



FIRECRACKER FLING

& AHA Region 10 50-Endurance and 25-Competitive Championship Rides

→ AHA Sweepstakes prize money available for those enrolled in the program ←

Sanctioned by AERC, UMECRA, DRAW, AHDRA & AHA

Come join us at Big Valley Ranch (Avoca, WI) and compete in the beautiful hilly landscape of Southwest Wisconsin's Driftless Region!

Friday July 5 and Saturday July 6, 2024

Event	Start times		Fees ⁺ (Senior / Junior)
	Friday July 5	Saturday July 6	
50-mile Endurance Ride*	Dawn	Dawn	Sr \$95 / Jr \$60
Region 10 50-mile Endurance Championship Ride [^]	Dawn		Sr \$120 / Jr \$85
25-mile Limited Distance Ride*	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.	Sr \$85 / Jr \$40
25-mile Competitive Ride	7:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	Sr \$75 / Jr \$40
Region 10 25-mile Competitive Championship Ride [^]		7:00 a.m.	Sr \$100 / Jr \$65
10-mile Novice Ride [#]		11:00 a.m.	Sr \$50 / Jr \$30

*Non-AERC members add a \$20 surcharge for all LD and Endurance events.

[^]AHA Regional Rides: Riders and owners must hold AHA competition cards. Horses must have Arabian or Half-Arabian/AngloArabian papers. Read AHA Handbook Chapters 16 & 17.

[#]Novice meeting and mini-clinic at 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

⁺Non-AHA only: Individuals riding both days (on any equine, any non-AHA event) will receive a \$20 discount for day 2.

Ride Managers: **Beth Frieders**
315 N. 2nd Street
Platteville, WI 53818
cell: 608-330-2719
bethfrieders@yahoo.com

Laurie Henschel (& ride secretary)
N8969 Co. Rd. OO
Clintonville, WI 54929
cell: 715-250-3242
partner.up4@gmail.com

Veterinarians: **Dr. Jennifer Lorenz** (head vet) and **Dr. Rae (Mayer) Birr**.

Timer: **Bruce Birr**

All VET CHECKS will be in camp.

HELMETS are required.

All DOGS must be on a leash at all times.

Pre-Entries: We are *requesting early entries* (not required) – if nothing else just send an email or text so we have a head count for the potluck. See UMECRA website for registration form (https://www.umecra.com/BylawsAndRules/Ride%20Entry%20Form_2021.pdf). Mail or email signed **pre-entries to Laurie Henschel**. NEGATIVE CURRENT COGGINS are required for all equines – please provide a copy with ride management and send a copy to Big Valley Ranch (as part of their camping agreement). **Make CHECKS out to Beth Frieders** (all checks will be held until ride date); PayPal and Venmo accepted (accounts under “bethfrieders@yahoo.com”).

See the ride’s Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089710975443>) for the AHA ride registration form, and to receive updates about the ride (weather, etc.).

Potluck: Friday evening before the awards ceremony. Management will provide grilled hotdogs / brats and hamburgers, buns, and mustard and ketchup – please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. If you feel like being creative, consider whipping up something that fits with our ride theme: a whimsical fusion of **4th of July meets Hawaiian Luau!** If you have special food requirements, contact management (we can grill other options for you).

Trail Conditions: This well-maintained private horse trail system offers ample cool shade as you maneuver these technical twisty trails through the woods that take you up to ridge tops and down to valley bottoms, across bridges, fording numerous streams, and meander along several grassy meadows that provide lush grazing stops. Footing is mainly packed dirt and grass, with a few short sections of gravel and a few rocky spots on hills (hoof protection is encouraged, especially for the 50-mile distance). Conditions can get slippery after recent rains. PLENTY of water is available along all trails (crew is not necessary).

Ride Location and Camping:

Big Valley Ranch, 7488 Leaches Crossing Road, Avoca, WI, 53506 www.bigvalleyranch.com
608-977-1389 ← NEW number! bvalleyranch@gmail.com

AMENITIES: Level grassy camp area, electric and non-electric options. Port-a-potties, plus a single-shower bath house; covered electrified pavilion; a large group bonfire spot. Several water spigots & manure pits. You must use their large fenced paddocks or barn stalls (stallions must stay in the barn) - 1 equine per paddock or stall; *no high ties, no portable pens*. You may tie to the trailer for grooming, saddling and during vet holds. Plenty of grassy hand-grazing areas. Large outdoor arena and round pen (perfect for rolling!). There is no shade in camp – pop-up shade tents are recommended.

RESERVE & PAY for your **campsite, paddock/barn stall(s)** and weekend **trail pass** directly with BVR by phone or online. ***You must reserve your site ahead of time; reservations close at 5pm on Weds July 3rd**. See BVR website for cancellation policy. BVR does not allow day-riding, all participants must reserve a site and paddock(s) for at least one night. As part of their camping agreement, be sure to complete their online waiver for all riders, and email or mail to them a copy of Negative Coggins. IMPORTANT NOTES: When making your reservation, **please let BVR know you are participating in this event** (so they can keep track of “general” vs. “us crazy distance” folks). Additionally, *for our riders only*, BVR is willing to waive their requirement to provide them with a Health Certificate for out-of-state equines.

Contact Beth Frieders if you have a health issue and need a campsite near the vet check area, otherwise all paddocks and camp areas will be assigned in order of your arrival.