Motion Name : Limited Distance rule modification  
Proposing Committee: Rules  
Date of Motion : November 12 teleconference call  
Classification of Motion Request : rule change  

Proposed Motion :  
Whereas existing LD finish/completion rules often result in confusion and rushing to meet time  
and veterinary/pulse criteria,  
Resolved to change the following rules: (deletions to current rule book are noted with cross-out  
line, additions with bold, italic )  

1) Rule L3:  
L3. The ride must provide a specific amount of time (total competition time) which will include  
all stops and holds, and within which competitors must complete the ride to qualify for placing  
or completion.  
L3.1 There may be no minimum time limit for completion.  
L3.2 Course completion time, which is the maximum time competitors are allowed to complete the specified course from start to finish, will be according to the Limited Distance chart in Appendix A.  
L3.3 Riding time is the time used by competitors to complete the course and reach criteria,  
excluding all hold times. This is the time used for AERC ride results.  
L3.4 At the finish, ride time of the competitor continues until a pre-set judging criteria of 60  
heartbeats per minute or less is met. (Finishing time is recorded as the time at which the rider  
asks for and subsequently meets this preset criteria.) There is no marked finish line on the  
course that is used to determine placing or completion.  

2) and change the Limited Distance chart in Appendix A to read: Limited Distance Maximum Course Time Hours:Minutes  
(time rider must be off the marked course, including all Holds and Checks)  
and  
3) Rule L4  
L4. Completion requires meeting all of the criteria used for endurance rides with the following exception/additions:  

L4. Completion requires meeting all of the criteria used for endurance rides with the exception of maximum pulse criteria upon completion of the course (see L4.1.2)  

L4.1 All equines must stand a mandatory post-ride evaluation within 30 minutes of crossing the marked finish line. Riders may present their equines for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the 30-minute period. An equine that does not meet the established criteria within 30 minutes of arrival time shall be disqualified. Once a completed equine has passed the post-ride examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons.  
L4.1.2 The equine must meet a reasonable pulse recovery based on ambient conditions within 30 minutes of arrival at all control points. Maximum pulse criteria upon completion of the course is 60 beats per minute, and must be met within 30 minutes of arrival at the finish line. Respiration should be evaluated on its own merit. Ambient temperature and humidity effects need to be recognized and their effects considered.  

Implementation plan : Article in Endurance News, immediate notification of all members via email.