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Success in Surf City

*Sophia Ritchie and
I Whiza Gangsta star
in 2024 beach circuit*

Amy McCool photo



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Surf City Success

Four-show series concludes its run

SPECIAL TO THE HORSETRADER

HUNTINGTON BEACH: The four-show Surf City Circuit series, put on by Track One Events for the Los Serranos Award Circuit, wrapped up its successful season Aug. 17 at the Huntington Central Park Equestrian Center.

Beautiful buckles and other awards were icing on the cake for winners at this refreshing circuit of open shows, which featured popular classes in ranch, reining, pleasure, horsemanship and trail.

One gratified Circuit Champion was open reiner Sophia Ritchie, an assistant trainer for Rick Baer Performance Horses that is based at the Center. Ritchie rode "Gangsta" to the title for owner Patricia Houk.

"I'd like to give a BIG thank you to Rick Baer," said Ritchie, who has worked under Baer for seven years. "He is a master of his craft."

This circuit marked the first time together in the show pen for Ritchie and the 12-year-old gelding. The rest of her show season will include events at Hansen Dam and the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, including the 2024 Pink Classic Championship. She also is looking forward to next year's the Surf City Circuit.

"It was such an organized, fun, and enjoyable series for our barn," she said. "We cant wait for next year and to watch the series grow."

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