

PBR ATHLETES - RIDERS & BULLS

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#11 SILVANO ALVES [Sill-vah-no All-vez] • @salvespbr • For Alves' career stats, click [here](#).



World Championship Titles: 2011, 2012 and 2014

Hometown: Pilar do Sul, Brazil

Height: 5-10

Born: 11/23/87

Elite Tour Season: 9th

High-Marked Ride: 92.5 points, twice, last time on Smackdown at Last Cowboy Standing in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 11, 2013

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

2014 World Finals Event Winner

2011 World Champion

World Finals Qualifications: 8

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 150

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$5,958,423.59

2014 World Champion

2012 World Champion

2010 Rookie of the Year

Personal

Winning a PBR gold buckle is one of the most challenging feats in sports. Silvano Alves has the distinction of being the only rider in history to win consecutive PBR World Championships in 2011 and 2012.

The PBR legend, who added another world title in 2014, began riding bulls in Brazil at the age of 15, learning from his father, grandfather and uncles, all of whom were bull riders. His mother did not want him riding bulls. Alves would sneak away while his parents were at work, riding his bike to nearby farms to test his skills against their calves. His sly behavior came to an end when he cut his ear while riding at a friend's house, forcing him to call his mom to take him to the hospital. Silvano didn't get in much trouble, but his parents asked that he wear a helmet when he rode. Alves attended his first rodeo with his father in 2004, where they both competed. Alves was too young to drive, so his dad made arrangements with truckers heading toward rodeo cities. Alves has since gone on to establish himself as one of the best bull riders in the sport. He is one of two three-time World Champion riders, and in addition to being the only back-to-back World Champion, he is one of two riders to be named Rookie of the Year (2010) and World Champion (2011) in consecutive years. Alves' record-setting third world title included part of his PBR-record 24 consecutive rides on the elite tour. For all of his accolades, Alves has won more than \$5.9 million in career earnings, ranking him second amongst all-time money earners. After breaking his hip in April 2015 in Nampa, Idaho, Alves returned to the premier series for his first full season in 2016. Despite a mediocre start, he finished strong, winning the event title in Eugene, Oregon, and going 19-for-33 in the second half of the season, including a 3-for-6 performance at the World Finals. In 2017, Alves finished just outside the Top 10, ranked No. 11, rising from No. 22 at the start of his eighth World Finals, where he finished second after going 4-for-6, capped by a 90-point ride in the championship round, his high-marked ride of the season. Initially the alternate for Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup, Alves was called to ride, adding a score to his home nation's total.



#11 SILVANO ALVES [Sil-vah-no All-vez] • @salvespbr • For Alves' career stats, click [here](#).

Fans were given a glimpse into the legendary rider's life in 2016 when Alves was featured in the Netflix docu-series "Fearless." To the surprise of many, Alves says he does nothing to prepare for events as he doesn't really like the gym. Despite his distaste for working out, Alves joined a contingent of six PBR riders this season for a week-long, bull rider specific training camp at the famed IMG Academy. When not competing, Alves can be found with his family and friends, riding and roping on his ranch in Decatur, Texas. Alves cherishes every moment he has with his wife and their two children, Hanyelle and Eduardo, spending a good amount of time outdoors with their animals, a favorite pastime for the whole family.

Career Highlights

- 2017 - Competed as a member of runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2014 – Outside of the top spot all season long, made a come-from-behind surge to become the second rider in PBR history to claim three World Championships, joining Adriano Moraes, after going 6-for-6 at the 2014 World Finals to also win the event title.
- 2012 – Became the only back-to-back World Champion...Reached \$3 million in career earnings after winning his second World Championship, achieving the milestone faster than any rider in history.
- 2011 – Took over No. 1 ranking after his third-place finish in Thackerville, Oklahoma, in July and remained the top-ranked rider for the final 10 weeks, culminating with his first World Championship...Reached \$1 million in career earnings in 18 months and 47 events, the fastest of any rider in PBR history, averaging \$100,000 per month
- 2010 – Crowned Rookie of the Year after earning \$321,580 and never bucking off more than three bulls in a row...Won his debut event on the elite tour riding all four of his bulls in Nampa, Idaho...Logged three event wins that season, also taking the buckle in Memphis, Tennessee and Uncasville, Connecticut, the most ever by a Rookie of the Year.



#4 EDUARDO APARECIDO [Ah-pair-a-see-doo] • @eduardo_aparecido2 • For Aparecido's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 6

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 160

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$1,201,390.12

High-Marked Ride: 93.25 points on Roy during the Championship Round of the World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 26, 2014

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Gouvelandia, Brazil

Height: 5-8

Born: 6/4/90

Elite Tour Season: 6th

Personal

As a kid, Eduardo Aparecido watched rodeos on TV, telling himself that one day he would ride bulls. He prepared for his future career by taking practice rides at a ranch where he worked. After finishing second on the PBR Brazil tour in 2011 and 2012, the 27-year-old Brazilian debuted on PBR's elite tour in 2013, and has been a staple ever since. Aparecido admires Justin McBride for his "perfect riding style," and he looks to three-time PBR World Champion Silvano Alves and two-time PBR World Champion J.B. Mauney as role models as well. Aparecido is proud of his ability to cover difficult bulls, proving he can earn round and event wins at the top level. Throughout his career on the elite tour Aparecido has been a perennial contender, but in 2017 he broke into the elite category of riders on tour. In February at Iron Cowboy in Arlington, Texas, Aparecido won his first PBR Major, and he reached the No.1 spot in the world rankings for the first time. He sat atop the leaderboard for six months, at one point expanding his lead to more than 1,000 points, a rare feat in the PBR. After winning three event titles in 2017, Kansas City, Missouri, Arlington, Texas, and Jacksonville, Florida, Aparecido ended his seventh season on the elite tour ranked No. 3 in the world after going 2-for-5 at world finals, 663.34 points behind World Champion Jess Lockwood. Aparecido rode as a member of Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup, adding one qualified ride to the team's score. His home nation finished second in the first-ever event.

While raising dairy cows at his ranch in Brazil, Aparecido splits his time between living in the United States and his native country. During the season, he travels to events with Alves and 2012 PBR Rookie of the Year Emilio Resende. Before each event, Aparecido can be found reading his bible. In his down time, he is an avid roper, and enjoys going to both the gym and church. Aparecido says that his family (wife Kelly and kids Maria Eduarda and Maria Luiza) are the most important people to him, talking with them on the phone whenever he has time. Aparecido's wife gave him a new cross necklace following the PBR's stop in Oklahoma City, which this spiritual cowboy can now be seen wearing every time he mounts a bovine wrecking machine.



#4 EDUARDO APARECIDO [Ah-pair-a-see-doo] •  @eduardo_aparecido2 • For Aparecido's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won a career-best three BFTS tour events including the first Major of his career at Iron Cowboy in Arlington, Texas, becoming just the 32nd rider in PBR history to surpass \$1 million in career earnings...Rode as a member of the second-place finishing Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2014 – Won the first event of his elite tour career with a victory in Nampa, Idaho.



#40 FRASER BABBINGTON • For Babbington's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 1**Residence:** Gisborne, New Zealand**Weight:** 163**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$194,302.96**High-Marked Ride:** 86.5 points on Whiteout in Charlotte, North Carolina on September 16, 2016**2015 PBR Australia Champion****Hometown:** Gisborne, New Zealand**Height:** 5-8**Born:** 12/26/86**Elite Tour Season:** 3rd

Personal

Fraser Babbington, the first New Zealand-born bull rider to compete on the PBR's elite tour, highlighting a sport gone global, came to the sport of bull riding in less than traditional fashion. At the age of 17 while working on a farm in Australia's Northern Territory, Babbington was dared by several of his friends to get on a bull. Babbington was a talented horseman, having competed in the equestrian jumping event at the 2002 New Zealand World Youth Show, and had been around livestock most of his life working on his family's sheep and beef farm. Yet he'd never attempted bull riding. Never one to shy away from a challenge, Babbington entered a local amateur rodeo event that same weekend, where he finished third. Instantly catching "buck fever," Babbington wanted to be a professional bull rider. Upon returning to his home nation, where rugby is religion, Babbington's new career path was met with many quizzical stares. He began competing full time as a bull rider at the age of 18, riding for several seasons on New Zealand's National Professional Rodeo Circuit. The Kiwi rider made his PBR debut in April 2008, where he was seventh at the PBR Challenger Series event in Mareeba, Queensland. Babbington first travelled to North America to compete in January 2013, entering the Wichita Falls, Texas Touring Pro Division (TPD) event. In 2015 he logged two event wins, 12 Top 5 and 18 Top 10 finishes en route to being named the PBR Australia Champion. The following year, Babbington made his premier series debut in Kansas City, Missouri in February. After winning the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Portland, Oregon the following weekend, the first New Zealand rider to take a buckle on the tour, Babbington returned to the premier series in Phoenix, Arizona in March, riding at 14 additional events before qualifying for his first-ever World Finals. He concluded his rookie year on tour No. 38 in the world. In 2017, Babbington rode at six elite series events, finishing No. 40 in the world, including the PBR World Finals where he competed as an alternate in Round 5.



#40 FRASER BABBINGTON • For Babbington's career stats, click [here](#).

In the early years of his career, Babbington watched videos of Troy Dunn and Terry Don West to understand the sport, and help him work on his technique. His other accomplishments include winning the 2013 Australian Pro Rodeo Association bull riding title and competing at the inaugural PBR New Zealand Cup in 2014. While Babbington is honored to be the first New Zealand rider to accomplish a long list of feats in the PBR, he says he mainly rides for his family back home, including mom Wendy, dad Graeme and his two siblings.

Career Highlights

- 2016 – Made his premier series tour debut in February at the Kansas City Invitational becoming first New Zealand-born rider on PBR's elite tour... First Kiwi to win a Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Portland, Oregon...Qualified for his first-ever World Finals, finishing the year No. 38 in the world.
- 2015 – Named PBR Australia Champion after earning two event wins, 12 Top 5 and 18 Top 10 finishes.



#8 DENER BARBOSA • [@denerbarbosapbr](#) • [@denerbarbosag](#) • For Barbosa's career stats, click [here](#).

World Finals Qualifications: 2

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 150

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: : \$263,582.35

High-Marked Ride: 89.5 points on Pearl Harbor during the Championship Round of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 5, 2017

Hometown: Paulo De Faria, Brazil

Height: 5-7

Born: 4/19/94

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Personal

Dener Barbosa's riding career began at age 13 when he got on his first bull at his grandfather's ranch. The teenager learned the sport from watching older bull riders compete, taking great inspiration from three-time World Champion Adriano Moraes, Fabricio Alves and Vilmar Felipe, who also hailed from Barbosa's hometown. Barbosa had an instant knack for the sport. At 18, he had already captured a Brazilian national title. For Barbosa, 2016 was a banner year. He clinched the Brazil Championship by going 5-for-5 at the prestigious Barretos bull riding event, and concluded the PBR Brazil competition year getting bucked off just six times in 66 attempts, resulting in an astounding 90.91-percent riding average.

For his accomplishments, Barbosa was invited to compete at the 2016 Velocity Tour Finals, finishing eighth and qualifying for his first-ever PBR World Finals where he rode three consecutive bulls to finish 3-for-6. At the most prestigious event in bull riding, his riding percentage led then rookie standouts Jess Lockwood and Derek Kolbaba to dub him "90 percent." Advancing to the World Finals and being the PBR Brazil Champion are the proudest moments of his young career, Barbosa says.

In 2017 Barbosa was a fixture on the elite tour and a top competitor in the battle for Rookie of the Year honors, finishing second, 186.67 points behind countryman Jose Vitor Leme. After finishing runner-up at three regular-season events in 2017, Barbosa notched his first elite tour win in Raleigh, North Carolina as the only rider to go a perfect 3-for-3. Qualifying for his second World Finals, Barbosa finished the Las Vegas event fifth, capped by the high-marked ride of his career, 89.5 points, in the championship round aboard World Champion Bull contender Pearl Harbor, who in 17 outs at PBR events was ridden just twice in 2017. Barbosa finished his rookie season No. 8 in the world.





#8 DENER BARBOSA •  @denerbarbosapbr •  @denerbarbosag • For Barbosa's career stats, click [here](#).

Barbosa's worst injury came when he was sidelined for one year after needing shoulder surgery, an area of his body that still causes him issues. Barbosa has placed an increased emphasis on his fitness so he can match the augmented bull power in the United States. In the 2017 season, he joined World Champion and fellow Brazilian Guilherme Marchi in the gym to learn exercises to help strengthen his shoulders. In addition to the PBR, Dener says horseback riding is his other occupation. In his spare time, his hobbies include spending time with his family, father Vitor and son Joao Vitor, and taking care of his animals.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the first elite tour event of his career in Raleigh, North Carolina...Was one of just two riders to cover World Champion Bull contender Pearl Harbor at PBR events.
- 2016 – Won the PBR Brazil Championship...Qualified for his first PBR World Finals.



#15 RUBENS BARBOSA • [@RubensBarbosaBR](#) • [@rubensbarbosa23](#) • For Barbosa's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 4

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 145

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$610,830.65

High-Marked Ride: 92.5 points on Priceless during Round 5 of the World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 22, 2011

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Iaciara, Brazil

Height: 5-6

Born: 10/23/83

Elite Tour Season: 6th



2011 Rookie of the Year

Personal

Growing up on a Brazilian ranch, Rubens Barbosa began his career training on his family's calves. After seeing his first rodeo as a child, he has been getting on bulls ever since. After he logged four event wins and nine Top 10 finishes at PBR Brazil events between April 2010 and July 2011, Barbosa journeyed to the United States to seize his opportunity to compete on the league's top tour, a decision which paid dividends. Competing in just 10 events on the elite tour in 2011, including the World Finals, Barbosa rode his way to the Rookie of the Year title. Barbosa then faced a three-year stretch where he battled the cut line and numerous injuries, including a broken shoulder and leg, before he returned to the top tour in 2015. Barbosa's return was strongly supported by his wife Dani who had urged him to return to competition to pursue his dream of being a World Champion. In his seventh event back on the elite tour, Barbosa earned his first win in Colorado Springs, Colorado. After a then career-best season for Top 5 and Top 10 finishes in 2016, Barbosa continued the momentum with a career-defining year in 2017. Barbosa won the second event of the season in Chicago, which also marked the first time he had covered all of his bulls at an event on PBR's top series. Before finishing the season a career-high No. 15 in the world, Barbosa earned four Top 5 and eight Top 10 finishes. Adding to his achievements, he was selected to compete on Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup, where he finished second to Stormy Wing in the individual aggregate, going a perfect 3-for-3, in his nation's runner-up finish. During the season, Barbosa travels with Joao Ricardo Vieira, Fabiano Vieira and Kaique Pacheco, and at events he can be seen hanging out with Pacheco, who he has mentored. Barbosa mentions that his travelling contingent, including Guilherme Marchi and Robson Palermo, are all people he looks up to, because they have always treated him the same way inside and outside of competition.

When not competing at events, Barbosa still does a lot of ranch work, working with cattle, horseback riding, while also hunting and fishing. He keeps in shape by going to the gym where his exercises of choice are running and strength




#15 RUBENS BARBOSA •  @RubensBarbosaBR •  @rubensbarbosa23 • For Barbosa's career stats, click [here](#).

training, coupled with copious amounts of stretching. When he's home in Decatur, Texas, Barbosa can often be found at the local Fit-N-Wise training with Wallace de Oliveira and Mike Lee. In 2017, Barbosa was part of a six-rider contingent that travelled to the famed IMG Academy for a week of special training for bull riders. Mentally, Barbosa prepares by reading his bible and praying. He says that his family, wife Dani and their daughter Yasmin, also provide important support to help him mentally.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the second event of the elite tour season in Chicago, Illinois, before finishing a career-high No. 15 in the world...Competed as a member of runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup where he went a perfect 3-for-3.
- 2015 – Picked up the first elite tour victory of his career with a win in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- 2011 – Came from behind to win Rookie of the Year.



#49 LUIS BLANCO •  @luisblancopbr • For Blanco’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 3

Residence: Irving, Texas

Weight: 175

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$231,037.98

High-Marked Ride: 87.75 points on Sosa’s Alley Cat in Anaheim, California, on February 4, 2017

2015 Touring Pro Division Champion

Hometown: Iacanga, Brazil

Height: 5-8

Born: 10/10/88

Elite Tour Season: 5th

Personal

For Luis Blanco, a swashbuckling adventurous career in bull riding was seeded in his head as a child. Growing up on a ranch in a small town in Brazil, he was entertained and enthralled by the adventures and money won by two bull-riding cousins. Young Blanco wanted to make that kind of money and have that kind of fun. At age 12, Blanco got on his first steer, working his way to bulls by 17. In 2010, Blanco moved to the United States to pursue a professional career in the sport, competing in his first Touring Pro Division (TPD) event that February. In his first season with the PBR, Blanco earned a bid to two premier series events, riding in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Nashville, Tennessee. Suddenly in 2011, with the snap of a leg, requiring four surgeries, his fast-rising success was halted. By 2014, Blanco was back riding at a high enough level to earn four appearances at PBR’s top tour. By 2015, he was vying for the opportunity to ride at the PBR World Finals, a goal he wanted to attain not only for himself but for his mother. For Blanco, family trumps all, and in April 2015 he put his season on hold to travel home to Brazil to care for his then 81-year old mother, who was undergoing chemotherapy for colon cancer. Blanco earned a bid to compete at the World Finals after his return. However, in Round 1, after being bucked off Cowtown Rock at 4.28 seconds, he broke his right ankle. The injury would require surgery placing a plate and six screws to correct the break. Facing a potential six-month recovery, a mere two months after surgery Blanco was walking with full pressure, and was cleared for workouts just two weeks into physical therapy. While Blanco had made the trip to Las Vegas to ride, he and his then girlfriend Meghan had also planned a wedding ceremony so Blanco’s PBR family would be able to attend. Ankle surgery cancelled the couple’s initial plans, but the PBR family rallied and planned a new wedding for the young couple. In his first event back from injury, Blanco won the January 2016 TPD event in San Antonio, Texas, and has since been battling to become a tour regular on the premier series. In 2016, Blanco’s tenacity led to his career-best performance at World Finals, going 3-for-5, including becoming the first rider to ride TLW’s Big Cat, finishing 23rd.



#49 LUIS BLANCO • @luisblancopbr • For Blanco's career stats, click [here](#).

Last season, in 2017, Blanco competed at 20 of the 26 regular-season premier series events, but he fell short of qualifying for his fourth World Finals. His season-best finish was fourth in Anaheim, California.

Personally, Blanco embraces all of the cultures in his life, as he is trilingual, speaking Portuguese, Spanish and English. Blanco is superstitious and says he isn't comfortable unless wearing red or black. While he learned from his cousins, Blanco also admires the riding styles of Adriano Moraes and Robson Palermo. Prior to each competition, the current Texas resident likes to ride horses and work out to prepare; before getting on each bull, he does extensive stretching. Blanco also makes sure to pray before leaving home as well as before the event itself. When Blanco isn't competing, he is spending time with his family, including wife Meghan, from Mexico, and son George Paul.

Career Highlights

- 2015 – Named TPD champion after logging two event wins, 12 Top 5 and 17 Top 10 finishes, and competed in PBR World Finals.
- 2010 – Competed in his first elite tour event in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



#42 NATHAN BURTENSHAW • @Burtenshaw94 • For Burtenshaw's career stats, click [here](#).



Hometown: Coonamble, New South Wales, Australia **Residence:** Coonamble, New South Wales, Australia

Height: 6-2

Weight: 170

Born: 5/18/94

Riding Hand: Right

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Career Earnings: \$65,500.14

High-Marked Ride: 87.5 points on South Texas Gangster in Austin, Texas on September 17, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Australia

2017 PBR Australia Finals Event Winner

Personal

While Nathan Burtenshaw, a third-generation cowboy from Australia, may be a new face at the PBR's elite tour events, for him it's a chance to revisit his childhood, this time on the sport's greatest stage. Growing up, Burtenshaw competed alongside 2017 PBR Australia Champion Troy Wilkinson who cemented himself as a tour regular in 2017. In progressing through the ranks, the two were frequent competitors at the same steer ridings and amateur bull ridings. Burtenshaw competed in his rookie season at PBR Australia events in 2013, making an instant splash by winning the first two events he entered, both of which were PBR Australia Cup Series events. The Australian, however, took a three-season break from the PBR, next entering an event in the 2016 season. Beginning the competitive calendar year at events in his home nation, Burtenshaw recorded a win and four Top 5 finishes across 10 events, before travelling to the United States to ride on both the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) and Touring Pro Division (TPD). At both levels, Burtenshaw entered a collective 11 events, where he won a Stephenville, Texas TPD event in March and also earned six Top 10s. However, his ambitious season plans came to a halt in April while competing at the RVT event in Winston-Salem, North Carolina when Burtenshaw was bucked off Ruff'em Tuck who then in turn stepped on the cowboy's lower back. While able to walk out of the arena, Burtenshaw was later diagnosed with a broken L1 vertebrae in his back. He was sidelined for 14 weeks and wore a brace that stretched from the top of his belt buckle to his collarbones.

When he returned to competition in October to begin accruing points towards the 2017 world standings, Burtenshaw says it took about two months for him to have the fear clear his mind and be able to return to riding. After making another journey stateside once the New Year hit to compete at RVT and TPD events, Burtenshaw began to return to his former winning ways. Once back in his homeland, Burtenshaw earned three Top 10 finishes before winning the PBR Australia Finals event title as the only rider to go a perfect 3-for-3. His win was capped by his 88.75-point trip aboard Fully Locked & Loaded in the championship round, the first qualified ride aboard the tough-as-nails Aussie bull. With the PBR Australia



#42 NATHAN BURTESSHAW • @Burtenshaw94 • For Burtenshaw's career stats, click [here](#).

season complete, Burtenshaw returned to the United States, making his elite series debut in September in Austin, Texas. In Round 2, Burtenshaw recorded his first qualified ride on the premier series, covering South Texas Gangster for 87.5 points to take the round win. He concluded the event a career high fifth, earning 120 world points, which propelled him from No. 44 to No. 35 in the world standings. While he fell short of qualifying for the World Finals, he competed as an alternate in Round 5. Burtenshaw's memorable season came to a conclusion in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada where he competed as member of the fourth place Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the 2017 PBR Australia Finals event title finishing No. 3 in the national standings ... Made his elite tour debut in September in Austin, Texas where he finished a career-high fifth after going 1-for-3...Competed as an alternate at the World Finals in Round 5...Rode for Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup where the nation finished fourth.
- 2013 – Made his PBR debut winning back-to-back PBR Australia Cup Series events in Cunnamulia, Queensland and Tamworth, New South Wales.



#26 DAKOTA BUTTAR • [@DakotaButtar38](#) • For Buttar’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 2

Residence: Kindersley, Saskatchewan

Weight: 135

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$186,168.16

High-Marked Ride: 88.25 points, three times, most recently on Nailed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on March 18, 2017

2017 Glen Keeley Award Winner

Hometown: Kindersley, Saskatchewan

Height: 5-7

Born: 11/6/92

Elite Tour Season: 3rd

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Canada

Personal

Canadian rider Dakota Buttar was born into a rodeo family. With a bull rider dad, barrel racing sister, and videographer mom, he had the upbringing and support to become one of the best bull riders to emerge from Canada in recent years. While Buttar played hockey as a child, he got on his first steer at age eight and was immediately captivated by the sport. He went on to follow in his father’s footsteps while also idolizing two-time PBR World Champion Chris Shivers, and PBR Ring of Honor Inductee Jim Sharp. He made his PBR debut in 2014, competing at the Canadian Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in Lethbridge, Alberta. After a successful campaign during the first half of the 2016 season, which included two event wins and 12 Top 5 finishes in PBR Canada competition, Buttar made his elite series debut in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in August. While he finished runner-up at the PBR Canada Finals, Buttar was given the opportunity to compete at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) Finals after PBR Canada Champion Ty Pozzobon was unable to compete due to injury. Finishing sixth, Buttar earned enough points to end the event No. 35 in the world standings, qualifying him for his first-ever World Finals. Buttar was one of four Canadians competing that year, the most since 2012, and he went 2-for-5 on his way to an 11th place finish. In 2017, his first full year competing on PBR’s premier tour, despite battling a persistent elbow injury, which caused him to switch to a Brazilian bull rope, Buttar recorded eight Top 10 finishes, including his first event win on tour in October in Nampa, Idaho. Despite withdrawing early from his second World Finals due to injury, the Canadian finished 16th at the event and a career-high No. 26 in the world standings. Following the most prestigious event in bull riding, Buttar returned to his home country to ride as a part of Team Canada in the inaugural Global Cup in Edmonton, Alberta where the host nation finished third.

While Buttar is still relatively new to the US-based tour, he has known PBR star Tanner Byrne since childhood. The duo’s families used to rodeo together, and the two young athletes advanced through junior bull riding and the higher ranks in



#26 DAKOTA BUTTAR • @DakotaButtar38 • For Buttar's career stats, click [here](#).

unison. When not competing, the two-time Canadian Champion bull rider loves to play hockey, drawing inspiration from his cousin, former NHL defenseman Darren Van Impe. Buttar also raises bucking bulls. His toughest challenge is to sit out while dealing with an injury, but he is inspired to keep going knowing that getting banged up on bulls is something every rider goes through. Buttar aspires to be a PBR World Champion, and he also hopes to finish his schooling in accounting. "I've learned that when you really want something and keep pushing yourself you can accomplish your goals," he says.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won his first elite series event in Nampa, Idaho...Finished a career-high No. 26 in the world standings...Was a member of third place Team Canada at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Made his premier series debut in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**#34 CODY CAMPBELL** •  @CodyCampbellPBR •  @Cody_CampbellPBR • For Campbell's career stats, click [here](#).**PBR** RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 4**Residence:** Summerville, Oregon**Weight:** 150**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$434,477**High-Marked Ride:** 90.25 points, twice, most recently on Hedoo in Nampa, Idaho on October 8, 2017**Hometown:** Summerville, Oregon**Height:** 5-8**Born:** 7/17/87**Elite Tour Season:** 7th**Personal**

Oregon rider Cody Campbell's career was shaped largely in part to the Northeast Oregon Christian Cowboys Rodeo Bible Camp. As a 13-year-old Campbell attended the camp, going in as a boy with many interests, including riding bareback horses, bronc and bulls. However, by week's end, Campbell was solely focused on pursuing a career as a professional bull rider. Two years later he attended his first bull riding school hosted by eight-time World Finals qualifier Mike White, where Campbell won his first buckle, in recognition of him being the most improved rider, and also gained a mentor in White. He says that of the many lessons that White instilled, the most important was hard work could make a dream of being a bull rider a reality. After capturing two Oregon high school championships, and earning a rodeo scholarship to Odessa College, Campbell made his PBR debut in June 2006 at the Wanham, Alberta Canadian Touring Pro Division (TPD) event where he was fourth. Just two years later, in June 2008, he rode in his first elite series event, riding in Orlando Florida, making 10 additional appearances on the top tour before year's end. The following season marked Campbell's first full year on PBR's top tour, opening the 2009 season with the best regular season event finish of his career, when he was second at the Major event in New York City. Campbell's rookie campaign ended with qualifying for his first-ever World Finals, where he was 29th, ranked No.27 in the world. Campbell qualified for the PBR World Finals the following two seasons yet battled the cutline in 2011 and 2012. He briefly took a break from PBR competition, opting to focus on attempting to qualify for the National Finals Rodeo (NFR), which he did in 2013, before back-to-back injuries on his ankle and lower leg, which required surgery, sidelined him in 2014 and 2015. After splitting time between PBR and Elite Rodeo Association events in 2016, Campbell made his fulltime return to the PBR's premier series in 2017. In his first event of the season, Campbell tied for the win at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Biloxi, Mississippi, earning an exemption to ride at the Anaheim, California elite series event in February. After riding at three additional events in the first half, Campbell battled his way into the Top 35 and became a near tour regular, riding at eight of the 10 regular season events in the second half. That push was highlighted by his first 90-point ride in eight years, when he covered Hedoo for 90.25 points in Nampa, Idaho during the championship round to end the event fourth. His season concluded in Las Vegas, after he qualified for his fourth World Finals, going 0-for-5, to end the year ranked No. 34 in the world. The finish was his best since 2011 when he was No. 39.



#34 CODY CAMPBELL •  @CodyCampbellPBR •  @Cody_CampbellPBR • For Campbell's career stats, click [here](#).

To this day, Campbell still returns to the Union, Oregon rodeo camp which inspired him to pursue a career as a professional bull rider. Most recently he returned as an instructor in 2017 to guide all the campers in attendance. Campbell and his wife Amanda have two young children, daughters Annabelle and Corley, who was born this past season.

Career Highlights

- 2010 – Finished a career-high No. 26 in the world.
- 2009 – Finished a career-high second at the premier series Major event in New York City...Qualified for his first-ever World Finals...Ended the year a career high No. 27 in the world.
- 2008 – Made his elite tour debut in June riding in Orlando Florida.



#25 LUCIANO DE CASTRO • @Lucianocastro111 • For Castro's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$180,369.05

High-Marked Ride: 88.75 points on Bottoms Up during Round 5 of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 5, 2017
2015 PBR Brazil Champion

Hometown: Guzolândia, São Paulo, Brazil

Height: 5-6

Born: 4/26/96

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Personal

Growing up with a stock contractor for a father, Luciano de Castro developed a passion for the sport of bull riding at a young age. While he didn't begin his competitive career until age 16, Castro has been a rising star ever since, leading some to liken him to 2017 PBR World Champion Jess Lockwood, and causing standout Brazilian riders Adriano Moraes, Silvano Alves, Guilherme Marchi and Wallace de Oliveria to note his natural talent for the sport. Castro made his PBR Brazil debut in 2015, winning two events and logging eight Top 10 finishes before being named the season's PBR Brazil Champion and Rookie of the Year. In 2016, despite finishing runner-up in the title race, Castro earned an additional event win and eight Top 5 finishes at PBR Brazil events. In his two years with the tour, Castro went an impressive 79-for-93 (84.95%) and delivered a perfect 10-for-10 performance across his two appearances at the legendary Barretos Rodeo. Castro made his United States debut in 2017 at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Ontario, California, and just two months later, made his premier series debut in Sacramento, California. Castro moved to the United States under the encouragement of three-time World Champion Alves, who Castro met a few years prior when he won his open bull riding event in Brazil. While Castro now resides with 2015 PBR Rookie of the Year Kaique Pacheco, Castro initially lived with Alves and his family, where he absorbed all the advice the veteran had to offer. In his first year on the premier tour, Castro's best finish came in March at the Jacksonville, Florida event, where he was fourth, while he finished ninth at his first-ever World Finals.

Since moving to the United States, Castro has adjusted to many of the differences, including the weather, mouth guards, and having to wear a helmet, but is still adjusting to the higher caliber of bulls. The young Brazilian, however, stepped up to deliver a very impressive rookie season. While Castro is focused on his career, he travels home to Brazil whenever possible to visit his infant son, who he credits as his biggest inspiration.



#25 LUCIANO DE CASTRO • @Lucianocastro111 • For Castro's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in Sacramento, California, finishing his rookie season No. 25 in the world.
- 2015 – Won the PBR Brazil Finals en route to being named the season's PBR Brazil Champion and Rookie of the Year.



#3 COOPER DAVIS • [@CooperToddDavis](#) • [@coopertdav](#) • For Davis' career stats, click [here](#).



World Championship Title: 2016

Hometown: Jasper, Texas

Height: 5-9

Born: 3/23/94

Elite Tour Season: 4th

High-Marked Ride: 91.75 points on TLW's Big Cat during the 15/15 Bucking Battle Austin, Texas, on September 16, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

2016 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

World Finals Qualifications: 3

Residence: Buna, Texas

Weight: 150

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$2,251,750.39

2016 World Champion



2015 World Finals Event Winner

Personal

Unlike many other riders, 2016 PBR World Champion Cooper Davis didn't grow up in a rodeo family. His fascination with the sport began when he watched bull riding on TV. When he was 11 years old, Davis' sister dated bull rider Clayton Foltyn, and being around the Texas cowboy made Davis want to ride. He started on junior bulls and would quit football, which he played for two years, to pursue the sport full time. Davis joined the elite tour in February 2015, culminating his rookie season by winning the 2015 PBR World Finals event title. Davis was just the fourth rookie to accomplish the feat. After being called "fat" by a PBR Legend, the Texas native lost more than 25 pounds in the second half of the 2015 season leading into his World Finals win. Davis continued his rigorous diet and exercise regimen in the 2016 season, and has been one of the sport's top riders since.

In 2016, Davis hit a hot streak in the second half of the elite tour's season, winning three events, including back-to-back wins at the Music City Knockout in Nashville, Tennessee, (his first career regular-season and PBR Major win) and Tulsa, Oklahoma. Davis then used a second-place finish in nearby Thackerville to reach No.1 in the world standings for the first time in his career. After the most contentious points battle in PBR history, Davis emerged the 2016 World Champion following a dramatic three-way battle with 2015 Rookie of the Year Kaique Pacheco and two-time World Champion J.B. Mauney. A year-long contender for the title in 2017, Davis reached a season-best No. 2 in the world, concluding the year No. 3, 579.17 points behind World Champion Jess Lockwood, after going 2-for-6 at his third World Finals. His campaign for back-to-back world titles was highlighted by two 15/15 Bucking Battle wins (Springfield, Missouri and Austin, Texas) and an event title in Springfield, Missouri. Davis capped the season as the Captain of Team USA at the inaugural Global Cup. He logged two qualified rides for his home nation which won the historic five-nation, international showdown.



#3 COOPER DAVIS •  @CooperToddDavis •  @coopertdav • For Davis' career stats, click [here](#).

Foltyn, Davis' source of inspiration, remains an influential force in his career. If he's ever in a slump, Foltyn is the guy he generally goes to for advice. Davis also credits Terry Don West and Jim Sharp for inspiring him early in his career, saying he thinks his riding style is similar. When Davis isn't riding bulls and winning a world title, he spends time with his wife Kaitlyn and their son Mackston, who wants nothing more than to follow in his dad's footsteps. It's not unusual to see the family out at a restaurant with Mack sleeping comfortably in his dad's arms. Davis also enjoys hunting, having taken numerous overseas and exotic trips with his father Chad, and remains committed to his fitness regimen. The soft-spoken champion is also known for his numerous acts of selfless kindness, which include donating a seat lift for a fan with cerebral palsy and during the World Finals going shopping on the Las Vegas strip to find a cross necklace for another physically challenged fan.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won two 15/15 Bucking Battles (Springfield, Missouri and Austin, Texas) and one event title (Springfield, Missouri) before finishing the season No. 2 in the world...Captain for Team USA, the winners of the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Won the PBR World Championship, \$1-million bonus and the coveted gold buckle after winning three regular season events (Nashville, Tennessee, Tulsa, Oklahoma and San Jose, California) and the San Jose, California 15/15 Bucking Battle.
- 2015 – Won the Built Ford Tough World Finals event title, becoming the fourth rookie in PBR history to do so.



#18 RYAN DIRTEATER • [@ryandirteater](#) • [@ryandirteater](#) • For Dirteater’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 8

Residence: Hulbert, Oklahoma

Weight: 155

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,464,898.97

High-Marked Ride: 91.75 points on Crosswired in Wichita, Kansas, on September 24, 2011

2016 World Finals Event Winner

Hometown: Hulbert, Oklahoma

Height: 5-9

Born: 4/14/89

Elite Tour Season: 10th

Personal

Growing up on Indian land and nicknamed “Cherokee Kid,” Ryan Dirteater began riding when he was nine years old. Dirteater (his real name) fashioned his style after his father, who he watched ride while growing up, and credits three-time World Champion Adriano Moraes for helping him adjust to the elite tour. Dirteater began competing at Touring Pro Division (TPD) events in 2007, logging two event wins and 12 Top 5 finishes before making his elite series debut in Dallas, Texas, in June 2008. His career was nearly derailed seven years ago, when at 20 years old he dislocated his left knee cap and tore his ACL, MCL and PCL, sidelining him for the entire 2010 season. In 2011, his first full year back, Dirteater won his first career event at PBR’s top level, taking the buckle in Wichita, Kansas, in September. In 2016 the veteran rider had a breakthrough year. In March he won the second premier tour event in Phoenix, Arizona. He followed with wins in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Springfield, Missouri. The Oklahoma rider capped the year with a tour-leading fourth event win at the 2016 PBR World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dirteater went a perfect 6-for-6, just the fourth rider since 2000 to accomplish the feat, en route to winning a career-high \$317,916.67 at a single event. Appropriately named, Dirteater was drawn to the song “Record Year,” by Eric Church early in the 2016 campaign, listening to it daily to help focus on his goals. Most recently, Dirteater finished No. 18 in the world in 2017, earning his best finish in his home state when he was second at the August event in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dirteater is known for his frequent acts of charity, such as speaking at local elementary schools and hosting children at his ranch. He owns an indoor arena in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he hosts a variety of events, including team roping and bull riding. For the last three years, he has hosted Roping for Wishes, an annual summer team-roping event that has raised nearly \$40,000 for charity.



#18 RYAN DIRTEATER •  @ryandirteater •  @ryandirteater • For Dirteater's career stats, click [here](#).

On the day of an event, Dirteater typically does yoga in the morning and would be a happy cowboy if he could fuel up pre-ride with a grilled cheese sandwich on rye bread. This season, Dirteater was one of six PBR riders who travelled to the world-renowned IMG Academy for a week of high-intensity, bull riding specific physical and mental conditioning.

Career Highlights

- 2016 – Went a perfect 6-for-6 at the PBR World Finals to win the event and \$250,000...Won a league-best four events, including Phoenix, Arizona, Little Rock, Arkansas, Springfield, Missouri, and the PBR World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada
- 2011 – Won his first career event at PBR's top level, in Wichita, Kansas.



#22 MARCO EGUCHI [Eh-goo-chee] • @MarcoEguchiPBR • For Eguchi's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 5

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 135

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$872,980.01

High-Marked Ride: 92.25 points, twice, most recently on Rango in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on March 23, 2014

Hometown: Poá, Brazil

Height: 5-7

Born: 5/22/85

Elite Tour Season: 7th

Personal

Marco Eguchi's career is rooted in humble beginnings. He began training at local arenas near his home in Brazil. After getting his first taste for the sport, Eguchi soon began competing at small events in his home country. He began his nearly decade-long career with the PBR competing at Brazilian Touring Pro Division (TPD) events in 2008. In 2011, Eguchi first traveled north to the United States to compete on the PBR TPD circuit stateside, ascending to the PBR's premier tour that March in Chicago. Eguchi rode in one more elite series event that season, before becoming a tour regular in 2012. The following year, Eguchi finished a career-high sixth at the World Finals. A perennial Top 15 contender in his first three seasons riding on the top tour, Eguchi has since battled a persistent injury to his right elbow that sent him to the cutline in March 2015. In 2017, Eguchi came back to the top level for a full season with new found confidence, free from the numerous distractions of a nagging and painful injury. While Chicago was where Eguchi made his elite tour debut, it was also the city where he logged his highest-marked ride over the last three years, reaching 8 seconds aboard Catfish John for 89 points this past January. Eguchi's return to full health saw the Brazilian end 2017 No. 22 in the world.

Eguchi says his best moment in bull riding happens every time he rides a bull for 8 seconds – his constant goal and why he rides. His favorite ride was on Rango for 90.75 points to win the 15/15 Bucking Battle in Oklahoma City in 2014. Eguchi says he admires his mother because of how hardworking she is, and during the week, he goes to the gym almost every day to prepare for that weekend's competition. When it's time to relax, though, Eguchi enjoys visiting his family in Sao Paulo as well as going fishing with friends.

Career Highlights

- 2014 – Won the first 15/15 Bucking Battle of his career in Oklahoma City in January.
- 2012 – Posted first career win in Sacramento, California, setting a then career-high ride and highest score of the event with 92.25 points on Priceless (D&H Cattle Co.) in the championship round.



#27 BRENNON ELDRED • [@BrennonEldred](#) • [@BrennonEldred](#) • For Eldred's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Sulphur, Oklahoma

Weight: 145

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$164,439.10

High-Marked Ride: 89.25 points on Cooper Tires Brown Sugar during Round 3 of the World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on 11/3/17

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

Hometown: Sulphur, Oklahoma

Height: 5-7



Born: 11/5/94

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Personal

While Brennon Eldred is the only bull rider in his family, he says he grew up on the back of a horse, and would get on his first calf at the age of six. From Sulphur, Oklahoma, Eldred was close to his grandfather, who he says always had cows and horses. He was less than 10 miles from the D&H Cattle Company ranch and PBR stock contractors, Dylan and six-time Stock Contractor of the Year H.D. Page. The Oklahoman began getting on H.D.'s 2-year-old stock at 10, advancing to some of his best bovine athletes by 13. In the early years of his career, Eldred credits Cody Whitman for important guidance, while also looking to Justin McBride and Jim Sharp as role models. When he turned 18, Eldred competed in several Touring Pro Division (TPD) events; however his focus prior to the 2017 season was rodeoing and qualifying for the National Finals Rodeo (NFR), which he has done three times. Before shifting to become a PBR elite tour mainstay in 2017, Eldred logged a qualified ride that was nothing short of a magical moment. At the 2016 NFR, Eldred rode D&H Cattle Co.'s SweetPro's Bruiser for 94.5 points during Round 9. The ride had sentimental meaning because of his personal connection to the famed stock contractor, and it drew notice throughout the sport since Bruiser had just been crowned PBR's 2016 World Champion Bull and had bucked off the previous 14 riders. In 2017, after winning and finishing sixth at the TPD stop in West Plains, Missouri in March, Eldred made his premier series debut in Billings, Montana, recording five Top 10 efforts throughout his rookie season. His fifth-place finish at the PBR Major Last Cowboy Standing at Helldorado Days in Las Vegas, Nevada was of extra significance to the first-year rider who had grown up watching the PBR World Finals and NFR dreaming of competing one day in the city head-to-head against the most talented riders and rankest bulls. Eldred competed in Las Vegas one more time in 2017, his first-ever PBR World Finals, finishing 15th. Adding to the list of accomplishments from his first year on the elite tour, Eldred also competed as a member of the event-winning Team USA contingent at the inaugural Global Cup where he went 1-for-3.



#27 BRENNON ELDRED •  @BrennonEldred •  @BrennonEldred • For Eldred's career stats, click [here](#).

To prepare for competition, Eldred tries to remain calm, not taking himself too seriously. He says that at elite tour events being in the locker room and feeding off the energy of World Champions has only fueled his desire to win. Outside of bull riding, Eldred is a foodie at heart, especially enjoying Mexican cuisine. While he is the only western sports athlete in his family, Eldred's three siblings all play sports, including wrestling, football and basketball.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in April at the Stanley Performance In Action Invitational in Billings, Montana where he finished 21st...Competed as a member of the event-winning Team USA contingent at the inaugural Global Cup.



#29 GAGE GAY • @Gage_Gay94 • @Gage_Gay94 • For Gay's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 4

Residence: Staley, North Carolina

Weight: 145

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$620,845.80

High-Marked Ride: 91.5 points on Percolator during the 15/15 Bucking Battle in Billings, Montana, on April 12, 2014

2015 Velocity Tour Champion

Hometown: Staley, North Carolina

Height: 5-6

Born: 8/11/94

Elite Tour Season: 5th

2015 Velocity Tour Finals Event Winner

Personal

From a long line of bull riders, Gage Gay was exposed to the sport at an early age, following in the footsteps of his father, uncles and cousins. Gay started riding sheep when he was four years old, advancing to calves and then junior bulls. Gay competed at his first PBR event in August 2012, finishing 11th at the Touring Pro Division's (TPS) stop in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Less than a year later, he competed at his first premier series event, and PBR Major, Last Cowboy Standing in Las Vegas, Nevada, before beginning his rookie year on the tour in 2014. That season he logged two wins, at the 15/15 Bucking Battle in Billings, Montana, and in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Gay also picked up six round victories, tied for second most by a rookie in PBR history. At his first-ever World Finals, Gay fell just short of the Rookie of the Year title, won by J.W. Harris. Gay followed his impressive rookie season, with another Top 15-finish in the world standings in 2015, in addition to being named the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) Champion after winning the RVT Finals event. Gay used his earnings to purchase a 17-acre plot of land a mile away from his family's home in North Carolina. In 2017, Gay recorded seven Top 10 finishes, highlighted by his sixth-place effort at Last Cowboy Standing.

Nowadays Gay does most of his training for events on a drop barrel. To prepare for competition he does a lot of leg stretches, and between events likes to calm his mind by hunting and fishing. You can find Gay traveling with his girlfriend Peyton and their son Bently at many events. The North Carolina native loves watching NASCAR races, and alongside fellow Monster bull rider Reese Cates got to start this year's Cup Series race at Watkins Glen International inside the pace car. Gage credits his dad for always pushing him to get on practice bulls and do the best that he can. He has always looked up to two-time PBR World Champion Chris Shivers who "could make an 86-point bull ride look like an 88-point. He could get the most out of any bull he faced, which made me want to be just like him."



#29 GAGE GAY •  @Gage_Gay94 •  @Gage_Gay94 • For Gay's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights



- 2015 – Won the RVT Finals and Tour Championship while earning a career-high \$84,000.
- 2014 – Won the first event of his elite tour career while in Tulsa, Oklahoma...Logged the first 90-point ride of his career in Arlington, Texas, when he rode Jack Daniel's Tennessee Honey for 90.5 points.
- 2013 – Competed in his first elite tour event in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the PBR Major event Last Cowboy Standing.

**#41 JORDAN HANSEN** • [@JordHansen19](#) • [@jordanlhansen](#) • For Hansen's career stats, click [here](#).**PBR RIDERS****Hometown:** Hinton, Alberta, Canada**Height:** 5-9**Born:** 8/27/93**Elite Tour Season:** 2nd**High-Marked Ride:** 86 points on Machinery Auctioneer's Mack Daddy in Austin, Texas, on September 16, 2017**Residence:** Okotoks, Alberta, Canada**Weight:** 170**Riding Hand:** Left**Career Earnings:** \$77,034.49**Personal**

Growing up, Jordan Hansen used to watch bull riding on television, always knowing that he wanted to compete in the sport. At age 14, he got on his first bull, and hasn't looked back since. Hansen entered his first PBR Canada Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in 2012, finishing twelfth at the 8 Second Countdown in Ponoka. In 2016, he found himself standing in the winner's circle for the first time in the same city in his home province, taking the buckle at the Ponoka Stampede Ride Rock. While Hansen says the win is one of the most memorable moments of his career, he also points to breaking his ankle in the 2016 as one of his biggest struggles. In 2017 Hansen was back to his winning ways and a consistent presence season long in the Top 5 of PBR Canada's national standings, holding the No.1 position for several months. The 24-year-old began his PBR Canada competitive season with a bang, double entering the opening TPD stop in Lethbridge, Alberta, where he swept first and second place. After finishing second at the late-May event in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Hansen delivered the best finish among all the Canadians at PBR's first ever international Major event in fourth when the Monster Energy Tour opened its season the following weekend in Québec City, Québec. While Hansen would continue his success in Canada, adding an additional event win to his resume before finishing 2017 No. 7 in the national standings, he also began to make a name for himself stateside, competing in the first elite tour event of his career in Austin, Texas in September. In his debut, Hansen finished ninth after going 1-for-3 and advancing to the Championship Round. Hansen competed in three additional events at PBR's top level, highlighted by a fifth place effort in Uniondale, New York where he went 2-for-3, before ending 2017 No. 41 in the world. While the surging Canadian came up short of qualifying for his first ever World Finals, outside of the PBR, the 2016 Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) Bull Riding Champion, again qualified for the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR), where he was fourth, and became the first Canadian bull rider since 2011 to qualify for the National Finals Rodeo (NFR).

For youngsters aspiring to be professional bull riders, Hansen says to never give up, regardless of whatever obstacles they may encounter. Outside of bull riding, Hansen's hobbies include hunting, fishing, riding dirt bikes and anything that allows him to be outside. Prior to riding bulls, Hansen used to race dirt bikes. He says he would be a professional motocross rider if he were an athlete in any other sport. Hansen also has a ticket in welding he earned from Red Deer College.



#41 JORDAN HANSEN •  @JordHansen19 •  @jordanlhansen • For Hansen's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in Sept. at the Austin, Texas event where he finished ninth.



#32 JW. HARRIS • For Harris' career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 3

Residence: May, Texas

Weight: 160

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$513,366.65

High-Marked Ride: 93.25 points on Honey Hush during the Championship Round of the World Finals on October 26, 2014

2014 Rookie of the Year

Hometown: Mullin, Texas

Height: 5-10

Born: 7/14/86

Elite Tour Season: 5th

Personal

J.W. Harris, the four-time Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) Champion turned PBR constant, was surrounded by bull riding from day one. Every man in his family was a bull rider, making it natural for Harris to follow their footsteps. Harris competed sporadically at the Touring Pro Division (TPD) level from 2006-2011, making his elite series debut in March 2014 in Fresno, California, where he finished 18th. Harris quickly earned enough points to solidify his place on the top tour, ending his season with a third-place finish at his first-ever PBR World Finals. He finished that year ranked No. 9 in the world standings, and was named the 2014 Rookie of the Year. Harris carried that momentum into his second season, winning two events and improving his year-end ranking to No. 7. The Texan was poised to continue his rise in 2016 before he was sidelined by injury and had surgery on both his left hip and right elbow. That June, less than two months away from his return to competition and feeling 100% healthy for the first time since he began riding in the PRCA in 2005, Harris and his family were involved in a head-on vehicle collision. While everyone escaped major injury, the nearly rehabilitated rider tore his right PCL, requiring a third surgery in the span of five months, and six more months of recovery. Harris considered not returning; however his involvement with PBR Academy and a bull riding school in Texas rekindled his love for the sport and the pure fun it can be, motivating him to push harder to return. Having not gotten on a bull since late January, Harris made his return in October at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Finals, after he was extended an injury exemption. In 2017, Harris placed a new emphasis on his fitness, taking on a personal trainer. After facing the cutline early in the season, Harris was even more motivated to pick up where he left off in 2016. Riding at 17 events on the premier series, Harris concluded 2017 ranked No. 32 in the world, with four Top 10 finishes. At year's end, he qualified for his third World Finals, going 1-for-5 to finish 13th.



#32 JW. HARRIS • For Harris' career stats, click [here](#).

When Harris isn't competing, he can be found tending to his cattle and spending time with his family – wife Jackie and two young children, daughter Aubrey and son Dylan. Harris has become a true “baseball dad” shuffling between baseball games and soccer games for his kids. When he does have downtime, he enjoys watching his favorite team, the Houston Astros.

Career Highlights

- 2015 – Won the first BFTS event of his career in Kansas City, Missouri, in February...Also won in Allentown, Pennsylvania, before finishing a career-high No. 7 in the world standings.
- 2014 – Made his BFTS debut at the Fresno, California event in March ... Crowned PBR Rookie of the Year after earning 6,859.25 points and finishing No. 9 in the world standings.



#43 SKEETER KINGSOLVER • [@SK_Kingsolver](#) • [@SkeeterKingsolver](#) • For Kingsolver's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS



World Finals Qualifications: 4

Residence: McLouth, Kansas

Weight: 165

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$363,666.85

High-Marked Ride: 91.75 points on All In in Anaheim, California on February 21, 2009

Hometown: McLouth, Kansas

Height: 5-10

Born: 8/29/85

Elite Tour Season: 7th



Personal

Skeeter Kingsolver started riding bulls at the age of 12 after seeing a flyer at the local gas station for a bull riding school. The Kansas rider began gravitating towards an unusual sport. He grew up on a small farm in McLouth, between Topeka and Kansas City, and had never been exposed to the sport or, for that matter, to anyone who rode bulls. Just a few short years after getting on his first bull, as a sophomore in high school, Kingsolver stopped competing in other sports to concentrate solely on bull riding. After making his PBR debut at the 2007 Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in Kansas City, Missouri, he made his elite series debut just over a year later in January 2009 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In his first out, Kingsolver was 90.5 points on his Round 1 draw Big Iron. Kingsolver finished 16th. He qualified for the PBR World Finals in each of his first three seasons. However, in 2012, he dislocated his left shoulder (riding arm) in a practice pen, which led to nerve damage and a season-ending surgery. Until the 2017 season, Kingsolver had never returned to bull riding's most prestigious event nor had he finished higher than No. 57 in the world. Yet, following a standout year on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT), highlighted by three event wins, six Top 5 and nine Top 10 finishes, and finishing No. 4 in the tour's year-end standings, Kingsolver finally returned to the World Finals as a RVT invite. Despite going 0-for-5 in Las Vegas, Kingsolver once again cracked the Top 50 in the world standings, concluding 2017 No. 43 in the world. Still aspiring to be a regular face at the league's top tour, Kingsolver competed at his first elite series event since 2015.

Fellow rider and 2016 World Finals event winner Ryan Dirteater has been one of Kingsolver's best friends and greatest motivators as he has worked to return to pre-injury form, never letting the Kansas rider give up on his dreams. The duo's close friendship dates back to childhood, when they rode pee-wee bulls together and was strong when both were healthy, travelling to events with Austin Meier. Much like best friend Dirteater is an inspiration to Kingsolver, he was there for his fellow Oklahoma cowboy when he sustained a near career-ending ligament and knee injury in 2010.

When not competing, Skeeter likes taking things to the limit. A former dirt bike rider, he now has a four-wheeler he enjoys getting out on.



#43 SKEETER KINGSOLVER •  @SK_Kingsolver •  @SkeeterKingsolver • For Kingsolver's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2010 – Logged a career-best season with seven Top 10 finishes, finishing a career-high No. 15 in the world.
- 2009 – Made his elite tour debut at the January event in Winston-Salem, North Carolina where he was 90.5 points on his Round 1draw Big Iron...Qualified for his first World Finals.



#37 AARON KLEIER • @aaron_kleier01 • For Kleier's career stats, click [here](#).



Hometown: Clermont, Queensland, Australia

Height: 5-9

Born: 1/26/98

Elite Tour Season: 1st

High-Marked Ride: N/A

2017 PBR Australia Rookie of the Year

Residence: Clermont, Queensland, Australia

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$49,672.05


2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Australia

Personal

The son of respected stock contractors Fred and Julie, Aaron Kleier grew up immersed in the bull riding culture. As a child, Kleier would frequently get on his family's steers, beginning his competitive career as a tenth grader at St. Brendan's College, frequenting events hosted by the iconic Great Western Hotel. He credits his dad and older brother Travis for influencing his bull riding. Kleier went on to win the Young Guns Series in 2014 and 2015, and the Great Western Series Rookie title in 2016, before making his PBR debut in the 2017 season. Kleier was nothing short of electric in his rookie season in his home nation, winning the second Touring Pro Division (TPD) event of his career, as well as two additional events while also recording nine Top 5 and 11 Top 10 finishes during the 2017 Australian competitive season. He led the standings for a good portion of the season, concluded the year ranked No.2 in the national standings, and earned Rookie of the Year honors. In aspiring to be a mainstay at U.S. competitions, riding on the elite tour, Kleier is taking it one bull at a time. After finishing the regular-season No. 34 in the world standings, Kleier elected to not compete at the PBR World Finals, despite qualifying. While he believed he was capable of handling the different caliber of bull power, he, along with his father, a former amateur bull rider, wanted to make sure that the young rider wasn't taking too large of a career leap too fast. With his focus firm on winning the Australian title, Kleier competed for his home nation at the inaugural Global cup in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada where the Australia contingent was fourth.

When he is not riding, he is often working at a farm in the nearby towns of Moranbah and Dysart. He stays competition ready by getting on practice bulls at his family's home.



#37 AARON KLEIER •  @aaron_kleier01 • For Kleier's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his PBR debut at the Australia TPD event in Charters Towers, Queensland on December 31 where he finished third...Logged three event wins and nine Top 5 finishes at PBR Australia events en route to being named 2017 PBR Australia Rookie of the Year and finishing No.2 in the national standings...Rode for Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup where the nation finished fourth.



#2 DEREK KOLBABA • @derek_kolbaba • @derek_kolbaba • For Kolbaba's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 3

Residence: Walla Walla, Washington

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$621,295.34

High-Marked Ride: 93 points on SweetPro's Bruiser in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on October 1, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

Hometown: Walla Walla, Washington

Height: 5-9

Born: 4/21/96



Elite Tour Season: 3rd

Personal

Like most young boys, Derek Kolbaba grew up aspiring to be like his father. Unlike most boys, his dad was a bull rider, who competed professionally in the 90s. The Washington-native started getting on sheep when he was three years old and worked his way up to bulls at age 12. Kolbaba credits his dad for teaching him everything he knows, and that his whole family's involvement in the Western lifestyle has been an insurmountable force helping him to reach his career goals. In addition to soaking in the wisdom from his family, Kolbaba also looks to the professionals around him, observing different techniques from each rider he encounters, and adapting his style when needed. After earning a berth into the 2015 PBR World Finals after a Top 10 finish at the Velocity Tour Finals, Kolbaba became an elite tour regular in 2016, winning a 15/15 Bucking Battle (Anaheim, California) and his first regular-season event title (Des Moines, Iowa) in his rookie season. The even-keeled 21-year-old had an electric start to the 2017 season, winning two stops, Oklahoma City and Little Rock, Arkansas, before winning an additional three events, Uniondale, New York, Colorado Springs, Colorado and San Jose, California, for a league best five titles ahead of his third World Finals. Kolbaba began developing a knack for coming up big at huge moments: Two of his victories came via monster 90-point-plus rides aboard 2016 and 2017 World Champion Bull SweetPro's Bruiser in the championship round. His victory in San Jose propelled the Washington rider to the top of the world standings for the first time in his career. After going 2-for-6 at World Finals in Las Vegas, Kolbaba finished the season No. 2 in the world, 447.5 points behind eventual World Champion Jess Lockwood. Kolbaba concluded 2017 as a member of Team USA which won the inaugural Global Cup in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

During the season, Kolbaba can often be seen with his travelling partner and best friend Lockwood. The duo became close in their rookie season and room together at most events. Much like their fellow Millennials, the inseparable pair are often up until 3 a.m. watching Netflix, Family Guy, a Rodney Carrington comedy or random viral videos on YouTube and social media. When he's not travelling to his next bull riding event, Derek likes to snowmobile, ride horses and practice roping.



#2 DEREK KOLBABA •  @derek_kolbaba •  @derek_kolbaba • For Kolbaba's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the PBR's first-ever International Major event in Quebec City, Quebec...Won five regular-season events titles (Oklahoma City, Little Rock, Uniondale, Colorado Springs, San Jose) reaching world No. 1 the weekend prior to his third World Finals...Member of Team USA which won the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Logged his first 15/15 Bucking Battle win in Anaheim, California, followed three months later by the first regular-season event win of his career in Des Moines, Iowa.
- 2015 – Earned a spot to compete at his first PBR World Finals after his Top 10 finish at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Finals.



#50 ZANE LAMBERT • [@thezanelambert](#) • [@zanelambert1](#) • For Lambert's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 5

Residence: Ponoka, Alberta

Weight: 175

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$412,894.73

High-Marked Ride: 87.5 points on Guns & Donuts during Round 3 of the World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 24, 2014

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Canada

2017 PBR Canada Finals Event Winner

2013 PBR Canada Champion

Hometown: Westbourne, Manitoba

Height: 5-11

Born: 7/2/86

Elite Tour Season: 6th

2017 PBR Canada Champion



2016 PBR Canada Finals Event Winner

Personal

Growing up in Westbourne, Manitoba, Zane Lambert fell in love with bull riding when he travelled to nearby Winnipeg for a Cody Snyder Bullbustin'. The athletes who competed in the Winnipeg event recommended a rodeo school, and Zane began attending and then riding at age 10. Lambert began competing at PBR events in 2006 as an 18-year-old. His natural gift for the sport was immediately apparent. He won his debut event, the PBR Canada Touring Pro Division's (TPD) Winnipeg Invitational. The Canadian star made his debut on the sport's biggest stage, riding at the 2009 World Finals. While he didn't log a qualified ride, Lambert's next outing at PBR's top tour again took place at the World Finals in 2010, where he went a perfect 2-for-2 to finish 24th. Competing sporadically on PBR's elite tour throughout 2011-2013, Lambert became a tour regular in 2014, logging his career-high finish on the tour in finishing second at the April event in Des Moines.

Lambert's success in the United States has been fueled by his performances in his home nation. In 2013, Lambert captured his first PBR Canada Championship. In 2017, he became just the second rider in history, joining three-time PBR Canada Champion Aaron Roy (2008, 2010 & 2012), to capture multiple national titles. He had not held the No. 1 spot in the national standings once during the season, but Lambert's 2-for-3 showing at the finals allowed him to erase a 500-plus point gap behind then No. 1 Brock Radford to win the 2017 PBR Canada Championship. He also claimed the finals event title in 2017, becoming the first rider in history to win the Canadian event multiple times, let alone in back-to-back seasons after winning the event in 2016. Lambert is one of just two riders, alongside Scott Schiffner, to qualify for all twelve PBR Canada Finals. Outside of the PBR, Lambert is a four-time Calgary Stampede and three-time Canadian Finals Rodeo qualifier.



#50 ZANE LAMBERT •  @thezanelambert •  @zanelambert1 • For Lambert's career stats, click [here](#).

After earning a bid to the 2017 Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Finals (RVT) via his national title win, Lambert returned to Canada to close out the season as a member of Team Canada for the inaugural Global Cup. The weathered veteran added two qualified rides to Canada's third place finish.

To keep in shape he hits the gym hard and has a hotel room routine on the road that includes pushups and sit-ups. After his wife Stacey, Lambert's best pal is his English bulldog Ace, his "mascot" he sometimes travels with. One of his favorite parts of competing is meeting new people and seeing the world. When not on the tour, Lambert likes being outdoors, including hunting, fishing, camping and snowboarding. Lambert enjoys handy work, doing renovations on his friends' houses and building furniture. He and his wife also make wine from scratch -- they've ordered grapes from California and done the crushing and fermenting at home. Lambert also enjoys cooking and butchering the deer he hunts. Fans may be surprised to hear the 31-year-old cowboy calls himself a "romantic." He hopes to retire from bull riding with enough money to buy a big place in the country where he can raise a bunch of kids and of course, have a large wine cellar.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the PBR Canada title for a second time.
- 2014 – Went 2-for-3 at the April Des Moines elite tour event to finish second overall, his career-high event finish on the elite series.
- 2013 – Captured his first PBR Canada Championship
- 2011 – Rode at his first regular-season elite tour event at the August stop in Tulsa, Oklahoma where he was eleventh.
- 2009 – Made his elite tour debut at the World Finals where he went 0-for-3.



#21 STETSON LAWRENCE • [@StetsonLawrence](#) • [@StetsonLawrence](#) • For Lawrence's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS

World Finals Qualifications: 5

Residence: Williston, North Dakota

Weight: 155

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$569,553.57

High-Marked Ride: 89 points on Texicali during Round 4 of the PBR World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 5, 2016
2014 PBR Canada World Champion
Hometown: Trenton, North Dakota

Height: 5-10

Born: 11/17/88

Elite Tour Season: 6th

Personal

While Stetson Lawrence hails from a family of bull riders, he is the first to turn his passion into a professional career. Lawrence, who is a Native American Indian of Sioux and Chippewa descent, got on his first bull at age nine, and made his PBR debut just over 10 years later at a Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in nearby Sidney, Montana. Nowadays, fans get a feel for his Native traditions as Lawrence often breaks out into a tribal dance after a successful ride. After competing at the TPD level in both the United States and Canada for six years, Lawrence broke through and made his elite series debut in February 2013 in Kansas City, Missouri, where he finished 10th. Lawrence has since qualified for the PBR World Finals in five consecutive seasons. In 2016, Lawrence finished a career-high ninth at World Finals and set a career best for qualified rides (27) and ride percentage (27-for-78, 34.62%). In 2017 Lawrence improved his career-best number of rides (33), and won his first event on the elite tour after taking the buckle at September's event in Thackerville, Oklahoma. His successful season came despite breaking his pelvis in April during the Tacoma, Washington event, sidelining the North Dakota rider for more than 12 weeks. To quicken his recovery, Lawrence's wife directed him towards pulsating electromagnetic field technology, a therapy she had heard a friend talk about for their barrel horses. Lawrence credits the once-a-week therapy, which increases blood flow and promotes cell growth, for aiding his recovery.

Lawrence stays bull-riding ready by spending time on his drop barrel at home and occasionally riding horses bareback. In addition to his fractured pelvis, Lawrence has broken his right (free) arm on four separate occasions, joking that this has made him really good at eating left-handed. Fortunately, he rides left-handed, but one can only imagine how tough it was to cut his favorite post-competition meal of a "big ole' steak" while in a cast. Lawrence is married to barrel racer Teri Kay (TK) Lawrence, and says that he and his wife do their best to coordinate their busy touring schedules to maximize time together. When not on the tour, Lawrence enjoys golf and riding dirt bikes, and says that when he retires he will probably try his hand at team roping. He hopes to have his own ranch someplace where winters aren't too harsh.



#21 STETSON LAWRENCE • @StetsonLawrence • @StetsonLawrence • For Lawrence's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the first elite tour event of his career at September's stop in Thackerville, Oklahoma...Recorded a career-high 33 qualified rides.
- 2016 – Finished a career-high 9th at the PBR World Finals
- 2015 – Runner up to Joao Ricardo Vieira at two PBR Majors, Iron Cowboy and Last Cowboy Standing...Finished a career-high No.9 in the world standings.
- 2014 – Won the PBR Canada Championship.



#7 JOSE VITOR LEME • @josevitorleme • For Leme’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 139

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$473,439.49

High-Marked Ride: 94.5 points on Magic Train during the Championship Round of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 1, 2017

2017 Rookie of the Year

2017 World Finals Event Winner

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Ribas do Rio Pardo, Brazil

Height: 5-6

Born: 8/15/96

Elite Tour Season: 1st

2017 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award Winner

2017 PBR Brazil Champion

Personal

Young Brazilian athlete Jose Vitor Leme blazed onto the scene in a unique, memorable and record-setting fashion during the PBR World Finals. After getting on his first calf at the age of seven, inspired by his father Jose Antonio, a former bull rider at local events in Brazil, Leme abandoned the sport when his parents divorced and the family sold their bulls. With the separation, which resulted in Leme moving in with his mother Silvia, came his interest in soccer. Leme played soccer for 11 years, part of which was semi-professionally, simultaneously earning numerous titles in another sport, karate. However, he always felt pulled to bull riding, and at the age of 18 got on his first bovine athlete. While Leme says his father always taught and encouraged him as a bull rider, he also gained a lot of instruction from watching videos of his idols, including J.B. Mauney, Silvano Alves, Guilherme Marchi and Luciano de Castro, which he used to perfect his form. Despite being away from the sport for nearly a decade, Leme says that soccer taught him how to make quick, agile adjustments and continue at a high-speed of movement while changing his direction, all of which are key to being a bull rider.

In 2017, Leme made his PBR Brazil debut, chalking up an extraordinary 82.61% riding average. After winning three event titles, including the national finals at the famed Barretos rodeo, Leme was named both the PBR Brazil Champion and Rookie of the Year. Leme’s dominating performance – taking PBR Brazil’s Triple Crown – earned him a berth to the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) Finals in Las Vegas. For the first time in his life, Leme boarded an airplane and left Brazil for a trip that would result in him etching his name into the PBR record books. After going 3-for-4 to finish eighth



#7 JOSE VITOR LEME • @josevitorleme • For Leme's career stats, click [here](#).

at the RVT Finals, Leme earned a berth to World Finals, the most prestigious event in bull riding, as the top-finishing international invite. On the sport's biggest stage, the young gun was electric, going 6-for-6, to capture both the World Finals event title, \$300,000 bonus, and Rookie of the Year honors. "The way he approaches each bull ride and the way he handles the pressure — it's with confidence," said three-time World Champion Adriano Moraes. "He's fearless, and he'll do everything he can to stay on that bull." Historically, Leme is the first rider to win the Rookie of the Year title where the only premier series event entered was the World Finals; first to win the Brazil Finals, Brazil Championship, Brazil Rookie of the Year, World Finals and Rookie of the Year honors in the same season; fifth rider since 2000 to be perfect at World Finals; and fifth Rookie of the Year to win the World Finals event title.

Leme's World Finals performance was punctuated by his 94.5-point trip on Magic Train in the Championship Round, earning him the Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award for the high-marked ride of the event. For the 2017 season, the score was second only to Stormy Wing's 95.25-point trip in March. PBR Livestock Director Cody Lambert called it as good as any ride he'd seen in his life. Of Leme's six qualified rides on the elite tour, three earned him a score of 90 points or more. When compared to two-time World Champion J.B. Mauney, it took the rider some call "the best of all time" eight months on the premier series to score his first 90-point ride. After beginning the 24th annual World Finals No. 53 in the world, Leme finished 2017 as the world's No. 7 ranked rider. The fast-rising Brazilian star says that riding at the World Finals is the proudest moment of his career, while his awe-striking ride aboard Magic Train is his most memorable ride. While he is grateful for all he has accomplished, Leme still aspires to one day be crowned World Champion. After his dominating performance at the World Finals, Leme travelled to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada as part of Team Brazil for the inaugural Global Cup. Leme contributed two qualified rides to Team Brazil's runner-up finish.

Throughout his career, Leme says injury has yet to sideline him at an event, a feat he is both thankful to God for and attributes to his intense physical conditioning. When not stateside for bull riding, Leme is home in Brazil splitting time between his mother's home in Campo Grande, where both his four-year-old sister and grandmother live, and his father's in Ribas do Rio Pardo. He says that his family are his greatest supporters and are proud of everything he has accomplished.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Crowned PBR Brazil Champion and PBR Brazil Rookie of the Year after winning the PBR Brazil Finals at the Barretos rodeo and chalking up a 82.61% riding average throughout the season...Made his premier series debut at the World Finals after qualifying via the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Finals as the top finishing international invite...Went a perfect 6-for-6 at the World Finals to capture the event title and Rookie of the Year honors...Rode Magic Train (Jared Allen's Pro Bull Team) for 94.5 points in the Championship Round of the World Finals to win the Lane Frost/Brent Thurman award...Competed as a part of the runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.



#30 RAMON DE LIMA • @RamonDeLima7 • For Lima's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 169

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$94,016.95

High-Marked Ride: 88.5 points on Black Rose in Thackerville, Oklahoma on September 3, 2017

Hometown: Rio Branco, Brazil

Height: 5-8

Born: 12/19/90


Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Personal

Growing up on a ranch in Brazil, Ramon de Lima was exposed to the western lifestyle from a young age. After he started getting on calves and steers at the age of eight, Lima launched his professional career as soon as possible, at the age of 18. The self-taught rider made his PBR debut in August 2015 at the famed Barretos rodeo where he finished fourteenth. With just the one PBR event on his resume, Lima travelled all the way to the United States in February 2016 for the Touring Pro Division (TPD) stop in Fort Worth, Texas. In 2017, after a year away from PBR competition, Lima returned to the league's events riding at both TPD and Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) events before making premier series debut in April at the Billings, Montana stop. After failing to record a qualified ride, Lima mounted an aggressive summer campaign at both TPD and RVT events, recording his first event wins at the TPD level in Rock Springs, Texas, which he followed with a second title in Sterling, Colorado. His performance during the premier series' annual summer break propelled him within the Top 35 of the world standings, and led him to return to the elite tour in August at the Major in Nashville, Tennessee. Lima then competed in each of the remaining eight premier series events, highlighted by a second-place finish in Thackerville, Oklahoma. At season's end, prior to the World Finals, Lima competed at the RVT Finals, where he went a perfect 4-for-4. Lima tied with fellow Brazilian Alex Marcilio for the tour title, however, Marcilio won the tiebreaker via season earnings. Later that week, Lima made his PBR World Finals debut, which he says is the proudest moment of his career. At the most prestigious event in bull riding, Lima went 2-for-5, finishing 27th. He looks to his Round 5, 88.5-point trip aboard Element 79 as the most memorable ride of his career thus far.

When not competing, Lima can be found in the gym working to ensure he is in prime condition for events. He looks to well-known Brazilian bull rider Fabricil Alves as his role model.



#30 RAMON DE LIMA •  @RamonDeLima7 • For Lima's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in April in Billings, Montana...Finished a career-high second on the premier series in September in Thackerville, Oklahoma...Competed at his first World Finals where he went 2-for-5 to finish 27th.



#35 KOAL LIVINGSTON • [@KoalLivingston](#) • For Livingston's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 1**Residence:** Burleson, Texas**Weight:** 145**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$65,046.59**High-Marked Ride:** 87.5 points on Ram It in Jacksonville, Florida on March 4, 2017**Hometown:** Burleson, Texas**Height:** 5-6**Born:** 5/16/98**Elite Tour Season:** 2nd

Personal

Like many young boys, Koal Livingston followed in the footsteps of his father Nathan, a bull rider turned barrel man. At four years old, Livingston got on his first calf. As a 16-year-old freshman in high school he won the North Texas High School Rodeo Association Championship before he elected to solely compete at amateur bull ridings. When Livingston turned 18 in May 2016, he purchased his PBR card, entering his first Touring Pro Division (TPD) event at J.W. Hart's event Decatur, Texas just one month later. He competed in eight events throughout the remainder of the 2016 season, and in 2017 decided to focus on PBR events. Inspired by the success of young guns Kaique Pacheco and Jess Lockwood, both former Rookies of the Year, Livingston felt he could make an immediate impact on the PBR. At his first Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Hidalgo, Texas, he split the title with Pacheco, earning an exemption to compete at the premier series event in Sacramento, California. Still an 18-year-old, Livingston made his elite series debut at the Frontier Communications Sacramento Clash, covering his first draw Chantilly Lace for 84.5 points, to finish 19th. The event marked just his 15th PBR event since getting his card eight months prior. A regular on the premier tour since, Livingston's breakthrough moment came in Jacksonville, Florida where he logged his second qualified ride on the tour, an 87.5-point trip aboard Ram It, winning Round 1 of the event. He also became just the second 18-year-old in as many seasons, joining Lockwood, to win a round at the sport's highest level. Livingston's year concluded in Las Vegas, Nevada after he qualified for his first-ever World Finals. He finished thirty-fourth at the most prestigious event in bull riding after going 1-for-5. He finished his rookie season No. 35 in the world.

While Livingston has known since a child he wanted to be a bull rider, he also dabbled in other sports. The grandson of four-time Fort Worth Star-Telegram Texas State Golden Gloves Champion Paul Stephens, Livingston has experience as a boxer. Saying that his mother also boxed some when he was growing up, Livingston was poised to go to Golden Gloves before he broke his leg bull riding. While he didn't pursue a professional career in the sport, he says the training has helped with his bull riding. "It works with all kinds of different muscles you aren't used to working out every day. It is just a great workout. It keeps you on top of your game."



#35 KOAL LIVINGSTON • @KoalLivingston • For Livingston's career stats, click [here](#).

Livingston is one of four boys, including younger brother Kane who is an aspiring bull fighter. Koal and his girlfriend Neci Moore reside in Burleson with their Rottweiler Debow.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in January at the Sacramento, California event where he was nineteenth...Qualified for his first-ever World Finals where he went 1-for-5 to finish 34th and concluded his rookie year No. 35 in the world.



#1 JESS LOCKWOOD • [@jesslockwood2](#) • [@jesslockwood7](#) • For Lockwood's career stats, click [here](#).



World Championship: 2017

Hometown: Volborg, Montana

Height: 5-5

Born: 9/20/97

Elite Tour Season: 3rd

High-Marked Ride: 90.5 points on Modified Clyde in Nampa, Idaho, on April 17, 2016

2017 World Champion

World Finals Qualifications: 2

Residence: Volborg, Montana

Weight: 130

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,724,616.90

2016 Rookie of the Year

Personal

At five feet, five inches, 130 pounds, 20-year-old Jess Lockwood may be one of the toughest athletes in sports. During the 2017 season, the youngest World Champion in PBR history got on bulls 12 to 15 times his size after suffering a torn groin, being knocked unconscious twice, enduring back spasms, and recovering from four busted ribs, a punctured lung, and a bruised kidney.

Entering the 2017 World Finals, Lockwood strapped a giant pack of ice around his torso in the T-Mobile Arena locker room. He then went out to make history by winning the first three rounds of the event on three consecutive nights, including two 90-point rides, regaining his world No. 1 standing for the first time since his first major injury in February and claiming the million-dollar bonus and coveted gold buckle.

Lockwood's grit and toughness comes with the turf – he is from a rugged family with a rich history in western sports. His father, Ed, was a champion bull rider and professional saddle bronc rider, while his mother Angie was a barrel racer. His aunt, Lisa Lockhart, is a legendary barrel racer who has qualified for the National Finals Rodeo 11 times and is a two-time champion of THE AMERICAN rodeo. Lockwood got on his first bull in eighth grade, and then pursued the sport full time shortly after ending his career as a champion high school wrestler. Recently he became a volunteer wrestling coach for his former high school team.

At 18, Lockwood left home to begin his professional career, cashing his first PBR check one month later at the Touring Pro Division stop in Clovis, New Mexico. The Montana-native soon moved to PBR Livestock Director Cody Lambert's ranch in Bowie, Texas, where he was tutored by Lambert and PBR co-founder and two-time World Champion Justin McBride. In two months' time, Lockwood earned a berth onto the elite tour. With a seemingly inherent sense for the dramatic, three events



#1 JESS LOCKWOOD •  @jesslockwood2 •  @jesslockwood7 • For Lockwood's career stats, click [here](#).

into his debut season on the elite tour, Lockwood won in Billings, Montana, his home state. Lockwood finished the season No. 8 in the world standings, earning the 2016 Rookie of the Year title.

Lockwood roared out of the gate in 2017. He came into New York City on a Friday morning to ring the opening bell at the New York Stock exchange, and on Sunday walked off the dirt with a six-figure check after winning the PBR Major opening the new season. The bull rider, then 19, was world No.1 for the first time, and he held that ranking for six weeks, also winning in Sacramento, California. Lockwood battled through numerous injuries throughout the season, but backed by a strong 3-for-6 showing at the World Finals he became the youngest World Champion in PBR history. Lockwood is just the fourth Rookie of the Year to win the world, and second, joining three-time World Champion Silvano Alves, to win the titles in back-to-back years. His success has helped propel him to national stardom, featured by the likes of Sports Illustrated, CBS This Morning, Business Insider, and Interview Magazine.

The youngster says that being around legends like J.B. Mauney, someone he has looked up his entire riding career, is surreal, and he hopes that feeling never fades.

When not riding, Lockwood enjoys all that comes with being a cowboy, including working on the ranch. He also likes to work out; running, lifting weights and hot yoga are part of a fitness routine he had the opportunity to perfect in 2017 as one of a contingent of riders invited to train for a week at the prestigious IMG Academy.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won two of the first four events of the season, including the PBR Major in New York City which propelled him to No.1 in the standings for the first time in his career...Won two additional events in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Austin, Texas before qualifying for his second world finals...Won the first three rounds of the World Finals before being crowned the 2017 World Champion.
- 2016 – Won the first Built Ford Tough Series event of his career in his home state of Montana at the Billings event en route to being crowned Rookie of the Year and winning a rookie-best eight event rounds.



#20 MASON LOWE •  @MasonLowe90 •  @MasonLowe1 • For Lowe's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 2

Residence: Exeter, Missouri

Weight: 155

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$228,710.53

Hometown: Exeter, Missouri

Height: 5-11

Born: 9/12/93

Elite Tour Season: 3rd

Personal

Mason Lowe began his bull-riding career as a toddler, when his dad let him get on the family's milk cows. Lowe progressed to junior rodeos as he got older, but opted to not compete in high school rodeos as a teenager, instead electing to travel to amateur bull ridings throughout the Midwest starting at the age of 15. Since he was young, Lowe has always looked to two-time PBR World Champion Chris Shivers as his role model, saying that if Shivers were to ever come out of retirement he would still be a Top-10 rider. After riding in three elite tour events in 2014, Lowe began competing full-time on the premier series in 2015, qualifying for the World Finals and finishing No. 19 at year's end. Lowe rode to his first victory on the tour at the Ty Murray Invitational in 2016. Most recently, he finished 2017 No. 20 in the world after recording six Top 10 finishes, highlighted by a second place effort at February's Iron Cowboy, one of four PBR Major events. In 2017, he has also experienced his "biggest accomplishment" when the Missourian recorded the high-marked and only second successful ride aboard Smooth Operator at Iron Cowboy.

When not competing, Lowe is known for his generosity, often carving out time in his schedule to visit with children at the local hospitals in the cities the PBR's premier tour visits. The 23-year-old also enjoys spending time with his fiancé Abby and niece Blazi, who he'll visit at school for lunch when he is at home.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Became the second rider to cover Smooth Operator (Dakota Rodeo/Berger/Struve) at the Iron Cowboy for 90.75 points.
- 2016 – Posted the first win of his elite tour career in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



#23 GUILHERME MARCHI [Ghee-lehr-may March-EE] • [Twitter @MarchiBullRider](#) • [Instagram @GuilhermeMarchi](#) • For Marchi's career stats, click [here](#).



World Championship Title: 2008

Hometown: Três Lagoas, Brazil

Height: 6-0

Born: 7/22/82

Elite Tour Season: 15th

High-Marked Ride: 94 points on Big Tex in Nampa, Idaho, on April 5, 2009

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

2005 World Finals Event Winner

World Finals Qualifications: 14

Residence: Ferris, Texas

Weight: 198

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$5,252,222.59

2008 World Champion

Personal

Guilherme Marchi, a trailblazing bull-riding legend who has made the eight seconds more than anyone in PBR history, began riding bulls at age 15 under the guidance of his older brother Juliano, who rides bulls in PBR Brazil. He also looked up to three-time World Champion Adriano Moraes early on in his career. Marchi began competing with the PBR in 2004 at the Touring Pro Division (TPD) level, where he rode in nine events, winning two and taking Top 10 finishes in eight, before making his elite series debut that August in Oklahoma City. The veteran Brazilian has gone on to establish himself as one of the best the sport has ever seen throughout a career spanning more than a decade. After finishing No. 2 in the world standings three consecutive seasons from 2005-2007, Marchi finally captured his first World Championship in 2008 during a dominant season in which he rode 72.55% of his bulls. He currently ranks third in career earnings with more than \$5 million and also ranks fourth in career 90-point rides with 51.

In 2017, Marchi made sports history again, becoming the first rider in PBR history to log 600 qualified rides on the elite tour. Marchi achieved the milestone in Billings by covering Shocker for 86.25 points. "Guilherme still gets fired up like a rookie and he still attacks the challenges this sport provides," said PBR Co-founder Ty Murray. He finished his 14th season No. 23 in the world with eight Top 10 finishes. After competing at World Finals, Marchi travelled to Edmonton, Alberta as part of Team Brazil for the inaugural Global Cup. He went a perfect 2-for-2 en route to Brazil finishing second at the first-ever event.

Marchi runs, rides horses and works out as often as he can to prepare for competitions, often regarded as a gym rat. This season he has placed an increased emphasis on his fitness, turning to an at-home circuit training program of six to seven




#23 GUILHERME MARCHI [Ghee-lehr-may March-EE] • @MarchiBullRider • @GuilhermeMarchi • For Marchi's career stats, click [here](#). **PBR RIDERS**

exercises, and diet which led him to lose 20 pounds. His grit, tenacity and impeccable physique led Men's Fitness magazine to feature him on the cover of the magazine's April 2017 issue, dubbing him the "world's fittest athlete." He spends his down time team roping and riding horses with his daughter Manuela and son Joao Gabriel on his ranch in Ferris, Texas. Marchi along with fiancé Maria welcomed a baby boy at the end of 2017.

Career Highlights


- 2017 – Became the first rider in PBR history to log 600 qualified rides on the elite tour when he covered Shocker (D&H Cattle Co.), who was previously unriden in four outs, for 86.25 points on April 8, 2017 in Billings, Montana.
- 2016 – Became the third ranked rider on the all-time earners list at season's end, which included a win in Thackerville, Oklahoma.
- 2014 – Became the first rider in PBR history to log 500 career rides on the PBR's top tour, with 84 points on Pandora's Pyxis (Jeff Robinson Bucking Bulls) at the Bass Pro Chute Out in Phoenix, Arizona.
- 2012 – Became the fourth rider to reach \$4 million in career earnings, after finishing second in the top tour's standings and earning \$331,422.
- 2008 – Crowned 2008 PBR World Champion at season's end which saw him win five events and ride 72.55% (74-for-102) of his bulls, 13 of which were 90-point efforts.
- 2007 – Reached \$1 million in career earnings after winning \$483,595 and finishing No. 2 in the world rankings for a third consecutive year.
- 2005 – Won the first elite tour event of his career in Greenville, South Carolina on March 11.
- 2004 – Made his premier series debut on August 6 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**#39 ALEX MARCILIO** •  @alexpsquilamarcilio • For Marcilio's career stats, click [here](#).**World Finals Qualifications:** 2**Residence:** Decatur, Texas**Weight:** 139**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$156,013.21**High-Marked Ride:** 86.25 points on Ringeye in Nampa, Idaho on October 8, 2017**2017 Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Champion****Hometown:** Macaabal, Brazil**Height:** 5-6**Born:** 3/29/88**Elite Tour Season:** 2nd**Personal**

Set to begin his sixth competitive season riding for the PBR, Alex Marcilio began his career at age 16 with the help of his friend Fernando Braguini. Nearly a decade after beginning his career, Marcilio made his PBR debut at a Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in Colorado, Paraná, Brazil in 2013. After riding at 13 events in his home nation, one of which delivered him the first win of his PBR career in Nhandeara, São Paulo that June, Marcilio made his premier series debut at the 2013 World Finals. While the event win and qualification for his first World Finals are marquee moments from the season, Marcilio cites his ride aboard Bipolar that April in Londrina, Paraná as the most memorable of his career. The then-rookie rider scored 94.38 points aboard the Paulo Emilio bucking bull, the highest-marked qualified ride in the history of PBR Brazil. After returning to the states for an additional elite series event in 2014, riding in Tacoma, Washington, where he was 24th, Marcilio made his return to the premier series in 2017, riding at nine events, including the second PBR World Finals of his career. His career-best finish came in April, in Tacoma, Washington, where he was eighth. Marcilio says that the most memorable moment of his career came in October in Nampa, Idaho when he qualified for his first-ever championship round. The increased number of appearances on the elite tour have given Marcilio more opportunities to compete alongside role model Fabiano Vieira. Paralleling his most successful season of his career on the elite tour was Marcilio's success on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT). After earning an event win, 9 Top 5 and 16 Top 10 finishes, he was named the RVT Champion. His win came via a tiebreaker with fellow Brazilian Ramon de Lima, with Marcilio edging his countryman after having won more money on the tour in 2017.

When Marcilio is not competing, he says his second occupation is that of a cattle breeder and enjoys team roping.



#39 ALEX MARCILIO •  @alexpsquilamarcilio • For Marcilio's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour Championship.
- 2013 – Made his elite tour debut at the 2013 PBR World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada, going 0-for-2...Recorded the highest-marked qualified ride in the history of PBR Brazil.



#16 J.B. MAUNEY [Moo-knee] • [@jbmauney](#) • [@jbmauneyxv](#) • For Mauney's career stats, click [here](#).



World Championship Title: 2013 & 2015

Hometown: Mooresville, North Carolina

Height: 5-10

Born: 1/9/87

Elite Tour Season: 13th

High-Marked Ride: 95.25 points on Bushwacker in Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 17, 2013

2015 World Champion

2014 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

2013 World Finals Event Winner

2009 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

2007 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

2006 Touring Pro Division Champion

World Finals Qualifications: 12

Residence: Statesville, North Carolina

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$7,235,604.37

2015 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

2013 World Champion

2009 World Finals Event Winner

2008 Lane Frost/Brent Thurman Award

2006 Rookie of the Year

Personal

PBR's most popular rider is a true cowboy who started riding at the age of three, and rode his first bull at age 13. Since making his elite series debut and winning the Rookie of the Year title in 2006, J.B. Mauney has established himself as one of the world's most accomplished and decorated western sports athletes, notching his name in the history books as the top rider in numerous categories. Mauney has earned a reputation as a "dragon slayer," after riding every World Champion Bull since 2007 at least once. He was also the man who ended 2013 World Champion Bull Bushwacker's 42-out buckoff streak in Tulsa in August 2013, and is the richest athlete in western sports history with over \$7.2 million in earnings. In an era where riders are using yoga and pilates to stay limber and fit, J.B. says he's never set foot in a gym, although he can balance on a medicine ball "however long you want me to stay on it." J.B.'s workouts during the week are riding horses and working his North Carolina ranch. He has leveraged his freakish, God-given talent, nerves of steel and boundless courage to ride to two World Championship titles, and sits poised to become just the third rider in history to log 500 qualified rides on the premier series.

In 2017, after once again being an early contender for the world title through the first half of the season, Mauney sustained a gruesome shoulder injury in July at the Calgary Stampede that PBR's Medical Director Dr. Tandy Freeman said was the worst he's ever seen in bull riding. Muscle, tendons and ligaments had all been ripped clear off the bone, requiring



#16 J.B. MAUNEY [Moo-knee] • [@jbmaoney](#) • [@jbmaoneyxv](#) • For Maoney's career stats, click [here](#).

Dr. Freeman to use 13 anchors to rebuild the shoulder. Maoney's other injuries include, in addition to half a dozen broken bones, a shattered eye socket, bruised kidney and spleen, and a lacerated liver. "If you can't take the pain, get out of the game," he says. In 2017, he made an earlier-than-anticipated comeback, cleared by "Dr. Maoney," he said, to compete in his twelfth World Finals where he went 1-for-5.

When Maoney isn't competing he can be found hard at work on his ranch in North Carolina or spending time with his wife Samantha and daughter Bella. After every big win, he heads to a steakhouse for a juicy steak which is always his post competition meal of choice. Since switching back from wearing a helmet, Maoney says he now smashes about four to five hats per season, and though he usually changes to black felt in the winter, his straw hat has been working well for him, leading him to contemplate wearing it year-round. One thing you won't ever see Maoney doing however is wearing yellow or laying his hat on the bed – two rules his dad taught him to live by to avoid bad luck.

Career Highlights

- 2016 – Solidified his standing as the richest athlete in western sports eclipsing the \$7 million mark with his ride on Red Dawn (Body-Floyd Bull Company) during Round 5 of the World Finals.
- 2015 – Earned his second PBR World Championship title while also becoming the richest athlete in Western sports history and the \$6 million dollar man.
- 2014 – Broke and set a PBR record for consecutive rides that was first established in 1998 by Terry Don West with 15 rides, covering his Round 1 bull KISS Destroyer (Dakota Rodeo/Chad Berger/Clay Struve) while in Chicago for his 16th ride, with his streak ending during Round 2 in Chicago when he was tossed from Mud Man at 7.18 seconds...Won the bull riding event at the inaugural THE AMERICAN at AT&T Stadium.
- 2013 – Went a perfect 6-for-6 at the World Finals en route to winning the event and being crowned the 2013 PBR World Champion, becoming the first rider to cover all his bulls at the finals twice and the third rider to win both the event and the World Championship in the same season...Won six of the last 10 events in the second half (Tulsa, Thackerville, Fayetteville, Grand Rapids, Hollywood and World Finals), becoming the only rider to win four consecutive events...Notched the most 90-point rides of the season at eight, including a 95.25-point effort atop Bushwacker (Julio Moreno Bucking Bulls) in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to break the 2013 World Champion Bull's buckoff streak of 42, and win the Tulsa event.
- 2009 – Became first rider in history to ride all eight bulls at the World Finals, winning the event title and \$343,000.
- 2006 – Crowned PBR Rookie of the Year after earning \$165,457, including \$17,500 at World Finals.



#13 CLAUDIO MONTANHA JR. • [@ClaudioMont_PBR](#) • [@claudiomontanhajr](#) • For Montanha's career stats, click [here](#).



PBR RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 1**Residence:** Decatur, Texas**Weight:** 150**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$195,219.29**High-Marked Ride:** 88.75 points on Nailed in Raleigh, North Carolina on October 15, 2017**Hometown:** Ribeirão dos Índios, Brazil**Height:** 5-7**Born:** 5/2/89**Elite Tour Season:** 2nd

Personal

Unlike many riders, Claudio Montanha Jr. came to the sport of bull riding later in life. But that hasn't stopped the Brazilian from mounting a successful career as one of the fastest rising stars on the PBR's premier series tour. Montanha began riding at 16, and competed in his first rodeo in his home country of Brazil at the age of 19. While he rode on various other circuits, Montanha didn't make his debut on the Brazilian Touring Pro Division (TPD) until 2014, earning his first PBR buckle just three events later. Montanha went on to log 14 Top 10 finishes before travelling north to compete in events in the United States in 2017. Aside from the PBR accomplishments he has earned in Brazil, Montanha also won a national title with the Liga Nacional de Rodeio and won the famed Barretos Rodeo in 2016. In 2017, as he competed in just his fifth event in the United States, and fourth event on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT), Montanha won the RVT stop in Youngstown, Ohio, delivering a perfect 3-for-3 performance. After just one month competing in RVT events, where he went 7-for-12, Montanha made his debut on PBR's elite tour in February, finishing fifth in Kansas City, Missouri, delivering another perfect, 3-for-3 event. The Brazilian was a staple at premier events all season long, and a top contender for the year's Rookie of the Year title, a race he finished third in, 613.34 points behind countryman Jose Vitor Leme. Riding a hot streak into his first-ever PBR World Finals, earning second and third place finishes at the final two regular-season events of 2017, Montanha ended the year No. 13 in the world.

Montanha's surging success has led many to compare him to three-time World Champion Silvano Alves, who the 28 year old looks up to along with fellow World Champion Guilherme Marchi. Montanha says that at each event the veteran duo will go over the draw with the Brazilian contingent, providing advice wherever they can. For Montanha, it has always been his dream to come to the United States and compete. He says that the level of bull power in America is a lot greater than in his home nation, and that keeping his head straight is key, especially when the tour travels to a new state every weekend.



#13 CLAUDIO MONTANHA JR. •  @ClaudioMont_PBR •  @claudiomontanhajr • For Montanha's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Logged five Top 10 finishes, including a career-best second in Raleigh, North Carolina during his rookie season...finished 3rd in the Rookie of the Year race



#17 CODY NANCE • @CodyNancePBR • @codywnance • For Nance’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 9

Residence: Paris, Tennessee

Weight: 162

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,365,619.13

High-Marked Ride: 91.5 points on Hustler in Pueblo, Colorado, on May 17, 2009

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

2009 Rookie of the Year

Hometown: Paris, Tennessee

Height: 5-8

Born: 12/23/87

Elite Tour Season: 10th


2016 Touring Pro Division Champion

Personal

Cody Nance began riding bulls when he was 14 under the guidance of his uncle and stepfather. After spending two full seasons competing at the Touring Pro Division (TPD) level, Nance made the jump to PBR’s elite series in 2009. In his debut year, Nance claimed the Rookie of the Year title and finished 18th at his first-ever World Finals. He has since qualified for World Finals in each of his eight subsequent seasons on the elite tour, finishing a career-best fourth in 2013. In 2017, Nance finished No. 17 in the world after recording four Top 5 and nine Top 10 finishes, two of which came at Majors, Last Cowboy Standing and Music City Knockout. His year culminated with a trip to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada where Nance competed as a member of Team USA at the inaugural Global Cup. There, Nance went 1-for-2 helping the USA to win the first-ever five-nation event.

Nance says conquering The Game for 90 points in the short round in Columbus, Ohio, in 2009 has been his most memorable ride thus far in his career, mainly because the bull hailed from Paris, Tennessee, his hometown. After meeting with a sports psychologist, and at the advice of Terry Don West passed along to him via friend Jeff Tiley to “remember your last victory,” Nance is a firm believer in visualization techniques. Nance is known to often re-watch rides from his rookie season to remind himself of the feats he’s been able to accomplish. Sometimes after a great ride he’ll reward himself with his favorite sweet treat, dark chocolate. When he’s not riding, Nance loves to partake in any outdoor activity, such as hunting, fishing, and riding horses, though he admits he’s “no good at golf.” In the future, Nance would like to open a bull riding school to teach youth about the sport and how to live an inspiration-filled life. In the meantime, Nance enjoys spending quality time with his new wife, Korie and kids Addie, Wyatt and Nash.



#17 CODY NANCE •  @CodyNancePBR •  @codywnance • For Nance's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Member of the event-winning Team USA contingent at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2014 – One of two bull riders to win three events, including Tacoma, Washington; Fresno, California; and Billings, Montana.
- 2013 – Finished a career-best fourth at the PBR World Finals.
- 2009 – Named rookie of the Year after earning \$166,022.



#6 CHASE OUTLAW • @OutlawChase • @outlaw365 • For Outlaw's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 6

Residence: Hamburg, Arkansas

Weight: 150

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,060,914.53

High-Marked Ride: 90.75 points, twice, last time on Crack The Whip in New York, New York, on January 18, 2015

2016 Velocity Tour Champion

2013 Touring Pro Division Champion

Hometown: Hamburg, Arkansas

Height: 5-6

Born: 6/24/92

Elite Tour Season: 7th

2016 Velocity Tour Finals Event Winner


Personal

When it comes to riding bulls, this five-time Arkansas state champion and step-brother to fellow bull rider Reese Cates says his motto is “show up and get it done,” though there is a high probability that he will have downed a cheeseburger first, one of his favorite pre-competition foods. Outlaw, whose family name would seem to have predestined him to be a bull-riding cowboy, was jumping on calves at the age of four and bulls by 13. He remembers watching the PBR as a young kid and dreaming of being part of the elite tour. Now, as a PBR rider, his most memorable moment was in the short round at the Touring Pro Division event in Bismarck, North Dakota, in 2013 when riding Prince Albert for 92 points to win the event on the same night his friend’s father passed away. “I won that for my buddy’s dad,” he said.

Outlaw made his elite tour debut in 2012, winning his first buckle at just his third event on the series. He has since established himself as a perennial contender and a fan and media favorite as one of the most animated and quotable athletes in sports. In 2016, several shoulder injuries sidelined Outlaw the majority of the year. “It’ll feel better when it quits hurtin’,” Outlaw said in a typical Chase-ism. He came back that season to win both the Velocity Tour Finals event and tour title and finished a career-best seventh at the PBR World Finals. In full health for 2017, Outlaw was nothing short of electric, recording 10 rounds wins on the elite tour, including the 15/15 Bucking Battle in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, before ending the year a career-best No. 6 in the world after finishing seventh at the World Finals for a second consecutive year.

When not riding bulls, Outlaw likes to hunt, fish and drive his 4WD through the mud. He also stays in shape by running, which includes chasing after his daughters Cashleigh and Chloe. Outlaw and his wife, Nicole, are expecting their first son in 2018. That being said, when he retires from the PBR he looks forward to sitting on his front porch and watching his cows.



#6 CHASE OUTLAW •  @OutlawChase •  @outlaw365 • For Outlaw's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Concluded the season a career-best No. 6 in the world after finishing seventh at World Finals, tying his career-best finish from 2016.
- 2016 – Velocity Tour Champion and the Velocity Tour Finals event winner, winning \$79,133.33 and two belt buckles.
- 2014 – Notched the first 90-point ride of his elite tour career while in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with a 90.75-point ride on Western Hauler (Jeff Robinson/Bar 3D Bucking Bulls).
- 2012 – Won his first elite tour stop in just his third event in Houston, Texas.



#5 KAIQUE PACHECO • @kaique_pacheco1 • For Pacheco's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals qualifications: 2

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 145

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$1,291,441.06

High-Marked Ride: 90.5 points on Udder Lover during the 15/15 Bucking Battle in Austin, Texas, on September 16, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Itatiba, Brazil

Height: 5-8

Born: 9/18/94

Elite Tour Season: 4th

2015 Rookie of the Year

Personal

A third-generation cowboy, Kaique Pacheco hails from a family of Brazilian bull riders, inspired by the careers of his father, uncle and both grandfathers. Pacheco got on his first bull at age 12, beginning his professional career in Brazil just a short time later at age 17. In addition to his family's deep roots in the sport, Pacheco has known three-time PBR World Champion Adriano Moraes since he was 10 years old, attending the legend's bull riding school while growing up. Since he was a young boy, Pacheco has also looked to 2002 World Champion Ednei Caminhas, 2008 World Champion Guilherme Marchi and three-time World Champion Silvano Alves as role models. After riding at the Touring Pro Division level in both the United States and Brazil for two years, Pacheco made his debut in PBR's elite series in 2015. In just his third event, Pacheco won both the 15/15 Bucking Battle and Bass Pro Chute Out in St. Louis, Missouri. At season's end, after winning two additional events, including a PBR Major, he claimed the 2015 Rookie of the Year title at 21 years old, and finished No. 2 in the world standings. Pacheco continued his dominance in 2016, winning three events, including his second PBR Major, and finished No. 2 in the world standings once again. In 2017, Pacheco delivered another very strong and consistent year with two event wins, including a repeat victory at the Major Last Cowboy Standing. He finished his third season No. 5 in the world, 890 points behind World Champion Jess Lockwood. To conclude 2017, Pacheco competed as a member of runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.

During the season, Pacheco relies on the advice of the older Brazilian world champions on tour like Marchi and Alves as well as his other fellow Brazilian competitors. "I think that this is my gift," Pacheco said during the Netflix docu-series "Fearless". "I was born to ride bulls. And I'm making my dream come true. It is important to me because it's what I learned to do and what I love to do. I had to leave my family to make my dreams come true, which is being here."



#5 KAIQUE PACHECO • @kaique_pacheco1 • For Pacheco's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won the Major Last Cowboy Standing for a second consecutive year before finishing his third season on the elite tour No. 5 in the world...Rode as part of Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Finished No. 2 in the world standings for the second consecutive year after posting three BFTS wins, including Last Cowboy Standing in Las Vegas.
- 2015 – Crowned Rookie of the Year and finished second in the world standings, the highest a rookie has ever ranked at year's end, after earning three event wins, including the PBR Major in Nashville, and logging the first 90-point ride of his BFTS career in Tucson, Arizona, aboard Compact (Talbert Bucking Bulls).



#24 SHANE PROCTOR • [@TheShaneProctor](#) • [@TheShaneProctor](#) • For Proctor’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 9

Residence: Mooresville, North Carolina

Weight: 165

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$1,365,540.59

High-Marked Ride: 93.5 points on Pearl Harbor in Tacoma, Washington on April 22, 2017

2011 Touring Pro Division Champion

Hometown: Grand Coulee, Washington

Height: 5-8

Born: 3/24/85

Elite Tour Season: 12th

Personal

Washington native Shane Proctor’s riding career began young, at three years of age, and saw him advancing to bulls by age 15. While a lot has changed for Proctor over the last three decades, one thing has remained constant, his helmet. At his mother’s insistence, Proctor promised to always wear a helmet whenever he rode, and he has kept his word throughout his amateur and professional career. Proctor’s talent for the sport was visible from a young age, especially after he won the Washington High School All-Around title in 2003, and earned a scholarship to Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming. He began competing on the PBR’s elite tour in 2006, and he recorded one of the most memorable rides of his career that season at the Yakima, Washington, Touring Pro Division (TPD) event. Proctor rode Stony, a bull that killed one of his friends, for 91 points. “It felt like I was getting back at that bull,” he said. After a three-year dry spell, Proctor got back to his winning ways in 2016, earning an event title for the first-time since 2013. His hot streak continued in 2017, beginning the year with a win in Anaheim, California, which he followed two months later with his first-ever 15/15 Bucking Battle win in his home state of Washington at the Tacoma Invitational. The 15/15 Bucking Battle victory was especially noteworthy for Proctor, coming in front of family and friends courtesy of a 93.5-point ride aboard Pearl Harbor, one of the top contenders for the 2017 World Champion Bull title. The monster out was also Proctor’s first 90-point ride since 2013. He ended the season ranked No. 24 in the world.

Proctor now resides in North Carolina, where he has a leather shop. He enjoys making custom chaps and leather goods, a self-taught skill acquired by talking to people and reading about the subject. Each year since 2010, Proctor has also returned to his home-state of Washington to host the Ridin’ Rank on the Rez Bull Riding School for more than 40 kids, ages 12-18. He admits that when he’s on a hot streak he won’t change any of his equipment, such as rope, gloves, boots, and jeans. When not riding, he can be found spending time with NASCAR driver Ricky Stenhouse Jr., or at the gym



#24 SHANE PROCTOR • @TheShaneProctor • @TheShaneProctor • For Proctor's career stats, click [here](#).

practicing Bikram yoga. During the 2017 season, Proctor began a new fitness and diet regimen, placing greater emphasis on the food fueling his body. He now prepares all of his meals for a week at once, and he purchased a TSA-approved, refrigerator backpack to take his food on the road. While many may view this tough cowboy as fearless, one thing you won't see him doing, is watching scary movies. Proctor may be able to handle a fearsome 2,000-pound bull, but hates Jaws.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Rode World Champion bull contender Pearl Harbor for 93.5 points, winning his first 15/15 Bucking Battle in the process in Tacoma, Washington.
- 2015 – Led riders in bulls attempted with 88...Made the most appearances in the Championship Round with 16...Logged a career-best 12 Top 10 finishes.
- 2011 – Won both the Calgary Stampede and Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo during the elite tour summer break...Won the PRCA World Championship, joining a long list of PBR riders to win the title including PBR founders Ty Murray, Jim Sharp and Michael Gaffney.



#46 BROCK RADFORD • [@Radford_27](#) • [@radford_27](#) • For Radford's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS


Hometown: De Winton, Alberta

Height: 5-9

Born: 5/27/95

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

High-Marked Ride: 81.75 points on Whoop Ass in Uniondale, New York on September 23, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Canada

Residence: De Winton, Alberta

Weight: 160

Riding Hand: Left



Career Earnings: \$70,695.00

Personal

Brock Radford grew up in a family with rich traditions and success in the western sports world. His father Max, who hails from Australia, rode broncs and steer wrestled, while his grandmother, rodeo pioneer Isabelle Miller, is a two-time Canadian champion barrel racer. Radford fell in love with the sport when he rode his first steer. He got on his first bull at 14, and some of Radford's fondest moments from his early years as a competitor are traveling to events with his whole family. Radford also fondly remembers annually attending the Glen Keeley Memorial Bull Riding, which fueled his love for bull riding. Radford competed in his first PBR event in April 2013, competing at the Fort St. John, British Columbia PBR Canada Touring Pro Division (TPD) stop. After having a breakout season in 2016, where he logged three Top 5 and eight Top 10 finishes, Radford was nothing short of electric in 2017. He earned his first PBR event win in May, taking the title in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, as the only rider to go a perfect 2-for-2. After racking up three additional Top 10 finishes, Radford hit an unprecedented hot streak, winning four consecutive PBR Canada TPD events. Collectively, Radford netted \$18,445.85 CAD, 1,340 Canadian points and 271.33 world points. His winnings not only propelled him atop the Canadian national standings but rocketed him to No.36 in the world standings. Radford crossed into the Top 35, the threshold for a berth onto PBR's elite series after finishing fourth in September at the Glen Keeley Memorial Bull Riding. He made his premier series debut that September in Springfield, Missouri. Before year's end, he rode at two additional tour stops, logging his first two qualified rides in Uniondale, New York where he finished 12th. Adding to his record year, Radford also competed as a member of Team Canada at the inaugural Global Cup, adding one qualified ride to help the nation finish third overall.

When not bull riding, Radford can often be found performing stunts on both the small and large screen. His work can be seen in the likes of " Fargo," AMC's "Hell on Wheels," "The Revenant" and Netflix's "Hold The Dark." Radford's other interests include hockey, fly fishing and riding his quad. When not working, he likes to hang out with his travelling partners and snowboard or wakeboard.



#46 BROCK RADFORD •  @Radford_27 •  @radford_27 • For Radford's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Won a historic four consecutive PBR Canada TPD events...Made his elite tour debut in Springfield, Missouri ... rode as a part of Team Canada at the inaugural Global Cup where his home nation finished third.

**#28 EMILIO RESENDE** • [@EResendePBR](#) • [@Emilio_Resende](#) • For Resende's career stats, click [here](#).**PBR** RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 5**Residence:** Decatur, Texas**Weight:** 150**Riding Hand:** Left**Career Earnings:** \$590,571.78**High-Marked Ride:** 89.75 points on David's Dream during the Championship Round of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada October 28, 2012**2012 Rookie of the Year****Hometown:** Santa Helena de Goiás, Brazil**Height:** 5-6**Born:** 4/7/87**Elite Tour Season:** 7th**Personal**

Raised by his Grandmother on his family's Brazilian ranch, Emilio Resende grew up with a love for horses and bulls, dreaming of one day being a cowboy. The veteran of nearly a decade made his PBR debut in the United States on the Touring Pro Division (TPD) in Bossier City, Louisiana in January 2011, finishing eleventh. Nearly a year later, in March 2012, Resende made his elite series debut in Glendale, Arizona, riding to an eighth-place finish. The Brazilian logged five Top 10 finishes before finishing second at the World Finals and earning the 2012 Rookie of the Year title. Resende followed up his first season on the elite tour, with two additional trips to the World Finals in 2013 and 2014, before being sidelined by a multi-ligament surgery on his right knee. Resende briefly returned home to Brazil to rehab and has since been tirelessly working to cement himself once again as a regular on the PBR's elite tour. Resende worked "day and night" in 2016 to return to the World Finals, sometimes driving upwards of 28 hours to compete and enter three bull ridings in one weekend. His efforts paid off, returning to the most prestigious event in bull riding, where he finished 24th. Unfortunately, Resende faced another injury, breaking five ribs after his Round 4 draw stepped on him. In 2017, Resende competed in 19 events, including his fifth World Finals, highlighted by his runner-up finish at August's stop in Austin, Texas.

When he first began riding, Resende looked up to Ty Murray, Jerome Davis and Justin McBride. He says he now most admires three time World Champion Silvano Alves. When in the United States, Resende lives with fellow PBR star Eduardo Aparecido in Texas. While the duo grew up less than two hours apart, the riders didn't cross paths much due to the four year age difference. Since moving in together in 2014, the riders have fostered a great friendship, entering local jackpot roping events in Decatur together to clear their minds of bull riding. Resende likes to joke that of the two, he is the better cook. Resende tries to travel home to Brazil as often as he can to visit his family, grandmother, son and sister.



#28 EMILIO RESENDE •  @EResendePBR •  @Emilio_Resende • For Resende's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2014 – Won his first elite series event in Kansas City, Missouri.
- 2012 – Named Rookie of the Year after earning \$271,470, including \$181,833 for a runner-up finish at the World Finals.





#35 LACHLAN RICHARDSON • [@LachlanPBR](#) • [@RichardsonLachlan](#) • For Richardson's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS**World Finals Qualifications:** 5**Residence:** Gresford, Australia**Weight:** 141**Riding Hand:** Right**Career Earnings:** \$397,067.47**High-Marked Ride:** 92.25 points on Seven Dust in Thackerville, Oklahoma, on Sept. 3, 2016**Hometown:** Gresford, Australia**Height:** 5-9**Born:** 10/31/92**Elite Tour Season:** 6th

Personal

While growing up, Lachlan Richardson looked to his bull-riding uncle as an inspiration. Richardson's career, along with those of his three brothers, Tim, Cliff and Eric, were all self-initiated. The Australian rider began his career with the PBR competing at Touring Pro Division (TPD) events in Australia in 2012, travelling to North America to begin competing at U.S. and Canadian events in February. In April, Richardson earned the opportunity to compete at his first elite series event in Uncasville, Connecticut. Just 18 years old at the time, Richardson won his debut event, and has been a mainstay on the PBR's premier tour ever since. Qualifying for the World Finals in each of his six years, Richardson's career-best season came in 2016. Finishing a career-high No. 16 in the world standings, Richardson set personal bests for qualified rides (20), riding percentage (23.53%), outs (85) and events attended (27). He also won his first 15/15 Bucking Battle in Thackerville, Oklahoma. The win came compliments of his first-ever 90-point ride on the elite tour, riding the previously unriden Seven Dust for 92.25 points. Richardson dedicated his performance to childhood friend and Australia rodeo star, Blake Hallam, who had recently passed away from a car accident. While 2016 should have ended in celebration for Richardson, at the season's end, he was facing a six-month recovery after completely tearing the bicep in his right riding arm during Round 5 of the World Finals. Richardson returned to Australia for surgery, and helped out around the family farm once cleared for activity. Richardson returned to competition in May, competing at the Rockhampton PBR Australia TPD event, before returning to the U.S. and Canada for an aggressive summer campaign, when he earned more than 300 points towards the world standings through three event wins and eight Top 5 finishes. Competing at all of the second half elite tour events, Richardson qualified for his sixth World Finals, concluding 2017 No. 35 in the world. In Las Vegas, Richardson was involved in a nasty wreck when his spur got caught in his bull rope after bucking off Freak of Nature in Round 5. Illustrating the importance of the bullfighters, Richardson walked away from the incident with minor soreness. Following the most prestigious event in bull riding, Richardson headed to Canada to compete alongside his brother Cliff for Team Australia as part of the inaugural Global Cup in Edmonton, Alberta. Richardson added two scores to help his nation finish fourth at the first-ever international event.



#35 LACHLAN RICHARDSON •  @LachlanPBR •  @RichardsonLachlan • For Richardson's career stats, click [here](#).

To stay in shape, Richardson tries to work out every day and loves the P90X program. While recovering from his recent surgery, he added swimming to his fitness routine. Even though he says he isn't afraid to get on and attempt to ride his 2,000-pound opponents, the Australian bull rider is petrified of roller coasters. During the season, while in the United States he stays in Weatherford, Texas.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Competed for the fourth place Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Earned the highest-marked ride and first 90-point ride of his elite tour career covering Seven Dust (Gene Owen/Jane Clark) for 92.25 points in Thackerville, Oklahoma, winning the 15/15 Bucking Battle.
- 2012 – Won his debut elite series event in Uncasville, Connecticut, riding his first four bulls, including a first-place finish in the Championship Round with 89.5 points on Jack Daniel's After Party (Circle T Ranch & Rodeo).



#47 SONNY SCHAFFERIUS • @sonny.schafferius • For Schafferius's career stats, click [here](#).



Hometown: Dysart, Queensland, Australia

Height: 5-11

Born: 2/28/89

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

High-Marked Ride: 86 points on American Gangster in Colorado Springs, Colorado on September 30, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Australia

Residence: Dysart, Queensland, Australia

Weight: 184

Riding Hand: Right


Career Earnings: \$40,166.97

Personal

The son of a prize fighter, Australia's Sonny Schafferius knew from a young age he didn't want to follow in the footsteps of his dad and become a boxer. Instead, he opted to take after his grandfather, much like his older brother Tad was doing, and venture down the path of becoming a professional bull rider. Schafferius got on his first steer at the age of six, working to hone his skills by riding horses bareback on the outskirts of his small hometown, which has approximately 3,000 residents. Eventually progressing to bulls, Schafferius competed as part of the Dysart High School rodeo team before turning professional. Throughout his career, he always looked to two-time World Champion Justin McBride and Jim Sharp as role models. While Schafferius focused on Australian Pro Rodeo Association events and competed at PBR events sparingly prior to this most recent season, 2017 marked his first full year competing with the league. He won titles at both the Jundah and Charters Towers, Queensland Touring Pro Division events, earning enough points to catapult within the Top 35 of the world standings. Schafferius made his PBR elite series debut at the Kansas City Invitational in February. Riding at the four subsequent events on the top tour, Schafferius fell outside of the Top 35. The Australian remained stateside through March, competing on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT), before returning home due to an expired visa. He came back to the United States in September, riding at the elite tour event in Thackerville, Oklahoma. Schafferius collected an additional PBR Australia event title, but fell short of his goal of being the nation's champion. He rode in two additional premier series events before season's end, finishing a career-high fifth in Colorado Springs, Colorado, before ending 2017 ranked No. 47 in the world. Schafferius was selected to represent Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup where his team finished fourth.

It is Schafferius' dream to not only be the PBR Australia champion, but qualify for the World Finals. "It was an adrenaline rush to be given a chance to join the circuit in the U.S [last] year, and I want more of that. But first, I want to be Australian Champion." He says the key to his success is staying positive. "You can't let anything beat you. A positive, strong mindset is the key, as well as grit and determination and support from friends and family."




#47 SONNY SCHAFFERIUS •  @sonny.schafferius • For Schafferius's career stats, click [here](#).

When the quiet, but extremely focused and competitive Schafferius is not an event, he can be found in the gym. He believes a good program, focusing on agility is essential, and he keeps fit by going to the gym four days a week, while hitting a friends practice pen on the weekends. In his down time, he loves to fish and camp in the outback. Schafferius can also frequently be found listening to country rock, his music genre of choice.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in February at the Kansas City, Missouri event...Competed as part of Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup where the nation finished fourth.



#43 KURT SHEPHARD •  @kurtshephard94 • For Shephard's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Fort Worth, Texas

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$131,220.22

High-Marked Ride: 87 points on Sheep Creek in Billings, Montana on April 17, 2016

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Australia

Hometown: Atherton, Queensland, Australia

Height: 5-8

Born: 8/27/94


Elite Tour Season: 3rd

Personal

Growing up a farm kid, Kurt Shephard has been around livestock of all kinds, including cattle and horses, from a young age. As early as five, Shephard began climbing on top of the family's calves while they were being branded. After winning a mechanical bull riding competition in Laura, North Queensland at age 14, he made the decision to pursue the sport as a full-time career. After progressing through the ranks, Shephard began competing at senior level bull ridings in 2012, making his PBR debut on the Australia Touring Pro Division (TPD) level just one year later. In 2014, the Australian travelled to the United States to compete in his first TPD stateside. After two successful seasons on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) and TPD level, Shephard made his elite series debut in March 2016 in Duluth, Georgia. In 2017, Shephard fought his way onto the PBR's top tour; however, after just two events he ruptured his spleen in Oklahoma City while attempting to ride Cut the Cord. Shephard was sidelined for two months, but returned to action without missing a step. After just two weeks back competing, he strung together back-to-back runner up finishes on the RVT and TPD. Once back in Australia, he took the title at the Cairns Invitational. He returned to the elite tour in August for the PBR Major, The Music City Knockout in Nashville, riding at three additional events, before concluding 2017 No. 43 in the world. Shephard was also selected as one of seven riders to compete as part of Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, contributing two qualified rides to his home nation's fourth place finish.

When he's not in Australia, Shephard resides in Fort Worth, Texas with three of his bull riding countrymen. He stays competition ready by working hard throughout the week – hitting the gym and getting on his drop barrel and practice bulls. Shephard believes that a strong mental state is key to success, always trying to think positive. All of this Australian's efforts are directed at qualifying for the PBR World Finals.



#43 KURT SHEPHARD •  @kurtshephard94 • For Shephard's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Competed as part of the fourth place Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Made his elite tour debut in Duluth, Georgia in March finishing 13th...Logged his career-best elite tour finish in Billings, Montana where he was fourth.



#14 CODY TEEL • @CodyLTeel • @CodyLTeel • For Teel's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: College Station, Texas

Weight: 155

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$303,797

High-Marked Ride: 88 points on Machinery Auctioneer's Crazy Horse in Glendale, Arizona on March 26, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

Hometown: Kountze, Texas

Height: 5-11

Born: 6/9/92

Elite Tour Season: 2nd

Personal

Growing up, Texan Cody Teel wanted nothing more than to be just like his dad, a professional bull rider for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) in the 1980s. Before he was 10, Teel was attempting calves, and by the time he reached high school was one of the state's top bull riders, winning two Texas State High School State Championships for Kountze High School. Teel's professional career began with the PRCA in 2012 after winning the 2011 College National Finals Rodeo while attending Sam Houston State University. In his rookie season with the organization, Teel won the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) en route to being named the 2012 PRCA Champion, the youngest title holder in the modern era. In the following years, Teel went on to qualify for four additional NFRs, won the NFR event average twice (2012 and 2013) and was the 2016 Calgary Stampede Champion in his debut appearance at the event. It was in Calgary where Teel first began to seriously think of making the fulltime switch to PBR, after being amongst the likes of two-time World Champion J.B. Mauney, 2016 World Champion Cooper Davis and three-time World Finals event winner Robson Palermo. He got a later than anticipated start to 2017 after requiring surgery with six screws and a plate repairing the broken clavicle he sustained at the 2016 NFR. Teel then launched his PBR season riding at the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event in Roanoke, Virginia. Teel won the title by going a perfect 3-for-3 at his first PBR event on American soil since 2010, earning a chance to compete at the February PBR Major, Iron Cowboy. For Teel, riding at Cowboy Stadium was an opportunity he had only dreamed of; he had attended a Texas A&M – Arkansas college football game at the famed stadium just five months prior. At the event, Teel covered his first draw, riding Chute Boss for 84.75 points; however he received a fast welcome to the sport's premier tour when reigning World Champion Bull SweetPro's Bruiser sent him to the dirt in 2.69 seconds in Round 2, eliminating him from the event. Teel won just his fourth event on the premier series, taking the buckle at March's Ak-Chin Invitational in Glendale, Arizona. The victory, which propelled him from No. 38 to No. 19 in the world, solidified his spot on tour. Two weeks later, in Billings, Montana, Teel's talent for the sport was again on full display



#14 CODY TEEL •  @CodyLTeel •  @CodyLTeel • For Teel's career stats, click [here](#).

when he covered two previously unriden bulls, Mystikal (87 points) and Hey Jack (87.75 points) to finish third. In the second half of the season, Teel surged in the standings, reaching No. 10, after finishing runner-up at the Major in Nashville, Tennessee. Before qualifying for his first-ever World Finals Teel earned his first 15/15 Bucking Battle win during the special round of competition in Nampa, Idaho after riding Beaver Creek Beau, which propelled him to a career-high world ranking, No. 9. After leading the Rookie of the Year race for a good portion of the season, Teel concluded his first-year campaign fourth in that race, and No. 14 in the world. He closed out a strong season in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, riding as a part of Team USA, adding one score to help propel Team USA to a win at the inaugural event.

While Teel's first season was highlighted by many notable competitive achievements, it also included many adjustments. Teel looked to Mauney, four-time PRCA World Champion J.W. Harris and three-time World Champion Silvano Harris for guidance on a variety of matters from how to enter the arenas, to where to be for event intros, to guidance on the draft selection process. While Teel is easily identifiable as one of the PBR's taller riders at 5'11", he is also known for his humility, smile and ever-so-polite "yes sir" and "no ma'ams." Teel says it is a goal of his to join Tuff Hedeman as only the second rider in history to hold both the PRCA and PBR gold buckle. Teel and his wife Kaitlin reside in Texas.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his premier series debut in February at the Iron Cowboy where he was 10th...Won his first event on the elite tour in March at the Ak-Chin Invitational in Glendale, Arizona...Won the first 15/15 Bucking Battle of his career in October in Nampa, Idaho...Qualified for his first World Finals, finishing 22nd, to end his rookie season No. 14 in the world...Competed for the event winning Team USA at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2016 – Won the Calgary Stampede in his first try at the prestigious event.
- 2012 – In his rookie season with PRCA, won the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) and was 2012 PRCA Champion, the youngest title holder in the modern era.



#48 TAYLOR TOVES • @ TaylorTovesPBR • @ taylortoves • For Toves' career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Stephenville, Texas

Weight: 155

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$46,708.87

High-Marked Ride: 84.5 points on Beans & Cornbread during Round 3 of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 3, 2017

Hometown: Alexandria, Louisiana

Height: 5-8

Born: 4/19/93

Elite Tour Season: 1st

Personal

Originally from Louisiana, Taylor Toves grew up in Stephenville, Texas after his family relocated to the Lone Star State when he was in the fifth grade. Toves began riding in seventh grade, showing great talent for the sport as a 13-year-old steer rider. Toves progressed through the ranks, alongside older brother Austin, also a bull rider, taught technique by his father. Toves also credits family neighbor Toby Floyd of Boyd & Floyd Bull Company, for helping him throughout his career. Floyd would let the up-and-coming rider come to his farm and get on his stock, building his confidence. Toves made his PBR debut in April 2011 in his hometown at a Touring Pro Division (TPD) stop. He logged his first event win last season, winning the March 2017 Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) stop in Fresno, California. The victory earned him a berth onto the premier series for the Tacoma Invitational. In his first full year competing at the PBR expansion tour's events, Toves earned eight Top 5 and 12 Top 10 finishes, before ending the year No. 6 in the RVT standings. His year on the tour culminated with a second place effort at the RVT Finals, where he was a perfect 4-for-4, qualifying him for his first-ever World Finals. Toves logged the most memorable ride of his career at the event, covering Ground Control for 81.5 points in the championship round to earn his berth to the most prestigious event in bull riding. At Finals, he finished 30th, going 1-for-5, to conclude 2017 No. 48 in the world. Competing at the event is the proudest moment of his career, and afforded Toves the opportunity to compete alongside his role model, two-time World Champion J.B. Mauney.

When not riding, Taylor enjoys raising bulls as well as snowboarding. He says the worst injuries he has ever sustained are a broken tibia/fibula in his right leg, sidelining him for seven months.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Made his elite tour debut in April in Tacoma, Washington, after winning the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) stop in Fresno, California...Qualified for his first-ever World Finals after finishing second at the RVT Finals.



#19 MATT TRIPLETT • [@Triplett_Matt](#) • [@Triplett90](#) • For Triplett's career stats, [click here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 4

Residence: Columbia Falls, Montana

Weight: 160

Riding Hand: Right

Career Earnings: \$792,580.17

High-Marked Ride: 92 points on Big Tex Walk Off during Round 2 of the World Finals on October 23, 2014

Hometown: Columbia Falls, Montana

Height: 5-7

Born: 6/28/91

Elite Tour Season: 6th

Personal

Inspired by his father Pat, a bull rider of more than 15 years, Matt Triplett started riding bulls when he was 10. Pat was on hand when Triplett won both of his Montana State High School Rodeo bull riding titles. Pat is now a stock contractor for the PBR, and Triplett says he still looks to his dad for advice to teach him most of what he knows both inside and out of the arena. Making the leap from the Touring Pro Division to PBR's premier series in 2013, Triplett concluded the 2014 and 2015 seasons ranked within the Top 5 of the world standings. After battling numerous injuries which sidelined him for the majority of 2016, Triplett stormed back to his winning ways in 2017. He began the year with two wins at PBR Australia events and returned to the winner's circle in the PBR's elite series for the first time in nearly two years in March in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His event wins in Australia put Triplett in a small group of riders who have won buckles in three countries. To stay competition ready, Triplett's workout of choice is hot yoga combined with cryotherapy.

When this Montana man is not busy traveling the country for competition, he enjoys riding horses, hiking, doing hot yoga and watching his favorite team, the New England Patriots. In addition to his dad, Triplett also soaks in the wisdom and life experience of his grandfather, a well-known figure in the PBR, who is one of his biggest fans. Triplett's go-to meals are sushi, spaghetti and steak, but not all together, of course. He especially loves riding in Anaheim, California, because of its proximity to Disneyland and plans to go each year the PBR visits.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Returned to the winner's circle for the first time in two years, winning the April event in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
- 2015 – Won the first elite tour events of his career in Oklahoma City and Anaheim, California.
- 2014 – Concluded his first full season on the top tour ranked a career-high No. 3 in the PBR world standings.



#45 CODY RODEO TYLER • [@RodeoTyler](#) • [@CodyRodeoTyler](#) • For Tyler's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS

Hometown: Guthrie, OK

Height: 5-7

Born: 11/8/94

Elite Tour Season: 3rd

High-Marked Ride: 87.25 points on Bullrito in St. Louis, Missouri on February 25, 2017

Residence: Wellston, OK

Weight: 140

Riding Hand: Right



Career Earnings: \$86,761.29

Personal

Cody Rodeo Tyler's bull riding career began as an 11-year-old at his house when he found his father's gear bag while snooping for Christmas presents. After the curious little boy inspected the dusty riding equipment, he started pestering his dad to ride. After nearly a year of constant asks, Tyler's father finally agreed to let his son get on a bull. Tyler began riding at PBR Touring Pro Division (TPD) events in 2014, winning a buckle at the March 2015 event in Beggs, Oklahoma, before making his elite series debut that May at Last Cowboy Standing in Las Vegas. Nearly two years later in February 2017, Tyler returned to the top tour after winning the Oakland, California Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour (RVT) event. Tyler attended the majority of 2017 events, riding at 19 of the 26 regular-season stops and falling just short of qualifying for his first-ever World Finals. In his rookie year on tour, his high-marked finish was fourth in St. Louis, Missouri.

Tyler credits fellow bull riders TJ Casteel and Cody Whitney for teaching him technique and riding fundamentals. His role model in the sport is Chris Shivers, and Tyler says he also looks up to riders who are "all like family" – fellow Okie, Cody Tyler White, who he now travels with, alongside Zane Cook, and Thad Newell. When Tyler is not riding, he raises a few bucking bulls, enjoys fishing and golfing. He is the middle brother of three boys, and has one "baby sister." Tyler's worst injury to date came when he was in Salinas, California in 2015, where he was stepped on by a bull and suffered a torn bicep, tendons and rotator cuff, in addition to two broken bones in his shoulder. Before having his injury examined, however, he flew from Salinas to Thief River Falls, Minnesota for another event two days later and got on two more bulls. When sports med finally examined the extremely banged up Oklahoma cowboy, he was sidelined for the remainder of the 2015 season and part of 2016.



#45 CODY RODEO TYLER •  @RodeoTyler •  @CodyRodeoTyler • For Tyler's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Competed at 19 regular-season elite tour events, finishing a career-high No. 45 in the world standings at year's end.
- 2015 – Made his elite tour debut at the PBR Major event Last Cowboy Standing in Las Vegas, Nevada in May.



#10 FABIANO VIEIRA • [@FVieiraPBR](#) • [@fvieirapbr](#) • For Vieira’s career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 7

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 175

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,638,250.19

High-Marked Ride: 91.75 points on Perfect Poison during Round 5 of World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 22, 2011
2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Pérola, Brazil

Height: 5-8

Born: 7/29/82



Elite Tour Season: 9th

Personal

While it was easy for Fabiano Vieira to begin training for a very successful professional sports career by riding bulls on a farm where he worked, it was much tougher for him to start competing professionally since Brazilian events are invitation only. That did not stop the determined Vieira. One day, without an invitation, Vieira attended a rodeo and stayed behind the chutes after he realized a competitor was missing. The absent rider’s name was listed on the draw, and Vieira briefly assumed his identity, a decision that paid dividends. Under an assumed name, Vieira won the event title. While his cunning decision temporarily irked the event organizer, the young rider’s potential was clear, and he began receiving invitations to more events.

Vieira competed in his home country for several years, sometimes traveling upwards of 14 hours a week to compete. In 2010, Vieira moved to the United States with now three-time World Champion Silvano Alves, competing in his first elite series event in Kansas City, Missouri. While Vieira finished an admirable fourth, fifth and ninth place at season’s end in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively, his performance has been hampered by nagging shoulder injuries. His persistence however has led many to recognize another level of grit in the sport, dubbed “Vieira Tough.” In 2017, “Vieira Tough” was on display when the Brazilian suffered a broken jaw and dislocated shoulder in the second half. Finishing the year ranked No. 10 in the world, his season was highlighted by a win at the PBR Major in Nashville, Tennessee, the Music City Knockout, propelling him from No. 17 to No. 7 in the world standings. Vieira was also one of seven riders selected to compete for Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada , where his home nation finished second.



#10 FABIANO VIEIRA •  @FVieiraPBR •  @fvieirapbr • For Vieira's career stats, click [here](#).

To prepare for competition, he tries to eat well and hit the gym. In addition to riding, his favorite things are roping and fishing. Vieira says his family is his life, foundation, strength and joy, as his two daughters and wife give him the strength to never give up during difficult times. Vieira has always admired Brazilian bull rider Sydney Suzino Mary because at almost 40 years of age he's still an excellent rider and a champion in Brazil.

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Competed as a member of runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup.
- 2014 – One of two riders to notch three wins on the year, including victories in New York, Sacramento and Allentown...Led riders with a 54.55 riding percentage, while placing second in qualified rides with 42.
- 2011 – Won his first elite tour event in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in August, which he followed with another event win in October in Hartford, Connecticut.
- 2010 – Competed in his first top tour event in Kansas City, Missouri.



#12 JOAO RICARDO VIEIRA [Jow Ricardo Vee-ay-da] • [@jrvieirapbr](#) • [@jrvieirapbr](#) • For Vieira's career stats, click [here](#).

PBR RIDERS

World Finals Qualifications: 5

Residence: Decatur, Texas

Weight: 163

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$1,837,044.95

High-Marked Ride: 92.25 points, three times, last time on Big Tex Walk Off in Seattle, Washington, on March 28, 2015

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Brazil

Hometown: Itatinga, Brazil

Height: 5-6

Born: 7/28/84

Elite Tour Season: 6th

2013 Rookie of the Year

Personal

Joao Ricardo Vieira was born and raised on a farm outside of Itatinga, São Paulo, where his father, Joao Batista da Silva Ambrosio, managed the land and livestock of another family. Vieira did not start competing on bulls as an amateur until he was 17, saying that it all started as a joke. He attended college with the intentions of being a veterinarian, but after completing his undergraduate degree chose to pursue his newfound passion and become a professional bull rider. Vieira won a national title his freshman year of college and transitioned to PBR Brazil, before making the jump to PBR's elite tour in 2013. To make the move to the premier series, Vieira relocated to the United States with just \$15,000 and little knowledge of the English language. The risk, however, has paid dividends for the Brazilian rider. Vieira was named Rookie of the Year in 2013, and finished in the Top 5 of the world rankings at season's end in 2013-2016. Amongst his many accomplishments, Vieira notably won Iron Cowboy, a PBR Major, in Arlington Texas in back-to-back seasons in 2014 and 2015. His career and journey to the sport were documented in the six-part Netflix docu-series "Fearless," which premiered in 2016. Vieira concluded 2017 ranked No. 12 in the world and competed as a member of Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup, where he contributed two qualified rides in the nation's runner-up finish.

In his spare time, Vieira likes to run, swim and rollerblade, as well as spend time with his wife Rosimara and their daughter Maria Clara. When he retires, he plans to fulfill the promise he made to his parents when he left home at 18, and move back to Brazil. Vieira has continued his work with animals as he spends time with Dr. Joe Ables and Enable-USA helping in white-tailed deer research and medicine.





#12 JOAO RICARDO VIEIRA [Jow Ricardo Vee-ay-da] •  @jrvieirapbr •  @jrvieirapbr • For Vieira's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Competed as a member of runner-up Team Brazil at the inaugural Global Cup event in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
- 2016 – Recorded a career-high 46 qualified rides.
- 2015 – Posted victories at the first two PBR Majors (Iron Cowboy and Last Cowboy Standing), to collect more than \$383,000.
- 2013 – Crowned Rookie of the Year after accumulating 10,739.48 points...Rode designated Monster Energy Money Bull TK 500 (Jeff Robinson Bucking Bulls) during the PBR 15/15 Bucking Battle in Hollywood, Florida, for \$123,000- the second largest payout in PBR history for one 8-second ride.



#38 TROY WILKINSON • @TroyWilkinson90 • @TroyWilkinson90 • For Wilkinson's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 1

Residence: Upper Horton, NSW, Australia

Weight: 148

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$179,486.58

High-Marked Ride: 87.25 points on Chute Boss in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on March 19, 2017

2017 PBR Australia Champion

Hometown: Upper Horton, NSW, Australia

Height: 5-7

Born: 12/12/90

Elite Tour Season: 3rd

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Qualifier - Team Australia

Personal

Hailing from a tiny village in Australia with a population of 40, Troy Wilkinson and his brother often turned to riding sheep and calves on their family's farm for amusement. They were following the footsteps of their dad, who would now and again enter the bull riding at local rodeos. These experiences, coupled with the instant draw he felt to the sport of bull riding when watching on television, guided Wilkinson towards his professional athletic career. At age eight Wilkinson rode his first calf, progressing to steers just three years later. He began competing at PBR Australia events in 2009, logging an event win and nine Top 5 finishes before traveling to the United States for his first Touring Pro Division (TPD) event in Clovis, California in April 2011. For Wilkinson it was always his dream to compete in the United States and on the premier series, which he actualized in February 2013 when he competed at his first event at PBR's elite level in Sacramento, California. While he has competed sparingly on the top tour, the following year marked the first season he was a regular face, competing at 15 of the 27 events in 2017, including his first-ever PBR World Finals. Wilkinson logged four Top 10 finishes, highlighted by his career-high sixth place effort in March at the Ty Murray Invitational in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In tandem with his efforts in the United States in 2017, Wilkinson also competed in 11 PBR events in his home nation, where he was named the 2017 PBR Australia Champion.

With an increased number of elite tour events on his schedule, Wilkinson spent more time stateside in 2017 than in past seasons. He says that the differences that took the most time to adjust to weren't necessarily bull riding related, but rather driving on the right side of the road, using miles instead of kilometers, and measuring the temperature in Fahrenheit as opposed to Celsius. Fellow rider Cody Nance has taken Wilkinson under his wing, travelling and rooming with him at numerous events.



#38 TROY WILKINSON •  @TroyWilkinson90 •  @TroyWilkinson90 • For Wilkinson's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2017 – Named PBR Australia Champion, coming-from-behind to surpass runner-up and 2017 PBR Australia Rookie of the Year Aaron Kleier by 50.83 points...Finished his rookie season on the elite tour No. 38 in the world and qualified for his first-ever World Finals...Competed as a member of Team Australia at the inaugural Global Cup where the nation finished fourth.
- 2013 – Rode in his first BFTS event in Sacramento, California



#9 STORMY WING • [@StormyWing32](#) • [@stormywing32](#) • For Wing's career stats, click [here](#).



World Finals Qualifications: 8

Residence: Dalhart, Texas

Weight: 145

Riding Hand: Left

Career Earnings: \$945,017.50

High-Marked Ride: 95.25 points on SweetPro's Bruiser in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 19, 2017

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Team USA

Hometown: Dalhart, Texas

Height: 5-6

Born: 6/8/89

Elite Tour Season: 9th

2017 Global Cup Edmonton Event Winner - Individual Aggregate

Personal

Stormy Wing was born with bull riding in his blood. Wing grew up on a Texas ranch and, like most young boys, aspired to be just like his father, a bull rider. He began riding steers at age four, advancing to bulls by 14. While Wing has delivered World Finals-qualifying level performances each of the last seven seasons, solidly within the Top 35, 2017 proved to be the Texan's career-best year. Wing is known as one of the sport's true home run hitters. He logged a historic 95.25-point ride aboard 2016 and 2017 World Champion Bull SweetPro's Bruiser at the Ty Murray Invitational to win his first event since 2014, and second of his career. The ride is tied for the fifth-highest numerical score in PBR history. Wing logged an additional event win, taking the buckle in Tacoma, Washington, ahead of his eighth World Finals appearance. Finishing eighth at the event, Wing concluded World Finals on a high note, winning Round 5 with the second 90-point ride of his season. His success in 2017 led him to finish a career-high No.9 in the world. His year came to a dramatic end north of the border, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, riding as a member of Team USA at the inaugural Global Cup. Wing contributed three qualified rides to Team USA's total, propelling his country to win the first-ever event, and his near flawless performance led him to the individual aggregate win, and \$50,000 CAD bonus. Wing's surging success went hand-in-hand with the arrival of his new travelling companion, dog Lyla, given to him by fellow rider and good friend J.B. Mauney. Lyla, an Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog and Black Mouth Cur mix began traveling with Wing in mid-February.

Wing says that his daily cowboy work and horseback riding keeps him in top bull-riding shape. When it comes time to hit the chutes, hanging out with his buddies like Douglas Duncan, Chase Outlaw and two-time World Champion Mauney, is what helps him stay relaxed. Wing has also earned the nickname "Snacks" from the PBR Sports Medicine team since he is often spotted on the back of the bucking chutes with food in hand. In his off time, Wing likes hunting, fishing and football. A former high school linebacker, if he hadn't been a bull rider he would have liked to have been a football player. When he retires from the PBR, he plans to be a horseman and spend most of his time with his little girl, Suede Marie, who was born during the 2012 PBR World Finals.



#9 STORMY WING •  @StormyWing32 •  @stormywing32 • For Wing's career stats, click [here](#).

Career Highlights

- 2014, won the first event of his Built Ford Tough Series career going 3-for-3 and winning two rounds in Oakland, California. Career Highlights
- 2017 – Won two event titles en route to finishing a career-high No. 9 in the world... 95.25-point ride aboard two-time World Champion Bull SweetPro's Bruiser is tied for the fifth-highest numerical score in PBR history... Member of the event-winning Team USA at the inaugural Global Cup, where he also won the individual aggregate.
- 2014 – Won the first event of his elite tour career in Oakland, California.



SWEETPRO'S BRUISER

2017 PBR YETI WORLD CHAMPION BULL

After a season-long battle for supremacy with Pearl Harbor, SweetPro's Bruiser repeated as the YETI World Champion Bull in 2017, a feat only three other bovine athletes have accomplished in PBR history.

Bruiser joins three-time YETI World Champion Bulls Bushwacker (2011, 2013 & 2014) and Little Yellow Jacket (2002, 2003 & 2004) along with two-time champion Dillinger (2000 & 2001) to successfully repeat.

He also made history in becoming just the second bull to win both the PBR YETI World Champion Bull and PRCA Bull of the Year honors in the same season, joining 1995 World Champion Bodacious.

The D&H Cattle Company bovine athlete won the title with a total two-out bull score of 93 points, including his 47-point score for dispatching Emilio Resende at the 1.91-second mark, earning him the Bull of the Finals honor and an additional \$25,000.

He is the 16th different YETI World Champion Bull in PBR history.

Bruiser concluded the season with a 12-4 record and a career-high 46.02 average bull score. He was marked 45 points or higher in all 16 of his outs, including a career-high 47.25-point score for bucking off 2017 World Champion Jess Lockwood in Springfield, Missouri.

Bruiser has been ridden only nine times in his career by five different riders (J.B. Mauney, Joao Ricardo Vieira, Mason Lowe, Derek Kolbaba and Stormy Wing) in 46 premier series outs over the course of his four-year career. Those five riders have won over \$1.5 million on the back of Bruiser, which includes Mauney's \$1 million World Champion bonus for his world title-clinching 92.75-point ride on Bruiser at the 2015 PBR World Finals.





PBR YETI WORLD CHAMPION BULL

All bulls that compete on the PBR's premier series are eligible to win the PBR YETI World Champion Bull title, provided they have not been deemed ineligible by the league.

The PBR YETI World Champion Bull will be determined by a bull's Top 8 outs during regular season events on the premier series plus two outs at the PBR World Finals. The bull with the highest average bull score across those 10 outs will be crowned the PBR YETI World Champion Bull and earn the \$100,000 bonus.

In the event of a tie between two or more bulls after the 10 outs, the bull with the highest average score across two outs at the World Finals will be named the PBR YETI World Champion Bull. (If there remains a tie among two or more bulls, the championship bull title will be shared among all bulls tied, and the prize money will be divided evenly among the stock contractors of these bulls.)

PBR will maintain the bull standings during the course of each season on the average of the eight highest bull scores awarded to each bull competing. At the conclusion of the regular season, the stock contractors for the top three bulls with the highest regular-season average (average of Top 8 scores) will receive the following bonuses:

1ST: \$25,000

2ND: \$10,000

3RD: \$5,000

YEAR	BULL	STOCK CONTRACTOR
2017	SweetPro's Bruiser	D&H Cattle Co.
2016	SweetPro's Bruiser	D&H Cattle Co.
2015	SweetPro's Long John	D&H Cattle Co.
2014	Bushwacker	Julio Moreno/Richard Oliveira
2013	Bushwacker	Julio Moreno/Richard Oliveira
2012	Asteroid	Circle T Ranch & Rodeo
2011	Bushwacker	Julio Moreno/Richard Oliveira
2010	Bones	Teague Bucking Bulls, LLC
2009	Code Blue	Walton & Wagoner/Berger & Struve
2008	Bones	Teague Bucking Bulls, LLC
2007	Chicken on a Chain	Robinson/Tedesco/Larry the Cable Guy
2006	Mossy Oak Mudslinger	Page & Teague Bucking Bulls
2005	Big Bucks	Frontier Rodeo Company
2004	Little Yellow Jacket	Joe Berger/Tom Teague/Bernie Taupin
2003	Little Yellow Jacket	Joe Berger/Tom Teague/Bernie Taupin
2002	Little Yellow Jacket	Joe Berger/Tom Teague/Bernie Taupin
2001	Dillinger	Herrington Cattle Co.
2000	Dillinger	Herrington Cattle Co.
1999	Promise Land	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls
1998	Moody Blues	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls
1997	Panhandle Slim	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls
1996	Baby Face	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls
1995	Bodacious	Andrews Rodeo Co. Inc.



YETI BULL OF THE FINALS

In 2017, PBR revived the YETI Bull of the World Finals award, acknowledging the highest-performing bull at the PBR World Finals each year. The YETI Bull of the Finals will now receive a \$25,000 bonus. The honor will be awarded to the bull with the highest average score over two outs at the PBR World Finals, and any bull with two outs at the event is eligible. The PBR Livestock Director will select the qualifying bulls for the World Finals, as well as the bulls awarded two outs. Unless otherwise disqualified, the Top 7 bulls in the final season standings are guaranteed to be awarded two outs at the World Finals. In 2007 this award was known as the Mikel Moreno Bull of the World Finals named in honor of Mikel Moreno who lost his battle with leukemia in 2006. Mikel's father, Julio Moreno, is a PBR stock contractor who owns three-time PBR World Champion Bull Bushwacker.

YEAR	BULL	STOCK CONTRACTOR
2017	SweetPro's Bruiser	D&H Cattle Co.



CHAD BERGER

2017 PBR STOCK CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

In 2017, Chad Berger made history when he was honored as PBR's Stock Contractor of the Year for a historic seventh time. His most recent recognition represents the fourth consecutive year he has been named Stock Contractor of the Year, an honor voted on by the Top 40 riders in the world standings.

"It is an honor," Berger said. "And it is a lot of work. We are looking for bulls all the time. Keeping them healthy and maintained and figuring out which ones to take and which ones to leave. It takes a lot of strategy to win this award. All of my sponsors. My partners. My family. None of this would be possible without them."

Berger boasts a deep, talented bull pen, having supplied more than half of the bull power at numerous premier series events throughout the 2017 regular season. His roster is highlighted by World Champion bull contender Pearl Harbor, who was ridden just twice at the sport's top level last year, Smooth Operator, Fire & Smoke and BC Circular Insanity.

PBR Livestock Director Cody Lambert said it is no surprise that Berger won the 2017 Stock Contractor of the Year award.

"As great as a lot of stock contractors are, very few are at that level," Lambert said. "I have never seen anybody have as many really good bulls as Chad. He has a great eye for talent.

"Saying Chad is a great stock contractor is a real understatement. It is like saying Tom Brady is a great quarterback. What should be said is that nobody has ever done it the way they do."

PBR Co-Founder Ty Murray added that he believes Berger will win the honor in future seasons, further etching his name into the history books.

"People like Chad have brought all kinds of people to this sport. The reason he is such an ambassador is because he loves it. He believes in it. It is easy to sell a product when you love and believe in it. That is what us as founders did, and that is what he is still doing."



PBR BULLS



STOCK CONTRACTORS

The Professional Bull Riders uses more than 100 different stock contractors across the United States with each contractor on average owning 20-200 bulls.

The PBR has set high standards for each stock contractor and their bucking bulls, who need to maintain a certain caliber to ensure that they are in top shape to perform.

PBR Livestock Director Cody Lambert travels across the United States and hand picks bulls for each nationally-televised premier series event, Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour, and Touring Pro Division. Each premier series event will utilize eight to 15 contractors depending upon on the location and most importantly the quality of the stock. Each contractor supplies approximately seven or eight bulls per event. Bulls arrive at least 24 hours before the event, allowing them to become acclimated while also being given the opportunity to rest and become nourished and hydrated before the competition.

STOCK CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

The Stock Contractor of the Year is selected by a vote of the Top 40 riders in the current season's PBR world standings at the conclusion of the 24th regular season premier series event. The PBR Stock Contractor of the Year will now receive a year-end \$10,000 bonus.

YEAR	BULL	STOCK CONTRACTOR
2017	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2016	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2015	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2014	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2013	Jeff Robinson	Mars Hill, North Carolina
2012	Jeff Robinson	Mars Hill, North Carolina
2011	Jeff Robinson	Mars Hill, North Carolina
2010	Jeff Robinson	Mars Hill, North Carolina
2009	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2008	Chad Berger	Mandan, North Dakota
2007	Chad Berger & Larry Ryken	Mandan, North Dakota & Yankton, South Dakota
2006	Page & Teague Bucking Bulls	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2005	D&H Cattle & Land Company	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2004	D&H Cattle & Land Company	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2003	D&H Cattle & Land Company	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2002	D&H Cattle & Land Company	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2001	D&H Cattle & Land Company	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2000	Herrington Cattle Company	Mont Belvieu, Texas
1999	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls	Carthage, Texas
1998	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls	Carthage, Texas
1997	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls	Carthage, Texas
1996	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls	Carthage, Texas
1995	Terry Williams Bucking Bulls	Carthage, Texas



PBR BULLS

PBR ANIMAL ATHLETE SAFETY & WELFARE MEASURES

PBR bulls are carefully bred to compete. Contrary to popular myths, the bulls are not agitated in any way, particularly in the area of their genitals.

PBR has initiated and implemented a number of measures designed to foster and support the welfare of our bovine athletes.

- PBR redesigned the traditional rodeo bucking chute to improve rider and bull safety. Since it was implemented, the design has eliminated leg injuries suffered by bulls in the bucking chutes.
- PBR redesigned the traditional rodeo lead-up alleys and holding areas to further mitigate the risk of bull injuries.
- With the sport's stock contractors, the PBR established 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.
 - In each city in which an event is conducted, bulls are housed at local ranch facilities with the proper pen size and space per bull. Bulls are trucked from the local facility to the event venue and back each day.
- 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. Approximately 30-40 of the bulls at a typical two-day event will buck only once at that event.



PBR ANIMAL WELFARE

The PBR is fully committed to ensuring the health, safety, welfare and respect of the animal athletes in the sport. The care and treatment of PBR bulls is a top priority for the organization, and PBR operates under a zero tolerance policy for any mistreatment of an animal associated with the league.

CARE OF THE ANIMAL ATHLETES

- Bulls receive about 10-15 pounds of a special blend of a high-protein grain ration per day. The blend varies depending on the bull's needs and the stock contractor.
- Bulls receive approximately 15 pounds of high-quality hay per day.
- Many bulls receive a B-12 complex vitamin shot monthly as well as nutritional supplements.
- Bulls receive a health inspection any time they have to cross state lines per federal, state and city regulations.
- Bulls are only allowed to travel a maximum of 10 hours per day. After 10 hours, the bulls are rested for 12-14 hours.
- Bulls stand in 6-10 inches of sawdust shavings during transport for their comfort.
- Each stock contractor has a local veterinarian on call for their bulls.
- Many bulls also receive chiropractic care and acupuncture as needed to keep them in top shape and feeling great.



PBR BULLS



BUCKING BULLS Q&A

Like humans, PBR bucking bulls come in an array of shapes, sizes, and colors, and like humans, their own personalities and talents make them unique. The PBR has a vast number of championship-caliber bulls that compete on the PBR's multi-tiered tour structure. The bulls receive treatment consistent with PBR's stringent animal welfare policy; among stock contractors who own the bulls, they are 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 and talented enough to compete in the Olympic Games. PBR bulls are the highest-caliber bulls in the business. The majority of PBR bulls are bred and born to compete in the PBR arena – the products of elite breeding programs that for years have been fine-tuning the important role that genetics play in producing a great bucking bull.

Q: What does the average bull weigh?

A: The average PBR bucking bull weighs approximately 1,600-1,700 pounds. PBR bucking bulls very rarely weigh less than 1,200 pounds but can weigh as much as 2,000-2,200 pounds.

Q: What does a bull eat?

A: Bulls eat high-protein feed, which helps the bulls keep their strength and endurance, and high-quality hay, which helps keep them healthy.

Q: Where do bulls live?

A: The bulls of the PBR live on large ranches where they get plenty of air and exercise. There are many ranches from coast-to-coast across North America.

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 values of more than \$500,000. A bull's value increases when he becomes a proven sire of other quality bucking bulls.

A PBR bull is ranked just like the riders. When a bull consistently receives high marks, his value increases. The higher the ranking in areas such as overall performance, buckoff percentage, and average rider score, the higher the bull's conceivable worth.

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 athletic prime around age five or six, many bulls buck past the age of 10. When they retire from competition they often become 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 main factor in determining a bull's desire and ability to buck.

The American Bucking Bull is now a recognized breed of cattle, thanks to the PBR and ABBI (American Bucking Bull Inc.). The ABBI has over 200,000 animals with bucking bull genetics registered in its database.



The bulls will kick out their hind legs at the height of their bucking action in an effort to dislodge the flank strap that encircles their body. The flank strap, positioned around the bull's flank, in front of their hips, helps create a more uniform, less erratic bucking performance. Care is taken to ensure that the genitals are not involved; the flank strap never comes in contact with the bull's genitals, and the bulls are not agitated in any way.

Q: What is a bull rope?

A: The bull rope is what the bull rider holds on to throughout his out. 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. The style used is the one which the rider feels gives the best grip. Neither style harms the bull in any way.

Q: Do the spurs worn by a 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 miles do bulls travel on the PBR circuit?

A: The PBR has an extensive network of stock contractors located in all parts of North America, therefore the best bulls in the country are provided for each event regardless of location. The bulls arrive at the arena at least 24 hours prior to an event which helps ensure that they are acclimated, rested, well-fed and hydrated prior to competition.

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

A: There is always a designated veterinarian either on site or on call assigned to the PBR's premier series 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 absolute best care available.



BULL INJURIES

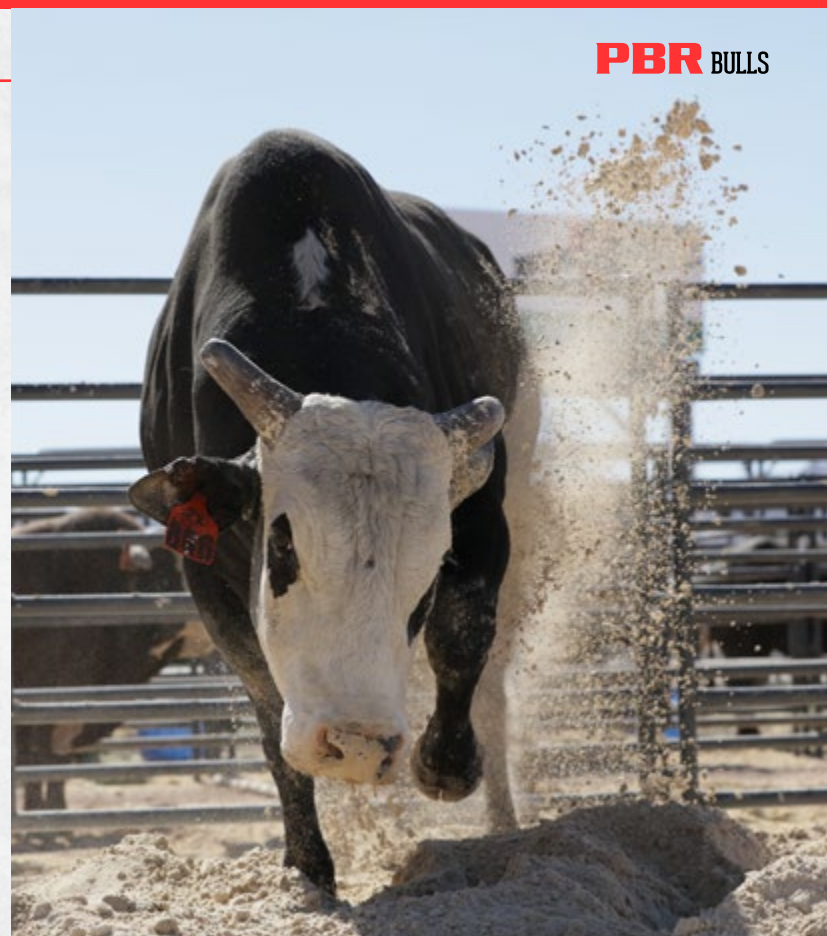
It is extremely rare that a PBR bull is injured as a result of its performance; however, bulls that suffer a career-ending injury are retired to stud and live the balance of their lives as healthy, fully capable breeding bulls. While their injuries may prevent them from competing at the PBR level as an animal athlete, they do not impede their quality of life or ability to function.

PBR POLICY FOR INJURED BULLS

- At premier series events a vet is on-site or on-call at all times during the performances.
- In most cases involving bulls suffering an injury in the arena, they are able to leave on their own.
- In the case of a bull not being able to leave under his own power, PBR has the ability to assist and ensure a safe departure of the injured bull.
- At all premier series events, a sled is available upon which the bull is secured and taken from the arena, usually by a skid steer.
- After an injured bull has exited the arena, he is put on a trailer and taken to the veterinarian's office or bull housing for further evaluation.
- In the case of serious injuries requiring treatment outside the arena, updates to the bull's condition will be released to the public upon PBR's approval.

For more information on the PBR's Animal Health, Welfare and Safety Practices, please visit www.pbr.com.

PBR BULLS





AMERICAN BUCKING BULL, INCORPORATED (ABBI)

Responding to the growth of the sport of professional bull riding and the increasing popularity of the bucking bull athletes, PBR and a group of stock contractors formed American Bucking Bull, Inc. (ABBI) just over a decade ago.

ABBI is the largest bucking cattle registry in the world with more than 200,000 animals that are DNA verified in its organization. These animals are recognized as being part of a unique breed called American Bucking Bull; registered bulls can compete at ABBI events for prize money. As breeding these animal athletes has become more of a science, their buck-off rate against the cowboys has risen.

The formation of ABBI as a separate entity has added a whole new dimension to the sport. The ABBI offers valuable incentives to bull breeders, while tracking and preserving the lineage of today's top PBR and ABBI bulls.

The ABBI sanctions and produces marquee events for bucking bull breeders, including the Classic World Finals and the Futurity World Finals, which both began in 2004. ABBI paid over \$3 million to bucking bulls in 2017, including over \$1.3 million in Las Vegas alone. Superstar animals such as three-time PBR World Champion Bull Bushwacker began their careers competing at ABBI events.

The ABBI Classic World Finals features the top Classic (3- and 4-year-old) bulls competing for an estimated purse of \$480,000, while the ABBI Futurity World Finals features the top Futurity (2-year-old) bulls competing for an estimated purse of \$120,000. The ABBI Classic World Finals are held in conjunction with the PBR World Finals.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is an ABBI Classic event?

A: An ABBI Classic event is an event which is open to ABBI registered 3- and 4-year-old bulls, typically held in conjunction with a PBR-sanctioned event. The bulls are ridden by cowboys and the bulls receive scores by a panel of ABBI judges. These scores are independent of the score the cowboy receives, with a score of 100 being perfect. Any bull score in the 90s is considered to be outstanding.

Q: What is an ABBI Futurity event?

A: An ABBI Futurity event is an event open to ABBI registered 2-year-old bulls. Rather than a rider, each bull has a 25-pound box (dummy) placed on his back which is released via remote control at 4 seconds. ABBI judges award the animal a score based on his performance during the 4 seconds.

Q: What is the American Heritage Futurity event?

A: The ABBI American Heritage Futurity event, held each spring, is unique in that animals are entered into the system as calves and sustaining payments are made in the years leading up to the event. The payout depends on how many animals are entered each year with the winner typically earning around \$100,000; however, it isn't unusual for close to half a million dollars total to be paid in prize money.



Q: What is Back Seat Buckers?

A: Back Seat Buckers is the PBR and ABBI's turnkey bull ownership program. Back Seat Buckers allows anyone to become a stock contractor and own a bucking bull. The bulls compete against each other for hundreds of thousands of dollars in prize money. Competitions are held in conjunction with PBR premier series events. The bulls in the program are housed at a special facility in Texas where they are trained and cared for by some of the best bull handlers in the business. Owners in the program have ranged from PBR fans to celebrities such as Boomer Esiason, Reggie Jackson, Wayne Gretzky, John Elway, NY Giants player Bear Pascoe, UFC star Donald "Cowboy" Cerrone and country superstar Jerrod Niemann.

Q: How does the ABBI register animals?

A: Breeders submit an application with information such as date of birth and potential parentage and a DNA sample (blood or tail hair). Following verification of parentage using the sample, the animal is issued a registration certificate. The registration certificate is entered into the ABBI database with the verified parentage and DNA profile.

Q: What is the ABBI Classic World Finals?

A: The ABBI Classic World Finals is held in conjunction with the PBR World Finals, featuring the ABBI's Top 3- and 4-year-old bulls, (based upon the regular season standings) competing for an estimated purse of \$480,000, with the World Champion and Finals event winner each receiving a \$100,000 bonus.\$400,000.

Q: Can females be registered with the ABBI?

A: It is essential that females be registered to ensure the complete genetic record of a bucking bull is preserved. Also, many breeders believe that the dam (mother) is as important as the sire (father), if not more so, in producing a great bucking bull.

Q: Who owns the ABBI?

A: The PBR owns 50 percent of ABBI with the remainder owned by a group of breeders and stock contractors who purchased interest in the organization when it was created.

Q: What makes an American Bucking Bull buck?

A: Bucking is a natural instinct; a bull can't be made to buck. The success of bucking bull breeding programs around the world, with managed and deliberate mating sessions, has proven that genetics are the most prevalent factor in determining a bull's desire and ability to buck.

Careful selective breeding has encouraged this natural behavior in certain genetic lines. The American Bucking Bull breed as a whole has been improved as breeders select bulls for their athleticism, bucking desire ("heart") and confirmation.



ABBI CLASSIC CHAMPION

The Classic Champion is the ABBI registered 3- or 4-year-old bull with the highest score when his top six marks of the season are averaged together with his two round scores at the Classic Finals. Bulls qualify for the Finals based on money accumulated during the regular season at ABBI Classic events, held in conjunction with PBR events.

YEAR	BULL	STOCK CONTRACTOR	LOCATION
2017	High Test	Tommy Julian/D&H Cattle Co.	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2016	Wicked Stick	Dakota Rodeo/Berger-Struve	Mandan, North Dakota
2015	Bruiser	D&H Cattle Co.	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2014	Long John	D&H Cattle Co.	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2013	The Rocker	Wyatt Crowder Bucking Bulls	Fort Lupton, Colorado
2012	Shepherd Hills Tested	Luthy/Duckwall/D&H Cattle/ Shepherd Hills Cutlery	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2011	Back Bender	Ackerman/Cox	Stephenville, Texas
2010	Bushwacker	Julio Moreno/Richard Oliveira	Orangevale, California
2009	Black Pearl	Ravenscroft/Boyd-Floyd Bull Co.	Stephenville, Texas
2008	Crosswired	D&H Cattle Co./Clifton Wiggins	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2007	Troubadour	Julio Moreno Bucking Bulls	Orangeville, California
2006	God's Gift	Don Kish Bucking Bulls	Red Bluff, California
2005	Stray Kitty	D&H and Buck	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2004	Big Deal	D&H and Buck	Ardmore, Oklahoma



ABBI FUTURITY CHAMPION

The Futurity Champion is the 2-year-old bull with the highest score when his top six marks of the season are averaged together with his two round scores at the Futurity Finals. Through 2012, bulls qualified for the event based on points accumulated during the regular season. Starting in 2013, the event was open to all ABBI registered Futurity-age bulls, and beginning in 2018 the event will feature the Top 60 qualifiers based on regular season money won (excluding American Heritage) who have six outs.

YEAR	BULL	STOCK CONTRACTOR	LOCATION
2017	Audacious	444 Bucking Bulls/D&H Cattle	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2016	Tango	Wyatt Crowder Bucking Bulls	Fort Lupton, Colorado
2015	Frequent Flyer	D&H Cattle Co. /Erwin Cattle	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2014	Grump	Harrison/D&H	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2013	Amigo II	Stoltzfus Cattle Company	Leon, Iowa
2012	Jungle Fear	Pillow Bucking Bulls	Lawton, Oklahoma
2011	Jungle Smoke	Pillow/Barrett	Lawton, Oklahoma
2010	Ragin J.T.	Tuttle/Jaynes Gang	Beaumont, Texas
2009	Pure Smoke	Scott Accomazzo	Stephenville, Texas
2008	Copp Hou	Jerry Copp	Tulsa, Oklahoma
2007	Deja Blu	Justin McKee	Winston-Salem, N.C.
2006	Comet's Gold	Lyndal Hurst/Vernon Guidry	Madisonville, Texas
2005	Crazy Train	D&H Cattle Co.	Ardmore, Oklahoma
2004	Stray Kitty	D&H and Buck	Ardmore, Oklahoma