

**2010 OFFICIAL RULE BOOK OF THE  
MOUNTAIN STATES YOUNG GUNS**

Also hereafter referred to as  
MSYG,  
Duly organized under the laws of the State of Colorado.  
Revision: December 2010

**PURPOSE**

**The purpose for which this association was formed shall be exclusively for recreational, social fellowship and promotion of good nature in competitive rodeo sport for youth from the age four years through and including the age of nineteen.**

**MEMBERSHIP**

The association shall be composed of members meeting the following qualifications:

1. Any person being the age of four years old through and including the age of 19, and who have not reached their twentieth birthday prior to January 1, of the rodeo year.
2. The member and custodial parent(s), legal guardian(s) of a minor child will provide completed; **MSYG Membership Application, and Release of Liability Forms, Parental Protection for MSYG Agreement, copy of insurance and birth certificate.**
3. Members shall be in good standing, have paid full dues, fines and fees owed to MSYG.

**ANNUAL DUES**

Annual membership dues will be determined at the beginning of each rodeo season. Dues must be paid for the current rodeo season as determined by the board to keep your membership active. Youth may apply for reinstatement of membership at any time during the year.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A volunteer Board of Directors will be established to oversee the workings within the organization. They will also act as arbitrator, when needed. The Board of Directors will have the best interest of the members in mind with any and all decisions.

**OFFICERS**

Volunteer officers will be elected by the Board of Directors to oversee the day-to-day operations of the organization. Officers will be, in part, the committee in charge of rodeo planning and organizing the MSYG Year End Finals. The officers will have the best interest of the member in mind with any and all decisions.

**CONTESTANT REPRESENTATIVES**

If determined by the Board of Directors, contestant representative from the current membership may be appointed by the Board of Directors. Subject to the direction of the Board of Directors, it shall be the responsibility of the contestant representatives to review rule change proposals concerning the fairness or conduct of competition, the safety of contestants and livestock and the definition of bull riding events. Unless otherwise stated by the Board of Directors, the contestant representative may attend all Board Meetings.

## LIABILITY

Including without limitation, member, contestants, parents, observer, helper, volunteer, cowboy protection, stock contractors, rodeo producers and committees and contract personnel agree to discharge, waive, and release and covenant not to sue Mountain States Young Guns, Inc. (MSYG), officers or owners, employees, family members, heirs or agents, the participants, sanctioning organization or any subdivision thereof, rodeo committee, stock contractor, rodeo association, arena operators or owners, officials, cowboy protection, gate pullers, EMT personnel, any persons in restricted areas, promoters, sponsors, advertisers, owners or lessees of premises used to conduct the event and each of them, each doing business under their own names or any other names (hereinafter the "Releases"), from all claims, demands and liabilities from any and all property damage, personal injury and/or death arising from observation, help or participation in a MSYG event. This discharge, waiver and release includes claims demands and liabilities that are known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, future or contingent, and includes claims, demands and liabilities arising out of the negligence of the parties so released. This discharge also includes claims, demands and liabilities for indemnities and contributions arising from property damage, personal injury and/or death to a third party. **Before each MSYG event and before Member competes, the Member and Member's parents each will inspect the arena, chutes, grounds, pens, livestock, cowboy protectors, arena personnel, gate pullers, EMT personnel, and restricted areas to determine the safety, condition and qualification of each and will hereby either warrant each safe and qualified for safe operation in the production of a rodeo or should any of the Undersigned find that any condition of the rodeo production unsafe, the Member may either not compete and withdraw from the event, or provide at Member's (or Member's Parents) own cost and risk their own cowboy protectors, EMT personnel or gate pullers, as long as each has signed all release and waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity forms required by the MSYG.**

## GENERAL RULES

All approved rodeos must comply with the rules set forth herein, with no exceptions.

1. NO ALCOHOL will be permitted in the arena, behind the chutes or restricted areas at an MSYG rodeo. Although the MSYG recommends no alcohol to be served at a MSYG rodeo, it is recognized that the Producer (separately) may serve and be responsible for alcohol on the grounds of one of their rodeos.
2. Emergency Medical Services (ambulance or EMT) must be on the grounds at all times.
3. All contestants and parents/guardians should know and understand all the rules, but particularly the ones that pertain to your age group. By joining MSYG and paying the membership dues, you agree to abide by these rules.
4. All scores are unofficial until Secretary has added Judge's sheets. All decisions made by the Judges will be final.

## DRESS CODE

The dress code will apply to all MSYG members at ALL MSYG rodeos.

1. Western attire with appropriate footwear, western hat, and a long sleeve shirt with a collar, is to be worn at all time by contestants in and out of the arena and behind the chutes.
2. NO baseball caps or T-shirts permitted.
3. Cowboy hats are not required in the arena when wearing a helmet during competition.
4. One sleeve is permitted to be rolled up during the competition ride.
5. Violations of the dress code may result in the disqualification from your event. The judges will notify the contestant.

## PERSONAL CONDUCT

Any official of the MSYG, its members, their parents/guardians or any person associated with the MSYG are expected to conduct themselves in a polite, fair and respectful manner at all MSYG functions or at anytime representing the MSYG.

1. The intentional falsification of a name, age or other personal information, (such as address, etc.) pertaining to a member or guardian will not be tolerated; this is cause for immediate suspension.
2. The consumption or possession of alcohol and/or drugs\* by a member or contestant before or during any MSYG event is strictly prohibited. Immediate disqualification and forfeiture of all entry fees will result. \*if you are under a Physician's care and use a prescribed drug, please bring it to the attention of the secretary at time of entering a MSYG event. This is for our files and for your medical safety, in case of emergency.
3. Mistreatment, endangerment or neglect of rodeo stock will not be tolerated. Flank ropes will be of soft cotton rope at least 3/4 inch in diameter. Pull flanks or (horse flanks) may be used, as long as they are 3/4 inch in diameter. The use of electric prods will be used sparingly, only touching the animal on the hip or shoulder area. Any persons mistreating stock on the fairgrounds will be disqualified and asked to leave the fairgrounds.
4. Fighting, quarreling or the use of profane language or gestures will result in disqualification, fines or possible suspension, as deemed appropriate by Arena Director.
5. Any attempt made by a contestant or agent of any member, to fix, bribe, threaten, influence or harass the judge(s) at anytime, before-during-or-after an event will be dealt with severely by the Board of Directors.
6. Parents, or other persons, inappropriately approaching, engaging or in any way distracting the judges or officials during an event, for an reason, will be subject to the penalties described below.
7. Turn out fines may be assessed for entering an event and failing to show. You may call-in and withdraw up to 24 hours prior to the event without incurring this fine. The fine will be the stock charges for that age group.

## FINES AND PENALTIES

MISCONDUCT by a MSYG member, parent/guardian or companion could result in a suspension, disqualification, entry fee forfeiture and/or fines accordingly. Judges, Arena Directors, officers or board members have the authority to disqualify a contestant from an event for any serious rule infraction. Suspension from the Association, either temporary or permanent will be determined by a vote of the Board of Directors. Serious rule infractions are determined by the Board of Directors in response to witnessed events, or complaints by spectators, contestants, stock contractors or judges.

## RODEO ENTRY

Contestants should refer to the entry information in the official newsletter for entering rodeos. Entries may be taken by phone, fax, walk in or mail in, depending on the rodeo producer's preference. Entry fees will not be included in the purse if contestant does not show up, or turns out. Entry fees, stock charges, purse payout and office fees are all subject to change. If rodeo producer elects to use another entry fee schedule, it will be posted and designated as "non-standard" entry fee schedule. Stock and office fee charges are included in entry fees.

### STANDARD MEMBER ENTRY FEE SCHEDULE

Mutton Bustin'	\$20.00
Calf Riding	\$25.00
Rough Riders	\$30.00
Young Guns	\$40.00
Juniors	\$45.00
Seniors	\$50.00

## GROUND MONEY

If there are no qualified rides ground money will be paid, stock charge collected and office charge will be held out.

### AGE GROUPS AND RESTRICTIONS

Contestants can ride in their age group-determined by their birthday as of January 1, of the rodeo year. THEY MAY RIDE UP in age divisions, but NOT DOWN. They may perform in more than one event and must pay entry fee in each event. All members must complete membership forms and pay dues to qualify for our year end finals.

#### 4-6 Years Recreational Mutton Bustin'

Must wear mouthpiece, protective vest and helmet. ALL participants will receive a score, contestants may choose to ride with or without a rope, one hand or two hands. This division is not eligible for payouts or membership. MSYG members must ride in the Competitive Mutton Bustin' to receive year end points.

#### 4-6 Years Competitive Mutton Bustin'

Must wear mouthpiece, protective vest and helmet. This ride will be 6 seconds, riding with a rope and one hand, bull riding rules apply. Latch-side judge (or back judge) will record ground time to be used in case of no qualified scores. Time will stop and the contestant will be considered bucked off if any part of their hand or any part of their body touches the ground during the ride. If the contestant touches the animal with their free hand, time will stop and no score will be awarded. Re-rides for falling, stopping or fouling the rider will be given at the discretion of the judge. The Arena Director may override the judge's decision for a re-ride. No wraps allowed. Stock will be chute drawn. Electric cattle prods may not be used in the chute. Parents will NOT be allowed to hand pick animals for the own children riding.

#### 8 & under Calf Riding

Must wear mouth piece, protective vest and helmet. The ride will be 6 seconds, one hand with a rope, bull riding rules apply. No wraps allowed. Stock will be drawn for and will be flanked. Stock will be bull, heifer or steer calves. Electric cattle prods will not be used in the chute.

#### 11 & under Rough Riders

Must wear mouth piece, protective vest and helmet. The ride will be 6 seconds. Bull riding rules apply. Stock will be drawn for and flanked. No finger tucks allowed. Stock will be young bulls, steers or heifers. Electric cattle prods will not be used in the chute.

#### 13 & under Young Guns

Must wear mouthpiece, protective vest and helmet. The ride will be 6 seconds. Bull riding rules apply. Stock will be drawn for and flanked. Electric cattle prods will not be used in the chutes. No finger tucks.

#### 15 & under Junior Bull Riding

Must wear mouthpiece, protective vest and helmet. The ride will be 8 seconds. Bull riding rules apply. Stock will be drawn for and flanked. If an electric prod is used, stock will only be touched on the hip or shoulder area. No finger tucks allowed.

#### 19 & under Senior Bull Riding

Must wear mouthpiece, protective vest and helmet. Rules same as Junior Bull Riding.

**\*ALL YOUTH who are participating in Mountain States Young Guns sanctioned rough stock events, are required to wear and use all safety equipment listed. USE OF MOUTH PIECE, PROTECTIVE VEST and HELMET ARE REQUIRED IN ALL DIVISIONS!**

## RIDING RULES

For any competition rules that are not covered by the MSYG Official Rule Book, refer to the PRCA Official Rule Book. Riding is to be done with one hand and loose rope, with or without hand hold. No knots or hitches to prevent rope from falling off animal when rider leaves him. A bell must be on bottom of rope. Animals are to be ridden for a give time in each age group. Time to start when shoulder breaks the chute.

1. If you are fouled at the gate you must declare yourself immediately.
2. If the animal falls (unless mutton bustin') a re-ride is at the discretion of the judges.
3. If a flank comes off, a re-ride will be offered, provided the rider has made a qualified ride.
4. If a rider makes qualified ride with any part of the rope in his hand, he is to be marked. The judges shall decide the matter of re-rides. Re-ride shall be decided before the next ride.
5. No more than 1 man may be on the chute to pull contestants rope and one spotter.
6. No person under 11 behind chutes during Young Gun, Junior or Senior Bull Riding.
7. Hooks and rings shall not be used on bull ropes.
8. Head fighting bulls or steers having bad horns must be dehorned or kept out of the draw.
9. Rider will be disqualified for any of the following reasons.
  - a. Being bucked off.
  - b. Touching the animal or self with free hand.
  - c. Using sharp spurs.
  - d. Placing spurs or chaps under the rope being tightened.
  - e. Taking a finger tuck, or hand wrap above the wrist.
  - f. Judges may disqualify a rider who has been advised he is next to go, if he is not above the animal with his glove on, when the previous animal leaves the arena.
  - g. The Back judge (or latch-side judge) will be the official time.
  - h. If a re-ride is given or an option is offered, the rider must give the judge his decision immediately.
  - i. No vest, mouth guard or helmet.
10. Teri question\*\*\*\*\*Contestants must attend the Year End Finals (all go rounds) to be eligible for year end awards and World Finals qualifications. They only exception will be written medical releases.

## DRAWS

All draws, with the exception of the Mutton Bustin' will be random drawn, APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE WITH AT LEAST ONE JUDGE PRESENT. NO EXHIBITION RIDES WILL BE GIVEN DURING A PERFORMANCE. Animals may be doubled back if necessary. The contractor will make every effort to keep the stock in each age division even as far as size and ability to buck. The Mutton Bustin' will be chute drawn. Because sheep are chute drawn, no parent of Mutton Bustin' contestants should assist in the loading of the animals. Rough Rider, Young Guns, Junior and Senior Bulls should be hot branded. However, Calves and Rough Rider stock may be either ear tagged or grease penciled, and they do not have to have the same number each week. Each animal is to be numbered and listed with his or her corresponding draw number. It shall be up to the judges to see that contestants compete on the stock drawn for them. In the event of a mistake, stock drawn for must be run during that performance and only that time or score taken.

### POINT SYSTEM

All participants will receive participation points. 5 points for Mutton Bustin', Calf Riding and Rough Riders. 10 points for Young Guns, Juniors and Seniors. Additional points will be awarded according to payouts. This includes ground money and any added money. If a rider receives a score but no payout they will receive 5 additional points for MB, CR and RR. 10 additional points for YG, JR and SR riders. (Example: 1<sup>st</sup> place MB receives a \$52 check, they will receive 57 points. 4<sup>th</sup> place YG receives no paycheck will receive 20 points)

### PROTEST RULES

Anyone wishing to file a protest or complaint shall go to the Arena Director and voice their protest. If the subject is deemed worthy, the Arena Director will request a written protest to be submitted and you must post a \$100 Protest Bond to be presented to the rodeo secretary. Under no circumstances will the \$100 bond be returned on an invalid protest. If the protest is valid, the money will be refunded.