a contestant competes in this series, both parents and/or guardian(s) must sign a waiver, and have their signatures notarized with a notary public seal, then submit to the rodeo secretary before entering. An IRS 1099 form must accompany the waiver for each contestant before a check is written in the contestant's name. No checks will be made out to a parent or guardian, written only to contestant.
2. All contestants must ride in the Grand Entry and be in full western dress with hat or helmet on for pictures.
3. A contestant can compete in any of the events held during the series according to their age bracket for awards. The age will be determined on January 1, 2024 of the current year, Wrangler, 4-7 years of age; Cowpoke, 8-10 years of age; Junior, 11-13 years of age; Senior, 14-18 years of age. The age group is the division the contestant will compete in, for entire series for points and awards, regardless of their birthday. Contestants can also compete in other divisions, (going up) or Open classes, but no points will be given only cash prizes can be won. Open classes are for anyone of any age with cash prizes given only.
4. Points are given to the individual, NOT a horse/rider combination. (The horse does not have to be owned by rider or rider's family). All classes will have this point system, starting at 35 points for first, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, etc.
5. To receive All-Around year end awards, contestants must compete in a minimum of 4 of 6 of the events held; Pole Bending, Catalog Race, Goat Tying, Goat Tail Untying, Barrel Race, Dummy Roping. All points from each event will be totaled for each day to count towards AA (all-around) standings. Contestants will have to choose for each rodeo whether (1) goat tying or (2) goat tail untying points will go towards AA points. If the choice has not been designated, then goat tying points will be taken towards the AA standings in Seniors, Juniors, & Cowpokes. In Wranglers, Goat Tail Untying will be the event where points are gathered. AA buckles or the equivalent will be given to the champion and reserve champion in each age division, pending sponsorships each year. Other awards in the AA will be presented to contestants as more sponsors and donations are obtained throughout the season. This will be at the discretion of the producer. These events are designed to encourage participation and sportsmanship for all youth. By the end of the series, and with enough sponsorship, hopefully, all contestants will receive awards. Contestants will need to enter and attend minimum 50% of the series competitions. I.e., if there are 13 scheduled dates in the series, then you must attend 6 of them to receive an award in the All Around standings and enter 4 of the 6 different events per day.
6. There could be additional events added as the producer deems acceptable. These points will not be added to the All Around standings until a new series starts or at the discretion of the producer.
7. Points will be awarded as follows, 35 to first, 34 to second, 33 to third, until each competitor who has had a qualified time receives points, etc. (Could be 15 in the class and the competitor who is last will receive 21 points) dropping points by 1 each time.
8. No points will be awarded for a "no time" (NT), disqualification, or a "no show".
9. Example of a "No Time" would include goat not staying tied for 6 seconds, illegal tie on goat (no wrap and hooey with string around 3 legs), breaking a pattern (i.e., backing up through the pole bending pattern), not closing the catalog, not running through the 2 markers to stop the clock for

catalog race or Goat tail Untying, incorrect page number or less than 70% of page in your hand, not having red ribbon in hand for goat tail untying, or any person or parent impeding the contestant's official competition pattern, etc. If contestant crosses the score line, without 70% of page or red ribbon in hand or without shutting catalog, that would be a no time. Judge's decision is final.

10. A five (5) second penalty will be assessed for each knocked down pole or barrel.
11. General barrel racing, pole bending and goat tying/goat tail untying rules to apply.
12. Catalog race will consist of getting a page number (from the judge or announcer) when you ride into arena, ride down to the catalog setting on a barrel on your horse, dismount, tear out the correct catalog page, 70% of page has to be in your hand, Close the cover of the catalog, run through the cones or poles, on foot to stop the clock by the judge, and show your page with page number on it to the judge for approval. If horse or rider knocks over the barrel holding catalog there will be a 5 second penalty added to their time. If you run over the judge, barrel, or any worker, a no time will be given.
13. Dummy roping consists of 3 chances to rope a dummy calf head stuck in to a bale of hay or any other molded plastic dummy, the producer has available for the day. All classes and contestants will rope the same dummy from the same spot, used per rodeo. After three chances, contestants who have caught all 3 times will be moved farther back from the bale for a "rope-off". Moving farther back will continue until all placing's have been filled unless judge decides to split points due to time restraints. The person who has the most catches will win the event. Practice on the dummies can be done by contestants until the judge calls for each roping class to start. An elevated step, bale of hay, or another obstacle could be used to stand on to rope off of, for each competitor, if management decides so for the day. Regardless, each and every competitor will have the same opportunity from the same location (spot) to rope from, using the same obstacle to rope for their class. Management decision is final which dummy is roped and if an elevated step will be used or not. It will be posted in the email with the entry link for each rodeo before entering.
14. Goat Tail Untying event is offered to all age groups and will consist of contestant, mounted, and riding down to the goat, dismounting, taking off the red/orange ribbon on the goat's tail and running through the 2 traffic cones on foot by the judge to stop the clock. Fastest time wins. Contestant must have ribbon in hand for the clock to stop when passing through the middle of 2 traffic cones, pylons, or buckets (score line). No time if contestant runs anywhere else except between 2 traffic cones or markers. If horse crosses the goat rope there is a 10 second penalty. If the goat breaks loose or injured due to horse or rider's actions that is a no time, with no points accumulated for contestant. Contestant must decide which goat tying or tail untying event they want to count per rodeo for year end all around standings. They designate that with the on-line entry form per rodeo. It can vary between rodeos during the year, decided on by the contestant before competing. Contestant can enter both classes, however, points will only count for one goat class per contestant per rodeo.
15. All contestants are required to compete in full western attire with a western hat or helmet, a long sleeve shirt, jeans or long pants/skirt and cowboy boots with hard soles are required and recommended for safety in the dismounting for timed events. (Unless it is otherwise stated by the show secretary day of show). No baseball caps or tank tops during the youth events. If you compete in non-western attire in youth events, it will result in disqualification by judge. If you come into arena with no hat or helmet on your head, disqualification(NT) will occur.
16. Goat tying event for Cowpokes, and Junior can be divided up with boys in one class and girls in another if there are a minimum of 5 entries in both sections. If not, the class and points will be combined. This will be decided before the competition starts each day.
17. Order of events will follow the show bill, with dummy roping happening during pole bending classes, starting with Wrangler roping and Senior Pole Bending, unless there are unforeseen circumstances at the event or upon designation by the show secretary/producer/judge.

18. The show secretary/producer/judge will have the final approval and discretion over events and show schedule. This decision will be final.
19. All standings and results will be sent out to your email. They will be audited before the last event of the season so awards can be presented correctly. If you find a mistake, please notify the secretary within 7 days after post or the standings will stand as posted.
20. October 13, 2024 will be the last competition in 2024 series, with the award presentation taking place on October 20, following the last event. All award recipients should make arrangements to pick up their award, as no awards will be mailed. The October 19, 2024 youth rodeo will start the 2025 point standings, and if contestant is going to move up to another age group for 2025, then he/she will have to compete in the appropriate age group on October 19 & 20, 2024 for points to count towards 2025 standings.
21. To break ties, 1st - the contestant who has attended the most competitions (days) will break a tie, if there is a tie in point standings. 2nd - the person who has entered the most events through series.
22. Several contestants can ride the same horse in one event, however, they will need to be entered early, so those contestants on the same horse can be split up, so the horse can have some "rest" time in between runs.
23. One contestant can enter and ride more than one horse in the same event, however only the highest placing for that contestant in the event will count towards Year End Points in the All Around. For points, the sequence will be 35, 34, 33, 32, and if you are on a second horse, then you will receive 0, with the next person placing will get those points. You cannot ride 2 horses and total points together for All-Around standings, you can ride as many horses as you want, only for the prize money in each event.
24. Fremont Youth Rodeo will not tolerate any "abuse to animals" while on the grounds, either in the barns, arena, or at the horse trailers. If you are turned in to the secretary or any staff for any abuse to your horses, while attending an event, you will be asked to leave the premises immediately and will not be allowed to return. There will be no refunds of entry fees, stall and hookup charges, etc.
25. "Abuse to animals" is defined as:
    means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse**,** including without limitation any of the following:
    - To whip or beat a Horse excessively;
    - To subject a Horse to any kind of electric shock device;
    - To use spurs excessively or persistently;
    - To jab the Horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device;
    - To compete using an exhausted, lame or injured Horse;
    - To "rap" a Horse.
    - To abnormally sensitize or desensitize any part of a Horse;
    - To leave a Horse without adequate food, drink or exercise;
    - To use any device or equipment which cause excessive pain to the Horse upon knocking down an obstacle, or not performing correctly.
26. NO Refunds except for severe weather or unforeseen circumstances or event is cancelled, and not going to be rescheduled. If you enter on the phone or by text, you are still responsible for your child's entry fees, unless event is cancelled.
27. Contestants should understand that they and/or their family members could be photographed or video during the event and which possibly could be used exclusively by management without compensation, be it in publications, advertising, television, film, radio, Internet or other appropriate communication or marketing media.

28. If you bully, bash or generally just trash a fellow contestant or family member, either publicly or in a private message in social media, on internet or in person, you will be deleted from social media and banned immediately from participating, competing, AND without warning.
29. There are no awards or points kept for the open classes, just payback in a jackpot format, paid off by check.
30. Payoff will consist of jackpotting ($5) of the entry fee ($10). This helps to pay for arena rent, stock charge and secretary/timer charge. It will be determined by the cost of the arena, stock and overhead charges for each separate location. If there are sponsors available then there will be added money to the events. Four places will be paid out in each event if there are enough qualified times to pay on. If there are more than twelve entries(12) in an event, then 5 places will be paid. Payoff will be in the form of a check. All winnings for the two-day events will be added up and put into 1 check per contestant's name per weekend due to current bank charges. All Entries will pay $7 per person the PayPal charge for the convenience of using their system. There will be a plus 5 second penalty for a knocked over barrel or pole, and these contestants will receive a prize check if they complete a correct pattern in the event, and they finish in the top 4 or 5 of the class. They will also receive points in the standings if the pattern is correct. Some examples of receiving a no time will consist of goat not staying tied, incorrect page in catalog race, not staying on pattern in barrels or poles, backing up in a pattern, stopping the timer before finishing the pattern. Exception to this rule could be if the youth rodeo is sponsored by another club, fair board, etc.
31. If you have to bring a dog, please keep it at your trailer on a short leash and make sure no children can get bitten by the dog. They bite, bark, and get loose which is not good around horses and kids. It is your liability (100%) if the dog bites a kid. A sign on your truck or trailer warning of dog bite to people walking by needs to be posted if your dog could bite.
32. If less than 5 entries in class, classes may be combined into 1 division (at producer's discretion) for the payback, but points will be kept per declared division.
33. The producer can add or delete specific events, change payoff, at any time, as needed. I.e., Parents catalog race, horseless catalog race.
34. Drag Dummy/Breakaway Calf Roping and/or Team Roping events could be offered. These would be on horseback and in the arena. Rules will be from Breakaway Roping/Team Roping event in the high school rodeo rulebook. There will be a score line set up, contestant cannot rope movable dummy until he, his horse, and drag dummy have crossed the line. The judge will drop the flag when the rope is popped (broken) off of the saddle horn of the contestants. The string and red flag used for the ropes will be furnished by the producer, and tied on by a judge. The fastest time wins. No second rope will be carried on horse, and no recoiling of the first rope. One loop only to be thrown at movable roping dummy. +10 second penalty for leaving early through score line. Legal head catches are the only catches considered for placing in the event. Competitors can enter on different horses but can enter only once per horse per day. The speed of the movable dummy will remain the same within each age group, WR, CP, JR, SR, to be decided by the judge on the day of the event. Time limit is 1 minute.
35. **Entries will open on-line on the Tuesday, 11 days preceding the rodeo date and will close at midnight on the Tuesday of the rodeo week. The draw (run order) will be emailed to your address on file by 2 pm on Friday, the day before the Saturday and Sunday of rodeo date.**

36. If you want to enter after the entries have closed on line, then it will be considered late entries, you will need to text 402-419-0191 with your entries or email to fremontyouthrodeo@cox.net or enter through late entry system. DEADLINE is 8:30 am on Saturday or Sunday day of rodeo. Payment, waiver, and IRS-1099 are required before competing at first rodeo. These entries will be placed at the bottom of the draw in each event. $20 is accessed per contestant for late entries after Tuesday @ midnight.
37. All entries will close at 8:30 am on the day of rodeo. Exhibitions can be added at anytime.
38. Contestants' names will only be called 3 times at the entrance gate and if not at the gate ready to compete, contestant will take a no time and no points for that event.
39. Results will be posted as soon as audited, and emailed to your address on file, then checks written and handed out at the next youth rodeo. The only checks mailed will be at the end of the year rodeo.
40. Standings will be posted as soon as possible and contestants have 7 days after emailed out, to request another audit if they think there is a mistake. After the FYR standings, stand as is, until the year-end audit conducted by 3 different adults looking at all results and standings before awards are presented.
41. Awards presentation will take place on October 22, 2024 around 3 pm as the Buckles and many other nice gifts will be presented to all contestants who have entered 50% of the rodeos(6) held and competed in 4 of the 6 rodeo events available, regardless of points won, pending sponsorships for the year. Buckle winners are required to be present during awards, for pictures and to thank sponsors. After 7 days with the standings posted, they will stand as correct.
42. Year end points will end on **October 13, 2024**.
43. **October 19, 2024 will start the point standings for 2025. Contestants, if they are going up to the next age group for 2025 will have to compete in the older group on October 19 & 20, for points to count for 2025 standings.**
44. Goat Tail Untying event has been added to seniors, juniors, and Cowpokes, so this age of competitors can compete if they do not know how to tie a goat. Goat Tying has been added to Wranglers so they can start to tie at an earlier age. Contestant must decide which goat tying or tail untying event they want to count per rodeo for year end all around standings. They designate that on the entry form per rodeo. It can vary between rodeos during the year, for the contestant to decide. Contestant can enter both classes, however, points will only count for one goat class per contestant per rodeo.
45. **Any Questions, call: 402-419-0191, Donna Rankin. Mailing address is: PO Box 505, Crossville, IL 62827. Email address is: fremontyouthrodeo@cox.net**
46. A parent or designated person may lead with forward motion, on foot or on horseback, or verbally coach from inside the arena, a youth contestant, of any age, during competition. However, due to safety reasons this person or parent, cannot be next to or stand on an obstacle during the timed event competition. I.e., cannot sit or stand next to a barrel, pole, goats, drag dummy, or dummy calf during the specific events.
47. No person or object shall impede or interfere with a contestant's official competition pattern. If judges deem that this has happen, this may result in disqualification (NT) of contestant.
48. Rules may be amended or clarified by management as needed throughout the year. If an event is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, or weather, entry fees will be refunded.

49. Bareback riding and/or riding double on 1 horse is not safe & won't be allowed during the competition.
50. When All Around buckles are presented at a two-day rodeo with total combined points, contestants must compete both days to be eligible the AA buckle for that weekend. In case of a tie, the contestant with the most first place wins will win the award. If a tiebreaker is needed, an extra buckle ordered.
51. **Under Nebraska law, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to sections 25-21, 249 to 25-21, 253.**
52. With concern for the corona virus, whether you are competing or participating as a spectator during the horse events at Christensen Field Arena, both at the indoor and outdoor arenas, in Fremont, NE during the calendar year of 2024, you understand that you are entering at your own risk.
53. The facilities have been disinfected every week and between events for the safety of you and your horse. Every effort will be made to follow the guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC) (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html).
54. This facility, event organizer, sponsors, etc. and their assigns assume no risk for the spread of an infectious disease.
55. By competing or accompanying a competitor to the event, you agree to accept responsibility for your own personal safety and to follow the CDC guidelines that are recommended. This includes social distancing, avoiding large groups of people, and wearing a mask if you deem it is important for your personal health and safety. If you show any symptoms of an illness, please stay at home.
56. Citizens with health concerns or over the age of 65 are at higher risk for this virus.
57. Therefore, if you are entering these horse events, you are acknowledging that you release all interested parties of liability and will not sue the arena, city, sponsors, or event organizers and their assigns.
58. In case of rain for use of outside arena, If lightning is in the area, all events will be stopped immediately and everyone take cover for safety of competitors and their horses. If in the middle of an event, if it is raining lightly, we will try to finish the class. If we can't finish the class, then the current class will be stopped, everyone take cover. The ones who have competed, will get credit for that class's entry fee. If it continues to rain after 30 minutes the rodeo could be cancelled and everyone at that point, will get a credit towards the entry fees that have been paid. There will be no refunds, just credit extended to those participants for another (next) FYR event during 2023. You have to be present, attempting to compete to receive credit. By NOT showing up, you do not receive credit for any entry fees. That is considered a TURN-OUT, which equals no credit or no refunds. The entry fees have already gone through the PayPal system and they do not allow refunds. Their refund policy is, only with regard to Covid 19, events that are cancelled will they refund 100%. In case of rain overnight, a decision will be made by 8 am each morning of the rodeo if the arena is safe to compete in. You can check Facebook, Fremont Youth Rodeo page or text me 402-419-0191 after that time. The outdoor arena in Fremont is sandy and can hold a lot of water. If you have any questions, please contact me by phone or text, 402-419-0191