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## GALVESTON COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

[rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com](mailto:rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com)

[www.gcfrrs@gmail.com](http://www.gcfrrs@gmail.com)

## **2026 RULES FOR SUMMER SERIES**

### **Dates for Summer 2026**

**June 3,4,10,11,17,18,24,25 & July 8,9,15,16 WITH 22,23 FOR (make-up)**

**Banquet on TBD**

### **Contestant Eligibility:**

Contestants or contestants' parent/legal guardian, or immediate family must be a current GCF&R or Summer Series MEMBER to be eligible to compete in the GCF&R Summer Series. Immediate family is defined by residing in the same household. Annual membership fees are \$55 per family per year, beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> and ending May 31.

A NON- MEMBER (someone only coming to run without competing for prizes) may purchase an entry PERMIT for \$15 per week plus entry fees for each event entered.

### **ELIGIBILITY: PAPERWORK/REGISTRATION**

THE FOLLOWING PAPERWORK MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE PARTICIPANT'S FIRST RUN:

- **Registration form** (1 per family)
- **Registration fee - \$55** (1 per family, waived for current fair members)
- **Medical/waiver form** (1 per participant)
- **Birth Certificate** – a copy of the child's birth certificate must be turned in at the time of registration.
- **Current negative Coggins** documentation must be submitted at time of registration for verification. Note: the GCF&R Summer Series committee reserves the right to verify Coggins documentation against horses at any time.
- **W-9 form** must be filled out (including accurate social security numbers) and submitted for all contestants. In addition, the form must be filed and held at the fair office for end of series accounting and tax purposes. (Note: W-9 not required for Pee-Wee participants.)
- **Signed Rules Acknowledgement**
- **Signed GCF&R SS Code of Conduct**

***Note: It is required that ALL paperwork be submitted online at the time of registration. WE REQUIRE ALL DOCUMENTS TURNED IN BEFORE PARTICIPANT'S FIRST RUN!***

Ages for the events will be determined as of the first day of Summer Series (June 3, 2026). Contestants must have been born between **6/5/2007 and 6/5/2024** to be eligible to compete. Contestants must be currently enrolled in K-12 or have graduated **in June 2026**. (If the contestant has already graduated, then he or she must be a graduate of the current school year and be 19 or under.) Contestants must not be married. A minor's release will be required and must be signed by at least one parent or legal guardian. If a member of the participant's immediate family is a current member of the Galveston County Fair & Rodeo, then they are exempt from paying the registration fee.

## AWARDS, POINTS & REQUIREMENTS

*Contestants competing in Mutton Bustin, Sub-Junior, Junior, or Senior categories:*

A 100-point system will be used for points each week. Points will be given as follows:

1st place = 100 points	2nd place = 90 points	3rd place = 80 points
4th place = 70 points	5th place = 60 points	6th place = 50 points
7th place = 40 points	8th place = 30 points	9th place = 20 points
10th place = 10 points	any place below 11th and no times = no points	

IN CASE OF A TIE:

The following procedure will be used to break the tie:

1. The contestant who has won the most 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. will be the winner.
2. The fastest average time in that event for the summer will be the winner.
3. The contestant participating in the greatest number of weeks in that event will be the winner.

### **EVENT AWARDS:**

The number of awards given in each event is based on the number of eligible contestants in that event.

The number of awards given is as follows:

1-4 contestants -----1<sup>st</sup> place will be awarded

5-9 contestants -----1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> will be awarded

10-14 contestants -----1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded

15-19 contestants -----1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> will be awarded

20-29 contestants -----1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> will be awarded

### **ALL AROUND AWARDS:**

There will be three (3) All Around awards given for Group 1 (SPEED) and Group 2 (ROPING)

The divisions will be based on the following age groups:

\*Sub-Jr (ages 8-10)

\*Junior (ages 11-13)

\*Senior (ages 14-19)

To be eligible for an All Around Award, Group 1 contestants must compete in ALL three (3) events and Group 2 contestants must compete in three (3) or more events (all 5 weeks must be in the same 3 events).

The point system and participation requirements will remain the same as described for event champions. All eligible points will be tallied across the entire series and ranked by age division.

Contestants **must participate in five (5) out of six (6) Wednesday / Thursday nights in EACH particular event** and have all required paperwork turned **in NO LATER THAN WEEK 2** to be eligible for **ANY AWARDS** including participation awards.

**Note: Only five (5) of the six (6) nights will apply toward points; if a participant enters all six (6) nights, then the top five (5) times in each event will apply toward award points.**

Group 2 may enter to run twice in each event each week. There will be no opportunity to run twice in a Group 1 event. A contestant must have a time to receive an award. In the roping events, the contestant must have caught at least once to receive a year-end award

#### **AWARDS BANQUET**

The awards banquet will take place at the end of the season, date TBD. Participants will receive **ONE** free dinner plate; all others are invited to attend and eat for **\$20 per plate**. Note: You **DO NOT** need to purchase a plate to attend. Tickets will be pre-sale only so no meals will be purchased night of banquet (no ticket no plate).

**PRE-ENTRY IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO AVOID LATE FEE OF \$25 PER CONTESTANT PER RODEO. PRE-ENTRY WILL OPEN FRIDAY BEFORE THE WEEK OF RODEO AND BOOKS WILL CLOSE FOR PRE-ENTRY TUESDAY AT 10 P.M. for WEDNESDAYS RODEO AND WILL CLOSE WEDNESDAY AT 10P.M. FOR THURSDAYS RODEO.**

**IF PRE-ENTERED AND PRE-PAID YOU DO NOT HAVE TO CHECK IN. NO SHOW NO REFUND OR FORWARDING TO NEXT WEEK.**

GENERAL RULES

1. There will be **NO PROTESTS!**
2. No contestant may compete in two (2) different age groups. Registration paperwork **MUST** be completed by Parents/Guardians for minors. All paperwork is to be uploaded online at the time of registration. The GCF&R Summer Series offers four age groups (age as of the first day of Summer Series):

<b>Ages:</b>	2-8	8-10	11-13	14-19
<b>Dates:</b>	6/5/2018-6/5/2024	6/5/2016-6/5/2018	6/5/2013-6/5/2015	6/5/2007-6/5/2012
<b>Groups:</b>	Pee-Wee	Sub Junior	Junior	Senior

3. Contestants in the 2-8 age group are eligible to win prizes in the Pee-Wee category
4. The decision of the judges, flagman and/or arena officials is **FINAL! THERE WILL BE NO PROTEST. ALL JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT OR SUGGESTION, PLEASE CONTACT GCF&RSS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (RONNIE COOLEY), OR RODEO SUPERINTENDENT (WADE HUNT).**  
All event rules will be determined by the GCF&R Summer Series Committee.
5. Parents **DO NOT** work any of our equipment (Barriers, chutes, gates etc.) unless on committee or have approval of Committee Chairman (Ronnie Cooley), or Rodeo Superintendent (Wade Hunt)
6. No parents will help with mugging (**ONLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS OR SENIOR CONTESTANTS**)
7. NO PARENTS ALLOWED IN ARENA TO WORK (BUT ONLY ALLOWED TO BE IN DESIGNATED AREA) UNLESS APPROVAL FROM CHAIRMAN, OR RODEO SUPER. ONLY EVENTS PARENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ASSIST WITH IS POLES AND BARRELS AND CHUTE BREAK AWAY (PARENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE IN AREA TO ASSIST YOUR CHILD)
8. A copy of negative Coggins paperwork for EACH animal must be on the person at all times while on GCF&R grounds. You are subject to verification at any time and may be asked to present. Failure to present when asked could result in participant disqualification.
9. During an event, only contestants entered, assigned workers /committee members will be allowed in the arena, behind the bucking chutes, or ally way. (unless approved through chairman / rodeo super)
10. Contestants must compete in their appropriate age group. Contestants will be allowed to ride up one age group BUT must compete **only** in that age group for the **entire series**.
11. GCF&RSS does reserve the right to modify or change rules deemed necessary. Any changes will be announced, so there is no confusion. If there are any questions regarding rules, points, etc... Please speak to Chairman/Rodeo Super after the rodeo they welcome any questions or concerns.
12. All event rules will be determined by the GCF&RSS Committee
13. Horses may run through the center alley for speed events only.
14. Know the line-up and be ready to run when it is your turn. When your name is called, you will have no more than **sixty (60) seconds** to enter the arena from the first call. If your name is called **three (3)** times and you are not in the arena, you will be scratched and not allowed to participate in that event that night.  
**No refunds will be given for missed runs or forwarded to next week.**
15. There will be NO ALCOHOL allowed on the premises during the Summer Series! Any youth caught with alcoholic beverages or tobacco products including vapes will be disqualified and barred from the summer series. Any adult caught with alcohol will be asked to leave immediately.
16. Any child or parent that displays poor sportsmanship will be asked to leave.
17. No checks accepted. (Exception: Checks will be accepted for Sponsorships only.)
18. If horse, rider, or stock enters the gate at catch pen during a run, it is a "No time".
19. NO LEADING OF HORSES IS ALLOWED past the starting line in speed events

20. There will be a sixty (60) second time limit on all events.
21. No horses tied ANYWHERE on the alleyway fence
22. No sitting, climbing, standing on the alleyway fence
23. All barrel & poles patterns as well as the timers in the arena will be set via stakes by the GCF&RSS Committee. Set measurements of the pattern as confirmed by the committee will be on hand.
24. Group 2 events may be entered a maximum of two (2) paid runs each week. The best time from the two runs in each event for that night will be recorded. **MUST BE PAID BY 6:30P.M. NIGHT OF RIDE! THERE WILL BE NO ADDING AFTER BOOKS CLOSE! NO EXCEPTIONS!**
25. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED/HIGHLY ENCOURAGED BY 10PM. THE TUESDAY BEFORE WEDNESDAY'S EVENT AND WEDNESDAY BEFORE THURSDAY'S EVENT. IF REGISTERING THE DAY OF A \$25 LATE FEE WILL BE ADDED PER CONTESTANT.**
26. Credit card payment (pre-pay) needs to be sent weekly each week, unless paying for all 5-6 weeks in full
27. There will be no refunds or forwarding pay to the following weeks if you don't show after registering.
28. **ONLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS MAY PARK INSIDE THE FAIRGROUNDS (WITHIN THE FENCE LINE) NO TRAILERS EXCEPT COMMITTEE MEMBERS!**
29. **No one may cross the alleyway except during tractor drags when arena gate is closed**
30. **No-one will participate without a medical release filled out BEGINNING WEEK 1 (we MUST have this before you ride in arena) you will not be allowed to compete/ride if we don't have this on file.)**

### **3. DRESS CODE:**

1. No hats or caps will be worn during events. Safety helmets are allowed. If hats/caps are worn points will be deducted.
2. Shirts with sleeves long or short (no alterations, halter, tank or sleeveless) while competing. Long pants and heeled footwear are required! Questionable attire will be left to the committee's judgement.

#### **4. DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

A contestant may be disqualified from the current rodeo and or entire Summer Series for the following:

4.1 Failure to comply with GCF&R SS rules

4.2 Falsification of name, age, sex/gender, or signature of parent

4.3 Cheating or attempting to cheat

4.4 Failure to follow the GCF&R SS member code of conduct Adult/Child

4.5 Contestant or contestant's family causing any unnecessary disturbance or exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct, such as, quarreling with officials or using profanity on GCF&R grounds/ social media will be asked to leave.

4.6 Consumption of alcohol, tobacco/vapes or drugs on GCF&R grounds at any time by parent/child

4.7 Contestant not present and or ready when called to compete. After the contestant's name is called 3 times it will be assumed that the contestant is not present and will be given a no-time and no refund or pay forward.

4.8 Leading a contestant in an event other than the Lead Line event will not receive a recorded time, placing or points, since the leader has control over the speed of the run.

## EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

### PEE-WEE

Contestants must be between 2-8 years of age. (Birthdate between 6/5/2018 – 6/5/2024).

#### **A. LEADLINE**

1. Contestants must be led.  
(Person leading the contestant must be 16 years old or older.)
2. Patterns will be straights.
3. No tying or taping child into saddle will be allowed

#### **B. RIBBON PULLING**

1. Stock
  - a) Goat will be staked with rope five feet in length.
  - b) Goats shall be held at the end of the rope facing the contestant and released when the contestant crosses the starting line.
2. Arena
  - a) Stake is to be driven into ground so that none of it is visible.
  - b) Goat is to be staked 15 feet from the starting line.
3. Time
  - a) Time will start when the contestant crosses the starting line and stops when contestant pulls the ribbon from the goat and crosses back over the starting line.
  - b) Contestants must have a ribbon in hand to receive time.
  - c) Sixty (60) second time limit.

#### **Mutton Bustin – AGES 3-7 no more than 65lbs**

1. May choose to use rigging or may grab wool
2. May use one or two hands
3. Must ride for 4 seconds for a qualified ride
4. Must ride 5 out of 6 rodeos
5. Mutton Bustin is an awarded event and will follow the same guidelines as the awards point requirements

#### ***Contestants competing in Pee-Wee categories:***

Contestants will receive weekly times, but no points will be given. Contestants must compete in five (5) out of six (6) Thursday nights in **both** Pee-Wee events (Lead-line and Ribbon Pulling) to receive buckles. Mutton Bustin contestants must compete in 5 out of 6 Wednesday night rodeos to qualify for awards.

## GROUP 1

### A. STRAIGHT BARRELS

- No barrel may be closer than twenty (20) feet from any arena fence.
- First barrel must be twenty (20) feet from starting line.
- There is sixty (60) feet between barrels.
- Location must be permanently marked each week.
- Barrels must be easily seen by horse and rider.
- All barrels are to be INSIDE of stake.
  
- No taping or tying child into saddle

### PATTERN

- a) Contestants will start from behind the starting line.
- b) Pattern may be ran to the right or to the left of the first barrel then continue the figure eight pattern. ALL FORWARD MOTION.

#### 1. TIME

- a) Time starts when contestant crosses the starting line and stops when he/she crosses it again after completing pattern.
- b) No reruns or restarts on broken patterns.

#### 2. PENALTIES

- a) There will be a +5 second penalty for each barrel knocked over.
- b) A knocked over barrel that stands back up again on its other end will still be considered a knocked over barrel.

#### 3. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF

- a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
- b) Contestant breaks the pattern.
- c) Contestant stops forward motion or backs.
- d) Contestant does not remain mounted for the entire run.
- e) Contestant crosses starting line during run.

Note: Any broken pattern called by the judge shall result in the rider immediately exiting the arena for that event. There will be no re-rides for a broken pattern.

### B. CLOVERLEAF BARRELS

- The barrels may be placed by the management at distances that conform with the arena conditions, as decided by the arena director, but no closer than fifteen (15) feet off any fence.
- Location must be permanently marked each week.
- Barrels must be easily seen by horse and rider.
- All barrels are to be INSIDE of stake.

1. PATTERN
  - a) Contestants will start from behind the starting line.
  - b) Patterns may be ran to the right or to the left.
  - c) Contestant will run around the first barrel, then around second barrel, and continue around barrel three and finish by crossing the starting line on the way back. ALL FORWARD MOTION.
  
2. TIME
  - a) Time starts when contestant crosses starting line and stops when he/she crosses it again after completing pattern.
  - b) No reruns or restarts on broken patterns.
  
3. PENALTIES
  - a) There will be a +5 second penalty for each barrel knocked over.
  - b) A knocked over barrel that stands back up again on its other end will still be considered a knocked over barrel.
  
4. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF
  - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
  - b) Contestant breaks the pattern.
  - c) Contestant stops forward motion or backs.
  - d) Contestant does not remain mounted for the entire run.
  - e) Contestant crosses starting line during run.

Note: Any broken pattern called by the judge shall result in the rider immediately exiting the arena or that event. There will be no re-rides for a broken pattern.

### **C. POLE BENDING**

- The first pole is to be twenty-one (21) feet from the starting line.
  - Each of the poles are to be twenty-one (21) feet apart.
  - Location must be permanently marked each week.
  - Poles must be mounted on a flexible base.
  - Poles must be six (6) feet tall from base to top of pole.
  - All poles are to be to the SIDE of stake.
1. PATTERN
    - a) Contestants will start from behind the starting line.
    - b) Pattern may be ran to the right or to the left of the first pole and then continued accordingly. ALL FORWARD MOTION.
  
  2. TIME
    - a) Time starts when contestant crosses starting line and stops when he/she crosses it again after completing pattern.
    - b) No reruns or restarts on broken patterns.
  
  3. PENALTIES
    - a) There will be a +5 second penalty for each pole knocked over.

4. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF
  - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
  - b) Contestant breaks the pattern.
  - c) Contestant stops forward motion or backs.
  - d) Contestant does not remain mounted for the entire run.
  - e) Contestant crosses starting line during run.

Note: Any broken pattern called by the judge shall result in the rider immediately exiting the arena for that event. There will be no re-rides for a broken pattern.

## GROUP 2

### A. GOAT TYING

- Contestant must be mounted on a horse.
  - Contestant must use leather string or pigging string.
1. STOCK
    - a) A goat shall be staked with a rope ten (10) feet in length.
    - b) Goat will be changed every five (5) contestants.
    - c) A goat shall be held at end of rope facing contestant and released when contestant crosses starting line (and flag is dropped).
  2. ARENA
    - a) Stake is to be driven into ground so that none of it is visible.
    - b) Goat is to be staked 105 feet from the starting line.
    - c) Gates are to be closed after the contestant enters the arena.
  3. PROCEDURE
    - a) Contestants will ride from the starting line to goat, dismount, and throw goat by hand. Goat must be cleared. If goat is down when contestant reaches it, it must be cleared to the satisfaction of the judge and thrown by hand.
    - b) Contestant will cross and tie any three (3) feet together with leather string or pigging string. A legal tie will include one or more wraps and a half hitch or tie.
    - c) Contestant will stand clear of goat.
    - d) Goat must remain tied for at least five (5) seconds.  
\*ONLY COMMITTEE OR CONTESTANT CAN FLIP
  4. TIME
    - a) Time starts when mounted contestant has crossed the starting line and will stop when flag judge signals the end of the tie.
    - b) Goat must remain tied for at least 5 seconds. This time starts when contestant has moved at least three (3) feet away from goat and rope.
    - c) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.
  5. PENALTIES
    - a) There will be a +10 second penalty if the horse or rider hit the goat rope while still mounted.
    - b) A contestant is considered mounted until both feet are on the ground.

6. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF
  - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
  - b) The goat does not remain tied for 5 seconds.
  - c) The tie is ruled illegal.
  - d) The goat is not cleared.
  - e) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.

### **CHUTE BREAKAWAY ROPING**

- Contestants must be 8 - 10
- No horses will be used.
- Contestant must furnish his or her own rope with flag attached at end of rope.
- Rope will be tied to chute with breakaway string.
- Parent can be in the box with child, but CAN NOT leave box area until child is done

#### 1. STOCK

- a) Calves will be chute ran.

#### 2. PROCEDURE

- a) Contestants will signal for calf by nodding his or her head at the gate person.
- b) Calf will start out of chute and contestant will try to rope calf around the neck.
- c) A legal catch is any loop that passes over the entire head of the calf and breaks the string, does not have to be bell collar catch.

#### TIME

- d) Time starts when calf breaks the plane at the end of the chute. Flagman will start time.
- e) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.

#### 3. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF

- a) Roper fails to rope calf.
- b) Roper breaks string with his or her hand.
- c) Lost or broken rope.

### **B. BREAKAWAY ROPING**

- A legal head catch is around the neck only
- The rope must be tied with string to the saddle horn.
- A rag or handkerchief of contrasting color to rope color must be attached to rope at the horn.
- ONLY ONE LOOP may be used.
- CALF must break string.
- When string breaks from horn it must be visible to flagman.
- Back gate will be open.

#### 1. TIME

- a) Time is between barrier flag and field judge.
- b) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.

2. PENALTIES
  - a) There will be a +10 second penalty for breaking the barrier.
3. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF
  - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
  - b) Roper fails to rope calf.
  - c) Roper breaks string with his or her hand.
  - d) Contestant is not mounted when calf breaks string.
  - e) Lost or broken rope.
  - f) Rope goes on calf before neck rope comes off.
  - g) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.
  - h) If calf enters catch pen before the string breaks.
4. RE-RUN
  - a) If contestant does not ask for a calf, he must stop his horse as soon as possible without throwing his or her rope and a re-run will be given. If contestant throws his rope, it will forfeit the re-run.
  - b) Contestants can be fouled at barrier by calf neck barrier ONLY. If contestant is fouled, the roper must pull up immediately without throwing his or her loop.

#### E. TIE DOWN CALF ROPING

- Only one (1) loop will be permitted.
- Catch as catch can with rope from horse but rope must hold calf until roper has his hands on the calf.
- **DEFINITION: Catch as Catch can – the rope must go around the neck and catch any part of the body**
- Contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from dragging calf.
- **ONLY committee members, or other Senior contestant may mug/throw the calf if needed; however, the contestant must take over once the calf is thrown. There will be a 10-second penalty applied for assistance.**
- Rope must be tied hard and fast.
- After roping calf, roper must dismount, go down rope, throw calf by hand, cross and tie any three feet.
- A legal tie shall consist of one or more wraps and a half hitch with at least one wrap around all three feet.
- - if calf is down when roper reaches it, it must be daylighted or rolled over and be thrown by hand.
- If roper's hand is on the calf when calf falls, it is considered thrown by hand.
- Tie must hold until passed on by the judge and roper must not touch the calf after finishing signal until judge has completed his examination.
- The field judge will pass on the tie, timing six (6) seconds from the time the roping horse takes his first step forward after roper has remounted and put slack in the rope. IN THE EVENT A CONTESTANT'S CATCH ROPE IS OFF THE CALF AFTER THE COMPLETEION OF THE TIE, THE SIX (6) SECOND TIME PERIOD IS TO START WHEN THE ROPER CLEARS THE CALF.
- Rope will not be removed from calf and rope must remain slack until field judge has passed tie.
- Contestant must compete on calf drawn.
- Neck rope mandatory, keeper optional.
- Catch gate will be open.

5. OFFICIALS

- a) Two (2) or more timekeepers
- b) One (1) field judge with stopwatch.
- c) One (1) barrier judge.

6. TIME

- a) Time is between barrier flag and field judge.
- b) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.

7. PENALTIES

- a) There will be a +10 second penalty for breaking the barrier.
- b) There will be a +10 second penalty applied for assistance mugging/throwing a calf

8. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF

- a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
- b) Roper fails to rope calf.
- c) Lost or broken rope.
- d) Rope goes on calf before neck rope comes off.
- e) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.
- f) The tie comes loose, or calf gets up before the time is ruled fair.
- g) The tie is ruled illegal
- h) There is any intentional dragging of the calf

**F. RIBBON MUGGING**

- While calf is in chute, a short length of ribbon must be fastened to the tail head of calf.
- It will be up to the contestant to secure a mugger. **MUGGER MAY BE ONLY COMMITTEE OR OTHER SR. CONTESTANT.**
- After the calf is roped, only the roper/runner can remove the ribbon from the calf's tail and run back across the flag line for a time.
- The flag line will be determined by the judge.
- If the ribbon is removed on the chute side of the flag line, runner must cross flag line to signal time.
- Roper/runner must hand ribbon to the judge immediately after the run.
- Catch as catch can with rope mounted on horse. Rope must hold calf until ribbon is removed or until the roper or mugger has his hands on the calf. Roper or mugger must have hands on calf if rope comes off.
- **DEFINITION – CATCH AS CATCH CAN – ROPE HAS TO GO AROUND NECK AND CATCH ANY PART OF BODY.**
- Neck rope or keeper must be used.
- Mugger must remove roper's horse from the arena.
- Catch gate will be open.

1. TIME

- a) Time is between barrier flag and field judge.
- b) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.

2. PENALTIES

- a) There will be a +10 second penalty for breaking the barrier.

3. DISQUALIFICATION AND “NO TIME” IF
    - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
    - b) Roper fails to rope calf.
    - c) Contestant receives assistance during the run from someone other than the mugger.
    - d) Mugger removes ribbon.
    - e) Rope does not hold calf until roper or mugger has hands on calf.
    - f) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.
  4. RE-RUN
    - a) If contestant does not ask for a calf, he must stop his horse as soon as possible without throwing his or her rope and a re-run will be given. If contestant throws his rope, it will forfeit the re-run.
    - b) Contestants can be fouled at barrier by calf neck barrier ONLY. If contestant is fouled, the roper must pull up immediately without throwing his or her loop.
    - c) If there is no ribbon on the calf’s tail and the runner calls attention to that fact immediately.
    - d) Any penalties incurred during the original run will be added to re-run time.
- G. BREAKAWAY STEER ROPING – No contestants are allowed in the arena until your turn to rope if you have to be told more than once you will be disqualified.**
- A legal catch is:**
- Around the horns
  - Around the neck
  - Half head
  - When string breaks
  - The rope must be tied with string & flagging to the saddle horn.
  - A rag or handkerchief of contrasting color to rope color must be attached to rope at the horn.
  - Contestant must stay mounted until steer breaks string.
  - ONLY ONE LOOP may be used.
  - STEER must break string.
  - String must be obtained from line judge.
  - Back gate will be open.
1. TIME
    - a) Time is between barrier flag and field judge.
    - b) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.
  2. PENALTIES
    - a) There will be a +10 second penalty for breaking the barrier.
  3. DISQUALIFICATION AND “NO TIME” IF
    - a) Contestant commits any offense listed in rules.
    - b) Roper fails to rope steer.
    - c) Roper breaks string with his or her hand.
    - d) Contestant is not mounted when steer breaks string.
    - e) Lost or broken rope.
    - f) Rope goes on calf before neck rope comes off.
    - g) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.
    - h) If steer enters catch pen before the string breaks.

4. RE-RUN

- a) If the contestant does not ask for calf, he must stop his horse as soon as possible without throwing his or her rope and a re-run will be given. If the contestant throws his rope, it will forfeit the re-run.
- b) Contestants can be fouled at barrier by calf neck barrier ONLY. If contestant is fouled, the roper must pull up immediately without throwing his or her loop.

**TEAM ROPING**

- May head once and heel once
- No courtesies **MUST HAVE A PARTNER**
- 1 head run & 1 heel run may count for points
- Roper is permitted one rope; each team is allowed two (2) loops total.
- Contestants are not allowed to change catch by rubbing rope over horn or nose by hand to attempt to make a bad catch legal.
- Loops may be changed by fishing only.
- Header of team **MUST** come from behind the barrier.
- Animals must be on their feet when roped by either end.
- Steer will be chute run
- **HEADER MUST DALLY AND HEELER MAY BE TIED OFF IF UNDER 14 YEARS OF AGE. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Gates will be open.

1. LEGAL HEAD CATCHES:

- a) Around the horns
- b) Around the neck
- c) Half a head

2. LEGAL HEEL CATCHES:

- a) Any heel catch behind both shoulders is legal if rope comes on from around the heels.
- b) Dew claw catches are legal if rope holds for flagger inspection.

3. OFFICIALS

- a) Two (2) or more timekeepers
- b) One (1) field judge with stopwatch.
- c) One (1) barrier judge.

4. TIME

- a) Time is between the barrier flag and field judge when steer is roped on both ends in a direct line and horse is on all fours. Horses facing steer in an "L" or better, with rope tightly dallied.
- b) There will be a sixty (60) second time limit.

5. PENALTIES

- a) There will be a +10 second penalty for breaking the barrier.
- b) There will be a +5 second penalty for catching only one heel.

6. DISQUALIFICATION AND "NO TIME" IF

- a) Either contestant commits any offense listed in the rules.
- b) Animal is not on its feet when roped by either end.

- c) Using more than two (2) loops per team.
  - d) Failure to head steer before heeling.
  - e) Lost or broken rope.
  - f) Either contestant dismounts during contest run.
  - g) Front foot in heel catch.
  - h) Header fails to catch.
  - i) There is any intentional abuse to the livestock.
  - j) CROSSFIRING: THIS CONSISTS OF ROPING THE HEEL OF THE STEER BEFORE ITS DIRECTION HAS CHANGED. Direction of the steer must be changed by the header and in a forward motion.
  - k) If steer enters the catch pen before being flagged it is considered a no time.
7. RE-RUN
- a) If contestant does not ask for steer, he must stop his horse as soon as possible without throwing his or her rope and a re-run will be given. If contestant throws his rope, it will forfeit the re-run.
  - b) Contestant can be fouled at barrier by neck barrier ONLY. If contestant is fouled, the roper must pull up immediately without throwing his or her loop.

# Galveston County Fair & Rodeo Summer Series

*Cultivating the youth of today into Champions of tomorrow*

2026 Summer Series Dates	Awards Banquet Date
June 3,4,10,11,17,18,24,25 & July 9,10,16, 17, (22,23 Make-up)	TBD

**Rules:** 2026 rules are available on the GCF&RSS Website at [rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com](mailto:rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com) , on the table each week of the summer series in the binder, and /or a copy will be provided to you upon request. It is your responsibility to know the Summer Series rules regarding work points for the arena and concession stand. Feel free to contact office staff at [rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com](mailto:rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com)

**NO REFUNDS of fees or memberships after you enter without a vet or doctor's excuse/release.**

By my signature, we have read and understand the rules and amended rules for the 2026 Galveston County Fair and Rodeo Summer Series. A complete set of rules can be found on our website at [rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com](mailto:rodeo@galvestoncountyfair.com) or can be provided upon request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contestant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian/Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dat

# Galveston County Fair and Rodeo Summer Series

## *Code of Conduct*

I understand that I am here to participate and have fun, and to better myself and others around me. My attitude and behavior as well as my participation to the fullest of my abilities are key ingredients for everyone to have a positive experience in this Summer Series.

I agree to meet these expectations and realize if I do participate in any of the following it could result in disqualification or removal from grounds. I understand I could also be barred from the GCF&RSS and grounds.

I will not:

- Hurt others including feelings / body
- Harass or Bully others
- Use physical violence
- Use inappropriate language (profanity)
- Bringing a weapon on the grounds
- Cheating / lying
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Quarreling with officials
- Consumption of alcohol
- Tobacco / vapes /drugs

Failure to comply with GCF&R SS rules and Code of Conduct will result in removal / disqualification from the **2026** GCF&RSS.

WORKING AS A TEAM ALLOWS EVERYONE TO SUCCEED!!!

Please sign below acknowledging your understanding of the Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contestant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date