



"Sharing the Legacy of a Transportation Empire"

Past Events

Farm Team Competition: (Lyndon, Kansas)

June 15-16, 2024

On June 20, the Lyndon Saddle Club with the support of our great local sponsors, and The National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association, Rural Heritage Magazine and the Kansas Draft Horse and Mule Association, was able to put on the 2024 Annual Farm Team Competition in Lyndon Kansas.

We had thirteen outstanding teams of multiple breeds. Teams came from as far away as Texas, we always welcome these out of state teamsters.

The Belt Buckle winner was a local Kansas teamster, Mr. Clay Sharp. He came to us from Stilwell, KS with a team of well-manicured Belgians. Out of the five classes, Clay won three first place, one second and one fifth, this gave him a total of twenty points and \$995.00. Not bad for two days of fun. The total pay-out for all five classes was \$3500.





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Our competition consists of five classes. Cultivator Challenge, which consists of two rows of fifty water bottles 20 feet apart. Using old farm cultivators, the object is to leave as many water bottles standing in the least amount of time. An old teamster watching the competition was over-heard saying "If I had cut off that much corn, Dad would have been adjusting my overall straps."

Our second event was a log skid using a small tree butt. There was a series of obstacles that had to be maneuvered as working through the timber. This was a timed event with both obstacles and penalties.

Our number three class was the barrel obstacle. Two Teamsters going at the same time, again, time and obstacles was navigated with a team not to break a trot, if the team broke out of a trot for more than two strides a penalty was assessed.

Our number four class was an obstacle course. The 1st place was given to the teamster with the best combined score from both days. Day one was with a fore-cart going over the bridges, maneuvering around a mailbox, over manhole covers, backing through several sets of cones, then turning back doing several more cones, and back over the bridges doing a figure 8 to the finish line.

The second day a four wheeled wagon was used, which made the course much more difficult. The teamster had to maneuver the wagon over a narrow bridge, back into a mock barn, then parallel park the way on the way out.

Our final class was the feed team challenge, which was also a combination of a two-day score. Having a scamper, the teamster must bring his/ her team, (yes, we had one lady teamster, and she is a very competitive driver - winning first place in the Cultivator challenge), with the sled, pull up to the first station and load all the hay and feed on the sled. The swamper must always be on the sled when the sled is moving, and the team must stand still while the swamper is loading and unloading. There was a total of four stations to stop at to load and unload. Two teams went at the same time, and again no loping.

On Saturday evening we provided a Chuckwagon Stew and cobbler for our sponsors and contestants. This meal was cooked over an open fire by HeartSlash Chuck Wagon - Mike and Connie Kitchener, Cedar Vale, Kansas. We want to give a special thanks to them for all their hard work in cooking and setting up the chuck wagon camp.

On Sunday morning there was Cowboy Church with many of the participants attending. The service was given by one of our contestants, Chuck Asbury.

We again want to thank all our participants, sponsors and spectators. Our hope is that everyone had a good time and will be back next year for a bigger and better show. We would like to see more local and out of state teams come and compete.

A Special Thank You to: Harrison Shooter Supply, Lyndon Kansas - Superior Real Estate Land Group, Lyndon Kansas - Calhoun Jewelers, Topeka KS - DNS Sanitation, Lyndon Kansas - Farm Bureau Investments, Osage City KS - Mid America Bank, Baldwin KS. with a heartfelt thanks to Rural Heritage Magazine, The Kansas Draft Horse and Mule Association and The National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association for their financial and moral support.

Story by Frank Burkdoll