

16 BAYER & SHADOW

Open Futurity Champion  
Trent Smith and Moore Metal



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2016 NCHA Bayer & Shadow Trailers Australia  
Open Futurity Champion Trent Smith on Moore Metal

# Trent Smith

## NCHA Open Futurity Champion

ARTICLE: KYLIE R. MELROSE/PHOTOS: KEN ANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY

*ON Sunday the 12th of June, 2016 professional cutting horse trainer Trent Smith showed the Moore Metal Syndicate owned red roan stallion Moore Metal across the timeline in the NCHA Bayer & Shadow Trailers Australia Open Futurity to mark a whopping 226 points to earn their place in the history books as the Champion.*

**B**red by Kevin and Jacqueline Marsden, Moore Metal is a son of the world known Metallic Cat (IS) (High Brow Cat (USA) and Chers Shadow) and One Moore Annie (One Moore Playboy x Annies Acre).

Trent commented on how it felt to win the NCHA Open Futurity Champion title aboard Moore Metal. *"Mind blowing, I just can't believe it when I walked out and saw the score. The crowd was very loud which made the atmosphere intense. To win the Futurity really is a massive reward for the hours of training going into the horses in which we are competing on. I did not expect to win the Futurity in three years of training I thought I would be training my whole life trying to win it. But now I have one it once I will be working hard to win it again."*

Trent talked me through his winning run. *"I knew I had a cool little horse but I didn't know if I had him finished enough to be a competitive horse at Tamworth in the finals so after I snuck through the Go Rounds I remember thinking to myself to just get this horse shown as best we can and see how we end up. After the first cow I knew Joey (Moore Metal) felt*

*good underneath me, I just kept telling myself make sure I cut strong which is my job and let him do his. Second cow was another good cow no misses Joey still felt tight, the third cow when I turned around was sitting right on top and was ready to cut but I still had a bit of time on the clock. I tried to use a it up then I think I had around 25 seconds on the last cow which was another good one and just to help finish the run."*

Troy Randell and Scott Campbell were in Trent's corners and who found real good cows for him, while Matt Oakley and Aaron Wheatley were out the front. Trent commented on the advice that he had received from them before and during his run in the final. *"Mostly cut clean and let the run build that is a very important thing I have learnt just of late, if you do not let the run build and try and force it your run will normally fall apart from unnecessary errors."*

*"I was very happy with the way Joey progressed through the go-rounds they were not tough runs but fortunately I had good draws on him which helps a lot,"* recalled Trent.

Trent commented on his preparation leading up to the NCHA Futurity. *"In*

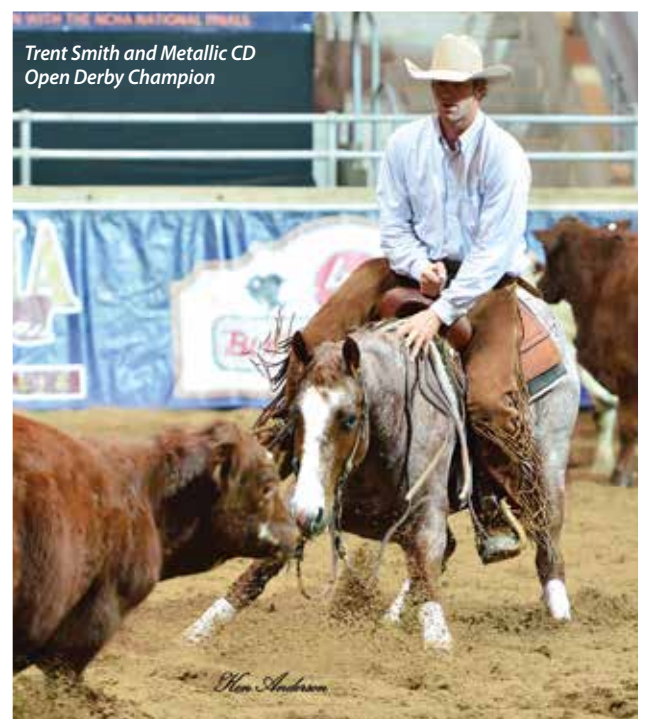


2016 NCHA Bayer & Shadow Trailers Australia Open Futurity Champion Trent Smith on Moore Metal during the presentation

leading up to the Futurity I find that it is vital that I get the Futurity horses off the property and work the horses else where to ensure that horse gains a better sense of confidence in the showing scenery for example the pre works leading up to the Futurity. I work my horses out of the herd to ensure that I have good consistent angles, and giving the horse responsibility for the cow keeping in mind that you need to retain their confidence this helps to ready the horse to handle most situations when you start showing them."

"Joey (Moore Metal) has been a very well mannered colt all his life he was started by Steve Smith, then with me since. He has always been an athlete and has a lot of integrity. He has a way of using himself in a very smooth soft manner which seems to never scare a cow, resulting in the cow drawing to him," says Trent.

Trent recalls his first impression of cutting. "The last year that the Futurity was held at the old showgrounds I was there to purchase a horse through the sale so that I could campdraft on the horse. I watched the sport for the first time and I just couldn't wait to try my hand in the industry. The mare I bought (Erin's Jewel the mother of Metallic Bling) instead of going drafting with her I started off in the snafflebit on her at some local shows and this lead me to compete in the Non Pro Derby's not long after I started. From then on I was hooked. I was told that if I really wanted to get into the training side of the industry I needed to head to the States to learn from some of the best where the sport was further developed at the time. Training under the guidance of David Costello and Gavin Jordan for nearly three years. I was presented with many opportunities to fuel my passion for the sport and once my needs were fulfilled in relation to my first hand understanding of the sport which includes winning the 2012 \$2,000 Limited World title and gaining many showing opportunities whilst I pursued my passion, I then came home to Australia in 2013. Once I set foot back onto home soil in 2013 my wife and I have been training for the public since."



Trent Smith and Metallic CD Open Derby Champion

"A goal of mine as a trainer and showman was to train and turn out good and consistent well trained horses for owners. Winning the Futurity was a goal that I acquired to achieve throughout my career as a trainer ultimate resulting in earning the prize money of 1 million dollars which is found to be very hard in Australia but as I like to say aim for the stars and land on the moon," said Trent.

When asked, how did feel when you heard your score in the final? Trent answered, "I obviously felt shocked at first then nervous waiting for the last few horses to see if they would go around me but quietly I was confident that the judges had a winner in mind when I found out my score anxiously I waited until the last horse had its run and I felt so relieved that the wait was over and I had ultimately achieved one of my goals set as a trainer and showman."



Open Limited Futurity Champions  
Trent Smith and Metallic Bling

• **SDP BUFFALO RANCH  
OPEN DERBY CHAMPION**

With an impressive 146 points run Trent Smith showed the daughter of Metallic Cat (IS) and CA Glo, Metallic CD to be named as the Champion for extremely proud owners Paul and Katrina Poole.

Trent then shared the Reserve Championship, this time aboard Stairway To Heaven, a daughter of Metallic Cat (IS) and Givem Hell, also owned by Paul and Katrina Poole after marking 145 points.

Trent commented on how it felt to win the Open Derby with Metallic CD. *"Overwhelming there we're a lot of good derby horses in the final, I had three nice mares in the final in which I felt confident on all of them. I knew I just had to go out there and cut strong and give them all the best chance I could. The run came together with Annie (Metallic CD) and at this stage it was my first big win, leaving me in absolute excitement."*

*"The whole run felt real tight, she is a very honest little mare, she tries so hard all the time. From the 1st cow to the last cow I felt like I couldn't ask any more of her, she defiantly gave it her all,"* says Trent of his winning run.

Trent recalled their runs in the go-rounds. *"In the 1st go-round I just wanted to get a nice score on her, like I hope for with all 1st go-rounds and we did that. She had good cows that got her shown and we marked a 145.5. The second go-round I was just hoping for a nice little run like we had in the 1st go-round and we did, in the 2nd go-round the cows were a little tougher so getting shown on its own was difficult but we survived with a 142 which got us to the final."*

**"IT'S HARD  
TO EXPLAIN  
WHAT IT'S LIKE  
WHEN A DREAM  
COMES TRUE"**

When asked, what was your impression of Metallic CD during your runs? Trent answered, *"I enjoyed showing this little mare she is very orthodoxed, consistent mare to show. So through the runs its easy to feel confident on her."*

Trent commented on their preparation together leading up to the NCHA Futurity. *"After her break from the Futurities last year we brought her back into work and prepared her with a couple of local shows which she was her typical self, consistent and getting cheques."*

*"I had this mare from the start, she has been a real dream to train right from a two year old,"* says Trent. *"She didn't start to peek in her Futurity year until the end. I knew she was a good horse but during her Futurity season we just couldn't get that bit of luck to put it together."*

• **LONGYARD HOTEL  
LIMITED OPEN FUTURITY**

Trent took out the three top places in the Limited Open Futurity. Winning the event with Metallic Bling (Metallic Cat (imp) x Erins Jewel), owned by Sue and Ken Smith with 224 points. The Reserve Championship with 218 points aboard Dulce Merada Lena (Cats Merada (IS) x Alice Boon), owned by Paul and Katrina Poole. With a 217 scoring run Trent placed next with Isle Drive (Hydrive Cat (IS) x Isle B A Dually), owned by Jason Steven-Jones.

When asked, how did it feel to win the Limited Open Futurity Champion title aboard Metallic Bling? Trent replied, *"So cool. She is an awesome little mare, she just goes out there and tries her butt off every time, she really puts her body on the line which is a really good feeling for a Futurity horse. So to win this event on her for my parents was a real kick for me as they have helped myself and my family out so much with breeding and buying some nice horses for me to ride."*

Trent commented on how it felt to earn the top three positions in the event. *"To have just made the finals was a great feeling but then to have been so lucky to have had three nice runs like I did and place 1st, 2nd and 3rd was just unreal. It really didn't sink in for quiet a while that I had just placed where I did in this event."*

Trent talked me through his winning run with Metallic Bling. *"I had two neat runs already on this mare, but with these Futurity horses you never really know what could happen, I was just hoping to get another decent score like the go rounds, and each cow we worked she just felt to be getting stronger and stronger and was luck enough to put together a decent run again."*



Trent Smith on Metallic Bling  
Open Limited  
Futurity Champion

sport is really easy to second guess and loose confidence in yourself. There are times when you just can't seem to get things right, and nothing is going to plan, but to have had the success I have had is a real confidence booster so to all the young trainers out there that have the same goals as to what I have, keep working at it because it will happen."

When asked, how would you describe the Metallic Cat progeny? Trent replied, "The Metallic's through the training feel like nice horses but the strongest attribute to me about them is when you go show, they seem to just step up and know their job once they cross that time line. They are cowy good movers and very trainable."

#### **METALLIC CAT (IS) PROGENY**

Alvin and Becky Fults commented on how the progeny of their super sire Metallic Cat (IS) went at the NCHA Futurity here in Australia.

"We bred Metallic Bling," says Trent. "I broke her in and took her all the way to the Futurity. We put her through the Landmark Sale in February this year but didn't get offered enough. At that time her pre works were amazing and we knew she was something special so decided to pass her in and continue with her myself. It was a good decision."

When asked, who helps you day in and out with your training? Trent answered, "We have become known as Team Smith. The brains of the team is my wife Claudia, she looks after everything which leaves me to concentrate on my horses. Brooke West has been with us for two years and has become part of the family, she is one of the most capable riders I have come across. My nephew Nic who is only 14 spends every spare minute helping, his ability is beyond his years. My sister Carmen, Nic's mum, comes out every Friday or whenever needed and she is competing now herself. Mum and Dad do a lot behind the scenes and are chief babysitters along with my niece Bree."

Trent commented on what it means to him to have achieved what he has at the NCHA Futurity. "It's hard to explain what it's like when a dream comes true. As a new, young trainer I have had so much help and advice from all my fellow trainers since I've become a Pro Trainer and I know for sure that this is the reason we did so well this year. I came home from the States three years ago wanting to train cutting horses and hoped I'd be successful. That dream has come true."

Trent commented on the feedback that has received since the NCHA Futurity. "Feed back has been great I have had so many people congratulate me, thanks everybody as this



Trent Smith on Moore Metal enjoying their win

"We were totally blown away by the results in Australia. Never in our wildest dreams did we think a stallion could dominate the way he did. Not only did a Metallic Cat foal win the Futurity in the States but turned around and won the Futurity in Australia. That has never been done before in the same year. We have such high expectations for the Metallic Cat foals across the pond. And boy did they deliver. We want to thank the mare owners of Australia for breeding and believing in our young stallion and the trainers for doing such a fantastic job getting them ready and shown. We are very happy we were able to share him with the world! We truly are humbled, blessed and very much appreciative of the support we have felt from the great people of Australia! Best of luck to all the Metallic Cat foals competing. We will be watching from across the pond!" 🐾