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NRCHA E-Newsletter

July 29, 2008

NRCHA E-Cow Work

Letter from the President

This is the second edition of the NRCHA E-Cow Work newsletter. We had many positive responses from the first one and it seems to be meeting our goal of improved member communication. For those members who do not have email or have not given their email address to the NRCHA office the E-Cow Work Newsletters will be on our website, plus the information will be in the following edition of *Stock Horse News*.

I am pleased to announce the newest appointed NRCHA Board members are Paul Bailey from Sparta, Tennessee and Darren Miller from Watkins, Colorado. In response to requests from our members to have greater representation from different NRCHA Regions it was decided Paul and Darren would make great additions to add regional diversity to the existing Board.

In this edition we are announcing the expanded Regional awards for 2008 and even more changes and upgrades will be announced soon for 2009.

Many of our members have had questions about the relationship between the NRCHA and the NSHA so a recap of what has happened in the past few months is also included in this edition.

Lyn Anderson
NRCHA President

Buckles and more to Champions and Reserve Champions

NRCHA Regional Awards Upgraded for 2008

NRCHA Regional Champions and Reserve Champions in each of the twelve sanctioned NRCHA events will be thrilled with the enhanced NRCHA Awards Program.

Newly designed custom Gist trophy buckles will be given to each of the 84 Regional Champions. The 84 Reserve Champions will receive special custom-embroidered jackets commemorating their year-end regional accomplishments. This upgraded Regional Awards Program will be further enhanced in 2009, according to the decision of the NRCHA Board of Directors during the June NRCHA Board Meeting.

Watching on the Web!

The 2008 National Reined Cow Horse Association NRCHA Derby Webcast was a success. With over 7,000 "hits," viewership has nearly doubled. Galloping Video, the official videographer for the NRCHA, produced the Webcast, with help from their sponsors.

The largest viewer day was Sunday, June 22, for the Finals, when over 80,000 minutes of reined cow horse action were downloaded. The second largest day was the cow work on Friday, with nearly 50,000 minutes downloaded.

Marlene Dierkes, of Galloping Video, noted that the next Webcast will be during the 2008 NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity in September. Last year the show gathered more than 87,000 hits – and if the Derby is any indication, that number will only increase.

Wayne Hodges 4-Star Trailer and Outlaw Conversions

2008 NRCHA Raffle Trailer and DRAWDOWN!



The Casinos won't be the only place to win at the 29th Annual Snaffle Bit Futurity. Thanks to a Corporate Partnership with Wayne Hodges 4-Star and Outlaw Conversions, there are two chances to win a great 4-Star trailer that will be awarded during the Open Finals performance of the Snaffle Bit Futurity.

One of the most exciting ways to win a 4-Star is with the NRCHA Wayne Hodges 4-Star Trailer Drawdown. Every time a horse enters the arena to compete at an NRCHA event, it earns both its owner and rider a chance at the NRCHA Wayne Hodges 4-Star Trailer/Outlaw Conversions Horse Trailer to be given away at the Snaffle Bit Futurity. The three-horse gooseneck will be displayed on the concourse of the Reno Livestock Events Center and a lucky NRCHA Member will win the trailer.

During the first performance of the Snaffle Bit Futurity, a hundred names are drawn out of the thousands in the hopper. Those 100 names go on to the Wayne Hodges 4-Star /Outlaw Conversions Draw Down board, and each day, seven names are drawn out and crossed out on the board. Those names that remain on the board stay eligible to win. On the final day, names are drawn off one-by-one, until the last name left on the board wins the new trailer.

A second Wayne Hodges 4-Star trailer is given to the winner of the Annual NRCHA Trailer Raffle, and that winner is also drawn during the Open Finals.

Tickets are available at \$10 each, and have already been sent to NRCHA members. Tickets can be purchased through NRCHA members, the NRCHA Office, or at the Snaffle Bit Futurity.

For more information, contact the NRCHA at nrcha@nrcha.com or call 580-759-4949.

Ward Ranch Donates 21st Raffle Colt



Smart Response!

Ward River Ranch of Kingsburg, California is once again donating the NRCHA raffle colt in 2008. The colt will be raffled off during the Open Finals of the 2008 Snaffle Bit Futurity. Since 1988, the Ward's generosity has continued to influence the reined cow horse industry.

This year's raffle colt, Smart Response, is sired by Smart Little Pepinic and out of Masters Response. Smart Little Pepinic has a berth of finalist titles; including the World's Greatest Horseman, NRCHA Year-End Open Two Rein, the Abilene Spectacular, the Gold Coast Winter Show, and most recently the NRCHA Hackamore Classic Horse Show Open Bridle title.

Smart Little Pepinic has sired earners of close to \$700,000, including Kiss Me A Little, the 2006 NRCHA Futurity Intermediate Non Pro Champion, 2006 Non Pro Reserve Champion, and the 2008 NRCHA Hackamore Classic Non Pro Reserve Champion. Smart Little Pepinic offspring Smart Plain Pep was the 2006 NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Open Bridle Champion.

Master Remedy, Smart Response's maternal grand sire has sired three NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Open Champions and two NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Open Hackamore Champions.

According to Cheryl Magoteaux of the NRCHA management team, "Smart Response represents years of breeding for the Ward River Ranch. The NRCHA, its members, sponsors, and enthusiasts thank John and Laurie Ward and Ward River Ranch for their generosity and eagerly await viewing Smart Response at this year's NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity!"

Each year, half of the raffle colt proceeds and \$150 from the entry fee of each NRCHA Select 2-Year-Old Sale entry are combined to make the NRCHA 2-Year-Old Sale Purse. In addition, the NRCHA has guaranteed that the NRCHA 2-Year-Old Sale Purse will be at least \$30,000.

Tickets, which are \$10 each, have already been sent to NRCHA members. Tickets can be purchased through NRCHA members, or directly through the NRCHA Office. They will also be available at the Snaffle Bit Futurity until the winner is drawn.

National Reined Cow Horse Association Position Regarding Co-Approvals with NSHA

Not allowing co-approvals with the National Stock Horse Association was not an arbitrary decision on the part of the National Reined Cow Horse Association Board of Directors, but one that was necessitated by the fact that the National Stock Horse Association, a California for-profit corporation, had begun to use NRCHA events for their year-end program.

In early 2008, when NRCHA President Lyn Anderson contacted a representative of the NSHA, she was told that the NSHA plan was to provide a year-end award venue for smaller club shows that were not existing NRCHA shows.

This was exactly the same information given by another representative of the NSHA to an NRCHA Executive Committee member who inquired as well. A third NRCHA board member was told by another NSHA co-owner that the NSHA was only soliciting shows that had less than \$1,000 added and were therefore not eligible for NRCHA approval.

Many NRCHA Board members have attended the NSHA Futurity and feel that the event was an asset to the NRCHA when it was an NRCHA event governed by NRCHA rules.

After the NRCHA Board of Directors meeting at the NRCHA Celebration of Champions, the Board learned that the NSHA had been approaching existing NRCHA Show managers soliciting them to join the NSHA Year-end program with their existing NRCHA shows.

Throughout, the NSHA Officials or representatives never came to the NRCHA Board with their plan to use NRCHA Shows for their own NSHA Year-end program.

The NRCHA Executive Committee met and concluded that it was not in the best interest of the NRCHA to allow co-approved shows unless that co-approval was with an NRCHA Affiliate or an NRCHA Alliance Partner. The issue was then brought to the entire NRCHA Board at the March meeting and the board adopted the policy to not allow co-approved shows with unaffiliated organizations.

The NSHA does not hold officer elections, does not represent a state, region or locale and therefore does not fit the rulebook criteria for being an NRCHA affiliate.

Any NRCHA Affiliate or Alliance Partner can co-approve NRCHA Shows. The AQHA, for example, is an Alliance partner with the NRCHA, which is how we have AQHA classes at some shows and vice-versa. The Southern California and Arizona affiliates work together on the Sherri Gilkerson Show, etc.

But this is a very different scenario. The NRCHA was given no warning that an unaffiliated association was co-approving its shows and the Board of Directors feels that it acted in the best interest of the NRCHA. There is a liability issue; if anything were to go wrong with the NSHA program, there is no existing relationship and the NRCHA would have no jurisdiction over the NSHA.

The NRCHA began in 1949 as the California Reined Cow Horse Association and evolved in the eighties into the National Reined Cow Horse Association. Through the years, the non-profit NRCHA has supported and grown the reined cow horse industry in a variety of areas.

The NRCHA has developed a series of Premier Events, including the NRCHA Celebration of Champions, the NRCHA Stakes, the NRCHA Hackamore Classic, the NRCHA Derby, and the NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity, which pay out nearly \$3 Million each year. The NRCHA has created four NRCHA Bridle events which pay out over \$230,000.

The NRCHA started an affiliate system and has grown and developed over 30 affiliates. The association has created the NRCHA Regional, National and World Championship awards and has created the NRCHA World Championship Show. In 2007, it sanctioned 276 events in the United States and internationally. In addition the NRCHA has begun and maintained the World's Greatest Horseman. The NRCHA publishes *Stock Horse News*, the only publication dedicated solely to the reined cow horse, and has an established presence in equine media across the globe - with two shows featured each year on RFD-TV's Wide World of Horses.

The NSHA has been using these NRCHA shows and intellectual property to build its own membership and using all the resources - rules, judges, policies, procedures - that the NRCHA has worked to create, develop and maintain.

It was the hope of the NRCHA Board of Directors that the NSHA would take the appropriate steps to become an NRCHA affiliate. This would allow the NSHA to take full advantage of all the resources of the NRCHA. It would also have allowed any NSHA shows to be counted toward qualifying for the NRCHA World Show, and all earnings (futures, limited age event and otherwise) to be recorded on horses' and riders' lifetime earnings records and toward NRCHA Merit Awards.

On June 14, 2008, the Executive Committee of the National Reined Cow Horse Association met with the officers and principles of the National Stock Horse Association and the NSHA representatives were to come back on July 15, 2008, with ideas on becoming an affiliate so that the NRCHA could have a cooperative relationship with the NSHA. The hope of the NRCHA Board was that the NRCHA and NSHA could work together for a mutually beneficial solution in which the NSHA could become an affiliate of the NRCHA.

Despite the NRCHA Executive Committee's willingness to accommodate the NSHA, on July 15, the NRCHA Board of Directors received a letter from John Ward on behalf of the NSHA, declining the invitation to become an NRCHA Affiliate.

If the NSHA's officers and principles feel it cannot become an affiliate, the NRCHA wishes the best of luck to the NSHA and its membership and events as a respected competitor. Competition on a fair playing field should be the basis for all reined cow horse activities.



Think Pink Chinks!

This great set of Commemorative Chinks has been donated by Shorty's Caboy Hattery to be raffled off to benefit Rein In Cancer at the NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity. Tickets will be available at the Rein In Cancer/Shorty's Caboy Hattery booth at the Snaffle Bit Futurity. So picture yourself in these great chinks and be sure to buy raffle tickets.

Judges Announced for the 2008 Snaffle Bit Futurity

Officiating at the NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity in 2008 will be:

Judging Futurity:

Rod Kelley

Billy Cochrane

Carl Gould

Tom Buckingham

Gary Putman

Judging Horse Show classes:

David Glaser

Bobby Hunt

Snaffle Bit Futurity Entry

DON'T FORGET THOSE DEADLINES!

The August 1st deadline is drawing VERY near for designating slots, naming horse and rider, and adding divisions. Slot entries must be named by August 1st. Slot entries named after August 1st but before August 11 will be assessed a \$250 late fee. The draw will be held August 11. Slots that are not named before August 11 will not be included in the draw.

As per the Snaffle Bit Futurity conditions, any entry wishing to enter either the Intermediate Open, Limited Open, Ladies, or Intermediate Non Pro divisions must indicate so by returning the appropriate coupon and \$450, which must be postmarked on or before August 1st. A \$50 late fee will be charged for those entries not postmarked by August 1st.

If you have any questions please call the NRCHA office at 580-759-4949.