

NCHA DAYS Highlights!

First of all I would like to thank Jess Phifer and his board and OCHA members for a great show. The show ended up with enormous entries and their show committee worked tirelessly getting a show that size moving along quit smoothly! On our way down to Madras that Thursday morning, Sharon and I talked about the large entries (184, 186, 148). We tried to guess just how long each day would run? But that didn't compare to what awaited us once we arrived! We arrived about noon and immediately started getting stalls ready and our trailer set up, it was hot and we hurried as we could see the dark clouds looming over our right shoulders. We live in Eastern Oregon and are used to frequent Thunder/lighting storms. But wow what a whopper this one was!. Within minutes the temperature dropped 20 degrees and the wind really whipped up. Before it ended we endured over 60 mile winds torrential rain and at least 15/20 minutes of intense hail. I haven't seen anything like it in years? From our vantage point we could see a tarp whipping around from one of the portable barns but with the rain and hail, didn't have a clear picture. What we didn't know, Josh Sleeman and his group had just arrived and just gotten their horses stalled when the wind ripped off the roof of the barn. They spent several hectic scary moments trying to get their horses loaded back into their trailers. Several horse and owners rode out the storm in the stalls. We are very thankful no one got hurt! Thank you Ross and Jess for getting them reaccomadated to empty stalls and getting the stall company back so quickly to get those stalls in shape for horse yet to arrive. Your quick action helped calm a very stressful situation. I guess that storm put down 2inches of rain and also washed out the gravel road in several spots. Tommy Norton had the county there with in minutes to get it back in shape for trailers to get through.

The practice and show went on without too much more excitement! Just plenty of works and late nights. I would like to thank all of the WCHA members for their support in making this joint show effort such a success. I really foresee more joint shows with more then one association co-approving in the near future? I was also delighted to see so many youth in attendance. Please check out the picture tab for youth photos that are now posted. It really warms my heart to see so many of us in the arena to cheer our future cutters on to success.

We also held a silent auction. Thank you Krista, Kris and Liz for getting this organized. Oregon also held one at the same time. WCHA made about \$950.00 towards our saddle fund.

We have a few weeks break before our next show. It is at Sunnyside July 18 and 19th. Most of you realize that we have brought in portable stalls for the duration of the show season in Sunnyside. The wind has played havoc with those stalls and they have had to be re-set up twice. It is imperative that we take the tarps off the roof and the end of each show. Thank you to those few who were able to stay and help after the May show. Please keep that in mind for our July and August shows that we will again have to do that. It won't take but a few minutes with lots of help! Garbage is also an issue at Sunnyside. Please make sure your garbage is in garbage sacks at the dumpster.

Keep checking back to this page for updates.

Thank you,
Scott