

# Fort Western Whitaker Award

To win the Fort Western Whitaker Award, a cowboy must qualify by having a minimum of 20 points, heading into the State Finals, in each of three or more events, encompassing both rough stock (bareback riding, bronc riding, bull riding) and timed events (tie-down roping, team roping, steer wrestling). Qualifying for the State Finals is NOT required...recognizing that 20 points may not, in a given year, qualify the competitor for the State Finals in any given event. These points will be based on the point standings, encompassing the top ten rodeos of the season, just as standings are calculated for each individual event.

At the conclusion of the State Finals, points for the year will be totaled for each qualifier. Points included in this total will be all "standings points" in all events (bareback riding, bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, team roping and steer wrestling) going into the Finals, plus all points earned in the three rounds and average of the State Finals. The qualifier with the most points, wins.

The winner will receive a trophy saddle and \$500 scholarship from Fort Western Stores. The scholarship will be paid to the post-secondary school attended by the winner.

Example:

When the final regular season standings are complete, "Cowboy A" has 26 points in steer wrestling, 90 points in bronc riding, 80 points in bareback riding, 17 points in bull riding, and 6 points in the team roping. "Cowboy A" qualifies as a contender for the Fort Western Whitaker Award, because he has the minimum 20 points in at least three events at both ends of the arena...in the steer wrestling, bareback riding, and bronc riding.

"Cowboy A" qualified for the State Finals in steer wrestling, saddle broncs, bareback riding and bull riding; not the team roping. Throughout the State Finals, "Cowboy A" earns 55 points in the saddle bronc riding, 40 points in barebacks, but doesn't cover a bull or throw a steer.

His total points for the Fort Western Whitaker Award include the points he brought into the Finals: steer wrestling, 26; bronc riding, 90; bareback riding, 80, bull riding, 17; and team roping 6. And we add the points "Cowboy A" earned in the State Finals: saddle bronc riding, 55; and bareback riding, 40 points. The Grand Total for the Fort Western Whitaker Award is 314 points.