

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stock Horse of Texas

CONTACT: Jill Dunkel

stockhorsetexas@att.net



Stock Horse of Texas Awards Over \$1 Million to Registered Quarter Horses Over 20 Years

In the last 20 years of versatility ranch horse competition, Stock Horse of Texas (SHTX) has awarded more than \$1 million to registered Quarter Horses. With low entry fees, increasing payouts, and an unparalleled friendly but competitive atmosphere, SHTX continues to raise the bar for performance horse associations.

“Compared to larger associations, that often focus on one event, one million dollars over 20 years doesn’t sound like a lot but recall that SHTX began 30 years ago as a grassroots organization, focused on education and helping people ride a better horse,” said Jill Dunkel, executive director. “Through strategic partnerships, loyal sponsorships, and a dedicated membership, SHTX has grown, evolved and has fostered many competitors that have gone on to win in multiple associations.”

One area that is bolstering the payout is the Stock Horse Derby, held in late September. Title sponsor Ordner Insurance and American Reliable Insurance are adding \$30,000 to the payout this year. That’s a 400% increase in added money in the last six years.

“We put all that sponsorship directly into the payout. In 2025, in the Open, the Derby paid seven places for all-around, but with incentives and individual event checks, 18 entries took home money,” Dunkel said. “Incentives for Collegiate and Non Pro competitors bolster the payouts, as riders compete in our four cornerstone events: stock horse pleasure, ranch trail, ranch reining and working cow horse. We truly reward the versatile ranch horse.”

The Derby is for 4, 5 and 6-year-old horses, with both fence work and box-drive divisions. Other incentives include a Level 1 Open incentive and a 4-year-old incentive. Entries for the Derby are open now and are due September 11.

Alongside the Ordner Insurance-American Reliable Derby in September, SHTX offers a complete show dubbed the Aggeland Classic, presented by WC Tractor and Kubota. It features 11 competition divisions, 3 collegiate divisions, plus AQHA ranch classes.

“Our regular entry fees are very affordable at all our shows, ranging from \$25-\$60 per class depending on the division. Some divisions offer jackpots, and that helps strengthen the payout at our shows,” Dunkel said. “Affordability, combined with great prizes and the opportunity to win some cash – exhibitors have options for what fits their level of showing.”

Find out more about the Derby, the Aggieland Classic and other events at stockhorsetexas.org.