

Free Calf Scramble Introduces Kids to the Sport of Rodeo



It's almost time for the bull and bronc riders, ropers and barrel racers to compete at the 17th Annual Valley Center Stampede Rodeo & Memorial Festival over the Memorial Day weekend, May 25 & 26. These seasoned rodeo competitors are sure to awe the crowd with their talent and bravery.

Where did it all begin for these stars of the rodeo? Likely, as kids sitting in the stands at their local rodeo itching to get into the dirt with the livestock.

Well, the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo hopes to inspire a future rodeo star (or just add some good 'ole fun for the kiddos in the stands) with a unique and exciting rodeo competition reserved just for those 10 and under – the Calf Scramble!

The Calf Scramble is free to all kids 10 and under with a paid admission to the rodeo. At intermission, the rodeo announcer will invite the kiddos to come down out of the bleachers and into the arena. Once the young cowboys and cowgirls are corralled, the calves are released and the scrambling begins.

The goal of the Calf Scramble is to be the first to pull a ribbon from the tail of a calf. A trophy will be awarded to the first cowboy and cowgirl that successfully grab a ribbon.

All participants are sure to have a great time while experiencing the dirty side of rodeo. It's often hard to tell who is having more fun, the kiddos or the calves.

In partnership with the Valley Center Optimist Club, the rodeo committee is committed to our local youth. Besides the Calf Scramble, local kids will compete in the crowd favorite Mutton Bustin' (for kids 4-7 and under 50lbs), as well as the Jr Barrel Race (for novice riders age 12 and under). The measure of each night's success is determined by how many kids leave dirtier than when they arrived!

For more information on this year's Stampede Rodeo, visit www.VCStampede.com.