



WorldWide Slide Magazine

OCTOBER 1, 2025

**VALENTINA SAGMEISTER
CLAIMS AUSTRIAN
MATURITY TITLE**





**THIS
RIGHT
HERE
IS REINING
NRHA**

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AMERICANA 2025: RECORD CROWDS AND STANDOUT FINALS IN FRIEDRICHSHAFEN



Photos by 8 Photo Agency

Americana 2025 exceeded expectations on every front. More visitors came than ever before, the audience was more international, and the evening shows were packed. Over 56,200 visitors attended across five public days, with nearly 500 horses from 16 nations and 650 head of cattle turning the fairgrounds into “Europe’s largest ranch” for the week. Officials from AQHA, NRHA, and NRCHA were on site throughout the event.

“Americana 2025 was an event of superlatives: never before have so many people come together to celebrate Western sports and this very special lifestyle,” said Klaus Wellmann, Managing Director of Messe Friedrichshafen.

“The number of visitors to the four evening shows exceeded all expectations, and the new music formats were nearly sold out in their premiere year. With the most successful edition in Americana’s history, Friedrichshafen has firmly established itself as Europe’s epicenter of the Western way of life.”

A full slate for sport, trade, and fans

Crowds were steady from the first day. By Saturday morning, overflow parking was needed and a nearby meadow was pressed into service. Wednesday and Thursday infotainment nights drew 3,200 and 4,200 spectators, while Friday and Saturday sold out weeks in advance. The livestream reached 26,000+ viewers

worldwide. Roughly 300 exhibitors filled the halls, with more than 500 live demonstrations across four riding arenas, plus a health forum and clinics that included a well-received bit seminar with Kay Wienrich. The outdoor area stayed lively late into the evening with country music, line dancing, and the new Yellowstone Saloon.



Show management emphasized presentation and safety. Multi-angle camera coverage and five large screens gave spectators a clear view of every maneuver.

New slow-motion replays helped educate first-time fans. In the NRHA Bronze Trophy Open Final, individual maneuver scores were projected live, which made the runs easier to follow. For cattle classes, the arena was raised by 20 cm, side panels measured 2 m in height, corners were rounded, and kick pads were added. On-site veterinarians praised the setup.

Competitors gave high marks to the footing. Arena manager Adi Wagner prepared discipline-specific ground and even built a custom dragmaster for Americana. A new Riders Bar provided a quiet spot to regroup between rides and quickly became a favorite. Ranch horse classes drew strong fields and consistent crowd response, and earned themselves a permanent place on the program, including praise from AQHA President Jeff Tebow.

“For us, Americana is a barometer, a source of inspiration, and a driving force for our sport

and industry,” said Sandra Quade, who leads Americana show management with Joachim Bochmann. “We listened and learned over the past two years, and this edition confirmed we are on the right track.” Announcer Darren Moore of Texas put it simply: “Americana is more than a show. Riders here do not just compete for themselves, but for our brand, the Western way of life.”

Final Winners

September 2, 2025

Masters Cutting Non Pro

Champion: Sasha Schwind & Counting Cats — 152

Reserve: Rosana Bembom & Smoking Spook — 150

Third: Vittoria Antonini & Trendzetter — 149

September 3, 2025

ERCHA Hackamore Open 5 & Under

Champion: Samuele Poli Barberis & Lil Gunna R Great — 436.5 total

Reserve: Patrick Sattler & Sparkin Jacolena — 415

Third: Moreno Söderlund & Secretheartofaction — 409

ERCHA Hackamore Non Pro 5 & Under

Champion: Franck Duclos & Tiktok Shine — 420.5 total

Reserve: Klaus Paucker & Silver Catfish — 400.5

Third: Jan Luca Waitzenegger & Elta Buccaneer — 387

NRHA Bronze Trophy Intermediate Open

Champion: Ulrich Kofler & ARC Walla Smart — 219

Reserve: June Alu Martinez de Rituerto & KB No White Whiz — 213.5

Third: Nina Dan & Blue Eye Gunlady — 211

September 5, 2025

NRHA Bronze Trophy Open

Champion: Klaus Lechner (AUT) & Tinseltownsmokingun — 225.5

Reserve: Davide Brighenti (ITA) & BB Gotta Gold Tinsel — 225

Third: Stefano Ferri (ITA) & Spook Design — 224.5

ERCHA Non Pro Bridle Spectacular

Champion: Sarah Destefanis (ITA) & Hot As Wasabi — 647.5 total

Co-Reserve: Vera Walliser (SUI) & CD Fortunate Son — 644.5

Co-Reserve: Eliane Seiler (SUI) & CR Rosie The Riveter — 644.5

ERCHA Derby Level 1 Open

Champion: Andrea Favaretto (ITA) & SDP Bowser — 637.5 total

Reserve: Stefanie Steidle & SER Metallic Rose — 613.5

Third: Tomas Barta (CZE) & GR Miss Corona Dual — 611

ERCHA Nations Cup

Champions: Italy — 1,912

Reserve: France — 1,877.5

Third: Germany — 1,874.5

Fourth: Switzerland — 1,717.5



Final-Weekend Highlights

Bonda Ranch European Championship Open Cutting

Champion: Pietro Valeri & Starry Eyedd

Reserve: Andrea Favaretto & Trendzetter

Third: Andrea Favaretto & Sofies Choice Cat

Ariat Super Ranch Horse Championship

Champion: Joschka Werdermann & ND

Platinum Card — 161.5

Reserve: Jana Haug & One Army Soldier — 161.0

Third: Annika Viecez & Despacito Whiz — 160.5

ERCHA Derby Open

Champion: Giovanni Campanaro (ITA) & Rey Smart Tuff

ERCHA Derby Limited Open

Champion: Markus Schöpfer (ITA) & Oh Cay Eastercat

By the numbers

Visitors: 56,200+

Livestream viewers: 26,000+

Nations represented: 16

Horses on site: ~500

Cattle on site: ~650

Exhibitors: ~300

Live demos: 500+

Evening show attendance: Wednesday 3,200,

Thursday 4,200; Friday and Saturday sold out

AUSTRIAN REINING MATURITY CROWNS CHAMPIONS ACROSS ALL LEVELS



Photos by Tom Hautmann

Wiener Neustadt hosted the \$30,000-added Austrian Reining Maturity & NRHA Show with deep fields and busy finals across Open and Non Pro divisions. The Maturity classes for 5- to 15-year-old horses drew 87 entries. Another 51 entries were recorded across the L1 and L2 divisions, underscoring the depth of the European reining scene.

The Open L4 and L3 finals belonged to

Valentina Sagmeister and Magico Gallo (Prize Rooster x Snappy My Magic), owned by Franz Lechner-Khodol.

Their 148 topped both levels and added to the pair's résumé after winning the 2022 Austrian Maturity Open L2. Josef Mittmannsgruber and Mister Gold Whiz pressed them to the finish on a 147.5 for both L4 and L3 Reserve. Sara Karasova guided MD Jack Gunster to third on a



146.

In the Non Pro, Jasmin Semmelmeier and CB Steppin Whiz (Steppin On Sparks x Genius Candy Whiz) completed a clean sweep of Non Pro L4 and L3 with a 145 in a strong field of 24. The pair also carried in recent form as the 2024 Austrian Maturity Non Pro L2 and L1 Co-Champions. Rudolf Maurer with Gundalf and Florian Kainz with Show Surprise Step shared Co-Reserve in both levels on 143.5.



The L2 Open title went to Zuzana Pacesova with CSG Pearlbellatown (Colonels Shining Gun x Shiney Tinseltown) on a 144.5. Pacesova

and the 6-year-old mare have been steady performers, including Limited and Intermediate Open Co-Reserve honors at the 2024 Austrian

Reining Futurity. Miroslov Baniari on Asbrightasgun and Josef Mittmannsgruber on Mister Gold Whiz tied for L2 Open Co-Reserve at 143.5.

In the L1 Open, Melanie Romi Otto and CSG Miss Dior posted a 142.5 to take the championship. Andreas Eder finished Reserve on Smoking Mcjac with a 141.5, then came back for third on Slide So High for owner Anna Kunesch with a 140.5.

Non Pro finals closed the show with a sweep by Sabine Koglgruber, who won Non Pro L1 and L2 on Asbrightascrome (Cromed Out Mercedes x Asbrightaseinstein) with a 143. The stallion's record includes the 2018 ARHA Futurity Open L3 championship with Klaus Lechner and finals appearances at both ARHA and the NRHA Breeders Futurity.

Jasmin Semmelmeyer and CB Steppin Whiz added Non Pro L1 and L2 Reserve titles on a 142.5. Third in Non Pro L1 was shared by Silvia Kulmer on Fabulousfrozenwhiz and Gernot Kulmer on Oh That Gun with 141.5. In Non Pro L2, third was a three-way tie among Silvia Kulmer on Fabulousfrozenwhiz, Gernot Kulmer on Oh That Gun, and Barbora Julinova on Westrashya.

Across divisions, scores were tight and the depth of experienced horses showed. Several



winner brought prior major results to the pen and converted that form into new titles in Wiener Neustadt.

The combined slate delivered what riders and owners expect from the Austrian Maturity: full classes, clean runs under pressure, and a clear look at horses that continue to compete successfully well beyond their futurity year.

TIME, TALENTS, & TREASURES

BY NICOLE DEARY



Photos by Jenn Kasper

If someone told you how many days you had left on this earth, would you live differently? If a medical professional - a doctor or a nurse - gave you a terminal diagnosis and you had to make decisions quickly, how would you respond?

There are two people in my life right now facing this exact reality. One is an 82-year-old with Alzheimer's progressing rapidly. The other is a 27-year-old with a rare form of cancer. Doctors have shared their professional opinions about how much longer they may live. I weep, I mourn with them. But I know only God oversees our time. People can earn money again if it's lost or stolen, but they can't turn back time. The rest of your life - however long it may be - needs to be the best of your life.

I turned 45 this summer. To some, that may seem young, to others, old. But I had to ask myself: how many years have I wasted? My

grandmother died at 73. Will that be the same for me? If I only have 28 years left, am I wasting time? What have I done with the time, talents, and treasures entrusted to me?

Jesus gives an incredible message in Matthew 25 - the Parable of the Talents.

The Parable of the Talents

Jesus told parables - simple stories that illustrate moral and spiritual lessons. In this parable, He explained: it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two, and to another one, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

The man who had received the five talents put his money to work and gained five more. The one with two gained two more. But the one

who had received one talent dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time, the master returned to settle accounts. The man with five talents came forward and said, "Master, you entrusted me with five talents; see, I have gained five more." His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share in your master's happiness."

The man with two talents received the same response. Then the man with one talent came and offered excuses for why he had not used his gift wisely. His master called him a wicked, lazy servant and took the talent from him, giving it to the one who had ten. "For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him."

The life question for myself, my family, and for each reader is this: What have you done with the time, talents, and treasures God has given you?

Down Right Amazing

The story of the one-million-dollar-earning horse Down Right Amazing is a powerful example of time, talent, and treasure.

This calm, sound, strong sorrel stallion has shown no fear of sold-out crowds, concerts, lights, chaos, change, long journeys, small arenas, massive stadiums, deep dirt, or shallow dirt. He has been life-changing for our family, for breeder Rob Curtis, and for owner Debbie Good of DAG Ventures LLC. I stand amazed at the time God has given us with this horse. His special wins began only after he and Casey suffered severe injuries.

In late November 2020, just days before moving into the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds for the NRHA Futurity, Casey was rescuing a valuable horse in the walker. When the horse became trapped, Casey freed him, but in the process, the overhead arm of the walker struck Casey in the head and threw him to the ground,

breaking his neck.

Doctors sent him home in a neck brace with strict rest orders. Yet two days later we departed for Oklahoma City. Casey's mother pleaded with me not to let him ride. But it wasn't my decision. I told her, "This is between Casey and God. I can't persuade him either way... and I still believe in miracles."

Down Right Amazing was one of three horses Casey felt called to show. Despite fear of permanent injury or even losing our business, Casey pressed forward. To the outside world, his confidence looked unshakable. Clients said, "If he'll show in a neck brace, we know he won't give up on our horse." Our business actually grew. The Last Cowboy TV crew went wild covering his story.

At the same time, Down Right Amazing also suffered his only major injury when he tried to climb out of his stall and shattered his splint bone. After surgery, rest, and rehab, he returned stronger than ever. That's when the winning streak began.

Career Highlights – Down Right Amazing

- 11/26/2020 – NRHA Open Futurity, 3rd place
 - 6/19/2021 – NRHA Open Derby, Reserve Champion
 - 4/17/2022 – NRBC Open Derby, Reserve Champion
 - 8/17/2022 – TRFAM Open Shootout Qualifier, Champion
 - 3/10/2023 – The American Performance Horseman, Champion
 - 4/16/2023 – NRBC Open Derby, Champion
 - 6/13/2023 – NRHA Open Derby, Champion
 - 8/16/2023 – TRFAM Million Dollar Competition, 3rd place
 - 3/8/2024 – The American Performance Horseman, Champion
 - 4/16/2024 – NRBC Open Derby, Champion
 - 6/11/2024 – NRHA Open Derby, 3rd place
 - 8/12/2024 – TRFAM Million Dollar Competition, 4th place
 - 7/19/2025 – The American Performance Horseman, Champion
- Lifetime Earnings as of 7/19/2025: \$1,050,409

God's Glory in Every Win

Some advised us to retire him early, but owner Debbie Good always told us, "If you need him, I support you showing him. If he needs to retire, I respect that decision as well."

Looking back, I see God gave us more time with this horse for a purpose. Each win, each article, each interview pointed not to us but to God's glory. Luke 18:27 says: "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

In one interview after The American Performance Horseman, Casey said God could've chosen any man to ride this horse, but He chose him. And just as God gives opportunities, He can take them away. That's why Casey chooses to give God the recognition, the praise, and the glory.

Time, Talents, Treasures

Does God care about horses? About reining? About competition, sports, or the Olympics? Yes. He uses both failures and victories to

expand His Kingdom. He chooses whatever platform He desires, and that's how I've seen Him work in my life.

A guest speaker at our church once showed a clip from the 1981 film Chariots of Fire, based on runner Eric Liddell's story. Liddell famously said, "God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure." He explained that to win was to honor God.

I wonder if, after each race, he heard the same words we long to hear: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

So I ask you to consider this: what have you done with the time, talents, and treasures God has given you? He can multiply them and bring abundance, or He can take them away if you bury them in fear.

It's time to get on board and get to know the Creator of the Universe. We are running out of time.

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DEARY



Down Right Amazing

First horse in NRHA History to
surpass \$1 Million Dollars in earnings.
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Charles Schumacher

THE ETERNAL RIDE

JASON VANLANDINGHAM - NRHA FOUR MILLION DOLLAR RIDER



Jason Vanlandingham is one of the most respected riders in the reining industry. While his resume for the show pen is impressive, he's also known for his faith and regularly fills in to share the Word of God during events.

Jason is a regular contributor to WorldWide Slide, and has been sharing a unique devotional each issue for more than two years.

Find prior episodes at WorldWideSlide.com



VHH TRAINING TIP

by Stevie White

MATHIEU BUTON - PREVENT RUNOFF IN A RUNDOWN

A French native, Mathieu Buton now resides in Valley View, Texas. From the beginning of his reining career in France, Buton has always believed that to be the best, he had to learn from the best beginning with Gregory Legron in Paris.

Since his arrival in the United States seventeen years ago, he has worked for and learned from NRHA Professionals Mike McEntire, Craig Schmearsal, Bob Loomis, and Nathan Piper.

Now on his own, Buton has had much success. His lifetime earnings are nearly \$443,000, from such titles as reserve in the Level 3 SWRHA Futurity and third in the Level 4, a NRHA Novice Horse Derby Championship in 2019, a 2017 OKRHA Ride & Slide Derby Championship, and a Level 2 win at the 2015 NRHA Futurity and reserve in the Level 3 and top ten in the Level 4.

Buton has a unique ability to teach correctness softly, and to teach his Non Pros the “whys” along with the “hows.” Get a feel for his training style with this video, provided by our partner Virtual Horse Help, explaining how to prevent your horse from wanting to runoff in the rundown.



THE RUN FOR A MILLION ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL QUALIFYING RULES FOR CHALLENGE CONTESTANTS



Organizers of The Run For A Million have announced an update to the qualification process for competitors outside North America to compete in the 2026 event, scheduled for August 9-15 at the South Point Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

In August, TRFAM introduced a two-step qualification process that added a Semi-Final

round at the 6666 NRHA Derby presented by Markel. The change came after record-breaking entry numbers at TRFAM 2025. While the strong turnout was evidence of the event's popularity, it also created long days and crowded schedules. To ensure that the riders advancing to TRFAM represent the highest levels of competition and to maintain an exceptional experience for riders and spectators alike, the Semi-Finals were

introduced.

For riders outside North America, however, the distance to the NRHA Derby in Oklahoma City presented additional challenges. To balance competitive integrity with accessibility, TRFAM owner Taylor Sheridan made the decision to accept five qualifiers per division, per continent (Non Pro, Rookie 1, Rookie 2, and Youth, if offered) who will advance directly to Las Vegas.

Currently, the Equita Lyon Western Horse Show in France serves as the European qualifying event. Additional qualifying events are expected to be announced in other continents, with the same five-per-division, per-continent maximum applying.

If multiple qualifiers are held on one continent, it will be the responsibility of the event organizers and regional representatives to select a Semi-Finals to narrow the field to the five spots that are allocated.

“When we added the Semi-Finals, the goal was to protect the level of competition in Las Vegas and to make qualifying for TRFAM an accomplishment in itself,” explained Cheryl Cody, TRFAM Show Manager. “We also recognize the reality of travel, especially for those outside North America. That’s why this international system was created. It keeps the standards high, while also allowing more riders to participate without the barrier of multiple overseas trips.”

The amended process applies only to competitors outside North America. All North American riders – including those from the United States, Canada, and Mexico - will continue to qualify through the two-step format announced in August, which includes advancing through designated TRFAM Semi-Final Qualifiers and the 2026 NRHA Derby Semi-Finals.

To learn more about qualifying events and eligibility, visit www.TheRunForAMillion.com.



SWRHA FUTURITY INTRODUCES NEW APPRECIATION AWARDS FOR ANCILLARY COMPETITORS

The Southwest Reining Horse Association Show Management has announced the addition of Appreciation Awards to be given during the 2025 SWRHA Futurity & Show, scheduled for October 17-25 at the Hardy Murphy Coliseum in Ardmore, Oklahoma. These awards are designed to recognize and thank the many participants who make the event what it is - especially those competing in the ancillary classes.

Competitors who place in the top ten of any regular ancillary class will earn chances in the drawing for a set of premium prizes, adding even more excitement to the week's competition.

SWRHA Board Member Kathy McCutcheon explained the motivation behind the new awards. "This show has been built by a loyal and supportive group of riders, trainers, and owners over the years. We wanted to find a way to give back, and ideally, make it fun," she said. "While walking through Dennards, I noticed several high-quality items that aren't usually seen as show prizes, and the idea took off from there."

The Appreciation Awards will be given at the Nutrena Pizza Party during the Markel Insurance Night of Fun on Friday, October 24. Prizes include a Traeger Ironwood 650 grill, a High Roller show box, a reclaimed wood double-seat swing, and several other large-ticket, hand-picked items.

Dennards, a long-time supporter of the SWRHA, played a central role in making these awards possible. "We're grateful to Tim and Kyle Ferguson of Dennards for working with



us to source these prizes," McCutcheon said. "Dennards has always been part of what makes this show feel special, from their sponsorship to the SWRHA sheets we give out each year. If anyone likes what they see among the Appreciation Awards, they should stop by one of the Dennards locations."

The Appreciation Awards reflect what makes the SWRHA Futurity & Show special and one of the longest-running shows of the National Reining Horse Association – a quality, fun, and inclusive experience for riders of all levels. "These are items that most riders wouldn't expect to win at a horse show," said Show Manager Cheryl Cody. "They're useful, unique, and hopefully bring a bit of extra enjoyment to the week. From beginners to seasoned pros, we want everyone to feel like there's something here for them."

Appreciation Award Rules: All riders who place in the top ten of any of the two slates of ancillary

classes will earn one chance per placing, as long as they receive a score. Scores of zero do not count, and if fewer than 10 riders earn a score in each class, only those with scores will be entered. There is no cap on the number of times a rider can be entered into the drawing, though each person is limited to winning just one prize.

If the prize winner is present at the Pizza Party when their name is called, they can select their prize; the remaining prizes will be randomly assigned to the winners. Winners must coordinate prize pickup by Saturday afternoon.

Prizes have no cash value.

GUNNER DUN IT AGAIN JOINS NRHA MILLION DOLLAR SIRE CLUB

The NRHA announced Gunner Dun It Again as the association's newest Million Dollar Sire, an honor reserved for stallions whose offspring earnings surpass the \$1 million milestone in NRHA competition.

A 2011 stallion, Gunner Dun It Again, is by NRHA Hall of Fame inductee Gunner and out of Dun Its Deja Vu.

Bred by McQuay Stables Inc., nominated by Laurie Deleu, and owned by Paulo Francisco Tripoloni, Gunner Dun It Again first made his mark in the arena with lifetime earnings of \$113,804 before passing his talent on to the next generation.

His offspring have quickly cemented his legacy in the show pen, led by standouts including:

OO7 (out of Solidly Spirited), owned by Sandy Vargo and bred/nominated by Lorenz Mueller, with lifetime earnings of \$483,991.

Lil Dreamer Again (out of Lil Dreamer), owned/bred/ nominated by Renata Lemann, with lifetime earnings of \$64,025.

Be The One Again (out of Walla Whizn Katie), owned by Kelly Moran and bred/nominated by Andre Tripoloni, with lifetime earnings of \$53,883.



Among Gunner Dun It Again's offspring, OO7 has played a pivotal role in helping his sire achieve million dollar status. With nearly half a million in lifetime earnings, OO7's consistent success in major NRHA events has made him a standout representative of his sire's ability to produce elite-level competitors.

His performances not only helped push Gunner Dun It Again across the million-dollar threshold but also underscored the stallion's influence on the future of the sport. He currently stands at Toyon Ranch in Pilot Point, Texas.

With offspring earnings continuing to climb, Gunner Dun It Again adds his name to an exclusive roster of stallions who have shaped the future of reining.

NRHA UNVEILS HIGH-ENERGY PROAM CLASS AT 2025 FUTURITY

The NRHA is turning up the excitement at the 2025 NRHA Futurity® & Adequan® North American Affiliate Championships with the launch of the Elements of Reining ProAm, proudly sponsored by Spooks Gotta Whiz. This brand-new event is designed to bring a fresh twist to Futurity week, celebrating our veterans by announcing participants and their branch of service, while also boosting fan engagement with a red theme for the evening.

Save the Date:

Thursday, December 4 at 7 p.m.
OG&E Coliseum, OKC Fairgrounds

This high-energy evening also marks Military Appreciation Night. Attendees are encouraged to wear red in support of service members, and veterans competing in the class will receive special recognition during the performance. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Two Ravens Foundation, which supports veteran therapy through horsemanship.

How It Works

Teams of Two: One NRHA Professional + one NRHA Non Pro or Youth rider per team. Any NRHA-licensed horse can be shown. Each rider will compete on a different horse.

“Handicap” for Teams: Riders of all levels can enter as part of a team. However, to ramp up the friendly competition, teams will be handicapped, with the team rankings not to exceed a combined level of “6.” See the breakdown of examples below:

- A L4 rider on a team with a L2 rider (4+2=6)
- A L4 rider on a team with a L1 rider (4+1=5)
- A L3 rider on a team with a L3 rider (3+3=6)
- A L3 rider on a team with a L2 rider (3+2=5)
- A L3 rider on a team with a L1 rider (3+1=4)
- A L2 rider with any other rider
- A L1 rider with any other rider

Split Pattern Format/Scoring: Riders compete on separate horses, each performing half of NRHA Pattern 10. The Pro rides maneuvers 1–4, then exits the arena. The Non Pro/Youth enters and completes maneuvers 5–8. Combined scores determine team placings. Further explanation is provided here:

Maneuver 1-4: The NRHA Professional will complete Maneuver 1-4, ending with the left lead change. After the lead change, the Professional will no longer be judged and will continue the circle to exit the arena to watch their teammate perform the remaining maneuvers.

Maneuver 5-8: As the Professional exits the arena, at any time following the left lead change, the NRHA Non Pro/Youth will enter the arena to be judged on the remaining maneuvers. They will begin on the left lead and continue to the center of the arena to begin Maneuver 5, without stopping or breaking gait. The Non Pro/Youth will then perform maneuver 5-8, ending with final stop and hesitate.

Entry & Payout

Entry Fee: \$250 per team

Entry Cap: 20 teams (first-come, first-served)

Added Money: \$20,000 (Note: Earnings do not count toward NRHA Lifetime Earnings as this is an unapproved class)

Entry Deadline: November 3. Get the entry form [here](#).

Sponsorship Opportunities

Spooks Gotta Whiz is the Platinum Sponsor of the ProAm. Gold (\$10,000) and Silver (\$5,000) sponsorship opportunities are available to elevate the event and boost added prize money. For sponsorship inquiries, contact Christy Landwehr at clandwehr@nrha.com or 405-946-7400 ext. 122.

NRHA WELCOMES KATARZYNA ROLESKA AS NEWEST MILLION DOLLAR OWNER

The National Reining Horse Association is proud to announce that Katarzyna Roleska of Zglobice, Poland, has officially become an NRHA Million Dollar Owner, cementing her place among an elite group of global reining industry leaders.

Roleska's journey to this milestone is one defined by vision, commitment, and a passion for excellence. In 2010, she watched NRHA Hall of Famer Andrea Fappani ride Colonels Shining Gun (better known as "Jojo")—by NRHA Hall of Famer Gunner and out of Shining Little Peach—to a Top 10 finish in the NRHA Level 4 Open Futurity®. Recognizing Jojo's talent and potential, Roleska acquired the stallion the following year. Under the guidance of NRHA Million Dollar Rider Cira Baeck, Jojo went on to become one of Europe's most decorated reiners, claiming victories including the NRHA European Level 4 Open Derby and a team silver medal for Belgium at the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy. Jojo boasts nearly \$113,000 in NRHA lifetime earnings, almost \$78,000 of that while owned by Roleska.

Roleska's investment in breeding and developing world-class reining horses through Roleski Ranch—the largest Western riding center in Poland—has shaped a legacy that extends across Europe and North America. In addition to Colonels Shining Gun, her program has fostered the success of numerous accomplished performers, including:

CSG Wisemanfear (Colonels Shining Gun x Tejana Chic) – NRHA LTE: \$101,593 | Breeder: Brent Loseke | Nominator: Roleska | Current



Owner: Dor Cohen

CSG Kenzo (Colonels Shining Gun x Shiner Brimolena) – NRHA LTE: \$82,330 (\$82,137 with Roleska as owner) | Breeder/Nominator: Roleska | Current Owner: Simple Gifts Equine Assisted Counseling, LLC

CSG Piggimove (Colonels Shining Gun x Roosters Hot Piq) – NRHA: \$76,664 | Breeder/Nominator/Owner: Roleska

PS Pocker Face Dunit (Pale Face Dunit x One Way Away) – NRHA LTE: \$37,970 | Breeder/Nominator: Peter Simek | Owner: Roleska

Together with these and many other outstanding athletes, Roleska has crossed the prestigious million-dollar mark in NRHA owner earnings.

NRHA congratulates Katarzyna Roleska on this remarkable achievement and celebrates her lasting impact on the reining industry both in Europe and around the globe.

NRHA CELEBRATES TISH FAPPANI AS NEWEST MILLION DOLLAR RIDER

The NRHA proudly congratulates Tish Fappani on achieving the distinguished milestone of Million Dollar Rider, a feat she reached at the NRHA South Central Affiliate Regional Championship & 100X Reining Classic in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Tish's accomplishment not only cements her place among reining's elite but also completes a rare trifecta: with husband Andrea, NRHA's all-time leading money-earner and Million Dollar Owner, and son Luca, an NRHA Million Dollar Rider, the Fappani family now represents generations of reining excellence at the sport's highest level.

While the Fappani name has long been synonymous with reining greatness, Tish's journey to the million mark is distinctly her own. Known for her feel, finesse and unshakable competitive drive, she has built her career at some of the sport's most prestigious events, including her fair share of NRHA Futurity Non Pro Championships.

Her career highlights include winning the 2024 NRHA Futurity® Level 4 Non Pro Championship aboard Wish I Was Yours (Andrea and Tish Fappani: owners, NRHA Corporate Partner Tamarack Ranch LLC: breeder and Tish Fappani: nominator), earning \$75,000, and the 2024 100X Reining Classic Invitational Level 4 Non Pro Championship with the same horse, adding another \$52,000 to her record. Fappani was the 2015 NRHA Futurity® L4 Non Pro Champion aboard Legend Slides Wright (Tish Fappani: owner, Camela Essick: Breeder and Steve Simon/Edoardo Bernadelli: nominator) and won again in 2018 on Icecube. She has also earned \$180,863 aboard Joes Genes (Andrea and Tish Fappani: owners, Rancho Oso Rio LLC: breeder and Tish Fappani: nominator), one of her most



successful and consistent partners in the show pen. They were reserve co-champions at the 2020 NRHA Futurity.

Tish officially crossed the million-dollar threshold aboard Tight Genes, a son of Joes Genes, when she marked a 221 to earn Co-Championships in the 2025 The Invitational, 100X Reining Classic Futurity and the North American Reining Stakes Non Pro Futurities, all run concurrently at Tulsa.

At the same event where Tish made history, Andrea captured the 2025 The Invitational Open Futurity Championship aboard Man of The Year, another son of Joes Genes. Their parallel victories underscore the depth of the family's impact on the sport, with Tish's milestone serving as the crowning moment.

With this achievement, Tish becomes the third member of her family to surpass \$1 million in NRHA lifetime earnings as a rider—and adding yet another jewel to the dynasty of one of reining's most influential families. She is now one of only seven individuals to be both an NRHA Million Dollar Owner – and a Million Dollar Rider.

JASON VANLANDINGHAM BECOMES NRHA'S NEWEST \$5 MILLION RIDER

The NRHA is proud to announce that Jason Vanlandingham of Whitesboro, Texas, has officially joined the prestigious ranks of NRHA's \$5 Million Riders – the fifth ever to achieve the accomplishment.

Vanlandingham surpassed the milestone at the NRHA South Central Affiliate Regional Championship and 100X Reining Classic in Tulsa, Oklahoma, further solidifying his place among the sport's elite.

A two-time NRHA Futurity® Champion, two-time The Run For A Million Champion and two-time NRHA Derby® Champion, Vanlandingham has built his career on consistency, horsemanship, and a deep passion for developing top-level equine athletes. With more than two decades of success in the show pen, his \$5 million achievement is a testament not only to his talent but also to the strength of the horses, owners and teams who have partnered with him along the way.

Vanlandingham's 2025 season has been marked by major accomplishments on reining's biggest stages. He placed third on Best Shine (Robert Santagata owner, Wagman Ranch Inc breeder/nominator) in the Million Dollar Competition at The Run For A Million for \$85,000.

Vanlandingham also had a strong performance at the 2025 6666 NRHA Derby®



presented by Markel – placing third in the Level 4 Open Derby on Plus Me Im Shiny for \$34,181.52.

Earlier in the year, Vanlandingham won the Level 4 Open reserve championship at the National Reining Breeders Classic, aboard Plus Me Im Shiny (2Star Investments LLC, owner and Upstream, Inc. breeder, Layla E. Choate nominator).

These recent high-profile finishes contributed significantly to catapulting him over the \$5 million career earnings milestone. Pushing him over was his second-place finish in the Level 4 Open 4-Year-Old Stakes at the 100X Reining Classic, winning \$36,910.

Vanlandingham now joins an exclusive group of riders who have achieved this level of career earnings in NRHA competition, further cementing his reputation as one of reining's most respected and accomplished professionals.

NRHA MEMBERS ELECT 2026–2027 DIRECTORS

NRHA members recently participated in the annual Board of Directors elections, held September 2–16, 2025. Two positions were on the ballot this year, with the elected members set to begin their two-year terms on January 1, 2026.

We extend our gratitude to all candidates for their willingness to serve and to every member who took part in the voting process. Your participation strengthens NRHA's governance and helps shape the future of the association.

2025 Election Results (For 2026–2027 Terms)

Director-At-Large (Executive Committee)

Total Votes Tallied: 1,373

Sebastian Petroll – 535 votes (38.97%)

Karen Shedlauskas – 838 votes (61.03%)

Voter Turnout: 11.2% (12,272 eligible voters)

East Central Director

Total Votes Tallied: 212

Margaret Fuchs – 139 votes (65.57%)

Keith Larkin – 73 votes (34.43%)

Voter Turnout: 17.2% (1,231 eligible voters)



RHF BENEFIT AUCTION RAISES \$40,000 AT 100X REINING CLASSIC

The reining community came together in a big way for the Reining Horse Foundation during the Super Slide Draw Party at the 100X Reining Classic, hosted August 27 at Tulsa Expo Square. At the invitation of show management, the RHF Benefit Auction followed the draw party and drew spirited bidding throughout the evening.

Led by auctioneer Blair Thompson and announcer Garrison Panzer, the event featured five standout lots. Highlights included:

A one-of-a-kind custom show headstall crafted by renowned artisan Travis Stillson

A premium ICSI breeding services package donated by GeneTech

A Luxe Edition Mink Hat custom made by Shorty's Caboy Hattery

A whiskey barrel table paired with rare wines and allocated bourbons, presented by Spooks Gotta Spark/Kevin and Amy Truax, Waugh Designs, and Debbie and Gary Conway

A custom pair of silver spurs created by NRHA Professional and silversmith Justin "Gunny" Mathison

The auction generated an impressive \$40,000 in gross proceeds for the programs of the Reining Horse Foundation. The top-selling item was the whiskey barrel table and spirits package, which sold for \$10,000 to Rick Clark. In a generous gesture, donors offered a second package that was purchased by Michell Anne Kimball.

"This was a super opportunity for the RHF at this event," said Debbie Conway, chair of the RHF Development Committee. "We are so appreciative of the 100X team, auction donors, bidders and buyers for the support. The reining community shows up time and again to show their belief in what the RHF is doing."

The RHF thanks all donors, bidders, and the 100X Reining Classic for making this year's



Benefit Auction a success.

The Reining Horse Foundation exists to care for and honor the reining community. As the charitable arm of the National Reining Horse Association, RHF offers critical support through the Dale Wilkinson Memorial Crisis Fund, education scholarships, youth leadership development through NRHyA, and celebration of the sport's history.

In 2025, RHF took on programming for the NRHyA, helping ensure that future generations have opportunities to thrive. Donors make all this possible. Learn more or give at reiningfoundation.com.

STANDING IN

2025

Changing the Game

WIMPY CHIC X FLO N BLU BOON

2018 BAY AQHA STALLION

6 PANEL N/N

STUD FEE: \$2,500

LIFETIME EARNINGS

\$166,300+

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