

## World Para Reining Organization Classes Provide Exciting Addition to Las Vegas High Roller Reining Classic

The High Roller Reining Classic is pleased to announce that it will be hosting two divisions of WPR/AQHA approved Para Reining on Thursday, September 17th at 6:00 pm during its annual show at the South Point facility in Las Vegas. Bob Haley of Bob's Custom Saddles is providing two trophy saddles to be awarded to the winners of each class. "We've worked with Arizona Veterans and wheel chair-bound riders in the past," notes Bob. "I plan to be in Las Vegas to award these saddles personally, and Bob's will also be customizing them individually to suit the WPR class winner's particular disability."

When WPR creator, Lisa Coulter was asked to Chair the Para Reining board for Equine Canada, she was intrigued and interested. "We had been talking about Para Reining as a potential organization for a number of years," she says. "It wasn't a new idea for me. However, in 2013, when I was asked to coach the Para Reining demonstration at the AQHA Championships in Oklahoma City, and then a second demonstration at the Kentucky Cup in 2014, I knew that it was time to get to work and really make this happen."

By the beginning of 2015, the World Para Reining Organization was born. Canadian Lisa Coulter is a horseman with a great background as a coach and competitor. An NRHA Champion and multiple FEI Master, Lisa was ranked number one in the FEI World Ranking and Standings in 2010, and was a Silver Medalist at the WEG trial Kentucky Cup. At her ranch in Pilot Point, Texas, Lisa put together a 5-day "boot camp" for disabled riders last winter, and then persuaded the NRHA to add a Para Reining class to their schedule at the 2014 Futurity. Lisa's own reining horses, NRHA champions and winners in excess of \$180,000, were utilized to train the riders. Lisa says that the horses connected to their riders and were amazing in their reactions and in the way they took care of their partners."



WPR rider, Catherine Sherwood and Spark Chocolate

A number of NRHA shows in North America are planning WPR classes this year, though none of them with greater anticipation than the Las Vegas High Roller Reining Classic Show. WPR classes at the High Roller Reining Classic are already attracting entries and attention from all over the world. Riders have expressed interest in competing from America, Canada, all over Europe and Australia.

"The High Roller Reining Classic is committed to its ultimate goal of joining forces with groups like the World Para Reining Organization," says Amanda Brumley, the show's organizer and manager. "The WPR has assisted many physically handicapped individuals in their quest for confidence and to achieve that very sense of freedom on a horse that many of us take for granted because we are not challenged by physical limitations. We are very grateful to be in a position to host such a worthwhile event and to increase awareness of the WPR and help them grow globally!"

The High Roller Reining Classic in Las Vegas, Nevada will be held this year from September 11th through the 20th. Hosted by the South Point Hotel and Casino, the HRRC is ranked at number 4 of the NRHA's Leading Events. The 2015 High Roller Reining Classic is offering prizes and cash payouts of more than a half million dollars. This world class reining competition attracts horses from all over the U.S., Canada, South America and Europe. The event has also been recently awarded the coveted Host of the 2015 Adequan/USEF Open Reining National Championship, with \$25,000 in added prize money, sure to draw the best-of-the-best Reiners in the world. For additional information, contact Amanda Brumley at (602) 677-3774 or sender her an e-mail at [brumleymanagementgroup@gmail.com](mailto:brumleymanagementgroup@gmail.com)

"The WPR classes now being held at NRHA events engage the riders and help them to make that important transition from therapeutic centers to competition," says Lisa. "Just because someone loses a limb or is challenged by loss of flexibility or partial paralysis doesn't mean they can't ride and compete. These riders prove the amazing possibilities to us every single day. Our next clinic is May 8th through the 10th at Apex Ranch in Pilot Point, Texas. The clinic is free to WPR members and open to non-members as auditors." Contact [worldparareining@hotmail.com](mailto:worldparareining@hotmail.com) for additional information. □



2015 Sun Circuit WPR class



WPR rider Lauren Barwick and Western Whiz