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N.B. ATRA Rules to be updated after ABHA AGM meeting (generally scheduled every September) and ATRA Rules to be adjusted accordingly to maintain alignment. Risk associated with this is low due to ATRA AGM being on a similar schedule.
BARREL RACING DIAGRAM

These measurements are recommendation only and can be used when arena dimensions allow. Promoters to exercise diligence and duty of care at all times.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
BARREL RACE RULES

1. Right or left - Competitors may go either to the right or the left barrel first, but must take one right and two left turns or one left and two right turns.

2. Knocking a drum - A five second penalty will apply for knocking over a barrel.

3. Illegal pattern - Competitors will be disqualified for not following the pattern or not being ready when name is called. Touching the barrel is permitted.

4. Barrel penalty - Should a barrel be knocked over and is set up again on opposite side five second penalty will apply.

5. Score line - The starting and finishing line and the position for the barrels must be marked permanently for the entire contest. The time starts when horses’ nose passes the score line both ways.

6. Line position - The starting and finishing line must be in line with the first and second drums.

7. Re-runs - Should for any reason the barrels not be placed on the markers or timers are not in correct position the whole event must be re-run with everything in order.

8. Barrel marker positions - Judges and Directors must take the decision that the barrels are not on correct markers at time of event before barrels are moved from position.

9. Time set for re-run - Should this happen competitors and judges should be notified, judges and arena directors will set time for re-run.

10. Drums - Drums must be 44 gallon size (empty) and be closed at both ends.

11. Vet/Visual out - If a competitor desires to withdraw for any reason, e.g.: veterinary certificate, the decision will be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

12. Turning down a run - When a competitor turns down a run they will be disqualified on that horse for the entire event (i.e.: no round money paid out) except in case of a veterinary certificate or the sighting of an unhealthy horse.

13. Completing the course - Timers are to be informed that clocks are not to be stopped until the competitor has completed the course or in the event of an accident.

14. Number of entries - A contestant may compete on as many horses as desired in any event, but each horse is restricted to one run per round.

15. Exercising in the arena - Before commencement of competition horses may be exercised in arena until specified time with the approval of the committee or arena director. No circling around markers once course is marked. Any member abusing this privilege may be removed from the arena by committee or arena director. Further disciplinary action may be taken.

16. When electric timers are in use in all barrel races, 5 digits are to be written down on judge’s sheet by timekeepers/judges eg: 17.312 not 17.31 (to the third decimal point).

17. Difference between clocks - If there is a .5 second difference between clocks, competitors to have option of re-run. Only if a clear round is run.

18. Hat - To be cleared from Arena before next run.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
19. Full course - Where a full course can be fitted in the arena it must be marked, but cannot exceed maximum measurements. See diagram of Barrel Diagram on Page 6. Where distance must be reduced to suit the arena, barrels must be at least 5 meters from the fence.

20. Animal abuse - Hitting horses around head or excessive use of whip, over and under in Barrel Race competition will result in disqualification for the duration of the competition. Ruled by judges and/or disputes committee. There will be no refund of entry fees.

21. If any horse is deemed dangerous or out of the rider’s control, it may be disqualified at the judge’s/official’s discretion for the duration of the whole event.

22. Whipping - More than two whips between entry and 1st drum, more than two whips between barrels and four whips coming home, or more than two contacts between entry and first drum, more than two contacts between drums and four contacts coming home with an over and under will result in disqualification. Ruled by Judge.

23. Records - To record an official ABHA record, measurements, rules, equipment, must be checked recorded and confirmed by at least three ABHA members.

   23.1. Not applicable to ATRA.

24. Electronic timer failure - If electric eye fails to work for more than one half of the contest in an entire go-round, the back-up (manual) recorded times will be the official times for all contestants in that go round. When manual clocks are used the times should be to the hundredth of a second. Two clocks must be used. If one clock fails, time will be taken from the remaining clock, a back-up clock is to be used where possible. Average time from two clocks to be official judges’ time.

   24.1 If there is a timer malfunction: a) The back up timer shall prevail  b) If there is no back up timer available the competitor shall be entitled to a re-run.

25. Safety helmets – Junior or juvenile competitors under 18 years of age, must wear an Australian Standards Association approved helmet with the chin strap securely fastened when competing in all events.

26. Junior barrel race age groups are the following:
   
   a) 7 and Under
   
   b) 8-12 years (must be under 13 years of age)
   
   c) 13-17 years (must be under 17 years of age; 17 year olds cannot turn 18 within the membership year)

   All junior members (under the age of 18 years of age) that being the 7 and under, 8 and under 13 and 13 and under 18 age groups, must participate in the correct age groups. Eg. A junior competitor that pays membership in July and is 7 years of age, but is turning 8 within that membership year they must compete in the 8 and under 13 age group for that financial year.

EXHIBITIONS

1. Exhibition fee not to exceed $5

2. Time limit set on exhibitions by affiliate.

3. Exhibitions can be limited by organisers of event or executive committee.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
GROUND CONDITIONS

1. Ground conditions – The arena must be prepared prior to the barrel race in accordance with the ATRA guidelines and insurance.

2. Ground – every effort must be made to provide a safe and even ground for all contestants.

3. Ground should be worked at regular intervals – recommended every 5-7 runs depending on conditions.

4. If during an event the surface becomes unsafe, the event must be stopped.

OPEN BARREL RACE RULES

1. If the promoter chooses to have a simple ‘open’ barrel race, then it is run as an open event, with points still being given to the horses only, and these points when sent to head office, will be counted as first division points only. Any open points sent in will be counted as First Division points for End of Year awards.

DIVISIONAL RULES

1. Divisional Barrel races are not to be restricted in any manner and must be open to any rider and any horse.

2. Divisions are determined by a ONE SECOND time bracket.

3. In the divisional barrel race the fastest clean time will be used to set Divisions. *A horse with a penalty cannot set the division i.e. 16.05 clean sets the divisions, not 16.01+5.

4. Runs with time penalties cannot place in final placing in a divisional barrel race. *Runs with time penalties cannot receive prize money. If there is only one horse in a division and it has a time penalty then the purse is divided equally between the remaining divisions. If a horse with a time penalty places 4th in the 2D and the 1D and 3D have paid 4 places, then the 2D pays 3 places.

5. Splits for two run format and three run format to be kept at 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 seconds off the fastest average time respectively.

6. Formats – 1, 2 and 3 runs

   **One Run Format:** 1 second splits with the fastest time without penalties of the race to be used to set time brackets to set divisions i.e. 1D will be set by the fastest time of the barrel race with 2D, 3D and 4D divisions being 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 seconds off the fastest time respectively. *Penalties added after horses arranged into divisions.

   **Two Run Format:** Divisions set on the average time of the two runs. With the fastest average time setting the 1D with 2D, 3D and 4D divisions being 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 seconds off the fastest average time respectively. *Penalties added after horses arranged into divisions on their clean time average.

   **Three Run Format:** 1st Division - The fastest average time over 3 rounds plus one second. Any competitors average time between these two times, will be in 1st Division.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
2nd Division - The fastest average time plus one second and the fastest average time plus two seconds. Any Competitors average time between these two times, will be in the 2nd Division.

3rd Division - All competitors slower than the fastest average time plus two seconds will be in the 3rd Division.

*Penalties added after horses arranged into divisions on their clean time average.*

Additional Divisions: If required based on the times or the number of entries you may follow the above concept to add additional Divisions as required.

7. Average – All rounds added together and divided by number of rounds.

8. At the Judge’s discretion immediate disqualification of a competitor will occur if they are seen to be deliberately pulling a horse up in an effort to place in a lower Division.

9. Affiliates have the option to allow a competitor to run once in a two run divisional, their one time being the average. Competitors must nominate this option at the time of entry and this decision is final.

**PAYOUTS**

1. Percentage Break up of Payout

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*Payout Recommendations - The number of places paid out per division must allow for the last paid place to pay back the entry fee. Each division must pay the same number of places unless there is a division with insufficient number of horses e.g. Paying 3 ways per division but 2D only has 2 qualified horses which will result in 1D and 3D paying 3 ways and 2D paying 2 ways. For all Junior barrel races the percentage payout is recommended at 50%, 30%, 20%.*

2. If there are no placing’s in any one division, the prize money is divided equally between the remaining divisions.

3. In the divisional barrel race the purse is split evenly between the divisions
**POINTS**

1. **Juniors - 7 & Under (tiny tots), 8-U13 and 13-U18 age groups** – Points will be awarded on rider points with only one run per child & horse combination being allowed.

2. **Divisional** – Points will be awarded to the horse. The horse earns points in the respective division and can earn points with multiple riders. The horse may only compete once per barrel race event. The horse may be shown at the National Finals by any rider, provided that the horse and rider have each competed at the minimum number of events throughout the season required to qualify, but not necessarily in combination. It is the competitors’ responsibility to provide the horses’ name at every event and it is recommended that registered names or distinguishable names be provided (instead of stable names) in order to minimize discrepancies with points allocation in Head Office. It is the competitors’ responsibility to notify Head Office of any discrepancies with their horses’ points. Horses that incur penalties will receive points where they fall in rank in their division.

3. Points to be awarded in accordance with ATRA format as per ATRA Rule Book.
Standard Results Sheet:
Divisions are 1 second splits.
17.625 fastest clean time set the divisions.
When the fastest time has a penalty:

Even though Tylen Gibb & “Ramses” were a 17.625, because they incurred a penalty, they cannot set the divisions.

So the divisions are set based on the fastest clean time – in this scenario it is Suzie Fearon & “Junior” on a 17.959.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
A horse with a penalty cannot receive prize money:

Prize money purse divided equally into 3.

The 1D and 3D can pay 3 places however because 3rd and 4th place in the 2D incur penalties, they cannot receive prizemoney.

Therefore the 1D & 3D pay a 50/30/20 split and the 2D pays 60/40.
When there is no horses in a division:
Prize money purse divided equally into 2.
Therefore the 1D & 3D pay a 50/30/20 split.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
When there is only horse/s in a division have penalties, a horse with a penalty cannot receive prize money:

Prize money purse divided equally into 2.

Therefore the 1D & 3D pay a 50/30/20 split.

Points can still be awarded to the 2D, just not prize money.

ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.
ABHA Competition Rules adopted 1 July 2015 into ATRA Rule Book.

2 Run Format:

Insert the # of runs into the yellow cell, so that the Average Formulas calculate the average based on the selected number of runs.

There was one competitor who had a NT in Round 2. Enter 999.000 as a means of denoting NT so as to not affect the formulas.

Sort everyone largest to small “On”, those that qualify on 2 Rounds rank first.

Then Sort the 2 Round qualifiers smallest to largest on “Average (exclude penalties)”. The fastest clean 2 round average sets the divisions.

Separate the divisions. Then Sort on “Average TOTAL” on smallest to largest.