



Holiday Greetings!



2015 - A Bitter Sweet Year

2015 had many milestones, good and bad. The good included the Bill Pickett Invitation Rodeo celebrating its 31st anniversary, a successful rodeo season resulting in new 2015 champions and great support from the cowboys and cowgirls. The year also brought a very sad moment with the passing of my husband and the rodeo founder, Lu Vason.

While we miss him very much, the blessing of having him in our lives was that he loved every one of us, invested in each of us, planted a very solid foundation and mentored many of us through some life lessons.

While we have also been blessed with good health, prosperity, friendships and a loving rodeo family, I personally want to thank each of our rodeo coordinators and every cowboy and cowgirl

for standing by me and the BPIR as we have pushed through this very difficult year.

Lu always believed that African Americans don't invest in their beliefs or stay commented to their dreams. To carry on his legacy, I have made a commitment to continue BPIR, which was Lu's most important creation to honor the Black cowboys and cowgirls. We are working hard on the 2016 BPIR tour, which has been finalized for the most part. There are some new and exciting things pending, so please stay tuned.

As we prepare to enter into 2016 for our 32nd Anniversary season, our first rodeo is the MLK Jr. African American Heritage Rodeo of Champions. The MLK Rodeo will be on January 18, 2016 at the National Western Stock Show in the Mile High city of Denver, Colorado. I think it is worth repeating that no other stock show in the country offers this unique line-up or provides a platform to illustrate the impact Black cowboys and cowgirls had in the development of the West.

This year, the MLK Rodeo is featuring the original Oklahoma Pony Express Relay Team. One race. Winner take all!

I encourage each of you to be part of the MLK. Jr. African American Heritage Rodeo this year. This year is especially meaningful as the NWSS does a special tribute to Lu Vason.

Many of you have shared your thoughts and made suggestions about things we should consider changing. I appreciate those who took the time to share their thoughts in a respectful manner.

The BPIR management team (Sedgwick, Carolyn, Stephanie, Acynthia and I) have had numerous conference calls/meetings to discuss and debate all the suggestions submitted. We discussed the pros and cons of each item, but as a team agreed on all rules to be used in 2016. We know that everyone might not agree or like the final decisions, but we ask that you respect our decisions and the process used to find consensus to preserve the BPIR organization as unique and different.

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The following are important decisions for 2016:

- We will continue to follow the IPRA rules
- The BPIR membership approach will remain the same as last year. If someone enters a BPIR rodeo on a permit and win money, the balance of their card will be taken out and the monies will count toward their points for that rodeo.
- BPIR Points calculations will remain as last year. Points are calculated based on monies won.

Ground Money

- If there is no qualified score or time in an event, the ground money will not count toward points.

Note the change for Bull Riding pay outs in 2016.

Bull Riding will be paid on each go round per rodeo. There will be no average payout except at the BPIR finals.

2016 Rookie of the Year qualification is that the contestant must attend 1 more than half of the 2016 rodeo tour to qualify for the Rookie Cowboy and Cowgirl. To be considered a Rookie, you must not have been a BPIR member in the past.

Some good news is that we are looking to sanction 3 to 4 new rodeos in 2016, but have not finalize the list yet. We already know that the American Soul Charity Rodeo, Roy LeBlanc's Invitational Black Rodeo and Justa Cowboy Association will be 2016 BPIR sanctioned rodeos and hope to have any other rodeos identified by the end of January.

All points won by a BPIR member from the sanctioned rodeos count towards the qualifications for BPIR Finals.

Once again, I say thank you and look to 2016 as a new beginning.

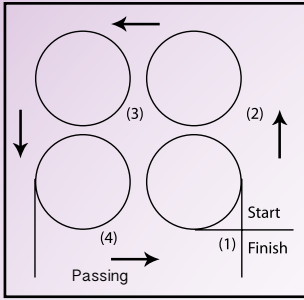
I wish everyone a happy holiday season and hope to see you on the BPIR tour.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family. I wish you all the joys and happiness of the season. May you be blessed with peace, love and joy.

Valeria Vason



RELAY RACE RULES



1. THE START OF THE RELAY WILL BEGIN AT THE FIRST BARREL AND THE FINISH WILL BE AT THE FIRST BARREL (reason: the majority of the relay racers will be accustomed to starting at the 1st barrel and stopping at the 4th. The relay racers are generally the same group of people each year.
2. THE PASSING OF THE BATON WILL OCCUR BETWEEN THE 4TH AND 1ST BARREL ONLY (i.e. the pass can't happen at the 4th, nor can it. The passing of the baton will occur between the 4th and 1st barrel only (i.e. The pass can't happen at the 4th, nor can it happen at the 1st, it must be between the barrels).
3. You have to be ready to enter the arena when your team is called, if not, you will be disqualified and will forfeit your entry fee.
4. You can encourage your horse to run; however, the designated relay baton is all that you can pass between riders.
5. The barrel will be staked at the very beginning and will remain the same for the duration of the race for both performances.

BPIR Rules & Regulations 2016

The BPIR will use the IPRA rules for 2016. If there is an issue in any event, the contestant should go to the Event Director first.

Please note: There will be a \$25.00 fine for anyone (other than BPIR staff) that are inside the arena when not performing. \$50.00 for 2nd offense/fine. Stock charges will be \$15.00 and 6% will be taken at all BPIR, MLK and Associate Rodeos from the total money for each event and a timer fee of \$5.00 a run.

Membership cards must be purchased or renewed prior to any rodeo for the rodeo points to count towards 2016 standings. New membership cards will remain at \$80.00 for 2016 and renewal membership cards at \$70.00. 2015 Rodeo Champions are exempt from paying membership fees. Seniors - 55 years and above must purchase a membership the 1st year for \$40.00. All memberships are free afterwards as long as there has been 5 years of consecutive participation.

To be eligible for rookie of the year, you must participate in 1 more than half, with the rodeo finals counting as one rodeo to be eligible. You must have a membership card, and have not participated previously as a BPIR member.

PAYOFF FOR EACH B.P.I.R. RODEO WILL BE STRUCTURED AS FOLLOWS;

TOTAL PRIZE	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH
\$0 - \$500	50%	30%	20%					
\$501 - \$1700	40%	30%	20%	10%				
\$1701 - \$4999	32%	24%	18%	12%	9%	5%		
\$5000 OR MORE	26%	20%	15%	12%	10%	8%	6%	3%

QUALIFYING FOR THE 2016 BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL FINALS RODEO - TOP 10

TOP 10 : The top 10 point leaders who are BPIR members will qualify for BPIR Championship Rodeo in Washington, DC in September 2016. Please keep up with the news on the website so you are aware of any changes made. If you are competing at the BPIR finals as an alternate and you DID NOT compete at one more than half of the rodeos, you WILL NOT be eligible for awards and prizes. Money ONLY!!

All draw-outs must be done 24 hours before the rodeo's first performance. Violators will be assessed a \$25.00 fine, which must be paid prior to entering the next BPIR rodeo. Contestants that call and enter another person who does not draw out prior to 24 hours, will be held accountable for that entry.

All 2015 BPIR Champions are expected to participate in the Parade of Champions during the Grand Entry. Payoffs will remain the same as payoffs in 2015.

Contestants, Staff and Specialty Acts are responsible for paying their Stall, RV's and Electrical Hook-up Charges in each market. If anyone leaves a market without paying their charges, they will not be allowed to enter another BPIR rodeo until all charges are paid.

LADIES BARREL RACING: There must be over 20 paid for there to be 1 run. Until everyone is paid, we are unable to determine if the barrel racing will be 1 run or 2 runs.

BAREBACK EVENT SPECIAL RULES: The Bareback Event will be eliminated unless there are 5 paid contestants by entry fee deadline. Payments can be made thru Paypal or by credit card. There must be 4 or more paid contestants for a 100% of Added Money. If there is 3 or less paid contestants, only 50% of Added Money will be added.

MEMBER Rules for 2016: For any NON member who participates on a PERMIT and WIN money, the BALANCE of your New/Renewal Membership will be deducted before payoff BUT your points will count. Grand Money will not count toward year-end standings and awards.

E-MAIL ENTRIES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR MEMBERS ONLY. E-mail should be sent to stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com prior to Call-IN DATES for all Rodeos. ENTRY FEES can be paid by Credit Card, by calling the Denver BPIR Office at 303.373.1246.

ENTRY FORM

MLK RODEO • DENVER CO • MONDAY JAN 18 • 6PM • DENVER COLISEUM

MLK RODEO • Entry Form

4655 HUMBOLDT ST. • DENVER, CO

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE RODEO OF CHAMPIONS

With special guest - Native American Bareback and Bull Riders

Monday, January 18 2016 • 6:00 pm (2-hour time limit)

SLACK starts @ 8:30 AM on Monday, January, 18, 2016
Entry Fees MUST be PAID by 7:30 am to SECURE your position

DENVER, CO • EVENT	ADDED MONEY FEE	\$15,100 ADDED
CALF ROPIN	\$125	\$2500
BAREBACK RIDIN	\$125	\$2500
BULL DOGGIN	\$125	\$2500
LADIES STEER UNDECORATIN	\$125	\$2500
LADIES BARREL RACIN	\$125	\$2500
JR. BARREL RACIN	\$20	\$100
BULL RIDIN	\$125	\$2500

Entry Fee - \$125 and open to All African American Cowboys & Cowgirls
Permits are \$15.00

2016 Annual Membership - \$80.00 - New & \$70.00 Renewable Membership

PLEASE NOTE *\$15.00 Stock Charge-- \$5.00 timer charge per run. Only members are able to call in for a rodeo. Any member that calls in and does not show, will no longer be able to call in without sending their entry fee at the time of entry.

Non-members must send in their entry fees prior to the books closing.

ALL ENTRY FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

You can pay by Western Union, PayPal, Credit or Debit Card.

Books Open/Call-In:

CALL-IN: Call in date is Thursday, January 7th, 2016 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm CST
POSTITION will posted on FB and BPIR website.

CALL Stephanie Haynes, TEXAS BPIR Office at 713-253-3334 or by email:
stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com TO ENTER.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO LU VASON

We will have a special tribute honoring Lu Vason, so hope to see you all in Denver.



Entry fees must be made payable to BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO and must be paid by CASHIER'S CHECK, WESTERN UNION, PAYPAL or MONEY ORDER. Absolutely no personal or business checks accepted. Please make certain that all information requested is completed and form is properly signed. Return entry and release form, along with entry fee, to:

BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO • P.O. Box 39163 • Denver, CO 80039

Neither entry form nor entry fees are transferable/refundable. Please contact the TEXAS, B.P.I.R. CALL-IN OFFICE at 713-253-3334 on, Thursday, January 7th, 2016 to confirm your participation or on FB and BPIR Website.

RELEASE

I, the undersigned, do hereby release the management, all executives, managers or owners of buildings, owners of livestock, promoter, sponsors and their employees, etc., attached to the BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO, from all damages for injuries sustained while participating in any event or act therein. I will not, in any, hold the show management responsible, and will participate in this show absolutely at my own risk.

I, the undersigned, do hereby further agree to allow the management, without additional compensation, to use any and all photographs, videos and motion pictures taken of me in connection with the BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO for use in both commercial and non-commercial advertisements, motion pictures, videos and promotions of any kind. I agree that this instrument be binding on my heirs, next of kin and assigns.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS: _____ DATE _____

SO THAT WE CAN UPDATE OUR OFFICE FILES, PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

BIRTHDATE _____ SOC. SEC. NO. _____

CITY STATE ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

**** ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE PRESENT IN THE ARENA AND ENTRY FEES PAID TWO (2) HOURS BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE. IF RODEO SECRETARY IS LATE, RODEO SECRETARY WILL BE FINED \$50.00.**

BPIR 2016 Schedule

DENVER CO

MLK Jr. Rodeo Of Champions

Monday, January 18, 2016 | 6:00 PM

DENVER COLISEUM

4600 Humboldt Street,
Denver, CO 80216

MEMPHIS, TN

(Rodeo For Kidz Sake)

Friday, April 1, 2016 | 10:30 AM

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo

Saturday, April 2, 2016 | 7:00 PM

AGRICENTER SHOWPLACE ARENA

105 South Germantown Rd.,
Memphis, TN

OAKLAND, CA

Saturday, July 9, 2016 | 2:30 PM

Sunday, July 10, 2016 | 2:30 PM

ROWELL RANCH RODEO GROUNDS

9711 Dublin Canyon Road, Hayward, CA

LOS ANGELES, CA

Saturday, July 16, 2016 | 7:00 PM

Sunday, July 17, 2016 | 3:30 PM

INDUSTRY HILLS EXPO CENTER

16200 Temple Ave.,
City Of Industry, CA 91744

ATLANTA, GA

Saturday August 6, 2016 | 7:30PM

Sunday August 7, 2016 | 3:30PM

GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL
HORSE PARK

1996 Centennial Olympic Pkwy,
Conyers, GA

WASHINGTON, DC

(Rodeo For Kidz Sake)

Friday, September 16, 2016

10:00 AM

Bill Pickett Championship Rodeo

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016

1:30 PM & 7:30 PM

SHOW PLACE ARENA &
PRINCE GEORGE'S EQUESTRIAN
CENTER

14900 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Upper Marlboro, MD

SANCTIONED RODEO'S

SANCTIONED RODEO points will count
towards BPIR Championship Finals
for BPIR Members

American Soul Charity Rodeo
March 19, 2016, Los Angeles CA

Justa Cowboy Association
April 2, 2016 Tupelo MS

61st Annual Okmulgee
"Roy LeBlanc" Invitational Rodeo
August 12-13, 2016



MLK RODEO HOTEL INFO

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS DENVER AURORA

1500 S ABILENE ST, AURORA, CO 80012 • 303) 369-8400

\$99+ Limited Space.

Hotel may change, please check BPIR Website for more information



BPIR 2015 STANDINGS



BPIR 2015 1ST GO				
BAREBACK				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Lamontry Hosley		78	\$472
2nd	Jimmy Patterson		75	\$354
3rd	Jason Griffin		74	\$236
4th	Harold Miller		71	\$118
Calf Ropin				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Aaron Johnson	9.0		\$568
2nd	Lance Bernard	10.4		\$426
3rd	James Berry III	11.0		\$284
4th	Tory Johnson	12.8		\$142
Bull Doggin				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Jamel Hunt	7.1		\$549
2nd	Tory Johnson	7.4		\$411
3rd	Denard Hunt	8.3		\$274
4th	Andrew Hosley	11.4		\$137

LADIES STEER UNDECORATING				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Kaneshia Jackson	2.30		\$529
2nd	Tiffanie Carter	2.85		\$397
3rd	Jhanli Hardin	3.08		\$265
4TH	Stephanie Haynes	11.60		\$132
LADIES BARREL RACIN				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Kaneshia Jackson	16.336		\$518
2nd	Stephanie Haynes	16.960		\$389
3rd	Danielle Clark	17.109		\$259
4th	Adrienne Vance	17.681		\$130
BULL RIDIN				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Tyree Kossie		78	\$1084

BPIR 2015 2ND GO				
BAREBACK RIDIN				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Jimmy Patterson		74	\$472
2nd	Lamontry Hosley		72	\$354
3rd	Jason Griffin		71	\$177
4th	Harold Miller		71	\$177
Calf Ropin				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	James Berry	10.6		\$568
2nd	Aaron Johnson	11.3		\$426
3rd	Deon Osborn	12.0		\$284
4th	Derek Goff	12.8		\$142
Bull Doggin				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Ronday Demery	7.4		\$549
2nd	Tory Johnson	12.7		\$411
3rd	Arnold Laskey	14.3		\$274
4th	Aaron Laskey	16.4		\$137

LADIES STEER UNDECORATING				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Neysha Laskey	1.98		\$529
2nd	Kaneshia Jackson	3.00		\$397
3rd	Stephanie Haynes	3.11		\$265
4TH	Tiffanie Carter	11.66		\$132
LADIES BARREL RACIN				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Ronni Frank	17.004		\$518
2nd	Stephanie Haynes	17.428		\$389
3rd	Erica Frank	17.852		\$259
4th	Adrienne Vance	17.957		\$130
BULL RIDIN				
PLACE	WINNER(S)	TIME	SCORE	PAYOFF
1st	Tyree Kossie			\$361
2nd	Jimmy Patterson			\$361
3rd	Anthony Morris			\$361



BPIR 2016 Directors

Bareback – Jason Griffin **Alt.** Lamontra Hosley
Bull Dogging – Arnold Laskey **Alt.** Rodney Demery
Calf Roping – Deon Osborne **Alt.** Harrel Williams
Bull Riding – T yree Kossie **Alt.** Jimmy Patterson.
Barrel Racing – Charise Nicholson **Alt.** Esperanza Steward
Ladies Steer Undecorating – Neysha Harding **Alt.** Stephanie Haynes
Relay Race – Sedgwick Haynes **Alt.** Carolyn Carter

Directors are responsible for making sure the event rules are being followed and must be at the rodeo early enough to complete the directories' responsibilities.

Directors are responsible for the following items if applicable to their event:

- o Assist in marking or staking the arena
- o Locate the 4 metal barrels
- o Remove/replace barrel covers
- o Run cattle through
- o Identify lame or defective stock and cut from rodeo
- o Identify stock number and provide information to rodeo secretaries
- o Address event issues and engage Judges or Rodeo management team when appropriate.
- o Directors are expected to be at each rodeo
- o If a director cannot attend a rodeo, they are responsible for notifying the Alternate to assure alternate will be in attendance. Director should advise the secretary as soon as possible they will not be in attendance and Alternate will be performing job duties.
- o If Alternate is also unable to attend, the director must notify one of the rodeo secretaries immediately, who will notify Sedgwick and Carolyn. Sedgwick and Carolyn are then responsible for identifying an acting director for that specific rodeo.

Directors will be paid after each rodeo once Carolyn and Sedgwick sign off with the secretaries that all duties were performed in a timely and satisfactory manner.