



Operators perform precision maneuvers in annual Bus Rodeo competition.

Mark Your Calendar for Bus Rodeo, July 19

- [Judges needed](#) for Rodeo preliminaries

(July 8, 2003) Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 19, and plan to attend the 28th annual MTA Bus Rodeo. Don't forget to bring your family and friends!

Almost 300 bus operators and nine teams of mechanics will test their skills in a series of events scheduled throughout the day, beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 2 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded to the top scorers, who will go on to represent MTA at the APTA International Bus Rodeo in Salt Lake City in September.

This year's defending champion is Metro Bus Operator Daniel Keosababian of North Los Angeles Division 3 who won the 2002 event. The maintenance team to beat is from South Bay Division 18 – mechanics Luke Logan, Javier Soria and Mina Ros.

Plenty of entertainment is scheduled during the Bus Rodeo. Families can enjoy a continental breakfast, live music, a barbecue lunch and a raffle drawing. Kids will have fun playing for prizes in the carnival-style game booths, or bouncing in a jumper house.

The annual car show, set up in the parking lot adjacent to the Bus Rodeo, will feature classic autos, motorcycles and trucks.

The Bus Rodeo will be held at Santa Anita Park just south of the I-210 Freeway, off Colorado Place at 285 W. Huntington Drive in Arcadia. Use Santa Anita Gate 6. Maps and directions to the park can be found at the park's website, www.santaanita.com.

Volunteers are needed as judges during qualifying events, this week, for the MTA Bus Rodeo. Qualifying rounds are scheduled Wednesday, July 9, through Saturday, July 12. Rodeo Coordinator Frank Cecere needs 35 volunteers each day of the preliminary competition to judge obstacle course events and keep individual operator's scores. "People say, 'I have no experience,'" says Cecere. "You don't need it." To volunteer as a judge, contact Gwen Keene at 922-7148 or by e-mail at keeneg@mta.net.

Winners of the MTA Bus Roadeo will compete in the Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo, Sept. 6, in Chula Vista. Fifteen teams from area transit agencies are expected to compete.

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