May 20th, 2023 Sale Report & Observations

On May 20th, 2023 we hosted the first ever "Colorado Horse Sale" at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton, Colorado. Leyden Livestock Marketing & Barnes Horse Auctions partnered to build a competitive yet accessible horse market in an innovative auction experience.

52 Horses were cataloged, 5 horses scratched, and 27 horses were dropped off on the day of the sale for "open consignments" to total of 74 horses going through the sale. 212 Bidders were registered in person & on the phones. Over 400 people were in attendance.

Cataloged horses:

TOP 5 High Sellers:
HIP 28 - "SPIRIT" - $9,000 - Zane Mowers
HIP 34 - "DOCS TIE DOWN" - $9,000 - Cheri Von Feldt
HIP 25 - "PLAYBOYS SNOW LENA" - $8750 - Zach Thode
HIP 6 - "MR THIRSTY ROAN" - $8500 - Doug Barnes
HIP 36 - "SMART RISA LENA" - $7250 - Zach Thode
Top selling pony was 40 inch tall "Little Bo Peep" at $2750.

Cataloged horses average $5260, with a range from $1900-9,000.

Open Consignments:

TOP 5 High Sellers:
HIP 53 - "SHANE" - $7,000 - Will Yoder
HIP 51 - "OTOES FROSTY STAR" - $6250 - Will Yoder
HIP 55 - "Sarge" - $6,000 - DD Equine
HIP 50 - "NATURALLY TARDY" - $5900 - Will Yoder
HIP 70 - "DUA LIPA" - $5,000 - Jonathan Peachey
Open consignment horses averaged $2900, with a range from $400-7,000.

Market Observations:

Markets were highest on finished ranch & trail horses from 5-15 years old.
Young (1-5 year old) prospects with registration papers averaged $3400.
Horses with higher quality sale photos had more overall bids than those without.
Horses with good flesh & body condition had more overall bids than those without.
Horses that participated in the sale preview had more buyer interaction prior to the sale than those who did not participate.
Horses that sellers advertised on their own time were more likely to be test-rode prior to the sale.

Half-drafts started at $6,000 and increased from there. There is always a strong market for them. All of the half-drafts that sold went to outfitting or dude-ranch type homes.