



## A Night of Rock n' Roll at the \$15,000 Monarch Casino Gambler's Choice

On Friday the 13th, the \$15,000 Monarch Casino Gambler's Choice left the crowd rocking out to the high speed rides and rock 'n roll music, signature to the competition. Not only did exhibitors keep the crowd on the edge of their seats, but they took daring turns and fast jumps in an attempt to accumulate the highest score possible.

To kick off the loud and spirited event, Jill Barron presented the colors horseback while 14-year-old Ben Meyers from School of Rock Denver strummed the National Anthem on his electric guitar. The Gambler's Choice is a jumping event featuring fences of varying heights that are worth different point values. Riders put together their own course, attempting fences no more than twice each, and have 60 seconds to accumulate as many points as possible. Knockdowns do not earn points and render that fence un-useable. After their 60-second run, they have an opportunity to try the featured Joker fence. Clearing it earns them 200 points however dropping a rail can lose them 200 points.



Happy Comly of Sachse, Tex. aboard Derby CSH rode a fast-paced course to earn 1,100 points plus the joker for the win with 1,300 total points. The diverse field of riders included 2022 winner Charlie Carrel of Sheridan, Wyo. who finished third behind local Nicki Wilcox riding Idorina JTL. Wilcox also earned fourth and sixth place ribbons while Comly slid into fifth aboard another mount.

No two rides looked alike thanks to the ability to choose their own course. Every competitor attempted the Joker Jump and eleven out the thirteen riders added 200 points to their score. The Gambler's Choice continues to be a great warmup event for

those horse and rider pairs going on to compete in the \$5,000 Top of the Rockies Jumper Stake and \$40,000 NWSS Grand Prix presented by Monarch Casino.

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