

Whitney and Greg WELCH

Memorial Sportsmanship
A W A R D

Established in 2000, this award is presented to a National Youth Cutting Horse Association member who exemplifies the qualities of sportsmanship, responsibility and respect for fellow competitors.

The annual award was established in honor of NYCHA member, Whitney Welch, daughter of Greg and Pax Welch. The award is presented at the NYCHA Awards Banquet during the NCHA Derby each summer. Whitney and three of her friends were killed on December 19, 1998, the result of an encounter with a drunk driver. It was a devastating loss to all who knew and loved her. Whitney exemplified the true meaning of sportsmanship; she was a quiet girl, always friendly, courteous and respectful to others. Whitney was gracious in winning as well as losing.

Whitney's father, former National Cutting Horse Association President, Greg Welch, passed away on July 4, 2004 after a brief illness. Greg was a much loved supporter of young cutters and served as a positive force in the lives of many youth members. Prior to his death, he presented the Whitney Welch Memorial Sportsmanship Award during the NYCHA Awards Banquet each summer. After his passing, Greg's name was added to the sportsmanship award in honor of his dedication to children.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee must be a member of NYCHA, must be nominated by a NCHA Affiliate and the nomination must be submitted by a NCHA Affiliate Secretary. Each affiliate may determine their own process for selecting a nominee. **Each Affiliate may nominate one youth member each year for this prestigious award.**

The award committee will take the following into consideration when making its decision:

- Sportsmanship
- Attitude
- Leadership Abilities
- Responsibility
- Compassion
- Character

In describing your nominee, please be specific as to why you think your nominee should receive this award. As you fill out this form keep in mind the more information you include, the easier it will be for the screening committee to recognize what makes this youth member special.

Helpful tips:

- Be as specific and concise as possible.
- Assume judges know nothing about the nominee, so tell the story as if to a stranger.
- Well written nominations score higher with the judges.
- What did the nominee do?
- What is unique about this youth member?
- What or whom benefited from his or her actions?
- Describe why you feel the nominee is a success at this point in his/her life.
- Describe the nominee's personal characteristics such as generosity, compassion and creativity and illustrate the ways in which these qualities are demonstrated.
- Share a meaningful experience about this youth that exemplifies their dedication to the cutting horse.

Sportsmanship involves a person engaging in a sporting event who exhibits qualities of fairness, courtesy, and grace in winning or defeat.....Let's keep Whitney's spirit alive!

**Whitney & Greg Welch Memorial Sportsmanship Award
Nomination Form**

Name of Nominee: _____

Affiliate Name: _____

Describe why you feel this youth should receive the Whitney & Greg Welch Sportsmanship Award. Include your response to questions from the helpful tips section. You may use the space provided or attach a type written document.

References:

Name	Phone number	Email address

This form must be submitted by an NCHA Affiliate secretary postmarked no later than June 1.
Please forward to: Patti Willoughby, 3947 FM 1806, Nocona, TX 76255 or Fax# 940-894-6540.
Questions regarding the award can be directed to Patti Willoughby, Chairperson, 940-894-2120.

Signature of Affiliate Secretary