

NCHA NEWS RELEASE



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2006 Wayne Hodges*Outlaw Conversions/NCHA Western National Championships begin April 25 in Ogden, Utah

(Fort Worth, TX)— As Ogden, Utah gears up to host the annual NCHA event, the final entry count is nearly 800 for the 2006 Wayne Hodges*Outlaw Conversions/NCHA Western National Championships.

The Golden Spike Arena in Ogden, UT will be hosting the 11-day long event. Competition for the prizes and cash money will be fierce. Added money for the event is \$120,000 this year. The total purse for the 2006 event is estimated to be more than \$311,000.

The owner of the highest scoring horse at this year's competition will take home a brand new, deluxe 3-horse slant load horse trailer compliments of Wayne Hodges Trailer Sales Weatherford, Texas. The winner will have use of the trailer for one-year. If there is a tie for the highest score, the horse's names will be put in a drawing that will then determine the winner.

Participants qualify for the Western National Championships by competing in weekend shows across the United States and Canada during 2006. The Top 10 competitors in each of the 12 NCHA-approved classes from each affiliate were invited to participate in the Western National Championships.

On Friday evening, April 27, the public is invited to attend the annual Youth Team Cutting. This event is produced and judged by the youth members. There are teams comprised of four members who will be dressed in costumes and compete with "theme" music. Participants will receive awards for cutting excellence, music selection, and costumes.

This year, the AQHA/NCHA Affiliate Challenge will again bring the team concept to the

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competition. This added challenge allows competitors to compete for team points as well as individual recognition. The highest placing affiliate will receive a check for \$7,500 and a trophy from the American Quarter Horse Association.

NCHA is honored to have the support of Wayne Hodges Trailer Sales and Outlaw Conversions, Gist Silversmiths, Murray Leather, Pro Walk, AQHA, Teskey's and KO Trading in hosting this event.

Admission to the cutting competition is free to the public. Each day the competition will begin at 8 a.m. There will be plenty of cutting horse action to entertain the entire family as well as a unique western trade show.

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 NCHA or the sport of cutting, please call 817-244-6188 or log on to www.nchacutting.com.