

NCHA NEWS RELEASE



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Record entries for 2006 Wayne Hodges * Outlaw Conversions / NCHA Eastern National Championships

(Fort Worth, TX) – The 2006 Wayne Hodges * Outlaw Conversions / NCHA Eastern National Championship is right around the corner, March 6 – 17 in Jackson, Miss., at the Mississippi State Fair Grounds. This year show entries have grown to more than 1,000, the largest to date, with total payouts to contestants more than \$350,000. Everyday the show will begin at 8 a.m., with many activities held throughout the event.

While at the cutting visitors can shop many of the vendors at the trade show and attend any of the special events. Some that will be taking place are the Taste of Mississippi starting at 7 p.m., March 7, in the Sparkman Auditorium. There will be two catfish dinners, March 8 at the Farmers Market, and March 13 at the Ag building, both will start at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a Youth Team Cutting March 9 starting at 6 p.m. The team cutting contest requires four youth cutters to dress up in their most creative costumes, and then show their horse. All four team members' scores are combined for a "team score" with prizes awarded to the highest team score and best-dressed team. Youth members are responsible for the entire contest and serve as herd holders, turn back help, show secretary, announcer and judges.

In addition to cash prizes, the 2006 Eastern champions will receive awards from sponsors including Murray Leather, Boehringer Ingelheim, KO Trading, Pro Walk, Teskey's Saddle Shop and trophy buckles from Gist Silversmiths.

The National Cutting Horse Association is made up of 17,000 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 \$42 million in prize money awarded.

For more information about the National Cutting Horse Association, the 2006 Eastern Championships, or the long list of events and activities associated with this show, please call the NCHA at 817-244-6188 or visit www.nchacutting.com.

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