



High Desert Bucking Bull Assn.

## 2026 HIGH DESERT BUCKING BULL ASSOCIATION (HDBBA) RULES AND GUIDELINES

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## **Mission Statement-**

The High Desert Bucking Bull Association (HDBBA) is a community of bucking bull enthusiasts established in 2016 by dedicated breeders, for breeders. Our primary goal is to foster growth within the bucking bull industry. Through organized competitions, we showcase these remarkable animals, akin to athletes in traditional sport. Our association serves as a platform for breeders to promote their stock, opening doors to opportunities like participation in prestigious events such as PBR's and the National Finals Rodeo. At HDBBA, we prioritize family values and inclusivity, evident in our youth division tailored to kids 17 years and under, allowing them to engage in friendly competition just like their parents.

## **General Rules, Regulations, and Events**

### **A. Membership**

#### **1: PARTICIPANTS**

All participants entering animals in a HDBBA produced or sanctioned event must be a current member in good standing with the HDBBA.

#### **2: MEMBERSHIPS & FEES**

The annual fee.

- a. Ranch Membership \$350 (includes Jr. Membership, Women's, and Regular Membership)
- b. Regular Membership \$150
- c. Women's Membership \$150
- d. Junior Membership \$75
- e. One Time Only Non-Member Fee \$50

Said fee becomes due prior to entering an event. A membership application provided by the HDBBA & W9 shall be filled out and sent along with payment of the full membership fee to the HDBBA office.

Jr. membership good for competing in Jr classes, Women's membership good for competing in Women's classes. Jr/Women competing in any other class requires a Regular Membership.

Memberships may be cancelled or denied by the Board of Directors for any cause detrimental to the best interest of the HDBBA.

Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or organization may become a member of the HDBBA by applying to the HDBBA and paying the required fees. To be eligible for any HDBBA awards or prizes, animal owners must be current HDBBA members in good standings. Any membership submitted as a firm, partnership, corporation, or organization, must individually name all members associated with the membership. Any animal entered in a HDBBA sanctioned event as a partnership, the partnership must have a current HDBBA membership, unless all members of the partnership are current HDBBA member in good standings. Each individual name to be listed as an owner/ participant for a competing animal will need to have filled out a separate membership form and paid a separate membership fee (unless a Ranch Membership has been purchased.)

Annual HDBBA memberships are required for ABBI co-sanctioned entries.

### **3: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AUTHORITY**

By payment of annual dues participants agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this document by the HDBBA and will always be subject to the same rules and regulations in conjunction with the HDBBA produced, sanctioned or co-sanctioned events. These rules are subject to change or modification, only if those changes are deemed necessary to better conduct HDBBA events, members, and participants.

### **4: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK**

By entering an animal and/or attending a HDBBA produced or sanctioned event, participants assume the risk inherent in any bovine/rodeo type activity and hold harmless the HDBBA. The High Desert Bucking Bull Association, its president, board members, directors, employees, or contractors shall NOT be responsible for any injury, death or loss of any animal entered or present for any other reason at any HDBBA produced, sanctioned or co-sanctioned event. HDBBA shall NOT be responsible for the injury or death of any person attending any HDBBA produced, sanctioned or co-sanctioned event.

### **5: BAD CHECKS**

If a participant pays his/her fees or membership with a check that is returned, this will result in a \$100 fine and a \$30 return check fee. In the event of this happening HDBBA members must pay in the form of a money order, credit card or cashier's check ONLY until the HDBBA Board of Directors approves it is unnecessary.

### **6: MISCONDUCT AND CHEATING**

In the event a participant becomes verbally or physically abusive to any official to any official, judge, employee, event producer, or other participant, the HDBBA reserves the right to disqualify that person from competing and any entry fees and/or winnings forfeited and may be suspended from participation for such a period as determined appropriate. Misconduct and/or cheating or attempting to cheat shall result in disciplinary action and may include suspension and/or fine. Second offense WILL result in mandatory suspension from entering all future HDBBA events.

### **7: ELECTRICAL DEVICES & FOREIGN OBJECTS**

Any electrical devices used to stimulate the animal cannot be used while in the chute, unless the animal is leaning bad or squatting, and won't stand correctly. Contractors or HDBBA personnel are prohibited from hot shotting animals while leaving the chute. Foreign objects in the flank will not be allowed. Any owner that is not following this rule is subject to disqualification of the animal involved in the incident, and total disqualification from the competition and forfeiture of entry fees. In addition, failure to adhere to this rule could result in suspension and fine as outlined in MISCONDUCT & CHEATING.

## **8: DRESS CODE**

ALL participants at the HDBBA sanctioned events, during the Derby/Classic/Maturity event who are behind the bucking chutes, in the arena, and in the back pens, will be required to adhere to a western dress code and wear (jeans, long sleeve shirt with collar and western cowboy hat). A short sleeve button shirt with a collar and western cowboy hat will be accepted during futurity competition. Those not adhering to this rule may be asked to leave the area behind the bucking chutes, arena, and back pens.

## **9: APPEALS PROCEDURE**

Any HDBBA member has the right to appeal against any disciplinary action and/or file a grievance or complaint against another HDBBA member or HDBBA official for any reason. An appeal or grievance must be submitted to the HDBBA office, in writing, with a \$300 fee within 30 days of the incident. The appeal or grievance will be reviewed by HDBBA Board of Directors and/or legal counsel. If a disciplinary action is overturned on appeal or a grievance is found to have merit and a member is disciplined pursuant to a filed grievance, the \$300 fee will be refunded. If a disciplinary action is upheld on appeal or a grievance is found to have no merit and a member is not disciplined pursuant to a filed grievance, the \$300 fee will be forfeited and retained by the HDBBA. Once the appeal has been reviewed all decisions will be final.

### **B. Events**

#### **1: JUDGES/JUDGING**

All judges for HDBBA sanctioned events must be named by event management fifteen (15) days prior to the closing date of entries and be approved by the Board of Directors. The number of judges for HDBBA approved events may not be less than four (4) approved judges. It is the responsibility of the producer to compensate all payments due to judges and personnel.

Event animals will be scored by a maximum of 25 points scoring system. The judges will be required to score an animal from zero to twenty-five (0-25) using tenths of a point based on the animal's ability in all five categories: buck, kick, spin, degree of difficulty, and intensity. HDBBA utilizes the ABBI four-judge system in conjunction with the "throw-out" rule. If one judge's score is more than two (2) points higher or lower than the other three judges' scores, that extreme score will be discarded. After the extreme score is removed, the remaining three judges' scores will be averaged to determine the final score.

If an animal STOPS OR FALLS completely down, stopping his bucking action, that animal will be marked as a DQ at the discretion of the judges.

Any ABBI sanctioned event with HDBBA will have a minimum of 2 ABBI qualified judges.

#### **2: EVENT SANCTIONING**

Any person or person(s) may request sanctioning an event with the HDBBA. The President and Board of Directors will have final approval of all proposed sanctioning events. Approval shall be based on.

- a. other approved HDBBA events
- b. other events in the region

c. adequacy of the facility where the proposed event will be held.

An event that is approved by the HDBBA must comply with all association rules. The HDBBA reserves the right to deny sanctioning or cancelling the sanctioning of an event which it deems not to be in the best interest of the HDBBA.

d. minimum of 5 animals entered per class- unless otherwise approved by the HDBBA

### **3: ARRIVAL / CHECK-IN**

Check-in times will be event specific. Participant MUST contact the HDBBA office & Event Producer 48 hours in advance to plan for early or late arrival outside designated check-in times. Late arrivals will be subject to a \$100 per animal late arrival penalty. Habitual late arrivals may be subject to higher penalties and/or disqualification according to the HDBBA Board of Directors discretion. A member's failure to comply with the check-in date and time specified may result in disqualification and forfeiture of the fees.

### **4: EVENT PERSONNEL**

At all HDBBA sanctioned events, judges, gate men, arena help, and production labor will be provided by the event producer. Only these designated individuals will be permitted to conduct their specific task. The producer is responsible for all, and any costs associated with the event they are producing. HDBBA WILL NOT be responsible for any costs accrued for a producer's events. Producers to see, complete, & sign individual producer agreement and producer requirements.

### **5: ANIMAL PENS**

All animals competing in HDBBA sanctioned events must be housed in the pens provided by the event and must be checked in by the time and date specified by the event. Animals can be penned together, but they must be put back in an assigned pen no less than one (1) hour before the event starts. This is the contractor's responsibility. Events must provide enough individual pen space for all animals entered. Events must have all the pens assembled before the designated check-in time for the animals to arrive. Only animals entered in a HDBBA event may be unloaded at an event.

### **6: EVENT GROUND RULES**

Let's be good stewards of the land. If you bring it in, take it out. If you create trash, throw it away. Let's leave the event grounds more presentable when we leave than when we arrive. Specific ground rules may exist for HDBBA produced or sanctioned futurity. Failure to adhere to posted ground rules may result in disqualification and/or a fine.

## **ANIMALS**

### **1: AGE VERIFICATION**

Animals do not have to be registered, but registration papers will be needed for age verification OR the HDBBA recommends a signed document from your vet stating the animal was mouthed and its estimated age. All animal ages will be on an honor system, however, if there is any discrepancy, we

reserve the right to have the animal mouthed and checked by a vet of our choice, at the owner's expense. Animals will be mouthed if there is concern from a participant, Board member, or President. Animals that have been mouth verified through another association will not be mouthed if proper paperwork has been presented. Animals mouthed by Vet and deemed too old will be disqualified. The vets' decision will stand. The owner will forfeit all winnings and fees.

## **2: ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION**

Animals must be branded (fire or freeze) with a permanent legible ID number. Animals not branded as mentioned herein may be disqualified from any HDBBA produced or sanctioned event. **Only exceptions, yearling futurity animals can be branded OR a legible numbered ear tag for identification purposes.**

## **3: HORNS**

All competing animals must have their horns tipped (banana or loose horns are excluded from this rule) prior to arriving at the event. Yearling & two-year-old animals are required to be tipped to the size of a 25-cent piece. Classic/Derby bulls need to be tipped to the size of a 50-cent piece. At the discretion of a judge or event official, if an un-tipped or inadequately tipped animal arrives at an HDBBA sanctioned or Co-sanctioned event, the animal may be subject to disqualification from the event and forfeiture of entry fees.

## **4: HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

**All animals competing at HDBBA sanctioned events will be required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with results of a negative TB test and a negative Brucellosis test. These tests MUST have been performed during the calendar year of competition, unless otherwise posted in event details. All results must be presented at check-in.** Additional requirements for individual states may differ. Member is responsible for checking with a state licensed Veterinarian to confirm any additional requirements. **Animals that do not meet these requirements will not be allowed to unload or compete and will forfeit entry fees.**

## **5: BRAND INSPECTIONS**

All western states require brand inspections. It is the participant's responsibility to have the required brand inspection papers. There may be Brand Inspectors at each event.

## **C. ENTRIES**

### **1: ENTRY FEES**

At HDBBA events entry fees will be no less than the amount listed-

Yearling- \$225

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee- \$5

Total-\$255

Jr. Futurity- \$200

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee- \$5

Total-\$230

Women's Futurity-\$250

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee- \$5

Total-\$280

Open Futurity-\$300

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee- \$5

Total-\$330

Dummy Derby- \$300

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee- \$5

Total-\$330

Derby- \$400

Office Fee-\$25

Bull Rider Fee-\$100

Total-\$525

Classic \$500

Office Fee-\$25

Bull Rider Fee-\$100

Total-\$625

Fees may be higher at an event if approved by the Board of Directors. Fees will be posted before the entry opening date.

## **2: ENTRY DEADLINE**

A: Entries will be taken through the HDBBA office. Entry opening date will be event specific and posted prior to each event's opening date.

B: Entry close dates will be 7 days prior to the event, unless otherwise noted. Entries and entry fees **MUST BE IN THE HDBBA OFFICE** by 8:00 pm (Mountain Time) on "entries closed" date. (Not postmarked by entry closed date). All received entries within 72 hours of closing entry time will be fined \$100 per bull, per entry. Any entries received after 72 hours will not be allowed to enter the event.

## **3: PAYOUTS**

At all HDBBA produced or sanctioned futurities payout will be as follows.

A: 20% of total fees taken out for the producer.

B: 4% of total fees taken out for HDBBA finals.

1: After all deductions, added money will be put in the total pot. No deductions can or will be made from added money.

### **2: Added Money Distribution:**

Added money will be distributed per class based on the number of bull entries in each class. The total added money for an event will be divided by the total number of bull entries to determine the added money per bull. Each class will receive added money equal to the per-bull amount multiplied by the number of bulls entered in that class.

**Example:** If an event has \$3,000 in added money and 100 total bull entries, the added money per bull is \$30. A class with 10 bull entries will receive \$300 in added money.

Added money amounts may vary from event to event. The added money per bull and per class is subject to change based on the total added money and number of entries for each event.

3: After all deductions one (1) hole must be paid for every five (5) entries (in each class offered). The payout percentage will be as listed below.

### **PAYOUT %**

1<sup>st</sup>. PLACE 100%

2<sup>nd</sup>. PLACE 60% 40%

3<sup>rd</sup>. PLACE 50% 30% 20%

4<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 40% 30% 20% 10%

5<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 30% 25% 20% 15% 10%

6<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 28% 22% 18% 14% 10% 8%

7<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 26% 20% 15% 12% 10% 9% 8%

8<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 24% 18% 15% 12% 10% 8% 7% 6%

9<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 22% 16% 14% 12% 10% 8% 7% 6% 5%

10<sup>th</sup>. PLACE 20% 15% 13% 11% 10% 8% 6.5% 6% 5.5% 5%

4. Classes with added money will have an additional pay hole.

#### **4: POINTS/YEAR END**

Points shall be awarded at all HDBBA sanctioned events that will accumulate for year-end awards. Points shall be awarded at HDBBA sanctioned events in the following manner.

- Points will be based on the animals' score at each event. For example, an animal that scores 85.5 points will have that added to the year-end total.
- **Year-End Points** will only be awarded at **full events**, meaning the event must offer all seven sanctioned classes:  
**Yearling, Jr. Futurity, Women's Futurity, Open, 3-Year-Old Futurity (Dummy Derby), Derby, and Classic.**
- Top five event scores will count for year end points. **If animal is in the year-end running, animal must be entered at the last/final event to receive year end awards.**

#### **5: CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

Contractor of the Year points are points accumulated from a contractor's top 3 animals from 5 events of the season and added together at the end of the season to determine a winner. If a Ranch Membership has been purchased the animals in the Jr. and Women's classes will be eligible for Contractor of The Year points. If there are multiple contractors/partnerships on an animal, it must be designated on an entry form who gets contractor points.

Any animal entered in a HDBBA sanctioned event as a partnership, the partnership must have a current HDBBA membership, unless all members of the partnership are current HDBBA member in good standings. Each individual name to be listed as an owner/ participant for a competing animal will need to have filled out a separate membership form and paid a separate membership fee (unless a Ranch Membership has been purchased.)

Ranch Membership Example- Ranch Membership- John Smith Bucking Bulls

Entries- Jr. Sarah/John Smith Bucking Bulls, Women's Sally/John Smith Bucking Bulls, Derby John Smith Bucking Bulls

Contractor of The Year points go to John Smith Bucking Bulls

- **Contractor of The Year** points will only be awarded at **full events**, meaning the event must offer all seven sanctioned classes:

Yearling, Jr. Futurity, Women's Futurity, Open, 3-Year-Old Futurity (Dummy Derby), Derby, and Classic.

## **6: DRAW/CHUTE POSITION**

Bucking order will be determined by a Random Computer-Generated Draw. Delivery changes must be made within one week prior to the event or prior to posting a buck order.

## **7: WITHDRAWAL**

Prior to entries closing an animal may be withdrawn without penalty or forfeit of entry fees. After entry closing, owners may withdraw animals from competition for any reason. However, doing so will forfeit all entry fees, unless a vet release is presented for said animal. In the event a vet release is provided to the HDBBA, entry fees will be refunded, and the animal will be ineligible for entry for 30 days from the vet release date. Animals MAY BE replaced by another animal of the same age, with no penalties with a Signed Vet release stating original entered animal is unable to compete prior to check-in. (If entries were phoned in and not mailed with payment, the owner must still pay the prior entry fee for events they did not show at, or they will not be eligible to enter any future events.)

## **8: TIE BREAKERS**

There will be no tie breakers given. If animals are tied after scores are checked, a straight split will be used.

## **9: REBUCKS**

At HDBBA events, re-bucks will be allowed only if in the opinion of any judge, the animal had no chance to perform due to situations outside the control of the animal itself or its flank man. It is the flank man's responsibility to make sure the animal is properly flanked before calling for the release of the animal. No re-bucks will be given if the bull rider nods for the animal, but the contractor has not flanked the animal. It is also the Contractors' responsibility to make sure the animal is looking before calling for the gate. If a futurity bull turns out backwards there will be no re-buck if the contractor calls for the gate.

# **Juvenile, Junior, Women & Open Futurity, Dummy Derby Rules, and Guidelines**

## **A. EVENT ENTRY/AGE REQUIREMENTS**

### **1: ELIGIBILITY FOR YEARLING, JUNIOR, WOMEN'S, AND FUTURITY**

To be eligible to compete in any HDBBA sanctioned futurity, animals must be born on or between January 1 and December 31 of the year specified on the form, two years prior to the year of

competition for the 2-yr. old's and one year prior to the yearling futurities. EXAMPLE FOR 2 yr. old's: 2024 calves (calves born on or between January 1 and December 31, 2024) are eligible to compete in 2026 two yr. old futurities. EXAMPLE FOR 1 yr. old: 2025 calves (calves born on or between January 1 and December 31, 2025) are eligible to compete in 2026 yearling futurities.

## **2: DUMMIES**

All animals competing in an HDBBA sanctioned futurity will be bucked using a Bucking Bull Pro V2 13lb. dual release dummy. All HDBBA sanctioned futurities, animals will be bucked for 4 seconds.

## **B. JUNIOR FUTURITY**

### **1: PARTICIPATION**

Youth members entering bulls into a HDBBA sanctioned Youth Futurity must be a youth 17 years or younger as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of that year and in good standing with the HDBBA. Youth Members under the age of 13 years old must always be accompanied by a designated adult or guardian while behind the bucking chutes or in the arena. Youth Futurity participants are required to flank their own animal but can be assisted up to the animal entering the chute. Once the animal enters the chute the participant may only be assisted by another Youth Futurity participant and/or the dummy setters.

If the participant is not available for an event, another Youth Futurity participant may flank their animal following the same rules for competition.

### **2: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

All animals that are entered into the youth futurities cannot be bucked or cannot have been bucked in another class or division during that current year.

## **C. WOMEN'S FUTURITY**

### **1: PARTICIPATION**

Participants entering bulls into a HDBBA sanctioned Women's Futurity event must be female, and in good standing with the HDBBA. Women's Futurity participants are required to flank their own animal but can be assisted up to the animal entering the chute. Once the animal enters the chute the participant may only be assisted by another Woman's Futurity participant and/or the dummy setters. If the participant is not available for an event, another Women's Futurity participant may flank their animal following the same rules for competition.

### **2: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Bulls bucked in the Women's Futurity can be moved to the Open and then put back in the Women's, but the bull will not be eligible for year-end standings. To be eligible for year-end standings the animal must stay in one class and not be moved.

## **D. OPEN FUTURITY**

### **1: PARTICIPATION**

Participants entering bulls into a HDBBA sanctioned Open Futurity event must be a paid member in good standing with the HDBBA. If the participant is not available for an event, another individual may flank their animal following the same rules for competition.

### **2: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Bulls that have bucked in the Open Futurity can be moved to the Women's Futurity but will not be eligible for year-end standings. To be eligible for year-end standings the animal must stay in one class and not be moved.

## **E. DUMMY DERBY**

### **1: DUMMIES**

All 3-Year-Old bulls will be bucked with a Bucking Bull Pro V2 13lb. dummy and will be bucked for 4 seconds.

### **2: GENERAL**

General Futurity rules apply to the Dummy Derby (3-Year-Old Dummy Class). Dummy Derby's can be entered in both the Derby class and the Dummy Derby class. If a contractor decides to enter one time in the Derby and another time in the Dummy Derby then swap at the next event, the bull doesn't get to compete in year-end standings. The bull must stay in the same class all season to get year-end points. If they compete in Dummy Derby and Derby all year, then they will be in the running for year end in each of those classes.

## **F. JUVENILE/YEARLING**

### **1: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Juvenile/yearlings may be bulls or heifers.

## **Derby/Classic RULES AND GUIDELINES**

### **1: AGE REQUIREMENT**

To be eligible to compete in an HDBBA event, Derby bulls must be 3 years of age in the current competing year. Classic bulls must be 4 & 5 years of age in the current competing year.

### **2: RIDERS**

At all High Desert Bucking Bull Association (HDBBA) events, Derby, Classic, Maturity, and Rider Bull Team competitions will operate under a **Bring Your Own Rider format**. Each contractor will pay a \$100 Rider Fee per entry, which will go into the Bull Rider Pot. Each contractor is responsible for providing a rider for every bull entered. Event producers will make reasonable efforts to have extra riders available; however, riders are not guaranteed. **If a contractor does not have a rider present when their bull is called to buck, the entry fee will be forfeited.** If a rider scheduled to ride multiple bulls becomes injured or unable to continue, the contractor remains responsible for securing a replacement rider. **Bull riders may ride a maximum of three (3) bulls per event.** If an owner-provided rider is injured during the event, the owner may select a replacement rider from available riders at the event. All riders must be at least 16 years of age. Riders under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign a rider release form prior to competing. **If a rider is getting on more than 1 head in a class, be prepared that said rider could be getting on back-to-back, drawing is generated randomly by computer. It is the contractor's responsibility to inform their riders if they are having them get on more than 1 head in a class.** Added money for bull riders is at the discretion of the event producer.

### **3: COMPETITION FORMAT**

At all HDBBA events Classic and Derby bulls will be bucked and judged for 8 seconds.

## **OPTIONAL CLASSES**

### **A. Limited Futurity Class**

1: **DUMMIES**- All animals competing in an HDBBA sanctioned futurity will be bucked using a Bucking Bull Pro V2 13lb. dual release dummy. All HDBBA sanctioned futurities, animals will be bucked for 4 seconds.

2: **General**- General Futurity rules apply to the Limited Futurity Class.

### **B. Slide Futurity Class**

1: **Dummies**- All animals competing in an HDBBA sanctioned futurity will be bucked using a Bucking Bull Pro V2 13lb. dual release dummy. All HDBBA sanctioned futurities, animals will be bucked for 4 seconds.

2: **General**- General Futurity rules apply to the Slide Futurity Class.

### **C. MATURITY**

#### **1: AGE REQUIREMENTS**

Bulls age of 6 years or older.

#### **2: GENERAL**

Derby and Classic rules will apply to the Maturity Class.

### **D. BULL TEAMS**

Two Bull Team, contractors bring your own rider. Team score based on bull total score plus ride time, (1 point per second).

### **E. YEAR END POINTS/CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

No Optional classes will count towards any year end points or Contractor of The Year.

### **F. RECOMMENDED FEES**

Limited Futurity- \$300

Office Fee-\$25

Dummy Fee-\$5  
Total-\$330

Slide Futurity- \$250  
Office Fee-\$25  
Dummy Fee-\$5  
Total-\$280

Maturity- \$400  
Office Fee-\$25  
Bull Rider Fee-\$100  
Total-\$525

Bull Teams- \$750  
Office Fee-\$25  
Bull Rider Fee-\$200  
Total-\$975

(Optional classes are extra classes that a producer can choose to add to their event. Producers may choose to increase these entry fees.)