

TEAM ROPING

Team Roping, the only true team event in Prorodeo, requires close cooperation and timing between two highly skilled ropers- a header and a heeler- and their horses. Hard work and endless practice is the key to success. Team roping partners must perfect their timing, both as a team and with their respective horses.

Team ropers start from the boxes on each side of the chute from which the steer enters the arena. The breakaway barrier rope is attached to the steer and stretched across the headers box. When the steer reaches its advantage point the barrier is released and the header takes off in pursuit, with the heeler trailing slightly further behind. The ropers are assessed a ten second penalty if the header breaks the barrier before the steer completes his head start.

The header ropes first and must make one of three legal catches on the steer- around both horns, around one horn and the head or neck. Any other catch by the header is considered illegal and the team is disqualified. After the header makes his catch, he turns the steer to the left and exposes the steer's hind legs to the heeler. The heeler then attempts to rope both hind legs. If the heeler catches only one foot, the team is assessed a five second penalty. After the team catches the steer, the clock is stopped when there is no slack in the rope and their horses face one another.

