



**BATTLE OF THE BEST
TRAINING COMPETITION**

11 HORSES

11 TRAINERS

1 WINNER

OCTOBER 3rd, 2024

Isanti County Fairgrounds, Cambridge MN

Open to the Public!

5 PM: Technical Class

7 PM: Freestyle Class

**Horses sold at event in silent
auction!**



ABOUT BBTC

Battle of the Best Training Competition is a competition featuring trainers from all over the Midwest. The purpose is to support and promote local horse trainers and encourage collaborations.

Trainers have from August 1st to October 3rd to work with an unstarted horse and train it to the best of their ability. The goal is to produce a horse with a solid foundation in ground manners and under saddle, that is relaxed and willing to follow cues and commands. The expectation is not a finished horse in 60 days, but the hope is significant progress.

The horses come from rescue and horse breeders. Horse ages are 4-16 years old. They will be rehomed at the competition to fitting buyers.

All horses at time of sale will be up to date on vaccines, have had their teeth recently floated, be dewormed, and carry a current negative Coggins test. Each horse was vet checked for soundness and overall health in July.

TRAINERS AND HORSES

Elena Aragon.....	Castaway
Hailey Breth.....	Smooch
Sarah Erickson.....	Apollo
Lisa Gebhart.....	Natsu
Kaylin Gruber.....	Fizzy
Syra Johnson-Engle.....	Legend
Danielle Laszcwski.....	Jeano
Alli Minder.....	Royal
Jadyn Mossengren.....	Captain
Anne Senger.....	Noah
Kayla Wainionpaa.....	Kaleela



SCHEDULE

Doors open at 4:00 PM

Bidding starts at 5:00 PM

5 PM: Technical Class



Royal	Alli Minder
Legend	Syra Johnson-Engle
Fizzy	Kaylin Gruber
Apollo	Sarah Erickson
Castaway	Elena Aragon
Natsu	Lisa Gebhart
Smooch	Hailey Breth
Jeano	Danielle Laszcwski
Kaleela	Kayla Wainionpaa
Captain	Jadyn Mossengren
Noah	Anne Senger

7 PM: Freestyle Class

Apollo	Sarah Erickson
Noah	Anne Senger
Jeano	Danielle Laszcwski
Royal	Alli Minder
Castaway	Elena Aragon
Captain	Jadyn Mossengren
Smooch	Hailey Breth
Fizzy	Kaylin Gruber
Natsu	Lisa Gebhart
Kaleela	Kayla Wainionpaa
Legend	Syra Johnson-Engle

Bidding ends 10 minutes after final Freestyle

MEET OUR JUDGES

Anna Biffle

Longstocking Stable
Zimmerman, MN



Kaitlyn Fedewa

Equine Science from UMN
Isanti, MN

Kendra Putzke
Equine Business
Management from UMN
Esco, MN



EVENT ORGANIZERS



Michelle Fedewa

Isanti, MN



Kaitlyn Fedewa

Isanti, MN

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Three Hearts
Equine Rescue

Nonprofit Organization

Cambridge, MN

3heartsequinerescue.org

We will love with all of our hearts, and hope for the best possible outcome for every horse we can reach.

We will rehabilitate and rehome those who are able to be adopted out. For those who can't, they will be loved forever in our home.

OUR SPONSORS



**\$1,000
IN COUPONS**

Purina
Coupons sent to
3 Hearts Rescue



**PROPANE TANK
REFILL
GIFT CARD**

Federated Co-Ops



**\$20
GIFT CARDS
FOR EACH
TRAINER**

St. Croix Saddlery



\$500

Anoka Equine
Veterinarian Services

thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



\$500

North Wind
Farm Shelters



\$250

Barnum Gate
Companies



**Knights of
Columbus®**

\$200

Knights of Columbus
Isanti, MN



\$200

Mixed Forage Farms
Dan and Shelly Carroll



\$150
Anonymous



\$150
Double Good 4-H Club



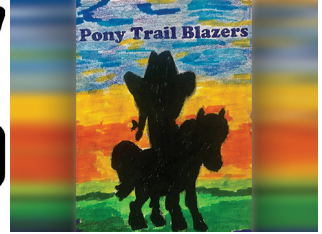
\$120
CMA Hoofcare LLC
Cameryn Allen



\$100
Double Bit Saddle Club



\$100
DW Companies LLC



\$100
Pony Tail Blazers



\$100
Theresa Meyer



\$100
Dorothy Senger



\$100
Shirley Sheldon

\$50
Target

\$50 IN HORSE ITEMS
L & M Fleet Supply
Cloquet, MN

\$50
Beverly Hill

\$50
Tricia Voss

\$30
Stacey DeSouza

\$20
Joanne Pick



BBTC Trainer: Elena Aragon

Elena started taking lessons when she was 8 and hasn't stopped since! Although this is her first trainer's challenge, Elena has worked with many green horses and has helped them be successful not just on the ground, but also under saddle.

Elena believes in building a trusting relationship with the horses she works with, and only uses kind training methods. She believes that building a solid foundation in horses will help them succeed in any direction you want to take them.

Elena is grateful to be a trainer in the Battle of the Best Training Competition and is super excited to meet her horse and help them find their forever home!



Castaway (16yo Arabian)

BBTC Horse: Castaway

Breed: Purebred Arabian

Gender: Gelding

Height: 15.1hh

Age: 16

Castaway is a gorgeous gelding that came in with Legend and Kaleela. Like the others, he has been ridden, but only on trail. Despite already being ridden, he has his challenges.

When he was young, he was abandoned and left in a stall. Due to this history, he does have some claustrophobia. If he is a top pick, trainers should either be willing to keep him outside of a stall or be willing to train him through the stalling process.

He is a fabulous boy with a lot of talent and love to spare.



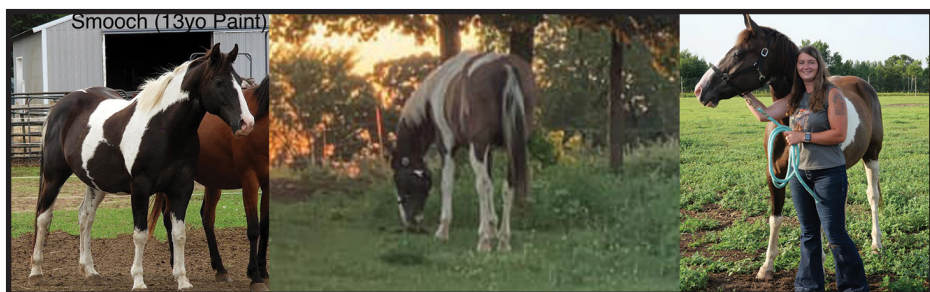
BBTC Trainer: Hailey Breth

Hailey joined the Battle of the Best Training Competition with a background on a working cattle ranch in central Minnesota, working with horses that have behavioral problems or trauma. She started her business back in 2018 and focuses on tune-ups and finishing.

Hailey took a class in equine massage last spring, which gives much relief to horses that get muscle strains and aches much like we do when working.

In Hailey's pasttime for fun she does several parades throughout the summer time with her personal horses and client horses.

Hailey is excited to be apart of the Battle of the Best Training Competition this year!



BBTC Horse: Smooch

Breed: Paint

Gender: Gelding

Height: 15.2hh

Age: 14

Smooch, also affectionately called Moo, is named after the first impression he gave us while in a Minnesota low-end horse auction in November.

We first saw him standing in a pen with two other horses. He was completely covered in painful burrs and had an irritated eye from trying to itch so much. When I went up to him, he stuck his face through the bars of the pen and gave me a little smooch.

I knew then and there that I wasn't leaving without him. The name stuck.



BBTC Trainer: Sarah Erickson

Sarah Erickson has been around horses all of her life growing up in Isanti and relocating to Western Wisconsin after college. She started training horses when she got an abused Arabian for her first horse.

Sarah has worked with a lot of horses that have needed to have behavior modification to become safe horses for their owners. Sarah works with the horse to relieve stress and tension. Sarah became a certified Equine Massage Therapist to understand the mechanics of a working horse and to pamper her training horses.

Sarah looks forward to participating in the Battle of the Best Training Competition to test her skills with a bit of a time crunch.



BBTC Horse: Apollo

Breed: Dutch Harness Horse

Gender: Gelding

Height: 15hh

Age: 6

Apollo is an absolutely stunning DHH with a big presence to him. He is big and impressive and when he moves, he takes your breath away.

Apollo came from a kill pen in Southern Michigan. While Apollo is perfect once caught, he doesn't exactly like the process to get there. Once you have a hold of him, though, he is a perfect gentleman and will even let kids lead him.

A perfect trainer for him will be someone who is not intimidated by his movement and is willing to show him how kind people can be.



BBTC Trainer: Lisa Gebhart

Hello! My name is Lisa Gebhart and I live in South Dakota. My parents got me into horses when I was around eight years old. When I was young, my neighbor, Kathy, and I about rode the legs off our horses each summer.

For years, the main thing I focused on was colt starting. It wasn't until recently that I shifted from training horses to teaching people how to work with their own horses. I love groundwork and am currently playing around with liberty.

Thank you for graciously giving me an opportunity to try this challenge. After reading all the trainers bios, I'm sure I'll learn a lot from you younger gals who all seem to have a boatload of experience under your belts.

Blessings on all involved in this great cause.



BBTC Horse: Natsu

Breed: Quarab

Gender: Gelding

Height: 14.3hh

Age: 6

Natsu came all the way from Sexton, Tennessee, where he had been in a rough spot. He and his brother Happy were skinny and scared studs with nowhere to go. The Arabian Feedlot and Auction Horse Team Rescue group helped rescue him and then asked us to take them and soon after, they made the trip to Minnesota. After being gelded, some amazing volunteers worked with them through the winter and got them confident.

He has a very smooth gait and could make an amazing trail horse, endurance horse, or anything you want!



BBTC Trainer: Kaylin Gruber

Kaylin has been in close proximity with horses since before she was born. To Kaylin, horses are more than an animal, they are her way of life.

Kaylin grew up in Minnesota. Involved in 4H, she wanted to make a strong impact and share her love of horses with everyone she could.

Starting her equine business shortly after (Triple R Equine Services), she devotes her career to the people who believed in her from the very start.

Since then she has received her equine massage certification through Therasage EMC, attended Idaho horseshoeing school, trained horses, and gave hundreds of riding lessons.

Kaylin is excited to put her skills to the test and participate in the 2024 battle of the best training competition. She hopes to learn, make friends, and help a horse find their heart home.



BBTC Horse: Fizzy

Gender: Mare

Height: 14.3hh

Age: 4

Fizzy is a super sweet young mare. She turned four in June and has 30 days of groundwork training on her belt. She grew up in a very loving home where she was cared for, but her owner couldn't keep her when she went off to college.

She's a very well-behaved and friendly girl. Her potential is endless. She's young, healthy, and talented (not to mention, she's also a beautiful red roan). We can't wait to see what she achieves!



BBTC Trainer: Syra Johnson-Engle

I have been riding since I was about 5-6 years old. I started off riding friends and families horses buying my first horse when I was 12 years old.

I have ridden in many different disciplines: western pleasure, barrel racing, college rodeo, rodeo, English pleasure, western dressage, dressage and hunter jumper.

I have started training and giving lessons professionally starting in 2018. I own Rustys Rolling Rock Ranch, giving lessons in both English and Western lessons and train horses. I compete in USHJA, USEF, USDF and local riding clubs.

I am excited about this trainers competition to show that every horse needs a chance.



Legend (16yo Arabian)

BBTC Horse: Legend

Breed: Purebred Arabian (has paperwork to be registered)

Gender: Gelding

Height: 15.2hh

Age: 16

Legend is a sweetheart of a gelding that came in with Castaway and Kaleela.

When he was young, he had an injury to his growth plate and was thrown away by his old owner. Despite this injury, he recovered and it doesn't affect him at all.

Legend has been ridden, but only as a trail horse and only at the walk and trot. He has the potential to be a great reliable horse, so what he needs is more training and experience.



BBTC Trainer: Danielle Laszczewski

Danielle has owned and ridden horses since before she could walk. In her early years she enjoyed many trail rides with her family. As she got older she craved more and more.

She has worked with many different horses of all different breeds, sizes, ages, and personalities, and she has loved every moment of it.

Danielle is currently in her last year of college at Ellsworth Community College to earn her degree in Equine Management. She now has experience in many different disciplines in both western and English riding. After school she plans to start training more and even start giving more riding lessons. Along with this she also plans to progress her trick riding career.

This is Danielle's first training challenge and she is very excited to see where it takes her!



Jeano Bamn Beano
(registered TB 6yo M
15.1h)

BBTC Horse: Jeano

Breed: Thoroughbred

Gender: Mare

Height: 15hh

Age: 6

Jeano has a very special story for such a young mare. She came from a kill pen in Michigan as a young, pregnant, emaciated mare. After having her baby, Jeano became one of our baby milk stations. As a maiden mare, she didn't know how to do the whole mothering thing, but she was happy to feed whoever wanted some milk.

She is a super sweet mare that has already made leaps and bounds in becoming friendlier. She's ready to take her experience with people to the next level.



BBTC Trainer: Alli Minder

Hey there, my name is Alli. I have been working with horses for the past 10 years and have specialized in natural horsemanship for the past 3 years.

My horse journey started off in 4H. I showed western pleasure and trail with my horse Zip for 9 years. Following 4H, I competed in WSCA, MEOA, and various Ranch Horse Shows. Ranch Riding and Ranch Trail are my favorite!

I have worked under a natural horsemanship master for the past 3 years assisting in colt starting, working training horses, doing groundwork, giving lessons, etc.

I'm very excited to get this opportunity to participate in this challenge. I look forward to seeing the change in whichever project I receive!



BBTC Horse: Royal

Breed: Quarter pony

Gender: Gelding

Height: 14hh

Age: 4

Royal is a young pony-type gelding ready to go in any direction. Royal was rescued from Stroud, Oklahoma last April, along with four other horses.

Royal came in malnourished and extremely wormy. In addition to getting healthy, he was also taken on as a training project for a 4-H'er, who showed him in the 4-H Training Project and gave him an amazing start.

Since then, he has worn a saddle and been ponied on trail rides. He's ready for a trainer to continue his training!



BBTC Trainer: Jadyn Mossengren

Jadyn has been around horses for most of her life and got her first horse in 3rd grade. Jadyn is currently a college student working towards a Bachelor of Science in Equine studies with an emphasis in Business/Management and will be graduating this October.

This is Jadyn's tenth year of working with project horses of all different breeds, heights, backgrounds, temperaments, ages, and training levels.

In addition to showing and training horses, Jadyn also has seven years of teaching experience. Jadyn enjoys being able to share her passion with children and adults who have the same interests.

Jadyn is looking forward to being a trainer in the 2024 Battle of the Best Training Competition as it will be her 3rd time competing in a trainers challenge!



BBTC Horse: Captain

Breed: Arabian/Paso

Gender: Gelding

Height: 15.1hh

Age: 12

Captain came all the way from Bastrop, Louisiana. he was skinny and afraid. With the help the the Arabian Feedlot Group, a kind person bailed him out of the pen. After his freedom ride, he was rehabbed and sent to our training program.

Captain is a friendly and easy to catch gelding. He may get excited around mares, so that is something a trained should take into consideration. He is currently in with geldings and has mares over the fence but we see no issues currently.



BBTC Trainer: Anne Senger

I have been around horses all of my life and got my first official horse when I was 4. I am currently working as a Paraprofessional at a charter school along with working with my own horses and helping others with their horses.

I started working and training lightly with retraining my grandmas carriage horse to be a safe all around show horse. For my training methods I strongly believe in making a safe and relaxed environment for the horse to learn in - earning trust and building a strong relationship.

In addition to training I have worked with riders with disabilities to teach them how to ride, show and take care of a horse.

I am looking forward to the 2024 Battle of the Best Training Competition.



BBTC Horse: Noah

Breed: Quarab

Gender: Gelding

Height: 14.2hh

Age: 4

Noah has already gone through so much at such a young age. He was rescued from a kill pen in Stroud, Oklahoma last August by a wonderful person in Minnesota. At the time, he was an emaciated stallion.

He was gelded and returned to full health by his rescuer, who then transferred him into our training program.

He is truly a wonderful horse. He's super friendly, great for the farrier, leads well, and is just a joy to be around. He has pushy tendencies, but with the right trainer, he can go very far in life!



BBTC Trainer: Kayla Wainionpaa

Kayla has loved horses since childhood and hasn't looked back since she got the chance to start working with them 5 years ago. She has a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business and is currently finishing up her equine massage certification.

Kayla got her start with training during her internship at Moonshine Farm, between there and Veritas Ridge Farm she has gotten experience working with horses of all ages, breeds, temperaments, disciplines, and backgrounds. Kayla has fallen in love with working with project horses and enjoys the different challenges each horse provides. Her methods focus on building a strong foundation through calm, clear communication and trust.

This is Kayla's first time competing in a trainers challenge and she could not be more excited about it.



Kaleela (16yo Arabian M 14.2h)

BBTC Horse: Kaleela

Breed: Purebred Arabian

Gender: Mare

Height: 14.2hh

Age: 16

Kaleela is a special mare that came from a loving owner who needed help finding a place for her to go. She also came in with two other horses in this challenge (Castaway and Legend). She was never started, but came gentle and halter-broke. She has since been ridden on the trail, but only at the walk and the occasional trot.

Kaleela is a pushy mare that is going to need to learn about space, but she is super sweet and has a lot of try in her. She will make a fantastic horse for someone after some fine-tuning.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Michelle and Kaitlyn Fedewa.....Provided Horses
Dr. Bonnie Miller.....Vet Checks
Anoka Equine.....Coggins Tests and Teeth Floats
3 Hearts Equine Rescue.....Partner
Kaitlyn Fedewa, Anna Biffle and Kendra Putzke.....Judges
Sharon Hahn.....Emcee
Mike Fedewa.....Ring Crew
Rhea Fedewa.....Music
Isanti Co 4H.....Ring and Table Duties
Mitch Fedewa.....Video Recording
Krisanne WesselPhotographer
Colette Bulera.....Program Design

THANK





**Battle of the Best
Training Challenge
2024**