



Debbie Patterson – 2023 Keynote Address

# Amberley Snyder

## A Southern California Girl Born To Ride

Amberley Snyder was born in January of 1991 in southern California. Amberley and her five siblings lived there during her dad’s Major League Baseball career with the Los Angeles Dodgers. At the age of three, Amberley began riding lessons and developed an unyielding passion for horses. After her dad’s retirement from baseball, the family moved to Utah. Amberley was seven years old and would only comply if she was promised a barrel racing horse when she got there, she got her wish, and that was the beginning of Amberley’s rodeo career.

## Life Changed in an Instant

On January 10th, 2010 Amberley was on her way to the Denver Stock Show and Rodeo. As she was passing through Sinclair, WY she took a look down at her map. After only seconds she looked up and realized she had faded into the other lane, headed towards a metal beam. In an effort to get back in her lane, Amberley overcorrected. Her truck slid off the road and rolled and she was ejected from the vehicle.

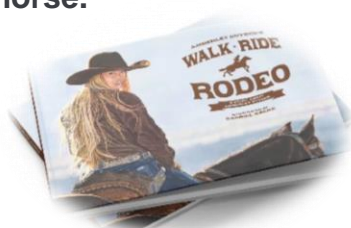


She was slammed into a fence post that broke her back and immediately she lost feeling in her legs.



After five hours of emergency surgery the doctor’s prognosis was she would never regain use or feeling below her waist. He told her if she had worn her seatbelt, she would

still have use of her legs. The one mistake she made that day changed her life forever, but it has not defeated her competitive spirit. The top priority for Amberley was not even to walk, but to ride her horses again. Remarkably after only 4 months after the accident she was back in her horse.



MOTIVATION EDUCATION INSPIRATION

