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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Gem State Classic Pro Rodeo wins Small Market Rodeo of the Year**

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Las Vegas, NV, December 7, 2023 – The Gem State Classic Pro Rodeo, one of the star attractions each year at the Eastern Idaho State Fair, has been named the 2023 PRCA Small Rodeo of the Year. This is the second time that the Gem State Classic Pro Rodeo has received the prestigious PRCA Small Market Rodeo of the Year award, the first being in 2019.

This award acknowledges the best of the best in the sport of rodeo and is voted on by PRCA contestants, contracted personnel, livestock contractors, sister rodeos, and Lifetime Members of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) within their select categories. The award was presented at the annual PRCA Convention Awards Dinner in Las Vegas at the South Point Hotel.

"It is an honor to be recognized by the PRCA and its membership. Our rodeo's success results from many individuals committed to putting on an incredible show, and it is a momentous achievement for the Gem State Classic Pro Rodeo Committee and its many volunteers," said Corey Foster, the Chairman of the Eastern Idaho State Fair Board.

The award was accepted by Foster at the annual PRCA Convention Awards Dinner in Las Vegas, Nevada at the South Point Hotel.

The Eastern Idaho State Fair team expresses its gratitude to the Rodeo Committee for their selfless service which has made this rodeo a success year after year. Their devotion, passion, and love for the sport of rodeo, as well as this event, is acknowledged by the contestants and rodeo fans alike. Fans and participants often describe the Gem State Classic as, being the best rodeo in the state, with unmatched electricity in the crowd, and some of the very best rodeo competition in the West.

This past year, the Gem State Classic introduced a third night to the event, which received an overwhelmingly positive response. The event has undergone several enhancements to improve the experience of both the contestants and attendees over the past few years including improvements to the announcer booth, arena, and chutes, which helps draw in top contenders and World Champions to Blackfoot, Idaho. Since becoming a PRCA-sanctioned event in 2012 and contracting the award-winning Powder River Rodeo & D&H Cattle as their stock contractor, the Gem State Classic has been recognized and awarded for its outstanding performance year after year.

Make sure to come see the Gem State Classic Pro Rodeo next year during fair week. It will be happening September 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup> at the Bank of Commerce Grandstands within the Eastern Idaho State Fair.

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*The Eastern Idaho State Fair is a 16-County Fair District. It's Eastern Idaho's longest-running and largest community event. The mission of the EISF is to provide wholesome, affordable family education and entertainment in a clean and safe agricultural environment. See you at the Fair on August 30<sup>th</sup> - September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024!*