

**45th Annual Fire Mountain Endurance Ride**  
**January 12, 13,14, 2024**  
**Sponsored By Valley Riders, Ridgecrest, California**  
AERC Sanctioned

**Base Camp:** Base Camp opens at noon on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. It is located at the corner of San Bernardino Rd (aka County Line Rd) and Springer St.(double electrical pole line along the road), southeast of Ridgecrest, California. It is the site of the Valley Riders Equestrian Center and is currently undeveloped so camping is primitive (no electricity). There are accommodations, grocery stores and gas close by. Potable water will be provided. Porta Potties will be available. Base camp is at 2,500 feet.

**Check In:** Pre-Veterinary check-in will be on Thursday from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Base Camp. Or when the vet arrives.

**Ride Meeting/Start Times:** Ride meetings will be held at 6:30 PM. Ride information will be available at check in, including maps, trail descriptions, and ride information.

**The Trail:** The trails took a hit this summer during heavy rains. Trails have water damage such as large ruts, rocky areas, and sandy washes. Hoof protection is required. Riders will travel on trails and dirt roads in the foothills of Rademacher Mountains southeast of Ridgecrest. Day 2 (Saturday) trail goes east to the Trona Pinnacles where there is an out vet check. LD riders will finish here. We hope to have enough horse trailers available to shuttle you and your horse back to camp. Hay will be provided at all vet checks and at some water stops. This trail is considered moderate and considered good for beginners with some mild climbs offering great views of the Indian Wells Valley. You will be riding on Bureau of Land Management trails. **NO SMOKING ON THE TRAIL.**

**Awards, Food and Fees:** Entry fee includes the ride, vet exams, AERC fees, drug test fees, BLM land use fees, and awards. Water and hay for the horses will be available during the ride. Awards will be given after final completion. **We provide dinner on Friday, brunch on Saturday, and a soup/chili kitchen on Sunday.** A TACO VENDOR TRUCK WILL BE OFFERED ON SATURDAY EVENING. \$20 PLATES.

**Ride Rules:** This is an AERC sanctioned ride and all rules will be enforced. See AERC rules at [aerc.org](http://aerc.org)

1. Juniors must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.
2. There will be no ties.
3. The same horse and rider must pass all control points and stay on the marked trail in order to qualify for awards and completion credit.
4. Any top ten finishers who want to be considered for Best Condition must present their horse for the Best Condition examination within the time frame announced by the head vet.
5. Loose dogs in camp may result in rider disqualification. Please ensure your dogs are on a leash or kept within your rig.
6. Any abusive behavior or violation of any rule by a rider or associated crew will be subject to disciplinary action (i.e., disqualification and/or being asked to leave by ride management or a vet).
7. All horses must meet a pulse of 60 beats per minute within thirty minutes of crossing the finish line in order to meet Fit to Continue criteria and remain eligible for completion or placing.

**INTRODUCTORY FUN RIDE:**

1. Pre-ride and post ride vet checks are required for completion.
2. This is not a race and no timings or placings will be given, just completion awards.
3. No AERC membership fee is required for the 15 mile introductory ride.
4. Juniors can ride for the same fee but must wear an ASTM helmet whenever mounted and be accompanied at all times by their adult sponsor.

\*\*\*\*\*If you want to register via email please contact Gretchen at [ridge.ryder80@gmail.com](mailto:ridge.ryder80@gmail.com), Make sure you have all your information included in your email.

## Directions to Fire Mountain ride camp

\*\*\*DIRT ROADS HAVE BEEN WATER DAMAGED. USE CAUTION WHEN TRAVELING ON DIRT ROADS GETTING TO VALLEY RIDERS PROPERTY\*\*\*\*\*

From the Inland Empire:

- North on I-15 to Highway 395.
- Continue North on Highway 395 approximately 90 miles to the Ridgecrest turnoff (China Lake Blvd).
- Continue north on China Lake Blvd to second stop light (Bowman road) at Walmart. Turn right.

### **FROM BOWMAN ROAD:**

- Turn right onto San Bernardino County Line road when pavement ends. **Make sure you stay left of center dirt median.** Continue on this dirt road past all homes. Ride camp will be on your right at corner of Springer and County line road

From Los Angeles:

- North on I-5 to Highway 14 heading towards Palmdale and Lancaster.
- Continue North on Highway 14 approximately 120 miles to Highway 178 East (towards Inyokern, Ridgecrest and NAWS China Lake).
- Continue East on 178 (Inyokern Road) approximately 14 miles to China Lake Blvd. Turn right and follow this to 178 East towards Trona (Ridgecrest Blvd)
- Turn right onto Richmond Street (Fairgrounds) Follow this until it dead ends at Bowman.
- Turn Left onto Bowman and follow above directions to ride camp

From Points North:

- Where Highway 395 forks to the left (Highway 14 begins) take Highway 395 to the second Inyokern exit (Highway 178/Inyokern Road).
- Continue East on 178 (Inyokern Road) approximately 14 miles to China Lake Blvd. Turn right and follow this to 178 East towards Trona (Ridgecrest Blvd) where you will turn left
- Turn right onto Richmond Street (Fairgrounds) Follow this until it dead ends at Bowman.
- Turn left onto Bowman and follow above directions

Ride Management Use Only

Distance: \_\_\_\_\_ RIDER NO: \_\_\_\_\_

**45<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Mountain Ride Entry Form**

**Rider** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **AERC#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_

**State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone( )** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division: (Rider weight plus tack)** \_\_\_\_\_ **FWT (under 160)** \_\_\_\_\_ **LWT (160-185)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **MWT (186-210)** \_\_\_\_\_ **HWT (211+)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Junior**

**Day 1 Information: WHAT DISTANCE?**      **50**    **30**    **Intro Ride**

**Horse Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **AERC #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Breed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex** \_\_\_\_\_ **Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

**Day 2 Information: WHAT DISTANCE?**      **50**    **25**    **Intro Ride**

**Horse Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **AERC #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Breed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex** \_\_\_\_\_ **Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

**Day 3 Information: WHAT DISTANCE?**      **50**    **30**    **Intro Ride**

**Horse Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **AERC #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Breed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex** \_\_\_\_\_ **Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

Calculate:

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of days x \$130 per day.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*Riding all 3 days subtract a total of \$30 .....\$ - \_\_\_\_\_

Junior rider and Young Rider discount. Subtract (-\$100) .....\$- \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member (+\$20 per day) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory Ride (\$85 per day) AERC fees not needed/no discounts .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*A \$20 late fee will be added if registering on 1/8/2024 or later.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed (VENMO available – contact Gretchen 775-376-6318)**      **\$** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Valley Riders** – Mail to: **FM c/o Valley Riders, PO Box 84, Ridgecrest, CA 93556**

**Refund Policy**

**No show, no refund.** Pre-entry is requested. A \$30 will be retained if cancellation notice is received after **January 7, 2024**. No refunds will be given after January 10. Refund (minus \$30) upon failure to meet pre-ride criteria, to be mailed after ride. If you vet in sound, there is no refund.

## AGREEMENT AND RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, in consideration of the acceptance of this entry  
(print name of rider)  
hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Fire Mountain ride. I, the undersigned, in consideration of accepting this entry, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release the Fire Mountain ride, it's sponsors, and all individual members thereof and all other persons regardless of their capacity in any way connected with the event described herein, their representatives, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns from any and all right, claim or liability for damages, or for any and all claims of any kind and nature that I might have. Further, I do hereby acknowledge that said release will extend to any accidents, damages, or claims arising out of my entry caused by my own act or the acts of anyone or any animal within my control. I do further acknowledge that I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING AND KNOW AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS HEREIN.

RIDERS SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### ALL RIDERS UNDER THE AGE OF 18, PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST SIGN BELOW

#### INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND RELEASE OF A MINOR (To be filled out only if a minor is riding)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent or legal guardian of the minor  
(print parent or guardian name)

\_\_\_\_\_ that will be attending/riding the Fire Mountain ride.  
(print minors name)

I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian of, for and in consideration of my child's participation in the Fire Mountain ride, do hereby forever release the Fire Mountain ride, it's sponsors, and all individual members thereof and all other persons regardless of their capacity in any way connected with the event described herein, of any and all claims, demands, suits, or liabilities which otherwise arise by virtue of injury to or occasioned by my child or any horse under such child's direction and control. This release and indemnification shall be continual and shall remain in full force and effect until revoked by me by document in writing, delivered to the ride manager of the Fire Mountain ride. I do further authorize any officer, director, or supervisory personnel of the Fire Mountain ride to consent on my behalf to any emergency medical treatment which may be required for our child, and do agree to indemnify and hold harmless anyone giving such consent. I DO FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING AND KNOW AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS HEREIN. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

SIGNATURE (Parent/Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH OF MINOR \_\_\_\_\_

### ALL JUNIORS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 (as of Dec 1, 2022) MUST BE SPONSORED

Junior riders under the age of 16, as of Dec 1, 2022, must be sponsored by an adult (at least 21 years of age) and stay within 1 minute of said sponsor during the whole course of the ride. All Junior riders are required to wear an approved helmet. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

I have carefully read this agreement. I understand that it is a binding contract between the Fire Mountain ride, Valley Riders and me and that it requires me to indemnify these entities against all claims for injuries to the minor listed above. I have full permission from the parents and/or legal guardian of said minor as listed above in acceptance of this entry.

Sponsor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# DESERT SANDS TRIPLE CROWN 2024

## FEATURED RIDES:

FIRE MT RIDE on JANUARY 12, 13 & 14, 2024

FOSSIL FALLS on FEBRUARY 10, 2024

20 MULE TEAM RIDE on March 2, 2024

## Desert Sands Triple Crown Requirements:

- The same horse & rider team must enter and complete at each featured ride
- Riders must choose whether their mileage will be LD or full distance. A horse/rider team cannot interchange the distance to qualify
- The same horse & rider team must complete 1 day at each featured ride
  - Fire Mt ride must be a 30 mile ride if you are riding Limited Distance (LD)
- Each contestant and horse must be currently registered with AERC

## Fees and Prizes:

Register before day 1 of Fire Mt \$40

Register before day 1 of Fossil Falls \$60

Register before day 1 of 20 Mule Team \$75

Completion prize for Desert Sands Triple Crown:

LD series is a half bale bag, embroidered with the horse's and rider's names.

Endurance series is a crew bag or jacket, embroidered with the horse's and rider's names

Checks payable to Gretchen Montgomery

## Entry Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AERC# \_\_\_\_\_

Email address:

Horse: \_\_\_\_\_ AERC# \_\_\_\_\_

Specify Distance you will be riding to qualify: LD or endurance miles

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# DESERT SANDS TRIPLE CROWN COMPETITION

- ❖ WILL YOU START WITH YOUR FIRE MT COMPLETION?
- ❖ WILL YOU ALSO RIDE THE FOSSIL FALLS RIDE? 20 MULE TEAM?
- ❖ YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR THE TRIPLE CROWN
- ❖ SIGN UP!!! YOU COULD WIN AN EMBROIDERED HALF BALE BAG, CREW BAG or JACKET

