

Pro Rodeo Canada



Canadian Professional Rodeo Association . 272245 R.R. 2 Airdrie, Alberta Canada T4A 2L5
Phone (403) 945-0903 . Fax (403) 945-0936 . Email cpra@rodeocanada.com

Pro Rodeo Canada
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For immediate release

Ninety-five years and Counting!!

The Benalto Pro Rodeo celebrated another year in its long and illustrious history with blue skies and big time performances as competitors from both sides of the 49th parallel rolled into the central Alberta community this past weekend.

Jason Havens of Prineville, Oregon was a repeat winner in the bareback riding. The Canadian and National Finals Rodeo qualifier and 2011 Benalto titleist spurred out an 83 score Bar C 5's Cody Brown to take the top cheque of \$1109.20 edging Bowden's Ky Marshall and Airdrie's Matt Lait (81 points/\$693.25 each).

Sam Kelts continued his winning ways, this time on the Big Country superstar, War Cry. The Millarville, AB bronc rider was 84 points to earn the first place payoff - \$1052.80. A couple of Canada's young guns were right behind Kelts. Layton Green and Cole Neely split 2/3 with 80 points rides, each earning \$658.00.

Other Benalto winners included several shared titles. CFR/PBR bull riders Devon Mezei of Big Valley, AB and Tanner Byrne of Prince Albert, SK marked 83 points each (\$797.12) – Mezei on Big Country's Whiskey Sam and Byrne on Bar C 5's Window Rock.

In the tie down roping Chad Johnson (Del Bonita, AB) and Riley Warren (Stettler, AB) split the win – each roping in 8.2 seconds for \$1064/man.

And Ty Miller (Wainwright, AB) and Straws Milan (Cochrane, AB) bulldogged in 4.0 seconds to share the steer wrestling win – their efforts worth \$1139 each.

St Paul, Alberta barrel racer, Rylee McKenzie returned to the leaderboard... the CFR qualifier's 15.765 second run secured the Benalto championship and \$908. World leader, Carlee Pierce was 15.861 secs (\$789) to take second spot.

Central Alberta Team cowboys Rocky Ross (Botha) and Marty Lillico (Stettler) wrapped up the team roping event with a 5.6 second run – good for \$987 each. Clark McCarroll and Jordan Dodds roped in 5.7 for second – winning \$740.25 each.

The novice saddle bronc champion was Meeting Creek cowboy, Layton Green with 77 points (\$427). Dylan Bilton (Innisfail) won the novice bareback riding event – he was 70 points (\$302).

Steer rider Kagen Schmidt from Barrhead, AB marked 76 points to win his event (\$339). Claresholm's Griffen Smeltzer was just two points behind to win \$254.

Next week's Pro Rodeo Canada action includes three Alberta stops – Taber July 12-14, Teepee Creek and Peace River/Harmon Valley July 14-15.

For more information,

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