

POLE BENDING

1. Ladies' pole bending must be run on a horse ridden by a female contestant only or any boy eligible to run Jr. Barrels.

2. Each contestant will begin from a running start, and time shall begin and end as any part of the horse crosses the scoreline start and finish. A clearly visible starting line must be provided. An electric timer with at least two watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by official timers to be the official time. All sets of times are to be recorded. The electric eye time is to be recorded by a judge. **When the electric timers are used, and a minority of the contestants is missed, the stop watches times will be used for them only. If the electric timer fails to operate for more than half of the contestants, the stop watch times will be considered as the official times for all contestants.**

(a) All timed events must be flagged by a judge.

3. The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles. Each pole is to be 21 feet (6.4 meters) apart, and the first pole is to be 21 feet (6.4 meters) from the scoreline. End Pole must be at least 21 feet from fence. **In an arena size 177 Feet on an open gate or 222 Feet on a closed gate or larger, Diagram A is to be used.**

***** Measuring on this pattern is to be done from the mouth of the chute to the back fence*****

(a) Stopping distance must be 45 feet on a closed gate and 30 feet on a safe open centre chute from scoreline.

(b) In all outdoor/indoor arenas that are NOT large enough for the pattern in Diagram A, timers will be placed inside the pole bending pattern to the minimum stopping distance requirements and override of the electronic eye will be used. **This would be any arena less that 177 Feet on an open gate or 222 feet on a closed gate, Diagram B is to be used.**

*****Measuring on this pattern is to be done from the back fence towards the chute with the scoreline to be 30 feet on open gate or 45 feet on closed gate from the mouth of the chute*****

Definition of Override of the electronic eye in any arena that does not permit proper placement of the scoreline 21 feet below the bottom pole: Once horse and rider cross the scoreline upon entering the arena, the override on the eyes will be manually depressed by the timers to avoid eye shut off half way through the pattern. Eyes are to be reactivated once the horse and rider are approaching final pole for the turn to run home.

4. A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly.

5. Knocking over a pole shall carry a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification. A contestant may touch the pole with any part of their body in an effort to keep it upright as long as they do not physically lift it from the ground to place it on a vertical axis. 6. Poles shall be set on top of the ground, 6 feet in height, and mounted in bases with a 14 inch diameter. Poles shall be PVC pipe, and bases shall be rubber or plastic. Preferred color for poles is natural white, but red, white, and blue rings shall be allowed. Solid rubber bases are preferred, but hollow plastic bases shall be allowed only if filled completely to emulate a solid base.

7. Scoreline must be permanently staked for the entire contest. It is strongly recommended that a premeasured device is used in setting the pattern. I.e. marked off rope or measuring tape to ensure that pattern is exactly the same for all contestants.

8. After official racing time begins, reruns are not allowed

9. (a) A horse can be ridden more than once in a go round and/or performance by different girls, but a girl may only ride one horse in a go round, thereby allowing contestants to change horses between go rounds.

(b) If a contestant is injured during a competition, a substitute contestant cannot take her place.

(c) Contestants may not change order of run in a performance or slack as specified by RIDE without the approval of both judges.

10. If more than one pole bender falls due to hitting cement or ice, the pole bending will be postponed until ground conditions are fixed.

(a) In ladies pole bending, if a contestant does not wish to compete due to unsafe ground conditions, contestants must get both judges to sign off thereby allowing that contestant to visible and not be fined a turn out fee.

11. Practice runs will not be allowed in the arena one hour before rodeo time or at intermission.

12. The use of bats and spurs is allowed, however, the excessive use of the bat prior to the race, during the race, or after the race, will mean automatic disqualification for that particular race.

Back Fence

Diagram A.

↕ 21 Ft to Back Fence @ minimum

Important

* Poles + Timers to be measured from chute
* Not back fence *

Arena Size

177 Feet on open gate or bigger
222 Feet on closed gate

↕ 21 Ft between Poles.

↕ 21 Feet from timer to first pole.

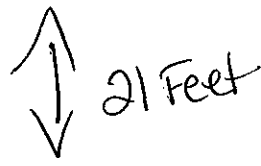
Timers
Scoreline

↕ 30 Ft open gate
↕ 45 Closed gate

————— Chute

Back Fence

Diagram B



Important

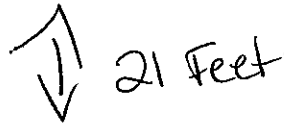
* Poles to be measured from back fence

* Timers to be measured from chute



Arena Size

Anything smaller than 177' on open gate or 222' on closed gate



Timers
Scoreline

* Override of electric eye to be used *

