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What are Ranch Rodeos?

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THROWIN' A HEADLOOP
Bruce Brock

What are Ranch Rodeos?

Cowboys have always had a sense of competitiveness with one another. They seem to watch what others accomplish and say, “Well, that was pretty good but I think I could have done it better.” Hence, the sport of Ranch Rodeo evolved.



Today Ranch Rodeos are held all over the country. Cowboys that work together put together a team that represents their ranch. They travel throughout the country, with their particular ranch teams, to compete for bragging rights. Ranch Rodeos are usually held on weekends with sometimes two or three occurring on the same day. Some teams will travel to only a few rodeos a year and others try and make it to all of them. The competitiveness of the team and their purse winnings are determining factors for the number of rodeos a team can

participate in, as well as being able to get the work done back at the ranch.

Ranch Rodeos will usually be composed of four or five different events. These events are tasks that cowboys complete on their ranches in their everyday life while trying to make a living. Events will include: doctoring sick cattle, gathering strays, sorting and penning cattle, branding calves, and milking a wild cow (a real crowd pleaser). Occasionally, riding a bronc or other ranch jobs might be included. Each Ranch Rodeo is a little different from the previous one.



Bronco Betty Anderson

BUCK CREEK/LONESOME PINE RANCH RODEO TEAM FROM CHASE COUNTY COMPETES AT THE 2009 FLINT HILLS BEEF FEST



Bronco Betty Anderson

2008 AND 2009 FLINT HILLS BEEF FEST CHAMPIONS:
ADRIAN VOGEL, GRADY GIBB, BUD HIGGS AND RANDY PETERSON

Ranch Rodeos vary in size and competitiveness. Some might be local competitions and held during the county fair. There might be a state competition that lets everyone compete while others are by invitation only. Bigger rodeos, including the World Championship, require teams to qualify at sanctioned rodeos in order to compete. Regardless of the size or type of the ranch rodeos, it boils

down to the American Cowboy getting to display his or her talents while competing to be the best at what they do to earn their living.

Randy Peterson and his wife, Cindy, and daughters, Sammy Jo and Regan, operate Buck Creek Ranch, located in the heart of the Flint Hills, just outside of Cottonwood Falls, Kansas. Raising calves, backgrounding cattle, looking out for them on pasture, and starting them as feeders keep the family and their horses busy.