



**BOURKE
SHIRE
COUNCIL**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Back O' Bourke Stampede – Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo

POSTPONED

The Back O' Bourke Stampede – Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo, planned for Saturday 15 October 2022 at Renshaw Oval Bourke, has been postponed due to the current and expected spate of wet weather and flooding across western NSW.

In announcing the postponement, Stampede Committee Chair Mr Stuart Gordon, advised that his Committee was left with little choice but to postpone the event following 45mm of rain at Bourke on Wednesday 5 October 2022, with more rain expected in the coming week.

“With the recent and expected rain and with the Bureau of Meteorology reporting that “almost every river” west of the Great Dividing Range in NSW expected to see moderate to major flooding in coming days, the commercial risk of continuing with the event next Saturday was simply too great,” Mr Gordon advised.

He continued, “Events such as the Stampede are expensive to conduct and for the Committee to proceed with the event at this point and establish the site, bring rodeo stock, pro-riders and members of the public all potentially travelling to Bourke during next week, only for the event to be ultimately cancelled on the day, would result in many thousands of dollars being incurred for no return.”

Mr Gordon said that the Committee was staunch in its view that the Stampede should proceed later in the year.

“Following discussions with relevant parties, I am happy to advise that the Stampede will now be held on Saturday 3 December 2022, again at the Renshaw Oval Bourke.”

Bourke Shire Mayor, Cllr Barry Hollman added his support to the Committees decision. “Any decision to postpone a public event is a difficult one and I support the Committees action. Given the weather, access to the ground and car parking would both become very slippery and muddy, making the staging of the event very difficult,” the Mayor said.

The Mayor continued, “With a large crowd expected at this event and with road closures already occurring in the region, the capacity to attract the best cowboys, cowgirls and spectators would be severely curtailed.

The Mayor noted that a revised date for the Stampede on 3 December 2022 had been announced and that he looked forward to attending the Stampede on this date and in doing so, recognising the contribution of the Late Peter Simmonds to Bourke.

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