

UMECRA COVID PROTOCOL PROPOSAL

The UMECRA Board of Directors has passed, by a majority roll-call vote, the following proposal: ***“UMECRA will adopt and use the same sanctioning standards and Covid guidelines that AERC has developed for the approval of the re-sanctioning of Endurance rides. UMECRA will apply these same standards to any Ride Manager that is still planning to hold their individual ride events as originally scheduled, or any rides choosing to alter their original ride events and/or dates, including any potential sanctioning of Competitive Trail only rides. Any UMECRA sanctioned 2020 ride that actually occurs, shall be scored and recorded using the points and miles system of recording results as typically done in a normal ride season. Results of any held rides should be forwarded to the UMECRA Points Keeper as has been done in past seasons. Rider fees should also be forwarded to UMECRA per past practice. The rider fees collected from any 2020 held ride, will be applied directly to any 2020 end of year awards, said awards and awards program to be developed by the UMECRA Board of Directors based on the final status of fees collected and the actual participation numbers of riders/drivers.”***

It is the Board's hope that this proposal will provide at least an outline of an action plan allowing all of us to move forward with the remaining 2020 ride season. The unprecedented circumstances involving the Covid situation, and all of the differing state by state government restrictions, continues to make it extremely difficult to predict anything with much certainty. UMECRA's BoD believes that AERC's standards for re-sanctioning rides is reasonable and that those same standards can be used for any changes to its own rides, including any Competitive Trail only rides. While a majority of the board is comfortable with the use of AERC's pandemic guidelines to meet the current Covid plan requirements, the entire board generally sees those guidelines as a starting place for RM's to safely plan for their ride. RM's are encouraged to add guidelines specific to their individual rides as necessary. The board also feels that it is extremely important that those guidelines or requirements put in place for the specific ride be publicly published prior to the ride actually happening to assist potential participants in their decision to attend the ride.

This proposal also allows for adjustments to be made to any awards or awards program based on the actual outcome of the ride season. If we are fortunate to actually have some rides take place, the board feels some type of recognition should be given, but the scope and nature of that recognition should be in alignment with the overall scope of the actual ride season results. At this point, we have no idea how many rides will actually be held nor do we know what the participation in those rides may be, making it very difficult to adhere to the rules and minimum requirements of a “normal year” of competition for an award.

The UMECRA Board of Directors is asking all Ride Managers to please vote on the above proposal by June 12, 2020. If the majority agrees with the proposed plan, it will be used to guide us all through the rest of any potential ride season.

(Board of Directors Roll-Call vote results: voting yea; Nicole Mauser-Storer, Tony Troyer, Sandra Wright, Sarah Maass, Peggy Pasillas, Bill Suskey, Max Bernsdorf, Kim Fosler and Jon Wagner. Voting nay; Theresa Meyer, Laurie Henschel, Jen Moore and Lynda Zimmerman.)