

**BILLINGS BARREL RACING SERIES (BBRS)  
RULES & GUIDELINES**

**OBJECTIVE:** Is for the promotion of barrel racing. To be able to school/train the young (green) horse and/or the older horse; to keep costs at a minimal fee (i.e. travel and expenses); to prepare and condition the horse and rider for barrel racing competition.

1. The BBRS will consist of these divisions. *Divisions are subject to change each year. (See Page 2 for descriptions).*

- A: **First Year Horse**  
Horse has **NEVER** been entered in a barrel race!  
(Board Meeting 1/19/16)
- B: \$500 Rider
- C: \$350 Novice
- D: \$1500
- E: Open
- G: Time Only (No nominations/No awards)

**Frequently asked items are shaded for your convenience.**

2. A participant must be a member of the BBRS. **Only members are allowed to be horseback at BBRS events:**

- ☛ \$20.00 per individual (Adult or Youth) at or BEFORE the first barrel race of the season.  
\$25.00 per individual (Adult or Youth) AFTER the first race of the season.
- ☛ The Release and Agreement Not To Sue and Nomination/Registration form (same form) MUST be signed and dues paid before an individual competes. **This includes time only runs.**
- ☛ The Nomination/Registration form must be completed for all horses before the horse competes. The horse must be referenced to its registration number with a description of the horse. If the horse is not registered with a breed organization, the horse must have a complete description, including brand location, markings, age etc.

3. **CONDITION OF DIVISION:** The division that a horse and/or rider is eligible to compete in is determined by the TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF LIFETIME EARNINGS for the horse and/or rider, i.e. total money won, at the time of entry and/or nomination in a division.

- ☛ In the event that a rider has more than one horse entered in a division, the **rider will draw for the first horse and the second horse will drop to the last entry in the division.**
- ☛ Each horse will be allowed only one run per night.

4. Any horse meeting the lifetime earnings qualifications may compete at the BBRS events:

First Year Horse	-- \$10.00(\$6 jackpot; \$2 arena; \$1 ground fee; \$1 event sec.)
500 Novice <b>Rider</b> Barrel Race	-- \$10.00 " " " " "
350 Novice Barrel Race	-- \$10.00 " " " " "
1500 Novice Barrel Race	-- \$10.00 " " " " "
Open Barrel Race	-- \$10.00 " " " " "
Time Only	-- \$5.00 (\$2 arena charge - \$1 ground fee - \$2 BBRS expenses)
Special Events (Finals)	-- To Be Announced

*(Note: The arena fee as of 2015- \$3/run and the ground rake (tractor) fee \$75/event. The additional arena/rake fees are paid out of the membership fees and office charges)*

<i>Payoff:</i>	<i># of Entries</i>	<i>Places</i>	<i>Percentages</i>
	3 and Under	1	100%
	4 - 7	2	60 - 40%
	8 - 11	3	50 - 30 - 20%
	12 - 15	4	40 - 30 - 20 - 10%
	16 - 19	5	37 - 27 - 19 - 10 - 7%
	20 - 28	6	36 - 26 - 17.5 - 9 - 6.5 - 5%

- A. **There must be at least TWO entries in a division for the Barrel Race to be held.**
- B. **Once a contestant pays her/his entry fee it SHALL NOT be refunded, except when there are less than two entries.**

**NOMINATION RULES & GUIDELINES:**

1. To be eligible for the year-end awards a horse must be NOMINATED. To be nominated means to enroll your horse in the weekly series by paying a \$20.00 fee.
2. Payment must accompany the nomination form in order for the nomination to be accepted.
3. Nomination/registration form must be completed in full or horse will be required to run in the Open Division.
4. **NO refunds of the nomination fee** will be given.
5. The divisions shall be the same as listed previously: First Year Horse, **500 Rider**, 350 Novice, 1500 Novice, and Open. (Annual meeting 2013)
6. A horse shall be nominated in ONLY ONE DIVISION.
7. Once a horse is nominated to a division, it will remain in that division for the entire season unless a change is deemed appropriate and approved by the Board of Directors.
8. An owner is allowed to nominate more than one horse to any division.
9. Should an owner have more than one horse nominated to a division, the rider will draw for the first horse and the second horse will drop to the last entry in the division.
10. The rider of a nominated horse may be substituted throughout the series, however, the substitute rider must meet all qualifications that may be required of that division with the exception of the \$500 Rider division. **No rider substitution will be allowed in the \$500 Rider division.**
11. Each horse will be allowed only one run per night.
12. Once a horse is nominated, NO other horse may be substituted for the originally nominated horse.
13. **Unless 6 horses are nominated in a class only first place horse will qualify for an award. (Annual meeting 2013)**
14. Money won will be tabulated beginning on the date of nomination. Any money won prior to the payment of this nomination will not be tabulated towards year-end awards.
15. No nominations will be accepted prior to May 1. After a horse is nominated the horse can run anywhere and will stay in the division the horse was nominated in for the remainder of the year.
16. **A nominated horse must compete at 50%** of the SERIES EVENTS (including the finals) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR YEAR-END AWARDS. (Board meeting 2015). The only exception would be an injury to the nominated horse. A veterinarian's signature will be required confirming the reported injury. If a nominated horse is injured and cannot run for a period of time, a veterinarian's release must be received by the Board of Directors before additional money can be awarded to that horse. If the Board of Directors has the veterinarian's release when the horse returns to run during the regular season, that horse is exempt from the 50% rule. The finals will count as part of the 50% events attended. (Board meeting 1/2015)
17. An injured rider of a nominated horse must provide a physician's release upon returning to run his/her nominated horse during the regular season in order for the 50% rule to be waived to qualify for year-end awards for the rider and/or horse.
18. Only money won at BBRS events will be counted for year-end awards. Please see attached sheet or sheets for the locations, dates, and times of the current year's BBRS events.
19. The owner of record at the time of nomination (owner listed on nomination form) shall receive any year-end awards won by the nominated horse.
20. The Board of Directors and officers will follow the *inquiry procedure* for any questions pertaining to improper nomination of a horse to a division.
21. Dangerous horses (those horses displaying uncontrollable behavior that threaten the property and/or safety of others) will be given a verbal warning by two board members. If the behavior continues, the Board of Directors will request that the member stop bringing the horse to the BBRS.
22. **A horse nomination form must be completed for non-nominated horses.** Non-nominated horses must run in the appropriate divisions. A horse may move up a division but can only move down a division if it qualifies for that division at the time of each race.
23. **If a horse/contestant runs in the wrong class or nominates a horse/rider in the wrong division, the following will take place: Forfeiture of entry fee and money won for said jackpot, even if the mistake is caught before checks are cut. If you run in the wrong class, you are disqualified for that race. The payoff will be adjusted accordingly in the class that was competed in and the class that should have been competed in. If a member feels another contestant competed in the wrong division, you must submit a discrepancy form to the board before the next event, or results will stay as is. (Annual Membership Meeting 7/29/15)**

**DESCRIPTION OF EACH DIVISION:**

***First Year Horse:*** Horse has **NEVER BEEN ENTERED IN A BARREL RACE COMPETITION**, won money or prizes during its lifetime in barrel racing, including barrel racing points, O Mok See, or ribbons. *If you are not sure do not enter this class!!*

***\$500 Rider:*** ***Rider*** CANNOT have won over \$500 in lifetime in barrel racing. *If you are not sure do not enter this class!!*

**\$350 Novice:** Horse CANNOT have won over \$350 during its lifetime in barrel racing. If you are not sure, rider and/or horse must compete in the Open class until rider/owner can provide proof of earnings and/or BBRS directors determine horse's skill level based upon its performance.

**\$1500 Novice:** Horse CANNOT have won over \$1500 during its lifetime in barrel racing. If you are not sure, rider and/or horse must compete in the Open class until rider/owner can provide proof of earnings and/or BBRS directors determine horse's skill level based upon its performance.

**Open:** Open -No limitation in this class

**Time Only:** Exhibition run

**YEAR-END AWARDS:** (Vary from year to year) Historically, overall awards have included:

*REMEMBER:* ALL AWARDS DEPEND ON NOMINATION FEES RECEIVED TO EACH DIVISION, MEMBERSHIPS AND THE GENEROSITY OF THE SPONSORS.

Don't forget that EXTRA HELP IS ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!

1. **SADDLE:** Will be drawn for by the leading money earners of each division at the awards ceremony and be presented to the NOMINATED barrel horse's owner who wins the draw. DONATED BY: BBRS SPONSORS. Horses must be nominated.
2. **TOP 10 AWARDS:** Given to the Top 10 OVER-ALL MONEY won by year-end. If awards are available to be given beyond 10<sup>th</sup> place, nominations and money won will determine the recipients. Horses must be nominated.
3. **HORSE OF THE YEAR:** Monogrammed horse blanket. Award determined by membership vote (1 vote per membership as verified by Board of Directors) Ballots will be passed out 1 to 2 weeks prior to the finals. Votes are counted and the winner announced at the awards ceremony. Horse must be nominated and attend 50% of events to be eligible for this award. (Board meeting 1/2015)
4. Rookie of year award will be given to the first year member that has won the most money. Their horse must be nominated and they must attend 50% of the events to receive this award.
5. **DIVISION AWARDS:** Vary from year to year. Horses must be nominated. Awards will be given according to nominated horses in a division – same as pay schedule.
6. All prizes to be awarded will be determined by July 15.
7. The awards ceremony will be held one week after the finals or at the earliest time after the finals as convenient.

**OTHER AWARDS:** (Vary from year to year. Time Only excluded)

### **GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES:**

**Responsibilities of the Arena:** To provide and condition the arena. Also, provide tractor and operator to rake approximately every 5 runs.

**Responsibilities of the BBRS:**

- 1: To provide the membership forms, nomination/registration forms, entry forms, bylaws and the rules and guidelines.
- 2: To keep the earnings standings and give out any awards.
- 3: To provide any added money, year-end or monthly awards.
- 4: To have in their possession a copy of the equine law and risk/safety alerts.
- 5: To make mandatory announcements as to safety procedures and warnings.
- 6: To carry a liability insurance policy.

**Responsibilities of the MEMBERS (Individuals Assigned to Weekly Event):**

1. To mark the barrel pattern, finish line, etc.
2. To provide timers (electronic whenever possible), secretaries, and necessary arena help.

3. To take all entries and *calculate purses*.
4. To follow the rules and guidelines set up by the BBRS and the official rulebook, which shall be the WPRR rulebook.
5. Seven to eight members (when possible) will sign up to organize each weekly event. The senior member (first on the schedule for each weekly event) will contact their respective crew members to coordinate their assigned week's tasks 2-3 days in advance of their assigned event. **All members will be required to sign up for an arena crew at the first barrel race she/he attends BEFORE being allowed to compete.** REMEMBER - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU CANNOT FULFILL YOUR CREW OBLIGATION.

#### THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE ARE:

- A: Remind arena owner a few days before event.
  - B: Get the ground worked. Have at least 2 or 3 people to move barrels if raking by tractor. Be sure to have 2-3 rakes available if tractor is not available.
  - C: Mark barrels (you need measuring tape/markers). Make sure the arena has metal barrels.
  - D: Get PA system. Find a secretary/announcer. Make sure you have a list of the sponsors and ALL other necessary paper work. (BBRS has a PA system – see an officer).
  - E: Find person to time (electric eye), and a person to announce. **If electric eye fails, a rerun will be given at end of division, or end of next division.**
  - F: Find someone to open and close the gate(s).
  - G: Payoff for each race is made at the next week's race. *Have payoff calculated.*
  - H: Make sure the secretary gets the results. Secretary shall call/send results to appropriate media.
6. If anyone is seen abusing his or her horse, a \$50.00 fine will be imposed. Two members must report the incident to the Board of Directors and the Board will impose the fine.

#### **GENERAL RULES:**

1. These rules are guidelines for arenas to be used to ensure safe and fair competition for ALL contestants and their animals.
2. The WPRR rulebook is considered the official rulebook to be consulted in resolving any questions or disputes.
3. The officers and board members of the BBRS will supervise the BBRS and their decisions shall be final.
4. One electronic timer will be used at each race. Flagmen will be used at the discretion of the arena committee if the timer fails 5 times during a race.
5. **Rainouts: Makeup events will be left to the discretion of the board of directors. (Board meeting 10/7/14)**
6. Barrel races may be held on weekends during school months. Sundays are preferred. No runs will be held on holidays. (Ruled in 2004)
7. Barrel races will be held May through the last Wednesday in August. The finals will be held before September 1<sup>st</sup> and at the discretion of the board. (Board Meeting 1/19/16)
8. A roster of horses (and riders for \$500 Rider) eligible to compete at the finals will be posted one month prior to the finals.
9. **Any horse being ridden by a member in good standing, having competed at one (1) barrel race prior to the finals and meeting the horse's/rider's respective division requirements may compete at the finals.**

#### **BARREL RACE:**

1. There is to be only one contestant and one horse in the arena at a time during the barrel race, without exception.
2. The arena gate will remain the same throughout the entire barrel race.
3. The Start/Finish line MUST BE THE SAME.
4. Any time the contestant crosses the starting line, the time will begin.
5. The Start/Finish line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire barrel race.
6. Contestants will be assessed a five-second penalty for knocking over a barrel. Touching a barrel is permitted.
7. Should a barrel be knocked over and it sets up on its opposite end, the five-second penalty will be assessed.
8. If a flag judge is necessary, the flag judge should flag each contestant's horse's NOSE AT THE START/FINISH LINE (Nose in/Nose out)
9. **Should the barrels not be placed on the markers or the flagman is not in the correct place, things MUST BE PUT IN CORRECT ORDER and all contestants who ran on the incorrect course must be rerun with no penalties assessed.**
10. Contestant will be disqualified for the missing pattern, consisting of a cloverleaf pattern around the barrels of one right and two left turns or vice versa.
11. Disqualification consists of turning a barrel twice or crossing the finish line, prior to completion of run.
12. **If a horse falls or similar incident occurs, contestant cannot have a rerun.**
13. No contestant will be allowed a practice run once the barrel race has started.
14. Prior to the weekly barrel races, the barrels shall not be set on the stakes or markers.
15. If for any reason a time is missed, a rerun will be given.

16. The barrel pattern shall be marked using the standard pattern measurements (attached). In an arena where these measurements cannot be followed, the measurements for smaller arenas will be used as per the WPRA rulebook (attached).
17. The barrels shall be INSIDE CENTER of the markers.
18. Rake: The arena will be raked at intervals specified by the arena director and/or her/his representative irregardless of the beginning and/or end of each division to allow for more efficient use of time and resources.

### **ELECTRIC TIMERS**

1. Equipment necessary: Complete electric eye timer. During FINALS: Two timers will be used.
2. If the electric timer fails to operate, a rerun will be given.
3. Read out box times must be read and recorded by official timer. One timer will record the times that appear on the electric eye controlled readout. Additional timers will operate the back-up time shown. **The official time will be RECORDED IN 100's. (i.e.: time reads 15.165, record as 15.16 -- put "0" in thousandths).**
4. Flag judge in the barrel race (if used) should not leave her/his position at any time. Whenever manual times are used, record the times in 10's, two watches must be used and the times averaged.

This document may be downloaded from:

[www.bbrs.org](http://www.bbrs.org)

Import barrel pattern diagram.

## WPRA Rule for Smaller than Standard Size Arenas

(excerpt from 2010 WPRA Rules)

**12.11.2.** The following shall be used in smaller arenas.

**12.11.2.1.** Barrels one (1) and two (2) should be at least eighteen (18) feet from the sides of the arena. In extra small arenas they may be less. In no instance should they be any closer than fifteen (15) feet from the sides of the arena.

**12.11.2.2.** Barrel three should be no closer than twenty five (25) feet to the end of the arena.

**12.11.2.2.1.** Barrel pattern should be situated in such a manner as is centered to the gate with the first and second barrel equal distance from the gate.

**12.11.2.3.** If arena size permits, a standard pattern should be set and no larger.

**12.11.2.4.** In small arenas, it is recommended the pattern be reduced proportionately to a standard barrel pattern. By no means shall the stopping distance be less than forty five (45) feet.

**12.11.2.5.** A "run out" alley may be included as part of the stopping distance, when necessary, or when the overall length of the arena does not allow for forty five (45) feet stopping distance. Decision is subject to Director approval. An open gate into a "safe" alley may be used as part of the forty five (45) feet stopping distance when necessary and upon Director approval. A "safe" alley must be a minimum of ten (10) feet wide, meaning that there will be a minimum of ten (10) feet between any obstructions in the alley. Alley way and any subsequent crossbars must be a minimum of twelve (12) feet high. Any bars, boards, wires or cords crossing the alley floor must be covered with dirt. The alley must be well lit, free of people and horses and have a dirt floor. The stopping distance in the alley must be at least as long as the stopping distance provided in the arena.