

MRA

MISS RODEO AUSTRALIA

Hello Readers, for those of you that do not already I would like to formerly introduce myself. My name is Dakota Michaelis and I am your Miss Rodeo Australia 2018!

I am from Lewiston, South Australia and have been competing in rodeo for the last 15 years! It has been a sport that my entire family has been involved in and has created the best childhood I could ask for. I feel extremely privileged to have this opportunity as Miss Rodeo Australia, to represent and be an ambassador for a sport that has given me so much.

In the past there have been very few girls that will take on this role as well as continuing to compete, but that is just not me. This year I hope to successfully promote rodeo more within the state of South Australia and to the wider communities of Australia. Whilst doing this I will also be contending for my Australian Professional Rodeo Association Rookie Title.

Since becoming Miss Rodeo Australia 2018 life has been pretty hectic. After being crowned it was straight home and into work for the week. That following Saturday was my first Rodeo as MRA in Wilmington, South Australia. It was a great feeling to have a home rodeo first, and to have friends and family share that moment with me. I was fortunate to place fourth in the barrel race.

The first weekend of February was the first session of my June Daly-Walkins Grooming & Department Courses which has been an exciting addition to the wonderful opportunities we are given as Miss Rodeo Australia. I felt as though I gained more knowledge on how to better my personal growth and ability to be the best ambassador for Australian Rodeo as possible.

On the 10th of February I had the honour of being invited to the Do It For Dolly – Ballarat Rodeo. The committee ran a great event which seemed to pull in many spectators and competitors. It was the first rodeo that I was able to organise the Grand Entry which was very exciting for me. Besides having to deal with a few rain showers it was quite a beautiful day. I got to spend some time with the sponsors of Ballarat Rodeo and it was great to be able to share my knowledge of the sport with them. There were quite a few sponsors who had never attended a rodeo before that day! Ballarat was thankfully another successful rodeo with placing second in the barrel race behind my very talented mother.

My next adventure was on to Narrandera Rodeo at the end of February which I will report on next month. I look forward to the very busy and exciting year ahead. I hope to do you all proud and that you all enjoy following my amazing experiences throughout the year!

**Yours truly,
Dakota Michaelis
Miss Rodeo Australia 2018**



Grand Entry at Ballarat Rodeo
Photo by Tracy Morris Photography



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