

# 2026 Better Barrel Races

## World Finals Rules & Conditions

### BBR World Finals (BBRWF) Qualifying Races & Short Go

**Eligibility & Format:** Contestants must have purchased a BBR Membership in 2025 and must have participated in seven (7) races as a standard member or five (4) races as a Gold Card member at BBR Qualifying Shows between January 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026. BBR may choose to issue special invitation(s) allowing a rider to be exempt from these requirements. A qualified member may enter whatever horse they choose or as many horses as they wish. However, a horse/rider combination is considered one entry and horse may not be entered by the same rider more than once. Also, a horse may not be shown by more than one person unless both contestants are members of the same immediate family and in no case shall the horse be entered more than twice. Under no circumstances will sharing of horses be allowed if one of the family members has more than one horse entered.

World Finals will consist of two Qualifying Races (Race 1 in OG&E Coliseum & Race 2 in Performance Arena) and a Short Go. Qualifying Races and the Short Go will be paid on a 5D format with half-second splits. The number of places paid in the Qualifying Races will be determined by the total number of entries.

Short Go qualification will be based on placing in the Qualifying Races. If a contestant places in any division on the same horse during both qualifying rounds, the person placing directly behind them in each race will be added to the short go.

A minimum of 300 contestants will qualify for the short go consisting of 30 contestants from each division of each qualifying race. If a contestant qualifying for the short go chooses not to compete, no additional contestants will be added.

In addition to the contestants qualifying from the BBRWF Qualifying Races, additional contestants may be added to the short go based on "Straight Shots" awarded from BBR X-Tra Tour standings. Note: All "Straight Shots" awarded must be associated with a BBRWF entry (horse/rider combination) that must be designated prior to check-in.

The running order for the short go will be based on qualifying time and will run slowest to fastest. "Straight Shot" contestants from each division will be inserted into the short go order prior to the qualifying round qualifiers from each respective division. Back numbers will be awarded based on short go running order with the first runner having the highest number and the last runner having back number one. Back numbers must be worn in the World Finals Short Go Round – NO EXCEPTIONS!

The Short Go will be a clean slate 5D format with half-second splits and will pay 20 places per division.

**Entry:** World Finals Race entries must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2026. No late entries will be accepted. All entries are final. **There will be no refunds given for any reason.** All entries are for the rider, not the horse. Those wishing to sell their entry must do so no later than 5:00 pm, April 1, 2026. All sales/purchases must take place through the BBR office, and there will be a \$75 fee per seller and buyer. Those wishing to sell or purchase a position must contact the BBR office by phone at (405) 230-7167x501. BBR will match available positions to those wishing to purchase them on a first-come, first-served basis. Fees for buy-out entries must be paid by credit card. BBR will refund to the seller of the position all entry and stall fees (less buy-out fee, processing fee and any credit card convenience fees) only if spot(s) are purchased and paid. Better Barrel Races, LLC does not guarantee that entries will be available for purchase or that all contestants wishing to sell their entry will be matched with a buyer. Any refund checks will be issued by BBR on or about May 1, 2026.

**Horse substitutions** will be allowed through check-in at no charge. Substitutions will not be allowed after a horse has been checked in.

**Rider substitutions** will be allowed through check-in for a \$50 fee so long as the original horse entered in that position is not substituted. Switching of draw positions will not be allowed. Substitute rider must also be another qualified BBR member.

**Age-Based Side Pots:** Any contestant entered in the BBR World Finals 5D (Race 1 and Race 2) may also enter one of three age-based incentive side-pots. The age-based incentive side-pots are based on the age of the rider as of January 1, 2026. The three groups are: Junior (17 & under), Adult (16-49), and Senior (50 & over). A contestant may only enter the side-pot corresponding to his/her age. Times will be carried from your Race 1 and Race 2 runs to the side-pot races. The format will be a 5D with ½ sec splits for the age-based side-pots. Money will be split evenly between the two qualifying races and the number of places paid will be determined by the number of entries in each side-pot. Side-pots will be noted on published draw and online "live results". Any corrections or omissions to age-based sidepots MUST be made at or prior to check-in. Contestants should check "live results" to confirm that any corrections have been made prior to the completion of competition. Remedies for reported errors/omissions to sidepots (at or prior to check-in) not corrected by office prior to completion of competition are limited to refund of side-pot entry fees.

**Running Order** will be posted online for contestants' convenience prior to the event at [www.betterbarrelraces.com](http://www.betterbarrelraces.com).

### Invitational ShootOut Races

**Eligibility/Entry:** Invitational ShootOut Races are open to invited contestants only. Invitations will be extended only to those horse and rider combinations that qualified for the previous year's BBR World Finals Short Go. Contestants whose short go time (without hit barrels) did not improve by more than ½ second over their qualifying time are invited to participate in the race corresponding to the division in which they qualified. Those whose time (without hit barrels) improved by more than ½ second are invited to participate in the race corresponding to their short go time (without penalty). Contestants making the previous year's Finals Short Go with a BBR X-Tra Tour "Straight Shot" will not be invited as they do not have a qualifying time to determine which race they are invited. You must ride the horse on which you are invited. No horse or rider substitutions are allowed. A current BBR Membership is required.

**Draw/Sections:** Invitational ShootOut Race competitors also competing in the World Finals Qualifying Races will be drawn, if possible, so they are not competing on the same day in both races.

**Entry Deadlines:** Invitational ShootOut Race entries must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2026. **No late entries will be accepted. All entries are final. There will be no refunds given for any reason.**

### Gold Card, Youth & New Member/Non-Qualifier (NMNQ) Races

**Eligibility:** Gold Card Race is open to *current* Gold Card members of all ages regardless of BBRWF qualification status. Youth Race is open to current BBR members 12 years old and under as of January 1, 2026, regardless of BBRWF qualification status. NMNQ Race is open to New 2026 Members or current 2025 Members who did NOT Qualify for the 2026 BBR World Finals. Contestants in the Gold Card, Youth and NMNQ Races must hold a current membership (at the proper membership level) as of April 25, 2026. Membership may be submitted with entry form to enter these races.

**Draw/Sections:** Gold Card and Youth Race competitors also competing in the World Finals Qualifying Races or NMNQ Race will be drawn so they are not competing on the same day in both races. NMNQ contestants may enter the NMNQ race twice on the same horse but will

be drawn on different days when doing so. If a horse/rider is entered in the World Finals Races or two times in the NMNQ, entries for Gold Card and/or Youth races will be drawn one time in an additional section with times for both races carrying from that run.

**Entry:** Members meeting the above criteria for these races may enter on whatever horse they choose or as many horses as they wish. However, a horse/rider combination is considered one entry. Also, a horse may not be shown by more than one person unless both contestants are members of the same immediate family and in no case shall the horse be entered more than twice. Under no circumstances will sharing of horses be allowed if one of the family members has more than one horse entered.

**Entry Deadlines:** Pre-Entries for the Gold Card, Youth & NMNQ Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2026. **No late entries will be accepted. All entries are final. There will be no refunds given for any reason.** All entries are for the rider, not the horse.

**Format:** Gold Card, Youth & NMNQ Races will be one race with 4 sections – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Payout will be a 5D format with  $\frac{1}{2}$  second splits and the number of places paid will be determined by number of entries.

**Horse substitution** will be allowed thru check-in. Once a horse has been checked in it may not be substituted.

**Rider substitution** will be allowed thru check-in for a \$50 fee so long as the original horse entered in that position is not substituted and the rider is a current BBR Member and meets the eligibility requirement of each race. Switching of draw positions will not be allowed.

## Insurance Races

**Eligibility & Format:** Open to all BBR World Finals Race entries. Entry must be the same horse/rider combination as is entered in BBR World Finals Races. Entries qualifying for the World Finals Short Go will be scratched from the Insurance Races and will forfeit their entry fees (75% of forfeited fees remain in the event purse). Remaining entries will be randomly drawn into one of two races. Each race will be a 5D format with  $\frac{1}{2}$  second splits with number of places determined by total entries in each race.

**Entry:** Entry must be paid with World Finals Entry prior to event.

## BBRWF Futurity

**Eligibility:** Open to foals 5 years old & under in 2026 (foals of 2021 or after) that have never competed in barrel racing for money, points or prizes, prior to November 15, 2025. Contestants must hold a current Futurity Riders Guild or Premium membership.

**Running Order:** Running order will be a random draw in first go. Second go will be run in reverse order.

**Format & Payoffs:** The Futurity purse will consist of 75% of entry fees plus 100% of added money. The Purse shall be split 25% to each Long Go and 50% to the Average. Long Goes will be paid on a 2D (1 sec. split) progressive format. The Futurity will pay one money for every 10 entries.

**Horse substitutions** will be allowed through April 1, 2026, with a \$150 fee. The substituted horse must have same owner. No horse substitutions after April 1, 2026.

**Rider substitutions** will be allowed through check-in at no cost. No rider substitutions allowed after check-in.

## General Conditions for All Races at BBRWF Event

**Check In:** *ALL CONTESTANTS MUST CHECK THEMSELVES IN UNLESS THEY ARE MINORS (Those under 18 years old may be checked in by a parent or legal guardian). HORSES ARE NOT REQUIRED AT CHECK IN. You must show a current negative Coggins test (dated within 1 year of completion of event) for all horses and Health Papers (dated within 30 days of completion of event) for out-of-state*

*horses are required at check-in. Other health papers may be required based on outbreaks occurring during the event. See World Finals page at BetterBarrelRaces.com for any additional postings. YOU MAY NOT CHECK IN WITHOUT THESE DOCUMENTS.*

**General Check-In** will be Tuesday thru Thursday (See event schedule for specific times and location). **BBR MEMBERS WITH A STANDARD MEMBERSHIP MUST BE CHECKED-IN AND PICK UP HIP NUMBERS THE DAY PRIOR TO THEIR FIRST SCHEDULED COMPETITION RUN.**

**Futurity Horse Check-In IN ADDITION TO REQUIRED NEGATIVE COGGINS AND HEALTH PAPERS, FUTURITY CONTESTANTS MUST PROVIDE HORSE REGISTRATION PAPERS AT CHECK-IN.**

**Gold Card Members EXPRESS Check-In** will be Tuesday through Saturday (See event schedule for specific times and location). Gold Card members may check in up to 2 hours prior to competition.

**Dress Code** will be enforced, including cowboy hat or safety riding helmet, long-sleeved button down, zip or snap front shirt with collar (no sweatshirts, hoodies, or burn-out T's), long western pants, cowboy boots or equine sports shoes.

**Customary Tack** shall be defined as bridle (with a bit and/or a noseband), saddle, saddle pad or saddle blanket, protective foot and leg boots, tie-down, bonnet, martingale or German martingale, split reins, draw reins, are all considered to be standard and customary articles of tack used in barrel racing. Contestants are prohibited from competing bareback, and/or bridle-less. Any articles of tack or performance enhancing gear which impede BBR's ability to number or identify horses are prohibited in BBR competition. Use of such prohibited tack or performance enhancing gear shall result in a disqualification with no refund of entry fees.

**Tie for Purse & Prizes:** If any contestant's times are tied, the prize money will be split equally between the tied contestants. Any ties for prizes will be determined by a roll of the dice, high roll wins prizes. Office staff will make one (1) attempt to contact all tied contestants to set a reasonable time for each to participate in the tie-breaking dice roll. In the event any cannot attend, representative(s) from the office staff will be designated to roll on behalf of the missing contestant(s). Results are final.

**Holding Pen Check-In:** Contestants in the upcoming drag shall identify themselves to the arena coordinator and be inside the holding area located outside the warm-up pen next to the alleyway before their name will be called in the arena. Failure to do so will result in a scratch. Contestants will have a 60-second time limit, commencing from announcer's first call, to enter the arena. Three calls, and only three calls will be given. Failure to enter the arena within this time limit will result in a scratch.

Arenas in the South Covered Arena and Barn 7 are considered competition warmup pens for the Coliseum and Performance Arena, respectively. Anyone more than 50 horses from competing in those arenas should utilize the covered arenas south of Barn 6 and/or west of Barn 8 to exercise their horses.

**Competing Out of Turn** will result in a no-time. Contestants running more than one horse must run the horses in the position in which named horses are drawn or they will receive no time.

**Knocked Down Barrels** in divisional competition will result in no time. Barrels knocked down in Futurity competition will receive a 5-second time penalty added to the run.

**Contestants Entering the Competition Arena** must be mounted and must maintain forward motion. The competition arena is defined as any point past the arena gate. Intentionally circling, stopping or backing horses after entering through the arena gate is strictly prohibited and will result in a no-time. Contestant may be led by an un-mounted assistant through the gate into the alley. Assistant must exit immediately after horse crosses the arena gate and cannot stay in alley to watch/video the run.

**Training or Circling a Barrel** more than once during competition is prohibited. Such behavior will result in a no-time and a \$100 fine will be assessed payable in the show office within 1 hour of their run.

No re-runs will be given if a horse falls, is pulled up by the rider or in the event of a rider's equipment malfunction.

**Missed Times:** An electric timer will be used for all runs. In the event of a timer failure, a re-ride will be granted. Any penalties incurred during original run, prior to being instructed by arena officials/announcer to "pull up", will apply. Barrels tipped after being instructed to "pull up" will not incur a penalty. Contestant shall contact the arena judge immediately. All re-runs will be scheduled to run at the end of the second set of 50 following the contestant's original draw position. If a barrel is knocked down during the re-run, that penalty will apply.

**Animal Abuse: IMPORTANT NOTICE: The welfare of the horse and all other animals is paramount to BBR.** Anyone who excessively whips or spurs, and/or strikes a horse's ears, eyes or face with anything other than the hand, either in the arena or on the facility grounds will be fined \$100. Any rider caught using an electronic device on a horse during competition will be automatically disqualified and shall forfeit all entry fees and/or winnings. Horses shall not be left unattended while bitted-up or tied-around on facility grounds at any BBR sanctioned or produced event. Inhumane treatment, or neglect, of any horse or other animal during a BBR event will not be tolerated. An individual who has been warned by a BBR Representative for such behavior and persists or refutes the warning shall be fined an additional \$100. Individuals who fail to pay incurred fines will remain ineligible for competition at BBR, LLC events, until such time as all fines have been paid. First offenses will be punished by a fine being imposed. A second offense will be dealt with by BBR Management and may result in a fine of up to \$5,000 (to be donated to a non-profit animal rescue center) and a suspension of membership.

**Safety:** Safety is a prime objective at this barrel race. If you have a horse that could be dangerous to yourself, other contestants, or other horses, DO NOT bring it to this barrel race. Any horse or contestant deemed to be dangerous by the management of BBR will be disqualified and entry fees will not be refunded. Better Barrel Races, LLC does not assume any responsibility for personal injury, loss, theft or damage. Contestants and all other parties recognize barrel racing as a hazardous sport and participate at their own risk.

**Disqualifications:** Any act deemed prejudicial to the best interests of BBR may result in the disqualification of the contestant, with no refund of entry fees. The contestant may also be placed upon the BBR "ineligible" list. These acts may include but are not limited to the following:

- a. Using abusive or intemperate language or attempting to threaten, bribe, influence, or harass any contestant, spectator, staff member, or Arena Personnel. Also, any remarks made with the intent to cast aspersions on the character or integrity of a BBR staff member or management member.
- b. Moving or attempting to move markers at any time.
- c. Use of electronic and/or remotely controlled devices to alter the outcome of a run.
- d. Abuse or neglect of a horse or other animals as defined within these rules.
- e. Competing while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- f. Misidentifying a horse or rider in any BBR Barrel Race class.
- g. Other conduct that is not in the best interest of the BBR, or its contestants.
- h. Failure to make good on a returned check or to dispute valid credit card charges to the BBR, to any BBR Independent Producer, or BBR Vendor.

i. The BBR Management at their sole discretion shall have the authority to disqualify or deny entry to any horse they deem dangerous to the rider, or to other individuals, animals or property.

**Prize Money:** Checks will be issued in the name of the rider in all classes (including Futurity). Prize money checks will only be issued at the conclusion of the competition to individuals who have a completed W-9 tax form (or applicable form for non-US residents) signed/dated in the current year on file in the show office. BBR reserves the right to hold all prizes (check and awards) until a completed W-9 (or applicable form for non-US residents) has been submitted. It is the contestant's responsibility to provide the required tax forms and claim their prize money in a timely manner. Contestants not providing the required documents *AND* claiming prize money (i.e. cashing prize money checks) within 120 days of the completion of the event will forfeit any claim to said prize money.

BBR also reserves the right to withhold balances due BBR, from the winnings of individuals who have outstanding accounts.

## **Barn & Stalls**

All stalls will be pre-assigned and will be tagged or marked with the rider's name. Contestants riding a stallion or a problem horse must send a written request for special accommodation for that horse with their entry. These individuals will be given special consideration for stalling if possible. Contestants wishing to be stalled together must send their entries in the same envelope. However, BBR does not guarantee its ability to stall contestants next to each other as per their requests.

Refunds for stalls must be requested a minimum of five (5) days prior to the event. A \$10 fee per stall will be withheld to cover processing and mailing costs. No refunds will be given after that date regardless of whether the stalls are used.

All horses staying on the grounds must be stalled in the accommodation provided by BBR. Overnight tying horses is strictly prohibited. There will be absolutely no tying of horses in the warm-up areas, round pens, and/or alley ways of the stall barns at any time.

Any horse found in a stall that has not been assigned specifically to it, or any horse found loose or tied and unattended will be locked in an empty stall. The owner must purchase that stall before the horse will be released or allowed to compete.

Any nails, tacks or wire used in or on stalls must be removed prior to moving out. Excessive use of nails, tacks, wire or any similar material is prohibited.

Horses are not permitted on lawns, medians, or on the East (front) side of barns.

No electric cords will be allowed to lie on the ground or hang suspended in any area used or traversed by horses. Blocking passage through any stall isle is strictly prohibited.

Any horse owner or rider wishing to remove stall panels or dismantling pre-constructed stalls must receive express written consent from the BBR Show Office. There is a \$500 Fee for the removal or dismantling of pre-constructed stall panels. This includes partially pulling out stall dividers.

Do not wash horses in stalls, alleyways, streets or any other area other than the designated wash racks.

Place all stall cleanings in the designated receptacles. Do not place stall cleanings in the alleyways or trash barrels.

## **All dogs must be kept on a leash.**

## **Parking, Camping, Etc.**

No vehicles, including automobiles, trucks, trailers, RV's, golf carts, scooters, hover-boards, Segways, bicycles, etc., are allowed inside the barns, office, arena, trade show or spectator areas at any time (with the exception of event and facility staff) *User will be responsible for any*

*damages to the facility, vehicles, or other property caused by the use of any of the above.*

Golf carts (or similar vehicles) may only be operated by licensed drivers. Show management reserves the right to confiscate any such vehicle being operated in a reckless manner or by an under-aged driver for the duration of the event without compensation for rental cost, etc.

Overnight camping with hook-ups is allowed only in the State Fair RV Park. Utility connections (electric, gas, water, sewer) to vehicles from any barn area source is strictly prohibited.

Area traffic/parking signs are to be observed at all times.

Designated fire lanes must be kept clear at all times. **The roads immediately adjacent to either side of the stall barns are for unloading only!** Vehicles left for more than 15 minutes may be towed at the owner's expense without warning.

All trailers are to park on the North end of the stall barns, or in the parking areas South of the railroad tracks. No trailers are to be parked in the lots East of Gordon Cooper Blvd or North of the railroad tracks. Vehicles parked in unauthorized areas will be towed at the owner's expense.

## **Miscellaneous**

A \$100 charge will be assessed for every check returned to BBR by the bank marked insufficient, closed account or stop payment. Anyone who fails to pay the return check charge will remain ineligible for nomination to subsequent BBR produced events, until such time as all return check charges have been paid.

Any questions or disputes regarding credit card charges shall first be addressed with BBR Management. Dispute of charges without prior contact with event management or after confirming the validity of said charges with event management will result in a \$100 charge and the associated contestant and/or horse owner being ineligible for subsequent BBR produced events until all fees have been paid.

All fines are to be paid in cash in the show office. Contestants with outstanding fines will not be allowed to compete until such time as fine(s) has been paid.

The posting of signs, advertisements, posters, bumper stickers, or cards on any surface is prohibited.

***Selling of merchandise or professional services on the grounds, in stalls, or at trailers is prohibited unless you are a vendor contracted with Better Barrel Races, LLC. Anyone doing so will be required to leave the premises immediately.***

Damage willfully caused to any property, i.e., stalls, barns, grandstands, etc. of BBR, its representatives, the Host Facility or Host Hotel, shall be paid for by the contestant or their representative before being allowed to continue to participate at the BBR World Finals.

Any questions or disputes which may arise during the course of the BBR World Finals not covered by the above rules will be decided and settled by Better Barrel Races, LLC. This decision will be final.

**Photo & Video Rules:** Better Barrel Races, LLC retains all rights to every photo and/or video taken on the Oklahoma State Fair Park grounds during the BBR World Finals event. Contestant grants Better Barrel Races, LLC the right to use any photographs or video of him/her taken at the BBR World Finals, including but not limited to those of any contestant during competition or while otherwise attending the event, for publicity purposes. Contestant agrees that no photographic or video images taken of the competition or exhibition areas will be altered or copied without the express written consent of Better Barrel Races, LLC and the photographer/videographer. **Contestants are expressly prohibited from taking pictures/videos of photographer/videographer proofs or recorded runs at the viewing booths unless approved by the event videographer or photographer.**

Use of cameras or video equipment by any contestant and/or spectator other than smart phone/tablet camera is expressly prohibited without press credentials. BBR press credentials are also required for all commercial photographers or videographers on the State Fair Park grounds during the BBR World Finals. Credentials can be obtained in the show office. Individuals without prior approval and proper Better Barrel Races press credentials will be asked to leave the premises.

Better Barrel Races, LLC does not assume any responsibility for personal injury, loss, theft or damage. Contestants and all other parties recognize barrel racing as a hazardous sport and participate at their own risk.

Better Barrel Races, LLC reserves the right to make any changes to the BBR World Finals, it deems necessary, including cancellation. BBR assumes no responsibility for providing any notice of changes to any contestant. Any notice provided by Better Barrel Races, LLC, is only for the convenience of the contestant.

**Resolutions of Disputes:** It is recognized that Better Barrel Races, LLC has established the rules and conditions for participation in the BBR World Finals. By participating in this program and/or entering this contest each participant agrees to be bound by rules and conditions as established by and as interpreted by Better Barrel Races, LLC. In the event of a dispute with respect to any matter governing the award of prizes, awards and monies, the decision by Better Barrel Races, LLC shall be final, binding and not subject to challenge in any court of law.

In the event a lawsuit is filed, the parties hereto consent to WAIVE THEIR RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL concerning any controversy arising out of or relating to any of the parties' dealings with each other, whether in contact or in tort, AND TO SUBMIT ANY AND ALL DISPUTES TO ARBITRATION pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Uniform Arbitration Act found at 15 O.S. §801, et seq. The arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of 15 O.S. §801, et seq. and, specifically, pursuant to the provisions of 15 O.S. §804, in the event a lawsuit is filed, Better Barrel Races, LLC may apply to the Court for the appointment, in the sole discretion of the Court, of a single arbitrator which said arbitrator will arbitrate said dispute in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Uniform Arbitration Act. Each participant agrees that in the event of an unsuccessful lawsuit, the claimant shall be liable for Better Barrel Races, LLC costs and attorney's fees. Each Participant also agrees (a) that the BBR World Finals, as described in the conditions, bears a reasonable relationship to the state of Oklahoma; (b) that the rules, conditions and conduct should be governed by the laws of the state of Oklahoma in all respects, and (c) that Cleveland County, Oklahoma shall be the choice of venue. It is the sole responsibility of each participant to make timely payments to maintain entry eligibility. Neither Better Barrel Races, LLC, nor its directors, accepts responsibility for providing any notice of deadlines or eligibility to any member. Any notice provided by Better Barrel Races, LLC is only for the convenience of the members. Failure to mail or receive any notice shall in no way absolve the member from ultimate responsibility to insure timely payment(s). Better Barrel Races, LLC may elect to provide entry reminder notices, eligibility lists or any other notice but is under no obligation to do so.

All parties involved in the BBR World Finals are responsible for reading these conditions and fully understanding their contents. Better Barrel Races, LLC assumes no liability to those who have not read the conditions and having not read these conditions they are still held to their contents.