



Smoke Signals file photo

**Brock Warrener ties a calf's legs as he competes in the tie-down roping event during the Spirit Mountain Stampede held at Spirit Mountain Rodeo Grounds in Grand Ronde in July 2013.**

## Stampede set for July 19-20 at Rodeo Grounds

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Northwest Professional Rodeo Association competitors will return to Grand Ronde on Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20, to compete in the annual Spirit Mountain Stampede at the Spirit Mountain Rodeo Grounds on the Tribal campus.

Competition is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. both days as cowboys and cowgirls will compete in bull riding, steer wrestling, saddle and bare-back bronc riding, tie-down roping, breakaway roping, team roping and barrel racing.

Winners of the rough stock bronc and bull riding events will win \$1,800 in addition to a portion of the entry fees while winners of the timed events will receive \$1,300 and a portion of the entry fees.

There also will be open events for children along with donkey races for those 12 and older, as well as featured performances by the Rodeo Bandits.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde hosted the NPRA-sanctioned event from 1996 through 2008. Because of the nationwide recession, the Stampede was not held in 2009 or 2010. Starting in 2011, the Stampede has been supported by Spirit Mountain Casino with additional personnel and finance backing to help keep the tradition continuing.

"The Rodeo Special Event Board put in hundreds of hours to prepare for this year's event," said Rodeo Special Event Board Secretary Jim Holmes.

Holmes said this year also marks the second annual Stampede Series

### If you go

#### Spirit Mountain Stampede

**When:** 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20.

**Where:** Spirit Mountain Rodeo Grounds, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.

**Cost:** \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and free for children 4 and younger.

**More information:** [www.spiritmountain.com](http://www.spiritmountain.com)

All-Around award in conjunction with the Santiam Canyon Stampede. Competitors must enter both rodeos to be eligible for a \$2,000 prize and custom Gist buckle.

The all-around Cowboy and Cowgirl prizes will be awarded on Championship Sunday immediately following the bull riding event. The Merle Holmes Memorial Bull Riding Champion Trophy also will be awarded on Sunday.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Children 4 and younger are admitted free. Tickets can be purchased in advance at [www.spiritmountain.com](http://www.spiritmountain.com), at the Coyote Club desk or at the gate, which will be cash only. Half-price tickets with a Tribal ID are available at the gate.

Stock will be provided by Howell Rodeo Co.

Free parking will be available at the casino with shuttle buses running between the casino and rodeo grounds. ■

## Disenrollment had become too politicized

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and members Ed Pearsall and June Sherer supported the amendments while Denise Harvey, Cheryle A. Kennedy and Kathleen Tom opposed them. Tribal Council member Jon A. George abstained.

Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno said that the amendments were proposed as an emergency because current cases involving Tribal members facing disenrollment had become too politicized. By adopting the new rules immediately, he said, the current lineal descent disenrollment cases and those in the future will be handled under the same guidelines.

"Over the last year, Tribal Council meetings have become increasingly contentious and non-productive largely due to the ongoing disagreements over loss of membership issues," Leno said about the emergency amendment during the July 2 meeting. "The Tribal Council is therefore proposing amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance that would remove the Tribal Council from the process for involuntary loss of membership.

"Specifically, the amendments would give the Enrollment Committee the authority to issue decisions regarding involuntary loss of membership. The council believes removing such decisions from the influence of political process and leaving it in the hands of respected members of the Enrollment Committee is a more appropriate way of addressing these sensitive and difficult matters.

"The council wishes to adopt these amendments under the emergency temporary enactment provisions of the Government Organization and Procedures Ordinance. This will ensure that the same process is applied to all involuntary loss of membership matters regardless of whether they are currently pending before the Tribal Council or the Enrollment Committee."

Tribal Council heard input from more than 20 Tribal members during the 2.5-hour meeting.

The new process means that Tribal members facing a disenrollment recommendation from

Enrollment staff will have their cases heard before the Enrollment Committee, which will make the final decision on involuntary loss of membership.

If the Enrollment Committee decision is to disenroll, the committee's decision can be appealed directly to Tribal Court, which can either affirm the decision, remand it back to the Enrollment Committee or reverse the decision.

Tribal members also can appeal a Tribal Court ruling not in their favor to the Court of Appeals.

If a Tribal member does not appeal an Enrollment Committee decision, then 31 days after the decision the Tribal member will no longer be considered a member of the Tribe.

The amended ordinance also institutes timelines on the Enrollment Committee, the Tribal member appeal process and Tribal Court.

If the Enrollment Committee votes for disenrollment, then the member will be designated as "provisionally disenrolled." During the appeal process, Tribal members will continue to receive health care and certain housing benefits. All other rights and benefits, such as per capita and voting, will be suspended until the appeal process is completed.

Suspended monetary benefits will be separately accounted for and held by the Tribe through the appeal process.

If Tribal Court upholds the Enrollment Committee's ruling, the suspended monetary benefits will be returned to the Tribe and the Tribal member will be considered disenrolled as of the date of the committee's decision.

If Tribal Court reverses the Enrollment Committee's ruling, the suspended monetary benefits will be paid to the Tribal member and other rights and benefits will be restored.

The new process will apply to 86 current cases of Tribal members facing involuntary loss of membership over lineal descent issues, as well as any future cases.

The July 2 meeting can be viewed on the Tribal website, [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org), under the Video tab. ■

## Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority



### Home repair grants for Tribal homes

The Tribe, through the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority, offers Home Repair Grants to Tribally owned private homes for needed repairs, upgrades and maintenance.

If you own a home in Oregon and it needs a little help with things like a worn-out roof or a tired heating system, get in touch with your Tribal Housing Authority and see if you and your home qualifies. 503-879-2401.

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