



## **CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION**

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For immediate release

### **Canadian Stock Is Money at WNFR Round Two**

It was a stand-out night for Canadian rough stock at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo as all three riding events were won on livestock from north of the 49th parallel.

Fans enjoyed another top performance from Waverly, Kansas bareback talent Jess Pope. The second time NFR qualifier (who won the aggregate a year ago) marked 89 points on Big Stone Rodeo's Fired Up.

"That was a buckin' horse ride; that's what I like," Pope commented right after his win. "The ones that hit me in the back like that... I like to hit them harder."

Pope has climbed to second overall - just \$2300 behind season leader Tilden Hooper. And first time NFR qualifier, Garrett Shadbolt scored 88 points on Calgary Stampede's Yippee Kibitz to pick up second. 2019 Canadian Champion, Orin Larsen, covered his draw - Big Stone Rodeo's Mayhem - to be 84, just out of the money.

In the saddle bronc riding, it was Brody Cress who took the honours; the Hillsdale, Wyoming cowboy marked 87.5 points on C5 Rodeo's CFR-NFR gelding Kitty Whistle to win the round. Zeke Thurston earned his second WNFR 2021 cheque; the Big Valley, AB bronc rider was 84.5 for a share of fourth while first time WNFR qualifier Kolby Wanchuk (Sherwood Park, AB) picked up a fifth place cheque (\$4354). Dawson Hay and Layton Green finished just out of the money and Ben Andersen bucked off Calgary Stampede's Baby Kibitz - just shy of the whistle.

And in the bull riding on a night that saw the eliminator pen make an appearance, it was second generation cowboy Parker Breeding who bested Outlaw Buckers' Lose Your Bones in a re-match to the spectacular tune of 90 points.

"I've been on that bull before; he bucked me off pretty fast this summer." the Montana cowboy admitted. "I was a little nervous to get on him again but he felt really good and I did a little better job of staying with him this time."

Six time World Champion and 2019 CFR qualifier Sage Kimzey made an impressive 87.5 point second place ride on 283 Arctic Assassin (Sankey Pro Rodeo & Phenom Genetics) - a bull ridden only once previously.

Idaho's Dirk Tavenner was another back to back winner in the steer wrestling. The rookie bull dogger (who has been at the Thomas and Mack previously as a hazer) put together a 3.4 second run for the win. The \$24,167 pulled Tavenner to second place, just \$18,000 back of season leader Jacob Talley. Canadian bull doggers - Provost, Alberta's Scott Guenther and Donald,

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Alberta's Curtis Cassidy were on the leaderboard with 3.8 second runs to share sixth place - good for \$2177 each.

The team roping saw a pair of veterans (who teamed up by default when their partners didn't make the NFR roster) earn top money. 12 time qualifier, header Brady Minor and 9 time NFR heeler, Derrick Begay were a smokin' 3.9. World and Canadian Champion Jeremy Buhler from Arrowwood, AB - who is heeling for CFR qualifier Rhen Richard had a bit of bad luck - clocking 17.3 seconds that included a broken barrier.

The tie-down roping event saw defending World Champion, Shad Mayfield earn a 7.2 second result for the round win. Four time Canadian Champion, Shane Hanchey had a solid 8.9 to be one hole out of the money on night two.

Barrel racer Dona Kay Rule and her horse High Valor made a great comeback, after hitting barrels on night one, to clock 13.56 for the round win. Four time Canadian Champion, Lisa Lockhart was a quick 13.70 to earn the second place cheque.

\* See complete results at <https://prorodeo.com/nfr/results>

\* Interview quotes courtesy of the <https://www.thecowboychannel.com/>

**The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA)** with headquarters in Airdrie, Alberta is the official sanctioning body for Professional Rodeo in Canada. The CPRA approves 55 events annually with a total payout exceeding \$5.7 million. The organization oversees the Pro Tour Finals each fall in Armstrong, BC; holds their premiere event - the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) - at Westerner Park in Red Deer, AB in early November; and endorses the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals as part of Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, SK. Follow the CPRA on Twitter and Instagram @prorodeocanada, 'Like' Canadian Professional Rodeo Association on Facebook or online at [RodeoCanada.com](http://RodeoCanada.com).

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