

# NCHA NEWS RELEASE



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Western Horseman Cup Summer Season qualifiers named**

(Fort Worth, Texas) -- Five Open horses and five Non-Pro riders emerged from the Summer Season of the Western Horseman Cup NCHA Championship Series presented by UBS with invitations to the Western Horseman Cup finals, to be held in conjunction with the 2007 Augusta Futurity.

The Western Horseman Cup invites the top five qualifiers from each of three seasons to a prestigious and lucrative one-round showdown at Augusta. The series encompasses 49 events across North America for foals of 2002. The events have combined added money of more than \$6.2 million.

Etickets Cat, ridden by Tim Smith for Wagonhound Land & Livestock of Douglas, Wyoming, and Sister CD, ridden by Paul Hansma for Skip and Elizabeth Queen of Lipan, Texas, tied for the lead in the Open division of the Western Horseman Cup Summer Season with 150 points.

Etickets Cat is a High Brow Cat mare that was Co-Champion of the Idaho CHA Derby in September. She also earned points at the Pacific Coast Derby and the Breeders Invitational.

Sister CD is a CD Olena gelding that won the Breeders Invitational, and took the reserve championship at the NCHA Derby.

Kittens, ridden by Russ Miller for Frank and Bonnie Martin of Las Vegas, Nevada, was the Summer Season's third qualifier, with 135 points. The High Brow Cat mare was Co-Champion of the Idaho CHA Derby, and she also earned points at the Breeders Invitational, and the Northwest CHA Derby.

Next in line was Hick Chicaroo, ridden by Scott Weis for Latigo Canyon Ranch of Santa Ynez, California. The son of Doc's Hickory earned points at four shows, the Pacific Coast Derby, Breeders Invitational, Mebane Ranch Summer Cutting, and the Northwest CHA Derby.

Three horses, EBR Kitty Hawk, Rey Jay Play and Wild Haired Cat, tied for the fifth qualifying spot at 110 points, with Wild Haired Cat getting the edge based on his earnings \$34,872 at the Summer Season Western Horseman Cup shows. Ridden by Richard Johnson for Champions Way Enterprises of Bartonville, Texas, the High Brow Cat stallion earned points in the NCHA Derby, West Texas Derby and Music City Derby.

## **Non-Pro Division**

In the Non-Pro division, Clay McCullar of Baird, Texas, was the top qualifier with 200 points earned on MH Dynos Tonette and Doc O Color.

McCullar took the reserve championship in the NCHA Non-Pro Derby on MH Dynos Tonette, a mare by Little Dyno. He also won the West Texas Non-Pro Derby on the mare, while making the finals on Doc O Color, a daughter of Color Me Smart. He was also a finalist at the Non-Pro Cutting in Oklahoma City in June.

Dustin Adams of Dublin, Texas, tallied 325 points to lead the Summer Season standings, but he had previously qualified for the Western Horseman Cup finals in the Spring, opening the way for the next five top scores of the Summer to earn invitations to Augusta.

The second qualifier was Jimmy Kemp of Wittman, Arizona, with 145 points earned on MH Lena Little Dyno, a Little Dyno gelding; Cata Boom, a High Brow Cat mare; and MH The Millions Mine, a Kits Little Garfield mare. Kemp, a member of the NCHA Non-Pro Hall of Fame, racked up points at the Mebane Ranches Cutting, the Northwest CHA Derby and the Idaho CHA Derby.

Julie Hansma of Weatherford, Texas, and Kelle Earnheart of Hernando, Mississippi tied with 110 points. Hansma rode Reytheon by Dual Rey and Bob Dualin by Dual Pep to score at the Breeders Invitational and the NCHA Summer Cutting Spectacular. Earnheart rode High Steppin Cat, by High Brow Cat, to earn points at the Breeders Invitational and the Music City Derby.

Rounding out the Summer Season qualifiers was Janet Westfall of Los Olivos, California with 105 points earned on her CD Royal sons Royal Incognito and CD Little Dog. Westfall earned points at the Breeders Invitational, the NCHA Summer Cutting Spectacular, and the Northwest CHA Derby.

### **Spring Qualifiers**

Open division qualifiers from the Spring Season of the Western Horseman Cup series were Dual Smart Rey, ridden by Phil Rapp for Strawn Valley Ranch; Purdy Boy Flash, ridden by Tag Rice for Jack and Susan Waggoner; Highbrow Supercat, ridden by Tommy Marvin for Paul Dean; Im Countin Checks, ridden by Matt Gaines for Tommy Manion; and Autumn Acre, ridden by Phil Rapp for Manion and Rapp.

The Non-Pro qualifiers from the Spring Season were Chad Bushaw of Poolville, Texas; Elizabeth Queen of Lipan, Texas; Jim Vangilder of Jackson, Missouri; Matt Miller of Millsap, Texas; and Dustin Adams of Dublin, Texas.

### **Fall Season Underway**

The third and final season of the 2006 Western Horseman Cup NCHA Championship Series presented by UBS got underway with the Wine Country Derby in Paso Robles, California in September. The Fall Season features 17 events in 12 states and provinces with combined added money of more than \$1.5 million, concluding with the Utah CHA Marker Futurity and Aged Event in November.

The National Cutting Horse Association is made up of 16,500 members across the United States with a wide range of backgrounds. The sport of cutting has roots in Western ranching traditions, where good horses were a necessity for everyday ranch work and cattle handling. From cowgirls to CEOs, from firefighters to professional football players, the common ground is often in the cutting arena. Each year more than 2,200 NCHA-approved events are held throughout the country with more than \$35 million in prize money awarded.

To learn more about the National Cutting Horse Association and the sport of cutting, call 817-244-6188 or visit [www.nhacutting.com](http://www.nhacutting.com).