

# 2022 PBR Australia Monster Energy Tour PBR Toowoomba Invitational at Meatstock Toowoomba Showgrounds Toowoomba, Queensland Friday, April 8 at 4:30 p.m. AEST Saturday, April 9 at 12:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. AEST

**MOOVING INTO TOOWOOMBA** – This weekend, for the first time since 2020, the elite PBR Australia Monster Energy Tour will travel to Toowoomba, Queensland. The organization will buck into Toowoomba, holding the sixth event of the 2022 season, the PBR Monster Energy Tour Toowoomba Invitational at Meatsock at the Toowoomba Showgrounds on Friday, April 8 at 4:30 p.m. AEST, and Saturday, April 9 at 12:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. AEST.

**THIS WEEKEND'S FORMAT** – The PBR Australia Monster Energy Tour's Toowoomba Invitational at Meatstock, will feature three rounds of bull riding, followed by a championship round. All competing riders will attempt one bull each in Round 1 on Friday, April 8, and in Round 2 and Round 3 on Saturday, April 9. Following the third round, the Top 10 bull riders will advance to the championship round. The event champion will be the rider with the highest total score from their four draws.

**TIME TO MAKE THE TEAM** – This weekend's event in Toowoomba will mark riders' last chance to earn a berth to compete for Team New South Wales or Team Queensland at the second stop of the 2022 PBR Origins tournament. The 2022 PBR Origin tournament will continue on April 23 in Tamworth, New South Wales at AELEC Arena. The state vs. state battle for bull riding supremacy began on March 26 in Newcastle, New South Wales, when Team Queensland bested Team New South Wales. In Tamworth, Team New South Wales will again be captained by 2016 PBR Australia Champion Cody Heffernan, while four-time, and reigning, PBR Australia Champion Aaron Kleier will return to lead defending event winners Team Queensland. Each team will be comprised of 10 riders, including the captains, with the remaining nine positions filled by the current national and world standings following the conclusion of this weekend's events.

**ANDERSEN GETS THE W** – While riders were competing for state pride at the most recent event, PBR Origin I – Newcastle, crucial points in the race for the 2022 PBR Australia Championship were also on the line. And the big winner was Team Queensland's Qynn Andersen who won the individual event title. While only his first two rides counted in the battle for the individual event win, Andersen went a perfect 3-for-3, riding Night Fury for 84.5 points, Breaking Bad for 83.5 points and Natural Hillbilly for 85 points. For his efforts, Andersen netted 71 national points. After traveling to Newcastle ranked No. 6 in the race for the 2022 PBR Australia Championship, Andersen surged to No. 3, now within 66.5 points of the top position. Andersen, who is amidst a hot streak, having finished second the weekend prior in Mildura to earn his position on the team, will look to continue his momentum in Toowoomba when he climbs aboard Seven Eleven in Round 1.

**OTHER MOVERS FROM NEWCASTLE** – Qynn Andersen may have won the individual title at the most recent event, PBR Origin I – Newcastle, but he wasn't the only rider that gained ground in the national standings. Here's a look at the other riders who made moves:

<u>Cody Heffernan</u>: Captain of Team New South Wales, 2016 PBR Australia Champion Cody Heffernan finished second in the individual race in Newcastle. Registering an 86-point ride aboard Call Me Joe, Heffernan netted 55 national points to solidify his No. 2 rank in the national standings. Now within a mere 21.5 points of the No. 1 rank, Heffernan will face Night Fury as the last man out in Round 1 in Toowoomba.

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 <u>Lachlan Richardson</u>: Seeking his first PBR Australia Championship in 2022, seven-time PBR World Finals qualifier Lachlan Richardson finished third in Newcastle, garnering 42 national points. Also registering one qualified ride, Richardson covered Spokane for 84.5 points to collect 42 national points. For his bronze effort, Richardson climbed to No. 11 in the national standings. This weekend in Toowoomba, Richardson has drawn Holy Poly in Round 1.

**FAMILIAR WATERS** – Round 1 of the PBR Toowoomba Invitational at Meatstock will feature two rematches with no rider having previously made the 8. For Lachlan Slade, he will climb aboard Old School for the third time in his career. After the bull bucked him off during the 2021 regular season in Rockhampton, Queensland, in 5.75 seconds, Old School again bucked off Slade at the 2021 PBR Australia Grand Finals, that time in a heart-breaking 7.91 seconds. Brody Woodard has also drawn a familiar opponent in Tezzas Pride. The two went head-to-head during the 2020 event in Toowoomba, with Woodard sent to the ground in a quick 3.94 seconds.

**PAST TOOWOOMBA EVENT WINNERS** – PBR Australia's elite Monster Energy Tour has travelled to Toowoomba, Queensland, during seven seasons, including holding a double-header in the series' most recent trip in 2020. As penultimate event weekend prior to the 2020 PBR Australia Grand Finals, Kurt Shephard won the first stop in the double-header, while Aaron Kleier rode supreme in the second event.

For Shephard, the win was his second of the season. As one of two riders to go 2-for-2, Shephard began the event with an 81-point trip atop Let's Rock. Shephard then punctuated his perfect performance with a championship round-best, 82-point ride on Jersey Joe. Compliments of the victory, Shephard earned 74 national points. The then 26-year-old rose to No. 4 in the national standings, climbing one position from No. 5 at the start of the event.

After delivering a runner-up finish at the opening performance in Toowoomba, Kleier captured the top spot later that evening. Marking his third event win of the season, Kleier was able to decimate No. 1 Lachlan Richardson's lead atop the national standings, and inch closer to his historic third consecutive national title. Kleier's victory was highlighted by a Round 1 win, earned compliments of an 85.5-point ride aboard Django. He was unable to remain perfect when Black Tuxedo made quick work of Kleier, besting him in a swift 1.07 seconds in the championship round. Earning 65 national points, Kleier climbed within 26.5 points of No. 1 Richardson after entering the event 91.5 points back.

Aaron Kleier (2020)	David Kennedy (2014)
Kurt Shephard (2020)	Ben Seeds (2013)
Jason Mara (2016)	Troy Wilkinson (2012)
Nathan Burtenshaw (2015)	Chris Lowe (2010)

**BULL PEN** – At this weekend's PBR Toowoomba Invitational at Meatstock, eight different stock companies will be represented including: BK Bucking Bulls (AUBK), JD Bucking Bulls (AUJDBB), MJ/Keliher Bucking Bulls (AUMJK), Peter Wallace (AUPW), Ruhland/Running Gold Bucking Bulls (AURG), Ruhland Ranch Bucking Bulls (AURR), ST Bucking Bulls (AUST) and Troy Keliher (AUTK).

A relatively experienced pen of bulls, only four bovine athletes will be making their career debut in Toowoomba. Those bulls are: BK Boss Hog (BK Bucking Bulls), Twisted Transistor (Troy Keliher), Bear Down (Peter Wallace), Mexicoma (MJ/Keliher Bucking Bulls).

**PROVIDING PROTECTION** – This weekend's protection athletes are Jared Borghero and Kirstin Wood.

**NEXT UP** – The 2022 PBR Australia season will continue Saturday, April 16 for the Monster Energy Tour's Rockhampton Invitational at Great Western Hotel. Action in Rockhampton, Queensland will get underway at 7:00 p.m. AEDT.

## TOWOOMBA COMPETITORS BY COUNTRY

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Australia (26) – Qynn Andersen, Brumby Brandenburg, Joey Buckingham, Nathan Burtenshaw, Steven Carter, Jono Couling, Bryn Francis, Jackson Gray, Clay Hall, Cody Heffernan, Lane Hindmarsh, Aaron Kleier, Oscar Leake, Toby Leake, Ben Moran, Braith Nock, Kelsey Pavlou, Will Purcell, Lachlan Richardson, Caiden Sandilands, Lachlan Slade, Michael Smith, Will Watson, Beau Willis, Chris Wilson, Brody Woodard.

#### **BREAKDOWN BY STATE** -

New South Wales – Nathan Burtenshaw, Steven Carter, Jono Couling, Cody Heffernan, Oscar Leake, Toby Leake, Braith Nock, Lachlan Richardson, Lachlan Slade; Queensland – Qynn Andersen, Brumby Brandenburg, Joey Buckingham, Bryn Francis, Jackson Gray, Clay Hall, Lane Hindmarsh, Aaron Kleier, Ben Moran, Kelsey Pavlou, Caiden Sandilands, Michael Smith, Beau Willis, Brody Woodard. Victoria – Will Purcell, Will Watson, Chris Wilson.

TOP 10 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL STANDINGS – Here are the Top 10 in the 2022 Australian national standings:

	Rider	Points	<b>Dollars Won</b>	<b>Behind Leader</b>
1.	Brady Fielder	192.5	\$11,266.40	
2.	Cody Heffernan	171	\$12,361.24	-21.5
3.	Qynn Andersen	126	\$13,049.20	-66.5
4.	Kelsey Pavlou	99	\$5,750.48	-93.5
5.	Kurt Shephard	77	\$5,544.96	-115.5
6.	Brumby Brandenburg	75.5	\$7,363.20	-117
7.	Will Purcell	52.5	\$2,747.40	-140
8.	Jake Curr	47.33	\$3.152.40	-145.17
9.	Bailey Woodard	45	\$2,380.80	-147.5
10.	Chris Wilson	43.5	\$2,157.28	-149

2022 PBR AUSTRALIA EVENT WINS - Here are the total individual wins for PBR Australia events in 2022:

2 – Brady Fielder (\*Scone, \*Rockhampton 2)

 1 – Kurt Shephard (\*Rockhampton 1) Brumby Brandenburg (\*Mildura) Qynn Andersen (#Newcastle)

\* Denotes a Monster Energy Tour event.

# Denotes a PBR Origin Event. For these events, the individual leaderboard was only determined by Round 1 and Round 2. The bonus round did not impact the standings.

EVENT-BY-EVENT RESULTS - Here are the results from 2022 PBR Australia events:

Event	Winner	Ag. Score	<b>Australian Points</b>
*Rockhampton #1	Kurt Shephard	167	77
*Scone	Brady Fielder	171.5	72.5
*Rockhampton #2	Brady Fielder	87.5	65
*Mildura	Brumby Brandenburg	170	75.5
#Newcastle	Qynn Andersen	168	71

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## 2022 RIDES BY PBR AUSTRALIA EVENT

City	R1 Rides	R2 Rides	R3 Rides	<b>R4 Rides</b>	<b>CR Rides</b>	<b>Total Rides</b>	Riding %
*Rockhampton #1	2	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	11.11% (4/36)
*Scone	6	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	17.30% (9/52)
*Rockhampton #2	1	1	N/A	N/A	2	4	9.52% (4/42)
*Mildura	5	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	15% (6/40)
#Newcastle	7	5	N/A	N/A	3	15	31.25% (15/48)

\* Denotes a Monster Energy Tour event.

# Denotes a PBR Origin Event. For these events, the championship round rides did not count towards the individual standings, nor award points.

2022 PBR AUSTRALIA ROUND WINS – Here is a list of the riders with the most round wins in 2022:

- 3 Brady Fielder (\*Rockhampton #1 Round 1, \*Scone Round 2, \*Rockhampton #2 Championship Round)
- 1 Qynn Andersen (\*Mildura Round 1, #Newcastle Round 1) Cody Heffernan (\*Scone Round 1, #Newcastle Round 2)
- 1 Kurt Shephard (\*Rockhampton #1 Round 2) Chris Wilson (\*Scone Round 2) Kelsey Pavlou (\*Rockhampton #2 Round 1) Bailey Woodard (\*Rockhampton #2 Round 2) Brmby Brandenbrg (\*Mildura Round 2)
- \* Denotes a Monster Energy Tour event.

# Denotes a PBR Origin event.

\*\*Note: This list is only inclusive of Round 1 and Round 2 at the three PBR Origin events as the bonus rounds did not award points. Those winners are: Cody Heffernan (Newcastle).

### THE BULLS

**HIGH-MARKED BULL OF THE EVENT** – Here are the bulls that received the highest score at each PBR Australia event in 2022:

 Pretty Boy (\*Rockhampton #1) G Shock (\*Scone) Roid Rage (\*Rockhampton #2) Crackalackin (\*Mildura) Posting Bail (#Newcastle)

\* Denotes a Monster Energy Tour event.

# Denotes a PBR Origin Event.

SEASON HIGH-MARKED BULLS – Here were the top bull scores from 2021 at PBR Australia Events:

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Event	Bull	Stock Contractor	Score	Rider
*Rockhampton #1	Pretty Boy	Peter Wallace	44.5	Thomas Hudson, 2.29 seconds
*Scone	G Shock Natural Hillbilly	Throsby & Russell Bucking Bulls Throsby & Russell Bucking Bulls	43.5 43.5	Cody Groves, 1.49 seconds Steven Carter, 1.84 seconds
*Rockhampton #2 *Mildura	Roid Rage Crackalackin	Dittmann Bucking Bulls Throsby & Russell Bucking Bulls	45.5 44	Bailey Woodard, 2.5 seconds Will Purcell, 2.89 seconds
#Newcastle	Posting Bail	Throsby & Russell Bucking Bulls	44	Caiden Sandilands, 2.71 seconds

\*Denotes a Monster Energy Tour event.

# Denotes a PBR Origin Event.

**MORE INFORMATION** – For more information on the world's premier bull riding organization, please visit the official website at <u>https://www.pbraustralia.com.au/</u>.

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