

## **Indian National Finals Rodeo**

May 6, 2020

Dear INFR Rodeo Family,

I hope this update finds you all safe and healthy. The COVID-19 pandemic is still affecting some of our regions more than others. Some areas and states are opening back up and rodeo events are starting to happen. While some are still on lockdown.

As an organization the INFR wants to encourage you to continue to adhere to your local health professionals, Tribal, State and National policies as they pertain to the pandemic. This will eventually pass. But let's do our part to keep its numbers to a minimum especially in our Native communities. Your safety is still of utmost importance.

The INFR board has had two conference calls over the past month with the region presidents to discuss the 2020 season. Most regions were optimistic about having a rodeo season. Since pandemic restrictions differ geographically, we have given each region the option to participate this year or to simply opt out and hold off until next year to host any events. Regions will notify the INFR by June 1<sup>st</sup> of their decision.

If a region elects to participate, they will be able to send one qualifier in each event to the INFR. Regions will be able to select how that qualifier is selected (i.e. year end, sudden death, etc.). The six region rodeo and tour rodeo requirements have been waved for this year.

For 2020 we are looking at scaling the Indian National Finals Rodeo back. We will only be taking 20 qualifiers in each event (12 from the regions and 8 from the tour standings or a qualifier event). We understand event sponsorships and membership numbers will be low, so we are being realistic with our event planning. This is for the 2020 season only at this point.

The PRCA is moving forward with selected events throughout the country. They have developed some COVID-19 rules and guidelines to help keep rodeo contestants, personnel, and fans safe. The INFR is working with them to adopt these guidelines as well and will be sharing them with the regions and membership as soon as they are finalized.

Please keep in mind, the INFR is NOT making any region or member rodeo this year. We want everyone to choose what is best for you and your family. If you do choose to rodeo, we will work at making every effort to keep everyone involved safe.

Sincerely, /s/**Ba Vocu** Bo Vocu INFR President

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