



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**33rd Annual Ride & Tie World Championship
to be Held September 6, 2003 in Truckee, California**

Runners, riders, and equines to go for the gold in the High Sierras

August 12, 2003 – Los Altos, California – The Ride and Tie Association, the national sports organization dedicated to promoting the combined running and equine endurance sport of Ride & Tie, today announced that the Ride & Tie World Championship scheduled for September 6, 2003 at the Euer Ranch in Truckee, California, is open to all novice and professional ride and tie teams.

Race director Laura Christofk expects this year's World Championship event to attract over 100 humans and horses. Starting at 8:00 am Saturday morning, teams consisting of two humans and one horse will race over a 35-mile varied terrain course in the high Sierras with elevations ranging between 6500 and 8400 feet. There will also be a 13-mile short Ride & Tie course for those who want to experience the thrill and excitement of the gala Championship event and yet finish in time to see the world champions cross the finish line.

Last year's champions, Ride & Tie veterans Con and Tod Wadsworth of Salt Lake City and their horse Baurakal Khan, completed the rough terrain course in an astounding time of 3:28:00, winning their fifth World Championship title. A number of previous world champions will return this year to challenge the Wadsworth's title. However, former World Championship winners will be up against some tough competition this year thanks to a \$1,000 incentive purse.

PAT'S PURSE, initiated by Ride & Tie veteran Pat Browning, is a novice incentive with the objective of encouraging "dominating duos" to split up and thus open up the competition. PAT'S PURSE, \$1,000 cash, will be awarded to the winning team of the 35-mile course at the 2003 Ride & Tie World Championship if least one human on the team has never won a World Championship. The only team to claim the purse to date was novice William Emerson and veteran Chris Turney on a horse named Buddy in 2001.

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The Ride and Tie Association is dedicated to promoting safe endurance horse management. To ensure horses are healthy and sound throughout the duration of the race and their stay at Euer Ranch, Jim Steere, D.V.M., head vet for the Ride & Tie championship and his team of experienced endurance and Ride & Tie vets – Russ Peterson, D.V.M., Jerry Gillespie, D.V.M., Rob Lydon, D.V.M., and Larry Goss D.V.M – will be on hand throughout the event and at all mandatory vet checkpoints.

To Register

Complete race information and registration forms are available online at www.rideandtie.org/invitation.htm or call Laura Christofk, Championship Race Director, at (530) 268 8647. Registration will close September 5th.

About The Ride and Tie Association

The Ride and Tie Association is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of the sport of Ride & Tie and safe endurance horse management. Over 150 years old, Ride & Tie 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. Ride & Tie was invented as a sport and gained national attention in 1971 when Levi Strauss sponsored the Ride & Tie Championships. The association offers a mentor program, partner matching, training videos, hosts practice Ride & Ties, and sanctions regional and national events. For more information about Ride & Tie, visit the web site at www.rideandtie.org or call (650) 949 2321.

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Contacts:

Carol Ruprecht
Ride and Tie Association Publicity
(949) 263-1772

Curt Riffle
President, Ride & Tie Organization
(650) 949 2321

Laura Christofk
2003 Ride & Tie World Championship Race Director
(530) 268 8647