

# ALBERTA BARREL RACING ASSOCIATION



## RULES AND REGULATIONS

The ABRA is a provincial, non-profit organization formed in 1996 to promote the sport of barrel racing in Alberta. The ABRA strives to advance the sport by providing 3-D barrel race competitions in which each horse and rider has an equal opportunity to be competitive at his or her own level. Youth and beginner participation is strongly encouraged.

The ABRA's goals are to increase the number of participants, improve the quality of shows, and bring Alberta barrel racers together at an annual, provincial finals.

Revision Date: November 2017

## FINALS QUALIFICATIONS

1. Must be a member in good standing.
2. The ABRA acknowledges all blacklists received from other associations for entry into the annual finals.
3. To qualify for the Finals a member must attend a predetermined number of jackpots within the current season spanning from July 1 - June 30.
  - a. Open members must attend a minimum of 9 jackpots.
  - b. Youth members must attend a minimum of 6 jackpots.
  - c. Peewee members must attend a minimum of 4 jackpots.
4. Open and youth members may enter as many horses as they wish in the finals. Peewee members must complete pattern on their own to qualify for prizes. Peewee cannot be lead at the finals. Peewee may only enter one horse. Each horse/rider combination must attend a predetermined number within the current season.
  - a. Each open horse must attend a minimum of 5 jackpots.
  - b. Each youth horse must attend a minimum of 3 jackpots.
  - c. Each peewee horse must attend a minimum of 2 jackpots
5. Members may qualify for the finals by competing at jackpots throughout the province, regardless of district or region.
6. Members are responsible for viewing their qualification status online at the ABRA website. If there are any discrepancies, notify the Tracking Clerk ASAP to have them reviewed. Members must be fully qualified prior to entering the finals.
7. A mounted attempt of the cloverleaf pattern must be made in order for a jackpot to count.
8. Finals entry fees are non-refundable with the exception of a veterinary/medical release on or before the set Call back date by the office. A \$20 per entry Office admin fee will be held back on every entry refunded. After Call Back Entries are finalized, no exceptions, it is the responsibility of the barrel racer to confirm entry on call back.
9. Finals Entry will be refunded when a death in the immediate family, father, mother, children, brother and sister and step and inlaw. Timeline from entry date to the finals start date, includes full refund.
10. A member is allowed to substitute a finals entry within 10 days before the start of the first go so long as the horse and rider have qualified together for all of the Open, Youth, and Pee Wee divisions.

## DISTRICTS

1. The province is divided into 13 districts.
2. Each district will be required to host a minimum of six jackpots.
3. The maximum number of jackpots per district is three per week, with the exception of rescheduled rainouts. However, it is at the discretion of the director to have more or less.
  - a. Rescheduled jackpots cannot conflict with scheduled jackpots.
4. Each member shall declare his/her district upon purchase of a membership and shall contact his/her District Director with any questions or concerns.
5. Each district shall have one elected District Director who's responsibilities include:
  - a. Approving jackpots following the Criteria for Host Arenas.
  - b. Attend district jackpots when possible. If unable to attend, the Director shall delegate a representative to ensure rules and regulations are followed.
  - c. Address concerns.
  - d. Keep members informed.
  - e. Assist in organizing the Provincial Finals.
  - f. Maintain and distribute all needed materials to jackpot hosts.

- g. Submit all Results and Finals Fees to the ABRA Office within 10 days of jackpot date.
  - h. All Results and Finals Fees must be submitted to the ABRA office by the director no later than 30 days past the quarter point of which the jackpot was held in. If the director fails to submit the Results and Finals Fees, the director will be removed and the District members will have two weeks to appoint a new director. The Director will be blacklisted from the ABRA until results and finals fees are received.
6. District Directors may appoint a District Secretary to assist with the director duties.
  7. Each district is required to find sponsorship to ensure the success of the ABRA Finals.

## DISTRICT JACKPOTS

1. Each District will be entitled to \$900 ABRA added money for the purposes of hosting a District Added Money Jackpot. A minimum of 1/3 of added money must go to the youth.

## GENERAL

1. All contestants, members, and non-members are required to read the rules carefully. Failure to understand the rules will not be accepted as an excuse.
2. No dress code shall be enforced at a regular season jackpot, unless advertised as such in the official ABRA newsletter.
3. Contestants must be on hand to answer the call of the Arena Director and must be mounted and ready to reenter the arena for placement recognition, if required by management.
4. Contestant is privileged, if he/she so desires, to view the records of all competing contestants.
5. Any member is privileged, if he/she so desires, to request a copy of the ABRA Rules, and Bylaws.
6. The ABRA will not allow itself to become involved in any personal conflicts.
7. A contestant may ride any horse, regardless of ownership.
8. If the timer fails during a run and time is not recorded, the horse and rider shall receive a penalty free re-run.
9. A horse may not be ridden by more than one person in a class, unless ALL three of the following conditions are met:
  - a. Both contestants are members of the owner's immediate family who reside in the same household (husband, wife, children, and grandchildren under 12 years of age).
  - b. Neither contestant is showing any other horse in the same class.
  - c. In no case will the same horse be run more than twice in the same class.
10. Anyone tendering an NSF cheque for entry fees at a jackpot, membership dues, or finals entry fees will be required to pay all future jackpot, membership, and finals fees with cash or money order for the lifetime of his/her membership. The following fines shall also be imposed:
  - a. First offence - \$20 fine.
  - b. Second offence - \$30 fine.
  - c. Third offence to be brought before the Board of Directors for review and action.
11. The ABRA does not advise that any person under the age of eighteen years of age compete on a stallion. If a person younger than eighteen chooses to show a stallion, that person must be closely supervised at all times by a parent. Any inability of that minor to control such stallion

shall result in the disqualification to enter any further ABRA approved jackpots and events.

12. Members, non-members, volunteers, etc. are covered by the Alberta Barrel Racing Association insurance plan at all approved events.
13. The following will not be tolerated at any ABRA approved event, finals included. Infractions of these and all other Rules and/or Bylaws will result in disqualification, fines, and/or suspension at the discretion of the ABRA Board of Directors, including but not limited to:
  - a. Excessive yelling or any foul language.
  - b. Altercations or quarreling at any time.
  - c. Being under the influence of alcohol in the arena.
  - d. Rowdiness.
  - e. Tampering or removing ropes or markers.
  - f. No excessive whipping.
  - g. Non-payment of entry fee(s).
  - h. General inhumane treatment of horse in the arena, stabling area, or any other place on the grounds.
  - i. Ill-mannered horses.
  - j. Competing horses that are not entirely free from the effects of stimulants or hypnotics.
  - k. Any relative of a contestant complaining on behalf of said Contestant.
  - l. Practicing on markers after the course has been set. (To practice, barrels must be set at least 15 feet from markers.)
  - m. Any member showing disrespect to a host in any manner, be it foul language, altercations, quarreling, or otherwise will be reported to the Board of Directors in the following manner:
    1. First offense - letter of reprimand.
    2. Second offense - fine.
    3. Third offense - suspension of membership.
14. Individuals caught entering on a Paypal receipt or without a membership will be assessed an automatic \$50 misconduct fee to be applied by the Office Manager. Additional offences related will result in further fees to be determined at the discretion of the board.

## OF INTEREST

ABRA members are eligible for the following opportunities:

1. ABRA Scholarship - A scholarship is offered to any member in good standing who applies by June 1 of each year. The scholarship funds must be applied towards secondary education and confirmation of enrollment must be received before release of funds.

*Application forms for the above mentioned programs may be obtained from [www.albertabarrelracingassociation.com](http://www.albertabarrelracingassociation.com) or a District Director.*
2. The current insurance carrier of the ABRA, CBL Oxford Insurance, offers reduced rates on horse mortality insurance to ABRA members. Phone Margaret at (800) 387-4440 or (403) 214-7295.
3. ABRA Finals Incentives - For an additional fee, youth and open finalists may enter one or more of the incentives offered at the finals, if eligible. Currently there are incentives for Senior Riders (50+), Futurity-aged horses (5 and under), and Derby-aged horses (6).
  - a. Finalists must also be entered in the open or youth class to enter an incentive.

## CONTACTS

Please contact your District Director with any questions or concerns. All contact information and important information related to the ABRA can be found in the official newsletter or at [www.albertabarrelracingassociation.com](http://www.albertabarrelracingassociation.com).

## MEMBERSHIP

- Membership is offered to anyone, male or female. ABRA has the right to refuse membership.
- Purchase of an ABRA membership is Mandatory to compete at ABRA sanctioned events.
- All members are responsible to show their membership cards at sanctioned events to be allowed to enter. Cards consist of copies of the original card or pictures of the original card saved on a cell phone.
- Memberships must be purchased through the ABRA Office. Please note that once your membership is received by the office, expect a 48 business hour time period for your membership to be processed. You cannot compete until you receive your card from the office. Memberships will not be processed until all documents and payments are received. This includes the membership form and signed waiver. Payment options are mailed cheque, money order, or online Paypal store.
- The ABRA acknowledges all blacklists received from other associations for the purchase of memberships and Finals Entry
- Full Open membership - \$110 (includes \$25 insurance fee).
- Full Youth membership - \$85 (includes \$25 insurance fee).
  - 16 years of age and younger as of Jan 1 of the current year.
- Full Peewee membership - \$30 (includes \$25 insurance fee).
  - 10 years of age and younger as of Jan 1 of the current year.
  - All Peewee members MUST wear a helmet.
- Permit for Youth or Open - \$30 (includes \$25 insurance fee). Pee Wee permit - \$15 (includes mandatory insurance)
- Full cards are entitled to compete at all ABRA events and are eligible to qualify for the finals. Permit cards are entitled to compete at all ABRA events, however are not entitled to compete when ABRA has contributed to added money jackpots and are not eligible to qualify for the finals. Permit members may upgrade to a Full Card, however they will have to repay the price of a full card and cannot begin qualifying until they receive the full card from the office.
- Youth may not compete in the Peewee division.
- A youth contestant may enter the open if they are the sole youth entry. This jackpot will not count towards the finals. The sole youth entry may also chose to stay in the youth class and “run against themselves”. This jackpot will count towards the finals.
- A peewee contestant may enter the youth if they are the sole peewee entry. This jackpot will not count towards the finals.
- If two or more youth are in attendance at any particular jackpot, they must remain in the youth class and be paid with the 3-D format. This holds true for the peewee category as well.
- Members may enter and compete at any ABRA approved jackpot, regardless of district.
- Jackpot season is July 1 to June 30.

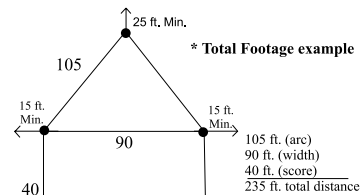
## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- Membership season will run Jan 1 to December 31. Memberships for the next season will be available for sale Oct. 1 of the year prior. Members who purchased between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 will have jackpot attendance tracked from July 1 to Dec. 31. Those who purchase after Dec. 31 forfeit the jackpots attended and begin qualification from the time purchased to the end of the of the qualification season June 30. New members or those wishing to upgrade from permit to full card may purchase the next season membership after July 1. Anyone moving age categories for example; Peewee to Youth or Youth to Open, can enter

on the previous card. Please indicate to the host, it is a moving up year. However, can finish out a series that they have already started in the previous qualification year, but these will not count as qualification jackpot for the next season.

## FORMAT

- All ABRA approved jackpots will follow a 3-D format in the Open, Youth and Peewee classes.
- Open and Youth divisions are determined by a 7/10 or One Second Split. - 7/10 split will be used at all times unless pattern total footage is over 234 ft then One Second Split will be required.



- The pattern size and/or time bracket used must be posted or announced prior to starting the jackpot.
- Pee Wee will use a five second time bracket regardless of pattern size.
- The fastest penalty free time in the open and youth will determine the divisions.
- Knocked barrels are considered a no time.
- Barrels 1 and 2 will be a minimum of 15 ft. off the fence and barrel 3, a minimum of 25 ft.
- Example of division splits:
  - 1 second time bracket -fastest time 16.500

Division	Time
One	16.5 - 17.499
Two	17.5 - 18.499
Three	18.500 & Up

- 7/10 time bracket -fastest time 15.500

Division	Time
One	15.5 - 16.199
Two	16.2 - 16.899
Three	16.900 & Up

- Finals to be at the discretion of the board.

## SHOW SANCTIONING

- For a jackpot to be an ABRA sanctioned event it must first be submitted and approved by the appropriate District Director who in turn submits it to the ABRA Tracking Clerk for final approval. Jackpots must be received by the ABRA Tracking Clerk no later than two weeks prior to jackpot date for approval. Canceled Jackpots may be rescheduled with one weeks notice. Regular approved jackpots can be turned into Double Header Jackpots with one week notice, at the discretion of the director.
- Jackpots may be hosted at private arenas or rodeo/gymkhana grounds, indoors or outdoors at the discretion of the director.
- All competitors must run horses in their draw order. Running out of draw

- order will result in a NT.
- Jackpots may be held out of province, upon the District Director’s approval.
- Host arenas wishing to use a two-run average must have approval and be advertised as such in the official ABRA newsletter.
- The decision of the timer and Director shall be final and no protests by the contestants will be permitted.
- When western attire is mandatory, it must be advertised as such in the official ABRA publication. Failing to comply will result in a no time.
- Time only’s and / or Exhibition runs will be at the discretion of the host.
- Jackpot hosts can count up to 1/3 of the jackpots they have hosted.
- Criteria for Host Arenas:
  - Follow the ABRA Rules and Regulations.
  - Mark pattern and score line.
  - Maintain good and consistent ground conditions. Reworking/ raking rotation should be determined prior to start of jackpot.
  - Take entries and calculate payout.
  - Provide a random draw for rider position (not horse and rider) which is mandatory at all jackpots.
  - Utilize an electric timer (with times to 1/1000 if timer allows).
  - Utilize 45-gallon metal or plastic closed-end barrels.
  - Provide a minimum of 45 feet stopping distance with closed gate.
  - Complete supplied ABRA jackpot entry forms in full detail.
  - Forward all completed jackpot forms to the District Director within 10 days of jackpot.
- Host must declare before the beginning of the jackpot if there will be 1 run or 2.

- If requesting approval for added money jackpot; a complete breakdown of all deductions and added money must be submitted on the approval sheet.
  - All deductions for jackpot must be submitted with jackpot submission form.
- Double Header jackpots will be approved as one run only and must be advertised as a Double Header jackpot.
- ABRA reserves the right to refuse sanctioning of any event.
- Futurities/Derby horses may carry forward their time into the open jackpot so long as the Futurity/Derby runs are at the same location, same pattern, same day, same rake, same conditions if the jackpot is held outdoors and fees are paid into the open jackpot prior to the start of the Futurity/Derby runs.

## ENTRY FEES AND PAYOUT

- Host arenas may set the entry fees and deduct a reasonable amount for timer, arena rental, etc. Recommended entry fees: Open - \$25, Youth - \$15. However minimum entry fee for Open will be \$20, Youth \$10 and payout must be completed at all jackpots.
- Each host must collect a minimum of \$2 per entry in the Open, Youth, and Pee Wee divisions for Finals Fee to be sent to the district director with their jackpot results.
- Payouts must be split equally between the three divisions.
- Added money is to be split equally between the three divisions.
- If no horses fall into any one particular division the payout for that division will be divided equally between the remaining two divisions.
- If only one horse places in a division that horse shall receive the entire payout for that division.
- Money will not be paid out to contestants who knock over barrels.

- In the case that any entrant is disqualified, the runner-up will receive any money and awards, if applicable.
- It is the responsibility of all competitors to pick-up their winnings or to make arrangements. The host will only hold money for 7 days.
- The number of placings in each division is determined by the total number of entries:

Total Entries	Placings/ Division	Percentages (%)
10 & Under	1	100
11 - 25	2	60 - 40
26 - 40	3	45 - 35 - 20
41 - 55	4	40 - 30 - 20 - 10
56 - 70	5	34 - 26 - 18 - 14 - 8
71 - 85	6	29 - 24 - 19 - 14 - 9 - 5
86 - 120	7	25 - 22 - 17 - 14 - 10 - 7 - 5
121+	8	23 - 20 - 17 - 14 - 11 - 8 - 5 - 2

- Hosts must have results and Finals Fees to their District Director within 10 days or your next jackpot may be canceled, this includes rainouts.
- Once a jackpot entry is paid, there will be no refund at the discretion of the host.
- NO QUALIFIER jackpots will be allowed.

## JACKPOT OPTION

- A jackpot host may choose to hold a 4-D barrel race if there are a minimum of 80 entries.
- When a host chooses the 4D option it must be advertised as an optional event. It is to be explained that only if the entry in the category reaches 80+ that a 4D will be added to the payout in that category only (ie: Open vs. Youth). A time split must also be pre chosen and advertised if a 4D option exists. The host may choose between 7/10ths or 1 second.
- Pre-entries are strongly recommended.
- The payout will remain equal within the 4 divisions.
- 4D payout shall be calculated as follows:

Total Entries	Placings/ Division	Percentages (%)
81-120	5	30 - 25 - 20 - 15 - 10 (100) \$150/\$125/\$100/\$75/\$50
121-160	6	28 - 22 - 18 - 14 - 10 - 8 (150) \$210/\$165/\$135/\$105/\$75/\$60
161-200	7	26 - 20 - 15 - 12 - 10 - 9 - 8 (180) \$234/\$180/\$135/\$108/\$90/\$81/\$72
201+	8	23 - 20 - 17 - 14 - 11 - 8 - 5 - 2 (220) \$264/\$198/\$165/\$132/\$110/\$88/\$77/\$66