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**In this issue:**

[NRBC Announces Record Payout for Non Pros](#)

[Non Pro Prelim Leaders](#)

[Off to the Stick-Horse Races](#)

[Poker Face!](#)

***NRBC Announces Record Payout for Non Pros***

With an almost \$1.3 million purse, the National Reining Breeders Classic is one of the richest shows in reining, and this year it's setting a new record.

As the NRBC kicked off its thirteenth show on Monday, April 12, word quickly spread that more than \$340,000 will go to the Non Pro divisions this year and the Non Pro Classic Champion will receive \$40,908, the largest cash award ever given to any Non Pro rider.

"It's very exciting and fulfilling to see the reining horse industry get behind and support the NRBC to the point that we can have the largest Non Pro payout in the world," NRBC President Tom McCutcheon said.

With 158 horses entered in the five Non Pro divisions, \$51,785 will be paid out in the preliminaries with \$291,264 going out to the top Non Pro finalists on Friday, April 16.

"There's no other reining show that pays as deep, or as big, a return to its Non Pro exhibitors," said Chris Potter of the NRBC Management Team. "For us to exceed \$40,000 to the Non Pro Champion is unprecedented."

***Kim Dooley Leads NRBC Non Pro Preliminaries after First Section of Competition***

Set against the backdrop of the royal blue curtains around the Great Southwest Equestrian Center Coliseum, Non Pro riders pulled out all the stops to earn a finals berth in the 2010 National Reining Breeders Classic.

At the end of the first day of competition, Kim Dooley, of Scottsdale, Arizona, had marked the high score of 220 on Wimpys Little Buddy. Interestingly, the pair competed in the first set of preliminaries in 2009, and ended the day with the high score. The former NRBC Non Pro Co-Champion and the Wimpys Little Step gelding, out of All Thats Dun, went on to be part of a 7-way tie for third place in the Non Pro finals.

Tying for the lead of the Intermediate Non Pro with scores of 217 were Rick Clark and Wimps Chocolate Chip and Jessica Sternberg and Pop Top Whiz. Wimps Chocolate Chip, by Wimpys Little Step, is owned by Clark Reining Horses.

Sternberg and Pop Top Whiz, by Topsail Whiz and owned by Rosanne Sternberg, also led the Limited Non Pro and the Non Pro Level 1.

Currently in a 4-way tie for the lead in the Non Pro Prime Time with scores of 213.5 are Angelo Berrettini and Chics Rock Starr (by RR Star), Steve Harris and Good Time Starbuck (by Smart Starbuck), Carl Lambert and Stun Gun (by Colonels Smoking Gun), and Andre De Bellefeuille and Whizard Whiz (by Topsail Whiz).

The Non Pro preliminary competition concludes Tuesday afternoon, with the top-30 entries in the Non Pro, along with the top-20 entries in the Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Non Pro Level 1, and Non Pro Prime Time will advance to the clean-slate finals on Friday, April 16.

### ***Off to the Stick-Horse Races***

The 2010 NRBC Spring Games got off to a great start Monday morning as nine young contestants raced in the NRBC Stick Horse Derby. With NRBC Announcer Glen Gabel giving a second-by-second commentary during the 16-second sprint, Parker Church and Dragon came in first. He was closely followed by Wyatt Deary and Sondra with Avreigh Aguirre and Princess coming in third. Parker won a \$25 gift card to Toys R Us while Wyatt and Avreigh each received an NRBC picture-frame. All of the riders got to keep their horses, courtesy of the NRBC, and their entry fee of \$10 was donated to the NRBC's charities: Rein In Cancer and America's Horse Cares.

Also participating in the race were Ryan Mills on Taz; Madelyne Ross on Curly; Maverick Potucek on Black Bonnie; Colter Potucek on Black Betty; Madison Rafacz on Dixie; and Rylei Stewart on Peppy.



### ***Poker Face!***

Congratulations to John Hoyt and Todd Sommers for having the best "Poker Faces" at the Pierce Performance Horses Texas Hold'Em Tournament Saturday evening.



