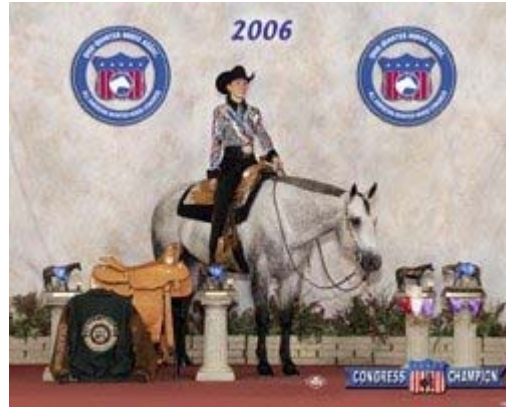


Zippos Ace of Spades



Have you ever known a horse that has earned 7 World Championships, 2 Reserve World Championships, 2 World Show Amateur All-Arounds and a Select World Show All-Around? Have you ever know a horse that has earned 4552.5 AQHA points? The gray horse with this incredible show record earned from 1999 to 2009 is Zippos Ace of Spades.

The Barnes family purchased “Ace” at the Quarter Horse Congress in 2002, and as they say, “The rest is history!” Nicole Barnes hit the show pen and started amassing points and honors in youth activity classes. With the help of trainer Brad Kearns, Ace learned showmanship, trail, western riding, and horsemanship.

This training paid off when Ace was named the 2004 All Around High Point Youth Horse, while also winning the top spot in 5 events for year end totals. In 2005 the duo won the Reserve All Around High Point Youth Horse. Nicole became the “showmanship queen” as they were named the World Champions in showmanship that year. Nicole and Ace began their first Amateur year of competition in 2006 by earning superiors in 5 events. They became the 2006 World Show All Around Amateur while adding a World Championship in western horsemanship. They topped off the year as All Around High Point Amateur. 2006 was also the year when Nicole’s mother Francine got into the act and won the Selection World Championship in western riding. The highlight of 2007 was the Amateur World show where Nicole and Ace won yet another World Championship in showmanship, and a Reserve in trail, thus earning them the World Show Reserve All Around Amateur. History was made in 2008 by Zippos Ace of Spades, as he carried mother and daughter to All Around honors at their respective World Shows. In September, Francine showed Ace to the World Championship in select western riding as they ended the show as the All Around Select Champion. Then in November, Nicole rode Ace to Championships in showmanship (AGAIN!), and trail, making them the World Show All Around Amateurs. It is hard to imagine this feat ever being eclipsed by a mother and daughter and they are forever grateful to the gray gelding. Ace was also a Congress Champion 7 times and qualified for the World Show 58 times! He also earned \$122,881 in Incentive Fund, NSBA, and World Show earnings.

Sadly, the Barnes lost Ace in 2010, but he will forever live in their hearts as a member of the family. We honor Zippos Ace of Spades by inducting the 1997 gelding into the 2011 IQHA Hall of Fame.

