



# FIRECRACKER FLING

Sanctioned by AERC and UMECRA

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

**Saturday June 28 and Sunday June 29, 2025**

Event	Start times		Fees <sup>+</sup> (Senior / Junior)
	Saturday June 28	Sunday June 29	
50-mile Endurance Ride*	6:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	Sr \$95 / Jr \$60
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
10-mile Introductory Ride <sup>#</sup>	10:30 a.m.		Sr \$40 / Jr \$20
10-mile Novice Ride <sup>#</sup>		10:30 a.m.	Sr \$40 / Jr \$20

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

<sup>#</sup>Meeting and mini-clinic at 9:30 a.m. each morning for those who cannot attend the rider meeting the evening before.

<sup>+</sup> Individuals riding both days (on any equine, any event) will receive a \$20 discount for day 2.

Ride Manager:

**Beth Frieders**

315 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Platteville, WI 53818

cell: 608-330-2719

[bethfrieders@yahoo.com](mailto:bethfrieders@yahoo.com)

Co-Manager:

**Marianne Guilfoyle**

18870 Cty Hwy BR

Richland Center, WI 53581

cell: 608-739-4142

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

Secretary:

**Jane Kirkeide**

4956 N. Silkwood Circle

Appleton, WI 54913

cell: 920-850-9066

[jlkirkeide@gmail.com](mailto:jlkirkeide@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.

NEGATIVE CURRENT COGGINS for all equines attending (even if not competing) must be provided to ride management (paper or electronic).

Pre-Entries: We are *requesting early registrations* (pre-payment 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](https://www.umecra.com/BylawsAndRules/Ride%20Entry%20Form%202021.pdf)). Mail or email signed pre-entries and Coggins to Jane Kirkeide – *if you email an entry, please bring a printed copy with you.* **Make CHECKS out to Beth Frieders** (checks will be held until ride date).

Potluck: Saturday evening before the awards ceremony. Management will provide grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, buns, mustard and ketchup – please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. 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 hilly 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 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](http://www.bigvalleyranch.com)  
**608-977-1389** [bvalleyranch@gmail.com](mailto: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 paddocks or barn stalls (stallions must stay in the barn); *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. The quality of cell service depends on one’s carrier.

BVR DOES NOT ALLOW DAY-RIDING, all participants must reserve campsite(s) and paddock(s) for at least one night.

→ We will be a **PRIVATE EVENT** in 2025 if we get at least 20 campers ←

→ **NEW CAMPING RESERVATION PROCEDURES** ←

- 1) **All guests (riders and non-riders) must complete an annual BVR waiver** (<https://bigvalleyranch.com/waiver-form/>). A limited number of printed copies will be available at the ride registration table – PLEASE complete this online if possible.
- 2) **Make all other reservations and payments directly through Beth Frieders.** I NEED AT LEAST 10 CAMPERS RESERVED BEFORE MAY 1 OR WE LOSE THE PRIVATE EVENT STATUS (and chaos may ensue) – Please reserve with Beth ASAP! The latest you can reserve with Beth is Weds June 25<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in attending after that cut-off **\*\*might\*\*** be accommodated; a few details with BVR are still being worked out, so check with Beth
  - a. **Campsite**: Non-Electric with or without generator (\$35); Electric (\$45/night).  
\*Campsites will be assigned to best fit everyone into the campground. Please let Beth know if you have preferences for camping location, camping neighbors, or need to be close to the vet check area for medical reasons.
  - b. **Stabling**: Fenced **paddock** (\$20/night) – you may have up to two horses in one ~20x20 paddock (you may use your own materials to split the paddock into two smaller pens if desired). If you plan to bring more than two horses, talk with Beth Frieders about using one of the limited number of larger-sized paddocks located across the creek by the big red barn. Alternate option (required for stallions): **stall in barn** (\$35/night).
  - c. **Trail pass**: required for all riders (\$25/person for the weekend)
  - d. **TAX**: 5.5% WI sales tax will be charged on all BVR fees.