

2026 STYRRA RULEBOOK

South Texas Youth Ranch Rodeo Association (STYRRA)

THE ASSOCIATION

STYRRA was founded to preserve the traditions of South Texas youth ranch rodeo while opening doors for the next generation. We saw the need for an affordable, community-based youth rodeo association where families could come together to celebrate the cowboy way of life.

AGE DIVISIONS (2026)

Age divisions are determined by the contestant's age on January 1 of the current rodeo season.

1. Pee Wee Division – 6 Years Old & Under (on foot)
2. Sub Juniors - 7 to 9 Years Old & Under (on foot)
3. Junior Division – 10 to 12 Years Old & Under (on foot)
4. Intermediate Division – 15 Years Old & Under (on horse back)
5. Senior Division – 18 Years Old & Under (on horseback)

Contestants may choose to compete in their designated age division or move up into an older division, but may not move down into a younger division.

Example: A 12-year-old or younger may compete in the Intermediate Division or move up to the Senior Division, but cannot move down into the peewee or Sub junior Division.

Additional Rule: Contestants may participate on more than one team, as long as they meet the age and membership requirements for each team.

EVENTS PER AGE GROUP

- Pee Wee Division – trailer loading, Branding, and hide race, mutton bustin (animal will be staked) on foot only see peewee rule book
- Sub Junior Division-trailer loading, Tying, Branding, and Milking on foot only see junior rule book
- Junior Division –trailer loading, Tying, Branding, and Milking on foot only see junior rule book
- Intermediate Division – Sorting, Tying, Branding, and Milking
- Senior Division – Sorting, Tying, Branding, Milking, and Trailer Loading

GENERAL RULES

1. All judges' decisions are final.
2. Contestants and parents must read and understand the rulebook.
3. No one may address the judge, announcer, or timekeeper during another team's run.
4. Western attire is required: jeans, boots, and long-sleeved shirts. Cowboy hats or helmets must be worn in the arena.
5. Each team will consist of four members.
6. All team members must be paid STYRRA members.
7. Rough or abusive handling of livestock will result in disqualification.
8. All horses on the grounds must have current Coggins papers.
9. A ranch's score will be the combined time of all events; lowest total time wins.

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

SORTING

Teams will sort numbered animals in the order called by the announcer.

If wrong numbers cross the line, a 10-second penalty will apply per head.

Eight incorrect crossings result in a full time (180 seconds).

Animals must be handled quietly; any abusive handling results in disqualification.

TYING (MUGGING)

Teams will rope, stop, and tie three legs of the animal in a cross-bone fashion.

The animal must be daylighted (clear of the ground) before tying.

The animal must stay tied for six seconds.

Pre-tied strings are prohibited.

Full time will be given for abusive handling or early touching during the 6-second count.

BRANDING

One contestant will run from the line with a branding iron to the animal.

The animal must be on its side (branding position).

Brand must be placed from the shoulders back.

If the brander leaves the circle early or brands in the wrong position, a 10-second penalty applies.

Throwing the branding mop or dragging the animal toward the pot results in a full time.

MILKING

A cow or goat will be used depending on age division.

Two ribbons or tape pieces will be attached to the animal.

Two contestants must each retrieve one ribbon and cross the finish line together.

If one contestant pulls both ribbons, a 10-second penalty applies.

Time stops when both contestants cross the line with ribbons.

TRAILER LOADING

The team must locate and load their designated animal into a stock trailer.

The animal must be loaded safely and the trailer gate shut completely before time stops.

Rough handling or unsafe methods will result in disqualification.

STEER RIDING (Intermediate Divisions Only)

Open to Junior (12 & under) and Intermediate (13 & under) contestants only.

Each contestant will ride one steer provided by the stock contractor.

Helmets and protective vests are required for all contestants.

A bull rope must be used; no flank straps allowed.

Contestant must ride for 6 seconds to receive a qualified score.

Riders may use one hand only; touching the animal or themselves with the free hand will result in disqualification.

Judges will score based on control, style, and effort.

Rough handling, abusive livestock treatment, or unsafe conduct by adults or handlers will result in immediate disqualification.

SAFETY RULES

Safety is the top priority.

Only contestants, judges, or approved helpers may be in the arena during competition.

Parents and photographers must remain in designated safe zones.

Any unsafe conduct toward animals or other contestants will result in disqualification.

MISCONDUCT

First Offense: Verbal warning.

Second Offense: Barred from the next rodeo.

Third Offense: Barred from STYRRA for the season.

Alcohol or drug use on premises is prohibited.

The Board of Directors may suspend or terminate any membership for just cause.

Entries and fees must be paid in full before each rodeo.

Late entries will incur a \$20 penalty.

Effective Season: 2026

Governing Body: South Texas Youth Ranch Rodeo Association (STYRRA)