



# Leon Matthias

- Licensed Arabian Judge from 1980 until he retired his license at the end of 2020
- Judged all levels of competition

Leon Matthias discovered his love for horses at a young age. For eight years, he traveled to school by horse and buggy—a daily routine that reflected his early bond with horses. After graduating, Leon joined the Army Reserves, where he continued to pursue his passion for sports by playing on the Army baseball team.



In 1964, Leon purchased his first Arabian horse, which went on to win a 100-mile endurance ride. A year later, in 1965, he acquired his first purebred mare, Jeasinde, from Little Ke-Mo Farms, where she was trained by Brad Braden. Jeasinde turned out to be an outstanding cutting horse, winning numerous open and Arabian cutting competitions. She became the foundation of Leon's breeding program.

Throughout his career, Leon has made a lasting impact on the Arabian horse community—not only through breeding and training, but also as an esteemed judge. His judging assignments have taken him around the world, including South

Africa, Australia (twice), several countries in South America, as well as prestigious events like the U.S. Nationals, Youth Nationals, Scottsdale, and numerous Regional shows.





From the very beginning, Leon has remained committed to the Arabian horse. One of his greatest joys today is seeing that passion passed down through generations. He takes great pride in watching his grandchildren in the show ring. His granddaughter is following in his footsteps—excelling in western pleasure, hunt seat, saddle seat, and reining, and more recently expanding

her love to the cow horse disciplines.

