

## About the Mercuria NCHA World Series of Cutting

**M**ercuria Energy Group, one of the world's five largest independent energy traders, is the title sponsor of the 2011 Mercuria Energy Group NCHA World Series of Cutting, a rich series of nine championship shows held across North America and Europe.

Each of the eight shows offers \$25,000 in added money for the Open and \$25,000 for the Non-Pro competition. The format brings out many of the sport's superstars, as well as up-and-coming contestants eager to join those ranks.

"Mercuria Energy has established itself as a global leader in the energy sector, so it's fitting that they should support competition that brings the world's leading cutting horses together in a crowd-pleasing series of shows," said Jeff Hooper, Executive Director of the National Cutting Horse Association.

Mercuria plays a dynamic, diversified and growing role in the global energy market. Mercuria Energy is an international group of companies active over a wide spectrum of global energy markets including crude oil and refined petroleum products, natural gas, power, coal, biodiesel, vegetable oils and carbon emissions. Mercuria Energy Group is one of the world's five largest independent energy traders. The Group owns assets ranging from oil exploration and production in the U.S., Canada and Argentina to product terminals in Europe and China, and a biofuels plant in Germany. It controls more than 30 million barrels of storage capacity globally.

"With the generous support of Mercuria Global Energy, the NCHA World Series of Cutting continues to build momentum in its third season," said NCHA Executive Director Jeff Hooper. "The Series provides greater opportunities for our members, exciting competition for spectators, and a tremendous attraction for the participating shows. We look forward to continued growth in the program through the year, and into the future." ★

### 2011 NCHA Leading Open Horses

1	Ginas Cat	\$7,148
2	Show Biz Ben	\$6,721
3	Special Nu Kitty	\$6,511
4	Prime Time Kat	\$6,454
5	Cats Royal Jewel	\$5,674
6	J R Colord Rambo	\$5,520
7	SL Jaybird	\$4,960
8	Boo Lou Cat	\$4,884
9	Dual R Smokin	\$4,776
10	Bet Hesa Cat	\$4,475
11	Dont Look Twice	\$4,315
12	Thomas E Hughes	\$3,884
13	Freckled Leo Lena	\$3,831
14	Stilish Rey	\$3,517
15	Stylish Curly	\$3,454
16	Faith In My Cat	\$3,258
17	Lil Bit Reckless	\$2,765
18	Wayne Wilson	\$2,754
19	Mc Chiquita Catolena	\$2,655
20	A Track Runs Thru It	\$2,471
21	Dualsnap	\$2,342
22	Captains Choice	\$2,313
23	Fantasticat	\$2,309
24	Jazarell Cat	\$2,237
25	Lil Dulce Lu	\$2,152
26	Spoonful Of Seahorse	\$2,093
27	Reyleann	\$2,042
28	Red Money Merada	\$1,856
29	Auspicious Cat	\$1,832
30	CA Las Vegas Lights	\$1,820

### 2011 NCHA Leading Non-Pro Riders

1	Dan Hansen	\$12,251
2	Joseph Broderick Beaver	\$9,436
3	Kaitlyn Larsen	\$9,297
4	Dustin Adams	\$7,502
5	Mary Jo Milner	\$6,591
6	Lauren Middleton Chartier	\$6,586
7	Chad Gann	\$6,216
8	Kelsey Conn	\$4,584
9	Joe Howard Williamson	\$4,527
10	Justin White	\$4,400
11	Felicia Mancuso	\$4,069
12	James (Spunky) Hawkins Jr	\$3,712
13	Janet Westfall	\$3,643
14	McKenzie Rust	\$3,526
15	Milton Greeson	\$2,847
16	Alexis Carissa Stephas	\$2,620
17	Landy Hedlund	\$2,433
18	Joey Blann	\$2,390
19	Clint Pace	\$2,338
20	Wade Rust	\$2,300
21	Don Lee Smith	\$2,055
22	Heather Stiles	\$1,962
23	Brandy Jones	\$1,954
24	Suzanne Rodoni-Silverberg	\$1,865
25	Susan Dunne	\$1,859
26	Kelsey Turner	\$1,808
27	Nick Pilcher	\$1,807
28	Steve Anderson	\$1,795
29	Lisa Strickland	\$1,775
30	Charles White Jr	\$1,738



**MERCURIA**  
GLOBAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS

### 2011 Mercuria NCHA World Series

**FEBRUARY 4-5**

San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo.

**FEBRUARY 25-26**

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

**MAY 14-15**

Tulsa, OK

Breeder's Invitational

**JUNE 23-25**

Reno Rodeo

**JULY 5-6**

Oklahoma City, OK

AQHA Battle in the Saddle

**JULY 10-14**

Calgary Stampede

**SEPTEMBER 9-10**

Rancho Murieta, CA

El Rancho Futurity

**OCTOBER 7-14**

Columbus, OH

All American Quarter Horse Congress

**OCTOBER 28-30**

Lyon, France

### Mercuria at a glance

Mercuria trades oil and other energy resources in over 50 countries

- Global turnover : \$47 billion in 2008
- 81 million total physical tons of oil and products sold
- 10.5 million tons of middle distillates sold
- 61 million tons of physical crude sold
- 10.2 million tons of other products sold
- 370 ships and 245 barges chartered
- Aggregated credit line: currently \$11 billion
- Access to over 30 million barrels of storage capacity worldwide

## Mercuria NCHA World Series of Cutting Open Contestants

- A Track Runs Thru It.** Owner: Terry Pigg  
2001 (DJ Tracker x Royal Replay)  
LTE: \$67,957 Rider: Tim McCloud  
*Open champion at last year's Eastern Nationals.*
- Arc Ruby Playgunia.** Owner: Terry Green  
2006 (Playgun x Ruby Bagonia)  
LTE: \$40,494 Rider: Matt Budge  
*Granddaughter of the great Playboys Ruby.*
- Bet Hesa Cat.** Owner: Bet Hesa Cat Syndicate  
2006 (High Brow Cat x Bet Yer Blue Boons)  
LTE: \$91,002 Rider: Austin Shepard  
*Reserve champion of the Tunica Classic this month.*
- Bet Shesa Cat.** Owner: Lindy Burch  
2005 (High Brow Cat x Bet Yer Blue Boons)  
LTE: \$20,758 Rider: Lindy Burch  
*Daughter of NCHA World Champion Bet Yer Blue Boons.*
- Blue Jean Cat.** Owner: Joe Katin  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Xclusively Sugar)  
LTE: \$5,791 Rider: Scott Ferguson  
*Aged event champ is granddaughter of prolific mare Moria Sugar.*
- Boo Lou Cat.** Owner: Joseph Beaver  
2002 (High Brow Cat x Smile Ima Lena)  
LTE: \$66,973 Rider: Faron Hightower  
*Perennial finalist in west coast aged events earlier in career.*
- CA Las Vegas Lights.** Owner: Anderson Cattle Co  
1999 (Smart Mate x Real Plain Jane)  
LTE: \$91,736 Rider: Dustan Horne  
*Won a pair of Mercuria NCHA World Series events in 2010.*
- Cats Royal Jewel.** Owner: Robert Rust  
2002 (High Brow Cat x Lenas Jewelette)  
LTE: \$230,291 Rider: Robert Rust  
*Has ranked as high as the Top 5 in the World.*
- Cats Starlight.** Owner: Taylor Carbo  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Cookie Starlight)  
LTE: \$103,972 Rider: John Wold  
*Has won Open, Amateur and Youth titles.*
- Cats Vixen.** Owner: Denman Heard  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Brogans Lady Pep)  
LTE: \$47,301 Rider: John Kirby  
*Multiple aged event finalist by leading sire High Brow Cat.*
- CD Boonsmal.** Owner: Daniel Jaeggi  
2003 (CD Olena x Poosmal)  
LTE: \$228,692 Rider: Chubby Turner  
*Closing in on quarter-million and will do double-duty here.*
- Cowcattin.** Owner: Doug Pritchett  
2001 (Cattin x Smokee Uno)  
LTE: \$242,876 Rider: Shane Stovall  
*A win would put him over quarter-million dollars.*
- Docs Alota Pepto.** Owner: Noe Silva  
2004 (Sweet Lil Pepto x Barb A Doc)  
LTE: \$88,631 Rider: Noe Silva  
*Dam has produced earners of more than \$400,000.*
- Dont Look Twice.** Owner: Waco Bend Ranch  
2005 (High Brow Cat x Tapt Twice)  
LTE: \$413,327 Rider: Phil Rapp  
*The second richest mare in training today.*
- Dual R Smokin.** Owner: Daniel Jaeggi  
2005 (Dual Rey x Smokin Pepto)  
LTE: \$124,249 Rider: Chubby Turner  
*Won the Mercuria World Series event in California last fall.*
- Dualsnap.** Owner: John McClaren  
2001 (Dual Rey x Snappy Little Pistol)  
LTE: \$79,607 Rider: Mark Michels  
*10-year-old mare was an Open limited age champion.*
- Freckled Leo Lena.** Owner: Felicia Mancuso  
2004 (Smart Little Lena x Freckled Leo Girl)  
LTE: \$106,788 Rider: Raymond Shumate  
*One of top stallions in the World last year. Granddam won Gold & Silver Non-Pro.*
- Frecks Jewels.** Owner: Mark Johnson  
2004 (Bobs Freckle x Jewels Topin)  
LTE: \$104,744 Rider: Ben Johnson  
*Multiple aged event winner with six-figure earnings.*
- Gabreyella.** Owner: LK Capital Enterprises  
2004 (Dual Rey x A Playboys Desire)  
LTE: \$71,054 Rider: Craig Morris  
*Direct descendant of World Champions Peppys Desire and Stardust Desire.*
- George C Merada.** Owner: Furst Ranch  
2006 (Cats Merada x Lenas Stylish Bunny)  
LTE: \$99,347 Rider: John Wold  
*Former NCHA Futurity finalist on the brink of \$100K.*
- Ginas Cat.** Owner: Joseph Beaver  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Gina Hagner)  
LTE: \$121,941 Rider: Faron Hightower  
*Major event finalist from east coast to Nevada.*
- Haida N Cat.** Owner: Alexa Stent  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Beckys Haida)  
LTE: \$73,499 Rider: Eddie Flynn  
*Two-time finalist at NCHA Triple Crown shows.*
- High Style Royal.** Owner: Tag Chapman  
2005 (CD Royal x SR High Style)  
LTE: \$63,522 Rider: Russ Westfall  
*Granddaughter of the first Super Stakes winner.*
- Huckleberry Pepto.** Owner: Carol Hopkins  
2003 (Peptoboonsmal x Torsion Girl)  
LTE: \$64,425 Rider: Casey Crouch  
*Half-sib to NCHA Futurity NP champ Stella Starlight.*
- Ima Playful Cat.** Owner: Glen Pendergrass  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Playtime Sue)  
LTE: \$38,996 Rider: Constantine Caloudas  
*Eight-year-old son of all-time leading sire.*
- Jazari.** Owner: Joy Koch  
2001 (Playin Safari x Smart Little Jazzy)  
LTE: \$8,592 Rider: Travis Sachtleben  
*Dam was Reserve Champion of Wyoming Futurity.*
- JH Powder Cat.** Owner: Jeff Harris  
2002 (Cattin x Powder Puff Lena)  
LTE: \$12,382 Rider: Roy Carter  
*A win here would put his sire in the Million Dollar Club.*
- La Reina Laredo.** Owner: Betsy Jones  
2002 (Laredo Roan x Little Short Stuff)  
LTE: \$43,406 Rider: Cutter Jones  
*Won the John Deere Division of the 2006 NCHA Derby.*
- Laredos Ta Molly.** Owner: Betsy Jones  
2001 (Laredo Roan x Molly Bob Acre)  
LTE: \$27,500 Rider: Cutter Jones  
*Earners of more than \$760K under first two dams.*
- Lena Dulces 004.** Owner: Leah Raye Mabry  
2004 (Dulces Smart Lena x Wicked Lula Lena)  
LTE: \$22,125 Rider: Don Pooley  
*Grand dam won the Non-Pro NCHA Challenge.*
- Lil Bit Reckless.** Owner: Russ Westfall  
2004 (CD Royal x Trouble Lynn 495)  
LTE: \$181,537 Rider: Russ Westfall  
*Aged event winner from family of 2010 Futurity Champion.*
- Little Bow Pepto.** Owner: Peter Stent  
2005 (Peptoboonsmal x Bowmans Little Jewel)  
LTE: \$59,901 Rider: Eddie Flynn  
*More than \$1 million in earnings under first 2 dams.*
- Lynneas Last Mate.** Owner: Kristen Garding  
2003 (Smart Mate x Peppy Lynnea)  
LTE: \$14,843 Rider: Clint Kolz  
*She and siblings have earned nearly \$250K.*
- Meradas Kitten.** Owner: Brandy Jones  
2000 (Meradas Money Talks x Bob Acre Cat)  
LTE: \$69,861 Rider: Jonathan Rogers  
*11-year-old mare has been consistent money earner.*
- Peppy Petites Choice.** Owner: Patricia Davis  
2003 (Sr Instant Choice x Peppy Petite)  
LTE: \$26,289 Rider: Tim McCloud  
*Won the Texas Futurity at age 6.*
- Prime Time Kat.** Owner: Jerry Durant  
2006 (High Brow Cat x Mates Irish Rose)  
LTE: \$52,974 Rider: Clint Allen  
*Fourth at Bonanza this month and bloodline on fire.*
- Red Money Merada.** Owner: David Conn  
2002 (Acres Of Red x Cee Merada)  
LTE: \$149,414 Rider: Ben Johnson  
*Won NCHA Amateur Futurity in debut.*
- San Jos Smarty.** Owner: Holsley Cutting Horses  
2003 (Smart Lil Scoot x San Jos Freckles)  
LTE: \$39,514 Rider: Roy Carter  
*Hall of Fame rider has won titles on this gelding.*
- SF High On Love.** Owner: Anissa Teskey  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Love On Arrival)  
LTE: \$16,481 Rider: Terry Hollis  
*Aged event finalist at 4, 5 and 6.*
- Short Scootin.** Owner: Debbie Jarma  
2004 (Smart Lil Scoot x Shortcake Berry)  
LTE: \$105,286 Rider: Paul Adams  
*Has won in both Amateur and Open competition.*
- Show Biz Ben.** Owner: Mary Jo Milner  
2001 (Show Biz Billy x Haidas Amour)  
LTE: \$269,548 Rider: Russ Carroll  
*Presently second in the World Standings.*
- Silver Pepto Pistol.** Owner: Brandy Jones  
2003 (Peptoboonsmal x Miss Silver Pistol)  
LTE: \$97,991 Rider: Jonathan Rogers  
*A win here would send her over \$100,000 mark.*
- SL Jaybird.** Owner: Mica Chartier  
2002 (Smart Little Jerry x Peyote Bird)  
LTE: \$328,930 Rider: R L Chartier  
*28 times a finalist, earning over \$328,000.*
- Snow Rey.** Owner: Lica Pinkston  
2004 (Dual Rey x Lenas Snow)  
LTE: \$230,961 Rider: Kathy Daughn  
*Multiple limited age event champion in recent years.*
- Special Nu Kitty.** Owner: Wrigley Ranches  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Nu I Wood)  
LTE: \$276,027 Rider: R L Chartier  
*Brilliant, consistent daughter of NCHA Derby champion.*
- Stilish Rey.** Owner: Jerry Durant  
2006 (Dual Rey x Stylish Play Lena)  
LTE: \$86,314 Rider: Clint Allen  
*Made three big finals in past two months.*
- Supremely CD.** Owner: Louie Reagan  
2004 (CD Olena x Sprats Ethel)  
LTE: \$1,928 Rider: Brent Dorman  
*Dam was an NCHA Futurity Open finalist.*
- Sweet Barbie Doll.** Owner: Paul Fehrenbach  
2005 (Sweet Lil Pepto x Barb A Doc)  
LTE: \$23,237 Rider: Matt Budge  
*Limited age finalist out of big-time producer.*
- Telesis Fan Man.** Owner: Harry Allen Perrin  
2002 (Lenas Telesis x Smart Fancy Lena)  
LTE: \$35,294 Rider: Mark Lavender  
*Made the finals of three events at last year's Western National Championships.*
- Thomas E Hughes.** Owner: Kathy Boone  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Smart Letha)  
LTE: \$380,017 Rider: Austin Shepard

## Mercuria NCHA World Series of Cutting Non-Pro Contestants

- Greg Abshire** riding Acres Little Pie  
2004 (Little Pat Uno x Turtles Ace) LTE: \$28,047  
*Finalist at Waco Texas Futurity on this horse.*
- Dustin Adams** riding Reyann Hickory  
2002 (Dual Rey x Hickorys Tachita) LTE: \$298,270  
*Hall of Famer has earned over \$3 million.*
- Caleb Anderson** riding CA Las Vegas Lights  
1999 (Smart Mate x Real Plain Jane) LTE: \$91,736  
*Fresh from a win in World Series in San Antonio.*
- Michelle Anderson** riding Purrcceptive Cat  
2002 (High Brow Cat x Smart Misty Dawn) LTE: \$86,012  
*Has won six titles at NCHA Triple Crown shows.*
- Steve Anderson** riding Ivory Telesis  
1998 (Lenas Telesis x Docs Holly Oakie) LTE: \$162,405  
*Finalist in 2 World Series events on this horse.*
- Lindy Ashlock** riding Rey Nounce  
2005 (Dual Rey x Peek A Boon) LTE: \$57,792  
*Champion at recent Abilene Spectacular.*
- Thomas Bailey** riding CD Hombre  
2002 (CD Olena x Hickory Prescription) LTE: \$217,100  
*Bonanza finalist this month.*
- Ray Baldwin** riding Mylanta Lano  
2004 (Mylanta Lena x War Lano Missy) LTE: \$74,203  
*Champion at Augusta on Catlike Kit last month.*
- Joseph Beaver** riding Boo Lou Cat  
2002 (High Brow Cat x Smile Ima Lena) LTE: \$66,973  
*Sitting number two in the World right now.*
- Don Boone** riding Thomas E Hughes  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Smart Letha) LTE: \$380,017  
*Seasoned competitor on his World Champion Stallion.*
- Michael Bowman** riding San Tule Uno  
2003 (San Tule Freckles x Smart Little Thunder) LTE: \$479,599  
*Made two finals at Augusta last month.*
- Camilla Brandon** riding Smart Sugar Again  
2002 (Smart Little Lena x Sweet Peppy Again) LTE: \$3,457  
*On board half-sib to \$315K earner Donnas Cool Cat.*
- Elizabeth Brumbaugh** riding KD Shorty  
2001 (Kit Dual x Shorty Lena Sue) LTE: \$227,941  
*Former record-breaking Youth World Champion.*
- Taylor Carbo** riding Cats Starlight  
2003 (High Brow Cat x Cookie Starlight) LTE: \$103,972  
*NCHA 2010 Senior Youth World Champion.*
- Mary Cavanaugh** riding Dual Rock Sugar  
2005 (Dual Pep x Xclusively Sugar) LTE: \$34,906  
*Lifetime earnings over \$206,000.*
- Lauren Chartier** riding Cees Little Poo  
2002 (SR Instant Choice x Perry Poo) LTE: \$145,305  
*World Series champ at Congress last fall.*
- Kelsey Conn** riding Wsr Lano Badger Cat  
2000 (High Brow Cat x Lano Badger) LTE: \$115,883  
*Impressive winner here last year.*
- Derek Troy Davis** riding Could I Wood I  
1999 (Nitas Wood x Nimble Jazzy Lee) LTE: \$230,275  
*Closed 2010 with a title at Waco Texas Futurity.*
- Kelli Davis** riding Katwalk  
2005 (High Brow Cat x Flickaweed) LTE: \$4,687  
*Mare's dam is half-sister to World Champion Flickacat.*
- Jackie Dayberry** riding Alpha Zeta  
1996 (Smart Little Lena x Little Memory Maker) LTE: \$70,880  
*On half-sib to NCHA Derby NP champ Laredo Montana.*
- George Evans** riding Mr Peppy Pepto  
2001 (Peptoboonsmal x Tequero Peppy) LTE: \$84,115  
*NCHA Derby Amateur Champion in 1996 has earned over \$180,000.*
- Kyle Farris** riding KL Genuine Dually  
2001 (Dual Maker x Genuine Omega) LTE: \$51,529  
*Teen closing in on \$50K in earnings.*
- Gary Fields** riding Gabreyella  
2004 (Dual Rey x A Playboys Desire) LTE: \$71,054  
*Two-time finalist in this month's Bonanza.*
- Jessica Gonsalves** riding Kit Rock Star  
2001 (Kit Dual x Starlight Jewel) LTE: \$46,039  
*Finalist in two of these events last year.*
- Sam Good** riding Lean On Rey  
2005 (Dual Rey x Smartlitlelenastoy) LTE: \$101,013  
*Bonanza champ on this horse last year.*
- Terry Green** riding Chulas Merada  
2004 (Chula Dual x Little Lena Merada) LTE: \$132,491  
*Four aged event checks on this horse in 2010.*
- Milton Greeson** riding A Spoonful Of Style  
2004 (Hes A Peptospoonful x Stylish Santa Belle) LTE: \$105,288  
*Won first limited age title with this horse in November.*
- Dan Hansen** riding Woody Be Lucky  
2000 (Nitas Wood x Playboys Ladyluck) LTE: \$415,582  
*NCHA Non-Pro World Champion in 2007.*
- Bobby Hawkins** riding Shorty Acre  
2005 (Abrakadabra x Laura Lena) LTE: \$9,292  
*A win here would put him over \$200K mark.*
- Edley Hixson Jr** riding George Ah Cat  
2001 (High Brow Cat x Sweet N Lou) LTE: \$61,675  
*Was a year-end Top 15 finisher on George Ah Cat.*
- Constance Jaeggi** riding CD Boonsmal  
2003 (CD Olena x Poosmal) LTE: \$228,692  
*Won over \$100K in just two years in the USA.*
- Brandy Jones** riding Silver Pepto Pistol  
2003 (Peptoboonsmal x Miss Silver Pistol) LTE: \$97,991  
*Six major wins on Silver Pepto Pistol.*
- Crystal Lehmann** riding Oscar Boon  
2004 (Peptoboonsmal x Cowstruck) LTE: \$44,362  
*Lifetime earnings top \$150,000.*
- Felicia Mancuso** riding Freckled Leo Lena  
2004 (Smart Little Lena x Freckled Leo Girl) LTE: \$106,788  
*Freckled Leo Lena made Open World Finals last year.*
- Nancy Martin** riding Smart Swinging Jerry  
2003 (Smart Little Jerry x Lads Swinging Peppy) LTE: \$42,489  
*Finalist in this event last year on this horse.*
- Jessica McMakin** riding Lenas Star Acre  
2001 (Bob Acre Doc x Rbs Lenas Star Girl) LTE: \$34,047  
*Finalist in the inaugural World Series event here.*
- Mary Jo Milner** riding Twist N Smart  
2004 (Freckles Fancy Twist x Sheza Smart Cat) LTE: \$82,406  
*Seven-time World Champion is in top 5 again.*
- Michael Orr** riding Top Gun Memorial  
2004 (Gunsmokes Memorial x Last Little Highbrow) LTE: \$4,682  
*Began making finals 25 years ago.*
- Jill Peacock** riding So Sweet Santana  
2004 (Short Of Santana x So Sweet Pepper) LTE: \$62,234  
*Two-time aged event champ on this horse.*
- Diane Petersen** riding Fishin For Bizness  
2001 (Shov Biz Billy x Freckled Badger) LTE: \$105,731  
*Rode Fishin For Bizness to Novice Non-Pro world title.*
- Lica Pinkston** riding Snow Rey  
2004 (Dual Rey x Lenas Snow) LTE: \$230,961  
*Waco Texas Futurity finalist on accomplished horse.*
- Jon Price** riding Smart Freckle Belle  
2000 (Smart Little Jerry x Play With Belles) LTE: \$9,124  
*Multiple limited age event finalist.*
- Doug Pritchett** riding Cowcattin  
2001 (Cattin x Smokee Uno) LTE: \$242,876  
*Horse has earned nearly quarter-million dollars.*
- Amanda Purdin** riding Catrina Starlight  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Stella Starlight) LTE: \$95,863  
*Five-time finalist at Eastern National Championships.*
- Todd Quirk** riding NQH Tom Cat  
2005 (High Brow Cat x Spooky Lucy) LTE: \$90,025  
*Augusta Futurity finalist on this horse last month.*
- Buster Quirk** riding Playin At The Mall  
2004 (Playdox x Poosmal) LTE: \$268,781  
*Made 4 major finals in past six months.*
- Mary Ann Rapp** riding Neat Little Ray  
2005 (Dual Rey x Neat Little May) LTE: \$54,090  
*Sport's top money-earning Non-Pro at \$3.4 million.*
- Roland Reichardt** riding Ms Kitty Ballou  
2005 (That Sly Cat x Lucia Del Cielo) LTE: \$32,504  
*Topped the \$50,000 mark this year.*
- Suzanne Rodoni-Silverberg** riding High Style Travalin  
1999 (Travalena x SR High Style) LTE: \$217,885  
*Top 10 finisher in NP World Standings on this mare.*
- Lani Rust** riding One Act Play  
1990 (Freckles Playboy x Docalady) LTE: \$222,005  
*One Act Play has earned over \$220K.*
- McKenzie Rust** riding Belles N Bullets  
2000 (Smart Lil Ricochet x Santa Belle) LTE: \$318,444  
*Former Youth World Champion.*
- Shannon Rust** riding Aljerita Annie  
2003 (Smart Little Jerry x Athena Ann) LTE: \$121,030  
*Finalist in this event in 2010.*
- Wade Rust** riding Sisters My Brother  
2006 (CD Olena x Little Baby Sister) LTE: \$51,118  
*NCHA's Non-Pro World Champion of 1998.*
- Mike Rutherford** riding QR Reds Reward  
2006 (Acres Of Red x Rondees Reward) LTE: \$6,315  
*Winner of the NCHA Super Stakes Non-Pro in 2000.*
- Wesley Sinor** riding Thursday Cat  
2005 (High Brow Cat x Ruby Tuesday DNA) LTE: \$25,077  
*Riding grandson of the great Playboys Ruby.*
- Ken Sitton** riding RCC Skeet N Scooter  
1997 (SR Instant Choice x Sweeter Than Skeeter) LTE: \$169,947  
*Showed this horse in the NCHA World Finals.*
- Don Smith** riding Mates New Christmas  
2003 (Smart Mate x Quixote Christmas) LTE: \$45,117  
*Finalist in both East & West Championships last year.*
- Alexa Stent** riding Haida N Cat  
2004 (High Brow Cat x Beckys Haida) LTE: \$73,499  
*Won over \$212K; biggest payday was on this horse*
- Heather Stiles** riding Spoonful Of Lena  
2005 (Hes A Peptospoonful x Young Amanda) LTE: \$40,585  
*Won the World Series at Breeders Invitational in 2010.*
- Von Suttin** riding Bubble Gum (U)  
2004 (Tachitas Jewels x Unknown) LTE: \$54,618  
*Super Stakes Amateur champ in 2008.*
- Evan Sutton** riding Opus Ex  
1998 (CD Olena x Hickory Prescription) LTE: \$195,816  
*2008 \$50K Amateur Reserve World Champion.*
- John David Tolbert** riding Simply Harry  
2002 (Dual Reward x Fletchs First Flite) LTE: \$40,432  
*Has been a finalist in all NCHA Triple Crown events.*
- Mark Trice** riding San Tees Pep  
1994 (San Perdiz x Miss Colonels Tee) LTE: \$3,863  
*Up and coming rider from Anahuac, Texas.*
- Barry Tutor** riding Cats Quick Pick  
2003 (SR Instant Choice x Sheza Smart Cat) LTE: \$51,992  
*Reserve champ at Quarter Horse Congress last fall.*
- Teri Lynne Waggoner** riding Desde El Comienzo  
2002 (CD Olena x Joses Sunrise) LTE: \$160,877  
*NCHA \$50,000 Amateur World Champion of 2010.*
- Scott Wardley** riding Hah Rey  
2006 (Dual Rey x Beckys Haida) LTE: \$26,982  
*Earned 5 aged event checks on Hah Rey in 2010.*
- Julie Wells** riding LB Cowtown Twist  
1998 (Doc O Lena Twist x Sixty Rock N Hearts) LTE: \$262,121  
*Made more than 20 major finals on this horse.*
- Janet Westfall** riding Jeeps Posi Traction  
2000 (Genuine Jeep x Starstruck Db) LTE: \$326,649  
*Won the World Series at Reno last summer.*
- Justin White** riding Wild Hickory Bob  
2004 (Bobs Hickory Rio x Playboys Honeygirl) LTE: \$147,264  
*Won NCHA Non-Pro Futurity on this horse.*
- Joe Howard Williamson** riding Woodys Bad Boy  
2005 (Nitas Wood x Nimble Jazzy Lee) LTE: \$146,313  
*Three-time NCHA Non-Pro World Champion.*

## A spectator's guide to cutting *Understanding what is happening, and why!*

by Sally Harrison, [www.sallyharrison.com](http://www.sallyharrison.com)

### Yesterday

Centuries before the conquistadors arrived in America, Spaniards used horses to herd cattle. But it was American cowboys, mounted on descendants of the conquistadors' horses, who turned herd work into art.

Buster Welch grew up in West Texas listening to tales of renowned cutting horses. "I remember when I was a little kid, they didn't have hardly any contests," says Welch, the all-time leading NCHA Futurity champion. "But they talked and bragged about cutting horses constantly. People didn't sell them then. That would be like selling your windmills; you just didn't sell your cutting horse."

Tom Saunders III, a fourth generation Texas cattleman and president of NCHA in 1949, reminisced in one of the first issues of the *Cuttin Hoss Chatter* about some of the great horses he had seen as a boy.

"There was an Art Waggoner in our remuda that hands from the Matadors, JJ's and X's called tops as a cutting horse. Nobody trained him or groomed him, nor did he ever know what the inside of a stall looked like. He was truly a natural and so particular about his ability to do it his own way, if you tried to cue or handle him too much, he'd unload you.

"He sensed his responsibility and showed it upon entering a herd by quickening his cat-like steps, just as though he were walking on eggs. Staying far enough back to counter every move an animal made, he could shuffle, weave and bob, duck, dodge, drop low with forelegs well apart, gather up and step sideways, head and turn back with the lightning quickness of a jackrabbit. If you didn't want to drag the toe of your boot when he came back through himself, you'd better raise it high and grab a piece of that elm."

Ranchers gather cattle to brand, castrate and vaccinate, as well as to sort them and ship them to market. Once a herd is rounded up—not an easy task in the rough and brushy country of the Southwest—mounted cowboys circle the herd to keep it contained on the roundup ground, while other riders hold the culled cattle in a separate group.

The boss is mounted on a cutting horse—the horse that the other cowboys would rather be riding—and he enters the herd quietly and deliberately, taking care not to disturb the cattle. If one animal bolts, the rest of the herd might follow. When an animal is selected, it is slowly driven out of the herd and to the "cuts." If it tries to run back to the herd, the cutting horse heads it and turns it around.

There was no official format for early cutting contests. Some were speed events where the riders cut as many calves from the herd as possible in a given amount of time. Other rules required riders to drive a cow into a small pen, or to cut a designated steer from the herd.

The National Cutting Horse Association was organized by 13 ranchers and cowboys at the 1946 Fort Worth Livestock Stock Show & Rodeo. Their objective was to develop a standard format for cutting contests. In a little over 50 years, the states and 22 foreign countries.

### Today

Each contestant is allowed two and a-half minutes to cut at least two cows from the herd. The rider must bring at least one cow out from deep inside the herd during his run (performance). If he brings out a small group and waits for all but one to peel (go back to the herd), he has "cut for shape." His other cuts may be chipped from the edge of the herd. Extra credit is given if the rider drives the cow he wants from deep inside the herd.

The contestant is helped by four riders of his choice. Two herd holders are positioned on either side of the herd to keep the cattle from drifting into the working area. Two riders stay between the cow that is being worked and the judges' stands. These are the turnback riders; they turn the cow back to the contestant, if it tries to escape to the far end of the working area.

When the rider has clearly separated one cow from the herd, he must loosen his grip on the reins and allow the horse to have its head. The cow instinctively tries to return to the herd, but the horse must defend the herd and hold the cow.

Horses receive extra credit for their skill and style and the exertion used to keep the cow under control. The rider may decide when to stop working a cow, but he will be penalized if he quits when a cow is moving toward the horse. This is known as a "hot quit." The rider also incurs a penalty for picking up his reins before he quits a cow. A horse will be penalized if he loses a cow (the cow returns before the rider quits it.)

### It's all about cattle

Riders spend time watching the herd during the cattle change and mentally sorting the "good" cows intelligent, curious and alert. Although it wants to return to the herd, it will not bolt and run like a "bad" cow, but will try to find a "hole" just to one side of the horse for an escape route.

The "good" horse will control a cow by matching its moves without being aggressive. If the cow runs, the horse must be quick and agile in order to head it.

Cutting demands extraordinary control on one hand, and lightning-quick action on the other. The smart and athletic American Quarter Horse has been bred for these qualities, as well as a love for the job, and about 96% of all horses competing in NCHA events are Registered American Quarter Horses, although Paints, Appaloosas, Thoroughbreds and Arabians can also be competitive.

Judges score contestants on a scale of 60 to 80 points. The total points awarded by three judges determine contestants' scores at the 2010 Mercuria NCHA World Series of Cutting events. ★

### About the National Cutting Horse Association

With more than 20,000 members around the world, the National Cutting Horse Association promotes and celebrates the cutting horse, and the ranching tradition and Western heritage that helped foster it.

By establishing rules for cutting horse shows, NCHA gives members a level playing field and a progressive class structure to accommodate everyone from the beginner to the advanced competitor.

Each year, the National Cutting Horse Association sanctions more than 2,000 shows that pay out a total of more than \$40 million in prize money.

For more information about NCHA, visit [nchacutting.com](http://nchacutting.com) or call (817) 244-6188. ★