

Tack Swap/Sale At Ride!
Spring-clean your
tackroom/trailer and turn your
excess tack into \$\$!

Shanghai Trails Endurance Ride Ride&Tie/Equathon

March 29-30, 2025

Sanctioned by AERC, TERA, and RIDE&TIE Association

Ride Manager: Cindy Kovalchuk, 281-961-5810 (cell), cindyatsaddlebrook@yahoo.com
Mailing address: 617 County Rd 52, Rosharon TX 77583

Location: Pierce Ranch, Pierce TX. Ride camp is at Cow Camp (KP Lodge). **Google Map directions: Pierce Ranch Bunkhouse #2.** Do not go to ranch office, we are at Cow Camp (KP Lodge) facility.

DIRECTIONS: For Google Map directions, put in “Pierce Ranch Bunkhouse #2”, this should take you right to our Ridecamp. Going south from Houston on Hwy 59, turn left on CR 423 just past Wharton Municipal Airport on the left, and Juniors Smokehouse on the right. Going north from El Campo on Hwy 59, turn right on CR 423 just past Pierce. Follow signs to Lodge (Cow Camp).

Campsite: Camp opens Friday 28th at 9:00 am. Primitive camping, open pasture. Horse water & portapotties. If you don't want primitive, **rent a Lodge bed, \$110 per bed for Friday night-Sunday morning, and enjoy fully furnished bed & bath amenities. RESERVE LODGE BED WITH RIDE MANAGER.**

Meals: Offered by BS Troop 487 AND Mrs. Smallz Food Truck! Saturday night: Our traditional Spaghetti dinner prepared and served by Boy Scout Troop 487, please support this fundraiser! Purchase Saturday dinner tickets at check-in, \$10 donation to Troop 487. Breakfast tacos also offered, and Food Truck has all meals and snacks, many food options this year so please support!

Trails/Vet Checks: All vet checks are in camp. This is Coastal Prairie Region of Texas, terrain is flat and grassy, no established horse trails. Footing is mostly grass, cow paths, native woods, jeep track, open pasture, packed-clay ranch roads. See Shanghai Trails Endurance Ride Facebook group for trail photos.

Rules/Regulations: This ride will be conducted in accordance with AERC rules & regulations (see <https://aerc.org> Competition/Rules & Regulations). **Riders must check in during roll call, and be on trail within 15 minutes of start time. Junior riders must have protective headgear while mounted. Time to meet pulse criteria at finish is 30 minutes for all distances.**

Entry: Early entries are so helpful and appreciated! Checks post-dated to ride date accepted. If you do not start, your check will be destroyed. Late entries accepted at ride. Discounts include Junior discount, TERA discount, and Second-Day discount for Sunday if you start on Saturday! **Write separate checks for each day!**

Awards: Completion award plus prizes for Best Condition, Top Ten, and other special achievements to the extent of donations from award sponsors.

Preliminary Schedule: (Early arrivals/late departures must be arranged with Ride Manager)

Friday, Mar 28th	Saturday, Mar 29th	Sunday, Mar 30th
9:00 am Camp Opens	7:00 am – Endurance Start	8:00 am – LD Start
2:00 pm Registration	8:00 am – LD/8:15 am Intro Start	8:15 am – Intro Start
3:00 pm Pre-Ride Vetting	6:30 pm – Dinner	Awards Meeting within 2 hours
7:00 pm Ride Meeting	7:00 pm – Awards/Pre-Ride Meeting	After Last Rider In

We will strive to use the best footing and water sources on the ranch as we lay out miles of trail for your enjoyment. Keep in mind, Pierce Ranch is a working cattle/agricultural/drilling/waterfowl enterprise with no established horse trails. There could be hazards such as barbed wire, post holes, uneven and sudden changes in terrain; gopher & ant mounds, hog wallows, erosion and boggy areas; ditches, culverts, cattle guards; ruts and wash-outs. Wildlife abounds including deer, hogs, armadillo and alligator; even a panther and gorilla have been seen. Please be vigilant, adjust speed according to ever-changing conditions.

Negative Coggins required on all equines entering the Ranch. Riders are responsible for any vet fees that may be individually incurred. Dog Owners – Please Be a Considerate Camper. Non-generator area will be designated.

Shanghai Trails Endurance Ride

Entry No. _____

Rider AERC # _____ Rider Name _____

Circle Wt Div:

Featherweight 160 lbs or less; Lightweight 161- 185 lbs; Middleweight 186-210 lbs; Heavyweight >210 lbs
Or

Junior Rider: Age _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

Junior Sponsor Name: _____ Entry # _____

Rider Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ email: _____

Saturday: Horse AERC # _____ Horse Name: _____

Circle Distance: 50-55 mi: \$120 25-30 mi: \$110 10-15 mi: \$70 (No fee/discount applicable)

Ride Fee for Distance Circled Above: \$ _____

Junior & Young Rider Discount -\$30

TERA Discount -\$5 (TERA # _____ current 2024)

AERC Day Fee +\$20 (25-50 mi only, pay if not current AERC member)

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____ Check # _____ (Write Separate Check for Each Day)

Sunday: Horse AERC # _____ Horse Name: _____

Circle Distance: 25-30 mi: \$110 10-15 mi: \$70 (No fee/no discounts applicable)

Ride Fee for Distance Circled Above: \$ _____

Junior & Young Rider Discount -\$30

TERA Discount -\$5 (TERA # _____ current 2024)

2-day Rider Discount -\$5 (Started on Saturday, any distance)

AERC Day Fee +\$20 (pay if not current AERC member for 25-30 mi)

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____ Check # _____ (Write Separate Check for Each Day)

Lodge reservations are made directly with Ride Manager, and confirmed upon receipt of lodge payment. Lodge payment: \$110 Check # _____ Amount: _____

Make all checks payable to Cindy Kovalchuk (281-961-5810; cindyatsaddlebrook@yahoo.com) and submit with Entry Form/signed Release to:

Cindy Kovalchuk
617 County Rd 52
Rosharon TX 77583

(Include Coggins or present at Registration)

Office Use Only:

Saturday Entry: Check # _____ Amt _____

Sunday Entry: Check # _____ Amt _____

Lodge Bed: Check # _____ Amt _____

Coggins Presented: _____

Release Signed: _____

Pierce Ranch & Shanghai Trails Release

The following constitutes a release of liability to Pierce Ranch and all personnel associated with Shanghai Trails Endurance Ride for

(Rider Name)

I have read the ride flyer and the rules in the American Endurance Ride Conference handbook.

I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in this event, as a rider, handler, lessee, owner, agent, coach, trainer, junior exhibitor, or as a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. **I AM FULLY AWARE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HORSE SPORTS AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT INVOLVE SERIOUS RISK OF HARM INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RISKS OF ACCIDENT, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, BROKEN BONES, HEAD INJURIES, TRAUMA, PAIN, AND SUFFERING, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE. I ASSUME ALL RISKS OF HARM TO ME, MY HORSE OR MY PROPERTY. I AGREE** for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns **to release** ride management, the facilities leased by ride management and the owner(s) of the facilities, and all of their respective officers, officials, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers, affiliated organizations and insurers (collectively, the "Released Parties") from any and **all claims for damage, loss, or injury to myself, other persons, horses or other property** belonging to me to the fullest extent permitted by law that arises out of or relates in any way to the Event and my participation in the Event **INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DAMAGES, LOSS, OR INJURY RESULTING FROM ANY ACTS, FAILURE TO ACT, NEGLIGENCE OR NEGLECT OF OTHER ENTRANTS, THE RELEASED PARTIES, THEIR CONTRACTORS OR INVITEES**, as well as for theft, vandalism, fire, other casualty damage, or damage arising out of any defects in the premises. **I AGREE to indemnify and hold harmless** (that is pay all losses, damages, attorneys fees and costs of) the Released Parties from and against any and all claims, demands, penalties, actions, losses, costs, damages, injuries, liabilities and obligations (including attorneys fees) of whatsoever kind and nature, which may be asserted against or incurred by any of them as a result of (1) my participation in the Event or (2) any act, failure to act, or neglect (a) by me, my agents, employees, riders, handlers, trainers, coaches, contractors or invitees, or (b) by any animal owned or exhibited by me or in my custody or control. **I AGREE and represent** that I am qualified and eligible to enter and/or participate in the Event and every horse I am entering is qualified and eligible as entered.

I hereby release **Pierce Ranch** and their employees from any liability to me, my heirs or assigns, because of accidental or intentional injuries or death to myself. I also release you notwithstanding that said injuries or death may be occasioned by ordinary negligence of Pierce Ranch. I hereby agree to protect, indemnify, safe and hold harmless Pierce Ranch from any and all liability, damages, losses, causes of action, claims or demands, whether groundless or not, and all costs and expenses of every kind, including attorney's fees, which may be asserted against Pierce Ranch or its agents or employees by any person or persons whomsoever on account of injuries or death to myself.

I hereby agree that my activities on this date and in the future will be so conducted as to avoid damage to any of Pierce Ranch fences, livestock, equipment or other installations. I also agree to be liable to the ranch for the cost of any and all damages of any kind attributable to, or in connection with, or resulting from accidental or intentional negligence on my part.

Any person who does not comply with the above rules will be removed from the property, losing any additional visitation rights to the property and all fees and deposits that have been paid.

SIGNED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

PRINTED NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

IF UNDER 18, PARENT OR GUARDIAN:

PRINTED NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

NAME

PHONE



Ride & Tie and Equathon Shanghai Trails Endurance

◆ SAT-SUN, March 29th & 30th, 2025 ◆

Pierce Ranch - Pierce TX

RIDER #1 INFORMATION

RIDER #2 INFORMATION

Rider #1 Name:	Rider #2 Name:
Street Address:	Street Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:
Phone #:	Phone #:
Email Address:	Email Address:
T-Shirt Size:	T-Shirt Size:

R&T Association #:	First R&T? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	R&T Association #:	First R&T? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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HORSE INFORMATION

Horse's Name:	Breed:
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Mare <input type="checkbox"/> Gelding <input type="checkbox"/> Stallion	Age: <input type="checkbox"/> Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut <input type="checkbox"/> Bay <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Horse Owner:	

All participants must be members of the Ride and Tie Association (www.rideandtie.org). Membership is \$35 per person for an entire year and may be included with race registration.

Ride & Tie/Equathon Distance/Day (Below distances are estimates, exact mileage will be known 2 weeks prior to ride date)		Entry Fee Pay this amount per day/distance		Subtotal
Saturday	Sunday			
<input type="checkbox"/> Equathon 11-12 ride/6-7 run	<input type="checkbox"/> Equathon 11-12 ride/6-7 run	\$100		
<input type="checkbox"/> Equathon 14-15 ride/11-12 run	<input type="checkbox"/> Equathon 14-15 ride/11-12 run	\$120		
<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 6-7 Miles	<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 6-7 Miles	\$ 90		
<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 10-14 Miles	<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 10-14 Miles	\$100		
<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 21-25 Miles	<input type="checkbox"/> R&T 21-25 Miles	\$120		
Ride & Tie annual membership fee of \$35/adult or \$15/junior		<input type="checkbox"/> Rider #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Rider #2	
Ride & Tie one-day membership fee of \$15/adult or \$5/junior		<input type="checkbox"/> Rider #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Rider #2	
(NOTE: Ride & Tie annual family membership fee is \$50)		TOTAL DUE =		

➤➤MAKE SURE TO SIGN & RETURN all forms.◀◀

Mail entry with payment, signed liability releases, membership form if new or renewing, and copy of current Coggins to:
Cindy Kovalchuk, 617 County Rd 52, Rosharon, TX 77583
 Cindy's phone: 281-961-5810 Email: cindyatsaddlebrook@yahoo.com

We will strive to use the best footing and water sources on the ranch as we lay out miles of trail for your enjoyment. Keep in mind, Pierce Ranch is a working cattle/agricultural/drilling/waterfowl enterprise with no established horse trails. There could be hazards such as barbed wire, post holes, uneven and sudden changes in terrain; gopher & ant mounds, hog wallows, erosion and boggy areas; ditches, culverts, cattle guards; ruts and wash-outs. Wildlife abounds including deer, hogs, armadillo and alligator; even a panther and gorilla have been seen. Please be vigilant, adjust speed according to ever-changing conditions.

Negative Coggins required on all equines entering the ranch. Riders are responsible for any vet fees that may be individually incurred. Dog Owners – Please Be a Considerate Camper. Non-generator area will be designated.

Ride & Tie Liability Release

This release must be signed and returned with your ride entry.
No cross-outs or additions are permitted.

As a participant in a ride sponsored by the Ride and Tie Association, I agree to abide by the rules of the Ride & Tie Association. In consideration for permission to enter and participate in the Ride and Ties, I do hereby for myself, my heirs and assigns, release and hold harmless ride management, ride personnel, all property owners over whose land the ride crosses, the Ride & Tie Association, their agents, officers, servants, employees and officials, from all claims, demands, actions and causes of action of any kind, for injury or death sustained by me or my horse, and damage to my property, incurred during this ride, arising from negligence or any other fault. "Ride" includes from the time I and my horse arrive at base camp until the time that we leave the premises, as well as the actual event. "Horse" means the animal(s) I am riding, driving, or have entered. I understand that horseback riding is an inherently dangerous activity and am aware that 1) the ride involves being in areas for extended periods of time far from communications, transportation, medical and veterinary assistance; 2) that these areas have many natural and man-made hazards, which ride management cannot anticipate, modify, or eliminate; 3) that both my own horse and those of other contestants can be excitable, difficult to control and unpredictable, and can panic, bite, rear, kick, strike, stumble or fall; 4) that as a result of participating in the ride, I or my horse may be injured, die, or my property damaged. I agree to take full responsibility for myself and my horse and for any other party or animal that accompanies me; I recognize that the ride is a strenuous activity and I represent that I and my horse are in adequate physical and mental condition to participate. I recognize that my participation in the ride is voluntary.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE LIABILITY RELEASE, AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY ITS TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

Rider #1 Printed Name: _____

Rider #1 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Rider #2/Equathon Runner Printed Name _____

Rider #2 / Equathon Runner Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____
(if junior rider)

RULES OF RIDE & TIE

(revised January 2025)

Violation of any rule may result in disqualification.

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, donkey, burro, or mule.”
2. The horse must be at least four years (48 months) old if competing in distances 19 miles or less, and five years (60 months) old if competing in distances of 20 miles or longer.
3. No pregnant or lactating mares will be allowed to compete.
4. In alignment with AERC, 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 event must be declared in writing to the veterinarian conducting the pre-ride examination.
5. All horses must be submitted for a pre- and post-ride examination.
6. All horses must be presented for a post-ride veterinary examination within a half hour of the horse crossing the finish line. Horses must pass this examination for any member of that team to be eligible for completion awards and points.
7. 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 ride start and will be determined by the Head Veterinarian after consideration of weather, terrain, and other factors.
8. All decisions of the Veterinarian staff regarding the health and safety of the horse are final. No abuse of a horse will be tolerated.
9. Before the Start there will be an Agreed upon “Start and Finish line”.
10. Artificial ties are illegal. An artificial tie is anything that does not exist along the trail for all participants to tie to. For example, a contestant cannot carry a metal stake and hammer with them and create an “artificial tie” as they go. Hand ties may be allowed at the Ride Manager's discretion. Any decision to allow hand ties will be announced at the pre-ride briefing.
11. Each team must 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 exchange 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 Ride Manager 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 exchange.
12. With the exception of securing a loose horse, no person other than the team members and designated ride officials may handle a team's horse on the trail during the event. Designated team crew may work with the horse at any vet check specified by ride officials to be open to crews. Ride officials may require crew to obtain a pass. Only contestants may take a horse through the vet checks during the event.
13. 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.
14. No pacing by an un-entered horse or runner is allowed for any contestant.
15. Riders shall be responsible for their horse's behavior prior to and during the event. If, at the discretion of the ride management, any horse becomes unruly or jeopardizes the safety of other participants, the team may be disqualified from the event.
16. 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.
17. Any protests must be made in accordance with the Association's Protest Policy.
18. A team has not completed the event until both human teammates and their horse have crossed the finish line.
19. These rules apply to a sanctioned event. A ride may be of any distance, but to be sanctioned there must be a Ride & Tie of at least 20 miles in length offered within the same event.
20. Competitors under 16 years of age must wear approved safety helmets while mounted during a ride (helmet approval by AHSA, PCA, ANSIZ90.4, or Snell)

RULES OF EQUATHON

(revised January 2025)

What is an Equathon: An Equathon consists of a TEAM of two persons (Rider/Runner) and one horse, or IRON consisting of one person (Rides/Runs) and one horse competing on a pre-determined course.

The length of the run must be at least 25% of the length of the ride.

The Rider completes their portion of the course first before the Runner starts their portion of the event. The Runner may start after the horse reaches pulse criteria taken by official race staff, but prior to the veterinary examination. The clock runs continuously until the runner reaches the finish line.

Iron person rides the designated course first and then runs the second part of the course. The clock runs continuously until the runner reaches the finish line. They must start the run portion within 30 minutes of the horse passing the pulse criteria. Designated crew may present the horse for both the pulse and the veterinary exam.

Completion Time: The "Completion Time" is when the runner crosses the finish line. In addition, the horse must PASS the post-ride exam meeting "fit to continue" criteria otherwise the team will be disqualified.

Long Course: Is combined rider/runner mileage of 20 miles or longer.

Short Course: Is combined rider/runner mileage of less than 20 miles.

General rules:

1. All participants must be current members of the Ride & Tie Association. Throughout these rules, "horse" means "horse, pony, donkey, burro, or mule."
2. The horse must be at least four years (48 months) old if competing in distances 19 miles or less, and five years (60 months) old if competing in distances of 20 miles or longer.
3. NO pregnant or lactating mares will be allowed to compete.
4. In alignment with AERC, no foreign substance or medication may be given or administered to any horse within 72 hours before starting 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 event must be declared in writing to the veterinarian conducting the pre-ride examination.
5. All horses must be submitted for a pre- and post-ride examination.
6. All horses must be presented for a post-ride veterinary examination within a half an hour of the horse crossing the finish line. Horses must pass this examination for any member of that team to be eligible for completion awards and points.
7. **Horses traveling less than 10 miles** require standard pre- and post-ride examinations.
8. Veterinarians will determine pulse criteria which may differ from Ride & Tie horses. Pulse must be taken/certified by official ride staff.
9. If the ride portion is 20 miles or longer, there will be a mandatory hold as pre-determined by the head veterinarian for the horse at any vet check(s).
10. All decisions of the Veterinarian staff regarding the health and safety of the horse including altering any horse related Equathon rules are final. NO abuse of a horse will be tolerated.
11. Before the Start there will be an Agreed upon "Start and Finish line".
12. Riders shall be responsible for their horse's behavior prior to and during the event. If, at the discretion of the ride management, any horse becomes unruly or jeopardizes the safety of other participants, the team may be disqualified from the event.
13. Competitors 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.
14. Any protests must be made in accordance with the Association's Protest Policy
15. The Runner (for both Standard Equathon and Iron Person) must report to the event timer for the official run portion start and finish time and follow the designated course.
16. All minors under age 16 must wear approved safety helmets by AHSA, PCA, ANSIZ90.4 or Snell while mounted during the event.