



2017-2018 Season Barrel Racing Qualifier Guidelines

Sanctioning Body

THE AMERICAN qualifiers will be sanctioned by Better Barrel Races or BBR. BBR has grown from its original 1,800 members in 2003 to over 13,000 members today. BBR now sanctions more than 1,700 independently produced events in seven designated regions across the United States. Since 2003 BBR events have awarded more than \$62.7 Million in cash purses, making BBR the largest and richest divisional barrel race association in the world.



All information regarding RFD-TV's The American Qualifier Barrel Races can be found at
www.BetterBarrelRaces.com

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Qualifiers

There will be a minimum of 15 qualifying events nationwide this season. We will be taking finalists from each qualifier to the Semi-Finals. A graduated scale will be used this season. The number of finalists moving forward to the Semi-Finals from each qualification event will be dependent on the number of entries received.

1-5...1 qualifier

6-10...2 qualifiers

11-29...5 qualifiers

30-109...10 qualifiers

110-120...11 qualifiers

121-130...12 qualifiers

131-140...13 qualifiers

One qualifier will be added for every ten entries above 140, so on and so forth.

Following are some key points that sum up the qualifiers:

- \$500 entry fee
- May enter as many of the qualifier events as you want.
- May enter each qualifier 2 times (may not ride the same horse 2 times in one race)
- Each qualifier is one run (per entry).
- ALL ENTRIES WILL BE ONLINE – NO EMAIL, NO FAX, NO MAIL IN, NO ON SITE ENTRIES!
- Of the \$500 entry fee, 25% is paid at the qualifier race, 25% will be carried over to the Semi-Finals, and 50% will be carried over to THE AMERICAN.
- Contestants may qualify twice for the Semi-Finals, however a contestant may NOT qualify more than once on the same horse.

Semi-Finals

The Semi-Finals will consist of all qualifying contestants from the qualifier events, plus any 2017 World Champion that may be chosen by THE AMERICAN committee. Semi-Finals Qualifier contestants will run one slack run. The top 30 times from slack will proceed to the Semi-Finals ShootOut Round where they will be split into three sets of 10.

The Semi-Finals ShootOut round will be run as three rodeo performances (10 contestants each performance). After those 30 individuals run in the performances, along with the possible RFD-TV Exemption Match or Exemption contestant, the top 5 or 10 times (depending on the total number of participating contestants who entered a qualification race) and the possible Exemption Match winner, or Exemption contestant, will solidify their spot in THE AMERICAN.

The pay-out at the Semi-Finals will come from 25% (\$125) of the \$500 entry fee that contestants paid at the qualification races. 20% of the total purse will be paid in the slack round. 80% will be paid out in the ShootOut round after the rodeo performances.

Exemptions

Every event has the right invite up to two exemptions that will be chosen by THE AMERICAN committee.

If two contestants are selected there will be an Exemption Match between the two at the Semi-Finals. The winner of this match wins an automatic bid into THE AMERICAN, making the field of 20+ competitors. If only one exemption is selected, they have the opportunity to compete at the Semi-Finals and THE AMERICAN.

These contestants and the Exemption contestants must pay the \$500 entry fee.

THE AMERICAN

THE AMERICAN will consist of the top 10 barrel racers in the world based on an American Management selection criteria, free of entry fees, as well as, the Exemption Match winner and the contestants that qualified through the Qualification races / Semi-Finals, with that number being determined by the total number of participants at the qualification races. All competitors will make one long round run, with the top 4 from the long round moving on to the ShootOut round where the Champion and Reserve Champion will be determined in a clean slate finals (there will be no average on two).

The Champion will win \$100,000 and the Reserve Champion will win \$25,000. In the case that the Champion came from the Semi-Finals, they will place themselves in the pot for a chance to win \$1,000,000, or share in a portion thereof with other qualifiers who win the Champion title in their event.

Entry Information can be found on the BBR web site www.BetterBarrelRaces.com.

The American Semi-Finals & American Rodeo Dates – Location - Venue

Date	Location	Venue	Event
February 20-24, 2018	Fort Worth, TX	Cowtown Coliseu	American Rodeo Semi-Finals
February 25, 2018	Arlington, TX	AT&T Stadium	American Rodeo

Rules

- R1) All BBR competition rules apply, unless otherwise noted by The American.
- R2) All American Qualification race contestants must be a current BBR member.
- R3) No age or gender specification or limitations.

- R4) Each American Qualification Race will be run as a designated race within the schedule of the host event. Roll overs from the American Qualification Race to the added money open jackpot are allowed and at the discretion of the host event producer.
- R5) BBR will manage all entries online- Absolutely NO mail in, NO fax in, NO email and/or NO on site entries will be allowed or accepted.
- R6) Books will close the Monday prior to the event date at 5pm central.
ABSOLUTELY NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN – NO EXCEPTIONS.
- R7) There will be a 72 hour turn out with no refund on the Qualifier portion of entry fee (\$125 stays in the qualifier purse as does the main race entry fee/\$375 Semi-Finals and American portion to be refunded to contestant).
- R8) A horse may not be ridden by two contestants, or twice by the same contestant, at one Qualification Race, the Semi-Finals or THE AMERICAN, regardless of the relationship of the contestants.
- R9) Semi-Finals & THE AMERICAN qualification is on the Rider, not the horse. All earnings will be paid to the Rider.
- R10) The EXEMPTION CONTESTANTS, may compete in a qualification race in an attempt secure a 2nd Semi-Finals Qualification. In doing so they may not compete at the Qualification race on the same horse that carried them to their association championship title.
- R11) Any contestant who has earned a Semi-Finals qualification prior and is one of the Top 10 in the world that is chosen by THE AMERICAN committee to compete at The American, will forfeit their Semi-Finals Qualification.
- R12) A contestant cannot qualify to the Semi-Finals more than once on the same horse.
- R13) If a contestant declines a top 10 invitation, they are not eligible to compete in any event of THE AMERICAN.
- R14) All contestants must wear “rodeo attire” at every AMERICAN event (Qualification race, Semi-Finals and THE AMERICAN).
- R15) Tie breakers will be at the discretion of the BBR at the Qualification Race. At the Semi Finals and The American, tie breakers will be explained at the time of check in by The American management.
- R16) In the event of a timer malfunction, contestant will be allowed a rerun on a fresh drag. Any penalties incurred during a completed run, will be applied to the rerun.

Any rules that are not addressed or are in conflict, will be resolved by the decision of THE AMERICAN committee.

THE AMERICAN management has final decision.