



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

32nd Annual National Ride & Tie Championship Results Announced
Wadsworth Brothers Return to Win Fifth Championship Title

September 10, 2002 – Truckee, California – The Ride & Tie Association, the national sports organization dedicated to promoting the combined running and equine endurance sport of Ride & Tie, today announced the results of the 2002 Ride & Tie Championship, held at the Euer Ranch in Truckee, California, September 7, 2002.

This year's Championship event, organized by Ride & Tie veteran Laura Christofk, attracted 38 teams of two humans and one horse, of which, 35 completed the three-loop, 31.4-mile mountainous course ranging between 6500 and 7300 feet elevation. The winning team averaged 6.6-minute miles.

This year's winning team, brothers Con and Tod Wadsworth riding Baurakal Khan, completed the rough terrain course in a winning time of 3:28:00. Second place went to Jim Howard, holder of five Ride & Tie Championship titles, and his partner Dennis Rinde on Magic Sirocco who came in just 17 seconds behind the winners. The coveted "Best Conditioned Horse" award went to Zar Za Fire owned by Skip Lightfoot and ridden by Tom Johnson and Jeremy Reynolds who placed third overall, with a time of 3:46.

The first century division team, with a combined age of over 100 years, went to Brad Hawthorne and Dennis Tracy, on Benji, for a time of 3:54 and taking fourth place overall. Immediately following them in fifth place was the first woman-man team to finish, Mary Tiscornia and Sid Sullivan on Albi with a time of 4:10. Mary Tiscornia has started all 32 Ride & Tie championships and holds 30 completion buckles, the coveted Ride & Tie championship trophy. The first woman-woman team to finish and taking tenth place overall, were newcomers to the sport, Jennie Spearin and Cara Ravencroft on Finaaly.

The sport of Ride & Tie is not for the weekend dabbler or the faint of heart. It requires practice, stamina, and perseverance from all three team members. Training for Ride & Tie is unique and

challenging in that it requires major time commitments from two humans plus a rigorous horse training schedule; and even that doesn't guarantee a win.

"I've never won the overall title but I keep trying", says Tom Gey, 49, of Newport Beach, California who has competed in 12 championships and numerous regional events. "Ride & Tie requires marathon-like training for all team members and it requires keen strategy that can only be achieved through practice. For me, it's a great way to stay in shape and spend time with my family."

For Tom Gey and his family, the Ride & Tie Championship is a family affair. Tom and his sister-in-law Elaine Ruprecht, 36, of Colfax, California, rode their 20-year-old Arabian gelding named Freedom in this year's Championship. They were the second woman-man team to finish and placed 8th overall with a time of 4:45, moving up one place over last year's standings. Other family members competing were Elaine's sister Carol Ruprecht, 43, and their father Ted Ruprecht, 74, of Trinidad, California who rode their 12-year-old Arabian gelding Findifar to finish 28th overall in a time of 6:19 in the century +10 division. This event marked Ted's 21st championship, but certainly not his last.

2002 National Ride & Tie Championship - Results

Place	Division	Partner 1	Partner 2	Horse	Time
1	M/M	Con Wadsworth	Tod Wadsworth	Baurakal Khan	3:28
2	M/M	Jim Howard	Dennis Rinde	Magic Sirocco	3:28
3	Pro-Am	Tom Johnson	Jeremy Reynolds	Zar Za Fire*	3:46
4	Century	Brad Hawthorne	Dennis Tracy	Benji	3:54
5	M/W	Mary Tiscornia	Sid Sullivan	Albi	4:10
6	Century	John Osterweis	Mark Richtman	Victor	4:18
7	Century +10	Warren Hellman	Jeff Townsend	Sam	4:23
8	M/W	Elaine Ruprecht	Tom Gey	Freedom Fermee	4:45
9	Century	Tom Christofk	Christoph Shork	Zaraf	4:46
10	W/W	Jennie Spearin	Cara Ravencroft	Finaaly	4:47
11	W/W	Marcia Smith	Shellie Hatfield	Sweet Pea	4:50

12	W/W	Michele Shaw	Gabrielle Mann	Furn	4:59
13	Pro-Am	Mike Tracy	Shan Han	Aron Moon	5:00
14	Century +20	Lew Hollander	Doug Madsen	Mis P	5:04
15	Century	James Oury	Matt Guzik	Starzehn	5:07
16	Junior	Shannell Bolsta	Clara Holland	Shaad	5:10
17	Century	Bryon Grant	Paul Johnson	Sha Na Na	5:18
18	M/W	Michele Jay-Russell	Doyle Eggers	Stashi	5:18
19	M/W	Linda Mornell	Eric Peters	Macho	5:18
20	M/W	Curt Riffle	Ellen Rinde	Magic	5:36
21	M/M	Calvin Paulette	Bill Stockmar	Fyre	5:36
22	Centiru	Jim Brown	Hal Hall	Negask	5:38
23	M/M	Frank Lieberman	Jerome Beauchamp	Judy	5:42
24	M/W	Dave Van Wicklin	Megan Hartop	Jazz	5:52
25	W/W	Terrie Anderson	Sonja Woods	CoCo	6:01
26	W/W	Melissa Ribley	Kerie Mathews	Oak Hill Rambler	6:05
27	Century+10	Robin Klaus	David Tarpinian	Refique	6:13
28	Century +10	Carol Ruprecht	Ted Ruprecht	Findefar	6:19
29	W/W	Debby Lyon	Peggy Jern	Rd Famous	6:20
30	W/W	Tara Rothwell	Cynthia Lusk	Tq Hot	6:21
31	M/W	David Howe	Bethany Pappani	Otis	7:01
32	W/W	Karen Wolfsheiner	Geneveive Proulx	-----	7:42
33	M/W	Tracie Van Wicklin	Jorge Zambrano	Starfire	7:57
34	Pro-Am	Thom Steere	Max Macvenable	Bombay	8:00
35	Century	George Hall	Don Betts	Gavilan	8:05

* Zar Za Fire won "Best Conditioned Horse" award

About The Ride & Tie Organization

The Ride & Tie Organization is a non-profit equine organization dedicated to promoting the sport of Ride & Tie and safe endurance horse management. Over 150 years old, the sport originated in the old West, where frontiersmen discovered two men could travel great distances at a fast pace without wearing down the horse if they traded off. The sport was revitalized and gained national attention in 1971 when Levi Strauss sponsored the Ride & Tie Championships. The organization offers a mentoring program for adventurous athletes, hosts practice Ride & Ties, organizes regional and national events, and contributes articles and spokespeople to complementary running and endurance riding events and forums. For more information about Ride & Tie, visit the web site at www.rideandtie.org or call 650 949 2321.

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