

Don't Forget These Deadlines!

Hackamore Classic due date is a postmark of March 29. After that, a late fee of 25% will be added. The Draw for the Hackamore Classic is April 5th.

The due date for Hackamore Horse Show entries due date is April 9. After that, a \$50 late fee will be added.

Cowboy Church at NRCHA Stakes

Cowboy Church at the 2010 NRCHA Stakes in Nampa, Idaho will be held at 7am Sunday March 28th in the grandstands. Services will be conducted by David and Kathleen Simmons. For more information, contact them at dave@cowboychurchministries.org or 817-825-1164.

Ernie Beal to Sponsor Amateur Reserve Champion Buckles at NRCHA Premier Events

Along with lofty titles and big paychecks, Champions at National Reined Cow Horse Association Premier events take home numerous prizes and awards. Winners are thrilled to receive beautiful Gist Silversmiths buckles, and wear them proudly as symbols of that achievement.

NRCHA Sponsor Committee Chairman Carol Rose announced that Ernie Beal, of Clovis, California, has come on board as the sponsor of the Amateur Reserve Champion buckle at all 2010 NRCHA Premier Events – the NRCHA Stakes, Hackamore Classic, Derby, and the Snaffle Bit Futurity.

“While I have not had the opportunity to meet Mr. Beal personally, he has been a tremendous supporter of the NRCHA for many years – even before my time as Sponsorship Committee Chairman,” noted Rose. “I truly appreciate Mr. Beal’s belief in our Amateur Program, I thank him for giving Amateurs a chance to be even more rewarded for excellent performances in the show pen.”

An avid reined cow horse competitor, Beal is a former Amateur Champion at the NRCHA Derby and the Amateur Reserve Champion at the NRCHA Stakes. “I’ve been an Amateur for a number of years, and sometimes there is a buckle for the Amateurs, and sometimes there is not,” he said. “And there is even less chance of the Amateur Reserve Champion to win a buckle. The contestants who are Reserve have worked extremely hard to get there to, and deserve that honor.”

World's Greatest Shootout Set for Inaugural Battle in the Saddle

During the American Quarter Horse Association Convention, the National Reined Cow Horse Association officially announced an exciting new event – the World’s Greatest Shootout. The inaugural event will be held as part of the Battle in the Saddle, taking place July 5 – 10 in Oklahoma City at the Jim Norick, Coliseum. The World’s Greatest Shootout is a unique competition for exhibitors to experience the thrill of a prestigious competition that will award one talented competitor a paid entry into the 2011 World’s Greatest Horseman competition.

The World’s Greatest Horseman is a yearly contest that has become one of the most-coveted titles the horse world since its inception in 1999. Exhibitors compete on the same horse, with the same bridle, in herd work, rein work, steer stopping and cow work over a series of days for a chance to make the clean-slate finals. On finals day, in front of a standing-room only crowd, the top ten compete for a chance at a \$30,000 paycheck and, even more importantly, the chance to be called the World’s Greatest Horseman.

How it Works

Non Reined Cow Horse Associations participating in Battle in the Saddle will be given the opportunity to enter two entries into World’s Greatest Shootout. Associations that can nominate two

entries are the American Quarter Horse Association, the National Cutting Horse Association, the National Reining Horse Association and the American Rope Horse Futurities Association. In all, eight competitors will battle it out.

Those eight competitors will compete in special classes in herd work, rein work, steer stopping and cow work. Exhibitors will be allowed to use only one horse and one bridle in each of those events.

The exhibitor with the highest-place finishes in each event will be declared the Shootout winner and given a paid entry into next year's NRCHA World's Greatest Horsemen competition. The World's Greatest Shootout winner also will be awarded a special trophy cup and the winner and the Association he or she represents will be placed on a perpetual plaque that will be kept at State Fair Park in Oklahoma City.

"We are so proud to bring a piece of the popular World's Greatest Horsemen competition to the inaugural Battle in the Saddle," said Kathy Gould, NRCHA President. "Battle in the Saddle is a great way for the top talents of all other alliance partners to come together in the true test of all around horsemanship that the World's Greatest represents. We are delighted to offer a paid entry to our 2011 Worlds Greatest Horseman as a fitting prize for the World's Greatest Horseman Shootout Champion."

The Battle in the Saddle was announced last November in Oklahoma City and is an exciting new competition owned by Oklahoma State Fair and managed by AQHA. Battle in the Saddle is open to all breeds with \$130,000 in added money for an estimated \$340,000 in total purses. Cutting, reining, roping and working cow horse classes will be recognized as AQHA special events. All breeds are welcome but American Quarter Horses competing will receive AQHA points.

Adding to the excitement of the competition, the selection trial for the United States Reining Team representing the United States at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games will take place during Battle in the Saddle.

Battle in the Saddle will be held in conjunction with AQHA's Youth World Cup, a team competition between youth from 17 nations scheduled to attend.

In addition to the exciting equine competition in the arena, Battle in the Saddle will also feature a trade show. Other special events are also being planned to be held during the competition.

For more information or to enter, visit www.battleinthesaddle.com.