Buffalo Rodeo Association
Amateur Barrel Race Qualifier Contestant and Race Rules

Thank you for your interest in our Amateur Barrel Race Qualifier that serves both as a qualifier for our Rodeo Performances in June as well as a fundraiser for the Buffalo Rodeo Association.

Entries will open on May 23, 2026 and will close at 10:00pm on May 31, 2026

Qualifier Race - Saturday, June 6th, 2026
Exhibitions begin at 8:00am, race begins at 10:00am (check in by 9:45am required)
Buffalo Rodeo Grounds
1312 County Road 134 NE
Buffalo, MN 55313

Amateur Status
All contestants must be of amateur status only. Professional status is not eligible. Professional status is defined as an individual in possession of a Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) permit or card.

Age
Open to all ages, amateur status applies. Qualifier format will be all ages combined.

Qualifier Entry Fees
$120.00 per horse entered.
All entry fees are final. In the event the Buffalo Rodeo Association would need to cancel the event, refunds for paid entries would be made.
Horse substitutions will be allowed prior to the check-in deadline of 9:45am on Saturday, June 6th, 2026. Rider may compete on any horse, regardless of ownership.
An entered horse may only run once with one contestant.
Entries will open on May 23, 2026 and will close at 10:00pm on May 31, 2026.
Draws will be posted on the Buffalo PRCA Championship Facebook page on June 5th, 2026.

Optional add-ons at time of entry
Exhibitions will be held in three sessions, time to be selected when you enter:
8:00am - 8:30am, 8:30am - 9:00am and 9:00am - 9:30am.
$5.00 per exhibition
A maximum of 75 will be sold on a first come first serve basis.
Exhibitions will only be available to those entered in the qualifier.

Side Pot (age determined as of the date of the race)
Side pot results will not count towards qualifications.
$40.00 18 & Under
$40.00 19 & Over

Qualifier Format and Payout

Contestants will make one run per horse entered. 4D with half second splits.
70% payback for qualifier and side pots held on Saturday May 31, 2025 based on National Barrel Horse Association format.

All checks will be mailed to the address you include on your application.

We will be advancing 15 (5 per night) to the Rodeo Performance openings based on following placements from the qualifier on June 6th, 2026:

Top 5 - ID
Top 5 - 2D
Top 3 - 3D
Top 2 - 4D

If there are not five 1D qualifiers, the remaining 1D qualification spots will transfer to the 2D.
If there are not five 2D qualifiers (plus potential carry over 1D slots), the remaining qualification slots will carry over to the 3D. If there are not three 3D qualifiers (plus potential carry over 2D slots), the remaining 3D qualifiers will carry over to the 4D.

If you run multiple horses and qualify on multiple horses, you will be required to pick one to run in the performance.

Race results will be finalized upon the conclusion of the qualifying race on Saturday, June 6th, 2026. All qualifier names will go into a drawing at the conclusion of completed race results that will be held at the bottom of the Crows Nest.

As a name is drawn that individual will pick their performance night (June 25, 26 or 27, 2026) until all performance slots are filled. If you are not present to pick your performance slot as your name is drawn, we will move to the next and you will be added to the remaining performance slot after those present have made their choice.

Performance Options:
5 - Thursday, June 25, 2026

5 - Friday, June 26, 2026
5 - Saturday, June 27, 2026

Performance Advancement Format
For those advancing, you will run on the respective night that you selected. An email will be sent to you outlining the details of performance nights.
Times from the amateur runs for all three performances will be combined with the pattern being set by the stock contractor. The fastest time of the combined nights will receive $250 and a 2026 Buffalo Rodeo Amateur Barrel Racing Championship buckle.

Race Rules
Coggins
A current negative coggins within 12 months must be provided at check-in for the horse entered.

A No Time will be given to a contestant for the following reasons:

- Failure to start the pattern within 60 seconds of the contestant's name being called the first time.
- Circling inside the arena after passing the mouth of the alley. The gate will close behind you.
- Not being in dress code.
- The horse falls
- Knocking down a barrel
- Break or miss the pattern
- Running a horse in a different draw position
- Miss your draw number
- Failure to check in by 9:45am am on Saturday, June 6th, 2026
- Absolutely no extra circling of barrels, no circling past the mouth of the alley before your run or training during a competition run. If the pattern is broken the rider needs to complete the pattern in a timely manner or exit the arena immediately.

Electric Eye
If the electric eye fails during a rider's run the barrel racer has the choice of a re-run at the end of the race. It is up to the contestant to contact office staff, and make it clear as to if they will take the re-run. If a barrel is knocked down during a run in which the timer fails, or any other penalties occur, all penalties will be carried forward. Thus no option of a re-run will be given.

Dress Code
In the spirit of the western way, this dress code applies to both the qualifier race on June 6th, 2026 and for those advancing to a performance. Contestants must wear a long sleeved, collared western shirt, jeans without holes, western boots and western hat or approved helmet.

Any questions or disputes that are not covered by the above rules shall be decided at the event by the Buffalo Rodeo Association. All decisions are final. Rules are subject to change without notice and are at the discretion of the Buffalo Rodeo Association and arena management.