



Elaine Ruprecht

I wish to run for a position as a Member of the Ride & Tie board and would like your endorsement and vote this election. I did my first ride and tie in 1980 and have more than 1600 competition miles. I have been a ride and tier, endurance rider, crew member and runner for over 40 years. It seems to be part of the DNA of my family. My father was a board member of Ride & Tie Association as Treasurer and I helped put on several World Championships with my parents.

My husband Jim Howard's horse Magic Sirocco is in the Hall of Fame and my brother-in-law Tom Gey and I competed on his horse Find afar, many, many times to earn Horse of Distinction. Both of these horses were descendants of my horse, Anwar Magic.

I can bring a wealth of experience to the Ride and Tie Association board of directors along with a fresh perspective since this will be my first time serving on the board.

I would be honored to be able to serve on the Ride & Tie Board and share in the excitement, new growth of our sport, its revitalization and the sound management of our Association.

Thank you for your support.



Carrie Baris

My name is Carrie Baris and I began my Ride and Tie career a decade ago with a ride at Clemson in South Carolina. Since then, I have completed almost 5,000 competitive miles in ride and tie, and many equathon miles as well. Over the past nine years, I have served on the Board of Directors, most of them as the Secretary. I manage multiple events throughout the season. In 2019 I bought my own ride and tie pony, and we have competed in numerous races with various partners. And I just purchased a three year old Arabian to bring into the ride and tie family as well. I plan my weekends around races through our season, and try to bring in as many new people as possible, as well as partnering with friends. I have made the best group of friends through this sport, and I can honestly say it has influenced my life for the better, especially since it connected me with my fiancé, Chris. My favorite thing about this community is the openness of its members. I have borrowed horses from many, many different people and love how generous everyone is with their time and their mounts.



Lauren Bilsky

I want to join the board because I am passionate about Ride & Tie and helping it flourish.

After many years of running and riding separately, I finally started participating in Ride & Ties in 2023 and never looked back. I love watching both my human and equine partners gain confidence on the trails. I also enjoy how the sport is welcoming to all, whether the goal is a cooperative, fun day on the trails, or competitive racing as friendly rivals.

Last year, I was the race director for the first ride and tie in the Pittsburgh area, and this year I am managing a new stand-alone Ride & Tie/Equathon. I co-founded an organization to bring together trail runners and horseback riders (PARRTA), and we are once again hosting an intro clinic, as well as monthly group run/rides, to promote interest in the sport. We also host trail work days to ensure continued access to trails and successful rides.

Thank you for considering me for this opportunity, and I look forward to seeing you out on the trails!