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**USTPA Announces World Championship Series Shows  
with Lower Entry Fees and Revised Competition Classes**

**Weatherford, Texas** - The United States Team Penning Association, Inc. (“USTPA”) today announced the re-alignment of their branding of what was formerly known as the USTPA National Production Shows. Now featured as the *USTPA World Championship Series*, this growing list of Team Penning and Ranch Sorting competitions will culminate each year with a World Championship Finals.

In an effort to engage more riders of every skill level, the USTPA has also lowered entry fees in the #7 and #5 Team Penning classes and the #6 and #3 Ranch Sorting classes at all World Championship Series competitions. Additionally, in these four classes riders may now pick up to 4 teams, with one or more draw teams, and a new ride limit of 5. The recently announced Elite Penning™ class will also be featured at all World Championship Series shows, replacing the #11 penning class at those events.

“The new World Championship Series shows will be more exciting than ever before, with a new production format, comprehensive use of video, new classes with lower fees, and new initiatives to recognize and reward the accomplishments of all our competitor-members” commented USTPA President, Brian McClain. “We felt this was the perfect time to also make some strategic improvements to our class structure to better welcome a growing list of new competitors to the sports of Team Penning and Ranch Sorting”.

The USTPA World Championship Series will begin with the February 23-25 show at the Ike Hamilton Expo Center in West Monroe, Louisiana, and will continue with shows in Guthrie, OK, Fort Worth, TX, Loveland, CO, and the World Championship Finals back at the Ike Hamilton Expo Center in West Monroe October 29-November 04, 2018.

The USTPA World Championship Finals will feature \$100,000 Added Cash across all classes, *Plus* another \$50,000 minimum Added Cash in the Elite Penning class, for an estimated total purse of over \$500,000 in cash and prizes.

**About the USTPA.** The United States Team Penning Association is a National Governing Body for the sports of Team Penning and Ranch Sorting. The USTPA was formed as a non-profit association in 1993 to promote Team Penning and Ranch Sorting across the United States and internationally, with standardized rules and a rider rating system designed to provide fair competition for beginners to experienced riders.

For more information about the USTPA or the World Championship Series, please visit us on-line at [www.USTPA.com](http://www.USTPA.com).