



P. O. Box 1003  
Duncan, OK 73534



**2011 Advanced Protection  
Competition Course  
May 27,28,29, 2011  
Marietta, OK  
Swearingen Arena**

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the ***PBF Competition Bullfighting Academy 2011 Advanced Protection Course***. The course will cover advanced protection, and Protection Competition for bullfighters. The tuition for the course will be \$1000; a deposit of \$500 will be due at the above address by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Students will be responsible for their own motel accommodations and reservations. There will be a host hotel with Academy rates for the students and that information will be sent out with a confirmation letter once your application and deposit are received.

All PBF Academy courses are pass/fail. Written tests will be given to all students and arena skills test will be applicable. Those who pass will be accredited and eligible for PBF level 4 competitions.

In order to assure PBF that you are ready for the course, it will be necessary for you to fill out the Academy application. When you send in your deposit, please include your completed application along with written letters of recommendation from at least two (2) stock contractors you have fought bulls for. Of course, if you have more letters of recommendation it may improve your chances of being accepted. Course size is limited and we will only be accepting the top applicants. In the event that you are not accepted to the course, your deposit will be returned to you.

Enclosed with this letter is the article, "The BIG picture and where you fit in" and PBF Bullfighting Academy "What it Is and what it Does". This is a basic explanation of what we are doing here at the PROFESSIONAL BULLFIGHTERS (PBF.) The PBF is not organizing competitions that any and all bullfighters can join and compete in. It would be impossible to develop enough events to accommodate any and all bullfighters (much like the PBR cannot accommodate all the bullriders in the Built Ford Tough Tour). The PBF events and the bullfighters in them will represent the best talent, and the most money, in the business. However, there is only one way to the PBF competition events and that is through the PBF Academy.

If you have any questions, you can call either of the numbers above, or email Allen Nelson at [nelson@pbftour.com](mailto:nelson@pbftour.com) or Jim D. McLain at [jim@pbftour.com](mailto:jim@pbftour.com)

Allen Nelson Jr. 501-662-4793  
Jim D. McLain Jr 580-678-8030  
PBF Academy



# Application

**Please provide the following information:**

**( Please print )**

Name	<input type="text"/>	
Mailing Address	<input type="text"/>	
City	<input type="text"/>	
State/Zip	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Home Phone	<input type="text"/>	
Cell Phone	<input type="text"/>	
Birth date	<input type="text"/>	
SSN#	<input type="text"/>	
Emergency Contact	<input type="text"/>	
Contact Phone	<input type="text"/>	
FAX	<input type="text"/>	
E-Mail	<input type="text"/>	
Website	<input type="text"/>	

## Family Members

Names:	Relationship	Date of Birth
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**CLOTHING SIZES:**

Shirt:	Jacket:
Pants:	Bullfighter Shirt:
Boot:	Hat:
Shoe:	Glove:
Cleat Size:	Cleat Type:
High Top:	Low Top:
Detachable Bottom:	Molded Bottom:

**VEHICLES (YEAR, MAKE, MODEL)**

1.			
2.			
3.			

Trailer:
Miles driven per year:
Number of miles driven per year:
Insurance Carried: Health _____ Auto _____ Home _____
Do you own your own home or rent?
What brand of computer do you own?

Do you have a Credit Card? _____ What type? _____
Do you have a Fuel Credit Card? _____ What type? _____
Do you have a Cellular phone company? _____ Which company? _____

<b>EDUCATION:</b>	<b>WHERE?</b>	<b>#YRS. ATTENDED</b>	<b>YR. GRADUATED</b>
HIGH SCHOOL:			
COLLEGE:			
DEGREES:			
OTHER:			



**OTHER RODEO EVENTS or SPORTS COMPETED IN:**

Event or Sport	Years	Name of other Associations you are or have been members of:	Years

**Accomplishments:**


**Background:**


**Sponsorships:**


**Style of Dress:**


**LIST ALL RODEOS, BULLRIDINGS & COMPETITIONS  
WORKED IN THE PAST (2) YEARS:**

*(Add additional sheets if needed & check all that apply)*

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contracted by:  Committee  Contractor  Producer # Perfs \_\_\_\_\_

Duties:  Bullfighter  Protection Competition  Freestyle Competition

**HISTORY:**

**Enter the name of each contractor you have worked for  
and the year worked**

CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:
CONTRACTOR:

**What are your expectations from the PBF, and why do you think you will be an asset to the PBF?**


**Please include photos including:**

- **Head shot – no makeup**
- **Action Shot**

**Send completed application with \$500 deposit to:**

PBF Academy

POB 1003

Duncan, OK 73534

580-678-8030 or 501- 662-4793 for inquiries about application and Academy.

[jim@pbftour.com](mailto:jim@pbftour.com) or [nelson@pbftour.com](mailto:nelson@pbftour.com)



*The **BIG** Picture  
&  
Where You Fit In  
By  
Allen Nelson*

Let's get right to the point. As a bullfighter, you probably want to make more money and get more recognition than you do right now, correct? If you answered "no" to that question, you need not read on. Those of you who answered in the affirmative must surely have a plan to go forth and appear at larger, higher profile events and make enough money to make a living fighting bulls. Does your plan involve getting that "lucky break" where someone sees you fight bulls and then every bull riding and rodeo has to have you at your price? Good luck, because I think that dream scenario has entered just about every bullfighter's mind at one time or another. How about earning your way to the top?

Up until now, the ultimate goal of most bullfighters was to work the WNFR, the PBR Finals, or both. That is an honorable goal, but just hasn't happened to the vast majority of bullfighters and isn't likely to. As far as the WNFR, there have only been a handful of different bullfighters work it in the last twenty-five years, which tells me the probability of any one bullfighter working that event is pretty slim. As a matter of fact, there are very few things that have changed at all in the bullfighting world in the last twenty-five years. The Wrangler Bullfights (one of the only changes in the bullfighting world in the last 50 years) have disappeared, but there are more bull ridings out there to work because of the success of the PBR. Other than that, the only organization with any history and a credible system doing anything progressive, with a planned course for Bullfighters is the Professional Bullfighters (PBF).

PBF does have a plan for the future of bullfighters. It doesn't involve luck, or who you know, or the bull riders recognizing what a good job you do, or what price you work for. It's not easy, it's not free, and it won't happen overnight. PBF has been in the business of producing freestyle and protection bullfights for some 24 years. Early on, the PBF pretty much selected the bullfighters for the events by recommendation or by invitation. The PBF was always able to insure the quality of the PBF events because they knew the personnel and what they were capable of. PBF has also developed a second tier of qualifying events whereby they could evaluate new talent. The time is approaching where the PBF will sanction more events and will need more qualified bullfighters. PBF also expects to begin certifying bullfighters in 2011 to insure quality personnel at bull riding and rodeo events for 2012 and beyond.

I emphasized the word "qualified" for a reason. PBF events will always feature bullfighters of the highest standard. This is because they utilize bullfighters that have been to PBF events in the past and performed successfully and bullfighters who have come up through the PBF Competition Bullfighting Academy. The PBF Tours are composed of those bullfighters that win (who will remain on the Tours and/or advance as long as they win) and those who do not will drop off and allow other qualified bullfighters to come aboard and prove themselves. Over the course of time, all the bullfighters on the Tour will be Academy graduates. They will begin at the entry level (Level 4) and earn their way to the top of the Tour. By having quality bullfighters at PBF events and doing the things that have been done in the past to make events successful, the bullfighters on the Tour will earn more money and receive more recognition. A bullfighter that is recognized as "PBF Certified" will be recognized as one of the best because he will be on the most successful, high profile bullfighting Tour in the world.

If you look at the bullfighting business today, you will see that, obviously, there will never be a way to put on enough events to have room for every bullfighter in the PBF Competitions. That is not the goal of the PBF. The goal is to put the best bullfighters in the competitions, not the most. Many, if not most bullfighters, will not

be in PBF Tour events, and most of them will not be on the tour by their own choice. Over the years it has been proven that while everyone wants to be the best, few are willing to pay the price.

For instance, many bullfighters want a protective vest, but many are unwilling to pay the cost of good quality vest that may save their life or a visit to the emergency room that would cost much more than the vest (not to mention the work they will miss during their recovery from the injury). This attitude seems to apply to bullfighters learning more about bullfighting. Many will not attend a school because “it costs too much”. These same bullfighters that won’t learn “how to” will continue to do the same things that they have been doing not realizing that those things they are doing are taking them nowhere. Or, they may opt for a cheaper school where they are taught the same things that have always been taught that have not advanced the sport of bullfighting. And yet, they believe they will advance by doing those same things over and over. Those things continue to give them the same results and bullfighters don’t understand why things don’t change for them. That is their choice, and that is not the type of bullfighter the PBF is looking for.

If bullfighters are going to advance, something has to be done to change the bullfighting business as we know it. Look at the PBR. Prior to the PBR, the best a bull rider could do is winning around \$100,000 to \$125,000 a year while traveling to 100 to 125 rodeos a year. After expenses, the number one bull rider in the world did actually make a little money. However, what about the bull riders who went to just as many rodeos chasing the dream that didn’t make half the money? The PBR changed the way the bull riding business was done, and bull riders are better off for it. Not only bull riders, it opened up a whole new industry in the raising of bucking bulls. Certainly, there were some breeding programs before the PBR, but look at what has happened with the ABBI, the NBBA, and futurity events. Not to mention how the PBR opened up doors for more bull riding tours to be successful.

The same thing will happen with bullfighting. Until PBF came along, nothing new happened in the business. Protection Bullfight Competition and Extreme Bull Sports, along with the marketing of bullfighters as athletes are concepts that are changing the bullfighting world. Certainly, many freestyle events continue today, but in most cases prize money has yet to catch up to where the Wrangler Bullfights were more than twenty years ago. In order to move ahead, bullfighters will have to do things differently. What are those things and how will they be done? One answer to that question is the PBF Competition Bullfighting Academy, and the PBF tiered Protection Tours

The PBF Competition Bullfighting Academy is where the interested bullfighter enters into the system. The Academy teaches the competition system so that as bullfighters enter into the events they understand what is expected of them and what they are being judged on. In effect, it puts all the bullfighters on a level playing field from their first event. No training is necessary at events, only competition and evaluation of the bullfighters and their talents. Academy graduates are given preference when entering PBF TwoBulls Level 4 events. Presently, after Academy graduates have entered, entries open up to those who have not attended the Academy. However, it is a rare occurrence when Academy graduates fail to fill all of the positions. In the very near future, Academy graduates will occupy all of the openings in all Level 4 events. Even those who are allowed to enter Level 4 without going to the Academy are required to attend the Academy before they can advance within the system.

The PBF TwoBulls Tour is comprised of Level 4 and Level 3 events. Level 4 events are the entry level to the entire Tour. Just as in life, no one starts out at the top. Everyone comes in at the entry level and advances based upon merit. To get to Level 3, you have to win \$1000 at level 4 events within 1 yr. So, Level 4 contestants represent those entering the system. Level 3 contestants represent those who have advanced from Level 4, and those who have advanced beyond Level 3 who wish to compete. The other distinction between Level 4 and Level 3 is the amount of added money in the event.

- Level 4 - \$1,000 minimum added money
- Level 3 - \$1250 – 2500 added money

The PBF Daisy Protection Bullfight Tour is comprised of Level 2 and Level 1 events. The distinction between the levels is the added money.

- Level 2 - \$2750 – \$9750
- Level 1 - \$ 10,000 and up

Contestants at these events are those bullfighters who have proven themselves in the lower level events and those who were successful at Level 1 and Level 2 events the previous year. These events are the showcase of bullfighting industry with the most money and the most exposure. Most of these events take place at PBR, PRCA, Bucking Bull Competition events, but also take place at events sanctioned by other associations and at open events.

Since the demise of the Wrangler Bullfights, the majority of the successful innovations in the bull fighting industry are in or can be traced to the PBF. The PBF is continuing to grow and is gaining momentum. Events at all levels are judged by former bullfighters extensively trained in the system. The system promotes excellence in protection bullfighting on each and every situation that is worked. The competition has helped mold good bullfighters into great bullfighters because it emphasizes the basics and maximum performance on each and every situation that is worked. Competition is the future of the industry.

Your future is your choice. If you are content with the way your bullfighting career is now, then continue to do what you are doing. If you desire a brighter future, you can choose to do things differently. Remember, though, that there is no free ride. You have to pay to play. That's how it is in life, and that's how it is in bullfighting.

Good luck to you, whatever you choose.

# **PBF Bullfighting Academy**

## **What it is, what it does, what's it to you?**

By  
**Allen Nelson**

A lot has been written and discussed about the **PBF** Academy over the years. From its first glimmer of daylight into the world as an idea when the Professional Bullfighters was being developed to where it is today, a lot of thought and preparation has taken place. However, I'll skip the history lesson as much as I can because I realize that you, an aspiring competitor in the **PBF**, are mainly interested in what it means as far as you are concerned.

While the Academy offers many courses, from entry level to advanced protection and freestyle bullfighting, the focus of this article will be what appears to be the demand today, and that is how the Academy relates to placing experienced bullfighters in the PBF Protection Bullfight Competitions.

The Professional Bullfighters consists of Level 1 and Level 2 events which are classified as *The Daisy Tour*, which consists of the bullfighters who are currently competing at this elite level, and the *TwoBulls Protection Bullfight Tour* (named to honor the **PBF**'s founding organization) which consists of Level 3 events that are filled from those who have moved up from level 4 events and Level 4 events that are filled by Academy graduates who have first preference in entering the events and those bullfighters who are able to enter any spots the Academy graduates leave open. We expect to have about 40 events at all levels in 2012 with the contestants for the Level 1 and Level 2 events already in place for the year. A certain amount of those will drop from those levels at the end of the year to be replaced by those who came up through the ranks and excelled at Level's 4 and 3.

So, your first question might be, "Why do Academy graduates get preferred entry?" Academy graduates learn the **PBF** system at the Academy and, so, when we have an event we don't spend our time trying to explain to the bullfighters how everything works. We can spend our time putting on a successful event, which increases the probability that we will repeat that event in the future. In addition, historically we have booked additional events from stock contractors, producers, promoters, etc. who happen to be watching the event, like it, and want to put one or more on in their market area. So, we have not only lessened our workload at the event, we have increased our potential to have that event and others in the future. I can truthfully say, from experience, that there is no way that the **PBF** could have 40 quality events if we had to meet with bullfighters to explain the system at each event.

Now it is my turn to ask a question. Why would anyone want to put up their money to participate in a contest in which they don't know the rules? While many bullfighters have a lot of experience fighting bulls, for the most part, their knowledge is varied. Some

know some things about fighting bulls, others know other things about fighting bulls, but the **PBF** system encompasses all the how's and why's of fighting bulls and puts them into a format where they can be recorded and analyzed numerically. Wow! Sounds fancy, doesn't it? What that means is we have a judging system whereby we can record what happened in the arena and determine a winner. There are certain "do's and don'ts" and quite a few "musts" that a bullfighter needs to know if he is going to win a check in competition. If you come into a competition where the Academy graduates know the system and you don't, who has the advantage? Certainly, every rodeo and bull riding you work you do a good job and everyone who sees you after every performance tells you how good you are. However, what knowledge do they have about bullfighting and what system do they have for analyzing your work? I'll bet they don't have anything in writing that can explain what bullfighting is or any system to evaluate what you did in the arena. The **PBF** does and we explain it all at the Academy. The Academy will make a difference in the way you fight bulls. The Academy will help you win in competition.

As you learned when you began fighting bulls, no one starts out on top. We all have to start somewhere, and usually that place is the bottom. How long you stay there is up to you, however, in the world of bullfighting too many have advanced based upon who they know or how little they were willing to work for and not on how well they fight bulls. In the **PBF**, everyone starts at the same place, the Academy. You learn the system, you go to the competitions, and if you win, you work your way up the ladder. If you don't win, you do not. Just like the rest of rodeo, you become a contestant, and reap the rewards contestants reap, if you win. Working as a contract performer, you are a cost and all businesses want to cut costs where they can, even rodeos and bull ridings. However, rodeos and bull ridings want the best contestants they can get and will add more money to attract the best they can. The **PBF** system offers you that opportunity to advance based upon how well you perform, not who you know or what you charge. However, you have to start where everyone else does and the logical starting place is the **PBF** Academy. That's only fair to you and to everyone else.

If competition interests you, the choice is clear. If you feel you fight bulls good enough to be the best, here's a way to prove it. In the **PBF**, you get the same start everyone else does. What you do with it after that is up to you. Just like the rest of the world, its win and you're in.



Until you are the legal age of 18, you are not eligible to compete in the PBF without having attended and passed the PBF Academy.

To be eligible for the Academy:

- You must fill out the application with all information and references requested.
- Your parents must sign a parental liability release and proof of insurance for you to attend.
- Parents must be in attendance with you at the Academy.
  - Parents don't have to attend class, but must be onsite when you are in the arena.
- Upon passing the PBF Academy Protection Competition course, you will be eligible for L4 competition only with parental release signed and notarized by Notary Public, and with parents in attendance at competition.
- Upon turning 18, you will be eligible to advance in the PBF system thru competition.

We are not trying to exclude you, only to make sure that you are sound in your bullfighting fundamentals and ready for competition and a legal age to compete.