

# ABOUT THE NPRA

The purpose of the **NPRA** to perpetuate the sport of rodeo through continued growth in rodeos and membership, providing humane and competitive entertainment for the Northwest. On our site you will find the current standings of some of the finest Northwest Cowboys as well as the results from some of the Best Rodeos in the West.

The Northwest Professional Rodeo Association is the western United States largest regional rodeo organization. It annually sanctions over 40 rodeos throughout Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada and California. Its membership continues to grow and represents the finest caliber of rodeo athletes in the country! The NPRA rodeo season begins in October with a few indoor rodeos through the winter months, increases to a "multiple rodeos per weekend" schedule through the summer months, and climaxes in September at the Championship Finals. The NPRA is proud of the opportunity it provides for rodeo athletes to compete at the professional level while remaining close to home, families, and weekday jobs.

It promotes a wholesome family atmosphere and continuously works to improve contestant and livestock conditions. It is dedicated to preserving the western heritage that is an integral part of rodeo. The spirit of the west is alive and flourishing at NPRA rodeos throughout the northwest region. Thousands of rodeo fans have discovered that the sportsmanship, the level of competition, the quality of livestock and the exciting rodeo action seen at NPRA rodeos is the "Best in the West". Watch for an NPRA sanctioned event near you this year and come see for yourself! Bring the whole family and enjoy the fun and excitement of The Great American Sport of Rodeo - NPRA style!

## NPRA HISTORY

In the early 1950's, cowboys and cowgirls here in the Great Northwest decided it was time to standardize the elements that affected their competition and joined together to form the Oregon Rodeo Association. This organization would work to improve arena and stock conditions, as well as develop uniform event rules to make competition fair for all. Written records are incomplete, but some of the founding members are still active participants and they confirm that a general membership vote at the 1956 convention changed the name of the Oregon Rodeo Association to the Northwest Rodeo Association to better represent the area it encompassed. The NRA continued to flourish and grow as more and more rodeos came under its sanction and the number of contestants increased. The sport was rapidly gaining fans and recognition!

The following time line charts the major changes and additions to the association's format that have taken place over the last forty years and shows some of the ways the association has adapted to the growth of the sport of rodeo:

**1950** - The Oregon Rodeo Association was formed.

**1956** - The ORA Changed it's name to the Northwest Rodeo Association

**1968** - The NRA was incorporated and improved its business operations.

**1978** - The NRA joined the North American Rodeo Commission, a group formed by regional rodeo associations from across the United States.

**1979, 1980, 1981** - The NRA sent a team of contestants to Calgary, Alberta, Canada for the World Cup Championship Rodeo. "Team Northwest" was runner-up in '79. In both '80 and '81 the team, then called the Northwest Volcanoes, won the NARC World Cup Championship title. The team concept finals at Calgary only lasted for three years, but Northwest cowboys and cowgirls made their mark proving that there are no better rodeo athletes in the world than what you'll see right here in the Great Northwest!

**1984** - A new rodeo entry method was born. "Dial-A-Rodeo", a computerized central entry system revolutionized the way contestants entered rodeos. Breakaway roping was added as an optional event this year as well.

**1989** - The NRA officially changed its name to the Northwest Professional Rodeo Association.

**1997** - The NPRA moved its year-end Championship Finals to the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, OR. This new indoor facility enabled the NPRA to host a first-class Championship Finals Rodeo with great success. The "NW Pro Rodeo Roundup" became the official newspaper for the NPRA.



**1959 Officers & Directors**



**1959 Champions**



**1960 - Miss NRA, Jan Beamer, presenting All-Around saddle to Mac Griffith**

# NPRA Gold Card Members

Any NPRA member or past member that is fifty years of age or older that has reflected a positive image on the NPRA and the sport of rodeo in general.

Alexander	Diana	HowellRodeo	DebbieHowell
Amis	Randy	HowellRodeo	JerryHowell
Bain	Deanne	Johnson	Steve
Bain	Kathryn	Jordan	Gene
Barker	Nancy	King	Billie
Barker	Ron	Knowles	Harlan
Barney	Larry	Lee	Reggie
B-D Rodeos	BusterBain	Lee	Ted
B-D Rodeos	NormDurfey	Lovell	Ray
Berklund	John	Mays	Lynne
Bernbeck	Norman	McCay	John
Bothum	Marvin		
Brewer	Bill	McLing	J D
Britt	Randy	Morrish	Steve
Britt	Sid	Moyer	Paul
Cathcart	Vern	Noble	Harry
Crozier	Jim	Noble	Helen
DuPont	Paul	Olson	Kedo
Durfey	Delene	Palmer	Shorty
Erb	Gary	Parker	Darrell
Erb	Norma	Peth	Buz
Erickson	Mike	Rattray	Rita
Estabrook	Rob	Schnabele	Lucy
Finley	Ben	Shannon	Pat
Fodge	Bob	Shedeck	Glenn
Goree	Norman	Skirvin	Paul
Gregg	Gib	Stockdale	Gay
Griffith	Don	Stovner	Danna
Griffith	Joann	Thompson	Randy
Grossmiller	Jake	Torricellas	Louie
Hallowell	Ed	West	Ralph
Holly	Fred	Willis	Sam
Holsten	Mike		
Hovey	Ronnie		