



AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE
"To Finish Is To Win"

December 2024

Dear Ride Managers,

The 2024 ride year has come to a close and AERC riders rode over 398,000 miles throughout the different regions. Thank you for your diligence in working with landowners, government agencies etc., in order to host super rides over beautiful terrain for the membership. All the effort you put forth to hold rides is appreciated by the board, the membership and the office.

The AERC Offline Ride Results portal is now live. It is designed to facilitate your process for entering and submitting ride results. It works on PCs, Macs and mobile devices, and integrates seamlessly with the AERC.org website platform. You can access it from your ride manager page. To find out more, please go to: <https://aerc.org/compete/aerc-offline-ride-results/>

As in past years, 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. AERC's link to information pertaining to SafeSport is aerc.org/safesport. 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 link above.

Please keep in mind the Head Control Judge at your ride must be/have been an AERC member for a minimum of two months prior to the ride. Both regular adult or control judge memberships are acceptable. Please see Rule 2.1.2 for additional information. AERC drug fees for the 2025 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 2025 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). Remember, 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 the Young Rider division.

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.

Please be certain to indicate on your ride flyer and any posts you make to social media exactly what your refund policy will be for your ride to reduce any issues down the road in case of cancellations. And, 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 another great ride season. We know difficulties often arise when working out permits, etc., and appreciate all your hard work. We know the membership is looking forward to 2025 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