

To: Chair Barker and Members of the Committee
From: Glen Shelley

My name is Glen Shelley. I am the ranch manager of the Rattlesnake Creek Ranch in Burns, Oregon. There I take care of 1,500 head of cattle and I oversee 120,000 acres of private, BLM, and forest land. I am a fourth generation horse person: from my great grandfather owning a livery stable, to my grandfather owning race horses that as a kid, I would help with the horses that eventually went to Portland Meadows. From my grandfather, to my father dealing in saddle horses, buying and selling to local ranchers. I own a ranch rodeo contracting business, which is a family operation. I employ five to six persons while producing a ranch rodeo. I own 150 head of horses that I use for roping and bucking. I have used these horses in a large vaccine study. Many of my horses that I have taken in in the last fifteen years are untamed or unfit to ride that would have been headed for slaughter. Fifty of these horses are used for roping; I produce 8-10 ropings a year with 100-200 head roped at each one, which puts it up to 1,500-2,000 head roped a year. In the last five years, only one horse has been injured, it was not in the arena and not roped.

While on the ranch, if I have to brand, castrate or respond to any medical conditions of my horses, they are first roped around the neck to gain control of the horse, then roped by the front legs and laid down for treatment.

It is very important this process is done right. With me today I have a 75-foot rawhide reatta that I have made. These are used by many of the ropers that come to compete. Here is a tape marked at 20 feet to show you how big the big loops are. There are only maybe 1 out of every 20 horses caught with this loop. This reatta is made of a braided cowhide, which is not as strong as nylon ropes. If the horses are not handled with ease, this \$500 rope will break. I am the judge at all my rodeos; if the horse hits the ground by being tripped, the roper will be disqualified.

These are my horses and my livelihood; I have to protect my interests. We rope horses at two years of age that are very fast and strong, not weak or sick as I have read on social media. There is a stock charge at these rodeo events that pay for the hay and pasture of these horses. If SB 835 passes, that money would not be coming in to feed these horses and I would have no choice but to send these young horses to Canada for slaughter. I would have no young horses to replace my bucking horses as they got old, therefore, my family business would end.

Thank you for the taking the time to hear what I have to say.

BIG LOOP RULES

There shall be 2 time keepers, and two field judges, and starter.

There will be a 60 second time limit until five places are established and then the fifth place time will become the new time limit.

Animals used in this event will be inspected and objectionable ones will be eliminated.

Saddle horns must be dry mule hide or latigo wrapped only.

Contestants come from behind the score line and the barrier will trip at the shoulder of the horse. There will be a 15 second penalty for broken barrier. The contestant coming from behind the barrier box must take the first shot. The front footer has to start from the other box. The front footer shall not cross the designated red posts in the arena ahead of the stock or a 15 second penalty will be assessed. The team will be disqualified if for any reason either contestant becomes separated from his/her own mount.

Stock belongs to ropers after clearing the chute gate regardless of what happens with one exception; if the stock gets out of the arena, the flag will be dropped and time will be stopped. Ropers will get stock back LAP AND TAP, roping from the barrier box with time added which was taken when stock left the arena.

Each contestant will be allowed to carry only one rope. Each team is allowed 3 loops. Loops must contain 20 feet of rope. Each contestant will have their loop measured and marked by an official before competing. **ALL QUALIFIED CATCHES WILL HAVE THEIR LOOPS REMEASURED.**

Ropers must throw the rope for catch to be legal and they must dally.

Contestants must hold dallies until field judge passes on catches.

Field judge will tell ropers when to turn stock loose. If either contestant, header or front footer, drops their rope before they receive time, they will be disqualified. Time will be taken when stock is roped and both horses face stock in line with ropes dallied tight. Ropes cannot be crossed in any way.

Stock must be standing up when roped by head or front feet.

Stock must not be handled roughly at any time and ropers will be disqualified if in the opinion of the field judge they have intentionally done so. **Any** stock injury will result in immediate disqualification.

The following are legal catches in this order:

1. Clean catch around the neck (A clean head catch is around the neck only)
2. Both front feet on the front catch (A clean feet catch is both front feet only)

Any other catches are illegal.

ALL DECISIONS WILL BE LEFT UP TO THE JUDGES.