

Children Participating in Rodeos

25 TAC §104.1-5

Rule Text

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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 Faceguard 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.

Requirements for an Educational Program on Safety

(a)Applies only to a primary or secondary school that sponsors, advertises or promotes; or, otherwise is associated with a rodeo in which children who attend the school are likely to participate.

(b)Not more than one year before the first day of a rodeo associated with a primary or secondary school, the school will conduct a mandatory education program each school year on safety for children planning on participating in the rodeo.

(c)A child may not participate in a rodeo associated with a child's school during a school year unless the child has completed the educational program.

(d)The educational program will have the following requirements.

(1)The educational program must cover the proper use of rodeo protective gear.

(2)Criteria for program development should be based on the NHES for designing injury prevention and safety curricula.

(3)Information taught must reflect the required age-appropriate TEKS that promote healthy behavior and reduce personal risk as it relates to injury prevention.

(4)The method of delivery of the educational program may be an instructional video or any other instructional medium that contains information consistent with the TEKS and NHES.

(5)Compliance with this section is equivalent to approval by the Department of State Health Services.

Compliance Date of Rules

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