To all Ride & Tie Race Directors:

Thank you for your support of Ride and Tie! Our sport would not exist without you. The Ride and Tie Association appreciates the hours and effort that you put in to make these races happen, and will do whatever we can to help increase participation, membership and interest in the sport. We will handle sanctioning, scheduling and insurance, and can help with publicity as well as the details of managing.

Following is an overview of what you will need to know to put on a sanctioned ride & tie.

You will find lots of helpful information including this manual, forms, Veterinary requirements, etc. on our webpage. They can be found on our website at www.rideandtie.org.

If you have any questions regarding holding or sanctioning a race, please contact our Sanctioning Officer Rhonda Venable at events@rideandtie.org. He will be happy to help you.
RACE DIRECTOR DUTIES:

As Race Director you are responsible for ensuring the following:

1. There must be one sanctioned event with a minimum distance of 20 miles.
2. The event must be run according to the Association’s Rules of Ride & Tie found on our website and in the appendix of this manual.
3. Request for sanctioning should be sixty (60) days in advance of the event. You may submit the online or downloadable form on our website or submit your form to Rhonda Venable at events@rideandtie.org. The sanctioning form can also be found in the appendix of this manual.
4. Flyers, Waivers and Registration forms should be submitted to Janice Heltibridle at janiceheltibridle@gmail.com as soon as possible for inclusion on the Association’s website.
5. Flyers may be submitted to Courtney Krueger at newsletter@rideandtie.org for inclusion in the newsletter.
6. All competitors must sign a waiver. You may design your own or use the R&T template form found on our website and in the appendix of this manual.
7. The race director must require membership in the Ride and Tie Association for all sanctioned events. You must validate membership prior to the start of the event. Competitor's names must be on the current Official Membership List obtained from the Ride and Tie Association in order to participate (you may request a list from ContactUs@rideandtie.org or check individual status on the website. If the competitor's name is not on the Membership list, he or she must fill out a Membership form and pay you the appropriate fee. Membership forms should be mailed to Ride and Tie Association, 6746 Back Rd, Maurertown, VA 22644. If, due to faulty or slow reporting of memberships the competitor joined but was not yet listed, the Ride and Tie Association will refund the second payment in full by mail following the race.
8. As Race Director, you must be a member of Ride and Tie for Insurance purposes. The Ride and Tie Association will give you a free membership for the year you manage a ride. However it is your responsibility to fill out the form found on our website and in the appendix of this manual.
9. All sanctioned events must use the Ride and Tie Association’s liability insurance. Insurance charges are based on the number of teams at the rate of $10 per team up to a maximum of $100 per day. Requests to add additional insureds must be provided to the Sanctioning Officer no later than 15 days prior to the event. After you submit the sanction form, a certificate of insurance will be emailed to you and to other insureds before the event.
10. A licensed veterinarian must check each horse before, during and after the event.
11. All veterinary checks must be of the “stop & go” variety (i.e., the horse must meet predetermined recovery criteria before continuing). No mandatory holds are allowed, with one exception: A horse having metabolic problems may be held at the discretion of the veterinarian. Criteria can be found at on our website.
12. The financial summary form can be found on our website and in the appendix of this manual. All fees including membership and insurance must be sent within two weeks following completion of the event to Ride and Tie Association
    4710 Kingsway
    Anacortes, WA 98221-3210
13. Race results should be sent to Bob Heltibridle at raceresults@rideandtie.org within two weeks following the completion of the event using the blank race results form found on our website and in the appendix of this manual. You will also find the link and instructions for submitting ride results on line.
SCHEDULING

There is no minimum time between sanctioned events. Scheduling will be on first come/first served basis. Return the **Ride & Tie Sanctioning Agreement** as early as possible to assure your event a place on the schedule and allow processing of your insurance or waiver. Plan ahead! The agreement can be completed and submitted online or downloaded from our website. A sample of the form is included in the appendix of this manual.

To have your race listed in the Ride & Tie Handbook and/or newsletter, please send information and/or a flyer to Courtney Krueger at newsletter@rideandtie.org. To be included in the handbook, you must make your submission before December 31.
SANCTIONING

Please request sanctioning as early in the year as possible. Requests for sanctioning must generally be made sixty (60) days in advance of the event in order to arrange for insurance and other administrative issues.

SANCTIONING FEE:
There is no advanced sanctioning fee. Insurance charges will be paid by the race director after the race at a cost of $10 per team, up to a maximum of $100 per day. See the section on Insurance below.

DISTANCE:
To put on a sanctioned ride & tie event, there must be one course with a distance of at least 20 miles. Shorter distances may be offered in addition, and these should also be sanctioned and insured. The maximum distance is 100 miles in one day.

BENEFITS OF SANCTIONING:
1. Advertising in the Ride & Tie Newsletter, Ride & Tie Handbook and on the Ride and Tie Association website.
2. Low cost liability insurance for your event.
3. Free membership to the Ride and Tie Association for the Race Director for the year in which the race is held.
4. Results of your event in the Ride & Tie Newsletter and on the Ride and Tie Association website.
5. Participants in your event are eligible to receive mileage and points for the Association’s annual awards.

ASSISTANCE FOR NEW RACES:
For new, first-time races, the Ride and Tie Association can provide some financial assistance, if needed. The race director should contact the Ride and Tie Association Sanctioning Director Rhonda Venable at events@rideandtie.org for assistance or for more information.

EVENT TYPES
Most ride & tie events have no special category. However, there are options available to a race director.

Pro/Am: A Pro/Am event is one where a seasoned ride & tier (a “Pro”) teams up with a novice or an amateur. In these events no team can be made up of two Pro ride & tiers. However, two novices or two amateurs can team up. Team points are not awarded at Pro/Am events.

Elevator: An elevator ride & tie is one where a team may complete the short course and then decide they want to “elevate” to the long course. If your event is categorized as an elevator event then this is allowed. Otherwise teams may not do this. Rules for an elevator race can be found on our website and in the appendix of this manual.

COMPETITOR DIVISIONS:
Pro: A competitor who has completed two sanctioned races of at least 20 miles in length, or has completed one World Championship
Amateur: A competitor who has not yet met the definition of Pro
Novice: A competitor who has never completed a course of 20 miles in length at a sanctioned event.
As a race directors you are keenly aware of liability and insurance issues. As participation in our sport grows, the Ride and Tie Association must protect itself when it “sanctions” an event. The Association must carry insurance for each sanctioned event and we pay an annual premium based on the number of events and days covered. Insurance covers property damage and bodily injury- to others, NOT to participants. The certificate is proof that our organization is insured for the specific event. If ride managers are not the property owner they usually are not included as additional insureds as they have no insurable interest. Insurance costs to Ride Managers are $10 per team, up to a maximum of $100 for each day of competition. The Ride and Tie Association subsidizes the insurance to help keep it affordable for our Race Directors.

A Certificate of Insurance (aka Insurance Certificate) is merely proof that the Association has liability insurance. It provides coverage to the landowner by our insurance carrier in the case of an accident or mishap on their property. We must have an email and address for the landowner or anyone named as additional insured. If you do not list a property owner on the form, they will not be covered by our insurance.

Even though our races are often held in conjunction with AERC or other rides, we must use the Ride and Tie Association insurance instead of that obtained by the AERC or other body. This is an insurance industry requirement. There are no exceptions.

Multi-day Events:
If your event provides for ride & tie races occurring on multiple days, each day is insured separately. The $100 maximum applies to each day. As an example, if on the first day a total of 14 teams participate in one or more events, insurance costs for that day will be $100. If on the second day seven teams participate, an additional $70 is due. Therefore, in this example a total of $170 would be payable to the Ride and Tie Association to cover both days of your event.

The insurance covers the ride manager and landowner(s) for the day before and the day after the event. The insurance does NOT cover competitors on those two days. If a competitor damages property on one of those days he or she would be completely liable for the damages.

Be aware: Claims are not payable if those involved in the situation are intoxicated.

Other Events Held In Conjunction With Your Ride & Tie:
Some ride & tie race directors hold other events, such as trail runs or mountain bike rides, coinciding with their ride & tie races. It is ok to do this, and these events can be lots of fun. However, you will need to find alternative insurance to cover participants involved in the other event. Having participants join the Ride and Tie Association will not provide them with insurance.

Note: In order for the race director to be covered by our insurance, he or she MUST be a member of the Ride and Tie Association. The Association will provide a free membership to race directors for the year in which they direct a race. You are responsible for completing a form found on our website and in the appendix of this manual. The Association cannot be held responsible for liability for race directors who fail to join the association.
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All ride & tie participants must be members of the Ride and Tie Association. For liability reasons, membership in the Association is required of participants in a sanctioned event.

It is your responsibility as a race director to verify that each participant is a member of the Association, and if not, collect the membership form and dues before the race.

You may request a list of members from ContactUs@rideandtie.org or may verify members individually online on our website.

A copy of the membership application is available on the website. Make as many copies as you need to have on hand at your race. Anyone not listed as a current member must complete the application and give you a check made payable to the Ride and Tie Association prior to the start of the race. Attach the check to the financial summary and mail it to Ride and Tie Association, 4710 Kingsway, Anacortes, WA 98221-3210. Membership forms should be mailed to Ride and Tie Association, 6746 Back Rd, Maurertown, VA 22644.

If the membership fee is paid in cash, or is paid on one check along with the entry fee, a check must be written by the race director payable to the Ride and Tie Association to cover the membership fee.

TEAMS WITH ANY COMPETITOR WHO IS NOT A CURRENT MEMBER AT THE TIME OF THE RACE WILL BE NOT BE COVERED BY OUR INSURANCE AND WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR RACE DIRECTORS
For each year that you manage a race, you will be considered a full year competitive member with all the benefits free of charge for the year in which you hold your ride & tie.

WAIVER/RELEASE:
Competitors must sign a waiver/release before participating in any event. The Ride and Tie Association should be included with the parties you name in your liability release/waiver on your entry/registration form. You may use the entry form on our website or create your own.

Your willingness to devote the hours and efforts required to put on an event is one of the most critical factors in keeping our sport alive and growing. The Association and those of us who come to your races can never thank you enough.

For more information or assistance on sanctioning a Ride & Tie, contact our Sanctioning Director,
Rhonda Venable
10102 Fire Tower Rd.
Toano, VA. 23168
757-870-3837
events@rideandtie.org

ABOVE ALL ELSE ENJOY YOURSELF AND KNOW THAT WE APPRECIATE YOU!!!
APPENDIX A: RULES OF RIDE & TIE

1. Each team will consist of two persons who are current members of the Ride and Tie Association and one horse. Throughout these Rules “horse” means “horse, pony or mule.”
2. The horse must be at least five years old.
3. No pregnant or lactating mares will be allowed to compete.
4. No foreign substance or medication may be given or administered to any horse within 72 hours before starting the event or one hour after finishing the event. This includes ointments or solutions for topical use that contain local anesthetics. All medications administered during the two weeks prior to the race must be declared in writing to the veterinarian conducting the pre-race examination.
5. All horses must be submitted for a pre-race examination.
6. There will be a predetermined number of vet checks where the horses will be observed and examined. There will be no mandatory time holds. Cut-off time limits for each check point may be established. Pulse, respiration, mucous membrane color and capillary refill, surface factors, attitude and soundness will be considered as part of the criteria for passing through to the next check. Vet check criteria will be announced prior to the races start and will be determined by the Head Veterinarian after consideration of weather, terrain, and other factors.
7. All horses must be presented to the veterinarians for a post-race veterinary examination within one hour of finishing. Horses must pass this examination for any member of that team to be eligible for completion awards. No abuse of a horse will be tolerated.
8. All decisions of the Veterinarian staff regarding the health and safety of the horse are final.
9. Artificial ties are illegal. Hand ties may be allowed at the Race Director’s discretion. Any decision to allow hand ties will be announced at the pre-race briefing.
10. Each team must tie its horse and switch from rider to runner and runner to rider at least six (6) times during an event. Teams may tie as many times as they desire anywhere along the trail as long as the ties do not obstruct the trail or are not made in designated “No Tie Areas.” A required tie will occur at each vet check. A team must exchange at least twice between vet checks. Where vet checks are so close that two exchanges may be impractical, the Race Director may allow one exchange between two specific vet checks. If a runner on a team has not been overtaken by his partner before the next vet check, then the runner must wait at the vet check for his/her partner to arrive in order to meet the required vet check tie.
11. With the exception of securing a loose horse, no person other than the team members and designated race officials may handle a team’s horse on the trail during the race. Designated team crew may work with the horse at any vet check specified by race officials to be open to crews. Race officials may require crew to obtain a pass. Only contestants may take a horse through the vet checks during the race.
12. It is not permissible for both members of a team to use their horse at the same time for forward movement. “Tailing” (meaning the rider dismounts, grips the horse’s tail and allows the horse to pull him/her) is allowed but it is not permissible for one team member to ride while another tails.
13. No pacing by an un-entered horse or runner is allowed for any contestant.
14. Riders shall be responsible for their horse’s behavior prior to and during the event. If, at the discretion of the race management, any horse becomes unruly or jeopardizes the safety of other competitors, the team may be disqualified from the event.
15. Teams must pass and report to any trail marshals who are positioned along the course. Competitors inadvertently off course must return to the point at which they left the marked trail and complete the course correctly. Teams must stay on the marked trail.
16. Any protest must be filed in writing with the Race Director within two hours of the completion of the race. Prior to the start of the awards ceremony, the Race Director shall decide on the protest. An appeal of his decisions must be filed in writing within seven days to the President of the Ride and Tie Association, whose final decision cannot be appealed.
17. A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have reached the finish line.
18. These rules apply to a sanctioned race. A race may be of any distance, but to be sanctioned there must be a Ride & Tie race of at least 20 miles in length included within the same event.
19. Competitors under 16 years of age must wear approved safety helmets while mounted during a race (helmet approval by AHSA, PCA, ANSIZ90.4, or Snell)
2023 Race Sanctioning Form

To sanction your race, submit the following to events@rideandtie.org or to The Ride and Tie Association c/o Rhonda Venable, 10102 Fire Tower Rd., Toano, VA 23168

The following is an agreement between the event management of the

Name of Event _____________________________________________________

Race Director Name(s) _____________________________________________________

and the Ride and Tie Association

Event to take place on ____________________________, 20_____

at ________________________________________________________________________________

Distance(s): ________________________________________________________________

Is this race:

Elevator: □ Yes   □ No

See special rules on elevator rides www.rideandtie.org/resources/ride-manager/

Equathon: □ Yes   □ No

Equathon Distances (i.e. 15 Ride/10 Run) ________________________________________________

To learn more about Equathon: www.rideandtie.org/what-is-equathon/

Ride & Tie is offering a stipend to AERC sanctioned Endurance Rides in 2023 which also offer a Ride & Tie Race for the very first time. The stipend will be distributed after the completion of the event in the following amounts:

$100 for offering and promoting the Ride and Tie Race at your AERC Event.
An additional $200 if you have any participants in the Ride and Tie at your AERC Event.

You must apply for the stipend (with this form) at least 60 days before the event. To apply for a stipend you must agree to actively promote the Ride & Tie portion of your event in your marketing and branding materials. You must provide completion and other awards to the Ride and Tie competitors. You must submit race results and a financial form within 14 days after the completion of the race.

To apply for a stipend, please initial here __________

What AERC region is your ride in? ________________

Have you ever offered a Ride & Tie race at this ride? _____

How many days during your event will Ride & Tie and/or Equathon races be offered? ______

The Ride & Tie Association and Southeast Endurance Riders Association (SERA) are partners allowing participating SERA members to accumulate SERA miles and be eligible for SERA Ride & Tie year end awards as well as supporting SERA in its mission to strengthen Endurance events. If you are in the Southeast (including Virginia), consider sanctioning your race with SERA as well. Cost is $3.00 per team all of which goes to the SERA.

To sanction with SERA go to www.seraonline.org/SERASecurSanction.php

Questions? Contact Sanctioning Officer Rhonda Venable at events@rideandtie.org or 757-870-3837
INSURANCE SANCTIONING FORM

An insurance certificate will be issued to the Ride manager for the location of the ride. Please list all landowning entities (government and/or private property owners) that require certificates of "Also Insured", their complete mailing address, and any additional information or necessary wording. The insurance covers the ride manager and landowner(s) for the day before and the day after the event. The insurance does NOT cover competitors on those two days. If a competitor damages property on one of those days he or she would be completely liable for the damages.

**Insurance can only be issued to a Race Director who is a member of the Ride & Tie Association.** Failure to join or renew your membership will nullify your insurance. Because you are helping our sport by serving as a Race Director, we gratefully offer you a complimentary membership. To renew or join, go to [www.rideandtie.org/membership/](http://www.rideandtie.org/membership/)

Race Name ___________________________________________   Race Date(s)_____________________

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<tr>
<th>Race Director</th>
<th>Race Director phone</th>
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<td>Race Director address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Race Director email</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location of Race</td>
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<td>(e.g. Cherokee Natl Forest)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Address of race</td>
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<td>(include city, state, zip)</td>
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<td>Additional relevant</td>
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<td>information</td>
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Landowner #1 (i.e. The National Forest where the event is taking place or a private landowner)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Mailing Address</td>
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<td>Additional relevant information</td>
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<td>insurance language requirements</td>
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<td>from the landowner</td>
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APPENDIX C: Membership Form

The Ride and Tie Association Membership Form

Send form and payment to: The Ride and Tie Association – Membership, 6746 Back Rd, Maurertown, VA 22644
Or sign up online at www.rideandtie.org/membership/

DATE: ______________________________

Annual membership runs from January 1 – December 31.

As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, these membership contributions may be tax deductible.

### New | Renew | Last Name | First Name | MI | Gender

|   |   |   |   |

### Street Address (for mailing purposes):

City: | State: | Zip code: |

Phone: | Email: |

Do you want your contact information listed in the annual handbook? Yes | No

Do you want to receive a printed copy of the newsletters (versus viewing them online)?

Do you want to receive emails with updates regarding R&T news? ———

How did you learn about R&T? Website | Expo/Convention | Magazine/Newspaper | Other (specify)

### Type of Membership:

- **Race Director for:**
  (Complimentary - for the season in which you direct a race.) You MUST fill out this form and return it with sanctioning form in order for your event to be insured and sanctioned. You receive all competitor member benefits.

- **Upgrading from Complimentary and/or Competitor to Family:** ($15) You receive all family member benefits.

- **Competitor Member:** ($25) Will receive Ride & Tie newsletter and handbook; one vote on Association general membership issues; eligibility for all sanctioned Ride & Tie events held during membership year; inclusion and eligibility for national points/mileage year end awards.

- **One Day Competitor:** ($10) Will NOT receive Ride & Tie newsletter and handbook; NO voting privileges. Are eligible for national points/mileage year end awards.

- **Family Membership:** ($40) Immediate family living at the same address. List all names (first and last) to be included. Same benefits as Competitor member, two votes per family.

- **Lifetime Member:** ($500) Same benefits as Competitor member with no more annual membership fees.

- **Friend of Ride & Tie** ($20 or more) Non-competitive member showing support for Ride & Tie. No voting privileges. Will receive newsletter.

- **Fall Special** ($30) If joining or renewing on/after October 1, membership will be extended through December 31 of the following year. You receive all competitor member benefits.
APPENDIX D: SAMPLE Liability Release

NOTE: Both riders must be members of the Ride and Tie Association.

THIS IS A RELEASE. IT CONTAINS LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY. READ IT!!!

I understand that Ride and Ties are hazardous activities which involve being in remote areas for a long time; that these areas have many natural and man-made hazards which race management cannot anticipate, identify, modify, or eliminate; that horses can be excitable, difficult to control, and unpredictable; and that accidents can happen to anyone at anytime, and that there is NO ambulance or medical help present.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM ENTERING THIS EVENT AT MY OWN RISK and upon acceptance of my application for entry in the above-described race, I acknowledge that I assume FULL RESPONSIBILITY for my own safety. I and my heirs, executors, and administrators, will hold the Ride and Tie Association and all officers and directors thereof, any member of the race management and race personnel, and all property owners/tenants whose land the race crosses BLAMELESS for any injury or loss to myself or my horse which occurs due to my participation and free from all liability for such injury or loss. In short, I will not sue the race management, their personnel, landowners or tenants, and the Ride and Tie Association for ANY REASON!

I am fully aware of all race rules and agree to abide by those rules set down by the race management and the Ride and Tie Association. I fully understand the consequences for not following race rules. As a participant in this race, I have read the above liability release and will agree to abide by ALL rules.

I grant my irrevocable permission to the Ride and Tie Association, its authorized agents, and the event photographer, to use my name and any photographs, videos, motion pictures, records, or any other record of my participation in this event.

Rider #1: ______________________________________________________ DATE: _____________
Rider #2: _______________________________________________________ DATE: _____________
Horse Owner: ___________________________________________________ DATE: _____________

MINORS OR JUNIORS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING RELEASE SIGNED. We, the undersigned parents or guardians understand that Ride and Tie can be a hazardous activity, that injuries or accidents can occur, and that this ride has no medical aid or insurance for my child. We have entered our child in the above named ride AT THEIR OWN RISK and understand that we will assume full responsibility for the child's safety. We have read the above release that our child, as a rider, has signed and fully understand the release and ride rules. We agree to release the Ride and Tie Association, AERC, PNER, and all officers, directors and all members of ride management and personnel, and all landowners/tenants, from all claims, demands, law suits or liabilities which might otherwise arise by virtue of injury to our child or child's horse, no matter who is at fault. We do further authorize any ride personnel of the above ride to consent in our behalf to any emergency medical treatment by a properly licensed person, which may be required for our child, and do agree to indemnify and hold harmless anyone giving such consent. I grant my irrevocable permission to the Ride and Tie Association, its authorized agent, and the event photographer, to use my child’s name and any photographs, videos, motion pictures, records, or any other record of my child’s participation in this event.

For rider #1: ________________________________ DATE: _____________ Relationship to the above named minor: _________________________

For rider #2: ________________________________ DATE: _____________ Relationship to the above named minor: _________________________
APPENDIX E: Financial Summary Form

Race Manager’s Financial Summary

Race Name __________________________________________________________________________

Race Manager __________________________________________________________________________

Race Date(s) __________________________________________________________________________

Insurance Fees

Number of teams 1st race day __________ x $10 = ___________ (daily maximum $100)

Number of teams 2nd race day __________ x $10 = ___________ (daily maximum $100)

Number of teams 3rd race day __________ x $10 = ___________ (daily maximum $100)

Ride and Tie Membership Fees

x $25 (individual) = ___________

x $40 (family) = ___________

(please also ensure that you enclose the membership registration form/s)

Additional donations or other income

(please give contact info for donations or explanation for other)

Total enclosed ___________

Mail check(s) and form(s) to:

Ride and Tie Association
4710 Kingsway
Anacortes, WA  98221-3210

**********

Are you planning to manage this event next year? ___________

Preferred and/or set dates ___________

What suggestions do you have for the Ride and Tie Association to improve the sanctioning process or any other suggestions for improving our sport?
On-Line Ride Results
Use the link below to connect to the on-line results system in Google forms to fill out the Ride Results.
https://forms.gle/HZnXMgKTxa654q3R9
You will see a window with “Ride Results”, under that will be a box that has “Fill out Form”. Click on it to open.
It will take you to the form.
Just answer the questions.
Event Name:
Your Name:
Event Type: select Ride and Tie or Equathon
Event Date: use the TAB key to move around
Event Distance:
Finish Place: 1st, 2nd, 3rd or DNF if they got pulled or didn’t finish
Finish Time: hours and minutes (don’t worry about the am-pm) use the TAB key to move around
Division: M/M, M/W, W/W, IRON
Competitor 1 Name:
Competitor 1 Member Number: If they are a new member and don’t yet have a number type (New Member)
Competitor 2 Name:
Competitor 2 Member Number: If they are a new member and don’t yet have a number type (New Member)
Horse Name:
Horse Owners Name:
Best Condition: check the box if they won this.
AFTER you finish with the first team hit “Submit” at the bottom of the page, it will bring you back to the beginning “Ride Results”. Select “Submit another Response” to add the next Team.
Continue this until you have finished each distance.
Please do each distance as a group and also do Ride and Tie then Equathon if one was held.
Thank you for using the NEW Ride Results System
Questions or Problems please contact Bob Heltibridle at raceresults@rideandtie.org
APPENDIX G: Elevator Race Rules

Elevator Rides Some teams who have signed up for a short course ride & tie may decide that they are having so much fun that they wish they had signed up for the long course. If the ride & tie event is considered an “elevator ride” then competitors may “elevate” to a longer distance. The race director must decide in advance if his or her event will be considered an elevator ride and sanction it as such. Following are the guidelines:

1. A team may elevate only one distance level
2. If a team chooses to elevate it will not get credit for the shorter distance once they’ve committed to elevate even if they do not complete the longer distance (in other words, upon elevating, the rider is no longer considered a starter or a finisher in the shorter distance)
3. The team must pay the entry fee charged for the longer distance
4. The team must start at the same time and follow the same course as the longer distance.