

Good morning,

I am Marshall Kemp from Gallatin, TN. I was introduced to the Tennessee Walking Horse at the 1972 Celebration through the US Marshal Service and the USDA, not your typical introduction to the breed.

In 1974, I showed my first Walking Horse, in 1975, I showed in the big oval at the Celebration for the first time, in 1998 I had the good fortune to win a World Championship.

Today I would like to address the topics: "Should there be a prohibition of all action devices?" and "Should there be a prohibition of pads?"

The action device or pads should only be prohibited if they shorten the career or endanger the lives of this great horse. The show career of the Tennessee Walking Horse is much longer than any other breed. Here are a few top performance horses that come to mind:

Ebony's Mountain Man – won the World Grand Championship in 1980 at the age of 13.

The Super Stock – won the 3yo WGC in 1971 and the World Grad Championship in 1977 at the age of 11.

Mister Delight H – Was a reserve World Champion in 1994 at the age of 22 and won his last Celebration ribbon at the age of 24 in 1996.

Flashy Pride -3yo WC in 1981, 4yo WC in 1982, 2 time 15.2 WGC in 1983 & 84, and won the World Grand Championship in 1991 at the age of 13.

Gen's Fire & Ice – Won blue ribbons at the Celebration every year from 1987 through 2004. The last World Championship was at the age of 19.

Silver Design – Was the 1993 4yo Amateur World Grand Champion and was the Pony World Grand Champion in 2002, 2003 and 2004. Silver Design was successfully shown until he was 21 years of age.

Gen's Color Me In – won World Championships in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2009. The first as a 4yo the last at the age of 15. This horse also received a ribbon at the 2011 Celebration at the age of 17.

Eb's Black Charge was born in 1980 a top contender his entire life, winning a World Championship in 2001 at the age of 21.

I am certain that I have only scratched the surface of Tennessee Walking Horses with long productive careers.

All of these horses were shown in Pads and Action Devices for long, healthy careers.

In my opinion, NO there should not be a prohibition of all action devices or pads.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion.