

British Columbia Rodeo Association

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Athlete Highlight

2022 BCRA MOST SPORTSMAN LIKE AWARD

Keri Collins

Pritchard, BC

Registered Massage Therapist/owner of Claybank Massage Therapy in Kamloops

Keri started Little Britches Rodeo, local jackpots and gymkhanas in 1980 when she was only 4 yrs old. Her and her family also competed in the IRA, VIRA and the NRA before she bought her first BCRA membership in 1990 when she was 13 years old. She only missed 5 or 6 years of BCRA when she had her CPRA card.

“It all started with sheep riding and the calf scramble, barrels, steer riding, goat tail tying, goat tying, pole bending, steer undecorating, breakaway roping and team roping. I did a bit of cutting too, but not much. Now I focus on Barrel racing, team roping, and breakaway roping.”

“I love the sport for the challenges. The mental, emotional and physical prep that goes into rodeo competition is important to experience, as in any sport, because they are life skills that crossover into other areas of everyday living. The lifestyle is something I do love for sure. Having the opportunity to go travel, meet people with similar interests and to see different areas of the province and even different countries is a blessing all on its own. It also gives you the chance to really learn who you are and who you want to be as a person. It teaches you about health, finances and responsibility. But honestly deep down, it’s the chance to hit the road with my family and friends, and my horses. The amazing places, the smell of the rodeo grounds, the food and feeling that positive energy in the atmosphere at the rodeos just makes me happy.”

How did you feel when you were told you were receiving the BCRA Most Sportsman like Award?

“I actually didn’t know I won the award until they said my name. I was listening to Denise (Swampy, BCRA Director and award presenter) speak at the banquet and I was thinking.. oh that is a really nice thing to say about that person, but then she said my name and I almost started to cry when my fellow rodeo family stood up. I was deeply honored for sure. In 1991, I won the Wade Gentles memorial Sportsmanship award and to be voted by my peers again in 2022 was a very humbling surprise.”

“My goals for the upcoming season are to go to as many rodeos as I can with my kids, Kale and Claire, watch them grow and enjoy the sport of rodeo as much as I do and to have as much fun as possible.”

