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SHAY CARROLL DOUBLE DIPS AT GRANDE PRAIRIE STOMPEDE

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA – More commonly known for his Team Roping abilities, Shay Carroll shows he's handy no matter which rope you give him after placing in both the Team Roping and Tie Down Roping during the past two Canadian Professional Rodeo Association weekends.

The 2014 National Finals Rodeo Qualifier is collecting some big cheques from the Grande Prairie Stompede after splitting second with his partner Kolton Schmidt in the Team Roping for \$2,235.32 each, then turning around and splitting first in the Tie Down Roping with fellow American Rhen Richard, who each tied their calf in 8.5 seconds, for \$2,805.20 a man.



*Shay Carroll tying for first in the Tie Down Roping at the Grande Prairie Stompede after a four year hiatus from the event.
Photo Credit: Rob Ganzeveld Photo*

Carroll also double dipped at the Falkland Stampede just last weekend, winning third in both the Team Roping and Tie Down Roping, but the Hico, Texas cowboy will be the first to admit that his Canadian Tie Down Roping debut was actually a fluke.

“I was telling Kolton that I had heard how the set ups are up here and that I would like to calf rope. I had sent a horse to C.R. Bradley to work on so I would have a horse when we got up here, but I didn't get him up here in time,” said Carroll, “Kolton thought he was still supposed to be entering me so I showed up to the first rodeo and he had me entered. I wasn't planning on calf roping but I was entered, now I told him to put me down everywhere.”

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“I used to calf rope a lot, but my sophomore year of college I was really wanting to pursue heeling and I sold my calf horse to buy a heel horse and I've never gotten back in to it. The last five years I've just been really focused on heeling,” continued Carroll who doesn't currently have a rodeo-ready horse for the Tie Down Roping but says he's been lucky to borrow Riley Warren's mare “Mona” so far this CPRA rodeo season.

At the Falkland Stampede Carroll may have still been knocking the dust off, but it appears it didn't take him long to get back in the old groove.

“I really like competing twice at the rodeo if I'm prepared, obviously I'm not prepared in the calf roping, I haven't roped a calf in four years,” chuckled Carroll, “I would really like to get a calf horse and get back to working at it.”

We've seen a trend this year of Team Ropers entering the Tie Down Roping, and with prestigious awards like the Canadian Hi Point Champion up for grabs, it gives many cowboys incentive to master multiple rodeo events. Between his two events, Carroll has over \$7,000 in earnings so far this season and is already showing signs that he is a contender for the title that is normally dominated by competitors with a Steer Wrestling/Tie Down Roping combination of events.

Other Grande Prairie Stompede Champions included Bareback Rider Ty Taypotat who scored 86.5 points on Duffy Rodeo's “Tweety Bird” for a \$3,056.88 cheque. Cody Cassidy was 3.9 seconds to top the Steer Wrestling for \$2825.64, and his first Stompede win.

In the Saddle Bronc it was Luke Butterfield in the number one spot as he rode Prime Time Rodeo's “Smokin' Hot” to the tune of 85.5 points and \$2,989.20. Team Ropers Garrett Rogers and Jacob Minor bested their competition with a time of 4.9 seconds to win \$2,774.88 a man.

Cranna Roberts was your Ladies Barrel Racing Champion, winning \$3,447.92 for her 16.026 second run against 100 barrel racers entered in Grande Prairie. Bull Rider Jordan Hansen scored 84.5 points of Vold Rodeo's “Slick” to win \$2,729.76.

Novice Champions included: Ricky Warren in the Novice Saddle Bronc Riding (79 points, \$543.20), Novice Bareback Rider Lane Link (79 points, \$465.60) and Justin Maguire in the Steer Riding (81 points \$436.49).

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The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association schedule heats up with three events the first weekend in June. The Leduc Black Gold Rodeo runs June 2nd to 5th, Wildwood Bronc Bustin' special event is June 3rd and 4th, and the Hand Hills Lake Stampede runs June 4th to 5th.

About the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association

The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) with headquarters in Airdrie, Alta., is the sanctioning body for professional rodeo in Canada. The CPRA sanctions over 50 events annually with a total payout exceeding \$5.1 million. Follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat at @prorodeocanada, like Canadian Professional Rodeo Association on Facebook, or online at RodeoCanada.com.

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