CHAPTER 14 ENDURANCE RIDES

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

END 101. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

In order to have ride results count towards AHA programs and/or qualifications, membership requirements must be met. (Refer to Chapter 7)

AHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENDURANCE RIDES

END 102. ADMINISTRATION

1. The AHA Championship Endurance Ride shall be conducted pursuant to rules adopted by the Directors of the Arabian Horse Association. Every effort will be made to hold all the National Distance events together from 2009 forward and be referred to as the AHA National Distance Championships. (BOD 11/08)

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 commission 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 $100 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 201)

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)

10. It is recommended that both the Ride Secretary and Manager have active individual AHA Memberships. (BOD 5/09)

END 103. GENERAL RULES

1. The current American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) or Endurance Canada rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook. (BOD 5/12)

   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.

END 104. 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.

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 201)

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 Arabsians, 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 Arabsians, one for Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabians) will be named Top Ten.
   d. Best Conditioned. There will be one Best Condition award available for each division of the ride (two divisions: one for Arabsians and one for Half-Arabian/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. The award does not have to be given if the control judge(s) feel that none of the Arabian/Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian(s) in contention for the award deserve to receive it. (BOD 3/12)
   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.

END 105. 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. The age of a junior is determined by AHA rules. (BOD 8/05) (BOD3/12)

END 106. 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.

END 107. QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL ENDURANCE RIDES
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. A ride steward is only required if the number of competitors exceeded ten (10) riders in the previous year. If a ride steward is required, then the ride steward must be from the approved AHA Ride Steward list. If there is not a Ride Steward, then, the ride manager shall interpret the AHA rules to the ride management and the veterinarians and process any complaints and protests. (BOD 11/11) Refer to Protest Procedures END 113.

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 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 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)

END 109. GENERAL RULES

The current AERC or Endurance Canada rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook. (BOD 5/12)

END 110. 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.

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 awarded to total 50% of the division rounded up. (e.g., a 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. 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 Champion 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 Condition. There will be one Best Condition 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.

END 111. 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.

END 112. 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 the 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, FEI or Endurance Canada Recognized/Sanctioned accredited endurance rides of a minimum of 50 miles distance. (BOD 8/01) (BOD 5/12)
   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.

END 113. ENDURANCE RIDE PROTEST PROCEDURE (BOD 1/10)

A subcommittee to handle protests and formal letters of complaint shall be formed of 4 members appointed by the committee chair and headed by the vice chair. The committee shall serve for 2 years term to start December 1st.

Disagreements as to procedure and rules interpretation may be submitted to the Ride Steward for a ruling. If there is a disagreement after the Steward’s ruling, or if the Steward did not make a ruling, Protest or Formal Letter of Complaint may be filed in accordance with the procedures outlined in these rules.

1. Protest will be:
   a. Filed in writing within eight days of the end of the ride.
   b. Signed by the protestor and submitted to AHA with a copy to the Ride Steward and Management Committee for immediate referral to the AHA Distance Riding Sub-Committee for resolution.
   c. Action to solve the protest will start within 30 days of receipt. Upon receipt of the properly-filed protest, AHA will notify Awards, Sweepstakes, and any other concerned departments of the pending action. A $100 fee will accompany the protest. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld. If the AHA Distance Riding Sub-Committee is unable to resolve the protest within 30 days, a note stating the status of the protest shall be sent by the Sub-Committee to the protestor, with a copy to the Ride Manager and to the Judges and Stewards Commissioner. A similar note shall be sent every 30 days until the protest is resolved.

2. Formal Letter of Complaint will be:
   a. Filed in writing within 14 days of the end of the ride.
   b. Signed by the complainant and submitted to the AHA Distance Riding Sub-Committee.
   c. Investigated and resolved by the AHA Distance Riding Sub-Committee in a fair and impartial manner as they deem appropriate.

END 114. 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 or Endurance Canada rules will be followed except where superseded by AHA rules as published in the current AHA Handbook. (BOD 5/12)
3. A completed recognition application form along with a $25 non-refundable application fee for each distance is required.

Indicates rule change

END 115. RESULTS REPORTING

For correct and complete results reporting refer to Chapter 7 and COMP 1101.

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/Endurance Canada 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) (BOD 5/12)

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/Endurance Canada 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) (BOD 5/12)

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

4. The results for rides sanctioned by AERC/FEI/Endurance Canada 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) (BOD 5/12)