



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

36th Annual Ride & Tie World Championship Results

July 05 2006 – Santa Ysabel, California – Jim Howard added another win to his previous record of eight Ride & Tie World Championship titles, now totaling nine world titles. More stunning than the number of World Championships held by Howard is his recovery from a near fatal accident less than seven months prior. For his 2006 partner Howard selected not another elite ultra-running athlete, as in the past, but his brother-in-law Tom Gey who had watched the 2004 Ride & Tie World Championship on crutches with a broken leg. Having seen some of the Championship course as a local race earlier this year, Howard's primary concern became finding a partner with whom he could safely share his horse across the thirty-plus miles of brutal terrain in heat that reached 98 degrees in the shade on race day.

Referring to his accident in November, which resulted in multiple internal injuries, the removal of his spleen, and a six-day stay in intensive care, the reserved Howard says, "comebacks are sweet". His partner Gey, who has been racing the annual Ride & Tie World Championships since 1989 describes the experience of winning the sport's premier race as simply "amazing". Their shared horse, Magic Sirocco, a 12 year old part-Arabian, has won three of the previous five World Championships and the coveted Best Condition award in three of those same five years. This year's race appeared to be hotly contested: for the first of the three 10-mile loops three teams were trading off the lead. By the third loop two of the horses faded and were withdrawn from the race, leaving Sirocco and his runners well ahead of the next team, finishing in 3:37:43 with a record 46 minute lead over second place.

In addition to winning the overall title, the team of Howard and Gey also won Century-in-the-Saddle recognizing the top team with a combined human age of 100 or more years. And as brothers-in-law they received the prize for the first place family team: an award they dedicated to their mother-in-law who started the family in the sport in 1978. Among their prizes was \$1000 for placing first. That was doubled by another \$1000 for winning Pat's Purse. Pat's Purse is a challenge bonus offered for a team to win the overall championship with a human team-member who has never won the championship. Intended to encourage winning teams to split up and bring other competitors to the top of the sport, Pat's Purse has gone unclaimed since 2001.

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Second place overall was the first woman/woman team of Alina Vale and Carrie Barrett riding the Arabian mare Basia, finishing in 4:24:34. Vale is a former Ride & Tie World Champion in the woman/woman category. This is her second title, and Barrett's first World Championship completion. As the top female team they won \$1000 in addition to the completion belt buckles awarded all finishing teams. Vale reports she had apologized to her partner in advance of the race, because she felt she was not in peak running condition. Regardless, their combined skills brought them second place overall, top female spot, and the coveted Best Conditioned award to their shared steed Basia owned and crewed by Liz Carey.

In the only hotly contended category, Mary Tiscornia and Sid Sullivan riding Sal, and Robbie Shultz and Jonathan Jordan on Flyer, battled to the finish line for top woman/man team. The Tiscornia/Sullivan team successfully defended their World Champion title in 4:25:45 just 1 minute and 23 seconds ahead of the Shultz/Jordan combo to claim the \$1000 award and their fourth shared woman/man world title.

The only international team to complete the course was Kirsten Seyferth, Sandra Barisch and their horse Scatris, representing Germany in sixteenth place overall.

In addition to the top brother-in-law team, there were a number of other family combinations including several father/daughter teams, a mother/daughter, a mother/son, and a husband/wife team. The Arabian Horse Association presented awards to the team completing on the oldest Arabian horse: a 24 year old Arabian in the 14 mile short-course. The short course also boasted the youngest rider: Madison Trocha at 8 years of age raced with her father.

About the Sport of Ride & Tie

The sport of Ride & Tie combines trail running, endurance riding, and strategy. The goal is to get all three team members, two humans and one horse, across a 20 to 100 mile cross-country course by alternating riding and running. Everyone starts out together. The rider, being faster, rides ahead and ties the horse to a tree, and then continues down the trail on foot. The team member who started out on foot gets to the horse, unties, mounts up and rides past the runner, ties the horse ... and this leapfrog continues the entire course. When, where, and how a team exchanges riding for running is almost entirely up to each team to develop their own strategy.

About The Ride and Tie Association

The Ride and Tie Association is a 501(c)3 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 first Levi's Ride & Tie. 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.

2006 World Championship Ride & Tie – Results

Place	Bib #	Runner 1	City/State	Runner 2	City/State	Horse	Time
1	25	Tom Gey	Newport Beach, CA	Jim Howard	Applegate, CA	Sirocco	3:37:43
2	30	Alina Vale	San Diego, CA	Carrie Barrett	Mill Valley, CA	Basia	4:24:34
3	38	Mary Tiscornia	Larkspur, CA	Sid Sullivan	Boise, ID	Sal	4:25:45
4	44	Jonathan Jordan	Alpine, CA	Robbie Shultz	Carlsbad, CA	Flyer	4:27:08
5	20	Jim Brown	Mill Valley, CA	Russ Kiernan	Healdsburg, CA	Yaguar Adonai	4:59:27
6	23	Jennifer Tiscornia	Stinson Beach, CA	Heidi Clare Lambert	Berkeley	Lakota Mare	5:06:40
7	32	Elaine Ruprecht	Applegate, CA	Melissa Ribley DVM	Grass Valley, CA	Jazz Jubilee	5:08:04
8	45	Frank Lieberman	Cool, CA	Diana Lundy	Cool, CA	Gypsy	5:30:21
9	42	Thom Steere	Mill Valley, CA	Jonnie Alper	Mill Valley, CA	Wesab	5:42:47
10	46	Anne Langstaff	Alpine, CA	Pat Browning	N. San Juan, CA	Willy	5:48:57
11	22	Rick Noer	Fountain Valley, CA	Melanie Weir	Orange, CA	Kamanche	5:50:03
12	33	Steve Ahlberg	Newberg, OR	Dawn Hartsock	Prunedale, CA	Tess	5:57:30
13	31	John Osterweis	San Francisco, CA	Thomas Schreck	Portola Valley, CA	Majik	5:58:10
14	47	Steven Anderson	Santa Clara, CA	Jessica Jacobs	San Francisco, CA	Brioso	5:58:51
15	21	Byron Grant	Arroyo Grand, CA	Chris Hanokos	Bradbury, CA	Cal	6:14:33
16	50	Kirsten Seyferth	Germany	Sandra Barisch	Germany	Scatris	6:18:08
17	49	Dick Blizzard	Palmdale, CA	Jane McGrath	Edwards, CA	Scamp	6:21:21
18	29	George Hall	Santa Cruz, CA	Don Betts	Sequim, WA	Cinder	6:22:26
19	34	Leslie Yates	Murray, KY	Bethany Pappani	Descanso, CA	Sparkling Sky	6:37:49
20	24	Carol Ruprecht	Newport Beach, CA	Ted Ruprecht	Trinidad, CA	Olympian	7:29:51

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