

2015 Notable Contestants



The 2015 Mandan Rodeo's contestant line-up includes 504 entries from 28 states, two provinces of Canada and Brazil. These professional cowboys and cowgirls (age 18 and over) will compete for more than \$100,000 and world championship points. The roster includes current world champions and leaders for the 2015 titles, several individuals who have qualified for the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (NFR) and top contenders from the Badlands Circuit (North and South Dakota.) Some contestants to watch for:

Thursday, July 2 – *Slack competition – 8 a.m. (free admission)

**Slack is the overflow portion of the competition as not all 504 entries will fit into the three scheduled rodeo performances. This is NOT qualifications or eliminations. Contestants in slack pay the same entry fees and compete for the same prize money as those in the performance and can win first place if their time is the fastest of the entire rodeo.*

- Barrel Racing
 - Two-time world champion barrel racer Brittany Pozzi of Victoria, Texas.
 - NFR qualifiers Nikki Steffes of Vale, S.D., Shelly Anzick of Livingston, Mont., and Christine Laughlin of Pueblo, Colo.
 - Kristi Steffes of Vale, S.D., competed two weeks ago at the College National Finals Rodeo.
- Steer Wrestling
 - J.B. Lord of Sturgis, S.D., is a former NFR qualifier, a former Badlands Circuit Champion and is currently third in the circuit standings. He's #1 in the circuit all-around.
 - Eli Lord of Sturgis, S.D., Finished third in the Badlands Circuit standings last year, just two spots behind his father J.B.
 - Jake Rinehart of Highmore, S.D., has qualified for three NFRs.
- Tie-Down Roping
 - Six-time world champion Cody Ohl from Hico, Texas, pulled his hamstring at the Reno (Nev.) Rodeo and is playing with pain. He aims to qualify for his 21st NFR.
 - Last year's Badlands Circuit Champion Jon Peek will be in the tie-down roping.
- Team Roping
 - NFR qualifier Logan Olson will be roping with his brother Jordan.
 - J.B. Lord of Sturgis, S.D., is one of the top all-around cowboys in pro rodeo He is roping with his son Levi.

Thursday, July 2 – 7:30 PM (Gates open at 5 p.m.)

- Bareback Bronc Riding
 - Heath Ford of Slocum, Texas, is a three-time qualifier for the National Finals Rodeo
 - Joe Gunderson of Gettysburg, S.D., is the reigning Badlands Circuit champion, He's also 33rd in the world championship standings.
 - Casey Breuer of Mandan leads the Badlands Circuit standings in 2015 and is ranked 45th in the world championship standings.
 - Ty Breuer of Mandan (Casey's older brother) has qualified for the NFR. He's back in competition after an injury kept him out of competition for a few months and is ranked 32nd in 2015.
- Saddle Bronc Riding
 - JJ Elshere of Hereford, S.D., has been to the NFR four times and is currently number 6 in the Badlands Circuit.
- Team Roping
 - Paul Tierney of Oral, S.D., is a member of the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, a world champion all-around cowboy and a world champion roper.
 - JoJo Lemond of Andrews, Texas, is ranked third in the all-around world standings and is a two-time NFR header who is roping with Dakota Kirchlager of Morgan Mill, Texas, a two-time NFR heeler. This is their first season to rope together.
- Bull Riding
 - Garrett Vig of Newell, S.D., won the bull riding here in Mandan last year and was fifth in the Badlands Circuit in 2014.
 - Markus Mariluch of Daingerfield, Texas, has been a top bull rider on both the prodeco and PBR circuits. He was also a stunt double in the 2015 movie The Longest Ride.f Williston, N.D., finished second in the Badlands Circuit last year and currently leads the circuit in 2014.

Friday, July 3 – 7:30 PM (Gates open at 5 p.m.)

- Bareback Bronc Riding
 - Mac Erickson of Sundance, Wyo., is a former reigning Badlands Circuit Champion.

- Steer Wrestling
 - Dean Gorsuch of Gering, Neb., has qualified for the NFR eight times and won two world championships.

- Tie-Down Roping
 - Caleb Smidt of Bellville, Texas, is ranked 23rd in the world standings.

- Saddle Bronc Riding
 - Taygen Schuekle of Newell, S.D., is currently second in the Badlands Circuit standings.

- Team Roping
 - Garrett Tonozzi of Fruita, Colo., is a former NFR qualifier.
 - Mickey Gomez of Holland, Texas, a former rookie of the year, has been a NFR qualifier.

- Barrel Racing
 - Sabrina Ketcham of Yeso, N.M., is an NFR qualifier
 - Britany Diaz of Solen, N.D., has qualified for two NFRs and is currently ranked 19th in the world.
 - Cassidy Kruse of Gillette, Wyo., sits eighth in the world championship standings.

- Bull Riding
 - Abe Dillman of Grassy Butte, N.D., currently leads the bull riding standings in the Badlands Circuit.
 - Jake Bode of Elgin, Neb., is eighth in the Badlands Circuit.

Saturday, July 4 – 7:30 P.M. (Gates open at 5

- Bareback Bronc Riding
 - Taylor Price of Huntsville, Texas, was the bareback riding champion at \$2 million The American in Arlington, Texas, in March. He split the \$1 million bonus for coming through the qualifying rodeos and winning his event.
- Steer Wrestling
 - Matt Mousseau of Hensall, Ontario, has won two world titles in the International Pro Rodeo Association.
 - Sean Mulligan of Coleman, Okla., Matt Reeves of Cross Plains, Texas, Stan Branco of Chowchilla, Calif., and Clayton Hass of Terrell, Texas, are all NFR steer wrestlers.
 - Trell Etbauer of Goodwell, Okla., has won the Linderman Award several times.
- Tie-Down Roping
 - Trell Etbauer of Goodwell, Okla., is an all-around cowboy who has won the Linderman Award several times.
 - Cade Swor of Winnie, Texas, is ranked 10th in the world standings.
 - Stran Smith of Childress, Texas, is a former world champion and 11-time NFR qualifier.
 - Marcos Costa, originally from Brazil, is ranked 13th in the world championship standings.
- Team Roping
 - Richard Durham of Henrietta, Texas, is an NFR Qualifier.
- Barrel Racing
 - Lisa Lockhart of Oehrichs, S.D., has qualified for 8 NFRs and is the reigning reserve champion. She's the reigning Badlands Circuit champ, a three-time Canadian champion and she also won the Mandan Rodeo last year.
- Bull Riding
 - Jeff Burtus of Avon, S.D., is the reigning Badlands Circuit champion and is ranked seventh this year.
 - Stetson Lawrence of Williston, N.D., is last-year's runner up in the Badlands Circuit.

North Dakota Contestants

BARREL RACING

Molly Otto, Grand Forks, ND
Allene Nelson, Grassy Butte, ND
Tisa Peek, Berthold, ND
Bobbi Grann, Sheyenne, ND
Tracy Bridwell, Bismarck, ND
Ahna Peterson, Velva, ND
Julie Ulberg, Berthold, ND
Lindsey Horner, Dawson, ND
Kennedi Kautzman, Mandan, ND
Mackenzie Weber, New Rockford, ND
Desirae Earl, Bismarck, ND
Karleen Weigel, Napoleon, ND
Mattea Hecker, Belfield, ND
Kim Dunford, Baldwin, ND
Heather Bosse, Cogswell, ND
Jackie Schau, Almont, ND
Erin Wanner, Dickinson, ND

TEAM ROPING

Britt Luger Fort Yates, ND
Patrick Monson Dickinson, ND
Wyatt Bice Killdeer, ND
Nate Horner Dawson, ND
Jeb Olson Medora, ND
Clint Gorrell Beach, ND
Chase Carson Grassy Butte, ND

Thursday, July 2 – 8 a.m. Slack

STEER WRESTLING

Ben Grann, Sheyenne, ND
Austin Entze, Golden Valley, ND
Tyler Pittsley, Killdeer, ND
Lafe Nelson, Almont, ND
Kory Carlson, Dunn Center, ND
Tyler Thorson, Towner, ND
Sheldon Portwine, Dickinson, ND
Anton Helfrich, Killdeer, ND
J.W. Lorenz, Washburn, ND
Justice Johnson, Bismarck, ND
Evan Entze, Golden Valley, ND
Tyler Schau, Almont, ND

TIE DOWN ROPING

Cole Edwards, Tioga, ND
Cole W Hatzenbuehler, Solen, ND
Cody Hilzendeger, Bismarck, ND
Dan Bishoff, Cogswell, ND
Ben Grann, Sheyenne, ND
Dillon Wickum, Dickinson, ND
Jon Peek, Berthold, ND
Brent Belkham, Blunt, SD
Austin Visser, Spiritwood, ND
Dustin Entzel, Killdeer, ND

Thursday, July 2 – 7:30 PM

BAREBACK RIDING

Ty Breuer, Mandan, ND
Casey Breuer, Mandan, ND
Marty Werner, Carson, ND
Tate Joseph Schwagler, Mandan, ND

STEER WRESTLING

Tom Hansen, Killdeer, ND
Scott Kleeman, Killdeer, ND
Cameron Morman, Genullin, ND
Jason Reiss, Dickinson, ND

TIE-DOWN ROPING

Blake Eggl, Minot, ND

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

Dalton Rixen, Richardton, ND

TEAM ROPING

Layne Carson Grassy Butte, ND

BARREL RACING

Alyssa Anderson, Dickinson, ND
Bobbie Miller, Menoken, ND
Cydney Peterson, Minot, ND
Dawn Carson, Killdeer, ND

Friday, July 3 – 7:30 PM

BAREBACK RIDING

Thomas Ladd Kronberg, Forbes, ND

STEER WRESTLING

Jayce Doan, McKenzie, ND
Austin Maier, Elgin, ND

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

Will Gullickson, Mandan, ND

TEAM ROPING

Jeff Schaefer, Des Lacs, ND
TJ Kraft, Minot, ND
A.J. Ziemann, Sheyenne, ND
Nathan Ziemann, New Rockford, ND

BARREL RACING

Fonda Galbreath, Oakes, ND
Heidi Schmidt, Belfield, ND
Britany Diaz, Solen, ND

BULL RIDING

Abe Dillman, Grassy Butte, ND

Saturday, July 4 – 7:30 PM

BAREBACK RIDING

Jordan Pelton, Halliday, ND
Blake Smith, Zap, ND
Jet Price, Buffalo, SD
Austin Martin, Thompson, ND
Don Miller, Raleigh, ND

TIE DOWN ROPING

Joe Schmidt, Belfield, ND

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

Chase Kukuacha, Dickinson, ND

TEAM ROPING

Preston Billadeau, Parshall, ND
Levi O'Keeffe, Mohall, ND
Drew Gartner, Killdeer, ND

BARREL RACING

TK Lawrence, Williston, ND
Lindsey O'Keeffe, Mohall, ND

BULL RIDING

Taryl Smith, Litchville, ND
Tate Smith, Litchville, ND
Stetson Lawrence, Williston, ND
Weston Hartman, Mandan, ND