


2008 YRS Newsletter

Howdy and happy spring everyone! Hope this newsletter finds you, your family and your horses healthy and ready to “play” at our first rodeo of the YRS season on Tuesday, June 3rd at the Shaw’s Lucky  Arena on Road 10 in Worden Montana.

This is the same *outstanding* facility we rode in last year. It is owned by John and Jami Shaw, has 2 great arenas, lots of parking, an office, announcers stand, concession building and covered bleachers!! Entries OPEN at 5:30pm, Entries CLOSE at 6:15pm and the rodeo will start promptly at 6:30pm. **Remember you must be entered in all of your events PRIOR to 6:15pm.** We will ask that you write two separate checks, one for your membership fees for the 2008 season and one for your entry fees for the evening. If you complete the enclosed Membership Form/Release Form ahead of time and bring it with you, it will speed the process up for everyone. :)

There are ten Tuesday evening rodeos scheduled beginning on June 3rd. We will **NOT** rodeo the week of July 4th. Additionally, August 19th will be set aside for a rain out date. Membership fees are the same as last year, \$35.00 for one participating child or \$60.00 per family (2 or more participating children). You must compete in 60% of the rodeo’s **AND** sell a book of raffle tickets to be eligible for year end awards. The age groups will be 7 and Under; 8-10yrs; 11-13yrs and 14-18yrs. Events are \$5.00 per event for ALL EVENTS AND ALL AGE GROUPS. Events are Breakaway Roping—Goat Tying—Barrels—Poles. An additional \$3.00 will be charged for Breakaway events.

We will be running two arenas again this year so we will need lots of extra hands and helpers and we will need **you** to volunteer! The 7 and Under kids will run barrels and poles in the far east arena. This arena area will also be used as a warm up arena and it will be worked prior to the beginning of the 7 and under events. There is also a spot behind the 2nd arena that can be used for warming up.

We want to thank John and Jami Shaw for providing the steers and the hazers for the breakaway roping again this year. An electronic laser eye barrier will be used for the breakaway roping and all contestants **MUST** stay behind the steer or they will be disqualified.

Concessions will be provided so PLEASE make sure that you clean up after yourself and throw all of your garbage away. If you see ANY litter, please be a good neighbor and pick it up. We welcome ALL members of the family to this fun event but PLEASE monitor and watch your children VERY carefully. There is a large irrigation ditch next to the property and there are a number of horses who reside at the ranch, including studs. Please do not go anywhere near these animals, stay out of the barns, DO NOT allow your children to tie to the arena or fences and DO NOT allow them to run through the trailers. There is lots of room for parking but please be courteous when you park so we’ll have lots of room for everyone. Practice safe behavior with your horses at all times and only tie to the hitch rails provided. We will go over the new rule changes for the 2008 season and some other common sense rules the first night.

In the event of inclement weather, please call John and Jami Shaw at #967-2779 for “RAIN OUT” updates and information. John will make the decision and leave an applicable message at least one hour prior to the rodeo. If you have any other questions, please call Brad Green, YRS President, or Lori Trafford, YRS Secretary.

YRS 2008 Officers:

President ~ Brad Green #373-9209

Secretary ~ Lori Trafford #861-1962

Treasurer ~ Billie Jo Schaff

Board of Directors ~ Carl Parker, Shari Johnson, Randall Jobman, Suanne Stenger

Awards Committee ~ Sandie Green

Raffle Committee Chairman ~ Lael Parker

Our Spring Meeting was held on April 8th ~ Here are some of the highlights:

New Rules were the highlight of new business. Board members have met over the winter and came up with the following rules to be implemented this 2008 rodeo season. These rules will be posted at the office and a copy will be given to all participants. The new rules are as follows:

- ⇒ **Breakaway Roping** ~ Breakaway ropes are to be 21 feet long or shorter. The fence will be marked so that ropes can be measured and cut if needed. This new rule will be announced the first rodeo (June 3rd). Any rope used in competition following the first rodeo that exceeds the 21" length will be flagged as a NO TIME. Ropers are responsible for checking their rope length prior to roping !!
- ⇒ **Breakaway String** ~ will be provided by YRS. Ropers are REQUIRED to use the provided string. String will be available at the office or at the roping boxes.
- ⇒ **Breakaway Event** ~ this year will consist of only ONE steer and will again have an additional fee.
- ⇒ **Hat Rule** ~ If you loose your hat PRIOR to crossing the start line (electronic eye) or the roping barrier, then a 5 SECOND PENALTY will be added to your time. Once you have crossed the start line, you will NOT be penalized if your hat is lost in the heat of competition. This rule will be go into effect AFTER the first rodeo of the season. YRS strongly suggests that you use a stampede string or secure your hat in some other way to prevent you from being assessed this penalty. Bailing twine will be available at the office for anyone wishing to make their own stampede string. Bobby pins also work VERY well for the ladies.
- ⇒ **Entry Fees** ~ Entry fees will be \$5 per event for EVERY age Group and for EVERY event. An additional stock fee of \$3 will also be paid by each participant who is competing in Breakaway Roping.
- ⇒ **Rolling** ~ YRS contestants that need to be adjusted in their order of run in any event will be allowed to roll DOWN the contestant list but will NOT be allowed to roll UP.
- ⇒ **Rain Out** ~ In event of a Rain Out once competition has started, the following procedure will be followed. All events COMPLETED will count towards individual EVENT year end awards. If all events of a particular age group are NOT completed then the rodeo will NOT count towards the All-Around. Fees for any event that is NOT completed will be rolled over to the next rodeo. Example: The 7 and Under age group finished all of their events so their night would count towards their year end events and the all-around. The event was called prior to the goat tying for all other age groups. Breakaway, barrels & poles were finished therefore would count towards those individual event year end awards, but since the goat tying was not completed then none of the amounts won that evening would count towards the year end all-around.
- ⇒ **Sweatshirts** ~ YRS sweatshirts are considered a year end award and require members to meet ALL award requirements. If you are a member and are unable to meet all of the requirements you will be allowed to purchase a sweatshirt. You must let the awards committee know of your intent prior to the ordering of awards.
- ⇒ **Other Topics** ~
- ⇒ **Garage Sales** ~ We once again will have the opportunity to work the food bank garage sales as a fundraiser for YRS. These are extremely easy and fun and they earn money for your YRS organization. Debbie French is once again heading this up and will be looking for volunteers to work. These sales are on Friday and Saturday and will be in an indoor location this year. Please call Debbie at 875-2167 to have your name added to the list.
- ⇒ **Website** ~ Tim and Lori Trafford are working on adding a link to their website for YRS. They plan on making our weekly results available shortly before the following rodeo and will have other YRS forms/information available. Their website is www.redskydesigns.com ~ look for a YRS button on the main page.
- ⇒ **Arena Directors** ~ Because we are fortunate enough to be able to run two arenas again this year there will be an Arena Director assigned to each arena. If you don't go and find them to volunteer, they WILL come and find you. You can also sign up when you register for your events. If you're not sure what to do, or how to do something there are lots of very friendly folks who will be happy to help you out—it really is easy and it's fun

- ⇒ **Sponsorships** ~ GO GET THEM !!! If you need a sponsorship letter, please contact Sandie Green and she'll get one to you. Some corporations are requiring a W(in order to give us a donation if you find that a donor wants this, please contact Sandie Green @ #373-9029.
- ⇒ **Raffle** ~ Lael Parker has started collecting donations for the raffle. Start thinking about this and getting donations. We can't do this without participation and assistance from ALL of our valued members !!
- ⇒ **Barrel Covers** ~ Randall Jobman has gotten barrel covers donated by Wrangler. Thanks Randall and a BIG thank you to Wrangler. We have one set that will be used in the older kids' arena.
- ⇒ **Dummy Roping**~ It was suggested that maybe we should add Dummy Roping as an event for our 7 & Under kids. It was decided that this might be a possibility for next year. We would like to see what kind of interest we would have in adding this event so midway through the YRS season this summer we will have a trial "fun" event. More information will be available as this date approaches.
- ⇒ **Roping Calves** ~ It was suggested that maybe we should consider trying to rope calves occasionally for the breakaway in the 11-13 and 14-18 age groups. It was decided that we need to talk with John Shaw regarding this idea and it will be tabled until next year.
- ⇒ **Ribbons** ~ will once again be awarded at each rodeo for the 7 & Under and 8-10 age groups.
- ⇒ **Flaggers** ~ the rules for the flaggers will be attached to the actual flags. Any malfunction in the timer will result in a r-run for that contestant. The flagger's job will consist of watching for pattern breaks and the loss of hats prior to crossing the time line. A set of rules/guidelines will also be posted in the announcer's booth.
- ⇒ **LAST BUT NOT LEAST ~ WORKERS !!** We need each and every one of you. This club is a volunteer club and every rodeo is run SOLELY by the help of parent/adult volunteers. Jobs for EVERY rodeo are numerous and everyone is needed to help. There are certain people that seem to have to work EVERY week. Our club is large and we know that there are plenty of people to help out. A better list will be kept this year of who volunteers to work and who does not. We ask that everyone work at least one rodeo. If we continue to have problems finding help then the rules might be adjusted for next year...in other words, PLEASE HELP !! There will be ARENA DIRECTORS assigned to each arena and if you don't go and find them to volunteer, they WILL come and find you. You are encouraged to sign up with you register for your events for either that rodeo or the following rodeo. If you're not sure what to do, or how to do something, there are lots of very friendly folks who will be happy to help you out—it is easy and it is fun.

In closing we want to say THANK YOU to our wonderful awards committee who did such a fantastic job for our kids again last year. The awards were only overshadowed by the HUGE smiles we saw on all of those kids' faces!! A number of businesses really supported our rodeo again this past year. Be sure to remember them when you do your shopping and tell them thank you.

Remember kids ~ RIDE THOSE TERRIFIC HORSES OF YOURS BEFORE THE FIRST RODEO !! CHECK YOUR CINCHES AND DOUBLE CHECK ALL OF YOUR TACK! Get your horses and that roping arm into shape so this will be a fun rodeo event for your and your equine buddy and not a battle of the wills....or will nots....

A heartfelt thank you is extended to all of the wonderful volunteers for all of the hours that they spend supporting this GREAT program for our kids and to our hosts John and Jamie Shaw.

Respectfully submitted—Lori Trafford—a special thank you to Billie Schaff for acting as secretary at a couple of the YRS meetings. See you all Tuesday, June 3rd.