

# **ABRA RULE BOOK - YEAR 2021**

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **GENERAL CONTEST RULES**

1. All spectators, participants, members and all other persons taking part in any event connected with ABRA should understand the Association's involvement with any competition or event is merely organizational. ABRA is not responsible for any animals, competitor's equipment, portions of the arena and/or any portion of the event site. As with any competition, certain rules and regulations must be enforced in order to preserve the organization of the event so all participants, spectators and other persons can enjoy the event as is the intent of all of us.
2. Contest rules will be adopted by the Board of Directors and set forth in a document entitled "ABRA RULE BOOK".
3. A printed copy of the "ABRA RULE BOOK" may be requested by a member at the time membership is obtained. It will be available online to everyone on ABRA's website.
4. Rules may be changed from time to time by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
5. All members, participants, contestants and other persons taking part in the event do so at their own risk and should understand they are responsible for the care, inspection, custody and control of the animal, the equipment and all other aspects of the event, including the area where the event will take place. Any inspection and/or check for dangerous conditions should be made by the participant prior to participation in the event.
6. The ABRA is not in any way responsible for any of the facilities used either by participants and/or spectators. Any complaints or observations regarding the arena should be addressed with the arena personnel as soon as possible.
7. The decisions of the Arena Director or his/her designee are final. ABRA will not tolerate any verbal disputes at the announcer's desk during the show. If there is a question concerning a ruling, a written grievance may be submitted to: [info@laabra.com](mailto:info@laabra.com) or mailed to ABRA, 385 Prairie Rd. N, Franklin, LA 70538.
8. Members, non-members, participants or persons representing said individuals (parents, spouse, sibling, etc) are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike fashion at all times while participating in an ABRA sponsored event. Failure to do so may result in disqualification, loss of points, a monetary fine, or dismissal from the Association. ABRA's Board of Directors will make that decision by a majority vote and will inform the individual of the final decision in writing.
9. Excessive whipping or other cruelty toward the horse will not be tolerated.
10. Memberships available for the 2021 season are: a) Individual - \$35.00 and b) Family \$65.00. "Family" is defined as a mother/father and their children, age eighteen and under. Children age nineteen (19) or older must have their own membership. Age is determined as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current competition year. Non-competing board members will be given a complimentary membership.
11. When ABRA sponsors a barrel race sanctioned by another organization the rules of the sanctioning organization will be followed. In the event something occurs for which the other organization has no specific rule, ABRA rules will prevail.

12. **Boots must be worn by all riders.** No other kind of foot covering will be allowed. It is requested each participant dress neatly and appropriately for the event. **NO SPAGHETTI STRAP OR HALTER TOP SHIRTS!!!**
13. Electric timers will be used at all shows. In case of total electrical failure, the entire class will re-run and stopwatches will be used.
14. In case of a timer malfunction, the rider will be given a re-ride. Penalties incurred during the first run will NOT be carried over to the re-ride. If you hit a barrel or poll on your re-ride, you will receive the 5 sec penalty per hit.
- ~~15. In the event stop watches are used, a designee will utilize one (1) stopwatch while seated at the clock.~~
16. The alleyways will remain clear except when tractor is in motion during a drag. Failure to abide by this rule can result in disqualification, loss of points, a monetary fine, or dismissal from the Association. Parents must monitor their children to ensure that they are staying clear of the alleyway when it is not their turn to ride.
17. Entering the ARENA: A contestant will have (3) calls to cross the plane of the arena and start the pattern. The 3<sup>rd</sup> call will be the final call and result in a no time. **In the Open 5D Barrels, rider will have 30 seconds to enter the alley once called. Then 30 seconds to enter the arena. Finally the rider will have 30 seconds to cross the timer once they enter the arena.**
18. A rider is responsible for his/her own riding equipment. There will be no re-rides because of equipment failure.
19. Any rider, who is found to be illegally entering a horse or riding a horse in a class in which the horse does not qualify, will be fined two hundred dollars (\$200.00), plus any money won. The rider **will lose all points in ALL CLASSES** up through the date of discovery and will not be allowed to ride any ABRA jackpot shows until the fine has been paid in full. \*\*An inquiry can be submitted to any Board Member, emailed to [info@laabra.com](mailto:info@laabra.com) or mailed to the President, ABRA, 385 Prairie Rd N, Franklin, LA notifying the Board of a rider/horse illegally entered. A fee of \$25 is required for any inquiry. If information obtained results in a fine for the offender, an award of \$50 will be given to the individual that submitted the inquiry. Inquiries will be kept anonymous.
20. In the event a rider's novice horse should die during the year, points may be transferred to another horse that qualifies for the same novice class. A written statement from a veterinarian must accompany this request and the rider should notify the President or Vice President of ABRA before the next point show.
21. Points are kept on each horse/rider team in the Novice Horse Classes. Points are kept on the rider in age division classes (see rule #33). Points are kept on members only. Contestants begin accumulating points and participation after an ABRA membership has been purchased.
22. A point system will be utilized to determine year-end standings for novice, age division barrels and pole classes. One (1) point will be awarded for each entry in the class. Example: 20 entries in a class - 1st place = 20 points, 2nd place = 19 points and so on, with 20th place receiving 1 point. Exception: 8 & Under Lead in – see rule #33. Results and current point standings will be available at each show and on the ABRA website.

23. Books will close for the draw the **Friday before a show at 4 PM. There will be no money refunded after the books close.** A rider may scratch a horse after the books are closed by reporting to the sign up desk. LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED for the Open 5D Barrels until rider #50 - Late entries will be accepted until the first horse in the class entered runs for all other classes. Late entries will be placed at the bottom of the draw. **\*\* NO ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN AFTER THESE DEADLINES HAVE PASSED.**
24. **Running positions for each class will be drawn 30min before the class starts. You must pre-enter online to be put in the draw. Pole classes will need to be paid in full 30min before the Open Pole class starts. Barrel classes will have to be paid in full before the 1<sup>st</sup> 8 & Under/Special Needs class starts. Any entry's not paid by listed times will be deleted and you will need to enter at the show and be put out of the draw.** Riders must run each horse in drawn position. There will be no changing of draw positions unless ABRA finds an error on their part. The arena announcer will announce the running order of each class prior to the running of the class. It is the responsibility of riders to check the running orders and promptly notify the entry desk of any errors. **\*\*Please do not disturb the timer or announcer for this information\*\*.** If a rider has two horses entered in the same class, the first horse will be the points horse in all age or open division classes. If a rider, who enters a class before the close of the draw, is accidentally left out of the draw, the rider will be entered at the end of the draw before the late entries.
25. There will be \$10.00 added to the entry fees of any non-member rider. Non-members, who only want to exhibition, do not have to pay the non-member fee or pen fee.
26. There will be a pen fee of \$8.00 per rider, not per horse. Riders entering exhibition only will not be charged a pen fee.
27. The barrel pattern will be a minimum of fifteen feet (15') from the fence. Distances between the barrels will be according to the arena size. During pre-show exhibitions and Eight & Under Beginner barrels, the barrels may be placed off the pattern used for the show. Contestants MAY touch or hold a barrel upright to keep the barrel from falling over.
28. There will be a "no time" issued to any horse and rider who breaks the regulation barrel pattern. Breaking the regulation barrel pattern consists of, but is not limited to, going around the wrong side of the barrel, going around the wrong barrel, or circling the barrel more than once. Breaking the time line before the pattern is complete will also result in a "no time".
29. The pole pattern will be according to AQHA rules. Contestants ARE allowed to hold the poles upright and/or keep them from falling over.
30. There will be a "no time" issued to any horse and rider who breaks the regulation pole pattern. Breaking of the pole pattern consists of, but is not limited to, going on the wrong side of the pole, around the wrong pole, circling a pole more than once, or breaking the time line before the pattern is complete.
31. There will be a five (5) second penalty for any barrel or pole knocked over. This includes barrels and poles that are turned completely, touching the ground and coming back upright. A knocked over barrel will result in a no-time for Open 5D purposes only. All times rolled over will incur the penalty.
32. With the exception of the Open 5D and 8 & Under Leadline & Special Needs Barrel Class, all classes are jackpotted with ABRA retaining \$5.00 per entry. All 8 & Under Leadline & Special Needs riders will

receive \$1 back regardless of placing. Open 5D jackpot payout is covered under class description – see Rule #33. Payout for all other classes will be as follows:

- 1-4 Riders Pays one place: 1<sup>st</sup> 100%
- 5-8 Riders Pays two places: 1st 60%, 2nd 40%
- 9-12 Riders Pays three places: 1st 50%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 20%
- 13-16 Riders Pays four places: 1st 40%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 20%, 4th 10%
- 17-20 Riders Pays five places: 1st 30%, 2nd 25%, 3rd 20%, 4th 15%, 5th 10%
- 21+ Riders Pays six places 1st 28%, 2nd 22%, 3rd 18%, 4th 14%, 5th 10%, 6th 8%

33. Classes for the year 2021 season will be as follows:

Horses may not be entered with multiple riders. The only exceptions are immediate family members or members within the same household.

Barrels will not be set up, nor is barrel work allowed in the arena prior to exhibitions.

**PRE-SHOW EXHIBITION BARRELS & POLES:** Open to all riders. No excessive training or working of the pattern will be allowed. Riders should limit the length of their exhibition to one (1) minute. A \$5.00 fine will be imposed to anyone exceeding a one (1) minute time limit (for each occurrence).

**OPEN POLES:** Available to any horse and rider. Points are kept on RIDER only. A rider may choose to roll their time over to Youth Poles if they qualify, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**13 & UNDER YOUTH POLES:** Rider must be 13 years of age or younger as of January 1st of the current year. Points are kept on RIDER ONLY.

**8 & UNDER YOUTH BARRELS OR ANY RIDER WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Rider must be 8 years of age or younger as of January 1st of the current year, or require assistance in riding. This is considered one class, divided into two categories. Each rider in either category will receive \$1 payout per show to be collected at that show or the payout is void. Points are kept on RIDER ONLY.

**BEGINNER** - riders will get one (1) point per show regardless of their time. ABRA reserves the right to make judgment calls for the safety of the child in regards to the manner in which the child is /or is not seated in the saddle. The child should be assisted in a fashion that is safe for the child. It is not required to have an actual line attached to the horse.

**ADVANCED** - riders will accumulate points based on the total number of riders in the 8 & under ride alone barrels, with the exception of the finals. At the finals, points will be issued to the top 15 contestants. Finalist's #16 and below will receive one point in each of the finals go-rounds and the average. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**OPEN 5D (DIVISIONAL BARRELS):** Available to all riders and all horses. This class will run in a 5D format with .5 second splits. A minimum of 75% of entry fees will be jackpotted. An Equal + Payout will be used with 10% of jackpot added as Bonus Money based on the following – 4% to 1D, 3% to 2D, 2% to 3D, and 1% to 4D. Remainder will be divided equally - 18% to each division. The number of places paid will be determined by the ABRA payout scale below. A rider may choose to roll their time over to

all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over. NO POINTS WILL BE AWARDED IN THIS CLASS, but entering this class will count towards participation to qualify for year-end finals. See Rule #34 for all Finalist Requirements.

1-24 Riders one place per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 100%

25-44 Riders two places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 60%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 40%

45-64 Riders three places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 50%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 30%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 20%

65-84 Riders four places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 40%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 30%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 20%, 4<sup>th</sup> 10%

85-104 Riders five places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 30%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 25%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 20%, 4<sup>th</sup> 15%, 5<sup>th</sup> 10%

105-124 Riders six places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 28%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 22%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 18%, 4<sup>th</sup> 14%, 5<sup>th</sup> 10%, 6<sup>th</sup> 8%

125-144 Riders seven places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 26%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 20%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 15%, 4<sup>th</sup> 12%, 5<sup>th</sup> 10%, 6<sup>th</sup> 9%, 7<sup>th</sup> 8%

145-204 Riders eight places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 24%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 18%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 15%, 4<sup>th</sup> 12%, 5<sup>th</sup> 10%, 6<sup>th</sup> 8%, 7<sup>th</sup> 7%, 8<sup>th</sup> 6%

205+- Riders ten places per division: 1<sup>st</sup> 21%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 18%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 15%, 4<sup>th</sup> 12%, 5<sup>th</sup> 9%, 6<sup>th</sup> 7%, 7<sup>th</sup> 6%, 8<sup>th</sup> 5%, 9<sup>th</sup> 4%, 10<sup>th</sup> 3%

**9-13 YOUTH BARRELS:** Rider must be 9-13 years of age as of January 1st of the current year. Points are kept on RIDER ONLY. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**14-18 YOUTH BARRELS:** Rider must be 14-18 years of age as of January 1st of the current year. Points are kept on RIDER ONLY. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**19-39 YOUNG ADULT BARRELS:** Rider must be 19-39 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Points are kept on the RIDER ONLY. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**40 AND OVER BARRELS:** Riders must be 40 years or older as of January 1st of the current year to be eligible. Points are kept on RIDER only. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**\$2500 NOVICE HORSE BARRELS-** A horse qualifies for this class if it has won less than \$2500 in any barrel racing competition in its lifetime as of January 1st of the current year. Awards such as ribbons, tack, feed, trophies, etc. are not included. Points are kept on HORSE/RIDER combination. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**\$1000 NOVICE HORSE BARRELS-** A horse qualifies for this class if it has won less than \$1000 in any barrel racing competition in its lifetime as of January 1st of the current year. Awards such as ribbons, tack, feed, trophies, etc. are not included. However, if ten (10) points or more (ROM) have been earned in any registered breed association, the horse is not eligible for this class. Points are kept on HORSE/RIDER combination. A rider may choose to roll their time over to all other classes they qualify for, but must make this decision at time of entry and all penalties will carry over.

**\$100.00 NOVICE HORSE BARRELS:** A horse qualifies for this class if it has won less than \$100.00 in any barrel racing competition in its lifetime as of January 1st of the current year. Awards such as ribbons, tack feed, trophies, etc. ARE NOT included; however, if ten (10) points or more (ROM) have

been earned in any registered breed association, the horse is not eligible for this class. Points are kept on HORSE/RIDER combination.

**EXHIBITION BARRELS:** Open to all riders. No excessive training or working of the pattern will be allowed. A \$5.00 fine will be imposed to anyone exceeding a one (1) minute time limit (for each occurrence).

**\*\*HORSE INFORMATION SHEETS MUST BE FILLED OUT FOR EACH HORSE PRIOR TO COMPETING IN ANY NOVICE CLASS.\*\* NO POINTS WILL BE AWARDED FOR A RUN THAT WAS COMPLETED PRIOR TO TURNING IN THE HORSE INFORMATION SHEET.\*\***

34. **FINALS REQUIREMENTS** - Finals will be held at the end of the year and are for MEMBERS ONLY. **PARTICIPATION** - A MEMBER MUST PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST 8 SHOWS FOR THE YEAR TO QUALIFY FOR THE FINALS. Participation in the Bayou Classic will count towards the 8 show minimum and Perfect Attendance. All members can enter the Open 5D at the finals, on as many horses as they wish, as long as the participation rule has been met. The maximum number of riders in open poles, age division or novice classes to advance to the finals will be fifteen (15), unless there is a tie between 15th and 16th place, then both will go to the finals. All 8 & Under Barrel Racers, who have participated in at least eight (8) of the twelve (12) point shows and met their sponsorship, will be eligible for the finals. Any member not qualifying in the top 15 of a class that has met all finals requirements may enter the Open 5D at the finals.
35. **SPONSORSHIP** - Each finalist must SELL A MINIMUM OF \$50.00 IN RAFFLE TICKETS, SPONSORSHIPS, OR A COMBINATION OF THE TWO in order to satisfy their sponsorship requirements.
36. **RAFFLE/AUCTION ITEMS** - each finalist must RIDE 1 OF THE 2 DAYS OF BAYOU CLASSIC OR SELL AN ADDITIONAL \$50 IN RAFFLE TICKETS OR SPONSORSHIPS, ALONG WITH AN AUCTION ITEM (OR \$25) FOR THE FINALS. Finalist awards will not be presented to anyone that has not met all of these requirements and paid their finals entry in full. Finals entry fees and sponsorships are non-refundable. DEADLINES FOR ALL FINALIST REQUIREMENTS WILL BE POSTED AT OUR SHOWS, ON OUR WEBSITE, AND SOCIAL MEDIA. IT IS THE MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET ALL DEADLINES.
  - a. The Stick Horse Race and Leadline class does count as participation in the bayou classic. You must participate in the class. If you pay and scratch the Stick Horse Race, you will only get participation and will be required to have an additional \$25 sponsorship or raffle ticket sales.
37. **Year-end awards will be determined after the tenth (10th) point show and will be based on the participation in each class and the funds available. Barrel and pole classes must average eleven (11) or more entries per show to earn a year-end Champion Saddle. This does not apply to the 5D Open Barrels, as no points are awarded in this class.**
38. **FINALS** - If a tie should occur for 1st and 2nd place, a flip of a coin will determine winner. Both riders must consent to a coin flip. If either rider wants a run-off, a run-off will ensue. Should a rider forfeit, he/she will move to the next position. In the event a tie occurs for any other position, 2nd place or beyond, the tie will be broken by the fastest finals average time.
39. **FINALS** - In the event a rider receives a "No Time" during a run at the finals, he/she will not receive points for that go-round, but will be placed and allotted points in the average if they receive a time in the other go-round. A scratch in one or more go-rounds will not earn any points in the average.

40. Horse and rider teams, who have competed in the Novice classes and won ABRA saddles, are required to move up to the next eligible class the following year for ABRA Point Shows ONLY.
41. Suggestions can be sent to [info@laabra.com](mailto:info@laabra.com). Suggestions for items such as, but not limited to, show improvements, fund raising, awards, etc. are welcome.
42. EXTRA MILE AWARDS – every member can qualify for up to 4 extra mile awards:
- a. Perfect Attendance – participate in all 12 point shows AND ABRA's Bayou Classic.
  - b. Sponsorships – submit at least \$200 in sponsorships and/or annual raffle ticket sales.
  - c. Raffle Donation – donate at least 8 raffle items throughout the year at our regular shows
  - d. Show Worker – work at least 6 hours during the year for our shows

#### ABRA 2021 Board Members

**(REMINDER: Please understand that these board members may not be able to return your call immediately, but will do their best to answer your questions or direct you to someone who can in a timely manner)**

President / Technical Director / Bayou Classic Rep	Taylor Fontenot	985-498-0731
Vice President / Data Entry / Exhibition Rep.	Shelbi Richard	337-581-0447
Treasurer	Tammy Manuel	337-831-1476
Secretary / Social Media Director / Merritt Rep. / Entry / Payout Rep.	Annette Faul	337-277-2889
Sponsorship Director/ Program Director/ Finals Flag Rep.	Kenzie Trahan	337-577-3326
Announcing Director	Maureen Boudreaux	337-945-7145
Arena Director / Finals Auction Rep.	Adrian Menard	
Year End Raffle Rep. / Show Raffle Rep.	Emily Fontenot	337-578-4761
Membership Director / Finals Auction Rep.	Hannah Latiolais	337-380-1967
Merit Rep	Robi Meche	337-207-4677