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## **NRCHA E-Cow Work**

**July 30, 2010**

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### **NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010**

Few sporting events capture the attention and respect among devotees as does the National Reined Cow Horse Association's Snaffle Bit Futurity. In its history, the futurity has grown into a world class event that has become one of the horse industry's premier spectator shows.

The first Snaffle Bit Futurity in 1970 featured just 27 entries who arrived at the California State Fairgrounds in Sacramento to vie for top honors. The performance lasted two days and produced a tie (the only one in the show's history) for first place between Bobby Ingersoll on Leocita Chex, owned by Fritz Strain, and Les Vogt on Wrong Key, owned by Fred Mungia. Though the entries and spectators were sparse by today's standards, it was obvious to the California Reined Cow Horse Association (now the NRCHA) that it had a hit on its hands.

In 2010, the NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity will celebrate its fortieth anniversary. A lot of history has been made over the last four decades, and while the event has been held in Sacramento, California; Santa Cruz, California; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Fresno, California, it has been held at the Reno Livestock Events Center in Reno, Nevada, since 1999.

"We're very excited about the fortieth anniversary of the Snaffle Bit Futurity. This association is steeped in tradition, and we're looking forward to celebrating that heritage at the 2010 event," noted NRCHA Show Manager Chris Potter.

### **Snaffle Bit Futurity Merit Finals Draw Party Moves to John Ascuaga's Nugget**

The Annual Snaffle Bit Futurity Finals Draw Party, sponsored by NRCHA Corporate Partner Merial, is moving to John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel and Casino. The Finals Draw Party, set this year for September 29, is always a huge event, with owners, exhibitors, family, and friends all gathering to enjoy the camaraderie and excitement.

During the Draw Party, each Snaffle Bit Futurity Finalist is called up one-by-one to hand-draw their Finals Position in front of the crowd. The excitement is contagious, with other participants cheering when a great position is drawn, or commiserating when a dreaded number is picked.

Cheryl Magoteaux of the NRCHA Management Team noted, "We are very excited to move this great party to John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel and Casino. Mr. Ascuaga and the Nugget have a long history with the Snaffle Bit Futurity, and we appreciate them helping host this party. We are sure that everyone who joins us will enjoy the ambiance of the Poolside Terrace Room."

The bar will open for a social hour at 5 p.m., and the Merial Draw Party will begin at 6 p.m. The party will have a Mexican Fiesta buffet and the menu includes fajitas, a taco bar, and fresh fruit.

### **South Point Sponsors C.R. Morrison Bronze**

National Reined Cow Horse Association Sponsor Committee Chairman Carol Rose recently announced that South Point Hotel & Casino will sponsor the Snaffle Bit Futurity Open Championship C.R. Morrison Bronze.

"The Gaughan family have been big supporters of cutting, but last year Michael Gaughan and his wife Paula and their daughter Kate were spectators at the Snaffle Bit Futurity to watch their son-in-law and Katy's husband, Cookie Banuelos, compete in the finals," said NRCHA Sponsor Committee Chairman Carol Rose. "The NRCHA has strong roots in Las Vegas, so we are thrilled South Point Hotel & Casino and Michael Gaughan and his South Point Hotel & Casino are so generously supporting the NRCHA and the Snaffle Bit Futurity with this sponsorship."

The 25-story South Point Hotel & Casino, which is on 60 acres along Las Vegas Boulevard in Enterprise, Nevada, is home to the South Point Equestrian Complex, one of the finest indoor horse facilities in the country. With a 4,400-seat arena and 1,200 climate-controlled horse stalls, the South Point Equestrian Center hosts some of the most prestigious equestrian events in the world. The Center features a 250-foot-x-125-foot show arena floor and overlooking bar. In addition to the equestrian facilities, the Center includes 80,000 square feet of exhibit space and 20,000 square feet of meeting and pre-function space.

### **Ron and Ladonna Emmons to Sponsor Snaffle Bit Futurity Exhibitor Water**

One of the most popular sponsorships for the hard working exhibitors at the Snaffle Bit Futurity is provided by Ron and LaDonna Emmons of Lone, California. Each year, they sponsor the free bottled water for all the Snaffle Bit Futurity and Horse Show entries. The Emmons have graciously continued this great sponsorship for the 2010 event.

