



Getting Started

Kinex Judging runs on your laptop, on your own router, with no internet. Judges mark from their phones; the office runs the board. This guide gets you from the download to your first rodeo.

WHAT YOU NEED

- **A Windows laptop** (Windows 10 or 11) for the office. This is the only computer the program runs on.
- **A wifi router** that the laptop plugs into by cable. It needs no internet. If you bought a kit, the router came set up.
- **An Android phone for each judge**, with the Kinex Judging app from Google Play.
- **Your licence key** — the long line of letters in the email this came with.

1. Put Kinex on the laptop

1. Download the program from **<https://kinexjudging.com/download>** — the Download button. It is one zip file, about 65 MB. Do this at home or the office, on the internet.
2. Right-click the zip and choose **Extract All**. Put the folder somewhere permanent, such as `C:\Kinex Judging`. Do not run it from inside the zip.
3. Open the folder and double-click **Kinex.cmd**. A black window appears for a few seconds, then the board opens in your browser. Windows may ask whether to let **Node.js** through the firewall: tick **both** boxes and allow it. (If you missed that, double-click **Allow Kinex through the firewall.cmd** once.)
4. The first screen asks for your licence key: paste it in. Then choose the email and password the office will sign in with.

From then on, double-click **Kinex.cmd** (or the **Kinex Judging** icon it put on your desktop) to open the board, and **Stop Kinex.cmd** at the end of the day. Everything — every rodeo, every score — is saved in that folder on that laptop.

2. Connect the laptop to the router

1. Plug the router in. Leave its internet port empty; it is only for your phones and the laptop to talk.
2. Connect the laptop to one of the router's **LAN** ports with a network cable. A cable, not wifi: it is faster and it never drops.
3. Put the judges' phones on the router's wifi. If you have a kit, the wifi name and password are on the router's label.

IF YOU SET UP YOUR OWN ROUTER

Any home router works. Two settings matter: turn **off** anything called *AP isolation*, *client isolation* or *guest network* for the wifi the phones use (it stops phones reaching the laptop); and give the laptop a **reserved address** in the router's DHCP settings, so it is the same every time. Kinex copes if you don't, but then judges scan the code again whenever the address changes.

3. Set up your first rodeo

1. Sign in on the board. Under **Set up an event**, give the rodeo a name and tick the events it runs. Every event a rodeo runs is in the list — rough stock, timed events, freestyle bullfighting, the bull team event.
2. On **Setup**, each event has its rules: judges, rounds and a short go, the chute clock, the ride clock, how the leaderboard reads. The defaults are the usual ones; change what you need and press **Save** on that event.
3. Under **Personnel**, add the crew. A judge is a name, a judge number and a four-digit **PIN** — that is all a judge needs. Tick **Can start ride clock: Yes** for the judge who will run the clock at the chutes. Add the arena director and the announcer the same way.
4. On **Roster**, bring the day sheet in: **Choose a CSV file** if your entry office sent one (Kinex Entry's day sheet works as is), or paste it, or type riders in one at a time. **Check it over** shows what will land before you **Import**.

4. Get the judges on

1. On the phone, install **Kinex Judging** from Google Play:
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kinexjudging.judge>. Or search the Play Store for *Kinex Judging*.
2. Make sure the phone is on the router's wifi.

3. On the board, open the **Judges / Director** page. It holds up a large QR code.
4. Open the app, tap **Scan the QR code**, and point the phone at the big code. The app now knows where the laptop is and shows the PIN pad.
5. Tap in the judge's PIN. The phone is signed in for the weekend.

The arena director's tablet does the same with the second code on that page, and signs in with its own PIN. Judges can also use the phone's browser instead of the app — scanning the code with the camera opens the judge screen — but the app keeps the screen on and comes back faster, so use the app.

5. Rodeo day

- **Load.** On the **Contestant Board**, pick the event tab and press **Load** on the rider in the chute. Every judge's phone shows that rider.
- **The chute clock.** A judge taps **Start chute clock** when the rider sits down, and **They nodded — stop** when he nods.
- **The ride clock.** The judge with *Can start ride clock* taps the big **Start ride clock** box when the gate opens, and taps anywhere in the yellow box to stop it on a buck-off. It stops itself at the whistle. The horn sounds from the laptop (see 6). The secretary can also start and stop it on the board.
- **Marks.** Each judge types the mark and taps **Send Score**. When every judge is in, the office presses **Confirm score** and the leaderboard updates. A buck-off, a reride and a turn-out each have a button on the board.
- **Timed events.** The time comes off your FarmTek timer (set up under **Setup → Timer**) or is typed in the Time box. Penalties are buttons by name — a barrel down, a broken barrier — and **Confirm time** sends it.
- **No signal.** If a phone loses the wifi, the judge keeps marking from the day sheet on the phone; the marks are held and sent when the signal is back.
- **The announcer** opens **Announcer view** on any laptop on the wifi. The big screen and vMix take their feeds from the **Video board** page.

6. The horn

1. Run a cable from the office laptop's headphone jack to your sound board.
2. On **Setup → Horn**, pick a sound (or load a recording of your own), press **Test horn** and set the level on the board.
3. Tick **This computer sounds the horn** — on that laptop only. A green **Horn on** chip appears in the top bar. If it turns amber, click anywhere on the page; the browser needs one click

before it will make sound.

7. Results

The **Results** page has every event's placings, every judge's mark, and every penalty, as it stands. **Print** it to pin up, and **Download** the file for your entry office. When the rodeo is over, **Conclude** it: it drops off the list but the results stay.

8. Updates

When the laptop is on the internet — at home, not at the arena — the **Licence** page says when a newer version is out and installs it with one click. Judges' phones update themselves from Google Play.

If something is not working

What you see	What to do
A phone says it cannot reach the laptop, or "nothing answered"	Check the phone is on the router's wifi, not cell data or your house wifi. Then on the PIN screen tap Scan the office QR code and scan the code on the Judges page again — the laptop's address may have changed. The PIN screen shows which laptop the app is talking to, and the app's version.
Every phone fails, even on the right wifi	Windows Firewall was told no when Kinex first ran. In the Kinex folder double-click Allow Kinex through the firewall.cmd , say Yes, and try again.
The Judges page shows an amber warning about the address	The laptop is not on the address the kit expects. The code still works — it carries the address the laptop has now — so just have the phones scan it.
The horn did not sound	Is the green Horn on chip showing on the laptop that is cabled to the board? If it is amber, click the page. If it is missing, tick the box under Setup → Horn . Check the laptop's volume and that its sound is going to the headphone jack.
The screen says the licence has expired	Email info@kinexjudging.com for a new key and paste it in on the Licence page. The program keeps working for a month after the date on the key.
A judge's PIN is "already taken"	That PIN belongs to somebody on another rodeo that is still open. Conclude the old rodeo, or pick a different PIN.
The board is slow or stuck	Press F5 to reload the page. If that does not help, Stop Kinex.cmd then Kinex.cmd : nothing is lost, it picks up where it was.
The file <code>kinex.log</code> in the Kinex folder records what happened. If you email for help, say what the screen said and attach that file.	