# **Reeves Wins Big at The American**

Angus-sponsored steer wrestler claims top honors and splits \$1-million jackpot.

by Katy Holdener, American Angus Association

As Matt Reeves stepped into AT&T Stadium after a late-night drive from San Antonio to Dallas, thoughts of anticipation and excitement ran through his mind. The American Angus Association-sponsored steer wrestler qualified for RFD-TV's The American rodeo, and on Feb. 25, he took home top honors and split the \$1-million payout after competing in Dallas.

The third steer wrestler of the final four to run, Reeves was up against some of the fiercest competition on the "pay dirt" in all of American rodeo. Despite the competition, the screams of the crowd or the pressure of the paycheck, Reeves and his horse Roy were focused on the steer in front of them. Reeves' skill and Roy's speed led the pair to a 3.73-second time and a \$433,000 check at the richest single-day event in rodeo history.

"Winning The American will be great for myself and my family," Reeves said. "It gives us a chance to pay off our home and buy more Angus cows. Having those things taken care of will allow me to continue to rodeo with less stress."

What makes The American such a tough competition? The event invites the top athletes from across the 2017 world standings to compete against underdogs who advance from The American semi-finals. If a nationally ranked athlete wins his or her respective competition, the prize is \$100,000. However, if a qualifier from the semi-finals or an athlete who earned an exemption wins, the



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contestant shares in a \$1-million bonus pool. Reeves split the pool with three other qualifying winners and took home a check of a lifetime.

Reeves, a commercial cattleman and Angus breeder, is a seasoned veteran of the rodeo scene. He's competed in numerous rodeos in his more than 10-year tenure, qualifying for the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (WNFR) six times in his career.

"Matt's integrity, determination and perseverance make him an



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excellent representation of the American Angus Association and its membership," Association CEO Allen Moczygemba said. "We are extremely

proud to support him and look forward to watching him continue to compete across the country."

Reeves and his family will be headed to compete at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in the coming weeks. The American **Angus Association** congratulates Reeves and his family on a well-deserved win at The American. A

Editor's Note: Katy Holdener is a digital content manager for the American Angus Association.





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## Check voting eligibility before April 6

American Angus Association members wanting to participate in the election of board members and other business this fall need to meet three eligibility requirements before 4:30 p.m. CDT April 6.

According to Association bylaws, only eligible voting members can nominate, be nominated, vote or be elected in the annual election of delegates. To participate in the electoral process and other business during the 135th Annual Convention of Delegates, a member must be considered an eligible voting member and must meet all of the following requirements by 4:30 p.m. CDT April 6:

- Active regular or life membership (dues paid in full)
- 18 years of age or older
- Registered at least one animal or completed at least \$250 of business with the Association or Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) within the preceding 12 months from when the nomination period begins (from April 10, 2017, to April 6, 2018)

The nomination period for 2018 begins April 9; therefore,

these criteria must be met by the end of the previous business day, Friday, April 6. It is encouraged to submit all necessary requirements with enough time for completion prior to April 6.

The American Angus Association will mail delegate nomination forms only to active regular and life members who qualify as eligible voting members prior to 4:30 p.m. CDT on April 6.

Contact the Association at 816-383-5100 with any questions, or reference the bylaws of the Association online at www.angus.org, referring to the applicable "Section 3.6: Determination of Eligible Voting Members" in "Article III: Convention of Delegates."

The 135th Annual Convention of Delegates takes place Monday, Nov. 5, 2018, during the National Angus Convention in Columbus, Ohio. Online registration for the convention will begin July 1. More information will be available at angusconvention.com.

For more information about Angus cattle and the American Angus Association, visit www.angus.org.