

Inside —

2009 Finals Move to June 10-14

90% Payback in:

- All Levels
- #13 HC
- #10 HC
- #6/4 incentive

Five Shows to Qualify



The official publication of the Ranch Sorting National Championships
November-December 2008

Cover photos by LeeAnn Budinger

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From the President

Dave Wolfe
 RSNC President



WOW — if that don't beat all!

Nearly 2,000 teams — 1,976 to be exact — competed at the 2008 RSNC National Finals to make it the largest in the history of this sport! If you can't already tell, I am wired, fired and inspired! Thank you to all of the contestants that competed and became a part of this history making event. That's the good news... now for the better news... I can guarantee next year will make this year's Finals look small! With the free memberships for all new contestants and all current members who bring a new member to compete at an RSNC sanctioned event between now and January 1, this association is about to put Ranch Sorting at the top of ALL cow horse activities!

Furthermore, the big surprises that we saved for this year's Finals are now spreading rapidly throughout the ranch sorting community. If you haven't already heard, we have moved next year's RSNC Finals will be out and the entire family can plan a vacation together. We mean what we say when we call this, "The perfect family sport!" Therefore, we felt it necessary to accommodate the entire family!

Nearly 2,000 teams — 1,976 to be exact — competed at the 2008 RSNC National Finals to make it the largest in the history of this sport!

Also, we wanted to create the largest "carrot" possible to encourage contestants to attend '08-'09 RSNC events and next year's Finals. Therefore, we did what we knew would work and that is a GUARANTEED 90% PAYBACK in select divisions to all contestants that competed in five or more RSNC-sanctioned events during the '08-'09 season. RSNC has the fairest rating system possible and combining that with a 90% payback and free memberships... the perfect storm is now brewing to make the 2009 Finals spectacular! Please review the details for the 2008/2009 season and the RSNC Finals on page 21 of this issue.

You will want to get qualified, so we need your help in encouraging potential RSNC Producers to get shows scheduled in your area. Go talk to them or better yet, produce some yourself! There is still no charge to an RSNC Producer to sanction, and we now have Producer Packets and Producer Assistance available to make producing events much easier than before.

Last year's Vinton Saddle Race is now complete and there were some exciting finishes! We have made a few adjustments to the 2008/2009 Vinton Sort for the Saddle race. The results and new changes are on pages 10 and 20.

I couldn't be more pleased with the overall results of this National Finals. To host 1,976 teams and 2,546 runs in four days, as well as be done by 8:00, 7:00, 9:45 and 8:30 on consecutive nights, it took an all out effort by an exceptional staff! Thank you to each and every one of you. Van, Jeannine, Mike, Christy, Wyatt, Kaylin & Danyll Gemmill, Lisa & Lance Weant, Charlene Wheatley, Rowdy Fewel, Jim Goyer, Staci & Kevin Frazier, Shelly Fitzgerald, Kathy & Tim Gilbert, Tamara Newell, Kevin Speer, John Minnich, Marsha Kloxin, Bill Dawdy, Brad Hathaway, Christi Keeler, Dan Daniel, Logan & Kason Wolfe and the great cooks that made the evenings special for all of us.

This was one for the record books not only in numbers but as a fun, enjoyable event that preserves and promotes the great ranching lifestyle where friends and family can enjoy great company, camaraderie and competition!

Here's to a great season done and a GREATER season just begun!

Yours truly,

Dave Wolfe, RSNC President

RSNC is Blowing The Top Off

*the EXCITING, FUN
sport of RANCH SORTING!*

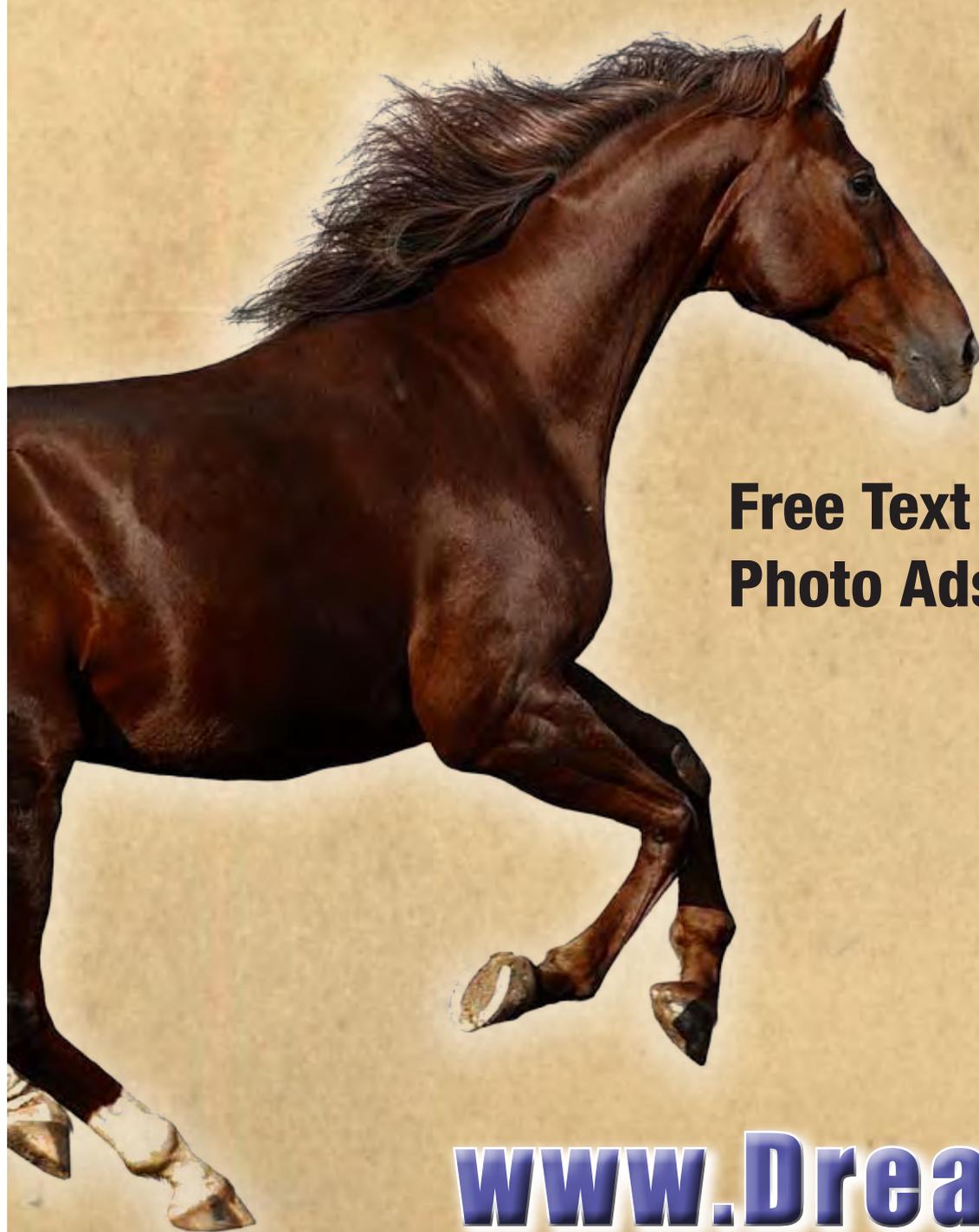
FREE MEMBERSHIP during the '08-'09 Season

- Hold onto your hats if you are anywhere near the RSNC camp! RSNC is pulling out all the stops to make RSNC Ranch Sorting the biggest and best there is! The opportunity for tremendous growth is here, and RSNC intends to seize the moment! No other cowhorse sport is as contagious as RSNC Ranch Sorting. There is no question that success in the sport of RSNC Ranch Sorting is more attainable than in roping, cutting, versatility ranch horse or any other cowhorse event out there. There is a place for riders of all levels at RSNC events — that is being proven by the current membership!
- The 2008 National Finals set an all time record in Sorting or Penning for the number of teams with 1,976. The membership is already the largest within the sport — now it is going to EXPLODE ! RSNC is giving a free membership to all new contestants that join RSNC at anytime during the 2008-2009 season, as well as all current members that bring a new contestant to compete at an RSNC event anytime between September 1, 2008 and the renewal of their current membership for the '08-'09 season. This is RSNC's way of welcoming new contestants and rewarding our current members who help us grow our sport!
- This phenomenal offering has been made by only one other national association; when Denny Gentry sold his team roping company to Equibrand, they opened their doors with the offer of a free one-year membership. That association grew to the tune of 20,000 new members in that year alone! WOW!
- The current potential for growth in the sport of RSNC Ranch Sorting is unprecedented! No other cowhorse competition has as much to offer to such a wide variety of riders. RSNC sorting takes place in a controlled environment where a rider can set his or her own pace; less cattle are required for a greater number of teams; it is a timed event where politics do not affect the outcome; contestants of all ages and abilities can succeed in a competition made fair by ratings and a handicapping system; the variables make it challenging and exciting; furthermore, it can also be a great schooling experience for young horses!
- Recently, RSNC polled our association's producers and contestants in order to find-out what they thought the association could do to increase participation. When asked about the biggest barrier faced when introducing the sport to others, producers and contestants both felt that the membership fee was a major factor. Many potential contestants were sitting in the wings wanting to try the sport before they committed to a membership. After exploring the possibilities, many people agreed that the offer of free membership would be a huge advantage to the association.
- FREE MEMBERSHIP will be a win/win/win/ win situation for everyone involved! Those who have been hesitant to venture into the unknown due to the cost of a membership will now be willing to give RSNC Ranch Sorting a try — we all know they will love it! Existing members will not only benefit from a year of free membership by bringing in one more free member, but will also see an explosion in entries — and PAYOUTS — at sanctioned events. Producers will see an increase in contestants and entries at their events thus making them more successful! RSNC, as a whole, will see more producers willing to sanction events which will bring more sponsors to our sport and MORE ADDED MONEY to RSNC events including the RSNC National Finals!
- Being a part of this great association, dedicated to the sport that combines timed-event competition with true to life cow work, should be a reality for anyone and everyone who ever wanted to be a part of this great ranching lifestyle! RSNC is making it happen!
- As RSNC rockets into a new era in Ranch Sorting, don't miss the celebration of our great sport at the 2009 RSNC National Finals in June. This event will be filled with fun, exciting RSNC Ranch Sorting competition — FREE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED!

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P.O. Box 1, Wellington, CO 80549
or email: info@rsnc.us

Are there any new rule changes for the 2008/2009 season?

Yes, there are a few changes.

1) First, we are making all divisions a 5 Draw option or Pick up to 4 and Draw 1. We want to be sure that all contestants have the opportunity to compete whether they have partners or not. This will also be the new rule for the Beginner Ranch Hand division. The Rookie Ranch Hand is now changed to a Rookie #11 HC with a 2 cap on the Sorter. If both partners are rated 2 or lower then they can alternate, otherwise only the Rookie or lower can sort. There must be a #2 Rookie or lower on the team. It will also be a 5 Draw option or Pick up to 4 and Draw 1.

2) The 2008/2009 points race will have two changes from last year. Just like last year points will be awarded up to 10 places depending on the number of teams in the class according to AQHA rules. However, new this year, you do not have to get a time in the Top 10 to receive points. This rule change came from feedback from contestants competing in the 2008 Points Race. We couldn't change it mid-year last year but can now start off the new year with this change.

3) Starting October 15, 2008, sanctioning fees for all RSNC divisions will be \$3.

4) RSNC ratings are based on a Win/Loss Ratio. We are also initiating two new rules for overseeing accuracy of ratings.

A) RSNC has instated a rating review program for any contestant that does not believe their current rating is accurate. The review requires a \$200 up front deposit. If after a minimum of 45 entries under the new rating the win/loss ratio shows that the contestant falls within the bottom 15% of ratios for that rating, then the contestant's rating will be lowered and the \$200 will be refunded. If the rating is not in the bottom 15%, the \$200.00 will be forfeited and the rating will remain.

B) A rating committee will be in place to review all questionable ratings at the 2009 National Finals. It will be the committee's sole responsibility to observe and review all questionable ratings of contestants.

The committee will consist of 4 individuals. At any one time, 3 will vote on a rating adjustment. With a unanimous vote required for a change. That change will be in effect the next division in which that contestant competes. If there is a conflict of interest by a person on the committee, that person will not vote and the 4th committee person will replace them.

We want members to know that fairness is our utmost priority and that we will not allow under-rated contestants to continually compete at the wrong rating. The committee has full authority and will be 100% supported by the association.

2009 RSNC National Finals

5) Any Beginner that graduates from Beginner to Rookie and then to a #3 within the year will not be eligible to ride in the Graduated Beginner division at the Finals.

6) There is now a \$500 maximum on a #1 Beginner. The new rule would say a #1 Beginner is a Novice rider who has won less than 3 average checks or \$500, which ever comes first, within the sport of Ranch Sorting or Team Penning.

Qualification for 2009 RSNC National Finals to be held in June of 2009

7) A Mega Big 90% pay back for qualified contestants in the All Levels Handicap, #13 HC, #10 HC and #6/4 incentive. To qualify for the 90% payback, a contestant must compete in 5 RSNC sanctioned events.

There will also be a full array of other RSNC fun and affordable divisions for all contestants at all levels of competition. This will be a Finals for anyone and everyone who likes Ranch Sorting.

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CALLING ALL PRODUCERS!



Whether producing a Ranch Sorting has ever crossed your mind or not, we want you to seriously consider it now.

This sport is exploding and RSNC is going all out to make your Sortings fun and successful.

We just finished our 2008 National Finals and had 1,976 teams.

We know that if we work together, that number will look small next year and even smaller in years to come.

Here is what we are doing for the 08/09 season to make your shows successful.

- 1) No RSNC Membership Fees!**
- 2) No Producer Sanctioning Fees!**
- 3) No Sanctioning Application Fees!**
- 4) 90% Payback at next year's Finals in June of 2009!**
- 5) Must compete in five sanctioned RSNC events to qualify for 90% Payback which gets contestants to support your shows.**
- 6) Through the Vinton Sort for the Saddle points race your contestants can qualify for Vinton saddles and prizes through 10th place in six categories for National Championships.**
- 7) Discounts and free lettering on RSNC sponsored Vinton saddles for series awards.**

If you agree that Ranch Sorting could and should be bigger than Team Roping, then climb on board with us to make it happen!

**We have contestants all over the United States wanting you and your shows.
Represent Your State's Flag at the 2009 RSNC National Finals Next June,
Join the Fun & Excitement That has the Horse World Talking!**

National Finals Results - Ponca City, OK - October 9-12, 2008**#14 RH-HC-93 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$442.00****Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Roberson, Tommy	\$1,013.00	Wolfe, Dave	\$1,013.00
2	Gray, Bobby	\$804.00	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$804.00
3	Amy, Delwin	\$596.00	Amy, Tena	\$511.00
4	McFarland, Debbie	\$298.00	Wolfe, Dave	\$298.00
5	McFarland, Danny	\$268.00	Kirton, Dudley	\$268.00
6	Field, Morgan	\$-	Lesh, Jared	\$-
7	Newlon, Vicky	\$-	Carson, Gene	\$-

#10 HC- 139 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$706.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Wolfe, Dave	\$1,440.00	Davis, Robin	\$1,440.00
2	Gemmill, Mike	\$1,080.00	Weant, Lance	\$1,080.00
3	Moses, Tom	\$765.00	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$765.00
4	James, Collins	\$450.00	Wallace, Ken	\$450.00
5	Wyatt, Carrie	\$405.00	Rogers, Kyle	\$347.00
6	Hitchcock, Tammy	\$309.00	Spence, Margie	\$360.00
7	Davis, Robin	\$-	Steadman, Ronnie	\$-

1 Man Sort HC- 73 Teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$131.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings
1	Weant, Lance	\$551.00
2	Davis, Robin	\$438.00
3	Wolfe, Kason	\$324.00
4	Helm, Dave	\$162.00
5	Hogan, Faith	\$125.00

Beg RH HC- 114 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$179.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Walker, Rex	\$506.00	Watkins, Jay	\$174.00
2	Bacon, McKayla	\$380.00	Teele, Yvette	\$152.00
3	Butchee, Chuck	\$231.00	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$108.00
4	Sadler, Lori	\$158.00	Dawdy, Bill	\$63.00
5	Dear, Terry	\$122.00	Jetton, Tom	\$57.00
6	Karber, Marva	\$109.00	Bogner, Tom	\$51.00
7	Rice, Cole	\$-	Kirton, Dudley	\$-

#13 HC- 123 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$648.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Stevens, Matt	\$1,274.00	Gray, Bobby	\$1,274.00
2	Stevens, Matt	\$955.00	McCutchin, Cody	\$955.00
3	McFarland, Danny	\$677.00	Kirton, Dudley	\$677.00
4	Grossetete, Nugget	\$398.00	Carson, Gene	\$398.00
5	Speirs, Fred	\$358.00	Wolfe, Logan	\$358.00
6	Stalhut, Lori	\$318.00	McFarland, Danny	\$318.00

Sadie Hawkins #11- 95 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$254.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Field, Trent	\$532.00	Field, Morgan	\$456.00
2	Roberson, Tommy	\$423.00	Hitchcock, Tammy	\$363.00
3	Spence, Margie	\$313.00	Roberson, Tommy	\$313.00
4	Amy, Tena	\$135.00	Amy, Delwin	\$157.00
5	Karber, Stan	\$141.00	Karber, Marva	\$121.00
6	Frazier, Staci	\$-	Roberson, Tommy	\$-
7	Bogner, Tom	\$-	Bogner, Sherry	\$-

Rookie RH HC- 186 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$317.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Gilbert, Kathy	\$867.00	Field, Tom	\$289.00
2	Dear, Terry	\$584.00	Frank, Hoss	\$227.00
3	Craig, Barbara	\$526.00	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$175.00
4	Spies, Harold	\$310.00	Field, Tom	\$103.00
5	Karber, Marva	\$239.00	McFarland, Debbie	\$93.00
6	Lebrecht, Cheree	\$248.00	Watkins, Bull	\$83.00
7	Gemmill, Christy	\$186.00	Crossey, Jim	\$62.00

Masters #10 HC- 114 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$591.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Gemmill, Van	\$1,181.00	Entz, Bill	\$1,181.00
2	Carson, Gene	\$886.00	Parli, Gary	\$886.00
3	Amy, Delwin	\$627.00	Kelley, Beverly	\$537.00
4	Ryan, Steven	\$369.00	Buss, Dennis	\$369.00
5	Crossey, Jim	\$332.00	Kinnison, Jim	\$285.00

#11 RH HC (4 cap sorter) -155 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$802.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Smith, Mike	\$1,405.00	Avara, Richard	\$1,405.00
2	Roberson, Travis	\$946.00	McFarland, Danny	\$1,104.00
3	Field, Morgan	\$731.00	Field, Tom	\$853.00
4	Entz, Bill	\$502.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$502.00
5	Spence, Margie	\$452.00	Dawdy, TK	\$387.00
6	Grossetete, Nugget	\$401.00	Bacon, Doyle	\$344.00
7	Kirton, Cheryl	\$301.00	Kirton, Dudley	\$301.00

#6 HC- 191 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$981.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Kirton, Cheryl	\$1,732.00	Ryan, Austin	\$1,732.00
2	Gemmill, Mike	\$1,360.00	Arellano, Richard	\$1,360.00
3	Watkins, Bull	\$1,051.00	Dear, Terry	\$901.00
4	Bogner, Sherry	\$618.00	Davis, Robin	\$618.00
5	Teele, Yvette	\$557.00	Goyer, Danielle	\$477.00

#4 Sort- 98 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$262.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Black, Charles	\$549.00	Craig, Barbara	\$549.00
2	McCutchin, Cody	\$436.00	Palu, Alan	\$436.00
3	Dalinghaus, Richard	\$277.00	Jensen, Craig	\$277.00
4	Butchee, Chuck	\$139.00	Avara, Richard	\$162.00
5	Bacon, Sharon	\$124.00	Newlon, Vicky	\$124.00
6	Bogner, Sherry	\$-	Bowen, Jeremy	\$-

Bareback Sort- 43 teams / No Fast Go**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Wyatt, Carrie	\$219.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$219.00
2	Wolfe, Kason	\$174.00	Wolfe, Logan	\$174.00
3	Wolfe, Dave	\$129.00	Dawdy, Bill	\$129.00
4	Cosby, Rob	\$65.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$65.00
5	Field, Tom	\$58.00	Field, Trent	\$58.00
6	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$-	Wyatt, Shawn	\$-

All Levels- 133 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$682.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Heidelberg, Houston	\$2,500.00	Cosby, Rob	\$2,500.00
2	Frank, Hoss	\$1,026.00	Avara, Richard	\$1,026.00
3	Field, Tom	\$727.00	Field, Trent	\$727.00
4	Frank, Hoss	\$427.00	Roberson, Travis	\$366.00
5	Keith, Mike	\$385.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$385.00
6	Heidelberg, Houston	\$293.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$342.00
7	Weant, Lance	\$-	Frank, Hoss	\$-

3 Man Arena Sort- 23 teams / No Fast Go**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$322.00	Gray, Bobby	\$322.00	Lesh, Sarah	\$322.00
2	Wyatt, Carrie	\$193.00	Wyatt, Shawn	\$193.00	Wolfe, Dave	\$193.00
3	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$129.00	Lesh, Jared	\$111.00	Stevens, Matt	\$129.00
4	Amy, Delwin	\$-	Amy, Tena	\$-	Tillery, Jack	\$-

Graduated Beg RH HC- 193 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$608.00**Average**

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	McCutchin, Cody	\$890.00	Stevens, Matt	\$297.00
2	McCutchin, Cody	\$700.00	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$233.00
3	Bowen, Christy	\$541.00	Gemmill, Van	\$180.00
4	Gemmill, Christy	\$318.00	Entz, Bill	\$106.00
5	Dye, Darrel	\$286.00	Grossetete, Nugget	\$95.00
6	Craig, Barbara	\$254.00	Wright, Robert	\$85.00

continued on next page

ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS!

The 2008 RSNC National Finals was literally one for the record books. Nineteen Hundred-Seventy-Six (1,976) teams set an all time record for ranch sorting, team penning and both combined. There were 2546 runs made in 46 hours, making an average of over 55 runs per hour over the four day period. Never in the history of the sport has that been accomplished.

Things were clicking as contestants were eager to jump in to take their turn for big dollars and prizes. The first class on Thursday was the #14 Ranch Hand Handicap. Ninety-three (93)

teams were signed up for the first round. Kyle Rogers and Jared Lesh had a great start with the go round win and \$124 each. The top 20 teams came back to round two and then it was down to the top 10 for the final round. When the dust settled, RSNC President, Dave Wolfe and Tommy Roberson took home \$1,013 each for the victory. In addition they received the bonus cash of \$250 each.

The #10 Handicap was next and it was the first class of many to top 100 teams; (139) to be exact. There were two repeats to take top honors in this class with

Kyle Rogers and Dave Wolfe. Kyle and Carrie Wyatt won the fast go and Dave and Robin Davis won \$1,440 each in the average. They were awarded Maynard buckles for their National Championship honors.

One of the most exciting divisions of the show was the One-Man Sort. This was one rider against 11 head of unsettled cattle. The gate was narrowed to eight feet and 73 teams took their best shot. There was lots of patience and strategy involved as cattle were gently rolled from side to side until the correct number was ripe for the

picking. No one got ten head and only a few got over five. Eleven year old Kason Wolfe had it going his way with five in the first round and six in the second. He had four out in the final round when in the last seconds he got beat at the gate. The one that didn't get beat at the gate in all three rounds and had the most head in the fastest time was Lance Weant of Ponca City. He received a Maynard buckle and \$551.

Now for the most excited and enthusiastic sorters in the sport. The Beginners, who haven't won three checks, got to take their turn out of 114 in the class. They were able to pick one partner and draw four from a pool of experienced riders who see the value of welcoming new contestants. Mr. Rex Walker from Missouri not only won the class and \$506 but he also won the prize of an all expense paid trip for two to Las Vegas and the National Finals Rodeo. No where ever, for a \$25 entry fee, could a brand new beginner win that much! Congratulations Rex, and by the way you are now a #2 Rookie.

All these Beginners who have won three checks automatically bounce up to a #2 Rookie, which is why the RSNC Rookie Division is growing by leaps and bounds. It was next on the list and how about 186 teams for big!

Congratulations to Kathy Gilbert, owner of the Play Pen Arena, who was host of the Finals for her \$867 win and also an all expense paid trip to the NFR. Kathy worked in the office all week and snuck out for just a couple of classes. She really made it pay off.

Matt Stevens and Bobby Gray, #13 Handicap

winners, won over \$2,500 as a team plus \$2,000 in bonus cash for the prize. RSNC listened to the upper number contestants when they said they would rather have cash than prizes in the upper divisions. According to RSNC President, Dave Wolfe,

"It is now time to give the traveling contestant a place to compete within RSNC and blend the new contestant adrenaline and momentum with experienced contestant



Shelly Fitzgerald with American flag.

then reversed back the other way in reverse order and only the reversed cattle count. Brother and sister, Trent and Morgan Field



Nugget Grossetete with New Mexico state flag.

support to make this sport explode."

The RSNC signature word is FUN and it is really paying off for the Association and its' contestants. Part of that fun is new classes with a twist like the Sadie Hawkins #11 Handicap. The girl asks the guy so it is a mixed team in which 95 teams participated. Cattle are sorted one way,

figured it out and had a blast doing it, along with winning close to \$1,000.

That class finished up Friday's competition of four divisions with a total of 518 teams and 678 runs in 11 hours. That is an amazing 63+ teams an hour, which allowed everyone to shut down at 7:00 p.m. for the Producer Appreciation Banquet. Great job RSNC and RSNC contestants!

continued from previous page

7 Palu, Alan \$191.00 Fitzgerald, Shelly \$64.00

Graduated Rookie- 102 teams / Fast Go Money Paid \$276.00

Average

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Steadman, Ronnie	\$543.00	Davis, Robin	\$543.00
2	Karlinski, Suzy	\$408.00	Wright, Robert	\$408.00
3	Teele, Yvette	\$289.00	Moses, Tom	\$289.00
4	Scott, Linda	\$170.00	Bowen, Christy	\$170.00
5	Brantley, Alison	\$153.00	Wright, Robert	\$153.00
6	Brown, Shelby	\$136.00	Smith, Mike	\$136.00

Claimer Class > \$5000- 18 Entries / No Fast Go

Average

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$378.00	Gray, Bobby	\$378.00
2	Field, Trent	\$252.00	Stevens, Matt	\$252.00
3	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$-	Wyatt, Shawn	\$-

Claimer Class < \$5000- 10 Entries / No Fast Go

Average

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Field, Trent	\$350.00	Stevens, Matt	\$350.00
2	Roberson, Tommy	\$-	Hitchcock, Tim	\$-
3	Amy, Delwin	\$-	Tillery, Jack Richard	\$-
4	Daily, Scott	\$-	Fitzgerald, Shelly	\$-

Youth #10 HC- 28 Teams / No Fast Go

Average

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Keith, Sam	\$168.00	Ryan, Austin	\$168.00
2	Gemmill, Danyll	\$101.00	Wolfe, Kason	\$101.00
3	Brown, Shelby	\$67.00	Stalhut, Dillon	\$67.00
4	Stalhut, Dillon	\$-	Ryan, Austin	\$-

Youth Beginner/Adult Gate- 45 Teams / No Fast Go

Average

Rank	Name	Earnings	Name	Earnings
1	Bacon, McKayla	\$118.00	Field, Trent	\$-
2	Bacon, McKayla	\$93.00	Bacon, Doyle	\$-
3	Newlon, Megan	\$69.00	Teele, Yvette	\$-
4	Avara, Kalli	\$35.00	Gemmill, Van	\$-
5	Newlon, Austin	\$31.00	Carson, Gene	\$-
6	Newlon, Austin	\$-	Bogner, Tom	\$-
7	Newlon, Austin	\$-	Dawdy, Bill	\$-
8	Ferda, Landon	\$-	Wolfe, Dave	\$-



Staging area at the RSN National Finals.

Saturday morning the Masters of the sport were first out and once again a record was broken with the first Masters Division ever to break 100 teams. There were 114 teams in this one!

Avara grabbed \$2,800 plus \$500 bonus cash in the #11 Ranch Hand Handicap by beating 155 teams. Not a bad day's pay for having fun on horseback. Another sign that RSN is



Gene Carson and Ken Wallace.

Bill Entz and Van Gemmill showed their stuff to grab over \$2,300 out of the pot. RSN picked the perfect name for that class and was smart to be the first to recognize the Masters of the sport by giving them a class of their own.

Mike Smith and Richard

Green and Growing is the 191 teams that competed in the #6 Division! Those graduated Rookies are moving up and starting to spread their wings and fly into the numbered divisions.

Congratulations to Cheryl Kirton of Florida and Austin Ryan of Oklahoma for



Christy Gemmill and Rowdy Hutchins, Announcers.

winning nearly \$3,500 plus much, much more. This was a Vegas NFR trip for Cheryl and since Austin isn't 21 yet and couldn't win the trip, RSN stepped up to the plate with a brand new Vinton saddle for that very happy young man. Who said a draw team never wins!

The #4 Sort had 98 teams and Barbara Craig and Charles Black were rewarded with \$1,100 and Maynard buckles for their victory.

While the Masters, #11, #6 and #4 were running fast and furious in the indoor arena, there was also some excitement going on outside. It started with the ranked youth with 28 teams. That was won by Sam Keith and Austin Ryan. Then the Beginner Youth got their turn, which was a new class that once again is paying off and attracting new contestants. There were 45 teams here and McKayla Bacon put \$211 in her pocket for taking 1st and 2nd place.

The last class of the day outside was without question one of the funnest. Forty-three (43) brave souls rode in the bareback sorting! Contestants of all ages competed and contestants of all ages won. First went to Shawn and Carrie Wyatt, who are 30 something. Second went to Logan and Kason Wolfe, who are a

young teen and preteen. Third went to Dave Wolfe and Bill Dawdy, whose combined age makes them century sorters. Amazingly there were lots of 10-head runs in blazing time with 20 head needed to be in the money. RSN IS MAKING IT FUN!

Saturday was hump day with an unbelievable 674 teams and 844 runs made in 13 hours. That's 65 per hour! Fried turkey legs, Karaoke and lots of beverage was the perfect ending to a great fun and exciting day.

Sunday started off with a Parade of Flags. Contestants from each state gathered behind their state flag and rode into the arena as a team. Contestants from all 12 states that were represented enjoyed the opportunity to honor and represent their home state. That was followed by the American flag and a salute to our troops.

The All Levels Handicap was first out with 133 teams and is proof in itself that the handicap system is working. It used to be that the Open class had 15 teams if we were lucky. Now everyone has a shot and everyone is entering it. Not only that but Houston Heidelberg and Rob Cosby, an amateur team, won it and the guaranteed \$5,000. Second was Hoss Frank and Richard Avara, a novice team. Third was an Open team with Trent and Tom Field. Overall, the average rating placing in the money was 6.1, which is right in the middle of our Amateur category. The playing field is finally leveled



Leanne Budinger, Denise Wakefield and Alan Palu.

in one class for everyone. It's time to come play!

The 3-Man Arena Sort proved to be challenging with tough cattle to hold behind the line, but Shelly Fitzgerald, Bobby Gray and Sarah Lesh teamed up to beat 23 teams and capture \$666 of the pot.

The largest class of the entire show was the Graduated Beginner. This was for all two's and below and all Beginners that graduated in the 2007/2008 season. The foundation of our organization definitely came out to play and to honor them we are listing all of the money winners.

1st and 2nd Cody McCutchin, \$1,630
3rd Christy Bowen
4th Christy Gemmill
5th Darrel Dye
6th Barbara Craig
7th Alan Palu
Thanks to all the

experienced riders who earned Saddle Race points for helping these winners win.

The last class of the show also topped 100 teams. It was the Graduated Rookie Class with 102 teams. Mr. Ronnie Steadman and Miss Robin Davis snagged over \$1,000 and top honors. Both the Graduated Beginner and Graduated Rookie Class were points classes for Beginners and Rookies who claimed saddles and prizes for all who qualified.

It was a spectacular event that was rewarding for RSN and its members who are now in hot pursuit of qualifying and attending next year's Finals to be held in June of 2009 with a guaranteed 90% payback and five shows to qualify.

YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET!



It's a Family Thing — Tyler, Sharon, McKayla and Doyle Bacon.

FROM BIG FISH IN LITTLE PONDS TO BIG FISH IN BIG PONDS

The 2007/2008 RSNC Vinton Sort For The Saddles Points Race worked magnificently. The theory



Van Gemmill (far left) and Dave Wolfe (far right) with the Graduated Beginner Top 10 winners - Ronnie Steadman, Mary Ann Tillery, Linda Scott, Suzy Karlinski, Robert Wright, Jennifer Rea, Bill Daniels and Alison Brantley.

was to let the top contestants from each state qualify to go head to head with each other at the National Finals to see who could come out the Victor. It was undeniable that this theory worked great!

Since there aren't many RSNC shows in some states and lots in others, a point system was designed to let contestants qualify in the points race by being in the top 20 within their home

had many, but coming into the Finals it didn't matter because in both scenarios first place entered the Finals

fish in the big ponds for National Championship Honors. With 100's of points awarded at the Finals, it was anybody's game.

The new race for 2008/2009 will have the same format with two minor exceptions. Points will be awarded regardless of whether you get a time in the top 10 and recognition awards will be given to all first place contestants at the state level. Once again, six great Vinton saddles will be awarded along with prizes through tenth place. There are only



Graduated Rookies-Staci Frazier, Darrel Dye and Christy Bowen with Van Gemmill and Dave Wolfe.

6. Beverly Kelley
7. Dillon Stallhut
8. Sharon Bacon
9. Rex Walker
10. Larry Weinkauf

GRADUATED ROOKIE CLASS

1. Robert Wright
2. Suzy Karlinski
3. Linda Scott
4. Ronnie Steadman
5. Alison Brantley
6. Rod Bronaugh
7. Bill Daniels
8. Cody McCutchin
9. Ed Parks Sr.
10. Jennifer Rea (tie)
11. MaryAnn Tillery (tie)

NOVICE

1. Hoss Frank
2. Robin Davis
3. Richard Avara
4. Mike Gemmill
5. Cheryl Kirton
6. Lance Weant
7. Margie Spence
8. Travis Roberson
9. Tena Amy
10. Ken Wallace

AMATUER

1. Matt Stevens
2. Shawn Wyatt
3. Dudley Kirton
4. Rob Cosby
5. Logan Wolfe
6. Delwin Amy
7. Carrie Wyatt
8. Bill Dawdy
9. Mike Keith
10. Alan Kirkbride

OPEN

1. Shelley Fitzgerald
2. Tom Field
3. Danny McFarland
4. Dave Wolfe
5. Bobby Gray
6. Tommy Roberson
7. Trent Field
8. Debbie McFarland
9. Sarah Lesh

MASTERS

1. Van Gemmill
2. Gene Carson
3. Bill Entz
4. Gary Parli
5. Jim Crossey
6. Dennis Buss
7. Sherry Bogner
8. Nugget Grossetete
9. Bryan Kammerdiener
10. George Payne



Van Gemmill, third from left, and Dave Wolfe, far right, present Amateur winners- Logan Wolfe, Bill Dawdy, Carrie and Shawn Wyatt.



Open Winner - Shelly Fitzgerald (center) with Van Gemmill and Dave Wolfe.



Van Gemmill (far left) and Dave Wolfe (far right) present awards to the Novice winners - Rick Avara, Mike Gemmill, Ken Wallace, Lance Weant, Robin Davis, Hoss Frank.

state. Then to give merit for their efforts and still keep the race close at the Finals, the points standings from each contestant's home state took them to the Finals with 20 to 1 points respectively.

Some contestants only had a couple shows available to compete in while others

with 20 points, second place entered with 19, third with 18, etc. Then at the Finals, every contestant could be within striking distance of a National Championship. It truly leveled the playing field so the big fish in the little ponds could go head to head with the big

Place Trophy Cinch; 3rd-10th Place Carroll Original Wear Wool Vest

GRADUATED BEGINNER CLASS

1. Christy Bowen
2. Alan Palu
3. Darrel Dye
4. McKayla Bacon
5. Staci Frazier

seven months left until our 2009 Finals in June so get out there and Sort for the Vinton Saddles!

This year's Vinton Sort for the Saddles winners are:

Top 10 Saddle Points Winners- 1st Place Vinton Saddle, 2nd

Place Trophy Cinch; 3rd-10th Place Carroll Original Wear Wool Vest

GRADUATED BEGINNER CLASS

1. Christy Bowen
2. Alan Palu
3. Darrel Dye
4. McKayla Bacon
5. Staci Frazier

NATIONAL FINALS DIVISION WINNERS



Graduated Rookie - Ronnie Steadman and Robin Davis with Dave Wolfe.



Dave Wolfe with Cody McCutchins and Matt Stevens.



Sarah Lesh, Bobby Gray and Shelly Fitzgerald - Three-Man Arena Sort.



Van Gemmill with Shawn and Carrie Wyatt - Bareback Sort.



Kathy Gilbert and Tom Field - Rookie Ranch Hand HC.



Trent and Morgan Field - Sadie Hawkins.



Austin Ryan and Sam Keith - Youth.



Houston Heidelberg & Rob Cosby - All Level - taking the cash bonus from Van Gemmill, left, and Dave Wolfe, right.



Matt Stevens and Bobby Gray - #13 HC.



Ken Wallace and Shelly Fitzgerald.



Rex Walker and Jay Watkins- Beginner Ranch Hand HC winners.



Tommy Roberson and Dave Wolfe- #14 RH HC with Van Gemmill, center.



Robin Davis and Dave Wolfe #10 HC.



Barbara Craig and Charles Black - #4.



Austin Ryan and Cheryl Kirton - #6 HC. Austin won a saddle and Cheryl won Vegas trips.



Rick Avara and Mike Smith- #11 Ranch Hand HC taking home the cash.



Doyle and McKayle Bacon - Youth Beg.



Bill Entz and Van Gemmill - Masters winners.

**CONGRATULATIONS
to these Winners!**

COWBOY MAGIC WINNERS AT NATIONAL FINALS



Cody Mc Cutchins- First team entered for the day - "Early Bird Award."



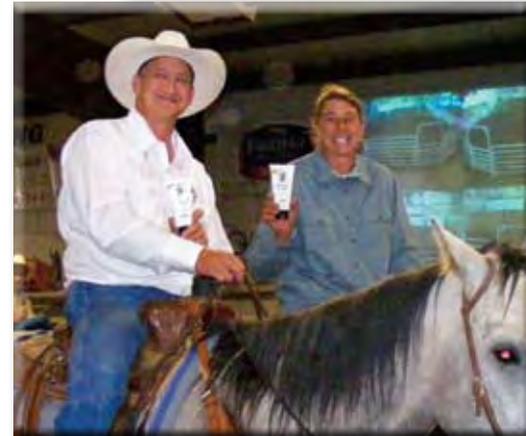
Tonya Spence and Staci Frazier winning Cowboy Magic product in the hat race.



Debbie McFarland and Dave Wolfe - Cowboy Magic winners of the egg race.

Tommy Roberson and Staci Frazier- Early Bird Award.

**MANY THANKS TO
COWBOY MAGIC
FOR THEIR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF RSNC!**



Ronnie Steadman and Robin Davis holding Cowboy Magic product.

MORE SCENES FROM THE 2008 RSNC NATIONAL FINALS



Above, Sorting contestants eagerly await their turn.



Matt Stevens and Cody McCutchins.

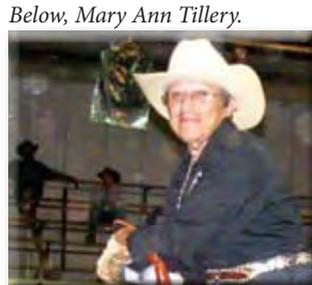
Tommy Roberson, Bill Dawdy and Lance Weant.



Hoss Fank and Jared Lesh.



Jim Crossey and Christy Gemmill.



Below, Mary Ann Tillery.



Butch Kasselmann, Larry Nixon, Collins James, Danny Johnston, the cooks who served the steaks and fixins.



Tom Fields visiting with office help.



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RSNC PRODUCER APPRECIATION BANQUET

RSNC PRODUCERS ARE RECOGNIZED AND AWARDED AT RSNC NATIONAL FINALS

Without question, the Ranch Sorting National Championships has, and is, leading the industry in making sure that their Producers are appreciated. In its first year, RSNC put up \$1,000 incentives for Producers who produced a minimum of three events and added cash and prizes for their shows. This benefited the Producer which in turn, benefited the contestants that were able to receive that cash and those prizes. Producers from all across the country took advantage of the incentive and thus created events for contestants to participate in. This in turn, sold memberships and sanctioning fees that supported the association and the 2007 National Finals. In just its first year, the participation at the 2007 Finals event exceeded 900 teams.

This was a great accomplishment for the new association. "The Producer incentives were a great investment for our association because they helped give our Producers confidence in us and our goals to grow the sport" says Dave Wolfe, President of RSNC. This year RSNC created a Producer awards program that once again was well received and appreciated by its Producers. An awards banquet was organized at the 2008 National Finals specifically for RSNC Producers. Champaign and a free steak dinner was served to over 300 and all Producers present were the Guest of Honor. They were seated at the head of the table and toasted by Dave Wolfe and all the grateful RSNC contestants.

Those receiving special recognition awards were

Ric & Sandy Noring, Danny & Debbie McFarland, Tommy Roberson, Bryan Kammerdiener, Mike Keith, Bill & Karen Entz, Adrianna Tanzer, Andy Edwards, Delwin & Tena Amy, Shelly Fitzgerald, Yvette Teele, Darrel & Marisa Dye, Van & Jeannine Gemmill and Dave & Mandy Wolfe.

There were also many other producers who contributed to a very successful year. All Producers present received a special recognition award for their support. Receiving top honors for producing the most shows and generating over 1,000 teams was Debbie & Danny McFarland. They produced 10 shows and were the first Producers to reach 1,000 teams. For their accomplishment they received Free Airfare, 3 nights stay at the Excalibur Hotel and Free National Finals Rodeo Tickets in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Also receiving the same exciting awards were Darrel Dye & Tim Gilbert for being the producer who generated the most teams. They generated 1,649 teams throughout the 2007/2008 season. The first runner-up that was present was Adrianna Tanzer from California and for her accomplishments she also received hotel accommodations and NFR tickets.

The big surprise announcement was unveiled to all producers and contestants at the banquet. A big 6' X 12' banner was unrolled to show in 2009 the Finals will be moved to June so that the kids will be out of school and the entire family can attend. And, in addition to more fun and affordable divisions, there will be 4 Mega Big divisions (All Levels, #13HC, #10 HC and

#6/4 incentive) with a 90% payback in those divisions.

These announcements were received with a huge round of applause from producers and contestants alike. While this year was phenomenal with 1,976 teams, it was agreed by all that with these announcements, next year would double again. It was an end to a great day with lots of Ranch Sorting up to 7pm, a Producer Banquet that started at 7:30, with Champaign and a toast to some very worthy Producers, delicious steaks and lots of good news for members, producers and the sport of Ranch Sorting.

Right, Mike Keith, Producer



Tommy Roberson, Producer



Danny and Debbie McFarland, Producers



Adrianna Tanzer and Andy Edwards, Producer



Ric and Sandy Noring with Champagne for Producers



Danny Johnston (cook) and Mike Gemmill branding the steaks with RSNC.



Rowdy, Lisa & Christy — very happy RSNC staff.



Lisa Weant serving up the Champagne.



Tim and Kathy Gilbert, Producers with son Kale



Bill and Karen Entz, Producers



Dave Wolfe thanks producers.



Darrel Dye



Ric and Sandy Noring, Danny and Debbie McFarland, Bill and Karen Entz at Producer's BPanquet.

RSNC STATE FAIR SORTINGS

We all know state fairs are fun but some of us know how much more fun they are when they add RSNC sortings to their schedule. This year, four state fairs had RSNC sortings. They were Wyoming, Oklahoma, Colorado and Kansas. We were fortunate enough to get some information and photos from Kansas and Colorado.

COLORADO STATE FAIR

This year the Colorado State Fair in Pueblo agreed to make room in their schedule to host an AQHA and RSNC sorting. The event was produced by Wolfe Productions of Wellington, Colorado. The AQHA divisions

for AQHA points and a chance to qualify for Ranch Sorting at the AQHA World Show which will be the largest and most lucrative event there. On day two, the arena opened up for a 4pm start time. Some contestants stayed over and

afternoon just for the RSNC classes which produced 195 teams. The heat of the day had broken by 4pm and the first class was the All levels Handicap with 30 entries. Robert Wright and Jennifer Rea won \$540 and Maynard Buckles that were sponsored by the Fair.

The second class was the Beginner Ranch Hand that is proving to be the largest RSNC division all over the country. It had 74 teams. Danielle Dalzell was the beginner sorter who joined up with draw partner Kason Wolfe for her buckle and winnings. The clock kept ticking and the hour got late by the time the #4 started but the weather was perfect and the cool night was a welcome relief. With 30 teams in the #4 once again Jennifer Rea and Robert Wright won the class and \$300 for first.

The #6 division had 41 teams and new sorters Leslie Laing and Joshua Smith showed everyone how to get it done with 18 head in 106.33 for 1st place. They liked the \$280 in money but loved the buckles even more.

As the bewitching hour struck, the #10 got started with 33 teams. The young guns Whitney Curtis and Kason Wolfe sorted 20 head in a blazing 92 seconds to



Photo courtesy Bill White.
Dave Wolfe with Jennifer Rea and Robert Wright.

were offered on Thursday afternoon and there were a total of 46 teams competing

enjoyed all the happenings of the fair while many others pulled in on Friday



Photo courtesy Bill White.
Jim Crosse, Bob Reed, Deb Pomerleau, Jennifer Rea and Robert Wright.

KANSAS STATE FAIR

Rain could not dampen the spirit of Sorting contestants at the Hutchinson Kansas State Fair Sorting. There were contestants there from Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri. A total of 155 teams ran with little time to grab a famous state fair corndog but many found the time to do so. A total of \$3,336.97 was distributed out with Robin Davis and Ronnie Steadman being the main winners of the day with a payout of \$599.24

for 1st place in the All Levels HC division. Other division winners were in the Beginner RH HC were McKayla Bacon as the sorter winning \$182.40 and Clayton Clark as the gate man winning \$91.20. In the All Draw Pot the lucky 2 that drew up together to take 1st place were Van Gemmill and Doyle Bacon winning \$263.16 each. Congrats to these 6 winners as well as all of the other winners for the day. By

the time the show was over with, many contestants and their families were able to go out and enjoy the carnival rides, animal buildings and get that second round of famous corn dogs. Having a show at a State Fair is truly a great way to go as they had the facilities set up and ready to go for us. That saves a lot of time and is convenient for those that want to put on a sorting but do not quite have the right facilities.



Clayton Clark and McKayla Bacon.



Van Gemmill and Doyle Bacon.



Robin Davis and Ronnie Steadman.

get their buckles and \$200 each. Last, but definitely not least, Laura Miller and Jim Crosse won the Masters class with 17 teams. They stuck it out to the end because they wanted the buckles and those Masters points for the RSNC Finals.

The State Fair was pleased with the draws that RSNC provided and is looking forward to next year.



MAYNARD BUCKLES

Thoreau, New Mexico



MORIARTY, NEW MEXICO EVENT GREAT SUCCESS

BY ROGER CLYDE, RSNC PRODUCER

Thanks to all for making our three series Buckles Race a great success. Performances were great fun to watch and attitudes were great throughout. Even the cows were polite enough not to step on anyone's dropped hats. We had all a good laugh as one cow even took time to jump over a contestant's hat.

Many thanks to all that helped make our events run so smooth. My wife, Peggy, did a great job with the paper work. Sheryl our announcer, and Roxie, our judge, were both very professional. We could not have done it with out you. Again, thank you!

photos by Antoinette Montoya



Series Buckle Winners: Jasper Vassau, Curt Boyd, Chuck and Lynn Colberg with producer Roger Clyde.



Roger Williams and Shelby Siegenthaler.



Beginner- Shelby Siegenthaler.



Above, #10- Dave Wolfe and Billy Schenck.



#11 Ranch Hand- Kurt Loenser and Johnny Jacobs.



All Levels HC- Dave and Kason Wolfe



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HILL & BILLY

Billy: Hey Hill, say it ain't so. I cain't believe it! I just heard that the RSNC Finals had 1,976 teams!!!

Hill: Well flap my jacks. That ain't possible. We was there and we didn't go past frog giggin time on any one night. Fact is that first night we was done by 8 and they had the campfire a goin and we all got to cook our own hot dogs.

Billy: I heard that when it was all said and done we ate over 400 hot dogs! That was down right fun just gatherin round the campfire with sorters from the whole country eatin dogs and smores and talking bout sortin and horses and cows.

Hill: Now Billy you better fess up, there ain't ever been a night one that you didn't talk bout all the fine lookin ladies and they sure had that special glow to their faces when standin round that fire.

Billy: What more could a guy want. I was in hog heaven. Then the next night they finished up by 7 and had that huge shindig for the RSNC Producers. Now that was downright hospitable. Bubby Water and steaks on the grill with all the fixins for not just the producers but for all of us.

Hill: I herd the number on that too and it was over 300 of them, cooked to perfection, melt in your mouth morsels. They even had a special RSNC brand made up and they branded them steaks for the producers.

Billy: Well, I hear tell it was one of those brandin in the dark rebrands cus that heifer had the G brand on the outside with a #3 on her back.

Hill: Was she the one that Dennis Buss took out back and shot after she caused so much trouble in the #6 Finals?

Billy: Yep, she's the one and she deserved shot. Made her taste all the better.

Hill: Then you really flipped my flop when the party started to rumble Saturday night at bout 9:30. It was Kareoke night and you jumped up there and started howlin at the moon with all the rest of em. You and them kids wasn't all that bad but how bout that Alan Kirkbride from Wyoming, that gent can carry a tune all the way to Oklahoma & back!

Billy: He was good but my vote goes to all them purty ladies like Kathy Gilbert and Marisa Dye and those ladies that served up the food. I could a sat there all night with them a singin.

Hill: It was a plum enjoyable show not cuz we were worth a hoot in the sortin pen but cuz they shook the dogs leg and ran over 2,500 runs in 4 days and wuz dun in time for us all to wind down and partake in some great down home hospitality each and every evening after the show.

Billy: It just couldn't been better except fur one or two little things.

Hill: What's that Billy?

Billy: Next year we need to have em pick a night for some of Johnny Joseph's jambalaya gumbo and Carlos Washington's singin. That would of put me in Hill Billy Heaven!

MORE SCENES FROM THE NATIONAL FINALS



Karen and Bill Entz paying out.



Tom Moses and Shelly Fitzgerald.



Gene Carson



Fred Speirs



Bill Dawdy and Lori Sadler.

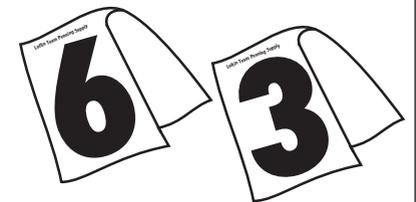
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A FEW WORDS FROM NATIONAL FINALS CONTESTANTS

I would like to thank Dave Wolfe and the RSNC staff for bringing back an atmosphere I felt was long gone. During the four days of finals, I never experienced one act of un-sportsmanship-like conduct; the staff went out of their way to lend a helping hand and make us feel welcomed, I can speak for all of us, when I say the weekend was top shelf and we definitely got our monies worth.

Thanks again for a job well done,
LeeAnn Budinger

To Dave Wolfe and everyone involved with the Ranch Sorting National Championships:

I have been team penning and sorting 24 years. I never remember having a more enjoyable trip than this one, to Ponca City in October, 2008. Here are a few reasons why it was especially so:

1. My five traveling companions were absolutely enjoyable.
2. The RSNC structure so levels the playing field that every rider is valued. This is a contrast, I am sad to say, to the way much of our sport creates 'godlike' winners and 'pariah' like losers, with everyone scrambling to climb that ladder to a check, sometimes over the top of each other. Without a good handicapped system, dominant riders and boxes have enough of an edge that riders of lesser abilities face long odds and low chance of a check. Only a small number can or will continue against that. Over my years in the sport, I am sure I have seen several hundred penners quit. It is so important for people to feel they have a fair chance. RSNC's handicapping system is the best I've seen yet...and every rider is valued. It is amazing what that does for the atmosphere at a show.
3. The show was so well run. But may I single out the office staff. Preentered shows are nice to go to, but for most of us, it is an ordeal to make those teams a month ahead. At Ponca City, there was a posted run order within 20-30 minutes of the closing of entries for classes of 85-200 teams. Who needs preentry?
4. The special events each evening, free food and entertainment, were such a nice touch and served as a focal point for the making and nurturing of friendships. I made new friends.
5. Our hosts: the Oklahoman's, the Wolfe's, the Gemmill's, and the entire staff were tops in being pleasant and accommodating. They represented themselves well. And, oh yes, 6. The grand entry was fun. Almost every state had a lead flag. We rode in honor and respect of each other, and then celebrated the Stars and Stripes, proudly streaming behind Shelley Fitzgerald's streaking horse.
7. And speaking of horses, they are the ultimate stars of our game. May we never take them for granted. Next June, maybe we can take up where we left off.

I hope to see you there.
Alan Kirkbride

Dear Dave & Gang,

Once again when all other shows are seeing diminished numbers, RSNC has shown that honest handicapping and open to the entire public, not just special boxes, is the correct and best way to serve its members.

Saying thank you ten times over is not enough, the

friendships formed at the finals, good times, the lack of whining and just unforgettable 'bareback sorting' included. The moving testament to Collins James was a highlight of what really matters and is most important. I've never seen or felt more genuine camaraderie and compassion.

I'll be at every RSNC show that I can make. See 'ya down the road and at the June finals.

Jim Crossey

Cows, Clocks and Lady Luck

Sorting is fast, with a horse as your partner, against cows, the clock and Lady Luck.

I had been to only one sorting competition prior to spending four days in Ponca City OK, at the Ranch National Championships Finals. There I saw the best of the best. Unbelievable horses, with riders that ranged as much in age as they did in talent.

Lee Ann Budinger was my mentor. We shared an LQ trailer, sandwiched between a whole line of LQs. The first morning of competition I discovered that an alarm clock was not necessary. The hum of the first LQ generator was the wake up call for all. When I stepped out the door to feed horses, the sun was just thinking about rising. It was that perfect time of the day, mystic light and horses... horses everywhere. Beautiful horses, fit horses, snorting horses, dancing, prancing horses. Brushed, saddled and glistening in the morning sunlight. The riders were turned out too. Pressed jeans, crisp shirts on the cowboys, and the addition of a little bling on the cowgirls. What set one individual apart from another was the horse with it's brand and spurs with unique style.

I had decided to bring my own little grey gelding at the last minute. I was so glad that I did. But because of the late date he was stabled past the indoor, past the outdoor, through the cattle run, around three trailers and under the trees. It was a cool spot away from the commotion. I am sure that people wondered why this blond rookie was always pushing a wheelbarrow back and forth. I am a bit shy in new situations but everyone was friendly and true to cowboy tradition, the men always held the gate for me.

The competition started. The announcer was there every minute of every day. From 8 am to 8 pm riders were sorting cattle. Any rancher would be thrilled with such skill in horse and rider. When I got to the arena and looked in all I saw were butts, big beautiful butts, almost lined up in rows. I learned that this is how competitors waited for their team number to light up on the marquee, indicating it was their turn in the pen. Teams were in and out in less than a minute so they had to be close to get their ride.

The viewing at the Play Pen Arena was great. Inside, the bleachers were upstairs, overlooking the competition pens. I got a birds eye view of everything. Being a riding instructor myself and training dressage for 30 years I do have an eye for details. So I watched cutting techniques, horse types, rider's style and aids. What I learned was:

- Ride slow and the cattle stay more settled and together.
- Ride slow and you can be too late to turn them.
- Ride fast, canter the entire time and you can shave seconds off.
- Ride fast and the cattle scatter and charge the gate.
- Horses ridden off the leg do best.

Snaffle and single rein is most prevalent.

Spurs help for a quicker ride but less control of the horse. Sorrels win, but so do bays, dunns black and greys.

The #3 cow is a pain in the pen.

The Masters class was a welcome surprise. A class for riders over 50 years old. Better yet, over 100 pairs entered. Men, women, all together all over 50. Now where else would you find that combination? This sorting looks better and better.

My most favorite class was the incredible bare back sorting. It was outside toward evening and everyone was in a festive mood. I saw this as the best of the best riders who were a little wild at heart. They had to be to cut a cow at break neck speeds with only mane to grab. I had ridden bare back as a kid so I ran back to my horse, threw the bridle on, found a hay bale to mount with and trotted back to the arena. I wanted to see if they would be fast, would they grab mane,

would horse spin them off? Yes, yes and yes. The riders were incredible and a treat to watch. The first pair set the stage with all 10 cows in. then the second pair got all 10 and the third. This was crazy fun.. This was incredible



Photo courtesy Nancy DeVaney

riding. Not everyone was better without a saddle but all had a good time trying and there were loud calls of encouragement for those that lost to Lady Luck.

On Sunday morning we turned off the generator, rolled up the awning and sadly said good-bye to both old and new friends. I'll be back. I have a belt buckle to win.

Sorting cattle draws good horsemen together. You can buy an educated horse but the rider still has to go, stop, turn, push, back up, leap forward and holler all the way until the last cow is through. I love the technical riding, reading the cows, working as a team with a horse partner. There is only one thing

I have a problem with, biscuits and gravy every day for breakfast. Is that really the secret to a good seat?

As I said this was only my second sorting and my first finals ever. RSNC made me feel welcome and I truly enjoyed the friendly atmosphere with horses and riders all gathering for an unbelievable competition. Making new sorters like me feel like I belong is what I believe will make your association huge. There are lots of us out there.

Nancy DeVaney



Photo courtesy Nancy DeVaney

UPCOMING EVENTS

THERE ARE 183 RSNC SHOWS BOOKED ALREADY!!!

Event Date	Location	Producer/Contact #	Event Date	Location	Producer/Contact #
Oct. 24-26, 2008	Boone, CO	Darel Tiegs 719-520-1800	February- TBA*	Bulverde, TX	Yancey James #830-377-4017
November 1, 2008	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359	February- TBA*	Sullivan, MO	Mike Mc Millen #573-259-5565
November 9, 2008	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715	February-May TBA*	Elkhorn, NE	Doc Barton Smith #402-562-3677
November 15-16, 2008	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601	February-May TBA*	Keenesburg, CO	Mike O' Brien #303-645-1749
November 16, 2008	Platt, SD	Tom Jurgens #605-297-3130	February-May TBA*	Nixa, MO	Jerry Estes #417-207-0187
November 21-23, 2008	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444	February-May TBA*	Buna, TX	David Collins #409-423-5473
November 22, 2008	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117	February-May TBA*	Kaufman, TX	Randy Crockett #979-255-2659
November 22, 2008	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553	February-May TBA*	Alma, MI	Rochelle Rondy #989-466-9170
November 29, 2008	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359	February-May TBA*	St. Paul, NE	Roger Williams #308-750-6271
November 2008- TBA*	Nixa, MO	Jerry Estes #417-207-0187	February-May TBA*	Rock Springs, WY	Cheree Lebrecht #307-389-1648
December 6, 2008	Bastrop, TX	Trina Miller #512-988-1180	February-May TBA*	Rozet, WY	Stacey Thar #307-685-0149
December 6-7, 2008	Ardmore, OK	Bryan Blackman #210-394-4955	February-May TBA*	Bastrop, TX	Trina Miller #512-988-1180
December 6-7, 2008	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255	March 6-7, 2009	Hurricane, UT	Kip Bowler #435-574-3789
December 7, 2008	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669	March 7, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359
December 12-14, 2008	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444	March 7, 2009	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117
December 13, 2008	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117	March 7-8, 2009	Golden, CO	Wolfe Productions #970-897-2621
December 13-14, 2008	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601	March 7-8, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255
December 14, 2008	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715	March 14, 2009	Wanette, OK	Cos Filiberto #405-383-2109
December 31, 2008	Alma, MI	Rochelle Rondy #989-466-9170	March 14, 2009	Ramona, CA	John Mallon #760-789-7944
December 2008- TBA*	Buna, TX	David Collins #409-423-5473	March 14-15, 2009	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601
December 2008- TBA*	Nixa, MO	Jerry Estes #417-207-0187	March 14, 2009	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669
December 2008- TBA*	Keenesburg, CO	Mike O' Brien #303-645-1749	March 15, 2009	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715
December 2008- TBA*	Elkhorn, NE	Doc Barton Smith #402-562-3677	March 21, 2009	Platt, SD	John Dean #605-337-3022
January 1-2, 2009	Golden, CO	Wolfe Productions #970-897-2621	March 27-29, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444
January 1-2, 2009	Hurricane, UT	Kip Bowler #435-574-3789	March 28, 2009	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553
January 1-4, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444	March- TBA*	Bulverde, TX	Yancey James #830-377-4017
January 3, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359	March- TBA*	Sullivan, MO	Mike Mc Millen #573-259-5565
January 3-4, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255	April 4, 2009	Wanette, OK	Cos Filiberto #405-383-2109
January 10, 2009	Ramona, CA	John Mallon #760-789-7944	April 4, 2009	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117
January 10, 2009	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669	April 4, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359
January 11, 2009	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715	April 4-5, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255
January 17, 2009	Platt, SD	John Dean #605-337-3022	April 5, 2009	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715
January 17-18, 2009	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601	April 11, 2009	Platt, SD	John Dean #605-337-3022
January 17-18, 2009	Ardmore, OK	Bryan Blackman #210-394-4955	April 11, 2009	Ramona, CA	John Mallon #760-789-7944
January 23-25, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444	April 11-12, 2009	Boone, CO	Darel Tiegs #719-520-1800
January 31, 2009	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117	April 11, 2009	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669
January 31, 2009	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553	April 18, 2009	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601
January- TBA*	Bulverde, TX	Yancey James #830-377-4017	April 24-26, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444
January- TBA*	Sullivan, MO	Mike Mc Millen #573-259-5565	April 25, 2009	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553
January- TBA*	Elkhorn, NE	Doc Barton Smith #402-562-3677	April- TBA*	Bulverde, TX	Yancey James #830-377-4017
January- TBA*	Keenesburg, CO	Mike O' Brien #303-645-1749	April- TBA*	Farmington, NM	Doug Hegar #505-320-5124
January- TBA*	Nixa, MO	Jerry Estes #417-207-0187	April- TBA*	Morgan, UT	Shawn Miller #801-201-7710
January- TBA*	Buna, TX	David Collins #409-423-5473	May 2, 2009	Wanette, OK	Cos Filiberto #405-383-2109
January- TBA*	Kaufman, TX	Randy Crockett #979-255-2659	May 2, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359
January- TBA*	Alma, MI	Rochelle Rondy #989-466-9170	May 2, 2009	Farmington, NM	Doug Hegar #505-320-5124
January- TBA*	St. Paul, NE	Roger Williams #308-750-6271	May 2-3, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255
January- TBA*	Rozet, WY	Stacey Thar #307-685-0149	May 9, 2009	Ramona, CA	John Mallon #760-789-7944
January- TBA*	Bastrop, TX	Trina Miller #512-988-1180	May 9, 2009	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669
February 7, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359	May 16, 2009	Platt, SD	John Dean #605-337-3022
February 7, 2009	Gainesville, TX	Bryan Kammerdiener #940-668-1117	May 22-24, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444
February 7-8, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255	May 23-24, 2009	Boone, CO	Darel Tiegs #719-520-1800
February 13-14, 2009	Hurricane, UT	Kip Bowler #435-574-3789	May 30-31, 2009	Morgan, UT	Shawn Miller #801-201-7710
February 14, 2009	Ramona, CA	John Mallon #760-789-7944	May 30, 2009	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553
February 14-15, 2009	Pueblo, CO	Richard Noring #719-382-5601	June 6, 2009	Wanette, OK	Cos Filiberto #405-383-2109
February 14, 2009	Humansville, MO	Roger Johnson #417-754-2669	June 6, 2009	Palm City, FL	Debbie McFarland #772-781-4359
February 15, 2009	Thermopolis, WY	Ash Whitt #307-864-5715	June 6, 2009	Farmington, NM	Doug Hegar #505-320-5124
February 20-22, 2009	Ponca City, OK	Darrel Dye #580-716-6444	June 6-7, 2009	Richfield, ID	Delwin Amy #208-420-1255
February 21, 2009	Platt, SD	John Dean #605-337-3022	June 10-14, 2009	RSNC National Finals	RSNC #970-897-2901
February 28, 2009	Anaheim, CA	Adrianna Tanzer #714-313-0553	*Watch the RSNC website at www.rsnc.us for exact dates as they become available.		



Sort for the Vinton Saddle Points Race

2009

It's anyone's game — *come play!*

No. of entries in class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
3-4	1/2									
5-9	1	1/2								
10-14	2	1	1/2							
15-19	3	2	1	1/2						
20-24	4	3	2	1	1/2					
25-29	5	4	3	2	1	1/2				
30-34	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2			
35-39	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2		
40-44	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2	
More	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2

Classes With 100+ Teams Are Double Points

Vinton Saddles will be awarded to the high-point contestant in each category. Other prizes will be awarded through 10th place. In the '09 season, qualifying will run from October 15th to June 1st. The top 20 point earners in each category will enter the Finals with 20 points down to 1 point respectively.

High-point contestants in each division from each state that competes in at least 5 RSNC sanctioned events will receive State Highpoint recognition awards.

QUALIFYING CATEGORIES

All 2009 Graduating Beginners

All 2009 Graduating Rookies

Novice (#3 & #4)

Amateur (#5 & #6)

Open (#7, #8 & #9)

Masters 50 & Over

Automatically Qualified

Automatically Qualified

Top 20 from each State

Official Contest Rules

THE PURPOSE OF THE RSNC SORT FOR THE VINTON SADDLE CONTEST IS TO SERVE AS AN INCENTIVE FOR PARTICIPATION IN SANCTIONED EVENTS. IN THE '08-'09 SEASON, POINT TOTALS WILL BE KEPT FROM OCTOBER 15 TO JUNE 1, 2009. THE TOP 20 POINT EARNERS IN SIX SEPARATE CATEGORIES WILL ENTER THE NATIONAL FINALS WITH 20 POINTS TO 1 POINT RESPECTIVELY.

1. Contestants must be a member to earn points for the saddle race.
2. The AQHA point system will be used to award points to contestants placing in the top ten average of any division for which they are eligible. Classes with 100+ teams will award double points.
3. The Masters' Division will be a class of its own and the points will be kept separately.
4. A contestant will represent his/her home state. Points earned at shows outside a contestant's home state will be added to his/her total in the state in which he/she resides.
5. High point contestants in each division from each state that competes in at least 5 RSNC sanctioned events will receive state high point recognition awards.
6. In addition to the saddle, the top 20 point earners from each state will be eligible for other year-end prizes. However, a contestant may only claim one year-end award.
7. In the event that a contestant's rating is changed, his/her points will be carried with him/her to the next division unless moving those points improves the contestant's standing in the points race. In this case, only the points that will put the contestant

- in the same standing as in the prior division will be carried over. Example: A NOVICE has 50 points and is in 4th place in the standings when she becomes an AMATEUR. The current 4th place AMATEUR has 30 points. In this case, the rider that is graduating from NOVICE to AMATEUR can only transfer 30 of her 50 points to the new division. The two riders will now be in a tie for the 4th place AMATEUR position.
8. Contestants graduating from Beginner to Rookie will be automatically qualified for the National finals with a minimum of 10 points in the Graduated Beginner division. A Beginner that graduates to a Rookie and then to a Novice will be eligible to ride in the Graduated Rookie and the Novice divisions at the 2009 Finals. Contestants graduating from Rookie to Novice will be automatically qualified for the National Finals in the Graduated Rookie division with a minimum of 10 points. All other contestants that are moved from one division to another will be automatically qualified for the Finals, with a minimum of 10 points, in the division they graduated into. Graduated contestants are eligible to compete for paybacks in every division for which they are qualified, but may only claim one year-end award.

THE RSNC NATIONAL FINALS IS AN OPEN EVENT; THIS MEANS ANYONE MAY COMPETE AT THIS CONTEST AND WIN PAY-BACKS AS WELL AS OTHER PRIZES. CONTESTANTS THAT COMPETED AT 5 OR MORE RSNC EVENTS DURING THE '08-'09 SEASON ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN ADDITIONAL 20% ON ANY PAYBACK. HOWEVER, ONLY THE TOP 20 POINT EARNERS FROM EACH STATE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE VINTON SADDLE OR OTHER YEAR-END AWARDS.

Ponca City, Oklahoma

★ 2009 ★

Five Exciting Days — June 10-14

RSNC NATIONAL FINALS

90% Payback!!!

All Levels, #13 HC,
#10 HC & #6 (w/ #4 Incentive)



Estimated Minimum
For Event

\$500,000+++
3,500 Team Limit!



AND additional FUN divisions to enter!

Qualification:

Compete at FIVE sanctioned RSNC events
between October 13, 2008 and June 1, 2009



90% Payback Example

300 TEAMS

For All Levels # 13, # 10, # 6 w/ #4 HC

One HUGE class each day

All Other Fun Low Entry Fee Divisions
will run Simultaneously
Throughout The Week in Outdoor Arena

300 Teams = \$54,000 Purse

1st Place Team receives \$14,040

300 @ \$100 / Contestant = \$60,000 x 90%
= \$54,000

1st Place \$13,500
2nd Place \$10,260
3rd Place \$ 7,020
4th Place \$ 5,400
5th Place \$ 4,590
6th Place \$ 4,320
7th Place \$ 3,240
8th Place \$ 2,700
9th Place \$ 1,890
10th Place \$ 1,080

Total Purse \$54,000

90% Payback Example

400 TEAMS

For All Levels # 13, # 10, # 6 w/ #4 HC

One HUGE class each day

All Other Fun Low Entry Fee Divisions
will run Simultaneously
Throughout The Week in Outdoor Arena

400 Teams = \$72,000 Purse

1st Place Team receives \$18,000

400 @ \$100 / Contestant = \$80,000 x 90%
= \$72,000

1st Place \$18,000
2nd Place \$13,680
3rd Place \$ 9,630
4th Place \$ 7,200
5th Place \$ 6,120
6th Place \$ 5,760
7th Place \$ 4,320
8th Place \$ 3,600
9th Place \$ 2,520
10th Place \$ 1,440

Total Purse \$72,000

90% Payback Example

500 TEAMS

For All Levels # 13, # 10, # 6 w/ #4 HC

One HUGE class each day

All Other Fun Low Entry Fee Divisions
will run Simultaneously
Throughout The Week in Outdoor Arena

500 Teams = \$90,000 Purse

1st Place Team receives \$18,000

500 @ \$100 / Contestant = \$100,000 x 90%
= \$90,000

1st Place \$22,500
2nd Place \$17,100
3rd Place \$11,700
4th Place \$ 9,000
5th Place \$ 7,650
6th Place \$ 7,200
7th Place \$ 5,400
8th Place \$ 4,500
9th Place \$ 3,150
10th Place \$ 1,800

Total Purse \$90,000

COWBOY AND COWGIRL PRIDE . . .

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LEEANN BUDINGER

While waiting for my name to be called to enter the sorting pen, I noticed all the cool freeze brands and personalized spurs surrounding me. First chance I got, I retrieved my camera from the trailer and began taking pictures of as many as I could find, everyone was so gracious to stop and hike a pant leg for a better picture of their pride and joy. Some even shared their stories of how they came to have them, as well as of the brands having been passed down generation to generation. Other than being asked if I was a brand inspector by one gentleman, everyone had a smile on their face and was more than willing to take a moment for me to get the pictures. I hope you enjoy them. A big thanks to Dave Wolfe for following through with my idea and adding them to the paper.

Brands are displayed on the front cover.





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