

Youth Leaders: High Five

Meet your 2011 North American Regional Youth Delegates

GET TO KNOW YOUR NRHYA REGIONAL DELEGATES BY LEARNING their five favorite things. You might discover you have something in common—other than reining, of course. To learn more about your delegates or how to become one yourself, visit nrhya.com.

NORTHWEST REGION

Courtney Yohey

12-year-old from Modesto, California

1. Green
2. Horse movies and books
3. Horse shows
4. Friends
5. Going to the barn



Courtney Yohey

MOUNTAIN REGION

Emily Clark

12-year-old from Castle Rock, Colorado

1. Chocolate chips
2. Guy Vernon
3. The color yellow
4. Raindrops on roses
5. Whiskers on kittens



Emily Clark

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Maegan Gardner

15-year-old from Claremore, Oklahoma

1. Lime green
2. Steak
3. Dear John
4. Basketball
5. Texting



Maegan Gardner

SOUTHEAST REGION

Tucker Lane

12-year-old from Gates, North Carolina

1. Sausage
2. Original True Grit movie
3. The color red
4. NC State (Wolfpack)
5. Favorite horse ever rode: Grand Whizard



Tucker Lane



2011 TOP TEN

YOUTH 13 & UNDER

RIDER	HORSE/OWNER	POINTS
1. Whitney P. Conrad	Lil Hollywood Gun Whitney P. Conrad, Bryan, TX	10.0
2. Jayli K. Garrison	Red White N Wrangler Jayli K. Garrison, Willis, TX	9.0
3. Nathan P. Mathura	Smart Lika Playgirl Suzanne Allman Mathura, Rockwell, TX	8.0
4. Katie Firmin	Flashy Remedy Katie Firmin, Azle, TX	6.5
4. Cole Brolick	My Shot Of Whiskey Judith Brolick, Bartonville, TX	6.5
6. Jill Pfisthner	Shuffle Away Jackie Joel R. Pfisthner, Scottsdale, AZ	6.0
7. Adam Mathura	Miss Tari Nic Suzanne Allman Mathura, Rockwell, TX	4.5
7. Anne E. Wilson	Peponita Lady Jess Anne E. Wilson, Richmond, TX	4.5
9. Julia P. Spreng	Smart Little Dudley August F. Spreng, New Smyrna Beach, FL	4.0
10. Cody J. Cannon	Chex Out That Pine Cody J. Cannon, Henrietta, TX	3.0

YOUTH 14-18

RIDER	HORSE/OWNER	POINTS
1. Hannah H Jechow	Fritz Badge Hannah H. Jechow Uvalde, TX	10.0
2. David W Moore	Topsail Whiz Olena David W. Moore Southwest Ranches, FL	9.0
3. Julie Crosby	Catomic Blast Julie Crosby, Bulverde, TX	8.5
3. Brooke Kaiser	Smart Chic O Bar Brooke Kaiser, Sugarland, TX	8.5
5. Colby Powell	Chics In Demand Skylar R Powell, Auburn, WA	8.0
5. Morgan Burns	Whiz N Oak Morgan Burns, Tallahassee, FL	8.0
7. Samantha N Tippit	Dunit Soprano Style Kelsey D Ellis, Decatur, TX	7.0
7. Sarah Shaffer	Roostamatic Sarah Shaffer, Westerville, OH	7.0
7. Zachary Beals	Whiz Bing Bang Boom Zachary Beals, Cave Creek, AZ	7.0
10. Brianna Leavy	Daniel Down Under Brianna Leavy, Davie, FL	6.0

Q & A



BY ALI GORDON
NRHyA Member
Colorado

Q. How did you get involved in Reining? What do you love most about your involvement in the sport?

A. “I got involved in Reining through Brad Kelsall. I got my first youth horse when I was about 10, and at that time I was probably one of six youth riders. There wasn’t a youth program at that point, and there weren’t very many youth even involved. Watching the sport grow has been a lot of fun. Since there was no youth division, I had to show in the non pro classes against the older riders. And, if you can imagine this, there were only about four or five big reinings. Today, you could spend all day listing the big reinings. I have been able to watch this sport grow from very small to an enormous international sport.”

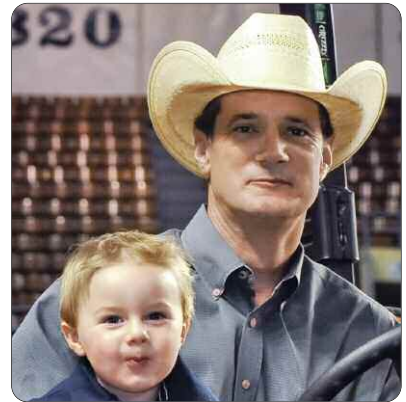
Q. People have said that there is more

to something than what’s seen on the surface. And, in the case of Reining, the dirt surface can be a critical factor in a horse and rider’s performance. Could you please share with the youth what an ideal ground in Reining consists of—from the bottom up?

A. “Ground varies so much across the country. Good ground on the West Coast will be an entirely different material than good ground on the East Coast. But, simply put, you are going to have a base with approximately two and three-fourths inches of sandy material on top of the base. My preference is to use a sandy loam material like we use in Oklahoma City. The ground can affect a ride in a lot of different ways. It can be too deep; it can be too shallow; it can be too slick. All of those are poor conditions. One of the main things we aim for is consistency, not only in the material, but also from the start of the day to the end of the day.”

Q. How does the dirt in a reining arena differ from dirt used in arenas for other types of equestrian sports?

A. “Good reining ground is actually good for a lot of other disciplines. But, there are three examples that really come to mind that need different types of dirt than in a reining arena. A reining arena is a lot different from a cutting arena, a working cow horse arena, and barrel racing footing. But, good reining footing is good footing for jumping, pleasure, trail, and most everything else. For cutting, we use about four and a half inches of clean sand on top of the base, as opposed to the two and three-quarters inches of loose material on top of the base in a reining arena. You don’t want those horses to slide, and you need clean sand because of the cattle on it. There are a few things that pack ground down more than a split hoof, such as cattle have. Barrel race footing is usually going to be a heavier material, meaning more clay in it, to hold the horses when they go around the barrels. Working cow horse



DAWN BAXSTROM

{ With Jim Kiser }

footing is similar to a good reining footing, but you just have to handle it a little differently. It has to be just a little bit wetter and a little bit deeper.”

Q. Do you have any recommendations for youth who practice at home and don’t always have the best ground or dirt conditions?

A. “Good ground and equipment are mandatory for someone who is going to be a serious competitor. If your ground is bad, it is not going to be long before your horse quits trying. You have to be fair to your horse. Football players practice on good turf. Baseball players can’t practice on a gravel lot. And Reining is the same ... you don’t want to discourage your horse from trying, but that is what bad footing will do.”

Q. Tell us about your Kiser drag. How does your drag keep the dirt in quality condition for reiners?

A. “Our drag was originally designed for Reining, and it is designed to make a base. One of the most important features of the drag is that it will make a base in most materials. Our second most important feature is the leveling blade to keep an even surface. Moisture content is another key element in good ground, and with the watering system on these drags, you can keep your ground even more consistent.” ♦