Diamond Cross Productions
2026: Battle for the Buckle Youth Rodeo

Contestant Requirements

- Contestant must be 19 years old or younger as of January 1, 2026, not married (or previously married), and must not have children of their own. Proof of age required. Age divisions will use the same cutoff date.
- Contestants must compete in full western attire, including cowboy hat or helmet.
- Contestants must wear back numbers at all times on the premises. These will be issued at check-in the day of the rodeo.
- Contestants and parents/guardians must show respect to judges, staff, and livestock at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct or abuse may result in removal from the premises and no refund of entries or admissions paid.
- It is the contestant's responsibility to make sure they are ready when called. Draws (both slack and performance) will be posted ahead of time on the website, www.diamondcrossproductions.com. If a contestant is called 3 times and is still not ready, they will receive a "No Time" or "No Score".

Entry Rules

- Contestants and parents must read and agree to all rules to enter.
- Each contestant is allowed to enter each event they are eligible to compete in, one time only. Multiple runs in the same event are not allowed, even for different age divisions.
- Contestants are allowed to compete in their own age division or an age division above their actual age division. They are not allowed to age down to compete.
- Contestants will be given the option to compete in slack only (unless performance does not fill) for those who want to be in and out as quickly as possible.
- Being in the performance draw (especially for multiple events) is not guaranteed. In an effort to allow as many kids as possible a chance to compete in the performance, we will choose the performance draw randomly with rules set so that if you are running in multiple events and put in the performance for one event, priority for other events will go to those who are not already in the performance draw.
- If you have any special requests, you must reach out prior to entering to see if accommodations can be arranged.
- Entries will open and close on announced dates.
- After entries close, contestant is responsible for all entry fees paid and no refunds will be given. If there is an emergency, contact Diamond Cross Productions ASAP, producer-approved refunds may be considered.

- No-shows who don't call ahead will not receive a refund and could be banned from entering future events at the producer's discretion.
- Diamond Cross Productions reserves the right to fill any performance draw-outs with contestants from a waitlist, or to run the performance with an open slot.

Other Rules

- In the event of any situation not covered in these rules, Diamond Cross Productions reserves the right to make a final decision.
- Decisions on rerides and reruns will be at the judges' discretion only.
- Times will be recorded with electronic timers as well as backup timers. In the event of an electronic timer failure, back-up time for all contestants in that event/division may be used.
- Judges' decisions are final.
- 8U and 13U aged divisions in roughstock must ride for 6 seconds to have a qualified time, 19U age division must ride for 8 seconds to have a qualified time.
- Protective gear is required. Contestants must at the very least have an approved vest and helmet. Chaps are recommended but not required.

Payout Rules

- 70% payback
- $15,000 added money will be split between events, and age divisions at the discretion of the producer.
- Number of spots paying out will be based on entry numbers in each event and age division.
- In the event of a tie, payouts for tied positions will be split between tied contestants. If the tie is for 1st place an additional buckle will be ordered and mailed to winner.
- If there are no qualified times or scores for an event and age division, the added money for that event and division will be split between the entered contestants.