



August-September 2025 Newsletter

Next Up – SE Regional Championship Race!

Our Georgia friends are gearing up for a great Southeastern Regional Extreme Cowboy Race at the Chicopee Agriculture Center in Gainesville, GA on September 13th. Lee Hart will be hosting a clinic on Friday the 12th. We can't wait to see all of our racers there. Thanks to Joe Holloway, Dennis & Mariette Tipton, Jamie Caldwell and the rest of the Rocking T Ranch crew.

High Point Buckles will be awarded at the 9/13/25 Regional Race and the 11/15/25 Challenge. Make sure you check the standings!

July 12th Schooling Day was Rescheduled for October 11th

Due to the extreme heat and other circumstances, the July 12th Obstacle Schooling Day was postponed until October 11th. The updated flyer and entry form is on the website. Thanks for your understanding and take care of those ponies!

2025 Tentative Events

1/11-1/12/2025 – Craig & Cole Cameron Clinic – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
POSTPONED

3/1-3/2/2025 – Florida Horse Park – Extreme Cowboy Race (double points) on Saturday & Obstacle Challenge on Sunday..

4/5/2025– Obstacle Challenge, Southern Roe's Farm, Groveland, FL

5/3/2025 – Extreme Cowboy Race (double points) The Canyon – Hodges, AL

5/30 - 6/1/2025 – Extreme Cowboy Race – EXCA National Championships, Champions Arena, Celebration Grounds, Shelbyville, TN (5X Points)

9/12/2025 –Clinic – Lee Hart

9/13/2025 – Extreme Cowboy Race –SE Regional Championships - (Triple Points) Chicopee Agricultural Ctr, Gainesville, GA

10/11/2025 - Obstacle Schooling Day – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL (rescheduled from July)

11/15/2025 – Obstacle Challenge, Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS THAT MAKE THESE EVENTS HAPPEN!!!!

Southern Obstacle Challenge Association

352-217-2448

P.O. Box 1479, Bushnell, FL 33513

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2025 HIGH POINT STANDINGS

Through 8/25/25

SOCA RACE HIGH POINT - 2025

Young Guns Division Results		Total
NO BUCKLE		
1 Maddie Jones	Drifting Thru Poco	250.173
2 Sadie Reilly	LEO's Pride	220.706
3 June Trommsdorff	Patch	207.412
Novice Division Results		
1 Chase LaMontagne	Indigo	1410.802
2 Cullen Green	Buster	1251.724
3 Terri Glonek	One Tuff Cowgirl	1130.949
4 Pat Keck	J-Low	1099.725
5 Terri Glonek	Tuff Lil' Texan	957.329
6 Stacy Chambers	Bonita	922.801
7 David Chambers	Sparkles	888.381
8 Charles King Sr.	Gus	793.109
9 Charles King Jr.	Champ	772.774
10 Alecia Grissett	Pepper	755.639
Green Horse Results		
1 Kat Wiegand	WHR Tiny Dancer	1068.950
2 Hannah Howe	Peppy Jac Kingwood	1254.373
3 Tim Yoho	Gentry	1140.625
4 Angie Jones	Barbie	1110.511
5 Lee Chapman	Ay Monarca (Queen)	1081.160
6 Dennis Tipton	Trendys Classic Jac	981.007
7 Mike Jeffers	Bucky	763.584
8 Vaudry Edge	2 X Thirteen Diamonds	743.508
9 Susan Wingo	KRK Pretty Nifty Gal	709.019
10 Jazzy Durgin	Only 2X The Money	663.706
Non Pro Division Results		
1 Tracy Pinson	Tuff Struck Gold	1967.315
2 Tracy Pinson	2X T-Buck	1955.975
3 Vaudry Edge	Rojo Willy John 2	1867.805
4 Lee Chapman	Pistol Pete	1823.778
5 Tim Yoho	Surely A Pepto Jewel	1574.941
6 Laura Green Hart	ShesaOsaLenaCat	1537.064
7 Meredith Crews	Dixie	1494.520
8 Rick Peniston	Savvy Gun Play	1472.294
9 Gina Gatto	So Charming	1453.154
10 Karen Huey	Pepite	1436.431
Intermediate Division Results		
1 Lisa Steinbach	Tuff Struck Gold	1672.588
2 Angela Graham	Jack	1672.517
3 Edward Brown	Spook	1368.541
4 Mary Jo Veluzat	Boom Jac Kid	1018.912
5 Alecia Grissett	Pepper	909.037
6 Michael Garman	Newt	861.627
7 Diane McMurtrey	I'm Gonna Rip It Up	737.830
8 Renee Mims	Exquisite Doc Bar Molly	648.839
9 Shannon Washam	TRUE	429.582
10 Kim Washam	Strawberry Pep	428.197
Youth Division Results		
1 Meredith Crews	Dixie	1681.448
2 Gina Gatto	So Charming	1505.194
3 Brooke Baldwin	Redden's Photo Finish	1271.058
4 Bailey Jones	Wranglers Jewel Ellie	1105.557
5 Paityn Blunk	Bodocs Money Bar	1097.815
6 Braylie Sturgeon	Roger Diabolo	1034.041
7 Braylie Sturgeon	Dollar	936.435
8 Jordan Jeffers	Champ	868.938
9 Meredith Crews	Enzo	692.202
10 Kailey Hetherman	One Tuff Cowboy	199.387
Ride Smart Division Results		
1 Tracy Pinson	2X T-Buck	2057.370
2 Vaudry Edge	Rojo Willy John 2	1960.722
3 Lisa Steinbach	Tuff Struck Gold	1820.589
4 Angela Graham	Jack	1807.357
5 Tim Yoho	Surely A Pepto Jewel	1631.215
6 Laura Green Hart	ShesaOsaLenaCat	1580.361
7 Rick Peniston	Savvy Gun Play	1553.920
8 Karen Huey	Pepite	1536.737
9 Tracy Pinson	Tuff Night At The Ritz	1110.258
10 Ricky Carey	Roger Diabolo	1093.331
Pro Division Results		
NO BUCKLE		
1 Jazzy Durgin	BulletProof	1447.868
2 Hannah Howe	High Flying X Tex	1156.057
3 Lee Hart	MOSU Freckle Lena	1154.453
4 Angeline Saliceti	Samson	1150.555
5 Lee Hart	Crimson Contender	1092.342
6 Chris Redden	Dualin Pistol Duke	1059.152
7 Jen Peterson	J-Low	1053.340
8 Chad Blunk	Redden Red Stinger	1046.510
9 Angeline Saliceti	Keeta	1040.771
10 Lee Hart	Lumpy	902.022
Open Division Results		
1 Lee Chapman	Pistol Pete	1877.888
2 Tyler Howe	Indiana Cowgirl	1604.921
3 Chase LaMontagne	Indigo	1536.694
4 Rick Peniston	Savvy Gun Play	1523.347
5 Gina Gatto	So Charming	1517.563
6 Jazzy Durgin	BulletProof	1460.211
7 Lee Chapman	Reddens Sonny Joe	1442.269
8 Leanne Hale	Jigsaw	1168.084
9 Lee Hart	MOSU Freckle Lena	1145.207
10 Bailey Jones	Wranglers Jewel Ellie	1105.637

SOCA OBSTACLE CHALLENGE HIGH POINT - 2025

	Rider	Horse	Total
Novice Division			
1	Julie Testa	Boone	236.00
2	Frances Hamlett	Fate	227.00
3	Laura Sirak	Chief	221.50
4	Daisy Jones	Dutton	215.00
5	Kimberly Whitmore	River	212.00
6	Nicole Dalton	Chip	196.50
7	Rebecca Hurm	Lovealottajack	131.50
8	David Chambers	Sparkes	127.00
9	Richard Blaudow	Monte	117.50
10	Joni Nathanson	Prime Time Spook (Blue)	113.50
Youth Division			
1	Alexa Jackson	BiBi	268.00
2	Maddie Jones	Drifting Thru Poco	205.50
3	Kailey Hetherman	One Tuff Cowboy	171.00
4	Jackson White	Sunny	124.00
5	Gina Gatto	So Charming	122.50
6	Sophia Johnson	Uno	119.50
7	Meredith Crews	Dixie	119.00
8	Brooke Bremer	Shades	113.50
9	Meredith Crews	Enzo	104.50
10	Khloe Murray	KitKat	102.00
Intermediate Division			
1	Jenna Bishop	J-Low	277.00
2	Denise McMeekin	Macky	262.00
3	Kimberly Paquette	Absoluteontherocks	245.50
4	Anne Hanley	Spirit	241.50
5	Tim Haupt	Mercy Reigns	226.00
6	Diane McMurtrey	I'm Gonna Rip It Up	207.50
7	Karen Ketchum	Bindi	201.00
8	Elizabeth Yorke	Harry Potter	133.00
9	Stephanie Suarez	Doc's Straight Silver (Bogey)	128.00
10	Barbara Van Winkle	Pepper	128.00
Open Elite Division			
1	Lesa Roe	Cat	280.00
2	Lisa Cusimano	Sierra	265.50
3	Connie Lloyd	Lark's Grey Twist	264.00
4	Margo Cook	Luna	263.50
5	Terri Glonek	Tuff Lil' Texan	166.50
6	Briana Tribett	Jasper	126.00
7	Marilyn Loaces	Manolo	124.50
8	Kat Wiegand	WHR Tiny Dancer	122.50
9	Cindy Hahn	Jager	121.00
10	Sarah Bremer	Doc	106.50

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6 Signs That Prove Horses Are Emotional Animals



There are six basic emotions, including happiness, sadness, fear, disgust, anger, and surprise. Horses are able to experience and feel all of those. Certain ones are easy to identify, while others can be a bit more subtle. When you learn how horses communicate, it's easier to notice how they feel. It's important to recognize their emotions and what motivates them, so that you can improve your relationship with your horse.

- Horses Are Emotional - They use their body language and vocalizations to show their emotions. Some examples include wide eyes suggesting fear or anxiety, swishing a tail could be annoyance, and a loud nicker indicating excitement.
- Horses use facial expressions to indicate how they're feeling. Researchers documented 805 facial displays ranging from play to conflict.
- They're prone to emotional contagion, which means they can reflect the emotions of a nearby person. Horses can become mirrors! You could say they're very intuitive.
- Horses are highly social animals. You can see the emotional impact of a horse that lives in isolation. They begin to show stress-related behaviors.
- They have the ability to empathize with others. In fact, horses are able to develop meaningful relationships with other species, including humans.
- Like people, they use their senses (especially their sight and smell) to interpret their environment. This can deeply impact their emotional state.

Your horse is an emotional being! Make it your goal to understand them and how they communicate. This will allow you to support their needs.

10 Tips for Bridleless Riding



Bridleless riding is the ultimate challenge. It will test you and your horse's ability to communicate with each other. Your horse will need to be responsive to your leg, seat, and voice cues. It can be beautiful to watch a horse and rider in harmony. When you both truly listen to each other, the results are incredible.

Bridleless Riding Tips

- You and your horse should have a quality relationship built on trust and mutual respect.
- Before you take off the bridle, consider riding bitless or with a halter. There can be a transition period.
- Your horse should be very responsive to your seat and leg aids. Practice those ahead of time!
- A neck rope is a great tool for bridleless riding.
- Start in a smaller riding arena or round pen with little distractions.
- Learn to feel your horse's movement and anticipate what they may do.
- Go slow in the beginning. You can gradually increase the speed and complexity of your riding.
- Be consistent and practice regularly. The first session may not go as planned, but keep at it!

Don't be afraid to go back a step if you run into difficulties. Returning to the bridle isn't a terrible thing! Consider your horse's needs.

Have fun and enjoy the small successes. Consider this process a learning adventure- it'll have ups and downs.

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SOCA would like to thank our 2025 Corporate Sponsors

**Darby Oaks Stables – Diane McMurtrey & Walker Pond Farm
Performance Marketing Services -Stellar Marine – TWHBEA**

The Ranch @ Traders Hill



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EXCA
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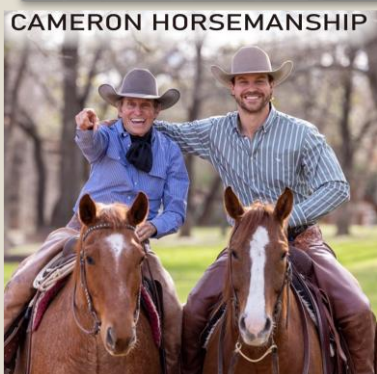
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2026 SPONSORS NEEDED!

SOCA is a **501c3 Non Profit Organization**, so donations are tax deductible. Small or large, ALL donations are appreciated!!! Sponsorships help us provide better events for you, including prizes, donations to charities and buckles for high point awards.

THANK YOU!!!

SOCA NEWS

Purpose of SOCA

OBSTACLE CHALLENGES

- Divisions for all levels of horses and riders
- Open to all breeds
- Payback in all classes, prizes, and ribbons
- Ten to fifteen obstacles
- Events will be in arenas and on the trail

EXTREME COWBOY RACES

- Sanctioned Extreme Cowboy Races with divisions for: Pro, Non-Pro, Novice, Intermediate, Ride Smart, Youth, Young Guns, & Green Horse
- Open to all breeds
- Payback, prizes, and ribbons

CLINICS/SCHOOLING DAYS

- Learn to negotiate obstacles
- Schooling days will allow you to practice obstacles with the help of others, and without the pressure of competition.

**THANKS TO ALL OUR
SPONSORS, JUDGES &
VOLUNTEERS THAT MAKE OUR
EVENTS POSSIBLE!**

Extreme Cowboy Racers

Reminder to pay your dues to the EXCA so your points will count! If you aren't sure if you are current, check the EXCA website under the club page.



**SOCA dues (\$10) are due
January 1st!**

Please renew at your first event of the year. Dues help fund the highpoint awards and administrative costs of the club.

If you have news that you would like to submit to the SOCA newsletter, please email it to southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com

SOCA would like to thank the following for Product Donations:

Adequan, AHC Products – Animed, Cameron Horsemanship, Hooey, Jacks Inc/JMI Pet Supply, JT International (Tough-1), Life Data Corp & Farrier's Formula, Platinum Performance, Rocking "S" Tack, Spurs Big Fix, Straight Arrow (Mane n' Tail & Cowboy Magic), Stud Muffins, Tom Balding Spurs, Tribute Equine Nutrition, Triple Crown, TWHBEA, US Rider, Vetericyn, Durango Boots and Winners Circle Horse Supply

