**2024 Finals Criteria**

The following is the criteria needed to qualify for the 2024 HRA finals being held on September 14 & 15 in Grunthal, MB:

1. All ages (peewee and Jack benny included) must attend 60% of rodeos. The 2024 rodeo count is 6 rodeos, excluding the barrel racing which will be 5 due to cancellation of their event at Ste Rose rodeo Oct 2023.
2. Must be in the top 10-year end spots for all major events, and the top 6 in the juniors. The peewee event will have 10 spots. The spots will be picked by the Barrel Director and will be based off the following:
* 60% attendance (5 rodeos)
* Must ride alone and unassisted.
* Fast times from each rodeo over the year

Jack benny will be given 2 extra spots in each event. Where appropriate, two finals spots in each event will go to the next two Jack Benny competitors with the highest points that has their rodeo count in. If the next Jack Benny contestant does not have points, the available spot will go to the Jack Benny contestant that has attended the most rodeos. In the case of a tie between two Jack Benny members with no points and equal attendance at HRA rodeos, the finals competitor will be picked by drawing a name out of a hat.

1. Top 10 contestants must enter through the ACE online like a regular season rodeo. If they fail to do so the ACE will roll down to the next qualified contestant for finals entry.
2. Junior members qualifying for a major event must upgrade their cards to attend the finals. Top up from Junior card to Senior card to enter finals will not take away a JR right to become a rookie in future years.
3. If a full slate of Finals qualifiers cannot be drawn from contestant’s points earned, money earned, rodeos attended, etc., the Finals committee shall be responsible for selecting additional contestants to fill the top ten spots for major events and top six for the two junior events and pee wee events referenced.

*\*\*\* SECTION IX \*\*\**

*FINALS*

*1. The Heartland Finals Committee be established with a Finals Chairman that is a non-voting position at the AGM so that members have the option to volunteer.*

 *2. The Finals Committee will work with local committees and other interested parties to arrange for an annual HRA Finals Rodeo.*

*3. Ground rules for the Finals will be developed cooperatively by the Finals Committee and the sponsoring committee.*

*4. Ground rules and any other special conditions will be distributed to qualifying contestants, judges, contractors, committee, timers, and any other persons that shall have a need to know at least one week prior to Finals.*

*5. The TOP TEN (10) contestants from each of the major events and the TOP SIX (6) from both the Junior Barrel Racing and Junior Steer Riding will qualify for the HRA Finals. a. In Team Roping, the top 10 headers will rope with the top 10 heelers.*

*6. Finals are to be entered as a regular season rodeo to the ace the week before on Thursday online. If a top 10 contestant does not enter during entry time the ace secretary will call the next contestant, it rolls down to until it has their rodeo count.*

*7. All members (senior, junior, jackbenny and pee wee) must have competed in that particular event at a minimum of 60% of the approved rodeos held during the rodeo season.*

*8. Added money for the Finals shall be a minimum of $500 for each major event and a minimum of $200 for each junior event.*

 *a. At the Finals, the Team Roping event will get equal added money so payout is comparable with other major events.*

*9. If a junior member qualifies and meets eligibility criteria, they must purchase a senior membership before competing in that event at the Finals.*

*10. If a full slate of Finals qualifiers cannot be drawn from contestant’s points earned, money earned, rodeos attended, etc., the Finals committee shall be responsible for selecting additional contestants to fill the top ten spots for major events and top six for the two junior events and pee wee events referenced.*

*11. Minor events or jackpot events held at the Finals are subject to the approval of the HRA Finals Committee.*

*12. In the event of a tie for the Finals Champion, a run-off will be used to determine the winner as appropriate.*

 *13. If any person is not qualified for the Finals and are working the Finals, they shall not be invited to compete at the Finals if there are not enough qualified contestants to fill the positions.*

*14. The finals standings are to be posted upon completion of the last rodeo of the season and not kept concealed until after the awards banquet*

*15. Finals stock will be decided upon by the current director of each event no matter the rodeo count. Stock must have attended at least one rodeo unless otherwise approved by the current director of that event.*

 *16.* ***Finals contestants*** *get to vote on what stock comes to the finals in each event (rough stock as each separate event). These final votes must be into the HRA office no later then 3 weeks prior to finals and contractors will be notified within 2 days after the vote cut off of what stock is eligible for them to take to finals.*