

# STEER WRESTLING

Speed and strength are the name of the game in steer wrestling. It is the quickest event in rodeo. Steer wrestlers, who are also known as “bulldoggers” are to use strength and technique to wrestle a steer to the ground as quickly as possible.

The cowboy starts on horseback in a three sided box. A breakaway rope barrier is attached to the steer and stretched across the open end of the box. The steer will get a head start, when the steer reaches the advantage point the barrier is released and the cowboy takes off in pursuit. If the cowboy breaks the barrier before the steer reaches his head start, a ten second penalty is assessed.

The cowboy uses a “Hazer” who is another mounted cowboy who gallops his horse along the right side of the steer and keeps it from veering away from the cowboy.

When the cowboy reaches the steer, he slides down and off the right side of his galloping horse, hooks his right arm around the steer’s right horn, grasps the left horn with his left hand and, using strength and leverage, slows the steer and wrestles it to the ground. His Work isn’t complete until the steer is on its side with all four feet pointing in the same direction.

