



December 2022

Dear Ride Managers,

The 2022 ride year has come to a close and AERC riders rode over 404,000 miles throughout the different regions. Your diligence in working with landowners, the Government, etc. in order to host super rides over beautiful terrain for the membership and all the effort you put forth to hold rides is appreciated by the board, the membership and the office.

AERC's link to information pertaining to SafeSport is aerc.org/safesport. Each ride should have one designated individual (it can be the ride manager) as the SafeSport contact that remains onsite during the ride and that information should be made known to all of your riders in case they have concerns while attending your ride. In order to be the SafeSport contact you must take the SafeSport course online at a cost of \$20. If you have taken the course previously, the refresher course is available for \$10 and you can find information through the page above.

AERC drug fees for the 2023 season will remain at \$6 per rider per distance outside the State of California, so please take that into account when setting your pricing this season. Please note that the State of California will be charging \$14 per rider for the 2023 ride season. For those sanctioning in Canada, if your ride falls under the jurisdiction of Equine Canada, no drug fees need to be sent to the AERC Office, however, if your ride is AERC sanctioned only, drug fees must be forwarded to AERC with your ride results. Contact the office with any questions.

With the onset of the new season, we know you have started plans for all phases of your ride(s). The Young Rider Division is in full swing for 2023, so AERC members who are between 16 and 21 years of age as of the first day of the ride season (December 1) and any Juniors under 16 years of age who have been granted permission to ride unsponsored per Rule 10.3, are included in this new division. Also, AERC realizes measuring trail is extremely difficult and we ask that you make certain your ride mileage is correct. When your ride is sanctioned, it is expected that your distances are as stated and your riders expect to attend a 50-mile ride and ride a 50-mile ride. AERC is here to assist you if you have any problems with your ride mileage. Feel free to contact your sanctioning director and/or regional and at large directors with questions or concerns.

Don't forget to remind folks during your pre-ride meeting about any changes made on ride day that may differ from your ride flyer information. The link to sanction upcoming rides online is: <https://aerc.org/compete/sanction-a-ride/>

Again, thank you for a wonderful ride season. We know things can sometimes be difficult when working out permits, etc., and appreciate all your hard work. We know the membership is looking forward to 2023 with much anticipation. See you on the trail(s)!

Don't hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Your AERC Office Staff