

Communication from Public

Name: Heather

Date Submitted: 09/15/2025 04:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1575

Comments for Public Posting: Dear LA City Council, Submitting this comment to say thank you to Councilmember Blumenfield for his compassion. Also requesting Councilmember Jurado to please put this on the calendar of her Committee, to vote on the revised language by the City Attorney. Rodeos are barbaric, outdated, violent, cruel and 100% unnecessary. Docile farm animals are provoked into acting "wild" (more like scared out of their minds) via flank straps, spurs, electric prods. Earlier this year, a pregnant mare used for bucking was killed in a San Diego rodeo. Her uterine artery ruptured and she exsanguinated (bled to death). Her foal did not survive either. This is not family fun, this is not entertainment. Rodeo animals are roped, wrestled, wrangled, hog tied, chased, slammed to the ground. There is ZERO regard for their welfare. These are "farm animals" AKA "livestock," emphasis on the word STOCK. They are seen as nothing more than a piece of property. A disposable object to be used, abused, and then cast aside when they are no longer of use to their captors. I have personally confirmed with the USDA that injured rodeo animals go to slaughter. Anyone can request the "rodeo reporting forms" through a CA Public Records Act Request with the Veterinary Medical Board. Part of CA Penal Code 596.7 requires an on site (or "on call") vet to submit reports of injured or killed rodeo animals. There are loopholes, there is a lack of enforcement, and there is underreporting. Notwithstanding, you can still read the submitted reports and get a very good idea what these poor animals endure. Broken bones, punctured lungs, torn muscles and ligaments, fractured horns, internal bleeding, etc. It is 2025, time to evolve. Time to teach our children compassion, kindness, love and respect for all animals. There is NOTHING even remotely kind about a rodeo. Copy and paste this link to watch a video on why rodeos should not be allowed in LA, or anywhere. https://youtu.be/Ow9ZwS2CG_A?feature=shared Thank you for your time. Heather

Descriptions of the Major “Events” Done in Rodeo

Steer wrestling, AKA “bulldogging”

“The steer gets a head start before the bulldogger on horseback races after him, slides down the side of his horse, grabs the running steer and wrestles him to the ground. A timed event, the clock stops when the steer is on his side with all four legs pointing in the same direction.” Source: RMVrodeo.com

Injuries

Steers suffer broken necks, broken horns, broken limbs, sudden death, being trampled. Horses have also been gored.

Notice the steer’s eye in this last photo. When the eyes roll into the back of the head, this is indicative of cerebral hypoxia. The steer’s head is torqued at such an unnatural angle that the major blood vessels supplying his brain are compressed, and his brain is not getting oxygen. (This is a standard steer wrestling image.)



Calf roping, AKA tie-down roping

“The calf is first released from the chute. After the cowboy waits horseback in the box for the calf to reach its head start, he then runs up behind the calf with the goal of roping the animal. Once his loop catches the calf, he quickly dismounts, “flanks” the animal, or lays it on the ground, and ties three of its legs together with a rope called the “pigging string”. As soon as he completes the tying, he throws his hands in the air to stop the clock. The calf must remain tied on the ground for six seconds after it is tied. The cowboy mounts his horse again and takes pressure off of the rope. So long as the calf stays tied for six seconds, the roper qualifies for a time.”

Source: rodeoscottsdale.com

Injuries

These baby calves suffer broken necks, broken legs, being trampled, not to mention being scared to death. They are basically roped over and over until they either get too big or they are no longer able to “perform” due to their injuries. Dr. Robert Bay (Colorado) has described the condition of autopsied roping calves and came to the very obvious conclusion that they are injured every single time they are roped.

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Team roping

“Two ropers, a “header” and a “heeler”, work together to catch a steer. The header is the first cowboy out of the box. He may rope the steer around the head and one horn, around the neck or around both horns, which are specially wrapped for the event. As with all timed events, if the header fails to give the animal its allotted head start, a 10-second penalty is added to the total time. After making his catch, the header rides to the left, taking the steer in tow. The heeler moves in and ropes both hind legs.” *Source: stpaulrodeo.com*

Injuries

Same types of injuries seen in calf roping and steer wrestling.



Descriptions of the Major “Events” Done in Rodeo



Saddle bronc & bareback bronc riding

The rider must stay atop the bucking horse or ‘bronco’ for a minimum of 8 seconds. The objective in bronc riding is to get your feet above the shoulders of the horse before it lands its front feet on the ground after the first buck. This is called ‘Marking the Horse out’. Scoring is accorded 50 points to the rider for their skill, ability and technique and 50 points to the horse for bucking ability. Source: cowboylifestylenetwork.com

Injuries

Horses have collapsed and died of sheer terror (cardiac arrest) while still in the chute. They can also come flying out and run into walls, called “bucking blind,” resulting in catastrophic injuries (i.e. broken neck). They also sustain broken legs and other non-survivable injuries; not to mention being scared to death.⁶

Also worth mentioning that bucking horses are usually mares; who will still be used by the rodeo when they are pregnant. There were known pregnant bucking mares at the San Dimas rodeo (CA) in 2018, the Rancho Mission Viejo rodeo (CA) in 2022, and San Diego in 2025. The San Diego mare and her foal were killed.



Descriptions of the Major "Events" Done in Rodeo



Bull riding

A rider mounts a bull and grips a flat braided rope. After he secures a good grip on the rope, the rider nods to signal he is ready. The bucking chute is opened and the rider must attempt to stay on the bull for at least eight seconds, while only touching the bull with his riding hand. His other hand must remain free for the duration of the ride. The bull bucks, rears, kicks, spins, and twists in an effort to throw the rider off. Source: canbyrodeo.com

Injuries

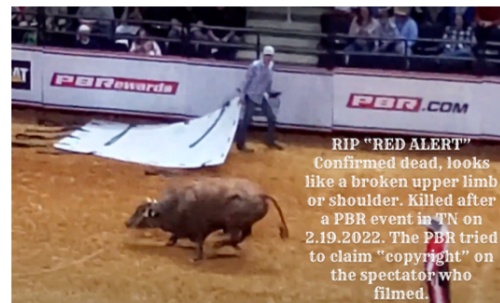
When a 2,000 pound terrified animal comes crashing down, catastrophic injuries can and do occur. The rodeo and the Professional Bull Riders are careful to hide this. Bucking bulls suffer broken limbs, dislocated joints, broken backs, paralysis, and other ailments that are all related to the severe, exaggerated spinning, bucking & jumping that are artificially induced & augmented with flank straps. The reality is that bulls, just like all the other animals used in rodeo, are sweet and gentle when not being provoked.



Orange County Fair rodeo, 8.3.23. Bucking bull breaks his hind leg. The limb is snapped and dangling. It takes 7 agonizing minutes to forcibly load him into a livestock trailer. Where was the vet? There is also no CA VMB rodeo reporting form on this animal, as required by state law. An insider at the fair confirmed the obvious, that he was killed.



Image of another fatally injured bucking bull.



"No cameras allowed" and this is why.



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Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to encourage the rodeo ban in Los Angeles. Rodeos are extremely cruel to the Animals who are forced to participate. Many of the Animals suffer horrifying and often fatal injuries. Rodeos are not entertainment but are spectacles of barbaric cruelty and should not be tolerated anywhere, including Los Angeles. Thank you to Council Member Bob Blumenfield for his support of the Los Angeles rodeo ban.