

Children Participating in Rodeos 25 TAC §104.1-5 Rule Text As published in the Texas Register 3/11/2011

Purpose

The purpose of these sections is to establish standards for protective vests and bull riding helmets for children who participate in rodeos; and requirements for an education program on safety, including the proper use of protective gear for children planning to participate in rodeos. These standards are implemented under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 768.

Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in these sections, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Bull riding helmet--A rodeo helmet that is designed to provide substantial protection for a person's head and face during bull riding.

(2) Child or Children--A person under 18 years of age.

(3) National Health Education Standards (NHES)--A statement from The Joint Committee on National Health Education Standards. *National Health Education Standards: Achieving Excellence* (2nd Edition). Atlanta: American Cancer Society, 2007, a nationally-accepted framework of health standards and expectations which aligns curriculum, instruction and assessment practices to promote personal, family and community health.

(4) Promote--A primary or secondary school that helps or encourages; or advertises or advocates for a rodeo event to exist or flourish; or, encourages or advertises rodeo ticket or rodeo-related merchandise sales; or demonstrates acceptance of rodeo through advertising or other print or electronic publicity such as posters, Web sites or radio announcements.

(5) Protective vest--Protective clothing that covers a person's chest and torso to prevent or mitigate injury to those areas.

(6) Rodeo--An exhibition or competition, without regard to whether the participants are compensated, involving activities related to cowboy skills, including:

(A) riding a horse, with or without a saddle, with the goal of remaining on the horse while it attempts to throw off the rider;

(B) riding a bull;

(C) roping an animal, including roping as part of a team;

(D) wrestling a steer; and

(E) riding a horse in a pattern around preset barrels or other obstacles.

(7) Sponsor--A primary or secondary school that in any way finances, or provides other in-kind resources or services for a rodeo event carried out by another person or group; or, that is in any other way, responsible for a rodeo event.

(8) Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)--The state-mandated set of learning objectives for students in Texas public schools.

Standards for Protective Vests and Bull Riding Helmets for Children Who Participate in Rodeos

A child may not engage in, and a parent or legal guardian of the child may not knowingly or recklessly permit the child to engage in, bull riding, including engaging in bull riding outside a rodeo for the purpose of practicing bull riding, unless the child is wearing a protective vest and bull riding helmet. To satisfy the requirement of this section, the following applies.

(1) The bull riding helmet worn by the child must meet the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards for "Protective Headgear with Face guard Used in Bull Riding; F 2530-05" or the most current version of the standards.

(2) The protective vest worn by the child must meet ASTM standards for "Body Protectors Used in Horse Sports and Horseback Riding; F 1937 - 04" or the most current version of the standards.

(3) These standards apply to the following.

(A) Rodeos associated with primary and secondary schools.

(B) Schools that sponsor, advertise or promote; or, are otherwise associated with a rodeo in which children who attend the school are likely to participate.

(C) Children who are participating in or engaging in bull riding outside a rodeo for the purpose of practicing bull riding.

(D) A parent or legal guardian of a child engaging in bull riding including outside the rodeo for the purpose of practice.

(4) "Failure of a parent to comply" statement applies to these standards as specified in Health and Safety Code,

§768.002.

Compliance Date of Rules

To allow preparation for children to fully participate in rodeos, these rules will be effective August 1, 2011.