



New Zealand Reining Horse Association

# NZRHA

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NZRHA 2002 Futurity winner Catherine Ladd riding Senor Baron

L to R : Judge-Simon Meyers (Australia); Sponsor-Peter Watt (Watt Insurance Brokers); High scoring 3yr trophy sponsor-Ron Clothier

# Committee Members

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 Barry Ladd  
 Jo Coleman



Presidents Piece,

Apologies on the delay in this newsletter. Life has been hectic but with Winter looming the pace is sure to slow. Short notice but we are holding a Reining clinic Anzac weekend (details elsewhere) so if you are keen please ring us as a

Our front cover features Catherine Ladd and Senor Baron, winner of the Watt Insurance Brokers 2002 Futurity and also the trophy nated by Ron Clothier for the highest scoring 3 yr old. Please see page 3 for a feature story on Senor Baron who was an orphan hand reared. The 2002 Reining Futurity was a success with 11 entries and some very good horses and riders. The \$500 purse put Mario Flag for the top scoring Durack progeny was not taken away as although there was 2 Durack's in the Futurity they both unfortunately went off pattern.

The USANRHA Futurity in December was won by Shawn Flarida riding an awesome horse called Wimpy's Little Step who is by Nu Chex To Cash. Wimpy's Little Step put in 3 outstanding runs with the highest score in the first go of 226, 2nd highest in the 2 (225.5) and then topped it all off with a amazing run to win with a 233! He has since also won the Congress, one very talented

Peter Watt and myself are off to Australia to strengthen ties with the Australian Reining Horse Association. We will attend the and have time to catch the NRHA Futurity in July. Looking forward to seeing Australia's best compete.

Regards

Ken Hawkins  
 President  
 NZRHA

## 2002 Watt Insurance Brokers Reining Futurity — Results

<b>1st</b> —Senor Baron & Catherine Ladd	69 (own rider)
<b>2nd Equal</b> — Waiora Roc N Choc & Jan Robinson	67.5 (own rider)
Rhythmic Olena & Mark Chamberlain	67.5 (own rider)
<b>4th Equal</b> — Lin-Bar Jack & Barry Ladd	67 (own rider)
Spinnin Flit & Ken Hawkins	67 (owned by Peter Watt)
<b>6th</b> —Sonitas Playboy & Ruth Laidlaw	65 (owned by Jo Coleman)



**Ken & Ann Hawkins**  
 22 Hunter Rd, RD4,  
 Eureka, Hamilton.  
 Ph 07-824-1008

**Excellent Reining  
 Prospects for sale**

# FUTURITY 2002

## Winners Story—The story of **Senòr Baron Q1357**

**Born:** 28/10/99

**Sire:** JollyBaronQ68

**Dam:** Senorita2/78/120

**Senòr Baron** is owned and bred by **Lin-Bar Quarter Horses**. Lin -Bar Quarter Horses is located near Stratford and owned by Barry & Linley Ladd. Phone: 06 -7627879.

**Nerdy**, as he is commonly known, lost his mother due to unfortunate circumstances at the age of seven weeks. After we lost his mother we had to make a mercy dash to Whangarei to pick him up. It was up there that his nickname came about. It was because his forelock stuck straight up and he also would never leave his mother's side to go and play with the other foals.

For the next nine weeks he was our big house pet. During this time he was fed milk out of a bucket twice daily. He used to love his milk so much that the bucket full would be gone in a matter of seconds. Even today he is quite partial to a litre or two of milk with the calves.

On weaning he was put out with some geldings to learn some herd manners.

As a yearling he was shown in the Halter Futurity at the Quarter Horse Nationals and got third. A year later in the Halter Maturity he got third again. He was also named Supreme Champion Quarter Horse at the 2002 Stratford Show.

As a rising three year old he was broken in during the winter and Catherine started training him in early November. At the end of November he was shown to second place in the Quinphos Reining Special at the Stratford Show. A couple of weeks later he won the **Watt Insurance Brokers / NZ Reining Horse Association Futurity** at the Waikato Show. Early in the New Year he was placed third in the Junior Horse Trail at the Manawatu Show. The following week he won the Junior Horse Trail at the Taupo Show. Later at the Gold Coast Show he won the Junior Horse Reining.

He is now turned out for the winter. You will see him on the show circuit again next season and he will also have a handful of mares keeping him busy.

### For Sale

Quarter Horse broodmare, Peppy Sanko 15 yrs \$2000 ono

Quarter Horse filly rising 2, by Mr Zippo out of a bove mare, very quiet and well handled, \$3000 ono

Western saddle 14" seat, excellent condition, Fred Witton make, \$1300

Western boots by Tony Lama - almost new. size 7 1/2 to 8 womens \$180

Phone Ron or Pam 07 -8719745

NZReiningHorseAssociation

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SEND TO: The Treasurer

Ann Hawkins

22 Hunter Rd

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Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signup for:

Unit

Price

Single Membership (\$25)

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Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Wishing Harry Gordon a speedy recovery from his recent illness.  
Looking forward to seeing you and Doug back out there.



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# Reining Clinic

**COST only \$100  
For Weekend**

Put your sliders on and spend the whole weekend dedicated to reining

**On the 26th and 27th of April (Anzac weekend)**

Ken Hawkins will be your instructor for this weekend, spend some time with Ken and learn some of his secrets on how he gets his horses doing what they do.

We will have a NZRHA meeting on the Saturday night commencing at approx 5.30pm followed by a BBQ so please bring meat or salads plus your drinks for the BBQ.

Ring Ann Hawkins on 07 824 1008 for enquires or bookings. This clinic will be limited to Eight Riders only but there is always plenty of room on the rail for a small charge.

## **FORSALE —MydasDreamDoc**

Mydasisarising2yroldPalominoQuarter  
Horsegelding.

Veryquietnature,potentialplus.

Sire:BeaverDocsSug

Dam: DreamWeaver(byDoc'sDurack)

ContactKen&AnnHawkins07 -8241008

\$5000+gst



## Five Keys to Consistency

How do you develop consistency in your horse? You first need to grasp what “consistency” is, whatever your goal may be. Without understanding the consistency concept, you can’t hope to develop it in your horse. To me, the word means several things.

- It means your horse is broke. A horse that’s not broke stands no chance of being consistent.
- It means your horse is delivering the same maneuvers all the time. For instance, you know that when you ask for a top prof turn, it’ll be there — just like it was yesterday and will be tomorrow.
- It means your horse is confident. A horse that’s fearful stands no chance of being consistent.
- It means that you know your horse. If he can consistently deliver a score of 72 (after entering the show pen with a score of 70 — as all reiners do — meaning he’s earned two “plus points”), you know better than to blow him out by trying to constantly push him past this limit to squeeze out a 73.
- It means that *you’re* consistent. Your horse can’t be consistent if you aren’t.

Let’s examine each of these key points more closely, so you can see the specific elements you’ll need to build the kind of consistency that wins. You’ll need each and every one of the items listed to get it, as they all relate to one another.

- **The broke key.** Your horse is responsive to your leg and neck — reins, can balance over his hindquarters, and readily yields to subtle bit pressure. He can’t deliver a consistent response without these skills. (*Note:* Some people would lump a low head set in here as a signpost of a broke horse which is not always the case. Head set varies from horse to horse, depending on what’s natural for the individual. You can’t *make* on below-headed.)
- **The good -delivery key.** You’ve taught your horse through repetition and positive reinforcement to deliver an automatic response to your cues.
- **The confidence key.** You’ve made confidence — building a component of your training program by consistently rewarding the correct response and knowing your horse’s limitations (more about that in a minute). A stressed, frightened horse (like a frightened kid) can’t learn, nor can he build confidence. If you push too hard, or use intimidation rather than reward, remember this: Too much punishment won’t teach a horse anything but fear. Fear destroys confidence — and robs you of consistency.
- **The limitations key.** You know what your horse can — and can’t — deliver, and train him accordingly. Training within a horse’s limitations is essential for a youngster (although trainers can get pressure from owners — who’ve spent a bunch of money on the horse and training — to push those limits). You can see or feel any physical problems that develop. If he’s sore or lame, you know to back off. But the mental aspect is intangible. You need to develop a sense for that so you don’t destroy the horse’s confidence. For instance, if your horse really tries for you and can continually rate a 72, but you push him to go 100 percent all the time to milk out that 73, pretty soon he’s going to quit. Or, you may have an extremely talented 3-year-old that exhibits the ability to lay down 73 — 74 point runs. But he lacks the maturity to reach that potential until he’s a year old. You’ll know because he’ll have trouble stepping up when you ask him to. If you were to try to get him there before he’s ready, you could blow him up mentally.
- **The trainer key.** You’re consistent. You ask for maneuvers the same way every day. You know there’s a time to give, a time to pull, and a time to pet your horse. You have a training schedule and a program tailored to him. He knows what to expect — and when he’s done something right.

### PUT CONSISTENCY TO WORK FOR YOU.

You now know the elements for developing a consistent performer. Use these do’s and don’ts in your day-to-day ride to further build consistency in your horse.

- **Don’t truss the ride.** When you rush, you put unhealthy pressure on your horse, which breaks several of the cardinal rules of consistency. (Not the least of which is eroding his confidence and your own ability to stay consistent). Say you’ve got only 20 minutes to ride. To avoid the temptation of trying to cram a full training session into that timeframe, consider using the time as a conditioning session. Lope him, rather than drilling on him. You’ll help condition him physically, and the mental break will be refreshing.
- **Do reward him.** When your horse does something right, tell him verbally, give him a pat, and let him catch some air. Youngsters particularly need these rewards. When your reiner is first starting out, he may give you the right response purely by accident. Unless you tell him in a big way that he did well, he can’t possibly learn what you’re expecting from him. By rewarding the correct response, you make him want to give it to you — time and time again.
- **Don’t take things personally.** When your horse makes a mistake, don’t get mad. When you do, you scare him, which is counter to consistency. It’s not as though he plotted to “get” you by screwing up. Instead, try to understand why he responded as he did. Did you ask for the maneuver correctly? Is he too fresh to focus? Are you being consistent? Might he be hurting — or afraid? Get to the bottom of his incorrect response, then use your head to fix it. And, if you’re having a bad day, skip the ride. Taking your day at the office out on your horse will only erode his progress.
- **Do keep him sound.** If your horse is working sore, pretty soon he’ll be working sour. If you normally willing horses suddenly turn cranky or resistant, listen up. Take a proactive approach, working in tandem with your veterinarian, in an effort to uncover — and treat — any physical cause. If no physical cause is evident, turn your attention to a possible mental “unsoundness”, such as too much pressure from you.

- **Don'taskfor100percenteveryday.** Ifyouweretoaskyourhorsetodeliverhisheartandsouleveryday,you'dfryhim. Afriedreiner can't deliver consistently, if he can deliver at all. Save that request for the big show, or chance are you won't have a horse to show. t
- **Doknowwhentoquit.** Alwaysquitonagoodnote. This may be the most important key to consistency. You may not always end on a perfect note; it may simply be an improvement. This doesn't mean quitting after a prescribed amount of time, nor does it mean ending your work after 10 minutes when your horse does something well. Rather, it is a feel thing. For instance, if your horse is sharp on all the maneuvers you've asked for, reward him, then go loose. If, near the end of a session, he gives you a stop that's an improvement over yesterday's, reward him and quit for the day. Your horse will soon associate the ultimate reward (quitting) with his effort to deliver the correct response.
- **Doplanforthefuture.** If you want to keep a youngster consistent for the long run, look beyond your big event. Give them plenty of breaks to allow them to recuperate physically and mentally. They come back twice as mature and ready to work.

### When He Just Says "NO"

You're rethinking that your consistency program is right on track. Then the day comes when you ask your horse for a specific maneuver, and he resists. How do you know when to push him past his resistance - or to back off because you may have already pushed too hard and shattered his confidence? u-

First of all, I don't think a horse ever says "no" completely. It's not as though he's a teen-ager who woke up looking for a fight. Horse's aren't like that. His resistance could be due to soreness, confusion, or a lack of confidence. Or he might simply be feeling lazy.

If you suspect your horse is sore (he feels off, or is consistently resistant despite your efforts), he needs to heal before you ask for the maneuver again. If he's confused (he's trying for you but just can't seem to get it), slow down but stay at it, making sure the request is crystal clear. If he lacks confidence (he's acting fearful, almost as though he's looking for a way to escape your cues-and his fear is escalating), back off and get something he can do well to fuel his confidence. Once he relaxes, you can ask again.

If your horse is being lazy, you can push him. How do you distinguish lazy from confused? Unless you really know him - and you should if you're trying to train him - it can be tough. Here's a loose guideline that can help you.

If your horse has been turning around great every day for the past month. You step on today and he feels sound and comfortable, but when you ask him to turn around he fumbles through it. Because he's been turning around consistently well for the past 30 days, you know he knows the maneuver. You can get firm with him, but then the instant he delivers, reward him - and quit.



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