

# Happy Holidays!

## 2016—A Year to Move Forward

**2016 was a year that we moved forward with the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo, as it celebrated its 32nd anniversary, without its founder and creator, Lu Vason.**

The 2016 year turned out to be very successful as we applied everything Lu taught us and as we established a new direction with our rodeo team working together. While we had some ups and downs, we still have the determination and fortitude to move the organization to a new high. We increased our rodeo memberships and sanctioned some other Black rodeos.

Our 2016 journey was a lot of hard work, but filled with a lot of laughter that ended our year in Washington, DC with a fabulous rodeo final. The crowds were standing room only and ready to see the intense competition. Before we started the rodeo, we did not forget to recognize the

accomplishments of the Bill Pickett Memorial Scholarship Fund and the contributions it has made throughout the year. Accomplishments such as awarding scholarships, supporting its President and CEO in a 39.3 Breast Cancer walk, creating a GoFund Me account for Quentin Welch and sponsoring kids for various cultural events. If I could ask each of you to go to the GoFund Me link on the BPIR website for Quentin and make a donation, no matter how small. Remember, every little bit helps as we are trying to raise enough money to buy him a sports prosthesis device for his leg.

From our finals, I have fond memories of seeing how well our staff, cowboys and cowgirls worked together. The comradery only made the show better and fun. I am still laughing at introducing the "Man Bag" to the rodeo contestants with their jackets. You can only imagine Deon

Osborne comment, which was 'No, no way, you're not making a girl out of me'. I am hopeful that the bags were appreciated and are being used in the spirit they were given. The finals were energized and competitive resulting in a number of new faces being crowned the 2016 BPIR champions.



# RODEO SOUL

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO

Vol. **33** Number 1





## 2016 - A Year to Move Forward

I must take a moment to thank each cowboy and cowgirl who participated in a BPIR rodeo and is a BPIR member. I truly understand the sacrifices you make and appreciate the commitment made to be a part of the BPIR association. As we prepare to enter into 2017 for our **33rd Anniversary season**, I am looking forward to another very successful and fun season.

The first rodeo is the **MLK Jr. African American Heritage Rodeo of Champions**, which is on **January 16, 2017** at the National Western Stock Show in the Mile High city of Denver, Colorado. I think it is worth noting that in 2015, we had our largest attendance ever and broke an attendance record for the NWSS. There is no other stock show in the country that offers the

platform to illustrate the impact Black cowboys and cowgirls. I would also like to thank those of you who take the time to provide feedback and share your thoughts about things we should consider changing. We listen, made some changes and ask that you respect the decisions made as we continue to make the BPIR organization unique and a differentiator in the Rodeo world. Please review the **BPIR 2017 UPDATED RULES** on page 3.

Once again, I say thank you and really look forward to our 2017 season, because I know it will be better than ever. I wish everyone a *Happy Holiday Season* and hope to see you on the 2017 BPIR tour, our 2017 theme is: 3G's - Giving, Guidance and Growing!

*May the good times and treasures of the present  
become the golden memories of tomorrow.  
Wishing you lots of love, joy and happiness.  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Valeria Howard-Vason





# BPIR Rules & Regulations 2017

**BPIR** will use the IPRA rules for 2017 along with additional or edited rules which are approved by the BPIR Board/Staff. If there is an issue in any event, the contestant should go to the Event Director first. The Event Director will resolve the issue with the judge and contestant.

**Please note:** There will be a \$25 fine for anyone (other than BPIR staff) that are inside the arena when not performing. \$50 for 2nd offense/fine. Stock charges will be \$15 and 6% will be taken at all BPIR, MLK and Associate Rodeos from the total money for each event and a timer fee of \$7 a rodeo.

Membership cards must be purchased or renewed PRIOR to competing in any sanctioned rodeo for the rodeo points to count towards 2017 standings. New membership cards will remain at \$80 for 2017 and renewal membership cards at \$70 (2016 members ONLY). 2016 Rodeo Champions are exempt from paying membership fees. Seniors - 50 years and above must purchase a membership the 1st year for \$30. All memberships are free afterwards as long as there has been 5 years of consecutive participation.

Please note that contestants that win money in Atlanta, GA rodeo where your membership card balance is deducted out of your winnings, your card membership will remain in good standings for the following rodeo season until the Atlanta rodeo the following year at which time you MUST renew or purchased a permit before the Atlanta rodeo begins. If an Atlanta contestant chooses to compete at the BPIR Finals, note that your card will expire on December 31st of the year you competed.

## **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 2017 BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL FINALS RODEO - TOP 10**

### **TOP 10:**

The top 10 point leaders who are BPIR members and have met the rodeo requirement rule of (one more than half) will qualify for BPIR Championship Rodeo in Washington, DC in September 2017. 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 year-end awards. Money ONLY! For contestants to be eligible for a BPIR Championship title, you must compete in the BPIR Finals.

**Please note,** if you do not meet the rodeo requirements, you will be considered an Alternate. Contestants will be grouped according to how they qualify to compete at the finals. ONLY Group 1 will be eligible for Year End Awards. Groups 2 and 3 will be considered Alternates. Group 2 and 3 Alternates will be notified of the order in which their entry will be accepted but must pay by the specified deadline to secure their position. All deadlines for the BPIR Finals will be announced at the end of the rodeo season. You must pay your Finals entry fee by the deadlines specified in order to secure your position.

### **CO-APPROVED/ SANCTIONED RODEOS:**

Co-Approved Rodeos may require you to PURCHASE A PERMIT OR CARD in order to compete. You MUST be a BPIR Member BEFORE competing in a Co-Approved/Sanction Rodeo in order for your points to count for BPIR association. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

### **2017 BPIR SANCTIONED RODEOS:**

ASGCA Liberty, TX | Arizona Black Rodeo | Roy LeBlanc Okmulgee Invitational Rodeo | Just the Cowboy Rodeo – Tupelo, MS

### **BPIR FINALS JACKETS:**

All contestants competing at the finals will receive a BPIR Finals jacket.

### **RFKS ENTRY RULE:**

All timed events (CR, SW, LSU) are last to ENTER first to go EXCEPT Ladies Barrel Racing. All CONTESTANTS and STAFF must check in with Secretary on day of event unless pre-entered via online or mail entry.

### **STALLS and RV HOOK-UPS:**

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.

# BPIR Rules & Regulations 2017 continued

## RELAY RACE RULE:

All Relay teams MUST register with the secretary. If there are any changes to your team members, you must notify the secretary before competing in order to avoid disqualification. If there is (7) Relay Teams or Less, Each team will run both days (SAT & SUN) and both Performances (1:30 & 7:30) and paid on an AVERAGE of the combined times. If there is (8) or more teams, the relay race will be ONE RUN based on FASTEST TIMES. The Teams will be divided based on ODD Numbers running on (SATURDAY or 1:30) Performance and EVEN numbers running on (Sunday or 7:30PM Performance). In the event the Rodeo only has one performance, the odd numbers will compete in the (pre-show or 1st session) and the even numbers will compete in the (2nd session). The Relay pattern will be stakes prior to competing in a one run competition.

*\* Each contestant will be allowed to compete on TWO TEAMS ONLY. If a person is found to have competed on more the TWO TEAMS, ALL the teams will be DISQUALIFIED. ALL THREE TEAMS will be disqualified and NO MONEY will be REFUNDED.*

## LADIES BARREL RACING:

The ladies barrel race will be ONE run with 16 or more PAID contestants.

Two runs with (1-15) paid entries. Contestants will be notified once the rodeo books are closed at the event prior to the 1st performance.

## BAREBACK ADDED MONEY:

If there is 4 or more paid contestants, BPIR will add 100% of Added Money. If there is (1-3) PAID contestants, BPIR will add 50% of Added Money. This rule applies only to the Main performances ONLY.

## TIMED EVENTS:

For timed events, the contestant has 3 attempts to set their animal to contest their stock. After the 3rd attempt, the Judge will allow 45 seconds before your stock is released.

## ROOKIE OF THE YEAR QUALIFICATIONS:

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

## BPIR PERMITS:

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. BPIR membership balance will be deducted from ground money for non-members.

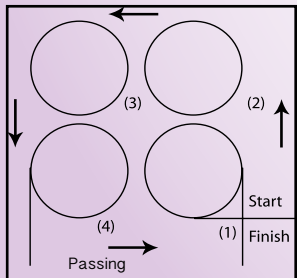
## GROUND MONEY:

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

## BULL RIDING PAY OUTS:

Bull Riding will be paid on each go round per rodeo. BPIR Finals will pay each go round and an average.

**E-MAIL ENTRIES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR MEMBERS ONLY.** E-mail should be sent to [stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com) prior to Call-In DATES for all Rodeos. ENTRY FEES can be paid by Credit Card by viewing the BPIR WEB page and click on the RODEO SOUL tab and follow the link and instructions. A (\$3-\$5) processing fee will be added to your total. and click on the RODEO SOUL tab and follow the link and instructions. A \$3 processing fee will be added to your total.



## 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.





# BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO

## BPIR 2017 Schedule

### DENVER CO

MLK Jr. Rodeo of Champions  
Monday, January 16, 2017 | 6:00 pm

Slack, Monday morning,  
January 16th @ 8:30am

National Western Stock Show  
Denver Coliseum

### MEMPHIS, TN

Rodeo for Kidz Sake  
March 31, 2017 10:30 am

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo  
April 1, 2017 | 7:00 pm

Agri Center International  
105 South Germantown Rd., Memphis, TN

### OAKLAND, CA

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo  
Saturday, July 8, 2017 | 2:30 pm  
Sunday, July 9, 2017 | 2:30 pm

Rowell Ranch Rodeo Ground  
9711 Dublin Canyon Road, Hayward, CA

### LOS ANGELES, CA

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo  
Saturday, July 15, 2017 | 7:00 pm  
Sunday, July 16, 2017 | 3:30 pm

Industry Hills Expo Center  
16200 Temple Ave., City of Industry, CA 91744

### ATLANTA, GA

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo  
Saturday August 5, 2017 | 7:30pm  
Sunday August 6, 2017 | 3:30pm

Georgia International Horse Park  
1996 Centennial Olympic Pkwy, Conyers, GA

### BPIR CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO WASHINGTON, DC

Rodeo For Kidz Sake  
Friday, September 22, 2017 | 10:00 AM

Bill Pickett Championship Rodeo  
Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017  
1:30 pm & 7:30 pm

The Show Place Arena and  
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 ONLY!*

Arizona Black Rodeo  
Wild Horse Pass Arena  
February 25, 2017  
Chandler, Arizona

ASGCA Easter Rodeo  
TVE Fairgrounds  
April 16, 2017  
Liberty, TX

Justa Cowboy Association  
Date TBA  
Tupelo or Philadelphia MS

63rd Annual Okmulgee  
"Roy LeBlanc" Invitational Rodeo  
Bob Arrington Arena  
August 11-12, 2017  
Okmulgee, OK



#### 2016 BPIR CHAMPIONS

- All Around Cowboy – Tory Johnson
- All Around Cowgirl – Kanasha Jackson
- Bareback Champion – Lamontre Hosley
- Steer Wrestling Champion – Tory Johnson
- Calf Roping Champion – CJ Demery
- Ladies Steer Undecorating Champion – Dayna Carter
- Ladies Barrel Racing Champion – Kanasha Jackson
- Bull Riding Champion – Tyree Kossie
- Rookie Cowboy - Chris Rolling
- Rookie Cowgirl - Dayna Carter

#### BPIR FINALS ALL AROUND AND AVERAGE WINNERS

- All Around Finals Cowboy – Lamontre Hosley
- All Around Finals Cowgirl – Carolyn Carter
- Bareback Average Winner – Lamontre Hosley
- Steer Wrestling Average Winner – James Taylor
- Calf Roping Average Winner – Chris Rolling
- Ladies Steer Undecorating Average Winner – Carolyn Carter
- Ladies Barrel Racing Average Winner – Carolyn Carter
- Bull Riding Average Winner – Jay Miller

#### JUNIOR BARREL RACING WINNERS

- Kortnee Solomon
- Lindon Demery
- Harrel Williams, Jr.



# ENTRY FORM

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW | DENVER COLISEUM  
4655 HUMBOLDT STREET DENVER CO

MLK JR. RODEO OF CHAMPIONS • ENTRY FORM  
NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW DENVER COLISEUM

4655 HUMBOLDT ST. • DENVER, CO

With special guest - Native American Bareback and Bull Riders

**Monday, January 16, 2017 | 6:00 pm**

(2-hour time limit) SLACK starts @ 8:30 AM on Monday, January, 16, 2017

Entry Fees MUST be paid online to Secure your position by January 9, 2017

MLK RODEO	ADDED MONEY	\$17,100
EVENT	FEE	ADDED
CALF ROPIN	\$125	\$2833
BAREBACK RIDIN	\$125	\$2833
BULL DOGGIN	\$125	\$2833
LADIES STEER UNDECORATIN	\$125	\$2833
LADIES BARREL RACIN	\$125	\$2833
JR. BARREL RACIN	\$20	\$100
BULL RIDIN	\$125	\$2833

Entry Fee - \$125 and open to All African American Cowboys & Cowgirls  
2017 Annual Membership - \$80 - New & \$70 (2016 Members) Permits are \$15.

PLEASE NOTE \*\$15.00 Stock Charge-- \$7.00 timer charge per run.

#### HOST HOTEL:

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS DENVER AURORA  
1500 S ABILENE ST, AURORA, CO 80012 • 303) 369-8400  
\$99 • LIMITED SPACE.

**ALL ENTRY FEES CAN BE PAID IN ADVANCE ONLINE at:**

BillPickettrodeo.com *Click Contestants Tab*

#### BOOKS OPEN/CALL-IN:

CALL-IN: CALL IN DATE IS TUESDAY, JANUARY 03, 2017 FROM 6:00PM - 9:00PM CST

THE TOP 7 2016 BPIR FINALIST IN EACH EVENT WILL COMPETE IN THE MLK JR. HERITAGE RODEO. TO SECURE YOUR SHOW POSITION, YOUR ENTRY FEES MUST BE PAID BY MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017. FEES CAN BE PAID ON-LINE BY GOING TO BillPickettrodeo.com *Click Contestants Tab*

POSITIONS will posted on FB and BPIR website on January 11, 2017.

CALL **Stephanie Haynes, TEXAS BPIR Office** at 713-253-3334 or by email: [stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniehaynes2@gmail.com) TO ENTER.

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 January 11, 2017 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 \_\_\_\_\_

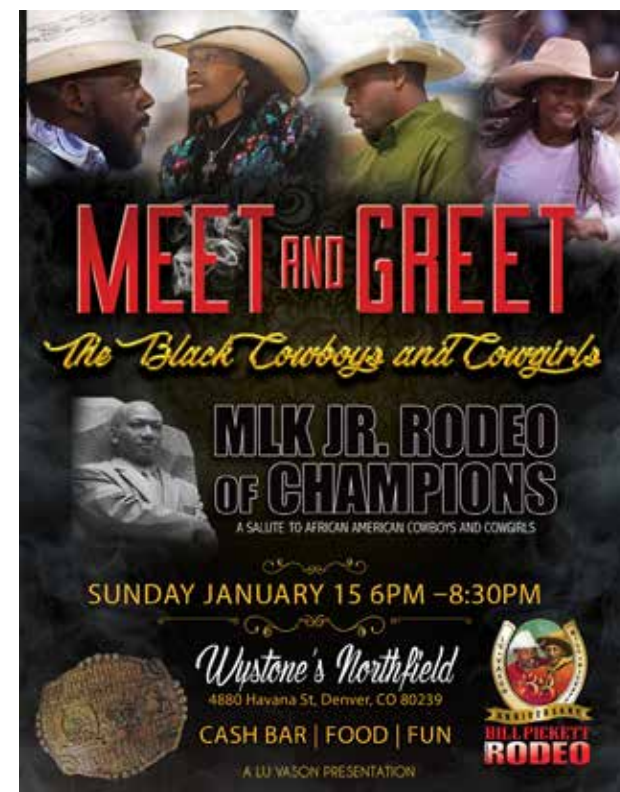
BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ SOC. SEC. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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.



**SUNDAY JANUARY 15, 2017**

**6PM - 8:30PM**

**Wystone's Northfield**

**4880 Havana St, Denver, CO 80239**

**CASH BAR | FOOD | FUN**





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 – Danielle Clark | Alt. Kaneshia Jackson

Ladies Steer Undecorating – Neysha Laskey | 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:

- Assist in marking or staking the arena
- Locate the 4 metal barrels
- Remove/replace barrel covers
- Run cattle through
- Identify lame or defective stock and cut from rodeo
- Identify stock number and provide information to rodeo secretaries
- Address event issues and engage Judges or Rodeo management team when appropriate.
- Directors are expected to be at each rodeo
- 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.
- 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.