
CHAPTER 16: ENDURANCE RIDES

All AHA program and event deadlines must be met as specified, whether submitted by postal service, fax, e-mail, internet or other electronic means.

ARTICLE 1601. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

For all Membership requirements refer to Chapter 7.

1. Each participant at an AHA Recognized Show, Division or Event must submit a valid AHA Competition Card, join AHA (Membership with Competition Card) at the show or event pay a \$10 Single Event Membership fee per person. (Refer to Article 705-707, Res. 5-02, Article 302.3)

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL RIDES

2. Each participant at an AHA Regional and National Championship Show, Ride or Event must submit a valid AHA Competition Card, join AHA (Membership with Competition Card). Proof of membership with Competition Card must accompany Show/Competition results when the member joins at the show or event. (BOD 8/04) (Refer to Article 705 and 707)
3. Exception: Parent or Guardian signing for minors. (Refer to Article 705.)
4. Single Event Membership is not acceptable at Regional or National Shows, Rides or events.

AHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENDURANCE RIDES

ARTICLE 1602. ADMINISTRATION

1. The AHA Championship Endurance Ride shall be conducted pursuant to rules adopted by the Directors of the Arabian Horse Association.
2. Administration and interpretation of such rules and authority to make arrangements for such rides shall be vested in the AHA National Distance Commission of AHA. (BOD 11/07)
3. Subject to these rules and to such further arrangements, interpretations or decisions not inconsistent herewith as may be determined by said committee, AHA Championship Endurance Ride may be directly sponsored by the AHA or may be assigned to the sponsorship of another ride committee to be determined by the Board of Directors of AHA.
4. The sponsor of the ride shall pay all expenses, furnish all facilities and personnel, and receive all entry fees and other income deemed feasible by the AHA National Distance Commission.
5. The ride brochure must include:
 - a. Name and length of the ride.
 - b. Date.
 - c. Location.
 - d. Names of the Veterinarians and Ride Steward.
 - e. Awards presented.
 - f. A liability clause to be signed by all entrants. A copy of the liability clause may be obtained by contacting the AHA office.
 - g. Reference to ride rules in the AHA Handbook.
 - h. A short description of the ride: days, miles, terrain, weather.
 - i. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors and the AHA National Distance Commission to assure that appropriate awards are presented to the Champions, Reserve Champions, Best Condition, and all finishers of the Championship Endurance Ride. In addition, the Top Ten horses will receive Top Ten awards.
6. Any ride named as an AHA Championship Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Endurance Ride must be recognized by AHA. The AHA National Distance Commission and the AHA Board of Directors must approve the location and date of the AHA Championship Endurance Ride.

7. The ride must have a Steward. The Ride Steward must be from the approved AHA Endurance Ride Steward list. The steward shall interpret the AHA rules to the Ride Management and the Veterinarians and process any complaints and protests. Protests must be made in writing to the AHA National Distance Commission within 7 days from the end of ride. Protest must be accompanied by a \$25 fee which is returned if protest is upheld. (See Protest Procedures)
8. The ride must be an accurately measured distance. The AHA Championship Endurance Ride shall be 100 miles for a one-day competition or may be 100 miles divided between two consecutive days of competition. The 50-mile AHA Championship Endurance Ride shall be 50 miles as a one-day competition. (BOD 2/01)
9. The educational fee is \$15 per horse entered in either the U.S. or Canadian National Championships, \$10 at the Regionals, and \$3 for all other competitions. Any Recognized Competition that has had 100 horses or fewer in the two prior years will be exempt from this assessment. (Res. 9-90)

ARTICLE 1603. GENERAL RULES

1. The current American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook.

When the AHA National Championship Endurance Ride is held in conjunction with another Recognized endurance event and, if that event's competing criteria are more stringent than the AHA requirements, then AHA will accede to the stricter criteria, including weight requirements.
2. In order to compete in an AHA Championship Endurance Ride, a horse must:
 - a. Be registered with the Arabian Horse Association, the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry, or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register and a copy of registration papers filed with Ride Management prior to start of the ride.

ARTICLE 1604. RIDE RULES

1. All horses entered in an AHA Championship Endurance Ride must be at least 60 months of age at the time of qualifying rides. Age to be determined by registration papers.
2. The same horse and rider must pass all control points in the correct order specified by ride officials and stay on the trail as marked by the AHA Championship Endurance Ride officials in order to qualify for awards.
3. All horses and riders competing in the AHA Championship Endurance Ride must be at the starting line at the time designated in the rules on the day of the ride or be disqualified. Horses must be wearing the number assigned by the ride officials. Horses are to be marked on both hips with marking material that may be seen from a distance. If the AHA Championship Endurance Ride is held in conjunction with another Endurance Ride, hip markings must clearly differentiate by division those horses competing in the National Championship Endurance Ride. Any horse cross entered in an AHA/AERC Ride that chooses to elevate to a higher distance AERC Ride would not automatically be disqualified from the AHA Ride simply due to elevating, provided that normal ride vet-out procedures are followed in a timely manner. (BOD 3/05)
4. AHA Championship Endurance Rides must be completed in the following times to qualify for awards:
 - a. AHA 100-mile Championship Ride:
 - 1) Twenty-four hours or fewer total elapsed time on a 100-mile AHA Championship Endurance Ride.
 - 2) For a two-day event of 50 miles a day on two consecutive days: total riding time not to exceed 12 hours elapsed time per day for a maximum of 24 hours. The winner to be determined by the least amount of total riding time.

- b. AHA 50-mile Championship Ride:
 - 1) Must be completed within 12 hours or fewer total elapsed time to qualify for awards. (BOD 2/01)
5. All horses entered in the AHA Championship Endurance Ride will be presented to the Ride Veterinarians for examination, preferably the day before the ride begins. Ride Veterinarians' decision on condition of horses regarding the ability to start or continue the ride will prevail at all times. Horses must stand veterinary inspections, and the opinions of the AHA Championship Endurance Ride Veterinarians will, in all cases, be final.
6. All horses entered in the AHA Championship Endurance Ride are subject to blood, saliva, and/or urine tests at the discretion of the AHA Championship Ride Veterinarians or Ride Management. Abuse of horses entered in an AHA Championship Endurance Ride, as determined by the Ride Veterinarians, will be cause for disqualification from the ride. It shall be the responsibility of each contestant to ensure that his/her horse has not been administered any drug, which may alter the horse's performance within 72 hours of the pre-ride examination. This includes, but is not limited to, stimulants, depressants, painkillers, or local anesthetics.
7. A violation of any of the AHA Championship Endurance Ride rules for AHA National Championship Endurance Rides subjects the horse and rider to immediate disqualification. Those horses and riders disqualified will immediately remove themselves from the trail.
8. For both the 50-mile and 100-mile Championship Endurance Rides, (BOD 2/01) the first ten horses in their respective divisions (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabians) to successfully complete the ride in accordance with AERC rules will be named as follows:
 - a. First place horse will be named AHA Champion Endurance Horse in their respective division for that year of competition. Winner being determined by the fastest time of the horses to be awarded a completion for the ride.
 - b. Second place horse in their respective division will be named AHA National Reserve Champion Endurance Horse for that year of competition. Second place being determined by the second fastest time of the horses to be awarded a completion for the ride.
 - c. Top Ten. A horse finishing 1st through 10th in each respective division (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabians) will be named Top Ten.
If fewer than 20 entries start each ride division (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabians), a Champion, a Reserve Champion, and only enough Top Ten awards will be named to total 50% of the division (i.e., a ride division consisting of 13 entries would grant seven Top Ten awards including the Champion and Reserve Champion.)
 - d. Best Conditioned. There will be one Best Conditioned award for each division of the ride (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabians). The horse chosen to receive the award will be determined by using the guidelines established by AERC. The ride veterinarians should be made familiar with the AERC guidelines in this respect and the riders should be made familiar with the requirements for best condition before the ride.
 - e. There shall be no ties. A Finish Line Official shall be appointed by ride management to place the Top Ten horses for any single day ride. If the Finish Line Official is unable to decide placings all the ties shall be decided by a flip of the coin. Ties in a multi-day ride shall be decided by a flip of the coin.

ARTICLE 1605. AWARDS

Awards will be made to those finishing in the Top Ten and shall be as follows:

1. Champion.
2. Reserve Champion.
3. Top Ten.
4. Best Condition.

5. All completing the AHA Championship Endurance Ride shall be presented a completion award. Ride Management has the option of providing additional awards.
6. A Junior Rider Award shall be presented for both the 100 mile and the 50 mile Endurance Rides (combined Arabian and Half-Arabian) to the first junior rider to cross the finish line in each distance. (BOD 8/05)

ARTICLE 1606. QUALIFYING RIDES

Qualifying Rides for AHA Championship Endurance Rides. All horses completing AHA Recognized Endurance Rides on registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian Horses will be eligible to compete in the annual AHA Championship Endurance Ride.

ARTICLE 1607. QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL ENDURANCE RIDES

1. For the 100-mile Championship Ride, the horse must have successfully completed a minimum 300 lifetime miles of which 100 miles must consist of one (1) day or multi-day, one hundred (100) mile Endurance Ride or two consecutive rides of fifty (50) miles or greater over two consecutive days for a total of one hundred (100) miles or more.
2. For the 50-mile Championship Ride, the horse must have successfully completed 200 lifetime miles. (BOD 2/01)
3. Qualifying mileage must be from AHA, AERC, or FEI Recognized/Sanctioned Endurance Events of a minimum 50 miles distance and be completed within maximum time limits of the Recognizing/Sanctioning body.
4. Ride name, length, date, and location of qualifying ride(s) must be listed on entry blank for the AHA Championship Ride.
5. The horse is qualified rather than the rider. One or more riders may have ridden qualifying miles for a single horse and a single rider may qualify more than one horse.
6. Previous AHA Recognized National Champion Endurance Horses are qualified for life.

AHA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENDURANCE RIDES

A Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s) cannot be held unless there has been at least one Endurance Ride of 50 miles or more recognized by either AHA, AERC or FEI in that Region within the previous year or that part of the calendar year prior to the date of the proposed Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s). The Regional Championship Ride(s) must be held within the proposed Region's geographic location or within a contiguous Region's territory. (BOD 5/01)

ARTICLE 1608. ADMINISTRATION

1. For the purpose of AHA Regional Championship Endurance Rides, the United States and Canada shall be divided into geographical regions by the Arabian Horse Association.
2. If a Region does not sponsor its own AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s), applications for the ride made by any AHA member, AHA member association, or any qualified organization will be considered by the Regional Board of Directors. Rides sponsored by a Member Organization of a Region shall be considered as a ride of that same Region regardless of the geographical location of the ride. (Refer to the first paragraph under AHA Regional Championship Endurance Rides.)
3. Any ride named as an AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride must be recognized by AHA. The proposed AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s) must be approved by the Regional Director prior to approval by the Distance Riding Committee. A Regional endurance ride(s) may be recognized by AHA upon receipt of a completed Regional Ride Application form along with a \$25 non-refundable application fee for each ride. The completed Regional Ride Application form must be sent to the AHA office at least 90 days prior to the planned event. Ride flyers (brochures or ad flyer) including entry forms, fee schedules and similar items must be sent to

the AHA office no later than 30 days prior to the first day of the event. (BOD 8/01)

4. AHA Regional Championship Endurance Rides shall be conducted pursuant to rules adopted by the AHA Board of Directors.
5. Administration and interpretation of such rules shall be vested in the **Distance Riding** Committee of AHA.
6. The sponsor of the ride(s) shall pay all expenses, furnish all facilities and personnel, and receive all entry fees and other income deemed feasible by the **Distance Riding** Committee.
7. The ride brochure must include:
 - a. Name and length of the ride.
 - b. Date.
 - c. Location.
 - d. Names of the Veterinarians and Ride Steward.
 - e. Awards presented.
 - f. A liability clause to be signed by all entrants. A copy of the liability clause may be obtained by contacting AHA.
 - g. Reference to ride rules in the AHA Handbook.
 - h. A short description of the ride: days, miles, terrain, weather.
8. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors and the **Distance Riding** Committee of the respective Region to assure that appropriate awards are presented to the Regional Champions, Regional Reserve Champions, Best Condition, and all finishers of the Regional Championship Endurance Ride. In addition, the Top Five horses will receive Top Five awards.
9. The ride must have a Steward. The Ride Steward must be from the approved AHA Ride Steward list. The steward shall interpret the AHA rules to the ride management and the veterinarians and process any complaints and protests. Protests must be made in writing to the AHA Endurance Ride Committee within 7 days of the end of ride. Protest must be accompanied by a \$25 fee which is returned if protest is upheld. (See Protest Procedures)
10. The ride must be an accurately measured distance. The AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s) may hold either one ride or two rides of two different distances. If one ride is held, the minimum distance shall be a minimum of 50 miles with riding time not to exceed 12 hours for a 50-mile ride. If two rides are held, one ride must be a 50-mile ride and the other ride distance must be either a one-day 100 mile ride or a two-day 100 mile ride. (BOD 8/04)
11. Charges of \$3-\$15 per horse entered in AHA Recognized Events with the per horse charge to be reviewed annually beginning in 1993 by the Board of Directors. The initial fee structure is \$15 per horse entered in either the U.S. or Canadian National Championships, \$10 at the Regionals, and \$3 for all other competitions. Any Recognized Competition that has had 100 horses or fewer in the two prior years will be exempt from this assessment. (Res. 9-90)

ARTICLE 1609. GENERAL RULES

The current AERC rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook.

ARTICLE 1610. RIDE RULES

1. All horses entered in an AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride(s) must be at least 60 months of age at the time of qualifying rides. Age to be determined by registration papers.
2. The same horse and rider must pass all control points in the order specified by ride management and stay on the trail as marked by the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride officials in order to qualify for awards.
3. All horses and riders competing in the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride must be at the starting line at the time designated in the rules on the day of the ride or be disqualified. Horses must be wearing the number assigned by the ride officials. Horses to be marked on both hips with marking material that may be seen from a distance. If the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride is held in conjunction with another endurance

ride, hip markings must clearly differentiate by division those horses competing on the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride. Any horse cross entered in an AHA/AERC ride that chooses to elevate to a higher distance AERC ride would not automatically be disqualified from the AHA Ride simply due to elevating, provided that normal ride vet-out procedures are followed in a timely manner. (BOD 3/05)

4. All horses entered in the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride will be presented to the ride veterinarians for examination, preferably the day before the ride begins. Ride veterinarians' decision on condition of horses concerning the ability to start or continue will prevail at all times. Horses must stand veterinary inspections and the opinions of the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride veterinarians will, in all cases, be final.
5. All horses entered in the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride are subject to blood, saliva, and/or urine tests at the discretion of the AHA Regional Championship Ride veterinarians or ride management. Abuse of horses entered in an AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride, as determined by the ride veterinarians, will be cause for disqualification from the ride. It shall be the responsibility of each contestant to ensure that his/her horse has not been administered any drug, which may alter the horse's performance within 72 hours of the pre-ride examination. This includes, but is not limited to, stimulants, depressants, painkillers, or local anesthetics.
6. A violation of any of the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride rules for AHA Regional Championship Endurance Rides subjects the horse and rider to immediate disqualification. Those horses and riders disqualified will immediately remove themselves from the trail.
7. Regional Rides may elect one of the following and shall clearly state in their Regional Ride Flyer whether an entire Top Five or 50% of the division rounded up method shall be used: (Res. 20-03)
 - a. Top Five: A horse finishing 1st through 5th, in each division, will be named Top Five. The top scoring horse in each division shall be named Regional Champion and the second high scoring horse shall be named Regional Reserve Champion. If fewer than 10 entries start the ride (must have passed the pre-ride vet check) in a division, only enough Top Fives will be made to total 50% of the division rounded up. (e.g., a ride division consisting of seven entries would be eligible for only four Top Five awards including the Champion and Reserve Champion (BOD 8/02)
 - b. Top Five Awards will be given regardless of how many horses compete in each division at the start of the ride. Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes pay-out will be given to those horses enrolled in the Point Program equal to 50% of the ride rounded up not to exceed five of those competing at the beginning of the ride. (e.g. If ride of seven horses, only four horses will be eligible for Points payout if properly enrolled, Sweepstakes payout is based on Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian results combined.). Points in the Horse Achievement Award, Amateur Achievement Award, High Point Horse Achievement Award, High Point Amateur Achievement Award and Distance Award Programs will be given to those horses enrolled in these programs equal to 50% of the division rounded up not to exceed five of those competing in the division at the beginning of the ride (e.g. A division of a ride of seven horses would be eligible for only four pay-outs even though a Top Five would be awarded) (Res. 20-03)
 - c. The first five horses in their respective divisions (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabians) to successfully complete the ride in accordance with AERC rules will be named as follows for the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Rides:
 - d. First place horse will be named AHA Regional Championship Endurance Horse in their respective division for that year of competition. Winner being determined by the fastest time of the horses granted completion for the ride.
 - e. Second place horse in their respective division will be named AHA Regional Reserve Champion Endurance Horse for that year of competition. Second place being determined by the second fastest time of the horses granted completion for the ride.

- f. Best Conditioned. There will be one Best Conditioned award presented for each division of the ride (two divisions: one for Arabians, one for Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabians). This horse will be chosen by the guidelines established by AERC. The ride veterinarians should be made familiar with the AERC guidelines in this respect, and the riders should be made familiar with the requirements for Best Condition before the ride.
- g. There shall be no ties. A Finish Line Official shall be appointed by ride management to place the Top Five horses for any single day ride. If the Finish Line Official is unable to decide placings all the ties shall be decided by a flip of the coin. Ties in a multi-day ride shall be decided by a flip of the coin.

ARTICLE 1611. AWARDS

Awards will be made to those finishing in the Top Five and shall be as follows:

1. Champion.
2. Reserve Champion.
3. Top Five.
4. Best Condition.
5. In addition to these awards, all completing the AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride shall be presented a Completion Award. Ride management has the option of providing additional awards.

ARTICLE 1612. QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGIONAL ENDURANCE RIDES

1. In order to compete in an AHA Regional Championship Endurance Ride, a horse must:
 - a. Be registered with the Arabian Horse Association, the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register, and a copy of registration papers filed with ride management prior to start of the ride.
 - b. Have successfully completed at least 100 lifetime miles of competition, of which up to 50 miles may be earned in an AHA Regional or National Championship Competitive Trail Ride. All endurance completion miles must be from AHA, AERC or FEI Recognized/Sanctioned accredited endurance rides of a minimum of 50 miles distance. (BOD 8/01)
 - c. Ride name, length, date, and location of qualifying ride(s) must be listed on entry blank for the AHA Regional Championship Ride.
 - d. The horse is qualified rather than the rider. One rider may qualify more than one horse. A horse may be qualified by more than one rider.

ARTICLE 1613. ENDURANCE RIDE PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Protest must be filed within 7 days of end of ride.
2. Protest must be in writing, signed by the protester, and submitted to the Ride Secretary, Ride Manager, Ride Steward, or Chair of the Endurance Ride Committee; a \$25 fee must accompany the protest. This fee will be refunded if protest is upheld.
3. A copy of the protest plus a statement indicating action taken at the ride by management or the steward must be included with the steward's report form.
4. If the protest cannot be resolved at the ride, a full report plus all evidence must be submitted to the AHA office. It will then go to the Distance Riding Committee for resolution.
5. If protest is forwarded to the Distance Riding Committee, the Chair shall appoint a five member Protest Panel from the committee members. The Protest Panel shall be appointed within 10 working days. The Chair may appoint themselves to the panel. If the Chair is in any way a party to the protest, the President of AHA shall appoint the panel. The panel shall attempt to resolve the protest within 30 days of receipt of the protest. Findings of the Protest Panel shall be final.

ARTICLE 1614. AHA RECOGNIZED ENDURANCE RIDES

1. A local endurance ride with a minimum distance of 25 miles may be recognized and be conducted by AHA Member Organizations or other interested groups or persons.
2. The current AERC rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook.
3. A completed recognition application form along with a \$20 non-refundable application fee for each distance in multi-distance rides, (BOD 8/03), must be sent to the AHA office at least 30 (BOD 8/03) days prior to the planned event. Ride flyers (brochures or ad flyer) including entry forms, fee schedules and similar items must be included (BOD 8/01)

ARTICLE 1615. RESULTS REPORTING

For correct and complete results reporting refer to Chapter 7 and Article 1133.

AHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RIDE RESULTS

1. The results for the AHA National Championship Ride will be submitted to the AHA office by the AHA Ride Secretary.
 - a. When the AHA National Championship ride is held in conjunction with an AERC/FEI Open ride, the results from the Open ride must be reported for each horse by submitting a properly signed and completed AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results Form within 90 days of the ride. (BOD 11/02)

AHA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RIDE RESULTS

2. The results for the AHA Regional Championship rides will be submitted to the AHA office by the Ride Secretary for the placings in the AHA divisions.
 - a. When the AHA Regional Championship ride is held in conjunction with an AERC/FEI Open ride, the results from the Open Ride must be reported for each horse by submitting a properly signed and completed AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results Form within 90 days of the ride. (BOD 11/02)

AHA RECOGNIZED RIDE RESULTS

3. The results for an AHA Recognized Local Ride will be submitted to the AHA office by the Local Ride Secretary. (BOD 11/02)

OPEN RIDES NOT RECOGNIZED BY AHA

1. The results for rides sanctioned by AERC/FEI and not recognized by AHA must be reported by submitting a properly signed and complete AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results Form within 90 days of the ride or the Official AERC Horse Record must be submitted along with the AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results form. (BOD 11/02)