



M.G.R.A.

Presents

27th All – Inclusive

Show-Me State

Rodeo

May 9th – May 11th, 2025

WELCOME RODEO FANS,

It has been an exciting year getting this rodeo ready for the Community. We want to welcome spectators and contestants to the All-Inclusive Show-Me State Rodeo at Hale Arena in Kansas City, Missouri.



In addition to our rodeo event on Saturday and Sunday, May 10 & 11, 2025, we are excited to be offering Rodeo School on Friday May 9. If you attend Rodeo School you will receive instruction from some of our experienced contestants, with time to practice. You will also have the opportunity to do an actual run of the event you're learning. We will be serving you lunch after Rodeo School.

There are many exciting things to see and do this year. There will be vendors to visit a kid's area that includes crafts, an area where they can learn a few of the events like pole bending, roping a dummy calf, and a place for them to get their face painted. KC Cares will be there too. Lots of food options with food trucks and the concession stand. There is an adult only space we like to call the beer garden.

Let's not forget that we are helping the Community celebrate Mother's Day with Mom's get in FREE on Sunday, kids 10 years old and younger get in FREE also!!!

We are looking towards the future and seeing wonderful things! We would love for you to join us. Round up your friends and venture out to Hale Arena for lots of fun and laughs.

“Dirt is Cowgirl glitter.” – Fallon Taylor

THE MGRA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Brendon Dale

Vice President – Shawn Shaffer

Treasurer – Chirl Parker

Secretary – Heather Kovanda Richardson

Trustee – Ken Hall

Rodeo Director – Sean Wolff-Higgins

Assistant Rodeo Director – Brendon Dale & Shawn Shaffer

Thank You to All Our Sponsors







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This project is supported in part by the City of Kansas City Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

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OFFICIALS, STAFF, AND COORDINATORS

Rodeo Director Sean Wolff-Higgins

Assistant Rodeo Directors..... Brendon Dale & Shawn Shaffer

Arena Director..... Tim Smith

Arena Crew Coordinator.....Devon Garcia

Chute Coordinator.....Nicole Reighlie

Head Judge Randy Edlin

Judge..... Christopher Tobin

Judge..... Marcus Hood

Secretary..... Ron Trusley

Auditor..... David Hill

Scorekeeper Travis Zirkle

Announcer Tre Brewbaker

Barn Manager Mary Honeycutt

Stock Contractor Justin McCarson

Veterinarian ON-CALL Lee’s Summit Animal Hospital

Farrier ON-CALL Ben Goddard 816-392-3380

Medical Kansas City

U.S. Anthem Brendon Dale

Canadian Anthem..... Michael Vrooman (IGRA Vice President)

Invocation The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Grand Entry Coordinators..... Shawn Shaffer & Sean Wolff-Higgins

M.G.R.A. Treasurer Chirl Parker

Rodeo TreasurerChirl Parker

Sponsorship Coordinator Ken Hall

Vendor Coordinator.....Cam Brautigam

Volunteer Coordinator Danie Davis

Security Coordinator Dakota Cole

Rodeo Program Rhonda Richardson Kovanda

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

(unless otherwise notated, all activities will be at Hale Arena)

Thursday, May 8

M.G.R.A. set up	7:00 a.m.
Catering set up	4:00 p.m.
M.G.R.A. is hosting the LGBTQIA+ Chamber of Commerce B2B.....	5:30-7:30 p.m.
Clean up	7:45-10:00 p.m.

Friday, May 9

M.G.R.A. set up/vendor load in	7:00 a.m.
M.G.R.A. Rodeo School Registration	9:00 a.m.
M.G.R.A. Rodeo School Begins	10:00 a.m.
Board of Directors Meeting (Hospitality Room in Barn)	10:00 a.m.
M.G.R.A. Rodeo School Lunch, provided by the KC Pioneers.....	12:00 p.m.
M.G.R.A. Rodeo School Ends	2 p.m. ish
Beer Garden Opens	5:00 p.m.
Silent Auction Opens	5:30 p.m.
Rodeo Contestant Registration (Hospitality Room in Barn)	6:00-8:00 p.m.
Social and Drag Show (Beer Garden)	8:00-10:00 p.m.
Gates Close	10:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 10

Gates open to Officials, Vendors, Staff & Contestants.....	7:00 a.m.
Gates and Vendors open to the public.....	9:00 a.m.
Mandatory New Contestant Meeting	(Tentative) 9:15 a.m.
Grand Entry	10:00 a.m.
Rodeo Day 1 Events Start.....	after Grand Entry
Community Goat dressing Challenge	after goat dressing event is over

Rodeo Day 1 Events End 5:00 p.m.
Beer Garden Opens 5:00 p.m.
Beer Garden Closes 11:00 p.m.
Gates Close 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 11

Gates open to Officials, Vendors, Staff, & Contestants 7:00 a.m.
Gates and Vendors open to the public 9:00 a.m.
Women of Rodeo Photo (In the Arena) 9:30 a.m.
Grand Entry 10:00 a.m.
Rodeo Day 2 Events Start after Grand Entry
Silent Auction Closes 2:00 p.m.
Vendors Close 4:00 p.m.
Vendor Load Out 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Rodeo Day 2 Ends 5:00 p.m.
Beer Garden Opens 5:00 p.m.
Awards Ceremony (Beer Garden: Weather Permitting, or Vendor Hallway) 7:00 p.m.
Beer Garden Closes 10:00 p.m.
Gates Close 10:00 p.m.

EVENT RUNNING ORDER

New Contestants Meeting

9:15 a.m. (Saturday only)

Rodeo Start Time Saturday and Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

GRAND ENTRY

CALF ROPING ON FOOT

BREAKAWAY ROPING

TEAM ROPING

POLE BENDING

STEER DECORATING

STEER RIDING

CHUTE DOGGING

GOAT DRESSING

COMMUNITY GOAT DRESSING (SATURDAY ONLY)

BARREL RACING

FLAG RACING

WILD DRAG RACE

BULL RIDING

AWARDS PRESENTATION

7:00 p.m. Sunday

Grand Marshal

Iman Mykals



Iman has been entertaining the Kansas City community for almost 30 years. Among other entertainers, she is well known as the premiere Whitney Houston impersonator and has even performed as Whitney in Las Vegas. You can see Iman every week on Fridays and Sundays at Missie B's.

The Riderless Horse

Originally a military ceremony dating back to the days of when the cavalry relied on equestrian transportation instead of motor vehicles, the ceremony of the riderless horse has come to symbolize the end of a unique relationship between the horse and its rider.

A special bond between horse and rider exists that can never be replaced by modern-day mechanical vehicles. Each learned the other's cues, body movements, dispositions and numerous other unspoken signals and when that bond is broken, the horse must learn to adjust to the life minus its familiar partner.

The ceremony today not only immortalizes this philosophy, but also honors the many members of Missouri Gay Rodeo Association and all IGRA sanctioned Rodeo Associations members who have been taken from us well before their time. During this ceremony, we encourage you to remember these fine people for their contributions to Gay Rodeo.

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EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

CALF ROPING ON FOOT

This is the second step in a roper's career. Most beginning ropers practice on fence posts or other stationary objects and then move into the arena with a live animal. The contestant stands in the roping box and when the calf is released, attempts to throw the loop over the calf's head. Once the loop passes over the calf's head, the contestant must pull up the slack in the rope.

MOUNTED BREAKAWAY ROPING

The roper is mounted on horseback with one end of his or her rope tied to the saddle horn by a piece of string. When the calf is released from the chute, the roper will be in hot pursuit with lasso swirling above his or her head. When the loop is thrown, it must pass completely over the calf's head. As the calf pulls away from the rider and horse, the rope grows taut and will break away from the saddle horn.

TEAM ROPING

Hours of hard work go into the training for this event. This event is loaded with hazards, such as collisions, entanglements, and worst of all, possible loss of fingers. The team consists of two ropers and two well-trained horses. One roper is called the "header" and his or her responsibility is to catch the steer by the horns while the teammate, called the "heeler", has the responsibility of catching the steer's back legs, or heels. When the header makes the catch, he or she must wind the rope around the saddle horn, called "dallying off", and turning the steer away from himself causes the steer's heels to fly in the air for the heeler's loop to catch. When both ropers have been successful in their tasks, they must turn their horses to face the steer and pull their ropes taut.

POLE BENDING

In this event, horse and rider compete for fastest time working a linear pattern through six equally spaced poles. The poles must be at least 6 feet in height and spaced 21 feet apart. A running start is allowed and a 5-second penalty will be assessed for knocking a pole down, and disqualification will take place if the team goes off course.

STEER DECORATING

This event requires a two-person team. One member stands 10-feet from the chute gate holding the end of a 25-foot rope, which is looped around the steers' horns. The other team member stands 40-feet from the chute and has a 24-inch-long ribbon. When the chute gate opens, the team must bring the steer out and across the 10-foot line. One team member tries to tie the ribbon on the steer's tail while the other team member tries to remove the rope from the steer's horns. When the ribbon is on the tail and the loop is off the horns, the ribbon-tier must tag the timer.

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

STEER RIDING

This is a good beginner's event, but it's not as easy as it looks. Steers are male cattle which have been castrated. The rider has a "bull rope" wound around the animal just behind the front legs and then around the rider's hand; no knots are allowed. This hand hold and the rider's legs, wrapped around the animal, are all the rider has to count on to stay on top. A rider who is able to spur, or move their legs back and forth on the animal's sides, will receive a higher score.

CHUTE DOGGING

This event is designed to give even the novice a chance to compete in rough stock events. The steer and the contestant both start in the bucking chute and face a 60-second time limit. When the chute gate opens, the contestant must bring the steer out to a 10-foot line in front of the chute, and then attempt to wrestle, or "dog" the steer to the ground. The contestant will turn the steer's head up and toward the steer's shoulder, hoping the steer will fall over on its other shoulder, causing all four feet to point in the same direction as the head was turned. If the steer is contrary and falls the other way, it is termed a "dog fall" and the contestant can either attempt to turn the head the same direction or let the steer up and start over. In this event either the contestant "dogs" or gets "dogged".

GOAT DRESSING

This two-person event was created especially for gay rodeo. The team stands 50-feet from the point where the goat is tethered. One of the team members has a pair of jockey-style underwear worn over their forearms. When the whistle sounds, the team runs to the goat. The team member without the underwear picks up the goat's rear hooves, grabs the underwear from around the other member's arms, and pulls it up the legs of the goat. Both team members must then race back to the start/finish line and cross the finish line to stop the time. The underwear must stay over the goat's tail bone until the timer is tagged by both members.

BARREL RACE

Contestants vie for the fastest time in running a 3-point, cloverleaf pattern around three barrels. The horse and rider are allowed a running start and time begins and ends upon crossing a visible starting line. A 5-second penalty is assessed for knocking over a barrel. The pattern can be started either from the left or right, and contestants that go off the prescribed course are disqualified.

FLAG RACE

A triangular pattern similar to that of the barrel race is used, with the substitution of a pole in place of barrel number three. The two other barrels will have a bucket that is 3/4 full of rabbit pellets placed on top of it, and a flag in one of these buckets. The rider may choose to run to the right or left and as they pass the first barrel, they pick up the flag, race past the pole, back to the second barrel, and attempt to place the flag in the second bucket. If the rider knocks over the first bucket or the pole, a 5-second penalty will be assessed. If the rider does not pick up the flag or misses the second bucket, no time will be given. If the second bucket or barrel are knocked over, the rider is disqualified. Sounds easy, but try this at 30 plus miles per hour!

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

WILD DRAG RACE

The Wild Drag Race is an audience favorite all across the IGRA rodeo circuit. Even though the competition is serious and the payoff sizable, a large number of competitors also believe this to be a very entertaining event for the audience. The drag costumes come from “Goodwill” stores, from second-hand stores and many from raiding mom’s closet. A team is made up of one male, one female, one “drag” (either male or female), and one wild steer. The steer, with a halter and a 25-foot lead rope, is in a bucking chute at the beginning of the event. The cowgirl holds the rope and the cowboy and drag stand 40-feet from the chute. When the gate opens, the team tries to direct (or harass) the steer toward the finish line, which is 70-feet from the chute. They must get the steer across the finish line, mount the “drag”, and then ride back across the finish line. The “drag” must be mounted on the steer before the steer starts back across the finish line and must stay on the steer until all four feet of the steer have crossed back across the finish line. Sounds easy, but the “drag” may get bucked off several times before the event is ever completed!

BULL RIDING

The ultimate event of the rodeo, Bull Riding, is an advanced version of Steer Riding, but with one-half ton more beef to contend with and the added danger that many bulls turn back on the rider and attempt to get even for having their routine disrupted. Guaranteed, once you are on the bull and the gate opens, few riders ever leave this event without being slammed to the ground and scurrying for cover, as the Bull Fighter moves in to save the cowboy or cowgirl.

Buckle Sponsors

Rough stock events

Men's Bull Riding.....	Christopher Tobin
Women's Bull Riding.....	Dee Zuspan
Men's Steer Riding	Russell Cornelius
Women's Steer Riding	Russell Cornelius
Men's Chute Dogging	Christopher Tobin
Women's Chute Dogging	Devra H

Roping events

Men's Roping on Foot	
Women's Roping on Foot	
Men's Breakaway Roping	
Women's Breakaway Roping	
Team Roping	North Star Gay Rodeo Association
Team Roping	

Speed events

Men's Barrel Racing.....	Randy Fowler
Women's Barrel Racing	Nicole Reighel
Men's Pole Bending.....	Ron & Paul Moore-Vandyne
Women's Pole Bending.....	Devra H
Men's Flag Race.....	Dean and Aaron
Women's Flag Race	Lintecum Group

Camp events

Steer Decorating	Cindy Cowen
Wild Drag Race.....	Side Streets
Goat Dressing.....	KC Pioneers

ALL-ROUND

All-Round Cowboy & Cowgirl.....	Scott Harvey
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Special buckles

Grand Marshall.....	Ken Hall
Miss Mae Buckle (volunteer of the year).....	Chuck K/Andrew G
Bobbie St. Jeor Buckle (volunteer of the Rodeo)	Charles Hancock
Rodeo Director Buckle	Butts Bash

2025 Show-me Rodeo Vendors

Welcome to our 2025 Vendors

Food Trucks

The Stuffed Mushroom
Wing Stand

Taqueria Silva
Taco-ish

Vendors

Butterfly Kisses
Diva-Liscious and Vip Chic
Brenin Press
BW Creations
Smith Hat Co
Blue Vixon Designs
Black Dog Creative
Bespoke Underneath LLC

Fran's Quilts and Rugs
Good Vibes Vinyl
Promo Missouri
Creative Creations
KC Cotton candy Wishes
Christina's Creative Corner
Happy HoliBdays

Non-Profit

American Cancer Society CAN
KC Cares

PFLAG

M.G.R.A. CHOICE CHARITIES



2025 RODEO T-SHIRTS FOR SALE



MGRA Rodeo T-Shirts are available for purchase. Every purchase you make directly supports our mission. By purchasing Rodeo shirts, you help us achieve our goals and have a positive impact on our community. Thank you for your support.



In Loving
Memory

Those we love don't go away,

They walk beside us
every day.

Unseen, unheard,
but always near.

Still loved, still missed,
and very dear.