



Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association

www.tlra.org

15TH ANNUAL TEXAS LINEMAN'S RODEO

Nolte Island Park
Seguin, Texas
July 14 - 16, 2011

[Information Packet](#)

Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association, Inc.

Questions? Visit us on the web at <http://www.tlra.org> and don't forget to visit our [Discussion Forum](#) for up to date answers to your questions.

Changes and Additions to Information Packet

All information in this packet is subject to change. All changes will be posted on the TLRA website at www.tlra.org. All **registered participants** will be notified via email. To assist the TLRA in a smooth process, it is essential that each team, apprentice, judge and/or volunteer include a phone, fax and email so they can be updated as the rodeo approaches.

TLRA Board of Directors

Chairman	Robert B. Christmas	Guadalupe Valley EC
Vice Chairman	Gary Sedlacek	Sedlacek & Sedlacek, Inc. Fleet & Equipment Management
Treasurer	John Green	New Braunfels Utilities
Secretary	Terry Thornhill	TLT Construction
Advisory Board Chairman	Chick Herrin	Singing Lineman.com
	Rick Rendon	North Houston Pole Line
	Larry Aguayo	CPS Energy
	Allen Howe	Schneider Engineering
	Ronnie Foreman	Techline Construction
	Leroy Friesenhahn	Direct Mark, Inc.
Executive Administrator to the Board of Directors	Susan DuBose	Guadalupe Valley EC

Advisory Board

Master Judge	Doug Schlemmer	Fayette E.C.
Asst. Master Judge	Warren Stanley	Stanley Safety Solutions
	Tracy Adler	Navasota Valley E.C.
	Mike Hale	Farmers E.C.
	Johnny Lyster	Flowers Construction
	David Dwinell	Denton Municipal Electric
	Greg Wolf	Bluebonnet E.C.
	Bob DiFonzo	Pedernales E.C.
Field Coordinator	Keith Boenig	Guadalupe Valley E.C.

General Information

About the Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association

The Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association, Inc. (TLRA) is a non-profit organization created to offer lineworkers in the great State of Texas a way to showcase their pride in the profession of high voltage linework. The TLRA is an organization composed of volunteers devoted to the promotion of charitable, educational and electrical safety activities, including, but not limited to, the continued education of lineworkers, the encouragement of cost-reducing efficiency and proficiency methods in the work environment, building relationships of trust and teaching teamwork techniques, sharing of ideas to bring innovation to the industry and networking that will foster better working relationships between utilities.

About the Rodeo

The Texas Lineman's Rodeo was formed to offer the lineworker's of the State of Texas a way to showcase their skills in a family oriented, fun and competitive environment. The rodeo is a great way for the lineworker's family to witness first hand what the job is all about. The TLRA is the host of the 15th Annual Texas Lineman's Rodeo.

Trademarks

The Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association and the TLRA logo are registered trademarks and protected by the laws of the United States. Any unauthorized use or replication without expressed written consent by the TLRA Board of Directors is a violation of law and will be prosecuted.

Participating Utility Flag

Each electric utility that participates in the 2011 rodeo will have the opportunity to have its company flag hung from a pole during the rodeo. All utility flags must be no larger than 3' x 5'. Flags must be delivered to the rodeo command tent no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 15th and can be picked up following the end of competition on Saturday, July 16th. Mounting brackets and standards are provided by the TLRA to hang each flag. Placement of the flags will be determined by the TLRA. It is the responsibility of the participating utility to pick up their flag after the rodeo.

Qualifications to Compete

If an interested competitor was ever a qualified, practicing lineworker and is currently employed **full time** with an electric utility or contractor, they are eligible to compete in this rodeo. The competitor's current **full time** employer must openly support the participation of

the competitor and be willing to sign the authorization form. Participants are welcomed from any electric utility in the world.

Journeyman Teams

Journeyman teams consist of three members; two climbers and a ground person with an optional alternate. The groundman and/or alternate must meet all requirements when used to replace an injured or disqualified team member.

Each registered journeyman rodeo team must supply at least one (1) judge and Apprentices must supply one judge for every two apprentices registered.

Description of a Groundman

A groundman is a non-climbing participant of the team. They do not have to be an apprentice or a lineman, but must be employed by the utility that the team is employed. If an apprentice is a journeyman team member, they will not be allowed to participate in the apprentice events, and will not be allowed to climb if one of the climbing team members should drop out for any reason. ***Only a journeyman lineworker can replace a climbing journeyman team member.***

Description of a Climber

Climbers must be a journeyman lineworker and a qualified climber. ***No substitutions or rotations will be permitted, except by approval of the Master Judge and registration committee. (Examples of an acceptable substitution include illness, injury, or emergency in which one of the competitors must leave the competition site).*** Each team member will be required to wear a wrist band and team number, which will be provided in the registration packet. Any changes to team members or team positions must be given to the registration committee before the close of registration on Friday, July 15, 2011. Substitutions for an injured team member can be made, but the substitution must be approved by the Master Judge and registration committee at the registration tent. Once a substitution is made, the team must complete the events with that team. Only one substitution will be allowed per team.

Apprentices

A person is considered an apprentice for four (4) years after they enter an apprenticeship program. An apprentice lineworker that has been in an apprentice program for more than four (4) years cannot compete in the apprentice event. **If an apprentice has ever been classified as a Lineman or Journeyman at an electric utility, they cannot compete as an apprentice at this rodeo.**

An apprentice promoted to journeyman prior to July 1, 2011, will not be allowed to enter the 2011 rodeo in the apprentice competition. If an apprentice becomes a journeyman after July 1, 2011, they will be allowed to compete in the apprentice competition.

Registered utilities are required to supply at least one (1) judge for each Journeyman team and one (1) judge for every two apprentices competing.

Event Judges

Registered journeyman rodeo teams must supply at least one (1) judge and Apprentices must supply one judge for every two apprentices registered.

If you meet the eligibility requirement set forth and have either a lineworker's background and/or knowledge and experience with transmission and distribution, construction and maintenance operations, and would be willing to commit your time to this event as a judge, we certainly appreciate the assistance you can provide. Please be aware that there is a mandatory judge's meeting on Friday, July 15th, at 2:00 pm at the Nolte Island pavilion. Please complete the judge's registration form in the packet. Judges are required to wear the appropriate PPE the day of the rodeo (hardhat, etc). Judges can wear shorts and short sleeve shirts while judging. They will not be permitted to judge contestants from their own utility or a utility that a relative is participating (spouse, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, son, daughter, nephew, niece, grandchild, etc.).

Volunteers

If you would be willing to commit your time to help make the Texas Lineman's Rodeo successful and would be willing to assist as a volunteer, please complete the volunteer's registration form. Volunteers perform a variety of tasks, such as greeting people at the events, serving as entry/exit personnel at each station, score sheet runners, assist in children's activities, parking, technical assignments, and other miscellaneous duties.

All rodeo participants (teams, apprentices, judges and volunteers) will receive a TLRA t-shirt and cap with their registration packet.

Entry Fees

Payment must be received by June 17, 2011, or late fees will apply

Journeyman Team \$250.00 per team (Late Fee - Additional \$100)

Apprentice \$100.00 per entry (Late Fee - Additional \$50)

Please mail your entry form with payment to:

Payable to: TLRA Texas Lineman's Rodeo
 c/o Ms. Susan DuBose
 Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 927 Hwy 46 North
 Seguin, Texas 78155
 Phone Number: 830-386-4423
 Fax: 830-386-4451
 Email: sdubose@gvec.org

Refund Procedures

The TLRA will make accommodations based on the numbers of teams, apprentices and judges registered for the rodeo. It is because of the planning that is required to host the event and obligations that must be made, **entry fees will not be refunded after June 30, 2011.**

Registration / Packet Pick up – Participants and Judges

On-site registration for teams and apprentices will take place from 2 – 5 pm on Friday, July 15, 2011, at the registration tent. All team members must be present and register together and all required forms must be signed before the registration packet will be given to any team or apprentice. If a release form is not on file, the participant must sign a release form at the registration tent. Registration packets will contain each contestant's rodeo schedule, wrist bands, team numbers and other pertinent information. The team and apprentices are fully responsible for their packets once they receive them.

On-site registration for judges will take place prior to the judge's meeting on Friday between 12:00 and 1:30 pm, July 15th. Registration packets and badges can be picked up at the registration tent. A release form must be signed if one is not already on file. Interested persons should fill out a judge's form and return it to the address below, prior to June 17, 2011.

Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association, Inc.
c/o Susan DuBose
927 Hwy 46 North
Seguin, Texas 78155
Phone Number: 830-386-4423
Fax: 830-386-4451
Email: sdubose@gvec.org

Event Workshops

On Friday, July 15th, from 3:00 pm until 4:00 pm, short training courses for each event will be offered at each event site. These courses are highly recommended and can be very beneficial to journeymen or apprentice level rodeo participants. The chief judges will be conducting the courses and will provide the contestants valuable insight to how the event should be completed. Competitors shall be expected to conduct themselves professionally during the short courses. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed in the area during the short courses. Violations of the rules of conduct may result in the competitor and team being disqualified from the rodeo.

Tools

Each competitor will provide their own hooks, belt, hard hat, safety glasses, cotton or flame retardant long sleeve shirt(s), hand tools, 20kV or 30kV rubber gloves, protectors, hand lines, hood bag and line hose bags. The competitor must also furnish their own cover-up, line hose, hoods, blankets, hotsticks, etc, and other tools needed to complete the events as outlined in the packet. Cover-up must be a minimum of Class 2 (20kV). Velcro straps on climbers must be used as manufactured. No modifications are allowed (see General Rules). Please make sure that your tools are clearly marked for identification.

Rodeo Grounds

The Rodeo competition will be held at the GBRA, Nolte Island Park. Directions and map are included in the packet. Directions and more detailed information will be posted on the TLRA website. All **registered** rodeo participants will receive this information.

All contestants will be prohibited from utilizing motorized transportation for the transport of person(s), tools, or materials on the rodeo grounds on Saturday and during the competition. Depending on the ground conditions, the TLRA may provide transportation for teams and equipment on Saturday morning to the teams tent and camp.

Due to relocating the field to provide additional shade to the teams and spectators, there may not be electrical hookups close to your assigned camp. Therefore, portable generators may be used by each team at their tent or camp, however, the decibel level cannot exceed 80db. Teams that do not have a generator and need AC power will be allowed to set up along the main road where the pedestals are located. Teams will be responsible to clean up any spills that may occur in their area. See Nolte Island Rules for additional guidelines.

Safety

The rodeo was founded on safe work practices, therefore, hardhats and other PPE must be worn anytime a person is within the roped-off work area. Failure of an apprentice and/or team member to do so could result in the team receiving points deducted from their score.

The TLRA, Texas Lineman's Rodeo is a family oriented event and we encourage the participation of the family at the rodeo. The support of the family of the lineworker is critical to the success of each lineworker at the rodeo. Please invite your family to attend, they will have a good time and will see first hand how important a lineman's job can be.

To order t-shirts and other rodeo items

Please complete the appropriate form included in the registration packet. All pre-ordered items can be picked up at the registration desk by the purchaser. Shirts and other items may also be purchased during registration on Friday, July 15th from 2 to 5 pm, and on Saturday, July 16th,

at the registration/command tent. If you have any questions regarding registration, or other items, please contact Susan DuBose at 830-386-4423, or E-mail: sdubose@gvec.org

Lodging

All events will be held on GBRA Nolte Island Park.
The Rodeo Headquarters Hotel will be:

Days Inn
2950 North 123 Bypass
Seguin, Texas 78155
(830) 372-0860
139 Rooms

Additional Accommodations

Hampton Inn & Suites
1130 Larkin Avenue
Seguin, Texas 78155
1-800-426-7866
830-379-4400

Comfort Inn & Suites
110 at HWY 1232
Seguin, Texas 78155
830-372-3990
48 rooms, 24 suites

Super 8
1525 N. State Hwy. 46
(830) 379-6888
49 Rooms

La Quinta Inn & Suites
1501 Hwy 46 N
Seguin, Texas 78155
(830) 372-0567
60 Rooms, 6 Suites

The TLRA Rodeo field is located on property owned and operated by:

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
Nolte Island Park
2220 FM 466
Seguin, Texas

Phone: 830-379-5822

RODEO AGENDA

Thursday, July 14, 2011

- 12:00 (Noon) Golf Tournament – 9th Annual TLRA Golf Tournament
Starke Park Golf Course, Seguin
- 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Sponsor Utilities allowed to Set-up Tents (**Gatekeeper will have List**)
(All Utilities will be Assigned Spaces for Team Trailers and Tents)

Friday, July 15, 2011

- 8:30 am Non-Sponsor Utilities allowed to Set-up Tents (All Pre-Registered Utilities will be Assigned Spaces
for Team Trailers and Tents)
- 9:00 am Manufacturer/Supplier Setup Begins at Nolte Island Park (Time slots for setup will be provided by
July 11th to all sponsors and vendors)
- 1:00 – 9:00 pm Manufacturer/Supplier Displays Open
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm Judges Meeting at Pavilion (Mandatory)
- 2:00 – 5:00 pm Team Members, Apprentices and On-site Registration
(Pick up Rodeo Packets at TLRA Command Tent on the Field)
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm Rodeo Events Workshops
- 5:00 – 6:00 pm Rodeo Trade Night Social Hour
- 6:00 – 10:00 pm Fish Fry, Music, Dancing and Trade Night

Saturday, July 16, 2011

- 5:00 – 6:30 am Contestants Arrive at Rodeo Grounds
- 6:30 – 7:00 am Invocation, Opening Ceremony and Rodeo Instructions
- 7:00 am Competition Begins
Free Breakfast Tacos, Donuts and Coffee will be Available on Grounds
No Concessions on Island, BBQ Teams Willing to Offer Samples
- 12:00 Noon Apprentices can Verify Written Test Scores
Hotdogs available at the Food Tent
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm Teams and Apprentices Score Verification
- 3:30 pm Bean Cook-off Judging (Pavilion)
- 4:00 pm Barbeque Cook-off Judging (Pavilion)
- 5:00 pm Barbeque Dinner Served (Pavilion)
- 6:00 pm Texas Lineman's Rodeo Awards Ceremony

Sunday, July 17, 2011

- 7:00 – 12:00 am Rodeo Grounds Cleanup (Volunteers Urgently Needed)
- 5:00 pm All Campers must be Removed from Nolte Island Park

Schedule and Score Sheet Procedures

In the registration packet, each team or apprentice will find their event schedule order. **Each competitor must bring this event schedule with them as the exit auditor and greeters at each event will be verifying that everyone is following their pre-assigned order by initialing the schedule.** Only the master judge or assistant master judge is authorized to require a competitor to do an event out of sequence.

After each event completion, the event judge must sign the scoring sheet. The chief judge will verify the scoring of the event judge. The chief judge will then remove one scoring sheet and take to the scoring committee. The original copy must stay in the competitor's book. **It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that their competition number, name, score and time are recorded accurately, and that the team or apprentice leaves the event ground with only one score sheet.**

Verifying Scores

Apprentices can verify their written test score beginning at 12:00 Noon at the TLRA command tent. All Teams and Apprentices will have the opportunity to verify their event scores with the scoring committee one (1) hour following the completion of their last event or 3:00 pm, whichever is later. Scores shall only be shared with the competitor. Prior to verification, the competitor shall have to show proof of entry and then sign a score verification sheet. All Teams and Apprentices that choose not to verify their scores shall be considered to be agreeable with the scores as entered.

Scoring verification closes at 4:00 pm.

Any evidence of tampering with score sheets shall result in disqualification of the team and/or apprentice from the rodeo.

Scoring /Judging Guidelines

The TLRA Board of Directors set forth the guidelines listed on the following pages. Time will be used only as a tiebreaker. There will be no discretionary points awarded. The team or apprentice will retain a copy of the score sheet at the conclusion of each event.

Judging will be based on safety, work practices, equipment handling, and timely completion of the event. All OSHA safety rules will be observed during the events.

Judging at the Texas Lineman's Rodeo

Our goal at the Texas Lineman's Rodeo is to be fair and consistent in judging all events. If you are or ever were a qualified practicing, working lineman you are eligible to be a judge. When you volunteer to be a Judge it is important to attend all judges meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to maintain fair and consistent judging in all events at the rodeo.

The journeyman teams and apprentices participating in the rodeo have spent many hours preparing to compete and deserve dedicated judges interested in fair and consistent judging.

Please review the file "Judging Texas Lineman's Rodeo" to see what is expected and needed to participate as a judge.