

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



NOTE: Questions and answers are provided to assist Roadeo contestants with familiarization of the Roadeo competition. On-field officials are responsible for interpretations and decisions during competition.

OPERATOR:

1. Can someone ride with me?

A: Not on competition day.

2. Are you going to guide me through the course?

A: No. You will be walked through the course by an official. After that it is your responsibility to negotiate the obstacles in proper order.

3. Do I have to use the horn and turn signals?

A: Yes. If you fail to use your horn and/or signals, you will lose points from the on-board safety judge.

4. Am I allowed to go outside the line of perimeter cones?

A: No. You must stay within the course lines. Each course marker or perimeter cone touched will count as a penalty.

5. May I take off my jacket when I compete?

A: Yes. Make yourself comfortable after the personal appearance inspection.

6. Can I use the mirrors that I am used to?

A: No. You must use the mirrors provided on the host property buses.

7. Will I be driving the same type of bus that I drive in my system?

A: You will be driving the vehicle provided by the host property. Vehicle information is provided.

8. Do I have to be on time for the competition?

A: Yes. Everyone is scheduled for a certain time and the schedule must be maintained. You must report to staging area at least 30 minutes prior to your competition time listed in the official schedule.

9. Will there be transportation from the Hotel to the Roadeo site?

A: No, the site is 1 block away inside the Ocean Center.

10. Do I have to take a written test?

A: Yes. The Operator competition includes a scored test.

11. Do I go through the defect bus?

A: Yes. The Operator competition includes a scored pre-trip inspection.

12. Do I get a personal appearance inspection?

A: Yes. Fixed Route Operators only.

13. May I adjust my mirrors?

A: Yes. You are responsible for adjusting your mirrors.

14. Do I lose points if I back up?

A: Yes. In all course events except for the first backup in the left and right reverses, you will lose points each time you reverse.

15. If I hit the same cone twice, do I lose double points?

A: No. Once you are charged with hitting a cone you are not charged for it the second time.

16. If I just touch the base of a cone, does it count against me?

A: Yes. Hitting or even touching any portion of the cone counts as a hit.

17. Is my manager allowed to walk behind my bus when I am competing?

A: No. Only Roadeo Officials and judges are allowed on the course while competition is in progress. Spectators may watch from the spectator areas.

18. Does time on the course count?

A: Yes. The course time limit is seven (7) minutes. Points will be deducted for every second over seven (7) minutes.

19. Does smoothness of operation count?

A: Yes. You will be observed by the On-Board Judge.

20. Does speed count?

A: Your speed within the diminishing clearance obstacle must be at least 3 mph but less than 5 mph.

21. Do you award dual prizes for a tie score?

A: No. The contestant with the lowest time through the course wins.

22. Do I have to wear my badge or name plate?

A: Only if it's part of your uniform.

23. Can I wear sneakers?

A: Wear the same kind of shoes you wear when you are operating in passenger service at your transit system.

24. Will there be refreshments/lunch?

A: Refreshments will be available on competition day.

25. Can I bring my family?

A: Yes. Come and enjoy the festivities and competition. Spectator areas are available for the Operator course.

26. Do I have to come to orientation?

A: Yes. You are strongly encouraged to come to orientation.

27. Do I have to use a seat belt?

A: Yes. 25 Points will be deducted for failure to use your seat belt.

28. Is the course always set up in the same order?

A: Obstacle configurations are the same, but dimensions and sequence may be different.

29. Is the rear cone in the backups fixed or does it vary?

A: The rear cone is fixed.

30. Will there be a bus available for familiarization purposes?

A: Yes. Buses will be available

31. Do I only have to call ADA announcements at the passenger stops?

A: Yes. Fixed Route Operators must call the stop before they start forward movement out of the bus stop.

32. Do I need to use the P.A. (Public Announcement) System to announce ADA stops? A: No.

33. On the Right and Left reverses do I start at a 45 degree angle?

A: You can start at whatever angle you prefer.

34. Do the buses have bike racks?

A: Yes, Fixed Route buses are equipped the bike racks.

35. Can I palm the steering wheels on Turns?

A: No.

36. When do I have to turn on the flashers?

A: Before you back your bus at the reverses, any time you back your bus.

37. Do hazard light have to be on in the passenger stop?

A: Yes.

38. Do I apply the passenger/parking/emergency brake on passenger stops or reverses?

A: Yes.

39. Can I shift the bus from drive to reverse without going into neutral?

A: It depends on the bus type used.

40. Do I open the doors at passenger stops?

A: Yes. You must also blow the horn twice when you have completed your stop. The clock will stop until you start forward movement.

41. On the Right and Left Reverses, does the clock stop when I open the doors?

A: Yes. You will honk your horn twice when you have completed your backing. The clock will stop until you start forward movement.

42. Whenever the bus is disabled, does my time stop?

A: Yes.

43. If the doors are open when you drive off, will points be deducted?

A: Yes. It is a safety issue. The bus must not move when the doors are open.

44. On the right and left reverses, do I need to turn on my flashers and honk my horn before backing?

A: Yes. You must use the flashers and horn anytime you back on the course.

45. Do I need to use my turn signals on free turns?

A: Yes. Any time you move right or left on the course, you must use your turn signals.

46. When I back into the reverses and stop and then continue backing into the reverses, will I be penalized?

A: No, you will only be penalized if you pull forward and back in a second time.

47. How will the judges know when I have completed my backing into the reverses?

A: You will honk your horn twice and open the door.

48. Do I have to compete in my uniform?

A: Yes. If applicable, you may remove your tie and coat to become more comfortable.

Pre-trip inspection

49. How early should we check in before our scheduled pre-trip time?

A: Check in at the pre-trip inspection no less than 15 minutes before your assigned time.

50. At the Pre-Trip Inspection, will we get a count down on our time left?

A: Yes. Maintenance 2 minute, 1 minute and 30 second warnings will be given. Fixed Route 1 minute and 30 second warnings will be given. Paratransit No warnings will be given.

51. At the Pre-Trip Inspection, can we walk around the bus and then record the defects?

A: Yes, Fixed Route and Maintenance anyway you want to locate, identify and legibly record any defects found. Maintenance abbreviations used in the shop are allowed as long as they are understandable to the judges. Paratransit as participants identify defects, they will describe that defect to the judge. The judge will record the pre-set defects identified by the participants on the participant's Pre-trip Inspection score sheet.

52. Wheels are under the bus aren't they? Then we don't have to check them?

A: Just don't crawl under the bus.

53. Will there be a similar bus to check out ahead of time?

A: Yes, there will be a display bus for you to become familiar with.

54. Does checking the bus windows mean opening the windows?

A: No. Do open the windows.

Technician

1. Can my team's competition be videotaped?

A: There will be absolutely no video cameras or videotaping in the competition area.

2. Can photos be taken of the events?

A: Still photos may be taken but anyone taking photos must not interfere or distract the contestants.

3. How many members can a Maintenance team have?

A: The standard maintenance team is made up of three technicians. Two person teams may compete but no special compensation will be made for them.

4. Can all team members participate in each of the Maintenance problems?

A: All members can work on all problems. Each team must decide the best use of team members and not create a safety issue due to space constraints.

5. Are the Friday maintenance training sessions mandatory?

A: No. They are not mandatory but strongly encouraged. Teams that attend are brought up to date on the latest information regarding the maintenance tasks and are provided important information about the competition modules.

6. Do I have to come to orientation?

A: Yes. You are encouraged to come to orientation.

7. Will the defects be revealed after the event is completed?

A: No.

8. Will there be transportation from the Hotel to the Rodeo site?

A: No. The site is 1 half block away, in the lower level of the parking garage.

9. Do I get a personal appearance inspection?

A: No. You must wear safe clothing, including proper shoe, ear, and eye protection

10. Can I bring my family?

A: Yes. Come and enjoy the festivities and competition.

11. Are my family, manager, friends allowed with the team while we compete?

A: Yes. They must remain with you at all times, they are not allowed to sit in on a competing team. Note: We cannot hold up the competition waiting for anyone to arrive.

12. Will there be refreshments/lunch?

A: Refreshments will be available on competition day.

13. Will there be a bus available for familiarization purposes?

A: Yes.

14. What time should I arrive to compete?

A: Contestant teams must arrive at the on-site check in 30 minutes prior to their scheduled competition time. Teams arriving late may be disqualified from the competition.

15. What if I am late to the competition?

A: Teams who report late to the Maintenance check-in may be disqualified from the competition. Allow enough time to arrive at the Rodeo site early.

16. Can I go to the Rodeo site prior to the competition?

A: Yes, however, Maintenance team members are not allowed at the Maintenance event testing site(s) prior to, or the day of, competition. Maintenance team members are only allowed at the Maintenance event testing site(s) at the time they are being tested. Any violation of this policy may cause your team to be disqualified from competition.