

June 11, 2024 Brian Witt, BWitt@SistersRodeo.com

Updated Statement from Sisters Rodeo Association on June 8 Bull Incident

On Saturday, June 8, 2024, during the final section of the bull riding event at the Sisters Rodeo, a 1,400-pound, three-year old bucking bull named Party Bus jumped the arena fence. Our rodeo announcer immediately activated our emergency response plan to alert the crowd and provide safety instructions. The bull ran through the rodeo grounds infield and food vendor area and then back to the livestock holding pens. Rodeo livestock professionals quickly responded to safely contain the bull, which was secured by our rodeo pickup men and immediately placed into a pen.

The Rodeo Sports Medicine Team, Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD, Cloverdale RFPD, rodeo staff and local law enforcement responded immediately with first aid and care. First responders confirmed that three persons were injured as a result of direct contact with the bull; two of whom were transported to a local hospital and one who was treated on-site. Several other minor injuries were reported. We understand that all persons were treated and released to recover at home. We respect the privacy of all the injured persons and wish for their full and speedy recovery.

Bucking bulls are bred, raised and trained to be elite athletes. Per the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), due to this infraction, Party Bus will no longer compete in the sport of professional bull riding, despite this being his first infraction. Following the incident, our stock contractor took the bull home to their ranch in Eastern Washington. Party Bus will live out his life as a breeding bull for the next generation of bucking bulls.

A bull breaching the corral fence has never happened in the 84-year history of the Sisters Rodeo. The Sisters Rodeo Association follows best practices and industry standards with respect to all our event operations. The Sisters Rodeo arena fencing is constructed of standard six-foot livestock panels and our facilities are PRCA compliant and inspected by PRCA judges ahead of every performance to ensure the safety of spectators and participants. A regular part of our planning process includes conducting post-rodeo assessments to identify areas for improvement. As part of this process, Sisters Rodeo will review our procedures related to arena operations and incident response plans to ensure they remain effective.

We wish the best to all affected by this rare incident. The safety of our fans is always our highest priority and we appreciate their support throughout our 84-year history.

- Sisters Rodeo Association