



**BOURKE  
SHIRE  
COUNCIL**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Back O' Bourke Stampede – Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo**

#### **POSTPONED UNTIL 2023**

The Back O' Bourke Stampede – Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo, planned for Saturday 3 December 2022 at Renshaw Oval Bourke, has again 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 again postpone the event given that more rain was expected across the western area in coming weeks with the Darling River to remain above the major flood level until mid-December 2022.

"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, the risk to travelling spectators and the commercial risk of continuing with the event on Saturday 3 December, was simply too great," Mr Gordon advised.

He continued, "Events such as the Stampede are expensive to conduct. For the Committee to proceed with the event at this point, only for the event to be ultimately cancelled, 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 would proceed in 2023.

"Discussions with relevant parties are currently underway to determine a suitable date for the Stampede to be held at the Renshaw Oval Bourke in 2023."

Bourke Shire Mayor, Cllr Barry Hollman added his support to the Committees decision. "Having to postpone a public event, let alone twice, is difficult, however, I support the Committees action. Given the weather, and the projected longevity of the major flood level at Bourke, the correct decision has been made," the Mayor said.

The Mayor noted that a revised date for the Stampede had yet to be determined with a new date expected to be advised once the committee had secured the stock for the event.

"I certainly look forward to attending the Bourke Stampede at some point in 2023 and in doing so, recognising the contribution of the Late Peter Simmonds to our town.

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