

2018
IPRA WORLD CHAMPION BULL RIDER

COREY BAILEY

AGE: 27

BUCHANAN, TN

Corey Bailey earned his third consecutive world title at the end of IFR49. He had a solid lead coming into the finals and was focused on earning his third gold buckle.

“It feels good to have one a third world title,” said Corey. “My first world title was really special to me because I came from so far behind and didn’t even start going until mid-season. Number three was just as exciting.”

Bailey placed 5th in round one of IFR49 with an 85-point ride. A buck-off in round two fueled Corey’s fire and he came back to win the 3rd round with an 84.5 point ride. Bailey failed to make the 8-seconds in round 4, but earned 2nd in the IFR average.

Corey started riding bulls when he was 10 years old and has been honing his riding skills ever since. He credits several family members for keeping him motivated and staying behind him. “My mom, my granny, my aunt and my wife are the ones that keep me going,” said Bailey.

“I’ve been super lucky and have only had 2 injuries in my career. The first injury was a shattered nose and the second injury happened 2 years ago at Elkhorn, WI. I wasn’t wearing a mouthpiece and got 7 of my teeth shattered. I wear a mouthpiece now.”

“I like to draw the best bull they’ve got at the rodeo. I’m not really picky about their style; I just want something I can win on. My favorite bull of the finals was Thunderbolt from Ken Treadway Rodeo. I won the 3rd round on him, he’s a good bull.”

“I went to a lot of rodeos in 2018 and one that stands out in my mind was Bowling Green, KY. It’s a sell out every performance and just has phenomenal crowds.”

Bailey has his plans made for 2019. “I plan to pretty much do the same as last year. I want to be in the top 3 money earners. In 2018, my hips started bothering me at the end of the year and I just wanted to stay home. I want to finish 2019 strong and be in the top 3.”

Bailey is an avid hunter when he’s got some down time.
