

# UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



## From the President:

Last month I shared with you that there are several proposals before the board and that we'd be sharing more information about those proposals in upcoming newsletters. In separate articles this month, you can read about two of those proposals. The Limited Distance Points Change and the Gate and Go proposals are described in this month's newsletter. Read them over and feel free to contact your Geographic Representative, Rider Representative or an Executive Board member with any comments or questions. It is hoped that by providing early information about all the items that may come up for a vote at the annual meeting, members will have a chance to review them, ask questions and/or comment and be better prepared for a possible vote.

Here are some other items and information you may need to plan for as our ride season begins to wind down:

It's never too early to think about renewing your UMECRA memberships. During the months of September, October and November, you can renew your membership and it is good for the next twelve months or through the next ride season. It's kind of a bonus for new members who join during these months but current members can take advantage of this too. Renewing now may be more convenient than waiting until the ride season is over when you're more likely to forget.

The 2020 Annual Meeting and Convention will be held January 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn located in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Member Kim Fosler is coordinating this year's convention and will have information about rooms, speakers and all the other details concerning the convention in next month's newsletter. If you would like to volunteer to help out at convention you can contact Kim at [kimberlyfosler@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyfosler@gmail.com).

We are looking for members willing to be listed on the UMECRA web-site as possible mentors to new members/riders. Our current list needs to be updated and we always welcome anyone who is willing to share their experience/wisdom with others. Being a mentor is a great way to give back to the sport of distance riding and new members who have experienced a mentorship are much more likely to stay in the sport for a long time. If you're interested in mentoring and willing to have your name added to the mentors list, please contact Nicole Mauser-Storer [n.mauser@huskers.unl.edu](mailto:n.mauser@huskers.unl.edu).

The Board of Directors recently approved a trail grant for the Hay Meadow Creek Crossing project in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. These trails are part of both the Grand Island and Grand Island North rides held in the Hiawatha National Forest. Trail grants are available year-round but it is always a good idea to get them in early if possible. Forms for requesting a trail grant can be found on the UMECRA web-site under the "About" tab. Then click on "membership" and a menu will come up with the trail grant form listed.

Hall of Fame and Shining Light nominations; if you're thinking about nominating someone for either of these awards you should be putting them together now. These awards are determined at the November Board of Directors meeting. It is important that the board has all nominations prior to that meeting so that all nominees are considered at the same time and awards can be arranged in time for anyone selected for

an award. Nomination forms can also be found on the UMECRA web-site under the “Results” tab and clicking on “available awards”. Nominations should be sent to the UMECRA President.

Two other items worth mentioning now are Board elections for 2020 and the UMECRA Scholarship. Next month we’ll have detailed information about requesting a scholarship but for those who may be interested in obtaining one, you can find out more by clicking on the “About” tab, then Membership and the menu containing scholarship information will be listed. Board positions open this year include: President, Mn. and Wi. Geographic Representatives, Veterinarian Rep and the four Rider Representative positions. Serving on the Board of Directors is another way of giving back to both the organization and sharing your experiences for the benefit of promoting distance riding.

I have probably rambled on long enough so I’ll close by reminding you that all of these items will be covered again in future newsletters in greater detail but that I hope by providing you with this early “heads-up” you can get a jump-start on things. Good luck and Happy Trails.

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 ea.	\$51.00
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)					

Hey UMECRA! We have a new newsletter editor! Thank you Brenna Starch for stepping up and volunteering to be the next newsletter editor! She will be picking up the newsletter for the September edition! Email for the newsletter will remain the same: [UMECRANews@gmail.com](mailto:UMECRANews@gmail.com)

### \*IMPORTANT REMINDER\*

#### Setting Ride Times

I’ve been asked to remind Ride Managers that when figuring out ride times for Competitive Trail rides that they remember to use the parameters set under our Competitive Rules:

**2. Management Requirements A.** The maximum riding speed shall average 5.5 to 7 miles per hour. Determining ride times using these guidelines assures uniform ride times across UMECRA rides avoiding large discrepancies from one ride to another.

Jon Wagner  
 UMECRA President

Just a quick reminder and heads-up to Ride Managers to be sure and ask riders to show you their current AERC membership cards. This is especially true if you don't know the rider or if it is someone who hasn't attended your ride in the last year or two. There have been a few reports this ride season of non-AERC riders forgetting to pay the \$15 "Day Member" fee. As a Ride Manager, you are ultimately responsible to pay all fees including those non-AERC member fees. Avoid the hassle of trying to track down those people after your ride is over to collect day member fees and ask for proof of AERC membership when initially registering riders.

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Gate into a Hold proposed Endurance Rule change

A suggestion was brought to the UMECRA Board of Directors a couple of years ago suggesting a change in the Endurance Rule 9 removing the hold time requirement of 20 minutes. Different language has percolated in our discussions and the following is the current draft of the proposal that will likely be voted on at the November Board Meeting:

**9. The "gate into a hold" type check is mandatory at all vet checks. highly recommended at all vet checks. Other checks may be used as described in *The Guidelines for Control Judges and Treatment Veterinarians at AERC Endurance Competitions*. The "pulse and go" is also recommended if a hold is to be avoided. A horse is held until a set pulse parameter is met and the horse is trotted out to check for lameness.**

A. A rider entering a vet check must present his horse for p/rs at any time within 30 minutes

B. Horses passing the P/R parameters shall remain at the check area for the time specified, ~~but a minimum of 20 minutes.~~ **However, a rider and horse may voluntarily extend their hold time if desired. Regardless of hold length, the overall ride time remains the same.**

Rational for the proposed change is that it allows for flexibility for ride managers and veterinarians especially for 75 and 100 mile distances when a longer hold may be detrimental to the horses in completing the ride. The other advantage would be for those rides with an especially short loop, where the ride manager would like to start the ride with that short loop (an AERC best practice) but the distance is so small and pausing for a full hold seems less than reasonable. Disadvantages for this proposal is that it could affect horse welfare.

Please remember this change only affects Endurance - 50 miles and above. AERC rules to not have minimum hold times, and our current rule is more strict. No ride manager or head vet can be forced to use a "pulse and go," and our traditional "gate into a hold" is still the preferred hold at every hold.

Address comments and concerns to the UMECRA Board Members and the UMECRA Rules committee. Thank you. Dr. Wes Elford, Tony Troyer, Theresa Meyer

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## **Scholarships**

### **2020 Anne Ayala Scholarship**

AERC members from high school senior year through age 21 are invited to apply for the 2020 Anne Ayala Scholarship. Deadline for application: February 1, 2020.

Visit [www.aerc.org](http://www.aerc.org) for more information.



## **UMECRA 2020 Convention**

January 17th-19th

Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

**Details for hotel reservations and speakers will  
be in the October newsletter.**

## Where Will Your Next Ride Be?

2019 Ride Date	Ride Name	Location	State	RM Last Name	RM Email
8/31-9/2	White River Fall-Labor Day	Hesperia	MI	Kari Hanes	<a href="mailto:montaleearabians@gmail.com">montaleearabians@gmail.com</a>
9/7-8	Charity Cup	Pillager	MN	Darlene Molitor	<a href="mailto:valleycreek1@gmail.com">valleycreek1@gmail.com</a>
9/7-8	Keweenaw	Marquette	MI	Karen Jarvi	<a href="mailto:kjarvi0914@gmail.com">kjarvi0914@gmail.com</a>
9/7-8	Lincoln Trail	Kinmundy	IL	Ruth Stewart	<a href="mailto:rrstewart2002@yahoo.com">rrstewart2002@yahoo.com</a>
9/14-15	Colorama Classic	New Prospect	WI	Pam Cotton	<a href="mailto:hellsbellsfarm@gmail.com">hellsbellsfarm@gmail.com</a>
9/21-22	Run for the Ridge	**New Location**	MN	Sarah Maass	<a href="mailto:sarahmaass@hotmail.com">sarahmaass@hotmail.com</a>
9/28-29	Metro Park Express	Milford	MI	Mindy Nagy	<a href="mailto:melindasmyers@gmail.com">melindasmyers@gmail.com</a>
10/4-6	DRAW Festivus	Palmyra	WI	Sherry Aune	<a href="mailto:aunesherry@hotmail.com">aunesherry@hotmail.com</a>
10/12-13	Iron Oak	Arkdale	WI	Ruth Casserly	<a href="mailto:casserlytimruth@gmail.com">casserlytimruth@gmail.com</a>
10/12-13	Oak Leaf Run	Hamilton	MI	Barb Kurti	<a href="mailto:silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com">silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com</a>
10/18-19	Point Chaser	Theilman	MN	Holly Egerer	<a href="mailto:regerer287@aol.com">regerer287@aol.com</a>
10/26-27	AHDRA III - Big River	Keiths burg	IL	Jim Andriakos	<a href="mailto:cgswwimcoach@yahoo.com">cgswwimcoach@yahoo.com</a>

## Ride Results

Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-End HW			
1	Jeremy	Olson	She's High Maintenance
2	Guy	Worthington	PA Hi-Spirit
3	Kimberly Ann	Fosler	BZ Cojeseryn Sahar
4	Brandon	Brunner	TA Ballet Dancer
5	Amber	Erickson	Ophelia Kkan
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-End LW			
1	Wendy	Maas	Renegade Raja
2	Laurie	Henschel	Bataania KSR
3	Diane	Meinders	Yo Dusty
4	Jan	Worthington	Golden Lightning
5	Lindsay	Jackson Nichols	Nevermore SMP
6	Kristine	Jubeck	Hamlet
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-End JR			
1	Marissa	Kemp	Noslo's Diego
2	Lorelai	Haase	Herbee The Love Bug
3	Alice	Erickson	Rushcreek Calia
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-End LD			
1	Angel	Chmurynski	Desperados Legacy
2	Jon	Wagner	Mi Victory Dance
3	Tina	Williams	Sonny
4	Daniel	Pakes	Ko ko
5	Janette	Sasena	Caduceus Oriana
6	Pam	Cotton	SRB Reno Lytes
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-COMP HW			
1	Andrea	Pfeifer	Mytalisha's Titan
2	Sarah	Carlson	HMR Shhameus
3	Bonnie	Mielke	BNB Khrome Azrael
4	Laura	Savatski	Milo Rider
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-COMP LW			
1	Candy	Barbo	Psyche On Fire
2	Suzanne	Warren	CR Zohlaraaz
3	Sally	Hoff	Gloryius Trinity
4	Susan	Grossenbacher	NW Otono Blue Sky
5	Ruth	Casserly	Amir Sam PMR
6	Michele	Bjork	AM Suwanne Adrianna
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-NOVICE			
1	Misty	Haumschild	Star Bar Skip
2	Lisa	Barman	Karmen
3	Mary	Legge	Sidney
4	Devan	Lewer	John's Miss America
5	Samantha	Smith	A Klassy Treasure
6	Jennifer	Kualheim	Rollinghills Max
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/10/2019-12 MI DRIVE			
1	Alice	Hubert	K-Macaroni
2	Ray	Hubert	Lone Oak
3	Jeanne	White	Chessica

Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/11/2019-LD SR			
1	Samantha	Connor	Bey Gaalan
2	Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane
3	Linda	Jacobson	Mi Precious Ruby
4	Wendy	Maas	FT Firestorm
5	Jeremy	Olson	SA Jack of Hearts
6	Ellen	Olson	Maya Dancer
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/11/2019-LD JR			
1	Marissa	Kemp	SA Finnick
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/11/2019-COMP HW			
1	Andrea	Pfeifer	Mytalisha's Titan
2	Laura	Savatski	Murphy's Law
3	Amber	Hennig	PAA Baylyn Seer
Louise Reidel Memorial - 8/11/2019-COMP LW			
1	Sally	Hoff	Gloryius Trinity
2	Cathy Jo	Schreiber	JT
2	Lory	Kohls	Emeralds Phortune
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-END HW			
1	Jeremy	Olson	Ready to Roll
2	Guy	Worthington	JG Randie
3	Frank	Langholf	BZ Sierra Sunrise
4	Kathi	Soukup	GSF Frankie
5	Deb	Searle	WOA Ravens Premier +/
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-END LW			
1	Ellen	Olson	Naslo's Diego
2	Lori	Windows	Ella N Fires Jane Doe
3	Jan	Worthington	Dimitri KS
4	Sheila	Schneider	Gypsy B Miss Behavin
5	Leigh Ann	Sytsma	Heza Bright Future
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-END JR			
1	Marissa	Kemp	Maya Dancer
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-LD SR			
1	Jon	Wagner	Mi Victory Dance
2	Ann	DeLang	Chocolate Martini
3	Roberta	Harms	Lady Jane
4	Joshua	Mowrer	E F Sweet Clementine
5	Amy	Cornelius	KW Magnum Archie
6	Vera	Betzelberger	Starr Quest
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-COMP LW			
1	Ruth	Casserly	Amir Sam PMR
Rock River Charity Ride-8/17/2019-NOVICE			
1	Brittany	DeBord	Stormy's Night Magic
2	Linda	Pakes	Spicy



Rock River Charity Ride-8/18/2019-LD SR		
1	Jeremy Olson	
2	Sharon Crawford	Sundance
3	Nicole Mauser-Storer	Sosas Playboy at Sonset
4	Brooke Moeller	Rusty Chris-te
5	Kimberly Rosecrans	Magic
6	Terri Johnson	Misty

Rock River Charity Ride-8/18/2019-LD JR		
1	Marissa Kemp	SA Finnic
2	Lorelai Haase	Herbee The Love Bug

Rock River Charity Ride-8/18/2019-COMP LW		
1	Sally Hoff	Gloryius Trinity
2	Ruth Casserly	Amir Sam PMR

Rock River Charity Ride-8/18/2019-NOVICE		
1	Emily Simmons	Axel
2	Brittany DeBord	Stormy's Night Magic

Rock River Charity Ride-8/18/2019-12.5 DRIVE		
1	Tammy Carlo	Bucksnots Special Dark
2	Jeanne White	Chessica

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-LD SR 30M		
1	Kasey Corcoran	Sharif El Moniet
2	Sherry Legatt	Fortunette Echo
2	Jason Nicol	SBF Capaccino
4	Teresa Fett	Ice Falcon LRA
5	Peggy Pasillas	Remy
6	Sarah Kieser	NW Wildcard

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-LD JR 30M		
1	Joey Gaffaney	HJ Nikeshah

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-LD SR 25M		
1	Diane Schermerhorn	Nasar IBN Moniet
2	Kasey Corcoran	Shayla
3	Leslie Lloyd	Spot
4	Abby Gieseke	Fancy Zara
5	Sarah Kieser	NW Wildcard
5	Maria Enge	CRF Lady Supreme
5	Peggy Pasillas	Remy

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-LD JR 25M		
1	Adin Esqueda	Mustang Salli

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-COMP HW		
1	Carmen Steuck	Phoenix

Run for the Cactus-8/17/2019-COMP LW		
1	Candy Barbo	Psyche On Fire
1	Michele Bjork	AM Suwanne Adrianna
3	Diane Merz	Sterling Illusion
3	Jodi Johannessen	Rushcreek Deb
5	Lynn Reichert	W H Procrastinator
6	Karrie Halbur	Missy

Run for the Cactus-8/18/2019-LD SR			
1	Teresa Fett	Ice Falcon LRA	
2	Michelle Fedewa	Rose	
2	Kaitlyn Fedewa	Apache MN	
6	Sue Deike	Cash	

Run for the Cactus-8/18/2019-LD JR			
1	Sophie Gustafson	Tryggr	

Run for the Cactus-8/18/2019-COMP HW			
1	Dale Lunde	Mattingley Hour Glass	

Run for the Cactus-8/18/2019-COMP LW			
1	Victoria Robison	SC Zhivago	

Run for the Cactus-8/18/2019-NOVICE			
1	Karess Knudtson	Banner	
2	Rachel Schoelerman	Apollo	
2	Katie Vogl	My Name Is Bob	
4	Mary Mulholland	Ouch My Stitches	
5	Karrie Halbur	Ali	
6	Aubry Knudtson	Nic	

## Limited Distance Points Change Proposal

The UMECRA Board of Directors (BoD) received a proposal in November 2018 suggesting a change in the value of points awarded for placing and increasing the number of placings in Limited Distance Rides (Table 1). The concept is intended to enhance the competition and rewards among those riders who typically finish an LD ride outside of the top six placings. As indicated in the information in Table 1, the new proposal would award placings 1<sup>st</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> place with points descending from 15 points for first place to 6 points for tenth place and all other finishers receiving 5 points for a completion. Table 2 shows the current point values being used now with respective placings.

### **Table 1-Proposed      Table 2-Current (both tables based on a 25-mile ride)**

1 <sup>st</sup> = 15 pts.	1 <sup>st</sup> = 11pts.
2 <sup>nd</sup> = 14 pts.	2 <sup>nd</sup> = 10 pts.
3 <sup>rd</sup> = 13pts.	3 <sup>rd</sup> = 9 pts.
4 <sup>th</sup> = 12 pts.	4 <sup>th</sup> = 8 pts.
5 <sup>th</sup> = 11 pts.	5 <sup>th</sup> = 7 pts.
6 <sup>th</sup> = 10 pts.	6 <sup>th</sup> = 6 pts.
7 <sup>th</sup> = 9 pts.	Completions = 5 pts.
8 <sup>th</sup> = 8 pts.	
9 <sup>th</sup> = 7 pts.	
10 <sup>th</sup> = 6 pts	
Completions = 5 pts.	

By comparing the proposed points table to the one currently being used, it shows how the proposed change would increase the value of the placings by four points for each placing from first place thru seventh place. The remaining placings, 8<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup>, would be increased by 3 points for 8<sup>th</sup>, 2 for 9<sup>th</sup> and 1 point for 10<sup>th</sup> place. The change in point values and the addition of 7<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> placing, should make more riders finishing in those positions more competitive for year-end placings and awards. The proposal is being offered as an alternative to having weight divisions in LD and attempts to offer more incentive to a larger number of riders typically entering LD rides. The greater number of entries in limited distance rides have generally been the largest source of income for ride managers. It is not uncommon to see as many as twenty or more riders entered in an LD ride. In our current system, only the top six riders are recognized with placings and higher point totals for those placings while the remaining finishers are all given a completion, all receiving five points regardless of their placing after sixth place. This proposal attempts to recognize more riders, like

weight divisions do in Comp and Endurance, without an additional cost to the ride manager associated with adding weight divisions. There is no requirement to award any additional ribbons in this proposal. The current practice of awarding ribbons to first thru sixth place could remain the same. Ride managers would simply announce rider names for the placings for seventh thru tenth along with those receiving completions.

As stated earlier, this proposal attempts to reward more riders that are already competing in limited distance rides by awarding more points to those riders who finish in the top ten versus just the top six (particularly seventh thru tenth place). The value of points respective to the riders finishing placement would also increase the opportunities for year-end awards to a larger portion of those same riders. The proposal would particularly increase the competition among riders who are now finishing the year, in our current system, in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> place through the 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> place. In the current system, many of these same riders (those who typically finish outside of the top six in a single event, or the top ten at the end of the year) would potentially need to over-ride their equine to either place in a single event or to place in the top ten for year-end awards. The proposal appears to have the potential to reward and increase the competition within the larger group of conservative riders and more importantly, those who are comfortable and capable of riding lots of miles with their individual equines.

The proposal doesn't require any changes to the point systems of regional or state organizations and since AERC only gives mileage awards for horse and rider teams participating in limited distance rides, there is no impact or changes required on the recording of results to AERC. However, adjusting UMECRA's current data-base and spreadsheets our Points Keeper uses now and the potential impact the proposal would have on other awards (i.e.: High Point Senior, Senior Horse) would seem to be the biggest challenges to this proposal.

Tables 3 and 4 show how points would be assessed for 30-mile and 35-mile events if the proposal were approved.



**Table 3 – 30-mile distance**      **Table 4 – 35- miles**

1 <sup>st</sup> = 17.2 pts.	1 <sup>st</sup> = 19.4 pts.
2 <sup>nd</sup> = 16	2 <sup>nd</sup> = 18
3 <sup>rd</sup> = 14.8	3 <sup>rd</sup> = 16.6
4 <sup>th</sup> = 13.6	4 <sup>th</sup> = 15.2
5 <sup>th</sup> = 12.4	5 <sup>th</sup> = 13.8
6 <sup>th</sup> = 11.2	6 <sup>th</sup> = 12.4
7 <sup>th</sup> = 10	7 <sup>th</sup> = 11
8 <sup>th</sup> = 9	8 <sup>th</sup> = 10
9 <sup>th</sup> = 8	9 <sup>th</sup> = 9
10 <sup>th</sup> = 7	10 <sup>th</sup> = 8
Completion = 6 pts.....	Completions = 7pts.

Questions, comments and suggestions about the proposal to change the amount of placings from six to ten and increasing the point values can be forwarded to any BoD Representative or directly to UMECRA President Jon Wagner at: [jwagner288@wi.rr.com](mailto:jwagner288@wi.rr.com)

**Riders’ Rep Corner**

***Vets look out for my horse, but who's looking out for me?***

A Ride Manager’s (RM) role is to offer the ride. Kudos to them for expending significant effort, time, and planning to make arrangements to hold the event! They are obligated to AERC, UMECRA, local Ride associations, vets, food providers, park or private land owners; awards have been purchased; sanctioning and insurance fees have been paid. RMs have significant investment and are committed to offer the Ride once it has been published. Rides may be cancelled or relocated due to severe weather or trail damage with advance notice when possible.

In spite of all their great efforts to plan and prepare a safe event for all riders, it is NOT the RMs responsibility to look out for YOU. As adults, this may seem obvious, but it is a misunderstanding to assume that because a Ride is offered, continued during a storm, falling temps and precipitation, rising heat/humidity or post-storm that it is safe to do so. Riders must use their own good sense and judgment to decide if it is safe for them and their horses to start or continue. RMs

may not have Internet access to changing weather forecasts in remote areas or parks, just as Riders may not. Riders compete with various levels of experience, history, horse abilities, etc. Conditions that are manageable for one may not be so (safe) for you. You have to decide for yourself according to you and your horse’s abilities.

Riders sign a liability waiver when registering; read it thoroughly. It’s the Rider’s responsibility to ensure her own safety and the safety of her equine partner. Availability of emergency services for horse and rider are planned by RMs, but it is not their responsibility to protect you from Nature or poor judgment. Ride your own ride; look out for yourself and your horse.

**P.S.** Once vetted in, Riders are required to pay the Ride fee even if weather interrupts your plan (e.g. a storm overnight), or if you decide not to ride for any personal reason (Rider Option). Ride Your Own Ride!

Lynda Zimmerman  
UMECRA Rider Representative 2018-2019

**Have you checked out the new AERC incentive program?**

Can you ride one more ride this year?

Easy – just ride a Sunday ride or try a new ride that you haven't been to before!



A fun incentive program for 2018/2019 AERC members who ride (at least) one more AERC ride in 2019 than the previous season. Click to find out all the details, or give the AERC staff a call: 866 -271 -2372.

**Come on UMECRA –**  
**you can do it**  
**– Ride one more ride**  
**than you did in 2018!!**  
**You still have time!**

## Praise for the Horse

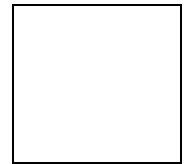
Praise, praise, praise – remember the positive reward when teaching something new or just working with or riding your horse. Horses want to please; appreciate their effort and make it easy for them to succeed. Cultivate the relationship aspect with your horse; make it a happy experience for him to be with you. We're always teaching or reinforcing former practice, like it or not. Work "with" the horse rather than demanding obedience. Any behavior problem may be a communication issue rather than outright disobedience; give them the benefit of the doubt.

Horses learn in small increments; break the task down into smaller pieces to help them grasp the new concept. Whether you're teaching trailering or standing for the mounting block, you may need to spread the lesson over several days, quitting when they master each step, and praising them for their effort and progress however small. Introduce the topic, repeat, review 3x (not repeatedly "drill") and review again the next time (or several times) before moving on to the next step. Then end the lesson with a task they already know so you can end with praise. Set them up for success with a positive approach and vibes. If you give a treat, make sure it's a reward after the learning session ends vs. a bribe. Even horses who learn quickly love the positive affirmation of doing the "right thing."

Ride Your Own Ride!

Lynda Zimmerman

UMECRA Rider Representative 2018-2019



Deadline for Next Newsletter:  
5<sup>th</sup> of each month Send  
news to:

[umecranews@gmail.com](mailto:umecranews@gmail.com)



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