



**For Immediate Release  
March 22, 2020**

## **June Elizabeth Stampede Rodeo and Concert Cancelled**

*Coronavirus Concerns Lead State of Colorado, Elbert County, and Town of Elizabeth to Announce Emergency Declaration*

***Elizabeth, Colorado — March 22, 2020 — In an abundance of caution and respect for the health of our community, contestants and volunteers, the Elizabeth Stampede Board of Directors announce the cancellation of the Stampede's May and June 2020 events.***

“On behalf of the Elizabeth Stampede Board of Directors, it is with a heavy heart we announce the cancellation of our beloved Elizabeth Stampede Rodeo (ESR), Concert, Parade, and Community Rodeo scheduled for May and June 2020. Due to Colorado’s current state of emergency and communications and directives from local health officials, we feel this decision is what’s best for the community. Our rodeo family and public safety must always come first,” says Jace Glick, ESR President.

The average participation of each of the four rodeo performances for the ESR includes over two hundred volunteers, first responders, and animal welfare specialists along with typically sold out crowds of over 2,000 as well as 400 contestants. Our annual concert has thousands of participants in proximity and our community rodeo includes many contestants as well. While we sincerely hope and believe that the state of emergency will be lifted prior to the scheduled date for the rodeo, the decision is best made now before tickets have been sold and commitments made for contestants to travel. It is our hope that we will be able to reschedule and continue our efforts later in the summer.

### **Path Forward**

More than 50 volunteers have been meeting monthly year-round since June 2019 to plan the hundreds of details required to execute the concert, rodeo, and other Stampede events such as the Community Rodeo. Adds Glick, “this is not a decision we make lightly, but with this being our critical preparation period, we cannot safely conduct work days, obtain permits, hold meetings, and execute related planning required to put on the caliber of rodeo we want in this timeframe. We sincerely hope that we can put our events on later this summer.”

We will continue to monitor the situation and discuss the status with our community health officials. If the situation improves in time for us to reschedule and plan accordingly, we will try to set a date for the rodeo later this summer. We will work with our rodeo contract personnel and the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) to minimize conflict with other events should that become a possibility.

## **An Unprecedented Situation**

This is the first time since WWII the annual ESR event has been cancelled, notes Glick. “Since that first cancellation we have gone on to become Elbert county’s largest gathering and I’m confident we will continue that legacy. While this interruption may be longer than previous situations, our community and country have great track records of quick rebounds. This virus will be no exception. I would encourage everyone to reach out and support your neighbors and together we will get through these trying times, just like the many others in our past!”

## **Community Support**

Mr. Glick also comments, “if you are impacted and have a need due to this virus, do not hesitate to reach to our charitable arm, The Elizabeth Stampede Foundation. We have resources to share and we stand with our community.”

The ESR would like to specifically thank each of our volunteers and our sponsors for their support, time, and commitment. We will absolutely see you in 2021 with a truly western experience and the best rodeo possible.

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*The Elizabeth Commercial Association started putting on amateur rodeos at Casey Jones Park in 1937 and the first annual Elizabeth Stampede Rodeo was held at the end of May 1966. As a PRCA sanctioned rodeo since 1987, the Elizabeth Stampede has established itself as one of the best regional rodeos within the Mountain States Circuit and has operated continuously for 54 years.*

## **For more information:**

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## **For more information on the Stampede:**

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