

GENERAL COVID GUIDELINES AND HOLD INSTRUCTIONS For Ft Valley 2021

RIDE BRIEFING: Although most/hopefully all of you have received the Covid vaccine, we still aren't out of this mess, with breakthrough infections occurring in vaccinated people. Therefore, we will require you to wear masks when you are not on your horse, and when you are in camp away from your own trailer. You will receive a rider packet by email detailing each distance's start time, mileage, order and color of loops, heart rate criteria, and hold times. Updates and any last-minute changes will be listed in a packet as you arrive in camp. We will have a Q&A in OPEN area of the field the evening before each ride. Social distancing and will be required. Yes, this is a step backwards from what we enjoyed this summer but we have to get ahead of this virus!

NO MEALS WILL BE SERVED: Please come prepared. Bring your own food/meals and drink, and eat at your own trailers.

BREAKFAST: We will provide **coffee under the tent for all riders and volunteers.**

AWARDS MEETING: Completion awards, Top Ten and BC will be announced in the evening after each ride, with masks and social distancing observed.

VET CARDS: Riders will carry their vet cards. Please do not carry it in your mouth to the in timer and the pulse box. Handle it thoughtfully for the sake of our volunteers.

VET CHECK PROCEDURES:

1. As you come off trail: Stop at In-Timer Tent and shout out your rider number. In-timer will give you a slip of paper with your in-time. You do not have to give the in-timer your ride card.
2. Proceed to Crew area and take care of your horse. Tack off is mandatory for holds, including leg protection, unless cold/wet weather dictates a change, which will be discussed at ride briefing. When pulse is down, present to the P&R box.
3. As you approach P&R box (**ONE HANDLER PLEASE**), **call out your rider number** (listen for it to be called back) and give the pulse timer your ride card and in-timer slip. Pulse timer will confirm that your horse's pulse meets criteria, and In-time, P&R time and OUT time will be logged on the card.
4. Take your horse and your ride card to the vetting area.
5. Observe social distancing while in the vet area. Stand on the **OPPOSITE** side of your horse from the vet and scribe.
6. Once your horse has successfully passed the vet exam, you will be given your rider card back, and you can return to the crewing area for the duration of your hold.
7. A couple of minutes before you are to be released from the hold, go to the out-timer's tent (same as the in-timer) and shout out your number and that you are looking to be released from the hold. The out-timer will let you know when you can head back on trail.

FINISH LINE: The finish line is about ½ mile from basecamp. Endurance and Ride & Ties stop at finish line and have Henry write the finish time on the rider card. LD riders do NOT stop here, as your finish is when you meet pulse criteria; LD riders however **MUST** stop at in-timer's tent and get an in-time at basecamp. **ALL RIDERS HAVE 30 MINUTES TO MEET PULSE PARAMETER, AND ENDURANCE/RIDE&TIE HAVE AN EXTRA 15 MINUTES TO WALK BACK TO BASECAMP FROM THE FINISH LINE. THAT MEANS THAT YOU HAVE 45 MINUTES AFTER YOUR FINISH TIME TO MEET PULSE FOR ENDURANCE AND R&T, AND 30 MINUTES AFTER IN-TIME FOR LDS.**