

Dean Smith
2008 KQHA Hall of Fame Inductee



During the past 50 years, native Kansan Dean Smith has accumulated innumerable accolades in the show ring in numerous types of events. He's trained and shown many state and world champion reining, cutting, halter and pleasure horses. A top cutting horse trainer, Dean Smith has also made a substantial impact on the entire equine industry. He was the person competitors strived not only to beat, but also sought to emulate his training. As an equine breeder, he has produced top quality horses. He's trained many successful non-professional riders and handlers through the years, and he's helped develop some of the top trainers in the country. Without a doubt, native Kansan Dean Smith is a legend not only in the cutting industry, but in the equine industry as a whole.

Dean was presented with the very first NRHA bronze trophy awarded in 1969 when he rode Miss Sue Skip owned by Gloria Oursler of Coffeyville, KS to the win in the futurity. He was also awarded the trophy in 1970 as the NRHA open winner riding Miss Sue Skip.

In the 1970's and 80's Dean was a fixture on the KQHA circuit showing horses for Delmar Wessler and Darrol Keener. He won the KQHA high point all around several times even donning English attire to show one winner. Recently Dean has specialized in the cutting industry.