



UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION

Looking for new places to ride in your area and beyond?

Check out <http://trailmeister.com/>

Lots of information there on trails and all things trails! Search by city, state, even zip codes! You can even add trails that you know about.

Our ride season is well underway with about a third of our sanctioned rides already having been held. I certainly hope everyone is having a good start to their season and you're having some memorable experiences. From all of the postings of pictures and comments by members on the social media outlets, it sure appears that everyone is at least having a really good time! It is always a treat to see the awesome pictures that people post. A lot of those pictures really seem to capture some of the beauty, excitement, and even a few of the crazy challenges of our sport. Anyone who may be thinking about entering or starting the distance riding adventure has to be intrigued and further motivated to do so when they see those pictures and read the comments members post - a great way to advertise and support the benefits of distance riding for sure. Thanks to all who share their photos and especially the "seasoned" photographers like Bob Zimmerman those photos are truly wonderful and so special.

Speaking of something special, an amazing milestone was met this month when the Southeast Minnesota Ride celebrated its 50th year. That's right, fifty years, as in five decades. The last forty-one of those years managed by Dianne Schmidt at the same location, under the same ride name and with no lapse in years! This accomplishment certainly is the pinnacle of perseverance of being a Ride Manager. Just think of all the people, vets and horses that have been a part of this ride. Pretty amazing to say the least. Congratulations to everyone who helped to make this ride so successful over the years, and especially to Dianne, on reaching such an esteemed place in the history of ride management for UMECRA rides. More importantly, thank you, for all of the time, energy and personal sacrifices you, and your volunteers undoubtedly needed to make over the years to hold the ride each year and especially for enriching the experiences of so many others during that time.

On behalf of the entire UMECRA Family, thanks again and best wishes on all of your future endeavors.
Jon Wagner
UMECRA President

Advertising in the UMECRA Newsletter

Rates depend on the size of your ad and how many times you wish to run it:

Ad Rates for Newsletter	1 time	2-3 times	4-8 times	9-10 times	the year
Classified 10 lines * \$.60 extra per line	\$6.00				
Business Cards	\$8.50	\$6.80 ea.	\$5.95 ea.	\$5.50	\$51.00

Hey UMECRA! Anyone out there interested in taking over the newsletter? We are still looking for a new newsletter editor. Responsibilities include producing 10-11 newsletters per year and helping with organization wide emails on occasion. If you are interested, please contact UMECRA President Jon Wagner (jwagner288@wi.rr.com) or current newsletter editor Peggy Pasillas (UMECRAnews@gmail.com)

				ea.	
Quarter Page	\$20.00	\$16.00 ea.	\$14.00 ea.	\$13.00 ea.	\$120.00
Half Page	\$25.00	\$20.00 ea.	\$17.50 ea.	\$16.25 ea.	\$150.00
Full Page	\$45.00	\$36.00 ea.	\$31.50 ea.	\$29.25 ea.	\$270.00
*Line = (65 Characters per line including spaces)					

Where Will Your Next Ride Be?

2019 Ride Date	Ride Name	Location	State	RM Last Name	RM Email
6/29-30	Dead Dog Creek	Kinmundy	IL	Linda Mowrer	ridedeaddog@hotmail.com
7/5-6	Endless Valley	Arena	WI	Linda Jacobson	jdisawesome@lycos.com
7/13-14	AHAM-Hopkins Creek	Manton	MI	Gene Dake	dedake6196@gmail.com
7/13-14	Mosquito Run	Rogers	MN	Peggy Pasillas	peggy@pasillas.net
7/20-21	AHDRA I - My Backyard	Brimfield	IL	Sarah Mowrer	ridedeaddog@hotmail.com
7/20-21	Pine Marten	Wetmore	MI	Karen Bahrman	kbahrman@gmail.com
7/26-28	Bonecrusher	Palmyra	WI	Amber Erickson	endurochiro3@gmail.com
7/27-28	Northern Lightz Run	Twin Valley	MN	Diane Schermerhorn	dasher09@gmail.com
8/3-9	Shore-to-Shore	L. Huron to L. Michigan	MI	Bruce Birr	bbirr@centurytel.net
8/10-11	Louise Reidel Memorial	Arkdale	WI	Elinor Tonsor	helinoretonsor@earthlink.net
8/17-18	Rock River Charity	Franklin Grove	IL	Tony Troyer	il4aerc@aol.com
8/17-18	Run for the Cactus	Granite Falls	MN	Sarah Maass	sarahmaass@hotmail.com
8/24-25	Northern Highland	Conover	WI	Laurie Henschel	ridgeviewwalkers@frontiernet.net
8/31-9/2	White River Fall-Labor Day	Hesperia	MI	Kari Hanes	montaleearabians@gmail.com
9/7-8	Charity Cup	Pillager	MN	Darlene	valleycreek1@gmail.com

				Molitor	
9/7-8	Keweenaw	Marquette	MI	Karen Jarvi	kjarvi0914@gmail.com
9/7-8	Lincoln Trail	Kinmundy	IL	Ruth Stewart	rrstewart2002@yahoo.com
9/14-15	Colorama Classic	New Prospect	WI	Pam Cotton	hellsbellsfarm@gmail.com
9/21-22	Run for the Ridge	Granite Falls	MN	Sarah Maass	sarahmaass@hotmail.com
9/28-29	Metro Park Express	Milford	MI	Mindy Nagy	melindasmeyers@gmail.com
10/4-6	DRAW Festivus	Palmyra	WI	Sherry Aune	aunesherry@hotmail.com
10/12-13	Iron Oak	Arkdale	WI	Ruth Casserly	casserlytimruth@gmail.com
10/12-13	Oak Leaf Run	Hamilton	MI	Barb Kurti	silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com
10/18-19	Point Chaser	Theilman	MN	Holly Egerer	regerer287@aol.com
10/26-27	AHDRA III - Big River	Keiths burg	IL	Jim Andriakos	cgswwimcoach@yahoo.com

Run For The Cactus and Run For The Ridge have a NEW LOCATION!!

Both rides will be held at Huntersville State Forest, between Bemidji and Brainerd.

This is a beautiful venue!!! The camping will be in a huge pasture, with LOTS of space for everyone and their friends.

You can tie to your trailer or put up pens. There will be water available as well as porta-potties. \$28/night per rig.

The trails have excellent footing: not many rocks at all; it's mostly dirt, sand, grass and much of it is 2-track. The sand isn't deep and most of the trail is barefoot-friendly. We will be on some forestry roads which are like minimum maintenance roads, but any gravel is fairly fine. The terrain is flat..easy for a first-time 100-mile! We will also be on some gorgeous single-track trail that is windy and mostly trot-able, so lots of fun. This venue also handles rain well; YAY!!

The Outpost Bar and Grill is about 100 yards from the campgrounds. They will be catering our Saturday supper, so there's no need to bring anything for a Potluck. The meal will be included in your camping fee, so please let me know if you are coming, and how many people will be eating. Camping will be \$28/night per rig. The Outpost will be open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, and they have fabulous food and a well-stocked bar. The burgers are amazing!!!

There is a shallow river where the horses can get water. The footing is firm: sandy with fine gravel, and the water is crystal clear. The river is also within walking distance from the campgrounds, so bring your swimsuits to cool off after a warm day. Our campground host rents canoes and kayaks just down the road.

I hope we have a HUGE turnout for Cactus! This should be a super fun ride and then we get to do it again in September for the Ridge. See you there!!!!!!

Sarah Maass – Ride Manager
 Cactus: August 17th & 18th
 Ridge: September 21st & 22nd.

FOR SALE:

Barefoot, Cheyenne saddle- size 2. English rigging, black color- new condition. \$650.00.

Black Forest Aspen saddle- size 2. English rigging, black color- new condition \$500.00

Pictures available. Email: jfeller@nconnect.net for more info or pictures.

Ride Results

Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - Comp HW			
Carmen	Steuck	Phoenix	P
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - Comp Jr			
Olivia	Christenson	Tamanni BLM	1
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - Comp LW			
Diane	Merz	Sterling Illusion	1
Jennifer	Thames	Melrog Irish Preacher	2
Victoria	Robison	SC Zhivago	3
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - 75 End HW			
Sheryl	O'Brien	Wild River Sundancer	1

Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - 75 End LW			
Lorrie	Beaulieu	Jane	1
Maria	Enge	Faustos Flame	P
Krystyna	Eischens	Chips Diamond Rehalla	P
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - 50 End HW			
Sarah	Carlson	Miss Chievious Artemis	P

Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - 50 End LW			
Laurie	Henschel	Baskadena KSR	1
Candy	Barbo	SR August Breeze	2
Teresa	Fett	CR Mistiraaz	3
Jesse	Shaddrick	Jinjersnapp	4
Karla	Ovsak	Patches MN	5
Lindsay	Jackson Nichols	Nevermore SMP	6
Jane	Malischke	Hollywoods Brightest	C
Jodi	Johannessen	Bombay Ice	P
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - 100 End LW			
Roxy	Welling	SLF Lil Bit Loco	P
Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - LD Jr			
Adin	Esqueda	Spot	1
Elliot	Dymesich	Fantasia	1
Audrey	Thorp	Nightmare Blues	2

Border Battle Boogie - 5/18/19 - LD Sr			
Barry	Saylor	Dreamgirl DE	1
Adrienne	Dymesich	Shady	1
Janet	Sarver	Legacy of Khourage	2
Ainsley	Suskey	SRB Reno Lytes	2
Peggy	Pasillas	Remy	3
Carter	Snyder	Wyatt's Dire Straits	3
Emily	Kibler	Mr Major General	4
Crystal	Esqueda	Lopin in Diamonds	4
Leslie	Lloyd	Spotted Caliber	5
Jennifer	Frerichs-Ramon	Lads Switch Blade	5
Sarah	Watts	Stormy Weather	6
Brandon	Brunner	Wisco	P
Melonie	Driese	Justaamageof	P
Debra L	Juettner	Rena	P

Grand Island - 5/25/19 - Comp HW			
Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law	1
Ken	Wright	LW Raajas Chip	2
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - Comp Jr			
Natalie	Cartwright	Corona	1
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - Comp LW			
Brooke	Harris	Aries	1
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - End HW			
Stephanie	Crispin	AllAboutMajestic	1
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - End LW			
Linda	Hamrick	RTM First In Line	1
Diane	Meinders	Yo Dusty	2
Melinda	Nagy	DTD Jess A Legend	3
Leigh Ann	Sytsma	Heza Bright Future	4
Eileen	Kirsch	Hansi	5
Sherry	Aune	Cabernet Sauvignon	P
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - LD Jr			
Madelyn	VanDamme	Dreamer	1
Claire	VanDamme	Tulsa	2
Grand Island - 5/25/19 - LD Sr			
Wes	Elford	Suzie Q	1
Jon	Wagner	Mi Victory Dance	2
Julia	Newton	Lucca	3
Tina	Williams	Sonny	4
Diane	Maxey	LW Constant Sohn	5
Nikki	Boesch	Fia Dahlia	6
Linda	Jacobson	AE Gimli Strength	C
Kelsey	Shope	Spiderintheweb	C
Sara	Hooten	Frost	C
Samantha	Donath	PJ Hailey	C
Amber	Erickson	Ophelia Kkan	C
Kayla M.	Shope	Lu-Nor Tornado	P
Jill	VanDamme	Dakota	P

Grand Island - 5/26/19 - Comp HW			
Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law	1
Sandra	Wright	LW Raajas Chip	2
Grand Island - 5/26/19 - Comp LW			
Diane	Meinders	Lumiere WW	1
Grand Island - 5/26/19 - LD Jr			
Lorelai	Haase	Sky	1
Margaretha	Hoffman	Hamlet	2
Alice	Erickson	Apollos Geym	MO
Grand Island - 5/26/19 - LD Sr			
Julia	Newton	Lucca	1
Christina	Hurzler	Frango	2
Jennifer	Shooshanian	Sammy	3
Diane	Maxey	LW Constant Sohn	4
Linda	Hamrick	Cash	5
Leigh Ann	Sytsma	Misty Afternoon	6
Lindsay	Jackson Nichols	Thorhastrachan	MO
Samantha	Donath	PJ Hailey	MO
Amber	Erickson	Ophelia Kkan	MO

AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - Comp LW			
Ruth	Casserly	Amir Sam PMR	1
Jennifer	Ord	DJB Kong De Gemme	2
AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - Drive			
Alice	Hubert	K-Macaroni	1
AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - End HW			
Guy	Worthington	JG Randie	1
AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - End LW			
Lucy	Stafford	H WineGlass Sangria	1
Lori	Windows	Ella N Fires Jane Doe	2
Belinda	Cook	BF Four by Four	3
Jan	Worthington	Dimitri KS	4
Sheila	Schneider	Gypsy B Miss Behavin	5
AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - LD Sr			
Jeremy	Olson	Gab Almost Foolish	1
Jim	Andriakos	Afsaar	2
Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane	3
Amy	Corneilson	KW Magnum Archie	4
Joshua	Mowrer	EAF Sweet Clementine	5
Frank	Langholf	BZ Sierra Sunrise	6
Marge	Dixon	Kenlyn Lexus	C
Barry	Saylor	Dream Girl DE	C
Ann	Usher	WS Cabalero	C
Kaylie	Hulsey	Lilly	C
Kim	Lindquist	Sensations Candi Money D	C
Christopher	Power	WineGlass Debonair	C
Martha	Power	SA Te Jat	C
Kim	Rumpsa	R Secret Decoration	C
AHDRA Endure - 6/1/19 - Novice			
Brittany	DeBord	Stormy's Night Magic	1
Sally	Hoff	Gloryius Trinity	MO
Summer	Stahl	Zip Like An Egyptian	MO
Angela	Stahl	Calyпсо	MO

AHDRA Endure - 6/2/19 - Comp LW			
Sally	Hoff	Gloryius Trinity	1
AHDRA Endure - 6/2/19 - Drive			
Joshua	Mowrer	KW Magnum Archie	1
Aaron	Mowrer	Arazi	P
AHDRA Endure - 6/2/19 - LD Sr			
Jeremy	Olson	SA Frenick	1
Vera	Betzelberger	Starr Quest	2
Amy	Betzelberger	Lexus	3
Jim	Andriakos	WBNelsons Thunderbyrd	4
Lynn	Haase	Sky	5
Elyssia	Perez	Hamlet	6
Kimberly	Rosecrans	Magic	C
Barry	Saylor	Dream Girl DE	C
Kristine	Jubeck	HTLB Stormy	C
Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane	P
AHDRA Endure - 6/2/19 - Novice			
Brittany	DeBord	Stormys Night Magic	1
Linda	Mowrer	Rasuli The Magnificent	MO
Sarah	Mowrer	A Time To Shine	MO
Kaylie	Hulsey	Lilly	MO

ApDRA - 6/8/19 - Comp HW			
Barb	Gardner	RR Roman Scooter	1
Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law	2
Allison	Goetz	Shadowtrax	2
Bonnie	Mielke	BNB Khrome Azrael	4
Barb	Hogan	Arapto Keepnfaith	5
ApDRA - 6/8/19 - Comp LW			
Tracy	Johnson	Mombo Number Five	1
Sally	Hoff	Gloryius Trinity	2
Ruth	Casserly	Amir Sam PMR	3
Melinda	Stewart	McCues Miss Behavin	4
ApDRA - 6/8/19 - Drive			
Alice	Hubert	K-Macaroni	1
ApDRA - 6/8/19 - End HW			
Stephanie	Crispin	AllAboutMajestic	1
Bettina	Koehn	JBK Nadja	2
Kimberly Ann	Fosler	BZ Cojeseryn Sahar	3
Deb	Searle	Sultann Sundance	4
Kathi	Soukup	GSF Frankie	5
Peter	Dordal	Amaz'h Grace	6
Guy	Worthington	PA Hi-Spirit	C
ApDRA - 6/8/19 - End LW			
Olivia	Rudolphi	H. WineGlass Syrah	1
Jan	Worthington	Golden Lightning	2
ApDRA - 6/8/19 - LD Jr			
Mazey	Ostermann	Aladda Rodania (Raja)	1
Lorelai	Haase	Samira Malikas Angel	2
Bailey	LeRoy	Odie	P

ApDRA - 6/8/19 - LD Sr			
Samantha	Connor	Bey Gaalan	1
Jon	Wagner	Mi Victory Dance	2
Wes	Elford	Suzie Q	3
Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane	4
Daniel	Pakes	KoKo	5
Tina	Williams	Sonny	6
Chris	Marks	Thokkadis from Winterhorse	C
Lynn	Haase	HTLB Stormy	C
Nikki	Boesch	Fia Dahlia	C
Linda	Jacobson	AE Gimli Strength	C
Debby	Weisbecker	Love Me A Latte	C
Jen	Moore	Sidney Rain	C
Amy	Betzelberger	Lexus	C
Amber	Erickson	Ophelia Kkan	C
Carol	Wagner	Tripl Blackburn King	C
Vera	Betzelberger	Starr Quest	C
Sherry	Aune	Cabernet Sauvignon	C
Maxine	Bernsdorf	CH Shamm Bashire	C
Angel	Chmurynski	Desperados Legacy	C
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	C
Brandon	Brunner	Lew Alcindor	C
Tara N.	LeRoy	Mariah Moment	P
Ann	DeLang	Chocolate Martini	P
ApDRA - 6/9/19 - Comp HW			
Allison	Goetz	Shadowtrax	1
ApDRA - 6/9/19 - Comp LW			
Lory	Kohls	Emeralds Phortune	1
Melinda	Stewart	McCues Miss Behavin	2
Valerie	Krebs	Chase	3
ApDRA - 6/9/19 - Drive			
Alice	Hubert	K-Macaroni	1
ApDRA - 6/9/19 - LD Sr			
Angel	Chmurynski	Dynamo Dash	1
Tina	Williams	Sonny	2
Lynda	Zimmerman	Chacofino San Rose	3
Olivia	Rudolphi	WineGlass Vivant	4
Kyle	Baemmert	Missy	5
Stephanie	Crispin	Mr Tiggerific Dhream	6
Leigh Ann	Sytsma	Misty Afternoon	C
Linda	Jacobson	Mi Precious Ruby	C
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	C
Daniel	Pakes	KoKo	P



SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - Comp HW			
Dale	Lunde	Mattingley Hour Glass	1
Carmen	Steuck	Phoenix	2
Taryn	Lindbeck	TKO Rhio Bask	3
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - Comp Jr			
Olivia	Christenson	Tamanni BLM	1
Michele	Bjork	AM Suwanee Adrianna	2
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - Comp LW			
Candy	Barbo	Psyche On Fire	1
Suzanne	Warren	PPF Geyms Sony	2
Jodi	Johannessen	Rushcreek Deb	2
Diane	Merz	Sterling Illusion	4
Jane	Malischke	Hollywoods Brightest	5
Pamela	Coolidge	Snappy	6
Nancy	McCoy	Gizmo	P
Shea-Lynn	Ramthum	SS Butter Me Up	C
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - End HW			
Sheryl	O'Brien	Wild River Sundancer	1
Robin	Schadt	RAL Sorceress (Chloe)	2
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - End Jr			
Sophie	Gustafson	Tryggr	1
Emma	Christopherson	Integritys Deluxx	2
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - End LW			
Christina	Long	LS Piper	1
Teresa	Fett	CR Mistiraaz	2
Sarah	Maass	Royal Opus	3
Maria	Enge	Faustos Flame	4
Marianne	Guilfoyle	Gianni Ali Oops	5
Eileen	Kirsch	Hansi	6
Ann	Usher	HL Kastaspell	P
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - LD Jr			
Ruby	Thorp	Nightmare Blues	1
Miley	Eischens	Chips Diamond Rehalla	2
Adin	Esqueda		3
Joey	Gaffaney	HJ Nikeshah	3



SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - LD Sr			
Samantha	Connor	Bey Gaalan	1
Jesse	Shaddrick	Jinjersnapp	2
Edward	Hauser	LJR Propetual Motion	3
Lynda	Zimmerman	Chacofino San Rose	4
Sarah	Kieser	NW Wildcard	5
Janette	Sasena	Caduceus Oriana	6
Peggy	Pasillas	Remy	C
Mary	Hadler	Bonanza Buck	C
Debra	Moe	UTCS Aur Mojito	C
Brooke	Moeller	Rusty Chris-te	C
Barry	Saylor	Dream Girl DE	C
Emily	Kibler	Mr Major General	C
Janet	Sarver	Legacy of Khourage	C
Rebecca	Horihan	LC Ernani	C
Elizabeth	Frieders	UpUp And Away JIF	C
Crystal	Esqueda	Lopin in Diamonds	C
Debra L	Juettner	Rena	C
Jennifer	Frerichs-Ramon	Lads Switch Blade	C
Wendy	Figuroa	Rain	C
Krystyna	Eischens	AW Classika	C
SE Minnesota - 6/15/19 - Novice			
Laurie	Hoepner	Gai Caravel	1
Mary	Mulholland	Quest	2
Karess	Knudtson	Banner	3
Katie	Vogl	My Name Is Bob	4
Rachel	Schoelerman	Apollo	5
Becca	Johnson	Bob	5
Terry	Johnson	Bullet's Black Rain	C
Cynthia	Perry	Fame in Flames	C
Noel	Cruz	Luna	C
Caryn	Cruz	Zena	C
Theresa	Meyer	CR Tirzannah	MO
Holly	Egerer	Zippy's Ace of Diamonds	MO
Sue	Schedin	Thee Silver Prince	MO
SE Minnesota - 6/16/19 - Comp HW			
Karin	Lupo	VC Premier Eddition	1
Joan	Thiel	A Risky Encounter	2
SE Minnesota - 6/16/19 - Comp LW			
Lynn	Reichert	WH Procrastinator	1
Theresa	Meyer	Sirius Encore	2



SE Minnesota - 6/16/19 - LD Jr			
Miley	Eischens	Chips Diamond Rehalla	1
Adin	Esqueda	Spotted Caliber	P
SE Minnesota - 6/16/19 - LD Sr			
Samantha	Connor	Bey Gaalan	1
Teresa	Fett	Ice Falcon LRA	2
Bonnie	Mielke	PSL Lakota Chief	3
Lynda	Zimmerman	Chacofino San Rose	4
Krystyna	Eischens	AW Classica	5
Maria	Enge	CRF Lady Supreme	6
Kelly Ann	Kennedy	Ali Gazali WLF	C
Peggy	Pasillas	Remy	C
Rebecca	Horihan	LC Ernani	C
Crystal	Esqueda	Lopin in Diamonds	C
Colleen	Hueners	Thee Magicman HT	C
Kelly	Hazledine	JK Eternal Dream	C
Debra	Schroeder	Mexicali Mac V	C

Grand Island North - 6/22/19 - Comp HW			
Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law	1
Grand Island North - 6/22/19 - End HW			
Cassandra	Green	Tryllerika	1
Deb	Searle	Charizmatic	2
Robin	Schadt	Kayheart	3
Grand Island North - 6/22/19 - End LW			
Linda	Hamrick	RTM First In Line	1
Diane	Meinders	Yo Dusty	2
Grand Island North - 6/22/19 - LD Jr			
Alice	Erickson	Rushcreek Calia	1
Grand Island North - 6/22/19 - LD Sr			
Jessie	Dux	Renegade Raja	1
Wes	Elford	Suzie Q	2
Jon	Wagner	Mi Victory Dance	3
Diane	Maxey	LW Constant Sohn	4
Christina	Hurzeler	Frango	5
Julia	Newton	Lucca	6
Lynn	Haase	HTLB Stormy	C
Linda	Jacobson	AE Gimli Strength	C
Kayla M.	Shope	Frost	C
Kathleen	Niedzielski	HD Indy	C
Amber	Erickson	Ophelia Kkan	C
Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane	C
Carol	Wagner	Tripl Blackburn King	C
Angel	Chmurynski	Dynamo Dash	C
Tina	Williams	Sonny	C
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	C
Kelsey	Shope	Selket Murphy	C
Samantha	Donath	PJ Hailey	P
Nicole	DeWald	Silver Russian	P

Grand Island North - 6/232/19 - Comp HW			
Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law	1
Grand Island North - 6/232/19 - LD Sr			
Diane	Maxey	LW Constant Sohn	1
Diane	Meinders	Yo Dusty	2
Tina	Williams	Sonny	3
Angel	Chmurynski	Dynamo Dash	4
Linda	Hamrick	Cash	5
Karen	Bahrman	Shael Desert Falcon	6
Sarah	Watts	Stormy Weather	C
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	C

The Enigma of Getting Pulled and Rider Recourse.

By Wes Elford

There are many reasons for getting pulled other than lameness or compromised metabolics—lesions on the horse’s body, horse abuse (whipping, spurring out of control, or just obnoxious meanness to the horse) or abuse of ride personal (RMs, vets, timers or pulse takers) and infractions of other rules outlined in the AERC Rules and Regulations. However my intent is to address the situation of a horse being pulled by the vet staff for metabolics or lameness.

Many decisions made by the vet staff are subjective, based on the objective evaluations gleaned from the ‘substantive’ evaluation by filling out the rider card. The veterinarian makes a decision as to whether a horse is ‘fit to continue’ metabolically based on his/her own experiences in determining the medical condition of the horse. Because ‘metabolics can kill’ vets do put a heavy emphasis on the metabolic evaluation in determining the ‘fit to continue’ condition of an entrant. Those horses that have an unacceptably high risk of developing serious metabolic lesions have to be identified and removed from competition. There cannot be any second guessing when it comes to metabolics because of the seriousness of the consequences. Many times horses are rechecked at a vet check if there are questions. They are, however, examined very critically to determine their condition and not released for further competition unless they show

good recovery from the stress of the ride and that they are ‘fit to continue’.

The lameness evaluation is done with the horse trotting straight out and back to show if there is any aberration of gait. Quoting the Guidelines for Control Judges and Treatment Veterinarians at AERC Endurance Competitions page 23, “It is not always possible or necessary to make a definitive lameness diagnosis; however, it is incumbent upon the control judge to make a subjective evaluation of the horse’s gait specifically as to whether the standard of “fit to continue “ has been met.” On page 20 of the Guidelines, under the section entitled Criteria, subtitle Gaits, it says: “Decisions to pull a horse with a Lame code should be based on an exam in which the lameness can be localized to one or more legs with a reasonable degree of confidence. Doing so improves consistency of decision-making between individual control judges and helps avoid nebulous lameness pulls.”

Judging lameness is not all that clean cut however. The exam is done at a trot straight out and back, sometimes the length of a CRI (Cardiac Recovery Index), 125 feet out and back. There are no palpations done as in a hands-on examination. The identification of a Grade III lameness is grounds for elimination. This is described in the Guidelines on page 24 under Definition: Lameness is a deviation from the normal gait or posture due to pain or mechanical dysfunction.

Grade III lameness is defined on page 24 of the Guidelines: Consistently observable at a trot under all circumstances. At endurance competitions, this generally means consistently observable in both directions of a straight out-and-back trot. (Note: as a general rule of thumb, “consistent” can be defined as observable more than 70% of the time.)

After having attended the Lameness Examination sessions at the AERC veterinarians continuing education classes it has become apparent to all that this rule of thumb means that a lame horse will take a lame step 7 out of 10 steps or more as it trots out. We have taken this approach to

evaluation of the gait to try to establish some consistency to the exam.

This aberration of gait is generally manifested by the raising of the horse's head up when the horse bears weight on the sore or lame front leg. The head comes down when weight is borne on the sound leg. A rear leg lameness is manifested by the hiking (or raising) of the horse's hips when weight is borne on the sore or lame rear leg. This raising of the head or hiking of the hips is done by the horse to take weight off of the lame limb in the weight bearing state. This description is an over simplification of the whole topic of lameness manifestation but for the cases of this paper I have chosen to use these scenarios.

Vets need to identify the lame limb. Once again, the Guidelines state on page 20: “Decisions to pull a horse with a Lameness code should be based on an exam in which the lameness can be localized to one or more legs with a reasonable degree of confidence.” The lameness should be identified as to the limb the horse is lame on. The vet should be able to point out to the rider what leg the horse is manifesting the lameness on. The Guidelines, however, do state on page 23: “It is not always possible or necessary to make a definitive lameness diagnosis; however, it is incumbent upon the control judge to make a subjective evaluation of the horse's gait specifically as to whether the standard of “fit to continue” has been met. Guidelines on page 24 state: “The Lameness code is used when any equine is found to be consistently observably lame by the control judge, generally considered at least Grade III lameness as defined by the AAEP standards. Where possible it is beneficial and advisable to have two control judges confer on the presence and degree of lameness before retirement of the horse from competition.

I have quoted the Guidelines as much as possible to make my points in this paper and to give them credence. My personal intent when judging an endurance ride is to be able to identify the lame leg beyond a question when declaring a horse not 'fit to continue'. I always instruct those vetting with me that when they recognize lameness in a

horse that they be able to identify the limb that the horse is lame on. Then whether it is I or my colleague we are to watch the horse trot out and concur on the fact that the horse is lame and also which leg the horse is lame on. This is to me a necessity.

The phrase: “I think there is something going on in the hind end” is not satisfactorily identifying the lameness, especially as to which leg the lameness is in. There are times when a horse may not be 'right' and perhaps a Grade I or II which is not enough to pull the horse. These lameness's are hard to put a handle on but the veterinary staff should watch the horse move and concur on the Grade and as best as possible on the limb affected. Grades I or II are not pulls and can be certified 'Fit to Continue'. If they occur at the end of the ride the horse can be given a completion. Grade III lameness with lame steps 70% of the time on a straight out and back trot are not 'Fit to Continue' and do not warrant completion.

Having said all this, I quote AERC Rules and Regulations Rule 2.1.5: “The control judges' decisions regarding disqualification must be final and ride management must stand behind the control judges' decisions.”

This rule weighs heavily on a control judge. On the one hand he/she is ultimately responsible for the 'welfare of the horse' and on the other hand he/she must render a fair and just decision that is acceptable to the rider---the rider who can be a highly competitive individual having spent hours on the ride being judged ---also having spent hours, days, months and many dollars on a year's accumulations of points. This responsibility weighs heavily on the shoulders of ride veterinarians. Protection of the horse is the ultimate responsibility however.

What recourse does a rider have when they get pulled at a vet check? This is a loaded question mainly because one is usually going against the opinion of the veterinary staff of the ride. This is the question that has prompted me to write this paper. It is a good that those of us who have competed have had on our minds when we have found ourselves in the position of being pulled at

a vet check or not being granted a completion at the end of a ride.

I think realizing that we as riders usually can be granted the option of a re-presentation sometime within the hold time of a check or sometime within the one hour presentation time for a completion gives us some reprieve. At that re-presentation, if one has a real doubt or wants to see what the veterinarian is seeing we can get someone else to trot out the horse so we can get a better idea of what the vet is seeing. As a veterinarian watching a re-presentation I want the second vet to watch the trot out also so that the rider can be assured that the opinion is not just that of one vet. After that trot out the vets will agree on the lameness and which leg the horse is lame on or there may be another trot out. The vets should discuss the case at that time and reach a consensus of opinion.

Many times the decision is not as simple as I have illustrated and this is why at high profile and FEI rides there is a panel of 3 judges that vote secret ballot on every finish trot out and on every re-presentation. The majority rules on each vote. No one knows how a vet voted so no one can be accused of bias.

This is the scenario on lameness questions. Metabolic questions can be treated the same with more than one vet examining the horse and rendering an opinion. These are discussed and a decision arrived at. A CRI is very useful to use at this point. Once again this is the procedure that is used at high profile rides.

The reality is that the decision of the veterinarian (one or multiple) is final. We as ride vets do work hard to guard the welfare of the horse and also to satisfy the rider's desire to get a fair and unbiased decision. We as riders pay an entry fee for this procedure to occur at the ride with confidence that ride vets know the rules and know the physiology of endurance horses well enough to do a satisfactory job.



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