

ALL COWBOY & ARENA CHAMPIONS HALL OF FAME

Ronnie Williams

IPRA World Champion Bareback Rider



Ronnie Williams stands as one of the most accomplished and respected competitors in professional rodeo history. A nine-time World Champion Bareback Rider, Ronnie's career reflects extraordinary dedication, toughness, and excellence across multiple disciplines.

Raised in Fort Worth, Texas, Ronnie developed his athletic foundation early, becoming skilled in horsemanship and even compet-

ing as a Golden Gloves boxer. At just 20 years old, he joined the International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA), where he immediately made his mark by earning Rookie of the Year honors in Bareback Riding.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Ronnie dominated the sport, capturing IPRA World Championship titles in: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1983.

In addition to his success in bareback riding, he also competed in steer wrestling and team roping, consistently ranking among the top All-Around contenders. His versatility and work ethic set him apart as a true cowboy athlete.

Following a career-ending injury, Ronnie transitioned from competition into leadership. He served the IPRA as a Field Representative and later as Executive Director, guiding the association



through major growth and improvements. Under his leadership, the IPRA Finals expanded and relocated to premier venues in Oklahoma City, including the milestone 40th Finals at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds in 2010.

In 2004, Ronnie retired from administrative leadership to focus on horse training, business ventures, mentoring young riders, and family life with his wife Robbie. A respected horse trainer and teacher, he has dedicated himself to developing both horses and people within the rodeo community.

Ronnie is a proud family man. He has been deeply involved in youth and faith-based rodeo organizations, serving as President of National High School Rodeo Association - Texas Region III. He is also active members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes - Cowboy Chapter, supporting young athletes in both competition and character.

His legacy continues through his family, including his daughter Kimberly and her children, and his son Riley and wife Clair, who has competed successfully on the high school rodeo circuit.

In recognition of his remarkable career and lifelong contribution to the sport of Rodeo, Ronnie was inducted into the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame, honoring his impact as a champion, leader, mentor, and ambassador of Western heritage, and the Cowboy Legacy Hall of Fame.

Ronnie Williams represents the very best of rodeo-discipline, humility, faith, and unwavering commitment to excellence. His influence continues to shape generations of cowboys and cowgirls across Texas, and beyond.

