

# 2024 EVANSTON RODEO SERIES

## 30TH ANNIVERSARY

### NEWSLETTER + RULES

THIS YEAR we will have three rodeo weekends in Evanston. The dates are:

**JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup>**

THE EVANSTON RODEO SERIES is governed by rules and regulations. We ask you as contestants to please read the 2024 Newsletter and understand that by signing the release form, you are agreeing to abide by the rules set forth in the newsletter.

After having to cancel the 2023 season due to the construction of the new bleachers and arena, we are excited to kick off our 30th anniversary and a new era of the Evanston Rodeo Series with our new facility. This season we have contracted Diamond H Rodeo as our Stock Contractor for all three weekends, We will be making some changes to our events, to more coincide with Diamond H Rodeo format. Diamond H will be keeping points for their year-end awards, and in doing so the Evanston Rodeo Series will not be awarding year end prizes. In lieu of year end prizes, we will be increasing the added money in every event. The changes to our events will be as follows; we will continue to have two team roping divisions. This year there will be a #10 & an #13 division. We will continue to allow each contestant to enter up to four times in the divisions that they qualify for. The Evanston Rodeo Series is pleased to announce that for the first time in our history we will be including the Steer Wrestling event. The ERS will continue to have all the other events that we have held in the past including our three Jr. events. We will also continue to have two slack performances one on Friday night after the rodeo performance and one on Saturday afternoon. Be sure to check our website for details.



**1. ENTRIES** - Entries will be taken at our new numbers 307-708-5511 or 307-708-5512. Rough stock entries will be taken on the Monday four days before each rodeo, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM and timed event entries will be taken on Tuesday from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Callbacks for rough stock will be Tuesday from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We will be taking entries on a first come first serve basis, except bull riding. Bull Riding will be drawn. You will only be allowed to enter yourself and one other person for any of the events in the rodeo performances, although you may enter multiple entries for the slack performances. We will try to accommodate contestants as much as possible.

We will also be taking entries for timed event slack on Monday night. If you want to be in the show, you **MUST** enter on Tuesday night.

**2. ENTRY FEES - CASH & CREDIT CARDS ONLY, NO CHECKS** - Entry fees for the Friday rodeo performance can be paid starting at 5:30 PM. Saturday slack can be paid starting at 2:00 pm. Entry fees must be paid 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the performance. Rough stock may be sold if the entry fees are not paid by that time. All contestants must pay before they will be allowed to participate. The Evanston Rodeo Series will be accepting credit cards for entry fees and any other fees. There will be an additional 3.5% service charge for each credit card transaction.

**3. ELIGIBILITY** - To be eligible in any event for payouts the contestant needs to enter on the entry day, including alternates. Alternates for rough stock will be drawn from the contestants who enter but are not successful in drawing stock for the performance. These alternates will have the first option on turned-out stock. The ERS will require that all people behind the bucking chutes and within a restricted area, including the arena, must sign a release form, and be dressed in full western attire. Western attire includes: Long sleeve shirts, western hat, pants, and western boots. This includes warming up in the arena one hour before the start of the performance. Each paid contestant will be eligible to receive 1 companion pass. The companion pass can be used for chute help or admission to the rodeo for that performance only.

**4. REGISTRATION AND RELEASE FORM** - We are asking each contestant to fill out a release form. With this form we will be able to update our records and protect the ERS in the event someone gets hurt. If the participant is a minor, under 18 years of age, there is a place on the release form for parental consent and notary. **It is the contestants responsibility to have this form notarized. If the registration form is not notarized it will be returned for you to complete.** This completed form is essential to allow participants in the restricted areas. Please note the scholarship donation fund portion on your registration form. These donations will go toward scholarships at the last rodeo. Any donations will be appreciated.

**5. ORDER OF EVENTS** - The order of events in the rodeo will be as follows: Jr. Steer Riding, Tie Down Roping, Bareback, Ladies Breakaway, Jr. Breakaway, Steer Wrestling, 1st section Bull Riding, #10 Team Roping, Saddle Bronc, #13 Barrels, Jr. Barrels, #13 Team Roping, 2nd section Bull Riding. The order is subject to change according to the number of entries and the activities during the performance.

**6. SLACK** - Friday night slack will start at approximately 9:30 PM. Entry fees for Friday night slack must be paid 30 minutes prior to the start of the event and no later than 10:00 PM. **No one will be allowed to participate without first paying fees.** The order of slack is as follows: 1st-Open Barrels, Jr Barrels, followed by the Ladies Breakaway, Jr. Breakaway, and Tie Down Roping which will be determined by the number of entries, then followed by the #10 and #13 Team Roping. (There will be no rough stock slack). We will also have Saturday afternoon slack starting at **3:00pm** the order of events in Saturday slack will be the same as the Friday night slack.

**7. PENALTIES - TURN OUTS** - Please be ready to participate when your name is announced. There will only be (3) three calls to perform. If a contestant does not acknowledge the third call, he or she will be disqualified. You will not be allowed to take your run later. **No exceptions!** If a contestant in the timed event has a dispute with a judge's decision, that dispute needs to be brought to the attention of the judge immediately. Immediately is interpreted to mean before the end of the performance of which the infraction occurred. This dispute has to be brought to the judge by the contestant that has the dispute. If the dispute has not been addressed by the end of the event in that performance, then the judge's decision is final. Fouls in the rough stock have to be declared immediately. If you enter an event and do not draw out at least 24 hours before the Friday night performance, you will be required to pay that entry fee before you are allowed to enter another ERS. However, if we are able to sell the stock to an alternate, you will not be required to pay that entry fee. Doctor's releases and Veterinary releases will be honored if received in writing at the Evanston Rodeo Series office within 4 days of the rodeo in question.

**8. ROPING ARENA RULES** - All roping event contestants will enter through the back of the roping boxes. **There will be no circling of your horse in the arena before you rope. Follow cattle to the bottom of the arena and exit on the East End of the arena.** No contestant will be allowed to stay in the arena while other contestants rope. The only horses allowed to be brought back are those needed for additional runs in which prior arrangements need to be made with the judges. These rules may seem trivial to some, but ERS has found that with a little cooperation the performances and especially the slack will run smoother and faster. The cattle for the roping events will be chute run. Because the cattle are chute run, there will be **NO switching** places or rolling. We will follow the order of the day sheet. If you miss your run you will not be allowed to go at the end. **NOTICE TO ALL ROPERS including Breakaway ropers, your hat must be on when entering the arena. The roping box is considered the arena, no tipping hats off in the roping box.**

**9. TEAM ROPERS** - This year we will be offering two divisions: the #10 and the #13. Each contestant will have the opportunity to enter either division that they qualify for. Each contestant may enter a total of four times. You can rope with the same partner twice in the same division if you switch "ends". We will be going by the USTRC numbering system. If you do not have a current USTRC number we will assign you a number. If you have a wrangler number, we will add two numbers to it. When entering the team roping make sure you have a USTRC number for everyone that enters. In past years, we have had significant problems with team roping entries. Names have been given in error and partners have tried to make changes at the rodeo. Please make sure that your entries are correct when you call to enter the rodeos. Check with the partners before calling. Remember that all participants must enter on call-in night. There will be absolutely **NO Changing** entries once entries have closed. There will be **NO Changing** of partners at the rodeo. You are responsible for mistakes made in entries. We are again going to offer two team roping slacks- Friday night after the rodeo at 9:30 pm and Saturday before the rodeo at 3:00 PM. **NOTICE TO ALL TEAM ROPERS, you must present your roping number to the rodeo secretary when paying your entry fees. We will hold checks until Monday morning when we can verify all Team Roping Numbers.**

**10. 18 AND UNDER TIE DOWN ROPING** - The ERS will be offering a special division for Tie Down Ropers that are 18 years of age and younger (Age 18 by January 1, 2024). A Jr. Roper will enter the regular Roping event. The ERS will pay TWO ADDITIONAL PLACES after the regular payoff for the top two Jr. ropers who do not place in the regular pay off. The pay off for the two additional Jr. places will be \$100.00 and \$90.00. **It will be the responsibility of the Jr. Roper to notify the Rodeo Secretary, at the time of entries, that they are eligible for the Jr. Roping division.**

**11. OPEN BARREL RACING** - We are asking for your cooperation with some of our rules. **Upon entering the arena there will be NO circling your horse. The contestant must enter the arena with a forward motion to the first barrel. Also, we are asking each contestant to be responsible to keep their hat on during the entire barrel run (including Jr. Barrel Racers). Every contestant must have their hat on when entering the arena; if not, or if the contestant purposely knocks off their own hat anytime during the run, they will be flagged out.** This is the judges call and we will support their decision. If these infractions continue we will be forced to implement fines. **New for 2024** in the Open and Jr. Barrel Racing, we will be raking after every 5 competitors, regardless of any changes on the day sheet. Under normal conditions, we will be using a combination of hand raking and using a tractor. If the weather has made the arena muddy, the tractor may not be used. This decision will be made by the committee at the time of the event. **Also in the Open and Jr. Barrel racing, there will be one rider per horse; one horse cannot be ridden by two riders regardless of division. Only one entry per contestant.** Payoffs will include \$180.00 to be paid down two more places. For example, if we had between 26 and 40 entries, we normally pay 5 places. We will pay 6th, and 7th, place with \$95.00 for 6th place, and \$85.00 for 7th place.

**12. LADIES AND JUNIOR BREAKAWAY ROPING** - The ERS will allow two loops if two ropes are carried. Each rope will be tied to the saddle horn with a string. The time will start when the barrier drops. The contestant will ride after the calf throwing a loop over its head. **The catch needs to be a bell collar.** As the rider pulls up their horse, the running calf breaks the string and the rope falls free from the saddle horn. A white flag must be attached to the rope at the saddle horn so the judge can tell when the rope breaks free. Time is called when the judge drops their flag. Ropes must be released. The Jr. Breakaway roping will be using a barrier.

**13. JR. EVENTS** - The Jr. events are open to both boys and girls in all 3 Jr. events. The Jr. participants may compete in their respective event if they are the age of participation by January 1, 2024. The age limits for Jr. Events are as follows: Jr. Barrels - ages 14 & under, Jr. Breakaway - ages 14 & under, Jr. Steer Riding ages 8, thru 14. (See attached schedule for entry fees and added money). We will use \$45 of the added money to pay 2 more places after the regular payoff, \$25 and \$20. **\*Switching Divisions** - If a Jr. participant chooses to move out of the Jr. division, they will not be allowed to return to the Jr. events. For 2024 we will once again have The Terminator Steer for the Jr. Steer Riding. The high score in the Jr. Steer Riding each night will have the opportunity to come back later in the rodeo to attempt to ride The Terminator Steer for a \$100.00 bounty, Sponsored by Westar Printing, LLC. The Jr. steer riders are not allowed to take a wrap either in the performance or the Terminator Steer.

**14. PRIZE CHECKS** - For your protection contestants are required to show their ID when picking up prize checks. You may designate in writing someone else to pick up your check. Please inform the rodeo secretaries of your desire prior to payoffs. Checks that are not picked up at the performance will be mailed. Please make sure we have your current address.

**NOTICE TO TEAM ROPERS:** The Team Roping checks will be held until Monday morning to verify numbers. **ALL CHECKS ARE TO BE CASHED BY CONTESTANT WITHIN 60 DAYS OF ISSUANCE DATE. AFTER 60 DAYS SAID CHECKS WILL BECOME NULL AND VOID AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE EVANSTON RODEO SERIES GENERAL FUND. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR CHECK, IT IS THE CONTESTANTS RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE ERS.**

**15. PROTECTIVE VESTS** - Protective vests may be checked out at the rodeo office. All vests must be returned to the rodeo office in the same condition it was in at the time it was checked out. A \$25.00 fine will be assessed if the vests are not returned to the rodeo office, clean and in good condition. If any vest is lost, the last person that checked out the vest will be responsible to pay the replacement cost of \$250.00

#### **16. Evanston Rodeo Series Scholarship**

The Evanston Rodeo Series will offer scholarships for the 2024 season, to participants of the ERS. Complete information applications are available by request from the ERS. Applications must be filled out and returned to an ERS committee member by June 29, 2024. We will no longer be conducting a raffle to secure funds for the scholarship.

**Please consider contributing a donation with your release form to support the ERS Scholarship program.**

## CONTESTANT FEES & ADDED MONEY FEES

EVENTS	ENTRY FEES	ADDED MONEY	EVENTS	ENTRY FEES	ADDED MONEY
1. Bull Riding	\$105.00	\$900.00	8. Open Barrel Racing	\$70.00	\$900.00
2. Bareback	\$85.00	\$900.00	9. Team Roping #13	\$80.00	\$1200.00
3. Saddle Bronc Riding	\$85.00	\$900.00	10. Team Roping #10	\$75.00	\$1200.00
4. Stock Saddle Bronc Riding	\$85.00	\$500.00	11. Jr. Steer Riding	\$25.00	\$150.00
5. Tie Down Roping	\$80.00	\$900.00	12. Jr. Breakaway	\$20.00	\$150.00
6. Breakaway Roping	\$70.00	\$900.00	13. Jr. Barrel Racing	\$25.00	\$150.00
7. Steer Wrestling	\$80.00	\$900.00			

We will be using \$180 from the added money in the Tie Down Roping, Ladies Breakaway and Open Barrel Racing events to pay two more places. For example, if there are 26-40 contestants we normally pay five places. We will then pay 6th place at \$95 and 7th place at \$85.

## PAYOFF'S

1 to 3 contestants	1 payoff	100%										
4 to 7 contestants	2 payoff	60%	40%									
8 to 12 contestants	3 payoff	50%	30%	20%								
13 to 25 contestants	4 payoff	40%	30%	20%	10%							
26 to 40 contestants	5 payoff	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%						
41 to 60 contestants	6 payoff	29%	24%	19%	14%	9%	5%					
61 to 90 contestants	8 payoff	26%	21%	17%	13%	10%	6%	4%	3%			
91 and over	10 payoff	24%	19%	16%	13%	8%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	

The payout will include the entry fees, plus the added money, to the contestants. For example, if there are 16 bull riders for the weekend, we would pay 4 places 40%, 30%, 20%, 10%. If there are less than 4 qualified rides we will pay the places according to the number of qualified rides. If it ends up being two qualified rides then the pay off will be for places, 60% and 40%.

**We will no longer pay ground money in the rough stock events unless there are no qualified rides in that event.** If there are no qualified rides, we will split the entry fees only (less the Secretary / Stock charge) among all the participants in the event. (The Evanston Rodeo Series will no longer offer the 40 and over Tie Down Roping event.)

*Every year we have had a few complaints or suggestions and we do our best as a committee to deal with these issues as they arise. Unfortunately, some of these issues have escalated into confrontational situations which we, as a committee, cannot tolerate. If you have a problem or suggestion during the course of the year, please submit it in written form to a committee member and we will review it at our earliest convenience and take whatever action we deem necessary. We will also review reports of harassment or inappropriate behavior by any participant and deal with them accordingly.*

**The Wyoming Legislature has passed a law concerning ANIMAL CRUELTY. Because of the high visibility of the rodeo arena to animal rights activists etc., the Evanston Rodeo Series will not tolerate any amount of animal abuse that occurs in the rodeo arena or surrounding areas. If we abuse our animals we are putting the future of rodeo in jeopardy, so we all need to be very aware of our actions towards our animals.**