

## Newsletter –September 2016



We hope everyone has had a great summer! Sure wish it lasted longer! So now it is time for back to school and back to work planning for 2017!

At our producer meeting at Finals, we reviewed our regular season and the Finals event itself and came away with a few things we are going to put in place for the coming year.

We are going to work on implementing a texting service so we have a little more direct connection with our members; hopefully it will be a helpful tool for everyone. On memberships, the cost for youths and seniors is going to increase by \$5 to catch up to the \$5 adjustment we made a couple years ago to the standard and double number fees. We are not making any major changes to fees or formats; producers will have the same options as they did last year.

The only exceptions to this will be allowing a maximum of 8 entries in the #3.5 and #4.5 ropings AND the #1.0 roping will be a three header. Starting this year and going forward only, we are going to adjust our Beginner roper time frame somewhat. A Beginner roper will still only have two years to earn \$800 and get awarded a buckle and at that point, will be moved out of the class, but those not earning the \$800 within the two year time frame will be allowed another two years to compete in that class but will no longer be eligible for a buckle.

There will be no allowance for turn outs for qualifications; if a roper wants to be eligible for district finals prizes and OTRA Finals competition, the roper MUST be present and participate at the district level.

Specifically for OTRA Finals, we discussed making the following adjustments.

On our full day schedules, we will start ropings at 9am instead of 8am. The All Girl will most likely be held the same day as the #1.5. We may only have a jackpot on one night instead of offering them every night. And regarding our Youth High Money award, the roper must be qualified in and compete in at least two events at OTRA Finals.

Our 2017 Rulebook will reflect all these changes when we issue it. It will be posted on the website and we are happy to mail one whenever it is requested.

All Our Best to All of You!  
Tim & Whitney McCright  
Original Team Roping Association, Inc.