

## PATRIOT EVENT TEAM ROPING RULES

### JR PATRIOT ABIDES BY PATRIOT RULES

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### PATRIOT EVENT RULES

#### SECTION 1

##### QUALIFICATION EVENTS

**1.1 Qualification Ropings** – PATRIOT selects independent contractors, who use the Rope Metrics Operating System, to produce qualification ropings throughout the year giving ropers an opportunity to advance to the Fort Worth Finale in Fort Worth each March, as well at the Patriot Vegas Finale in December. All Qualifications serve as dual Qualifiers and can be used at one or both Patriot Finales.

**1.2 Divisions** – There are eleven divisions to be offered at Patriot Qualification Events, including; Open, All Girl, 14.5, 13.5, 12.5, 11.5, 10.5, 9.5, 8.5, 7.5, and Young Gun Team Roping Divisions. No age caps in Open, All Girl, or 14.5. The 13.5 down to the 9.5 have a minimum age requirement of 21. The 8.5 and 7.5 are open to all ages. The 8.5 is capped at a 4.5 and the 7.5 is capped at a 4.

**1.3 Formats** – Qualifier Formats are ultimately at the discrepancy of the Producer, however Patriot Formats are suggested. Top 10 Teams in Each Patriot Qualifier and Top 20 of Patriot Finale Status Qualifiers advance to the finale. Each member of the team gets a qualification when placing in the Top 10/20, therefore the Team IS NOT REQUIRED to rope together at the Finale. Ropers placing together are allowed to split creating two teams. The Qualifier can be used in any event, and with the partner of choice as long as the chosen partner is a current Rope Metrics Member. Qualification ropings will be progressive ropings and will be offered at venues across the country.

**1.4 Entries and Disqualification** – To participate in a PATRIOT qualification event, each roper must be a member of Rope Metrics. Participation in the event by a roper who does not have a current Rope Metrics membership will result in disqualification of roper and the roper's teammate. No member of a disqualified team shall be entitled to receive any prize or winnings, however, the member of the disqualified team that has a current membership shall be entitled to a refund of entry fee. The member of the disqualified team without a current membership shall not be entitled to receive a refund of his/her entry fee. By submitting an entry for a Patriot event, the roper is representing that he/she is in compliance with this rule. Acceptance of entry fees for this event by PATRIOT shall not constitute a waiver of the requirement set forth in this rule.

**1.5 Up and Back** - In qualifying events where ropers are allowed to enter more than once, ropers are permitted to enter "Up and Back", although this will not be an option in any given event at a Patriot Finale.

**1.6 Qualification Payoff** - Producers of Patriot Qualifiers will determine the PayOut Schedule based on the Format of THEIR event. Terms should be posted in Event Flyer prior to event.

**1.7 Draw In Option** - Producers of Patriot Qualifiers will determine whether to allow Draw In Option, although at Patriot/Rope The Ozarks Produced Patriot Qualifiers, every qualifier will have a draw-in Option. Rope Metrics has been coded to draw the highest available in the event. The roper will run the drawn run, although he/she may choose not to pay for it. If he pays for the run before the run is made, he/she will collect all prizes and moneys. If he/she chooses not to pay for the extra run, they will be running for half the money up to \$1000 and no prizes. The paid partner will still collect their end of full money and prizes.

## SECTION 2

### PATRIOT FINALES

**2.1 PATRIOT Roping Finale Formats** - The PATRIOT FORT WORTH finale, for the most part, will be a four head average with three full go-rounds, and a short round. See full schedule of Finale Events for complete detail. Finale Formats are subject to change year to year. The PATRIOT VEGAS finale.....

**2.2 CONSOLATION** - Teams who are penalized for missing a steer, breaking out, or roping a leg still have a chance to collect a little money at THE PATRIOT FORT WORTH finale, which offers Consolation.

**2.3 GO ROUNDS** - A fast time check is paid in each rotation.

**2.4 FINALE ENTRIES** –There are several ways to “ENTER” the PATRIOT FORT WORTH Finale. Ropers may qualify in the Top 10 at a qualification roping, in the Top 20 at a Rope Metrics Finale Style Event, Earning 3 spots by going to 6 or More ROPE METRICS EVENTS in calendar year, or by being a FOUNDER of the PATRIOT EVENT. When a team qualifies, Each member of the team gets a qualification, therefore the Team IS NOT REQUIRED to rope together at the Finale. Ropers placing together are allowed to split creating two teams. The Qualifier can be used in any event, and with the partner of choice as long as the chosen partner is a current Rope Metrics Member. All Finale Pre-Entries are \$1000 roper. In the case that an event does not fill at 200 teams, books will open onsite to fill those events. The onsite fee will be \$1200, although all monies go into the pot. NO LATE FEES ARE CHARGED AT PATRIOT EVENTS.

**2.4.2 FOUNDER-** A Founder is a team roper that came and participated in the very first Patriot Fort Worth Finale, in the year 2015. A Founder has first rights to enter the Fort Worth Finale each year, Jan 1 – Feb 15. In order to keep Patriot Founder status, team ropers need to stay current with the Classification System used by The Patriot Event Producers.

**2.4.3 CURRENT MEMBER** In order to insure the fairness to all contestants, all Contestants must have a Current Rope Metrics Membership and sufficient data collected, prior to entering a Finale.

**2.5 DEADLINES** -Books open for FOUNDERS and QUALIFIED TEAMS January 1 of EACH YEAR and Must be POSTMARKED by Feb. 15 to be guaranteed your entry. First Come, First Served. Incomplete entries are just that. They remain in an incomplete file until both ends are paid.

### **2.6 FINALE PAYOFFS** –

The percentages are paid on the same percentage scale as the qualification ropings. PATRIOT FORT WORTH FINALE PAYS 80% payback in main high money(\$1000 or more) divisions, including a CONSOLATION. The CONSOLATION rounds, GROUND MONEY, AND FAST TIME, will be held then the places will break out by percentages. PATRIOT FORTWORTH pays out approximately 1 hole on every 12 teams entered

PATRIOT VEGAS FINALE PAYS 90% in main high money(\$1000 or more) divisions and pays approximately 1 hole for every 8 teams entered. Percentages remain the same as other Patriot Events

**2.7 FINALE RERUNS** – In addition to the Flagger, the PATRIOT will have an additional Field Judge in the arena or vicinity of, reviewing every run. The Flagger will make the call and in the meantime the Field Judge(s) is looking for anything out of the ordinary, borderline calls, or potential objection. The Flagger may call for a rerun. PATRIOT's position is that if none of the officials observing the run detect anything out of the ordinary, no rerun will be afforded. Ropers will be notified if they receive a rerun. Publicly arguing (including social media of any kind) the matter beyond the final decision may be grounds for disqualification from the current event or any future events thereof.

## SECTION 3

### ROPING RULES

**3.1 Head Legal Catches** – Three legal head catches: 1) slick horn 2) Half a head 3) neck. If the hondo passes over one horn and the loop over the other, the catch is illegal. If a loop crosses itself in a head catch, it is illegal.

**Heel Legal Catches** – Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if the rope goes up heels.

**3.1.2 Questioned Catch** – If catch is questionable, a field judge, may ask a header to hold a steer so that the Flagger may inspect the head catch. If the header does not do so, the team may receive a no-time.

**3.2 Time Taken** – Time will be taken when the steer is roped and secure between both partners and both horses are facing the steer with ropes dallied and tight. Both horses front feet must be on the ground and ropers must be mounted when the time is taken. The steer must be standing up when roped by its head and heels. Time is taken when the flag is dropped, however, that time is not official until indication is given by the Flagger or Field Judge to the timer or secretary. The Flagger may flag a team out after the time is taken on a run, based on an illegal head catch or illegal heel catch, the steer was not secure or any other factor that was not clear when the time was taken.

**3.3 Tie On Rule** – Age for men heelers will be 55 years and older for 5 elite and lower heelers, will be 60 years old for any roper #6 and higher. Female heelers may tie-on with no age restrictions.

**3.4 Cross Fire** – Patriot Rule- head bent and in tow.

**3.5 Heeler Ropes Front Foot** – if the front foot or feet come out of the heel loop prior to the header facing and thus calling for time, the time will be counted. The Flagger, i.e., judge will not allow an extra time for a front leg to come free.

**3.6 Header Ropes Any Leg** – should a header rope any leg, it's an automatic no time. Under no circumstance will be the header be allowed to fish-out the leg.

**3.7 Dropped Rope** – A dropped rope that must be recoiled is considered a thrown rope.

**3.8 Arena Clear** – Should a team call for a steer before the arena is clear, and are subsequently interfered with by the steer or team still in the arena, this will not be recognized as interference and they shall NOT receive a rerun.

## SECTION 4

### LIVESTOCK

**4.1 REMOVAL FROM DRAW** - PATRIOT, or PATRIOT official(s), reserve the right to withdraw any steer from the herd at any time. Head duckers, draggers, stoppers, eliminators, unusually slow cattle and cattle that turn back into the corners shall be pulled from the herd immediately as they surface during the PATRIOT roping. Removal from draw does not result in a rerun for the team roping a steer removed from the herd. However, a rerun may be awarded if in the opinion of the producer, supported by the opinion of the Field Judge and/or officials working the roping, that a steer in question did not afford a team the opportunity to compete.

**4.1.2 INSPECTION** - Roping stock will be inspected by the producer prior to the first event. No sore, lame, sick or injured animal, or animal with defective eyesight shall be permitted in the draw at any time. Should an animal become sick or crippled during the course of the roping, that animal shall be removed from the competition immediately. Animals removed from the arena pursuant to this section shall be placed in a situation as isolated and comfortable as possible to reduce stress.

**4.2 TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK** - If a roper excessively abuses an animal by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he/she shall be disqualified and forfeit all entry fees. The Field Judge or other PATRIOT official shall immediately inform the announcer that the ropers has been disqualified and the announcer will immediately announce the disqualification due to unnecessary roughness of livestock.

**4.3 HORNWRAPS** - All Roping Stock will have horn wraps, which offer protection for both the ears and the base of the horns.

**4.4 FAILURE TO HEED WARNING** - Any contestant who fails to heed an initial warning from a Field Flagger that he/she is mistreating an animal he/she will forfeit their entry fees in all divisions for the remainder of that event.

**4.5 RUN STOPPED BY THE JUDGE** – the Field Judge may stop a run at any time he/she observes an injured animal, to remove that animal from competition. This action will result in a rerun for contestants.

**4.5.2 Visibly Injured Roping Stock** - If the roping stock is visibly injured as the run begins, including a broken horn, the team must declare themselves by pulling up immediately.

**4.6 Broken Horn** - If in the opinion of the Field Judge a non-visible broken horn existed prior to the beginning of a run, he has the option to declare a rerun. However, no rerun shall be awarded where clearly the broken horn was caused by the run itself, or if the judge suspects the broken horn occurred during the run. If run is completed and time taken, even though a broken horn is clearly visible, time shall stand and the Field Judge will remove that animal from the draw.

**4.7 RERUNS (Qualification Ropings)** –Reruns will be determined by the Field Flagger and will be offered without a request from the roper. If a Flagger does not award a rerun on a steer that a team feels did not afford them the opportunity to compete, they may ask for an explanation, but not argue or discuss the lack of rerun with the Flagger. They may immediately request a review by the roping Contractor/Producer who has the final decision on the call.

**4.8 ANIMAL ESCAPES ARENA** - If any animal escapes from the arena, flag will be dropped and time stopped. Contestants will get animal back for a lap-and-tap start (no-barrier), and time already spent will be added to time used in qualifying. If time is not recorded, the decision of the flag judge shall be final.

## SECTION 5

### JUDGING

**5.1 JUDGES CONTROL** – The field Flagger has an obligation to control the domain within the boundaries of the arena.

**5.2 JUDGES DECISION, QUESTIONING A CALL** - A contestant may request a Flagger to explain what a call was, however, this explanation is not a discussion or debate and the roper should immediately exit the arena after receiving the explanation. Any question or further discourse concerning the call should be addressed directly to the contractor/producer immediately. The decision of the field judge is **NOT** final, the event contractor or PATRIOT official after studying all the information has the right to override a call they believe is incorrect.

**5.3 SURRENDERING A RUN** - If in the opinion of the Field Judge one or both members of a team stops competing during the course of a run, the Judge has the right to stop the run and disqualify the team.

**5.4 CALLING FOR A STEER** - Steer belongs to the ropers when called for by the header. Except for mechanical failure the team accepts the situation “as is” regardless of what happens.

**5.5 DECLARING A STEER OR PULLING UP** – During the course of the run, if the roper is visibly fouled or can visibly see that he/she is, or will be fouled, he/she must declare by PULLING UP or attempting to pull up and not try to go on with the contest. If the roper does not declare by pulling, up he/she accepted the situation as it occurred.

**5.6 ROPER TOUCHES THE GROUND** - A team will be disqualified if at any time during the course of a run a roper touches the ground.

**5.7 PATRIOT QUICKSTART BARRIER** will be required at all PATRIOT events. A 5-second penalty will be added for breaking the barrier.

**5.8 HEIGHT OF ELECTRIC EYES** - Height of barrier shall be from 32 to 36 inches.

**5.9 BARRIER/TIMER MALFUNCTION** - Should a barrier/timer malfunction during the natural course of a competition either for the roper or against the roper, the Field Judge may offer the option of awarding a rerun or removing the barrier penalty.

## SECTION 6

### OTHER RULES

**6.1 ROPE METRICS CLASSIFICATIONS** - PATRIOT utilizes the ROPE METRICS classification system. Any questions, disputes, or recommendations regarding classifications, needs to go directly through the Rope Metrics Office. Patriot Producers are not authorized, and cannot physically change a ropers classification without the help of a Rope Metrics Team Member.

**6.2 SPORTSMANSHIP** - PATRIOT reserves the right to disqualify any roper who does not act in a sportsmanlike, reasonable, or professional manner. Publicly arguing or slandering (including social media of any kind) the matter beyond the final decision may be grounds for disqualification from the current event or any future events thereof.

Disqualified ropers forfeit all fees.

**6.3 RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE AND DRAW-OUT TEAMS** – PATRIOT reserves the right to refuse service or draw-out any team for inappropriate conduct, conflicts with management, or any other disputes that cannot be settled prior to an event.

**6.4 DRESS CODE – *Finale Events* - Cowboy** dress is required at all Patriot Finales. Cowboy dress is a collared shirt, cowboy boots, cowboy hat or no hat

**6.4.2 DRESS CODE – *Qualification Ropings*** - Up to Patriot Producer’s Discretion. Many factors come into play including weather, time of year, and location of event.

**6.5 PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RELEASE** - By entering a PATRIOT Finale or associated qualifying event, the Participant, contestant, independent contractor, employee, volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor and/or spectator grant permission to The Patriot Event LLC, Rope The Ozarks LLC, Jr Patriot Rodeo LLC, and its affiliated marketing entities, to use photographs, videos,

recordings and/or words said by participants in its promotional and advertising materials without notification or compensation.

**6.6 MAJOR OFFENSES** - Quarreling or fighting in the arena. Mis-treatment of livestock. Mis-representing or falsifying a classification number. Attempting to fix, bribe, threaten, influence or harass any PATRIOT official at any time, in or out of the arena, or arguing with a judge at a time when an event is in progress will automatically be disqualified, forfeit entry fees, and face potential disqualification from future events at the discretion of the PATRIOT producer.

**6.7 FAILURE TO COMPETE IN SHORT ROUND** - A team who fails to compete in any short round is automatically disqualified from the aggregate and thereby forfeits all money, prizes, related to the aggregate.

**6.8 ROPING OUT OF ORDER** – or missing a short round constitutes immediate disqualification.

**6.9 UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE**

### **PATRIOT EVENTS/JR PATRIOT RODEO**

#### **Full and Unconditional Release for Participation**

**PARTICIPANTS and THEIR PARENT and/or GUARDIAN if under age of 18, as well as any HORSE OWNER lending or renting a horse to a Participant HAVE READ AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO THE RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT** on this form and further agrees that no oral representations, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made. The Patriot Event, LLC has the right to refuse entry to anyone for any reason it deems necessary. Each participant in The Patriot Event is fully aware, completely understands, and accepts that participation in the Event, whether as a contestant, independent contractor, employee, volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor or spectator, is dangerous and that the events and activities associated with, relating to, arising out of, and concerning this participation present substantial, serious, and real risks of personal injury or death to the participant, and the loss of, damage to, or destruction of the participant's personal property including livestock.

In Consideration of being permitted to participate in, enter upon and use the Will Roger's Memorial Center, Plaza's Core Arena, and/or Horsemans Park, all its' parent and affiliated entities, and associated facilities for The Patriot Event, Jr Patriot Rodeo, and/or Event Qualifiers, the participant for himself/herself and all persons under his/her management and control including minor children, does acknowledge the dangers inherent in horse related events, and in the use of the facilities, fully and completely accepts and assumes these substantial, serious, and real risks whether or not apparent, known, unknown, foreseen, unforeseen, present, or contingent, and whether or not caused by any negligence of the Released Parties, or the negligence of any contestant, volunteer or spectator including but not limited to, any negligence associated with the design or designing, staging, supervising, maintaining or in any way presenting, conducting or sponsoring The Patriot Event, further does agree to use extraordinary care and prudence in his/her activities and those of charges, and does: **HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE** the organizers or any subdivision thereof, chairmen, agents, officials, and does;

2. **HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS** Will Roger's Memorial Center, Horseman's Park, Plaza Casino's Core Arena and all associated facilities, The Patriot Event, LLC, Rope The Ozarks, LLC, Jr Patriot Rodeo, LLC, Better Barrel Races, LLC, Rising Stars, LLC, IMBA, and IYBHA; including The Patriot Finale and all its qualifiers, its sponsors, its agents, servants, employees, and representatives from any claim, demand, or liability for personal injuries or property damage arising from participation or use and enjoyment of the events and facilities.

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** Participant, contestant, guardian, independent contractor, employee, volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor and/or spectator understands that the producers of The Patriot Event and all associated events with The Patriot Event, reserve the right to disqualify any contestant who does not act

in a sportsmanlike, reasonable, or professional manner. Publicly arguing or slandering (including social media of any kind) may be grounds for disqualification from the current event or any future events thereof.

**CANCELATION/REFUNDS:**

Shall Event be Canceled by producer for any unforeseen matter, all remaining fees paid to Patriot Event and/or Jr Patriot Rodeo, including entry and stall fees will be returned within 15 days of event cancelation. If participant chooses to cancel RV or Stall Reservation on his/her own terms, cancelation must be completed 15 or more days in advance of the event start date and the refund will be issued within 48 hours. Yearly membership dues are non-refundable. Disqualified contestants forfeit all fees and possible membership(see complete rules). Patriot Entry fees are refundable until draw has been posted.

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS:** Participant, contestant, independent contractor, employee, volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor and/or spectator grant permission to The Patriot Event LLC, Rope The Ozarks LLC, Jr Patriot Rodeo LLC, and its affiliated marketing entities, to use photographs, videos, recordings and/or words said by participants in its promotional and advertising materials without notification or compensation.

**ASSURANCES:** The participant fully understands and agrees that this Release is to be interpreted and applied in the broadest and most comprehensive manner in favor of the RELEASED PARTIES. The participant agrees that he/she has full power authority, capacity and right without limitation to sign, deliver and perform this Release. This release shall be and is binding upon the participants and his/her spouse, legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns. The participant also agrees that upon entry to any event at The Patriot Finale or its qualifying events, he or she has read and understands said agreement whether the signature has been returned or not.

SECTION 7

JR PATRIOTADDENDUM

**7.1 MEMBERSHIP** – MUST have a current Jr PatriotMembership prior to competing in any Qualifying Event.

**7.1.2 CLASSIFICATIONS-** Rope Metrics Classifications will be utilized.

**7.2 ENTERING-** Both parties must pay the \$250 side pot to be considered a valid entry.

**7.3 AGE REQUIREMENTS-** For 2020 Finale, the rules stand as for the age the contestant was on the day of the qualifying event. For 2020-2021 Qualifying Year, Must be 19 or younger on day of Finale, if wishing to advance to Finale.

**7.4 ADVANCEMENT TO FINALE-** Must compete at Finale with the partner that the qualification spot was awarded.

**7.5 NUMBER OF ADVANCEMENTS-** May Qualify up to 2x heading and 2x heeling for Finale. May only qualify one time each way with a single partner. Up and back is allowed.

**7.6 ROPE BARRIER-** Rope Barrier used at Jr Patriot Performances(Semi Finals and Finals)

**7.6.2 ELECTRIC EYE-** Electric Eyes may be used at Qualifiers and Jr Patriot Long Go

**7.7 CROSSFIRE-** Crossfire is allowed. Must have head turned and in tow. Roper may rope on first hop.

**7.8 QUALIFIER RULES-** At qualifying events, producers rules will be used. Must be minimum of 2 entries to compete in Side Pot. Must qualify a time to advance.

**7.9 JR PATRIOT #10-** To be added in 2020-2021 Season

**7.9.2 #10 Format-** #10 Point Slide, with max of #12 Point team may Enter. A .75 Second per .5 number up or down.