

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

A team will consist of two riders.

-All entries will be on three teams and go at least three times. A contestant may pick one partner for one run, the other two partners will be selected from the entered class in a random draw. A contestant will draw all three partners if a specific partner is not named. Draws are used to avoid highly skilled riders from dominating the competition.

***Day of Entries are NOT accepted! Pre-registration by August 12th, 2025 is required.**

Time available and cattle limit are the maximum number of available spots as stated below.

Riders may only enter one class of the three listed below:

OPEN CLASS: More experienced Ranch Sorters on better horses must enroll in the OPEN division. Any rider who has won at least \$500 at any previous time in any Ranch Sorting competition should ride in the OPEN class. Any age contestant may enter in the OPEN class. Class will be limited to the first 20 riders who have submitted their entry form and payment.

NOVICE CLASS: Casual and infrequent Ranch Sorters who have not won \$500 or greater in any Ranch Sorting competition should enter the NOVICE class. Beginners are welcome! Class will be limited to the first 20 riders who have submitted their entry form and payment.

YOUTH CLASS: Riders who have not reached the age of 18 on the day of the event or prior, are welcome to enter in this class. Youth who wish to ride with the adults may ride in either NOVICE or

OPEN; however, they may only enter into one class. Class will be limited to the first 20 riders who have submitted their entry form and payment.

The maximum number of riders per class may be adjusted depending on the number of entries received.

SORTING RULES

★ There will be ten cows with numbers 0 - 9 on each side of their backs in the working end of a double round pen, resembling a figure 8. Round pens are approximately 60' in diameter and connected at an opening measuring 12' to 16'. Riders will enter the pen and await the judge's direction to begin.

★ Clock starts when the first riders' horse's nose crosses the imaginary start/foul line running between the pens.

★ Judge will announce the random number of the cow that must first be sorted. That cow must be sorted first from the herd and moved to the open pen and each sequentially numbered cow must be sorted from the herd and moved to the open pen.

★ If any part of a cow that is out of numerical order crosses the start/foul line, the team will be disqualified. If any part of a sorted cow re-crosses the start/foul line, the team will be disqualified. In order to be counted as sorted, a cow's whole body must cross the start line.

★ If any part of a disqualifying cow crosses or re-enters the working end of the pens, the team is disqualified and the round ends immediately.

★ Each round will last 60 seconds or until disqualification or all 10 cows are moved in order to the open pen. If no disqualified cows have crossed the start line by the end of the specified time, the highest number of cows will be counted for competitive placing.

★There may be times where less than 10 cows are sorted in order. If all 10 cows are sorted, the last cow will be timed and the winner and subsequent placers will be determined by the lowest time expired when the last cow crossed the line. If a team sorts less than 10 cows, then the last sorted cow's time will determine placings.

★Disqualified rides will result in no time, regardless of the number of cows sorted prior to the disqualification. For example, if a team has sorted 7 cows and then is disqualified with a wrong numbered cow within the time limit, that team would finish lower than a team that sorted 5 cows in order with no wrong numbered cows in the time period. It is permissible to stop sorting anytime and hold cattle already sorted until the clock runs out.

★Two or more cows crossing the start/foul line will be counted in the order their noses cross the start/foul line and will be considered crossing when the entire body of the cow crosses the line regardless of order. If the entire cow has not crossed the line when time expires, that cow will not be counted. Dead heats will be considered to have crossed in the proper order.

★Abuse of cattle or horses will be cause for disqualification for the run without refund of entry fees.

★Contact with cattle by ropes, bats, hands, or equipment will disqualify the rider for that run. Shouting at the cattle is permissible.

★If a rider falls off of his or her horse, the rider may remount and continue but may not sort from the ground.

★ In each class the top ten teams by number of cows sorted and time expired for the last cow in the event of a tie in number of cows sorted will advance to the Finals Round. It is possible for a rider to advance to the Finals on one, two or three teams. The number of cows sorted/best times in the Finals Round will determine the winning team whose members will each receive buckles and prize money. Prize money will be awarded to teams finishing in the top four places as well as fastest time for the event for each class.

TIMES

The arena will be available for warm up at **4:30pm**. Only registered riders may enter the Arena on horseback other than guardians of youth riders. The event begins at **5:30 pm**.

REPLACEMENTS

Prior to the start of competition, in the event that a registered rider is unable to compete at the event, the replaced entrant will come from the waiting list. The registered rider must notify the Fair Officials of them being unable to compete by 11:59 PM on August 10th, 2025 via email to fairgrounds@bonnercountyid.gov. Those who turn out prior to 11:59 PM on Sunday August 10th will receive a 50% refund, to be approved by the Fair Board. The refund will not be issued immediately. Those who turn out after 11:59 PM on August 10th will not receive a refund.

After the event begins and if a contestant does not appear at the time of the run, the other team member may elect to sort alone or have the judge appoint a substitute teammate at the judge's discretion. The judge-appointed teammate will be of the same class as the replaced rider and not otherwise have been a partner of the remaining rider that day.

All rule revisions will be announced in the Arena before the event, all Judge's decisions are final