

# 2025 ACYRA Summer Program Member Information and Forms

In this document, you will find the following items:

1. Rule updates/changes/clarifications for 2025	Page 1
2. Reminders	Page 2
3. Dates and times to remember	Page 2
4. 2025 Schedule	Page 2
5. Auction Information	Page 2
6. Scholarship Information	Page 3
7. Rules/Regulations	Page 3-8
8. ACYRA Officers and Directors contact information	Page 8-9
9. Rules acknowledgement*	Page 10
10. Release of Liability and Indemnity Agreement*	Page 11-12
11. Medical release form*	Page 13
12. Copy of Birth Certificate*	Page 13

*\*MUST be submitted prior to contestant entering the arena*

**Please read ALL pages for ACYRA dates, rules, and requirements. Note that some things have changed.**

## Rule updates/changes/clarification for 2025:

**\*\*New ACYRA Website [www.acyra.org](http://www.acyra.org):** Most information needed can be found on the newly created website. Please check there before reaching out to a director.

**\*\*Rodeo entries must be submitted through entry form (google doc) ONLY:** The entry form for each rodeo can be found on the website [www.acyra.org](http://www.acyra.org) and will also be sent out via Remind roughly a week before the entries are due.

**\*\*Updated Liability Release and Indemnity Agreement:** Please read thoroughly as there is updated language contained on the liability release. All contestants must sign, notarize, and submit before competing.

**\*\*Copy of Contestant Birth Certificate is required:** New this year, all contestants must submit a copy of their birth certificate for age verification purposes.

**\*\*YRA Point:** Every family is required to work the YRA rodeo that ACYRA hosts in October of 2025. If the family does not work, \$150 must be paid (in place of the work point) prior to the first rodeo the contestant enters in 2026. Fee is waived if the family worked at the most recent YRA rodeo.

**\*\*New Members:** Defined as ONLY those that have **NEVER** competed in ACYRA.

**\*\*Work Points:** ALL work points will need to be settled before the contestant can compete in the next rodeo. \$25/each rodeo not worked per family. Payment is due before the rodeo begins at the pay window the following Wednesday.

See Rules and Regulations #6 for changes in the entry system. Be sure to read carefully on how to enter and deadlines. Late fees will be applied to any entries made after the deadline.

### **Reminders:**

**Dress Code-** This applies to ALL contestants at ALL rodeos. Contestants will NOT be allowed to enter the arena if not in dress code. See ACYRA Rules/Regulations No. 32 for requirements.

Most information can be found on the ACYRA website at [www.acyra.org](http://www.acyra.org)

Join us on Facebook: "ACYRA Summer Rodeo Program".

We will be using [Remind.com](https://www.remind.com) to keep you updated on important information. Please follow these instructions for signing up:

- Text to #81010
- In the message box enter @acyras
- Enter your name
- You will be able to join

Questions regarding ACYRA Summer Program:

Contact Brenna Smidt

Phone # 979-885-9495

austincountyrra@gmail.com

### **Dates and times to remember**

ACYRA Summer Program begins on June 4, 2025 and will continue for 6 weeks. The Awards Night will be at Faith Academy Gym on July 11, 2025. The rodeos will begin promptly at 7 P.M. each Wednesday with the window opening at 6 P.M.

### **2025 schedule**

Clean up	Tuesday, June 3 at 5:30
Rodeo 1	Wednesday, June 4th
Rodeo 2	Wednesday, June 11th
Rodeo 3	Wednesday, June 18th
Rodeo 4	Wednesday, June 25th
Rodeo 5	Wednesday, July 2nd
Rodeo 6	Wednesday, July 9th
Awards	Friday, July 11th at 6:00

**AUCTION-** We need your help with donations for the auction to be held on Awards night, July 11, 2025. This auction raises money for the awards and prizes. Bring donations any Wednesday night to the Announcer's box or Awards night at Faith Academy Gym on **July 11, 2025**. Bidders are also needed for the auction. Please invite anyone you know to come and support the kids. Also to help us raise funds for the program.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** – The Will Byler Memorial and Garvin Kendrick Scholarship Funds give scholarships each year to ACYRA Graduating Seniors. These scholarships are awarded to ACYRA members only and are presented in July at the Awards Night. **Please contact your high school counselor for the scholarship application.**

ALL scholarship winners need to bring two auction items. The proceeds will go directly to these scholarship funds for future recipients.

## **2025 Austin County Youth Rodeo Association Rules and Regulations**

1. The Austin County Youth Rodeo Summer Program will begin on **June 4, 2025**. The Summer Program will continue for six (6) rodeos, with the last rodeo on July 9, 2025. All rodeos will be held at the Austin County Fairgrounds (Bellville, TX).
2. Entry fees are to be paid beginning at 6:00 pm in the announcers stand.
3. Each rodeo will begin **promptly at 7:00 PM**.
4. To be eligible to participate in the Austin County Youth Rodeo Summer Program, the contestant must be one of the following: youth living in Austin County, attending an Austin County school, the child (biological or under legal guardianship) of an Austin County school attendee/ graduate. The burden of proof lies with the parent/legal guardian to provide documentation to ACYRA Directors with a diploma, report card or transcript showing school attendance.
5. Directors reserve the right to verify an address by requesting a valid Driver's License or Report Card. Any questions regarding where a contestant resides or attends school will be decided upon by the ACYRA Directors -all decisions will be FINAL!
6. Entry days and times:  
Entry forms may be submitted until midnight on Tuesday night the week of the rodeo. Any entries submitted on Wednesday will be considered late and a \$25 late fee will be applied.

Entries may be made through:

Entry form will be sent out on remind each week and listed on the website under entry form. Please be sure to choose the correct rodeo if entering off the website.

How to enter:

Each contestant must be entered separately.

Each entry must include the contestant's full name, age group, and events to enter.

Late Entries:

Any entries made after Tuesday at midnight will be considered **late**.

\$25 late fee will be applied to any entries received after Tuesday at midnight(12:00 am).

7. There are four age groups/categories. Age is determined as of Midnight on December 31, 2024. **Birth certificate must be submitted.**
8. Events include: goat ribbon race, goat tying, straight-away barrels, cloverleaf barrels, pole bending, break-away roping, ribbon roping and tie-down roping. The age group/category and events are described in more detail below.
9. All contestants must have the following forms submitted before he/she enters the arena:
  - Rules Acknowledgment
  - Liability Release and Indemnity Agreement
  - Medical Release
  - Copy of Birth Certificate
10. Current Coggins papers are required for each horse.
11. A professional photographer will be taking pictures. Dates of photographer availability will be announced prior to the rodeo date he/she is available.
12. All contestant award winners must be in attendance at the Awards Banquet to receive his/her award. If the winner is unable to attend the Awards Banquet with approval from the ACYRA Board of Directors, the contestant is still eligible for the awards. However, if the contestant is unable to attend the awards banquet without approval from the ACYRA Board of Directors, the prize will be awarded to the next eligible contestant.
13. The person helping the lead line rider **must be 16 years old or older** and **must remain in contact with the horse at all times.**
14. At the conclusion of the Summer Program the awards to be given are as follows:

a. High Point Winners- in each age group	Saddle
b. Reserve High Point Winners- in each age group	Buckle
c. 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Event Winners- in each age group	Buckle
d. 2 <sup>nd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Place Event Winners- in each age group	Tack
e. Participation Award	Participation Award
f. Sportsmanship Awards- 1 boy & 1 girl	Trophy
g. Scholarships	
15. The Austin County Youth Rodeo Association will begin the first Wednesday after school is out for the summer. The first rodeo for the 2025 series will be on June 4<sup>th</sup>. The program will continue for six rodeos on Wednesday nights.
16. The Speed Event Entry Fee is \$10.00 per event/per contestant. ALL ROPING EVENTS will be \$25.00 to include the stock charge for the calves.
17. Every contestant (including ribbon muggers) is required to have a signed, notarized Minor's Liability Release Form along with a signed Rules Acknowledgement before entering the arena. Return forms to the Rodeo Secretary.

18. If it rains on Wednesday before the rodeo begins, call 817-760-1829 or 512-576-2295 or a director BEFORE YOU HAUL. Updates will be sent via Remind.com and the Facebook page as they are available.
19. There will be four age groups/categories, they are: (The age of a contestant will be determined as of midnight on December 31, 2024)
- a. **Pee-Wee (ages 6 & under)**
    - i. Events: goat ribbon race, straight-away barrels & cloverleaf barrels
    - ii. \*Both Boys & Girls
  - b. **Sub-Junior (ages 7 to 10)**
    - i. Events: goat tying, straight-away barrels, cloverleaf barrels, pole bending & break-away roping
    - ii. \*Both Boys & Girls
  - c. **Junior (ages 11 to 14)**
    - i. Girls Events: goat tying, cloverleaf barrels, pole bending & break-away roping (**contestants can only compete in three events**)
    - ii. Boys Events: break-away roping, ribbon roping & tie-down roping
  - d. **Senior (ages 15 to 19)**
    - i. Girls Events: goat tying, cloverleaf barrels, pole bending and break-away roping (**contestants can only compete in 3 events**)
    - ii. Boys Events: break-away roping, ribbon roping & tie-down roping
20. Contestants do not have to ride in all 6 rodeos to receive a prize. Prizes are based on the most points.
21. Contestants and/or their parents are not allowed to linger or cause disruption in the Announcer's Box at any time.
22. All events in each age group count towards the all around.
23. Event points will be earned by contestants who place in each event, each week.
- 1<sup>st</sup> place will receive 6 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> place will receive 5 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> place will receive 4 points  
4<sup>th</sup> place will receive 3 points  
5<sup>th</sup> place will receive 2 points  
6<sup>th</sup> place will receive 1 point
- Example: If only 3 contestants compete in one event and all have a **qualified time**, 1<sup>st</sup> place will receive 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place will receive 5 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will receive 4. Event points will be updated each week and available in the red binder by the concession stand. Results will also be available on Remind and Facebook by the Friday after the rodeo.
24. **Work Points:** Contestants and parents are strongly encouraged to help out and make the rodeo go smoothly. As a part of helping, each contestant is required to obtain work points throughout the series. These are a requirement to be eligible to participate in each rodeo and to receive any awards. Each returning contestant is required to earn 7 work points per year. Each NEW contestant is required to earn 6 work points for the first year.

Points must be earned each week. Only 1 point/rodeo will count toward the 7 total required. Sign up each week will be available by the concession stand. If a parent is working for a contestant, put the contestant's name under your name. Each contestant/parent is responsible for signing up for work points as well as checking to ensure the accuracy of the work points obtained. Please check this on a weekly basis. Report any questions regarding work points to the rodeo secretary immediately.

ACYRA host one YRA rodeo during the year (October) and members are required to earn one of the work points during that YRA rodeo.

Work point buyout: You can buy all your points or just the ones you are missing. The buyout fee for each is as follows:

\$25/point for each summer series point  
\$150/point for the YRA point

ALL work point fees need to be settled before the contestant can compete in the next rodeo. \$25/each rodeo not worked per family. Payment is due before the rodeo begins at the pay window the following Wednesday.

YRA Point Buyout: \$150 must be paid prior to the beginning of the first rodeo the contestant enters for the 2026 rodeo season if the YRA rodeo was not worked by that family.

25. Sub-Junior Break-Away Roping ONLY: The rule is catch as catch can, but the rope must pass over the head, as per High School rules. If no one has caught after the 6<sup>th</sup> rodeo, we will have another complete round and so on, until there is a legal catch.
26. Junior & Senior Ribbon Roping Only: The mugger is not qualified to receive any event points.
27. Event places will be determined at the conclusion of the 6-week program by totaling each contestant's event points. The contestant with the highest total score in each event will be the event winner. If two or more contestants have the same total score; the contestant who has the most number of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> places and so on, determines the winner. If there is still a tie, we will add the fastest times together all the way down through the six weeks to decide the winner of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and so on. If it is still a tie, then the tiebreaker will be determined by a flip of the coin. This is the last resort and at the discretion of the ACYRA directors.
28. A contestant must ride/compete in three (3) of the first four (4) rodeos to be eligible to vote or to be nominated for the Sportsmanship Award. Voting for the Sportsmanship Award is done by all eligible contestants at the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> rodeos.
29. There will be no arena drags during the Pee Wee events. All other timed events will have a drag after every 10 runs.
30. An electric timer, stop watches, flagman/judge will be used in all events.

31. Dress code:

- a. Strictly western attire in the arena at all times. (Belts are not required.)
- b. Shirts must have a collar and full length buttons, snaps, or zipper in the front or back. Shirts must be long sleeved and cuffed. Shirts are to be worn with sleeves down and cuffs buttoned/snapped. No rolled up sleeves.
- c. Shirts must be tucked in pants at the beginning of the run or ride.
- d. Only Western hats are acceptable. Hat must be on contestants head when attempting to start the run. Helmets are permitted and shall qualify as a hat.
- e. No caps, curlers, or curler caps may be worn.
- f. Western boots must be worn in all events. Boots are to remain on at all times (including goats). Lace up tennis shoes with a riding heel are not considered western boots.

32. Contestants need to be at the gate before their class is called. Each contestant will be called by name. The contestant's name will be called three (3) times. If the contestant has not entered the arena, ready to ride, after the third call, they will be disqualified.

33. Only authorized personnel are allowed in the arena during the rodeo. This includes horses and riders. No one is allowed in the announcer's box after the rodeo begins.

34. Horses need not be owned by the contestant. More than one contestant is permitted to ride the same horse. However, we do REQUIRE contestants to NOTIFY us, at the time of entry for the event they will be riding the same horse in the same event.

35. Current Coggins papers will be required on all horses.

**36. No stallions or unruly horses allowed!**

37. All riders must confine their riding to the arena. No riding allowed in the park. No horses are allowed in the concession area (tied, led or ridden). No riding double at any time.

**These rules will be strictly enforced for your safety.**

38. Contestants led on horseback or assisted by anyone while competing in the arena, **CANNOT** place higher than a contestant who was not led or assisted while competing in the arena.

39. Any contestant and/or the contestant's parent displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, unruly behavior, using profanity, or under the influence of drugs/alcohol will be grounds for that contestant to be disqualified. No smoking will be permitted by any contestant. This includes, but not limited to vaping, e-cigarettes, or Julies- with or without nicotine.

40. **PROTESTS:** Any and all disputes must be brought to one of the current ACYRA Directors along with the \$50.00 fee before the next event starts. **This fee must be filed with all disputes.** The ACYRA directors will meet to discuss the said dispute and make a decision. **ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

41. **NO REFUNDS!** If you pay in advance or get disqualified for any reason, there will be **NO refunds given.**

42. Rules will be enforced in the following order:

- a. ACYRA Rules
- b. YRA Rules

It is the responsibility of the contestant and the parent of the contestant knowing and understanding all rules related to the ACYRA Summer Program.

43. The Austin County Youth Rodeo Association (ACYRA) and/or its directors **are not responsible** for any accidents and/or theft that occur during the Summer Program.

44. The ACYRA Directors reserve the right to amend or change any of these rules at any time.

## **ACYRA Officers**

**President-**

Troy Keaton

Phone #: 979-732-0811

**Rodeo Director-**

Reagan Freeman

Phone # : 817-760-1829

**Rodeo Secretary-**

Brenna Smidt

Phone #: 979-885-9495

**Sponsorships-**

Katelyn Keaton

Phone # - 979-732-0811

**Vice President-**

Wes Hobbs

Phone #: 512-576-2295

**Communications Director-**

Alyssa Werner

Phone #: 713-447-5700

**Treasurer-**

Becca Luedke

Phone #: 979-885-8161

## ACYRA Directors

Troy & Katelyn Keaton Katelyn: 979-472-8920 Troy: 979-732-0811	Wes & Christy Hobbs Christy: 512-417-7255 Wes: 512-576-2295
Caleb & Brenna Smidt Caleb: 361-648-4632 Brenna: 979-885-9495	Josh & Reagan Freeman Reagan: 817-760-1829 Josh: 682-416-8766
Trey & Alyssa Werner Trey: 281-939-2913 Alyssa: 713-447-5700	Doug & Amber Bass Doug: 979-877-4454 Amber: 979-255-2458
Cody & Bonnie Cerny Bonnie: 979-533-1244 Cody: 979-533-1940	Will & Ashleigh Wingo Ashleigh: 979-270-3665 Will: 979-270-1568
Heath & Melanie Wiktorik Heath: 979-877-8440 Melanie: 979-877-4065	Chad & Jamie Janosky Jamie: 979-215-9438 Chad: 713-392-1203

# RULES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**\*\*\*Fill out all information – Used for contact information only\*\*\***

PARENTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CELL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CELL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN(S) NAME(S)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I/WE \_\_\_\_\_ have read all the ACYRA  
Rules above and understand to the fullest extent of my ability.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contestant Signature Date

## **RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

In consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, for being allowed to enter into or participate in the events known as the Austin County Youth Rodeo Summer Series (such entry into or participation in, being the "Activities") associated with the Austin County Youth Rodeo Association, a Texas domestic nonprofit corporation ("ACYRA"), the undersigned hereby enter into this Release of Liability and Indemnity Agreement (this "Agreement") as of the date set forth below. This Agreement shall remain in effect for as long as the undersigned participate in the Activities.

**1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS:** The undersigned recognize and understand that there are risks associated with their participation in the Activities, including, but not limited to, bodily injury or death to persons, and theft, damage, or destruction to property. The undersigned further acknowledge and understand that they shall be liable and responsible for any and all damage to persons, livestock, vehicles, property, or improvements to property that is caused by them or any person under their care and control (including minors) that arise out of or are related to their participation in the Activities.

**WARNING: UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, TEXAS CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A FARM ANIMAL PROFESSIONAL OR FARM OWNER OR LESSEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING AN EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES. UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A LIVESTOCK SHOW SPONSOR IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN A LIVESTOCK SHOW RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF LIVESTOCK SHOW ACTIVITIES.**

**2. RELEASE FROM LIABILITY:** The undersigned hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge ACYRA, its subsidiaries and affiliates, present and former directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, and representatives and their respective heirs, administrators, executors, successors, and assigns (collectively, the "ACYRA Parties") from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, suits, judgments, settlements, and expenses (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees) for personal injury, death, or property damage, accrued or to accrue in the future, known or unknown (collectively, "Claims"), related to or arising out of any act in connection with their participation in the Activities, including, but not limited to, the negligent actions of the ACYRA Parties, regardless of whether such negligence was the sole, proximate, or producing cause of the claims. Without limiting the foregoing, the undersigned agree that the ACYRA Parties shall not be liable to the undersigned, their families, heirs, administrators, executors, or assigns for Claims related to or arising out of the undersigned's participation in the Activities.

**3. AGREEMENT TO DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS:** The undersigned hereby agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless, the ACYRA Parties from any and all Claims including, but not limited to, those related to or arising out of the ACYRA Parties' own negligence, regardless of whether such negligence was the sole, proximate, or producing cause of the Claims; provided, however, that the duty of the undersigned to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the ACYRA Parties shall extend only to Claims arising directly or indirectly from the undersigned's participation in the Activities. As used in this Agreement, "indemnify" means to agree to assume the ACYRA Parties' liability as to any and all claims, causes of action, suits, demands, judgments, settlements, fees, and expenses made by, through, or under the undersigned against the ACYRA Parties, related to the undersigned's participation in the Activities; and "negligence" includes negligence and gross negligence.

**4. PHOTOGRAPH/INTERVIEW RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT:** The undersigned hereby grant permission to be photographed, videoed, recorded, and interviewed in connection with the Activities. The undersigned understand that any such photographs, videos, recordings, and interviews

may be used by the ACYRA Parties for television, film, video, visual, graphic, printed, or social media purposes. The undersigned agree to release and indemnify the ACYRA Parties with respect to any Claims related to the usage of such photographs, videos, recordings, and interviews by the ACYRA Parties or any media.

5. COMPREHENSION AND AUTHORITY: The undersigned certify that they have read, understand, and will abide by, the ACYRA rules. The undersigned represent that they thoroughly understand that this is a complete and final release and indemnity agreement, that they are voluntarily entering into this Agreement, and that no representations, promises, or statements made by any ACYRA Parties, or any agent, attorney, or other representative of any ACYRA Parties has influenced the undersigned in causing them to sign this Agreement. The undersigned understand that this Agreement shall be binding on them and their heirs, executors, successors, and assigns, individually (and as parent or legal guardian of Contestant if Contestant is a minor). This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of Texas. Jurisdiction and venue for resolution of any dispute regarding this Agreement shall reside in a court in Austin County, Texas. If any part of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Agreement. The undersigned agree to the terms and conditions above and acknowledge receipt of this Agreement.

Contestant Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

If the Contestant is a minor, a parent or legal guardian must also execute this Agreement.

Parent or Legal Guardian Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Relationship to Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_

One agreement shall be executed per Contestant.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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County, State of Texas

(Seal)

## **MEDICAL RELEASE FORM**

In the event of an emergency, I give my consent and allow a Director of the Austin County Youth Rodeo Association (ACYRA) to transport by ambulance or personal automobile, my child/children to the Bellville Medical Center for treatment to begin. List each/all child/children below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name Printed \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public / \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
County, State of Texas \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)

### **\*\*NEW VERIFICATION DOCUMENT NEEDED FOR 2025 ACYRA SUMMER SERIES\*\***

All contestants must provide original or copy of their own legal birth certificate for age verification purposes in order to compete in the upcoming summer rodeo series.

Failure to provide documentation will result in the contestant not being allowed to participate in the summer rodeo series until proper documentation is provided.

If presenting the original birth certificate to Board for review, a scanner will be accessible onsite so that original copy will immediately be given back to the contestant. For your convenience, scanned copies of birth certificates may also be emailed to [austincountyryra@gmail.com](mailto:austincountyryra@gmail.com).