KWHA Year End Banquet in Review

Kansas Western Horseman's Association 2024 year end general meeting and awards banquet was held October 26, 2024, in Russell, Kansas, at the Fossil Creek Hotel.

The KWHA general meeting started at 1 pm. There were 31 clubs that were present for roll call. There were many new and old faces present. Announcements were made about the KWHA Trail Ride and how much fun it was to just get together and talk. The weekend weather and the scenery were beautiful, and everyone who attended enjoyed the relaxing weekend with their KWHA family. Other announcements were made concerning the order of additional KWHA flags for member clubs and upcoming holiday parades. The KWHA Finance Committee had a silent auction of club baskets ongoing during the meeting as well. Rule change year always brings debate and conversation, but in the end 39 rules were voted on. The meeting continued with the election of the 2025 KWHA officers and board members.

KWHA social time started at 5:30 pm with lots of members taking pictures and catching up with friends.

Dinner was served at 6:30 pm with large helpings of pulled pork, baked beans, choice of salads, and choice of cake for dessert.



At 7:30 pm the presentation of awards started off with President Jared Scheck presenting the 2024 KWHA state show sportsmanship junior and senior awards to Skylar Amlong and Jeff

Griffey. These winners were picked by a panel of secret judges at the state show in September.

The next presentation was the Wyatt Windholz Memorial Buckle for the Western Lead Line champion age group 1-5. Garett Windholz sponsors this buckle in his son Wyatt's name, and it is a special award that brings joy to his heart. This year the buckle recipient was Whitley Sidman.



Awards were then presented for each of the individual events that were held at 5 shows throughout the season. Ken Newberg read off each age group's winners including the events and points they earned this year. Each member received a certificate listing their accomplishments.

There was a short intermission for the members to get their last set of bids in for the silent auction. Sheets gathered, and the winners were announced.



Jared Scheck called Benton Hrabe, chair of the scholarship committee to the podium to announce this year's scholarship winners. There were 2 scholarships awards of \$1200. Jocelyn Taylor was the recipient of the high school scholarship. Benton announced that according to the judges for the scholarships, Taylor received a perfect score according to the KWHA rubric. The continuing education scholarship recipient was Alaura Crockett.



The awards presentations continued with the top 5 in each age group. Champion received a Corriente Buckle and a portable electric ice chest with a refrigerator/freezer combination, 1st runner-up was a custom set of spurs from the Sheridan Buckle Company, 2nd runner-up was a Blackstone Portable Griddle and accessory kit, 3rd runner-up was a Corriente breast collar, 4th runner-up was an Aztec wool backpack.

Ken Newberg started the presentations with the 1-9 age group top 5.

4th runner-up with 193 points, Emerson Rohrer (not pictured); 3rd & 2nd runnersup were a very tight race with only one point separating them. 3rd runner-up with 221 points, Levi Cameron; 2nd runner-up with 222 points, Ryker Riley; 1st runner-up with 307 points, Reagyn Riley; and the 2024 year end 1-9 high point champion with 379 points was Michael Anglin.

2024 KWHA 10-13 Year End Top Five High Point



10-13 age group top 5 were 4th runnerup with 145 points, Aiden Lobmeyer; 3rd runner-up with 164 points, Jeffry Smith; 2nd runner-up with 223 points, Kim Tucker; 1st runner-up with 343 points, Ava Graf; and the 2024 year end 10-13 high point champion with 403 points was Kaylee Schwarz.

14-17 age group top 5 were 4th runnerup with 222 points, Colby Kriss; 3rd runner-up with 289 points, Emily Cheek (not pictured); 2nd runner-up with 303 points, Ryan Harder (not pictured); 1st runner-up with 393 points, Jordan Cameron; and the 2024 year end 14-17 high point champion with 508 points is Riley Cameron. Riley had the most points of any age group!

2024 KWHA 14-17 Year End Top Five High Point



2024 KWHA Women Year End Top Five High Point





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Ath Runner Up Cameryn Kinderknecht 214 points Walker Wrangters Women's age group top 5 were 4th runner-up with 214 points, Cameryn Kinderknecht; 3rd runner-up with 231 points, Lynn Sidman; 2nd runner-up with 296 points, Shannon Goss; 1st runner-up with 315 points, Tamara Anglin; and the 2024 year end women's high point champion with 338 points was Camisha Stevenson.

Men's age group top 5 were 4th runner-up with 141 points, Jared Scheck; another very tight race between 3rd & 2nd runners-up with only one point separating them. 3rd runner-up with 178 points, Brian Kuntz; 2nd runner-up with 179 points, Levi Taylor; 1st runner-up with 211 points, Mark Riley; and the 2024 year end men's high point champion with 384 points was Triston Boxum.

2024 KWHA Men Year End Top Five High Point



Champion Briston Boours Briston Boours

4th Runner Up Jared Scheck 141 points Walker Wranglers

2024 KWHA Sr. Women Year End Top Five High Point



Sr. Women's age group top 5 were 4th runner-up with 150 points, Roberta Jarvis (not pictured); 3rd runnerup with 164 points, Tally Ann Klitzke (not pictured); 2nd runner-up with 260 points, Sandi Tucker; 1st runner-up with 267 points, Renee Nichols. The senior women kept things interesting between the 3rd and 4th and 1st and 2nd runner ups with only 14 and 7 points separating them respectively. The 2024 year end senior women's high point champion with 439 points was Darcy Settrini.

Sr. Men's age group top 5 were 4th runner-up with 135 points, Doug Mermis; 3rd runner-up with 181 points, Bob Smith. Once more there was a pretty tight race between 2nd and 3rd runners-up with only a 10 point spread. 2nd runner up with 209 points, Jason Amlong; 1st runner-up with 219 points, Gregg Tucker; and the 2024 year end men's high point champion with 293 points was Jeff Boeger. This is Jeff's second consecutive year winning Sr. Men High Point Champion.





High Point saddle clubs were the last awards to be presented at the banquet. With only 829 points separating all 5 clubs, it was a great competition for the traveling trophy. 4th runner-up with 2208 points, Walker Wranglers, (pictured is president Jared Scheck); 3rd runner-up with 2247 points, Fort Bissell, (pictured is Jeff Griffey); 2nd runner-up with 2329 points, Salina Rowdy Riders, (pictured is Camisha Stevenson); 1st runner-up, SCHR, with 2383 points, (pictured is Sandi Tucker); and the 2024 year end high point champion saddle club with 3037 points was Bit & Spur, (pictured are Jeffrey Smith, Jeff Boeger, Shannon Pettijohn, Donna Morris, Holden Morris, Morgan Morris, Dennis Morris, Krystal Muci, John Muci, Lily Muci, Shawn Kohr, Tonya Kohr, and President Jared Scheck presenting).



The awards ceremony and banquet officially ended with President Jared Scheck relaying congratulations to all the winners throughout the year and that he would be looking forward to the upcoming season.

After the ceremony, there were several members that stayed and played cards, held conversations, told jokes, and spent time with each other, realizing that the season had ended and that it would be the new year before the next one started.

Year End banquet is always a little bittersweet as some of our members have passed, and there are many stories told of their accomplishments, while new members have come, and more memories are made.

Please stay tuned for the feature articles on each of the newly elected and appointed 2025 KWHA officers and board members. There is bound to be some new and interesting information on each of these members.

Until the next time.

Renee Nichols KWHA Historian