

Back for a second year: August 23 and August 24

Wojo's Rodeo Brings Family Fun to Potato Days

You won't want to miss an action-packed minute! Get your tickets early to save money at the gate. Wojo's Rodeo starts at 7:00 p.m. Friday, August 23 and 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 24. Bring the whole family for this exciting night of human/animal competition!

"We are a fun-filled rodeo association that is family focused," Dana Wojciecshowski, owner of Wojo's Rodeo said. "We enjoy being able to keep the family unit together and see everyone compete in an event, that is why we have several events for all ages."

Fifteen thrilling events round out a full evening of rip-roaring excitement. You will see team roping, breakaway roping, calf roping, bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, mini bull riding, steer wrestling, barrel racing, junior goat tying, goat tying, calf roping, ranch bronc riding. Beer gardens and concessions will be available at the grandstand.

Rodeos date back more than 200 years in the American West. Wranglers bucking broncs out was the original method for training horses to bear a rider. Gratefully, those techniques have changed but people thrill at watching the action and waiting for the eight-second buzzer. Judges carefully monitor the action of spurs by the rider. The individual end score is a combination of judged actions.

The word rodeo has its origins with the Spanish vaqueros or ranch hands using the term 'rodear' meaning roundup. Cattle are typically gathered using many of the techniques of which rodeos are made.

Bull riding remains one of the most popular of rodeo events, and one of the most dangerous.

The rodeo committee worked really hard getting all pieces organized to make the rodeo an enjoyable addition to Potato Days. The first year was a great success.

Megan Askegaard advised. She is the rodeo committee chairperson.

Buckles are ordered for the winners in each event. Promotional shirts and complimentary tickets are available to show appreciation for the sponsors' help in getting the rodeo to Potato Days.

"The rodeo is an action packed three hours of family entertainment from mini bulls to big mean bulls to barrel racing. There will be fun food trucks, shaved ice, and a mechanical bull at the grandstand to add to the entertainment of the rodeo."

Bringing the rodeo to the Potato Days Festival is Wojo's Rodeo. Owned and operated out of Greenbush, MN by Dana, Keith, Kally and Tylor Wojciecshowski. For them, it is a family affair. Dana does administrative and marketing



for the rodeo. Keith has been training horses for more than 30 years. Kally and Tylor train horses, also, and they all work with the animals.

Wojo's Rodeo brings everything needed for the rodeo: the horses, cattle, goats, arena and staff. They also are the stock contractors as they breed and train most of the animals they own. The stock are Corriente

cattle selected and raised primarily as sports cattle.

"There are bucking dummies for bucking stock, a device you put on them when running through the chutes," explained Dana. "We train the horses for team roping as well. We put up panels for calves so they run straight down. Horses need to be trained to go into a chute and out the out gate - it requires repetition."

"Our rodeo company is more into the whole family event. We train our calves; we train everything. People often comment, 'Your calves go to the out gate real easy,' yea, well, we put up an alleyway to run them down and a barrel where they are to go out," Keith explained. "We might do that 50 times with the calves before we ever rope them. We spend a lot of time training."

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