

2026 February

Education Committee and Competition Committee Reports

The Competition Committee received a very detailed proposal for establishing “Field Mentors,” from member JoDean Nicolette , which we are sharing with the Education Committee. The two committees will meet with their respective groups, and then discuss together the pros and cons of her proposal. The Competition Committee has several other issues to discuss in our upcoming Zoom meeting February 10.

Respectfully submitted, Naomi Preston, Chair/Co-Chair

Membership Committee Report

The committee contacted 31 regional distance riding groups requesting information on scheduled clinic dates. To date, 15 groups have responded, providing a total of 13 clinics. All confirmed clinics will be posted on the organization’s social media platforms.

Additionally, an AERC booth was staffed at the Pony Club Convention in Chicago with the assistance of three local AERC member volunteers. The booth generated significant interest, and the Endurance board game was especially well received. As a result of the positive response, AERC has been invited to participate again at next year’s Pony Club Convention in Madison, Wisconsin.

Respectfully submitted by Maureen Fehrs, DVM

Sanctioning Committee Report

The Committee approved five Pioneer rides that were either new or adding an additional day or it is the second year as a pioneer ride and needed approval.

The Committee approved 4 rides which some committee members will be managing. The committee discussed the American River ride for special qualifications for the LD riders. The committee approved the request with reservations that will be discussed in the February meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Caudill

Welfare of the Horse Report

Prepared by Laurie Underwood, Co-Chair

Here is a summary of the activities of the Horse Welfare Committee:

- Addressed multiple welfare concerns.
- Discussed and provided input for various organization motions sent to the Committee for review.