

**BILLINGS BARREL RACING SERIES (BBRS) RULES & GUIDELINES**

**OBJECTIVE:** Is for the promotion of barrel racing. To be able to school/train the young (green) horse and/or the older horse; to keep costs at a minimal fee (i.e. travel and expenses); to prepare and condition the horse and rider for barrel racing competition.

1. The BBRS will consist of these divisions. *Divisions are subject to change each year.*

A: 5D barrel race, with .75 second splits. ie. 18.000, 18.750, 19.500, 20.250, 21.000

2. A participant must be a member of the BBRS. **Only members are allowed to be horseback at BBRS events:**

- ★ \$40.00 per individual (Adult or Youth) for the race season.  
\$20.00 non-competing membership per individual (Adult or Youth). Can ride at events and do time only, but not compete. Also gives you voting privileges  
\$10 non membership fee per event (voted in 7/2018 membership meeting) can compete as a non member at as many barrel races as they want (revised spring 2020)
- ★ The Release and Agreement Not to Sue MUST be signed and dues paid before an individual competes. This includes time only runs.

3. Each horse will be allowed only one run per night. Points are earned as a horse/rider combination

4. Payout of Entry fees:

Open Entry Fee	-- \$20.00(\$10 jackpot; \$3 arena; \$2 ground fee; \$4 BBRS, \$1 event sec.) (member vote January 2025)
Time Only	-- \$5.00 (\$2 arena charge - \$1 ground fee - \$2 BBRS expenses)
Special Events (Finals)	-- (if money is applicable)

**BBRS Finals payout (board voted on 8/2025)**

\$30 entry fees per run -- \$25 goes to the run minus the arena fees and \$5 goes to the average  
\$50 will be added per division -- \$20 to each run and \$10 to the average.  
Finals payout will follow the same format as regular season format.

*(Note: The arena fee as of 2015- \$3/run and the ground rake (tractor) fee \$75/event. The additional arena/rake fees are paid out of the membership fees and office charges)*

<u>Payoff:</u>	<u># of Entries</u>	<u>Places</u>	<u>Percentages</u>
	4 and Under	1	100%
	5 – 8	2	60 - 40%
	9 – 13	3	50 - 30 -20%
	14 – 18	4	35 - 30 - 20 - 15%
	19 – 24	5	30 - 25 - 20 - 15 - 10%
	25 - 30	6	28 - 24 - 18 - 14 - 10 - 8%

- A. Once a contestant pays her/his entry fee it SHALL NOT be refunded.

5. A point system will determine end of the year awards and placings.

1. Points will be distributed to places 1 – 10, with 1<sup>st</sup> receiving 10 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> receiving 9 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> receiving 8 points etc.
2. If a tie in points occur, the winner will be determined by the most money won in that “D” division.

6. A tipped barrel will result as a no time. No times and broken pattern jackpot monies will divided 20% to each D and paid out with the fees each race.

**RULES & GUIDELINES:**

1. NO refunds of membership fee will be given.
2. The divisions shall be a 5D with .75 seconds splits
3. Each horse will be allowed only one run per night.
4. Horse must compete at 50% of the SERIES EVENTS (including the finals) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR YEAR-END AWARDS. (Board meeting 2015). The only exception would be an injury to the horse. A veterinarian's signature will be required confirming the reported injury. If a horse is injured and cannot run for a period of time, a veterinarian's release must be received by the Board of Directors before additional money can be awarded to that horse. If the Board of Directors has the veterinarian's release when the horse returns to run during the regular season, that horse is exempt from the 50% rule. The finals will count as part of the 50% events attended. (Board meeting 1/2015)
5. An injured rider of a horse must provide a physician's release upon returning to run his/her horse during the regular season in order for the 50% rule to be waived to qualify for year-end awards for the rider and/or horse.
6. Only points earned at BBRS events will be counted for year-end awards. Please see attached sheet or sheets for the locations, dates, and times of the current year's BBRS events.
7. Dangerous horses (those horses displaying uncontrollable behavior that threaten the property and/or safety of others) will be given a verbal warning by two board members. If the behavior continues, the Board of Directors will request that the member stop bringing the horse to the BBRS.

**DESCRIPTION OF EACH DIVISION:**

*1D: 18.000 example*

*2D: 18.750 example*

*3D: 19.500 example*

*4D: 20.250 example*

*5D: 21.000 example*

*Time Only: Exhibition run*

**YEAR-END AWARDS:** (Vary from year to year) historically, overall awards have included:

Don't forget that EXTRA HELP IS ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!

1. *SADDLE:* Will be drawn for by the leading point earners of each "D" at the awards ceremony and be presented to the barrel horse's owner who wins the draw. If enough saddle sponsors are gathered, the club will try to have a sponsored saddle per division. DONATED BY: BBRS SPONSORS.
2. *TOP 10 or more AWARDS:* Given to the Top 10 OVER-ALL points won by year-end. If awards are available to be given beyond 10<sup>th</sup> place, nominations and money won will determine the recipients.
3. *HORSE OF THE YEAR:* Award to be determined by the Awards Director. Award determined by membership vote (1 vote per membership as verified by Board of Directors) Ballots will be passed out 1 to 2 weeks prior to the finals. Votes are counted and the winner announced at the awards ceremony. Horse must attend 50% of events to be eligible for this award. (Board meeting 1/2015) Owner of horse cannot vote for own horse (membership meeting July 2017)
4. Rookie of year award will be given to the leading points earner for first-year members. Points to be awarded per the point system outlined and used to determine end of the year awards and placing outlined in Objective 5 of the BBRS Rules & Guidelines. They must attend 50% of the events to receive this award.
5. *DIVISION AWARDS:* Vary from year to year. Awards will be given according to nominated horses in a division – same as pay schedule.
6. All prizes to be awarded will be determined by July 15. Membership received after this date, will not count towards how many awards will be given per division.
7. The awards ceremony will be held one week after the finals or at the earliest time after the finals as convenient.

**OTHER AWARDS:** (Vary from year to year. Time only excluded)

**GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES:**

Responsibilities of the Arena: To provide and condition the arena. Also, provide tractor and operator to rake approximately every 5 runs.

Responsibilities of the BBRS:

- 1: To provide the membership forms, entry forms, bylaws and the rules and guidelines.
- 2: To keep the earnings standings and give out any awards.
- 3: To provide any added money, year-end or monthly awards.
- 4: To have in their possession a copy of the equine law and risk/safety alerts.
- 5: To make mandatory announcements as to safety procedures and warnings.
- 6: To carry a liability insurance policy.

**Responsibilities of the MEMBERS (Individuals Assigned to Weekly Event):**

1. To mark the barrel pattern, finish line, etc.
2. To provide timers (electronic whenever possible), secretaries, and necessary arena help.
3. To take all entries and *calculate purses*.
4. To follow the rules and guidelines set up by the BBRS and the official rulebook, which shall be the WPRA rulebook.
5. Seven to eight members (when possible) will sign up to organize each weekly event. The senior member (first on the schedule for each weekly event) will contact their respective crew members to coordinate their assigned week's tasks 2-3 days in advance of their assigned event. All members will be required to sign up for an arena crew at the first barrel race she/he attends BEFORE being allowed to compete. REMEMBER - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU CANNOT FULFILL YOUR CREW OBLIGATION.

**THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE ARE:**

- A: Remind arena owner a few days before event.
  - B: Get the ground worked. Have at least 2 or 3 people to move barrels if raking by tractor. Be sure to have 2-3 rakes available if tractor is not available.
  - C: Mark barrels (you need measuring tape/markers). Make sure the arena has metal barrels.
  - D: Get PA system. Find a secretary/announcer. Make sure you have a list of the sponsors and ALL other necessary paper work. (BBRS has a PA system – see an officer).
  - E: Find person to time (electric eye), and a person to announce. If electric eye fails, a rerun will be given at end of division, or end of next division.
  - F: Find someone to open and close the gate(s).
  - G: Payoff for each race is made at the next week's race. *Have payoff calculated.*
  - H: Make sure the secretary gets the results. Secretary shall call/send results to appropriate media.
6. If anyone is seen abusing his or her horse, a \$50.00 fine will be imposed. Two members must report the incident to the Board of Directors and the Board will impose the fine.

**GENERAL RULES:**

1. These rules are guidelines for arenas to be used to ensure safe and fair competition for ALL contestants and their animals.
2. The WPRA rulebook is considered the official rulebook to be consulted in resolving any questions or disputes.
3. The officers and board members of the BBRS will supervise the BBRS and their decisions shall be final.
4. One electronic timer will be used at each race. Flagmen will be used at the discretion of the arena committee if the timer fails 5 times during a race.
5. Rainouts: Makeup events will be left to the discretion of the board of directors. (Board meeting 10/7/14)
6. Barrel races will be held May through the last Wednesday in August. The finals will be held before September 1<sup>st</sup> and at the discretion of the board. (Board Meeting 1/19/16)

**BARREL RACE:**

1. There is to be only one contestant and one horse in the arena at a time during the barrel race, without exception.
2. The arena gate will remain the same throughout the entire barrel race.
3. The Start/Finish line **MUST BE THE SAME**.
4. Any time the contestant crosses the starting line, the time will begin.
5. The Start/Finish line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire barrel race.
6. Contestants will be assessed a no time penalty for knocking over a barrel. Touching a barrel is permitted.
7. Should a barrel be knocked over and it sets up on its opposite end, the five-second penalty will be assessed.
8. If a flag judge is necessary, the flag judge should flag each contestant's horse's **NOSE AT THE START/FINISH LINE** (Nose in/Nose out)
9. Should the barrels not be placed on the markers or the flagman is not in the correct place, things **MUST BE PUT IN CORRECT ORDER** and all contestants who ran on the incorrect course must be rerun with no penalties assessed.
10. Contestant will be disqualified for the missing pattern, consisting of a cloverleaf pattern around the barrels of one right and two left turns or vice versa.
11. Disqualification consists of turning a barrel twice or crossing the finish line, prior to completion of run.
12. If a horse falls or similar incident occurs, contestant cannot have a rerun.
13. No contestant will be allowed a practice run once the barrel race has started.
14. Prior to the weekly barrel races, the barrels shall not be set on the stakes or markers.
15. If for any reason a time is missed, a rerun will be given.
16. The barrel pattern shall be marked using the standard pattern measurements (attached). In an arena where these measurements cannot be followed, the measurements for smaller arenas will be used as per the WPRA rulebook (attached).
17. The barrels shall be **INSIDE CENTER** of the markers.
18. Rake: The arena will be raked at intervals specified by the arena director and/or her/his representative irregardless of the beginning and/or end of each division to allow for more efficient use of time and resources.

**ELECTRIC TIMERS**

1. Equipment necessary: Complete electric eye timer. During FINALS: Two timers will be used.
2. If the electric timer fails to operate, a rerun will be given.
3. Read out box times must be read and recorded by official timer. One timer will record the times that appear on the electric eye controlled readout. Additional timers will operate the back-up time shown. The official time will be **RECORDED IN 1000's**. (i.e. 15.165, membership voted in 7/2017).

This document may be downloaded from:

[www.billingsbarrelracingseries.com](http://www.billingsbarrelracingseries.com)

Import barrel pattern diagram.

## WPRA Rule for Smaller than Standard Size Arenas

(Excerpt from 2010 WPRA Rules)

**12.11.2.** The following shall be used in smaller arenas.

**12.11.2.1.** Barrels one (1) and two (2) should be at least eighteen (18) feet from the sides of the arena. In extra small arenas they may be less. In no instance should they be any closer than fifteen (15) feet from the sides of the arena.

**12.11.2.2.** Barrel three should be no closer than twenty five (25) feet to the end of the arena.

**12.11.2.2.1.** Barrel pattern should be situated in such a manner as is centered to the gate with the first and second barrel equal distance from the gate.

**12.11.2.3.** If arena size permits, a standard pattern should be set and no larger.

**12.11.2.4.** In small arenas, it is recommended the pattern be reduced proportionately to a standard barrel pattern. By no means shall the stopping distance be less than forty five (45) feet.

**12.11.2.5.** A "run out" alley may be included as part of the stopping distance, when necessary, or when the overall length of the arena does not allow for forty five (45) feet stopping distance. Decision is subject to Director Approval. An open gate into a "safe" alley may be used as part of the forty five (45) feet stopping distance when necessary and upon Director Approval. A "safe" alley must be a minimum of ten (10) feet wide, meaning that there will be a minimum of ten (10) feet between any obstructions in the alley. Alley way and any subsequent crossbars must be a minimum of twelve (12) feet high. Any bars, boards, wires or cords crossing the alley floor must be covered with dirt. The alley must be well lit, free of people and horses and have a dirt floor. The stopping distance in the alley must be at least as long as the stopping distance provided in the arena.