

The PBR worldwide has, through its 24-year history, taken the position that there are two great athletes in every 8-second ride. The bulls are treated with as much respect as the human athletes who ride them. A portion of PBR's Animal Welfare Policy summarizes the great respect that everyone associated with the organization shares for our animal athletes:

Welfare and Treatment of PBR's Animal Athletes Policy: Professional Bull Riding is fully committed to ensuring the much-deserved health, safety, and respect of each bull that enters a PBR Arena. To mistreat a bull would be a detriment to the sport upon which a bull rider's own livelihood depends. Therefore, the care and treatment of PBR Bulls is a top priority to those who govern and/or participate in PBR events.

Since 2006 in Australia, there have been approximately 13,000 "outs" (bull ride attempts) at approximately 260 events across all of the series operated by or sanctioned by Professional Bull Riders Australia for an average of 50 outs per event.



BULL INJURIES

There are approximately 60 bulls at a one-day event, 90 bulls at a two-day event and 110 bulls at a three-day event. A bull bucks only one time per day and no more than two times at a typical event.

- One bull will suffer a minor injury (muscle pull, scratch) every eight events or 400 outs.
- Bulls that are determined to have an injury are not allowed to compete again until fully recovered, which is generally one to four weeks.
- One bull will suffer a career-ending injury every 100 events or 5000 outs.
- Bulls that suffer a career-ending injury are retired to stud and live the balance of their lives as healthy, fully capable breeding bulls. Their injuries do not impede the quality of life or ability to function, but do prevent them from competing at the PBR level as a bucking athlete.
- Two bulls have been euthanized as a result of injuries sustained over the 260 PBR events held since 2006.
- The bulls that have sustained life-threatening injuries at PBR events have been taken to large animal hospitals for treatment and care.
- A bull has a .004% chance of sustaining a life-threatening injury at a PBR event.

PBR SAFETY & WELFARE MEASURES

PBR has proactively initiated and implemented a number of projects designed to foster and support the welfare of our animal athletes.



PBR initiated a redesign of the traditional rodeo bucking chute aimed at improving rider and bull safety. Since it was implemented, the design has eliminated leg injuries suffered by bulls in the bucking chutes, which is the most common form of injury.

PBR initiated a redesign of the traditional rodeo lead-up alleys and holding areas to further mitigate the risk of injuries to the bulls.



PBR worked with stock contractors to establish guidelines for the transportation of bulls to and from events, including but not limited to:

- Bulls ride in trailers with air-ride suspensions to reduce the risk of injury during transportation.
- Bulls are hauled for no more than 10 hours at a time and given an equal amount of time to rest before resuming travel.
- Bulls are housed at local cattle facilities with proper pen size and space per bull in each local market in which an event is conducted. Bulls are trucked from the local

- ✤ facility to the event venue and back each day.
- PBR is working with leading veterinarians and the American Association of Bovine.
- Practitioners (a part of the American Veterinary Medicine Association) to review and document PBR's animal welfare policy and practices. PBR intends to secure a written and published approval of PBR's guidelines by the AABP and AVMA.
- The welfare of PBR's animal athletes is a higher priority than any other consideration when

The value of the bulls to the contractors who own and breed them, and to the PBR, helps ensure that every effort and safeguard is in place to protect the bulls from any treatment or situation that would adversely affect their ability to continue performing or their futures as breeding bulls. Many of the bulls currently performing on the PBR Australian tour are valued in the 5-figure range, and even the lesser-known bulls are far too valuable for their owners or the PBR to allow them to be injured or mistreated.

making decisions with respect to animal welfare, including the financial impact of the decisions. One of the best examples of PBR's commitment to animal welfare ahead of profit was the Hawaii All-Star event held in November 2006. PBR had an option to ship bulls to Hawaii via boat which would have take seven days, but at considerably less cost than other alternatives. PBR determined that the welfare of the animals would be compromised, and invested almost \$350,000, compared to less than \$100,000 if shipped by sea, to fly the necessary bulls to the event in specialized containers.

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- Bulls receive 10 15 kg of a special blend of mixed grain per day. Blend varies depending on the bull's needs and the stock contractor.
- Bulls receive 8 kg of grass blend per day.

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- Bulls receive a B-12 complex vitamin shot every two weeks.
- Bulls receive a health inspection any time they have to cross state lines.
 - Bulls are only allowed to travel a maximum of 10 hours per day. After 10 hours, the bulls are rested for 12-14 hours. Each stock contractor has a local veterinarian on call for their bulls.



BUCKING BULLS Q&A

Like humans, PBR bucking bulls come in an array of shapes, sizes, and colours, and like humans, their own personalities and talents make them unique. The PBR has a vast number of championship-calibre bulls that compete on the PBR's multitiered tour structure. The bulls receive impeccable treatment and are often considered to be a "member of the family."

Here are some frequently-asked questions about the welfare of

PBR bucking bulls and the equipment used in professional bull riding.

Q: Can any bull compete in a PBR event?

A: Not every bull can compete in a PBR event. Saying any bull is suitable for PBR competition is like saying that any human athlete is fit enough to compete in the Olympic Games. PBR bulls are the highest-caliber bucking bulls in the business. Many are products of elite breeding programs that for years have been fine-tuning the important role that genetics play in producing a great bucking bull. A majority of PBR bulls are bred and born to compete in the PBR arena.

Q: What does the average bull weigh?

A: The average PBR bucking bull weighs in at 700 - 900 kg. PBR bucking bulls very rarely weigh less than 700 kg, and can weigh as much as 1,000 - 1200kg.

0: What does a bull eat?

A: Bulls eat high-protein feed and hay. High-protein feed helps the bulls keep their strength and endurance. Premium Alfalfa hay is considered high-quality hay because it provides nutrients that help keep a bull healthy.

0: Where do bulls live?

A: The bulls live on large cattle stations where they get plenty of air and exercise. There are many cattle property's from coast-to-coast in Australia.

Q: What is the average PBR bull worth?

A: The monetary value of a bucking bull depends greatly upon his proven performance in the arena; however, most PBR bulls are worth at least \$10,000, with a few boasting prices of more than \$100,000. A PBR bull is ranked just like the PBR bull riders.



When a bull consistently receives high marks, his value increases. The higher the ranking in areas such as overall performance, buck off percentage, and average rider score, the higher the conceivable price tag.

Q: What is the lifespan of a bucking bull?

A: Bucking bulls often live well into their teens, which would be considered geriatric for any bull. Though a bucking bull may often be in his prime as an athlete around age 5 or 6, many bulls buck past the age of 10, and when they retire from competition they're used as sires in bucking bull breeding programs.

Q: What makes a bull buck?

A: The success of bucking bull breeding programs around the world has proven that genetics are the most prevalent factor in determining a bull's desire and ability to buck.

It has nothing to do with the genitals as some uneducated detractors would attest. In fact care is taken to ensure that the genitals are not involved as that would adversely affect the performance of the bulls. The flank rope is more of an annoyance than anything else, and the bulls will kick their hind legs out at the height of their bucking action in an effort to dislodge it. The flank rope helps create a more uniform, less erratic performance, which helps prevent bulls from injuring themselves.

Q: What is a bull rope?

A: The bull rope is what the bull rider hangs on to throughout his ride. It is wrapped around the chest of the bull directly behind the animal's front legs. At the bottom of the rope hangs a metal bell designed to give the rope some weight so that it will fall off the bull as soon as the rider is bucked off or dismounts the animal. The bell has smooth, round edges and does not harm the bull in any way.



Q: What is the difference between a Conventional and a Brazilian bull rope?

A: The most apparent difference is that the ropes are pulled from opposite sides. The Conventional rope is pulled from the riding hand side while the Brazilian rope is pulled from the free hand side.

There are also subtle differences in the way the ropes are braided. With a conventional bull rope, the loop (the knotted part of the rope used for adjustment) is on the free hand side



of the handle while the tail (the portion of rope that is run through the loop and back to the hand) is on the riding hand side of the handle. The Brazilian rope is braided with the loop on the riding hand side and the tail on the free hand side.

Q: Do the spurs worn by a bull rider cut or scratch a bull?

A: Bull riders wear spurs that are required to have dull, loosely locked rowels (the wheel-like part of the spur that comes into contact with the animal). The spurs help a rider maintain his balance by giving him added grip with his feet. The spurs do not cut or scratch a bull's hide, which is seven times thicker than a human's skin.

Q: How many kilometers do bulls travel on the PBR circuit? A: The PBR has an extensive network of stock contractors located in all parts of Australia. This means that no matter what city the PBR visits, the best bulls are provided for the event.

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The bulls arrive at the arena at least 24 hours prior to an event which helps ensure that the bulls are acclimated, rested, wellfed and hydrated prior to competition.

Q: Is there a veterinarian on site at all PBR events?

A: There is always a veterinarian on site at all PBR events. If there appears to be a sick or injured bull at an event, the veterinarian is notified immediately. Health papers are also required on all animals arriving at an event. They are inspected as they are unloaded prior to competition.

PBR stock contractors treat their bulls with respect because they are a huge investment. These animals are truly gifted, so they are given the best care imaginable.

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