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and horse during the timing period.

**Pole Bending.** In these classes, it is mandatory to wear appropriate western attire, including a shirt with long sleeves and collar, western hat and western boots. The hat must be on the contestant's head when the contestant enters the arena. A five second penalty will be assessed if the hat or helmet is not on the contestant's person the entire time the contestant is in the arena. (Hats held on the body by a stampede string are allowed.)

- (a) Western type equipment must be used in the pole bending class. The use of skid boots, splint boots and polo wraps is permitted. Mechanical hackamores may be used, however, the judge may disqualify a horse that is using shanks that are felt to be too severe. The judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment he may consider severe. Cavesons, whips, crops or bats of any kind are prohibited.
- (b) Pole Bending is a timed event. Each contestant will begin from a running start, and time will begin and end as the horse's nose crosses the line. (A clearly visible starting line will be provided.) An electric timer or at least two (2) watches will be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time.
- (c) The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles. Each pole is to be 21 feet apart and the first pole is to be 21 feet from the starting line. Poles will be set on top of the ground, six feet in height, and with no base more than 14 inches in diameter.
- (d) A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly. (See pattern.)
- (e) Knocking over a pole, touching the pole with the contestant's hand will cause a five second penalty. Failure to follow the course will cause disqualification.
- (f) In the event of a tie, the horse declared the winner in the runoff must re-run the pattern within two seconds of its original time or the runoff must be held again.

**Stake Race.** In these classes, it is mandatory to wear appropriate western attire, including a shirt with long sleeves and collar, western hat and western boots. The hat must be on the contestant's head when the contestant enters the arena. A five second

