

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 1. Who is qualified to enter?**
 - a. Journeyman Event**

Any qualified Journeyman Lineman, Line Technician, Crew Foreman, or equivalent classification employed by a NCAMES member or associate member city within the State of North Carolina. The Journeyman Lineman must be a permanent full time employee of the city he represents.
 - b. Apprentice Event**

Any person is considered an Apprentice of four years or less in line work. This definition will be used as the criteria for eligibility in entering the Line Workers' Rodeo. *An apprentice line worker who has been an apprentice for more than four years cannot compete in the apprentice event and must compete on teams with Journeyman.*
- 2. Will any events be in aerial buckets?**

No
- 3. Will a liability release form have to be signed prior to competing?**

Yes
- 4. What will contestants be scored on?**
 - Safety procedures
 - Work practices
 - Equipment handling
 - Neatness
 - Timely completion of the event
- 5. Who will be the judges?**

Members of the NCAMES Safety & Training Committee, operating utility supervisors and past participants. We welcome and encourage judges from all participating utilities. Judges will not be allowed to judge competitors from their own utility system.
- 6. What will cause immediate disqualification?**
 - Any mistake which, under working conditions, would cause serious injury or death.
 - Arguing with a judge or exhibiting improper or discourteous conduct toward a judge or another competitor.
 - Failure to complete all events.
 - Tools found altered at competition.
- 7. What size is the Primary Conductor?**

All Primary will be 1/0 Aluminum Conductor

8. Do the competitors have to furnish any tools?

Yes - climbers, belt, safety strap, approved city issued hard hat, and safety glasses with side shields, 100% cotton or flame-retardant long sleeved shirt, hand tools, knife, hotline tools and 20 kV rubber gloves and protectors must be furnished by **each competitor**. Be sure to mark all of your tools for easy identification. Competitors are solely responsible for their own tools. All tools must be inspected at Tool Inspection prior to use.

All climbing gear must conform to current ANSI and OSHA standards.

9. What tools will be provided?

NCAMES will provide all Rubber Goods, hand lines, Canvas Bags and Extendo Sticks.

10. Can custom (homemade) tools be used?

No.

11. Can competitors ask the event judge questions?

Yes, before the event begins but not during the event. The judge may be asked to clarify any questions before the event begins. It is the competitor's responsibility to ask questions. You will have a maximum of 5 minutes to ask questions and lay out your tools.

12. Will videotape footage be allowed to settle judging disputes?

No. The decisions of the Chief Judge are final.

13. Can alternate team members purchase a Rodeo jacket?

No. The jackets are a special way of recognizing the competitors and judges only.

14. If I disagree with a deduction, can I contest the call?

Yes. Mike Byrd of Electricities will act as the Chief Judge. Any disputes that cannot be resolved by the event judge may be brought to the Chief Judge. The competitor may request that the event judge notify the Chief Judge of the dispute before he/she leaves the event.

*****Be advised that any dispute that is not overturned by the Chief Judge will result in a 10 point penalty***.**

15. Can I use Velcro straps on my climber pads?

Yes, however; they must be used as manufactured. No modifications, such as cutting the Velcro shorter, are allowed.

16. Will regular prescription glasses be allowed to be worn by competitors during the competition?

No. Only approved safety glasses or approved prescription safety glasses with side shields will be accepted for the competition.

*Discussion Board Information

17. Will Battery, Hydraulic or Power Tools be allowed?

No

18. Will hard line cover be allowed?

No, NCAMES to provide all rubber cover.

Infraction Definitions

The following are definitions for the infractions listed on the score sheets. These are the most common infractions.

General Infractions – Two Point Infractions

- **PPE MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE INSIDE RODEO AREA**
- ***Failure to cover neutral, secondary or primary properly***
All potentially energized conductors must be fully covered with protective cover provided when within reach, fall, or slip of energized conductor.
- ***Safety strap Infraction***
Safety strap must be in control at all times. Both snaps of safety must be hooked on the d-ring while climbing the pole. The safety strap may be carried on the shoulder however both snaps must still be in d-ring. If the safety strap slides off the shoulder, the contestant will receive a deduction.
- ***Improper hand line operation***
The lines of the hand line must not be twisted while raising or lowering tools or material. Tools and material can only be hung on the open hook of the hand line. The hand line may be hung above the neutral before cover-up only if there are no secondary conductors to reach over and the uncovered neutral is not touched by any part of the hand line or hand without rubber gloves.
- ***Dropping tools or materials from pole or Bucket Truck***
Climbers cannot drop tools or materials from the pole.
- ***Misuse of tools, or the use of the wrong tool***
Tools must be used for their intended purpose and not altered from manufacturers' specifications.
- ***Extended body contact with covered neutral***
The body cannot have more than brush contact with the covered neutral.
- ***Failure to maintain proper clearance from energized conductors or parts***
Journeyman must maintain proper clearance from exposed energized primary conductors or parts with all parts of the body except the rubber-gloved hand. This would include any un-insulated tools attached to the energized primary conductor.

Proper clearance is defined as within reach fall of exposed energized conductors.

- ***Cutout or slip on pole***
Cutout or slip is defined as one or more gaffs out of the pole and sliding on the surface of the pole out of control.
- ***Failure to wear hard hat properly at all times (not backward)***
Hard hats must be worn with visor over face and not over the neck.
Cowboy hard hats are not approved.
- ***Failure to wear long-sleeve shirt, sleeves down and buttoned***
Long-sleeve shirts are required. If shirt has buttons on the sleeve, they must be buttoned.
Sleeves cannot be pushed or rolled up.
- ***Dropping or losing hard hat (any team member)***
Hard hats must be worn at all times while inside the event area. This applies to all team members or apprentices.
- ***Hanging tools or materials on structure, conductor or safety strap***
Tools or materials can only be hung on the open hand line hook or in tool bags hung on the open hand line hook.
- ***Other:*** _____
Infractions that have a low occurrence and listed on the other infraction list of definitions will be shown here with a brief description.

Ten Point Infractions

- ***Contact with energized conductor***
Contact with any body part, except the rubber-gloved hand on neutral and secondary.
- ***Losing control or dropping conductor or tools***
Losing control of a conductor is defined as being unable to hold in position without touching the pole, hardware, other conductors or dropping completely.

Dropping of a Tool is defined as a tool coming out of hand and falling free.
- ***Walking in Climbers.***
- ***Gaff Guards not on Climbers while inside Rodeo Area.***
- ***Disputes that are taken to Chief Judge***
Any dispute that is taken to the Chief Judge is subject to a 10 point penalty if the dispute is not overturned.