AQHA TRAIL CHALLENGE

Sponsored by: B&W TRAILER HITCHES

Revised Date: April 1, 2013

SONOITA, ARIZONA

HOST: Sonoita Quarter Horse Show

DATE: May 11, 2013 – May 12, 2013

LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association, 3142 S Highway 83, PO Box 85, Sonoita, AZ 85637

FEES: Trail Challenge: $43.25
Youth Trail Challenge: $25.25 ($5 discount for any youth 16 and under that wears a properly fitted and fastened ASTM approved protective helmet.
Trail Challenge Buddy Rider (No obstacles): $23.25
Equestrians with Disabilities: $23.25

BACKGROUND: Sonoita is a landmark town in American Quarter Horse history. With the first Sonoita Quarter Horse Show held in 1936, the show is the longest-running Quarter Horse show in the United States. American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame horses Lightning Bar and son Doc Bar both hailed from Sonoita. As a tip of the hat to these achievements, the Sonoita Quarter Horse Show and Races was honored in May 2000 with American Quarter Horse Historical Marker No. 27. In its 75 years, the Sonoita show has earned a reputation on the circuit as one of the best run and friendliest places to compete.

ITINERARY:
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds will open May 8, 2013. Registration will be open every day from the 8th to the date of the ride.
Friday night May 10th- A special highlight of the Sonoita show is the traditional Friday night dinner, featuring a steak fry and dance, a western auction and a Calcutta for the next day's working cow horse class.
Saturday, May 13, 2013
Registration desk opens at 7 AM
Judges Meeting 8:00 am
Riders Meeting 8:45 am
First rider on Course 9:30 am
Last judge turns in score sheet 4:pm
Potluck dinner and awards ceremony start 5:30
Sunday May 14, 2013
Quarter Horse show starts at 8:00
All riders are invited to enter show or tour Sonoita vineyards

TRAIL DETAILS: Trail Challenge will be conducted on the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Sonoita. Obstacles will be scattered throughout the Fairgrounds, there will be between 6 and 10 obstacles at various locations. Trail Challenge will be concurrent with Quarter Horse Show. Easy going with with good footing at all times. Recommended all hoses be shod or booted.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES: The longest-running American Quarter Horse show celebrates 75 years May 9-12 in Arizona. This year's Sonoita show will feature a special amateur high-point award – "Table Manners," a bronze of a mare and foal, created by artist Deborah Fellows. (Courtesy of Sonoita Quarter Horse Show)

After a two-year hiatus, the Sonoita Quarter Horse Show will host its 75th annual event May 9-12 at the Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association in Sonoita, Arizona. This year's show will feature a special amateur high-point award – "Table Manners," a bronze of a mare and foal, created by artist Deborah Fellows. All-around buckles will also be awarded in each category. A complete roster of cattle classes, including heading, heeling, tie-down roping, breakaway roping and working cow horse, will be offered all four days, as well as halter, reining, western pleasure and speed events, plus hunter and over fences classes. Today, Sonoita enjoys the reputation of being called *Arizona's Wine Country*, and is home to several award-winning wineries. The Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association invites you to spend the week in cool Sonoita on May 5 & 6, at the Sonoita Horse Races. Gates open at 10 AM each morning, with $3 parking and $3 admission. Post time is at 1PM. We offer live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing with wagering on site as well as off track simulcasts and betting from The Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs & Turf Paradise. Food vendors and local wine on site. Enjoy the afternoon on Saturday for the *Derby Hat Contest* and traditional Mint Juleps. We are also proud to announce our Cinco de Mayo Fiesta after the last race on Saturday. With a Mexican theme dinner and dance, featuring the band "Appaloosa", we are ready to celebrate with good friends, music and food. Come enjoy the races and stay for the Quarter Horse Show and Trail Challenge the following week. Camp at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds or one of the several lovely motels or Bread & Breakfast in the area. Tour the vineyards, or ride or hike the Arizona Trail.

DIRECTIONS: The Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association, located at the Sonoita Fairgrounds, is 1/4 mile south of the Highway 82, Highway 83 junction in Sonoita, Arizona. We are 40 miles southeast of Tucson, Arizona with easy access from I-10. At 5000' we maintain a year round temperature 10-15 degrees cooler than Tucson

RENTAL HORSES: No

STALLS AVAILABLE: Yes – call Nan Sonderer (520) 444-2898, email havenwalk@aol.com

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: RV Hook ups (limited), stalls, dry camping, rest rooms, shower facility, nearby restaurants and steak house, water for horses, spigots in barn area, bring hoses, trailer tie up permitted or portal pens permitted. Warm up arena, veterinarian on call. Historic guests ranches and Bed & Breakfasts. Arizona's Wine Country tours. RV & camping reservations: – call Nan Sonderer (520) 444-2898, email havenwalk@aol.com

HORSE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: All out of state horses require negative Coggins and current Health Certificate. Any horse(s) showing clinical signs of illness or sickness will require veterinarian inspection prior to competing in Trail Challenge. Horse showing noticeable lameness will be excused from Trail Challenge.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: All AQHA Trail Rules apply, in addition to Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association rules.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:
Carol Walker Belmore

PHONE: (928)442-3843

E-MAIL: TONTOMTN@GMAIL.COM