
2018

FUTURITY/DERBY AND JUNIOR DIVISION



WPRA

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION

431 S. Cascade

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Phone (719) 447-4726 • Fax (719) 447-4631

www.wpra.com

FUTURITY/DERBY PROGRAM

The WPRA Futurity and Derby program is the beginning steps of turning barrel horse prospects into champion rodeo horses.

The program, which began in 2006, is for building better rodeo horses that will last through the years. The program gives members a place to take young horses and introduce them to the competition arena but in a more relaxed atmosphere.

The Futurities are open to horses 5-years-

old and younger that are competing for the first time, while the Derby program is for 6-and 7-year-old horses, as long as they did not compete in Futurities as a 4-year old. A horse that starts his competitive career as a 4-year-old has two years of eligibility, but as a 5- and 6-year-old.

The program has proven a great training ground for building rodeo horses of the future.

Van Gerpen Collects Futurity 1D and 2D World Titles

By *Kristen M. White*

Hilary Van Gerpen was blazing the trail this season, with several top-performing horses leading the way in the futurity and derby divisions. Now, as the winner of both the 1D and 2D futurity divisions, Van Gerpen is basking in the glow of a fun season.

“It was just a really fun year,” she said simply. “My owners are amazing to ride for. This is a great way to end the year after putting in all the work and all the time. It all ends up working out and making it all worth it.”

Van Gerpen won the 1D title with PC Judge Cash N Lace, and the 2D title with PC A Gallant Judge. Both owned by Sterling Equine Ventures in Sterling City, Texas, Van Gerpen said she was so thankful to have gotten the chance to work with the horses, who certainly proved themselves.

“The PC Judge Cash N Lace mare, she really stayed consistent all year long,” Van Gerpen said. “She’s not necessarily a big go-round winner, but she’ll place in the rounds and always get you in the average. That’s really her strong suit, being a strong, consistent horse. If we didn’t touch a barrel, she placed very consistently at all the futurities. She’s very gritty, and we ended up having a great year, winning over \$30,000.”

Van Gerpen said at least for now, the plan is for her to keep the horse for her derby year.



Hilary Van Gerpen swept the WPRA Futurity Division winning both the 1D and 2D world titles. She captured the 2D title aboard PC A Gallant Judge. WPRA photo by Rodeobum.com

She wants to pick and choose where they run and maybe start her in some pro rodeos too. The horse handled the few she was entered in last year well, so Van Gerpen said it might be time to begin seasoning her a bit more.

PC A Gallant Judge came on strong at the end of the year, she noted. Future plans for him are to find a good performance home to keep on with his career.

“We actually didn’t get that many 2D

FUTURITY/DERBY PROGRAM



Hilary Van Gerpen captured two championship buckles in the futurity division thanks to two great horses owned by Sterling Equine Ventures out of Sterling City, Texas. Van Gerpen won the 1D aboard PC Judge Cash N Lace. WPRA photo by Rodeobum.com

points at the end of the season – he’d stepped it up and was running in the middle of the 1D, so he’s really getting to be a nice, solid horse,” Van Gerpen said.

She found success throughout the season not only on those two horses, but a few others. Hay Im Streakin, owned by Van Gerpen’s parents, hung in the top few in the 2D standings, and her own horse, Firin for Bullion, lead the derby division in the summer.

Having so many good success stories in one season has given Van Gerpen a lot of confidence that she’s on the correct path.

She grew up riding and competed in many National High School Rodeo Association events, then also rodeoed in college and began in some pro rodeos after.

But it was after taking a nice horse she had back in 2012 – Great Guns on Dakota – through futurities and derbies, when it began to get more clear to Van Gerpen that teaching horses was the way to go. Up until that point, she wasn’t that familiar with the futurity division, but quickly learned and found her groove there.

Van Gerpen considers her methods teaching, not training, saying that she is the one that needs to be trained depending on what each horse needs in its teaching. She doesn’t hurry anything, but takes things at the horse’s pace so the horse will be a good performer for the future.

“I have several futurity horses coming up over the next few years, and I will keep doing this while I can and enjoy every minute of it!” she said. “To have everything work out at the end of the year like this was really fun.”

Van Gerpen breeds a few of her own horses, and has some exhibitions planned for a couple of them to see where they’re at. A few years ago she’d dreamed of the opportunity and ability to train horses for others, and the pieces are falling in place now for her to get to do that.

“I would love to be doing this in five or 10 years still,” she said. “Looking back in June when we were sitting at the top, you just never know how the year is going to end up, so to have the two horses continue to excel all year long [was great]. It kind of made me feel like I was doing the right things with them all year, and I’m on the right path.”

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Anderson Accomplishes More Than Expected with Derby World Title

By Kristen M. White

Making a run for the Derby world title was not in Kalie Anderson's plans this year. In fact, she hadn't even planned on competing in the derbies, but sometimes life takes an unexpected path. That's what happened for Anderson, and it ended with a world title.

Anderson and her horse, Whatcha Lookn At, won the WPRA Derby world title after an interesting season. Anderson said winning the title was a great accomplishment, and also an "eye opener and taste of my own medicine."

"I'm one of those people that tells other people not to look at the here and now, but to look at the big picture," she said. "It's funny because I wasn't really doing that, and it turned out that God was working on a bigger plan for me."

For much of the season, Anderson said she had coined herself the "queen of the crying hole." She said it seemed like so many derbies they went to, she was one out of the money, whether it was seventh or fourth place or just out of the average.

"I was starting to get a little discouraged through the year, thinking I was so close, but not enough. And believe it or not, it probably wasn't until the end of August that I looked at the standings – and realized I was pretty high up!" she said.

That opened her eyes and so she quickly decided to enter in a couple of derbies that she hadn't planned on attending. It was at those – the Fizz Bomb Classic and Roper Rally Futurity – that Anderson earned the points she needed to eventually land her the world title.

But backing up months before that, Anderson hadn't planned to compete in the derby circuit at all. She'd purchased her WPRA permit and planned to go to a bunch of rodeos, but then Whatcha Lookn At, known



Kalie Anderson purchased her WPRA permit and planned to go to a bunch of rodeos but when her young horse Whatcha Lookn At, known as Pistol Annie, got hurt plans changed. Once the horse was healed the duo hit the derby races and collected enough points to finish as the year-end champion. WPRA photo by Rodeobum.com

around the barn as Pistol Annie, strained her suspensory at the beginning of the year.

"Here I am with my permit, thinking I'll go to all these rodeos and then my horse changed things up," she said. "I ended up getting taken in a different direction. [Once she was healthy] I decided it was the last year she was derby eligible, and I also had another derby horse so I thought I'd take them."

And while Anderson figured Pistol Annie would do well at the derby level, she still never imagined she'd win the title. However, the horse's previous accomplishments all point to her strong ability.

Anderson had her eye on the quarter horse as a 2-year-old, and the owners decided to sell her as a 3-year-old. They rode together a few times in the fall and then got a bit of a late start, Anderson said, on the barrels before they went to a winter futurity series

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Kalie Anderson won her first world title in the WPRA Derby Division and collected some nice awards in the process. WPRA President Doreen Wintermute (left) presented the champion with her awards. WPRA photo by James Phifer, Rodeobum.com

during her 5-year-old year.

"She started those rodeos at the 4D and had cracked into the 1D by the end of them," Anderson said proudly. "She catches on super fast and is really smart. She makes everything easy, picking up and retaining knowledge."

Now with the Derby title under her belt,

Anderson's sights are set on filling the rest of the permit (just \$130 to go) and then make it to the northern winter rodeos. The Carrington, North Dakota, cowgirl has her eye on the Badlands Circuit. She said she doesn't know if she'll buy her card this year or next, but wants to make a run for the circuit rookie and make the Badlands Circuit Finals.

Anderson's got four of her own personal horses – two that she competes on – plus two or three outside horses that she rides and tunes up for others. She would love to expand that and get some other horses on the trailer to help more people, she said, and hopes that winning the Derby title will help open those doors.

She said it's funny to think how life has changed in 10 years. A decade ago, she would have been more than happy to win a 3D or 4D buckle, so she's excited to see what's in store next.

"To take a horse from nothing to winning [the Derby], it makes you think hopefully you're going down the right path," she said. "It's all a learning experience. You make some mistakes and learn from them, and hopefully have more knowledge in the bank as more horses come up to the futurities."

WORLD CHAMPIONS

FUTURITY:

- 2018 – Hilary Van Gerpen/PC Judge Cash N Lace
- 2017 – Sharin Hall/Dreaming of Foose
- 2016 – Sue Smith/Dash Centerfold
- 2015 – Tami Semas/Smooth N Famous
- 2014 – Cindy Baltezare/Famous Drifty Go
- 2013 – Lacey Kuschel/Western Goldmine
- 2012 – Sandra Hart/LM A Classy Design
- 2011 – Sandra Hart/Hart Ta Fame
- 2010 – Bo Hill/Phame
- 2009 – Jan Duquette/Magico Fire Water
- 2008 – Leslie Maynard/LRM Lightning Watch
- 2007 – Judy Melvin/MNMs Vanilla Sky
- 2006 – Kay Blandford/Talents Dark Angel

DERBY:

- 2018 – Kalie Anderson/Whatcha Look At
- 2017 – Hilary Van Gerpen/Three Tymes a Lady
- 2016 – Randee Hedrick/Colonels Cash Express
- 2015 – Lynnzie Lindstrom & Vauna Walker/Dan I Am Famous
- 2014 – Fonda Galbreath/Frosted Cookies
- 2013 – Ashley Baur/Love Man's Darling
- 2012 – Ashley Baur/Love Man's Darling
- 2011 – Rissie Parker/Letta Lash Do It
- 2010 – Kindell McKaniel/Parkers Secretary
- 2009 – Lisa Ruhnke – First Banana
- 2008 – Susie McConaghie – Super Hero (PT)
- 2007 – Lacy Billingsley – Shawne Dash

JUNIOR DIVISION

It remains one of the most indelible images of WPRA history. Blonde curls bobbing, but clinched firmly between her teeth, a barely teen-aged Clayton, N.M., cowgirl roared into the history books of barrel racing. Charmayne James was just 14 when she and super horse Scamper won the first of a record 10 straight world championships. Along the way, she captured the hearts of rodeo fans across the nation.

The site of young girls guiding their top equine partners flawlessly through a barrel pattern disappeared in the mid-nineties when the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association initiated a mandatory age limit of 18 years of age for competitors at PRCA sanctioned rodeos. Due to the relationship between the two sanctioning bodies at the time, the WPRA followed suit and little girls no longer had a place in professional rodeo.

Beginning in 2007, the WPRA instituted the WPRA Junior Division for all girls aged 17 and under. The junior division introduces a

whole new group of members to the ranks of professional competition and allows mothers and daughters to compete for world points at some of the same events.

Juniors run in WPRA Junior sanctioned races as well as co-sanctioned divisional races and rodeos to earn points for the WPRA World Finals. Juniors can only earn points in WPRA Junior Division races, in co-sanctioned rodeos, and in the 1D of co-sanctioned divisional races. Juniors do not compete against WPRA members for points are not eligible to enter WPRA events or rodeos.

Among the big name races co-sanctioned for the WPRA juniors is the world renowned Josey Junior World Championship barrel race. Hosted by legends RE and Martha Josey, the 1980 WPRA World Champion, this race has played host to thousands of aspiring barrel racers through the years, many of whom have gone on to tremendous success in the ranks of the WPRA.

Lynch Adds Junior World Champion to Resume

By Kristen M. White

Patton Ann Lynch wasn't even sure she'd have a horse to rodeo on this season. She sure didn't see a WPRA Junior World Championship buckle in her future.

But Lynch and JJJ Bonnie Ray started their climb in the standings, hitting the top 10, then the top five, and suddenly the 13-year-old from Crawford, Texas, saw that it was possible to win it all.

"My horse [Firin To Be A Hero] got hurt, and so I really wasn't going to try and win because we had to get a new one," Lynch said. "Bonnie has been such a blessing. A friend found her on Facebook and I didn't really know what to think, but we had to have something."

Lynch said Bonnie's prior owner hadn't ridden her a lot, so Lynch wasn't sure what she was getting into. Their first rodeo together



Patton Ann Lynch and JJJ Bonnie Ray raced their way to their first WPRA Junior World Title after a very successful 2018 season. WPRA photo by Rodeobum.com

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Patton Ann Lynch's first big win aboard JJJ Bonnie Ray came at the Martha Josey Jr World and that win helped propel the duo to their first WPRA Junior World Title. Plans are in the works already to defend their world title in 2019. WPRA photo by Rodeobum.com

was "a disaster," Lynch said, as was the first run at the Josey Jr. World in May.

"The second go was better, and since I had made it back [to the finals], my dad told me to just go and ride and not try too hard," she recalled. "We ran a 15.7 and won the go, and then in the finals we won too. From there on out, we were good together!"

Seems as if it just took Lynch and Bonnie a few runs to solidify, but the duo went strong after that. They rodeoed together in the Texas High School Rodeo Association, making it to the National Junior High Finals Rodeo in her sixth grade year, and then continued on at other junior events, making her mark.

Lynch and Bonnie set a standard pattern record at the ANHA, and set another record at the Parker County Arena. To set records was unexpected and exciting, she said.

"I was really shocked," Lynch said. "I wasn't really going for it, and it all happens so fast. There's no time to really think about it."

It was first after the Josey Jr. World that Lynch said she saw she was moving up in the standings. But it wasn't until she found

herself down just a few thousand dollars in the standings that she thought she could possibly win the title. She and her dad, Dusty, sat down and mapped things out to maximize her possibilities.

"A couple of times I'd hit a barrel, but then when I got into the top three, I knew I just needed clean runs and to win some money," she said.

"It really means a lot to me to win this. I've been in the top 10 or five the past couple of years, so winning the world has been a goal. And especially because I wasn't even planning on trying to win and it just happened, that's always great."

She gave lots of kudos to 6-year-old



Patton Ann Lynch, the 13-year-old from Crawford, Texas, was all smiles accepting her first WPRA championship buckle after winning the junior title in 2018. WPRA President Doreen Wintermute (left) presented the young champion with her awards. WPRA photo by James Phifer, Rodeobum.com

Bonnie, who she called a "crazy horse" but noted that in the arena, she knows her job and has no trouble doing what's required.

Lynch also thanked Kyle Leleux and Jordon Peterson Briggs for their help in getting Bonnie tuned up and Lynch in top riding form. After a chance meeting with Briggs, the two got to know each other and Lynch credited Briggs with "helping me so

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much with my riding skills.”

As a homeschooled student, Lynch said she’s working on also training her first horse. Her goals include competing at the NJHFR again and making it to The American.

She’s not sure what the more distant future holds – fair, considering she’s just 13.

“Some days I want to ProRodeo, and then other days I think I’ll just want to train. But I love traveling and going to all these rodeos,” she said. “It’s a big question! I’d love to win Rookie of the Year and make the National Finals Rodeo, but who knows. We’ll see where it takes me.”

WORLD CHAMPIONS

2018 – Patton Ann Lynch, Crawford, Texas

2017 – Laney Robinson, Mars Hill, N.C.

2016 – Laney Robinson, Mars Hill, N.C

2015 – Merrill Mundy, Parrish, Fla.

2014 – Jackie Ganter, Abilene, Texas

2013 – Kylar Terlip, Frontenac, Kan.

2012 – Brookelyn Owens, Muldrow, Okla.

2011 – Kylar Terlip, Frontenac, Kan.

2010 – Callie duPerier, Bandera, Texas

2009 – Lake Mehalic, Oro Valley, Ariz

2008 – Tara Timms, Leedy, Okla.

2007 – Madison Montchal, Atalisa, Iowa

2018 WPRA FUTURITY/DERBY POINTS

Official standings as of Oct. 21, 2018

FUTURITY

NAME	HORSE	POINTS
1. Hilary Van Gerpen	PC Judge CashNLace	540
2. Taylor Hildreth	Too Chains	390
3. Kay Blandford	KB Angel Ta Fame	260
4. Wendy Johnson	Macgyver Moonflash	185
Buffy Walchli	Rock O Blazin Fame	185
6. Karen Gleason	Red Bull Look	180
7. Hallie Hanssen	Frenchmansdiscorose	177.5
8. Amelia McCumber	Shane Ta Fame	165
9. Kay Blandford	Born Ivory James	160
Hallie Hanssen	Sheza Streakin Move	160
11. Rachel Dahl	BW Sunshine N Whisky	150
Tilly Jenksi	CP Minny	150
13. Kelsey Hayden	Buhbye	140
Katie Pascoe	JR Streakin Espuela	140
15. Hilary Van Gerpen	Hay Im Streakin	115

2D FUTURITY

NAME	HORSE	POINTS
1. Hilary Van Gerpen	PC A Gallant Judge	145
2. Sandra Highland	Sweet Permission	90
Lacy Dunsmore	It’s a Chicks Cartel	90
4. Judi Reed	Rockin Fayme	75
Tilly Jenksi	Platinumotherocks	75
6. Kelsey Hayden	Skippin Lanes	70
7. Amy Wilson	Cool Under The Gun	65
Lacy Maier	Ms Maggie Frost	65
9. Hallie Hanssen	Sheza Streakin Move	60
Lacey Harmon	Kissme Frenchman	60
11. Amy Schimke	Too Complicated	55
Mallee Jones	JL Roc N Rover	55
13. Kay Blandford	Pays To Be Blue	50
Taci Bettis	Traffic Guy Shine	50
15. Hilary Van Gerpen	Hay Im Streakin	45
Tammy Fischer	Letta Dash Perform	45

2018 WPRA FUTURITY/DERBY POINTS

DERBY

	NAME	HORSE	POINTS
1.	Kalie Anderson	Whatcha Lookn At	195
2.	Karen Gleason	See N Fame	165
3.	Julie Erkamaa	Letta Shawne Bug U	145
4.	Susan Smith	Dashes Centerfold	140
5.	Margaret Jones	Classy And I Know It	125
6.	Hilary Van Gerpen	Firin For Bullion	120
7.	Nisa Berry	VF Look Im Back	95
	Ryann Pedone	Boom Goes The Fame	95
9.	Stephanie Fryar	The Red Maserati	80
10.	Kelsey Hayden	Renés Cartel	70
11.	Casey Varpness	Bobs Famous Birthday	60
	Donna Kalish	Nicks Special K	60
	Jana Peterson Groski	VF Lightning Strike	60
14.	Sophie Palmore	JL Jamaican Me Rich	55

2018 FINAL WPRA JUNIOR STANDINGS

Official Standings as of Dec. 28, 2018

1.	Patton Lynch	Crawford, Texas	\$34,053
2.	Elaina McKinney	Carbondale, Ill.	\$32,475
3.	Laney Robinson	Mars Hill, N.C.	\$25,690
4.	Taylor Zbytek	Clewiston, Fla.	\$20,802
5.	Emily Wilkins	Bath, N.Y.	\$16,813
6.	Rylee Elliott	Willison, Fla.	\$16,696
7.	London Gorham	Cotulla, Texas	\$15,488
8.	Emilee Jackson	High Springs, Fla.	\$14,443
9.	McKenzie Morgan	Maryville, Tenn.	\$14,014
10.	Kaitlyn Sims	Elkton, Fla.	\$12,173
11.	Ava Sanders	Vero Beach, Fla.	\$9,008
12.	Sabra Moore	Mt. Villa, N.C.	\$7,569
13.	Acey Pinkston	Stephenville, Texas	\$6,715
14.	Skylar Alves	Camarillo, Calif.	\$6,344
15.	Merrill Mundy	Lakeland, Fla.	\$6,190