

A Lesson in Patience

(4 min. read)

Friday, November 2nd, 2018

I am ready to get to work.

I have drowned my self-talk with goals.

I am ready.

But... I guess I am in a holding pattern to learn patience.

I have been plotting my attack on figuring out my passion and now I need to practice riding. There's a slight problem though as my horse, Pepsi, has been off lately. I'm pretty sure she's blowing an abscess. I am finishing up my abscess protocol, but I haven't been able to ride her. I do have three other horses to choose from, but only one is suitable for me. Jimmy, my son's steer wrestling horse, is definitely not a confidence builder. We also have Lincoln, he's a well-trained quarter horse that has a hair trigger and is way more sensitive than I am ready for. Major is a fox trotter that was actually trained by Sid Zacharias years ago but has been a very pretty pasture ornament for quite a while. So he's my choice for the time being. Don't get me wrong, I love Major. I was just hoping to work with Pepsi.

That brings me to the next lesson in patience. I saved up, planned and purchased a huge roping arena back in May. Which is still in piles, waiting to be put up. After having issues with rain, having a skid steer broken down for over a month, it just hasn't happened. Now that the Minnesota winter has arrived early, the ground is too frozen to put posts in. Grrr.

So, what now? I do have several miles of gravel roads to ride on, but it gets pretty boring for both me and my horses. There are several parks to ride in, but it is deer hunting season and I am not willing to take that chance.

So do I give up and take the winter off?

Heck no!

If you thought I would just roll over and let 'Old Man Winter' take the victory, you're dead wrong. To keep my horses in shape, I joined a local indoor riding arena. It has an inexpensive yearly fee and well worth it. They have an indoor round pen and a 60x100 arena that I can use whenever I want.

To keep me in shape and learning?

I am working out at the gym with a personal trainer and I have installed a pull-up bar in my barn by my bale I practice roping on. I've made a little circuit I do to keep myself fit (and warm) while I do my chores!

So... the moral of today's blog is to keep plugging!

Even when circumstances aren't ideal, keep striving to get just a little better every day.

You have to appreciate where you came from. When you start a new thing, you're not going to be inherently good at it. It takes roughly 10,000 hours of practice to become an expert. So, if you even get one hour a week, you're still on your way.