

Ride and Tie Board Meeting August 27, 2024 8 pm EST/5 pm PST

1. Call to order - 5:08pm/8:08pm
2. Roll call - Carrie Baris, Rhonda Venable, Bob Heltibridge, Barb Mathews, Sara Boelt, Steve Shaw, Lani Newcomb, Chris Amaral, Greg Fellers, Steve Anderson.
3. Approval of minutes from July 16, 2024. Motion to accept minutes: Steve Shaw. Second: Greg. Motion passed.
4. World Championship 2024 - Sue Smyth - October 12-13, Cool, CA. July date canceled because of extreme heat. One equathon team refunded, but one member of the team re-entered. One long course team refunded since horse passed away. After September 1st, no full refunds will be given.
5. Location for 2025 World Championships - no location has been determined yet.
6. Decade Horse Award - For Ride and Tie only. Specifically recognizes the longevity of the horse regardless of partners. Would have to have competed for ten years, does not have to be consecutive. Bob will crunch the numbers and look at results and report back next month.
7. AERC/Ride and Tie Discussions - Joint meeting was August 20th. Focused on insurance and sanctioning, as well as the newsletter. Also discussed how statistics work. AERC insurance does not insure runners, only the horses. AERC has paid office staff, so there was some discussion of how their workload would increase. There is no proposal from either board to move forward with.
8. Monetary Ideas Promoting Ride and Tie:
 - a. Contacting West Coast AERC ride managers to discuss including Ride and Tie/Equathon - Chris will try and speak to some ride managers.
 - b. Ad in Endurance News with dates, social media, and contact information - Chris will contact Courtney about creating one.
 - c. Advertising on social media - agreed to spend money on it, but no one assigned to the task.
 - d. Stipend for ride managers - supplementing all ride and tie managers versus first time ride managers. No one assigned to this task.
 - e. Reduced entry fees for Ride and Tie/Equathon - idea to supplement fees so the races are cheaper. No one assigned to this task, but it is similar to the idea of creating a discretionary grant fund for ride managers.
 - f. Post Cards with information on them to provide at rides, or a QR code on race bibs that people could scan. No one assigned to this task.
 - g. Have clinics at Ride and Tie/Equathon races to promote the sport. No one assigned to this task.
 - h. Ride and Tie High School Scholarship - in addition to the vet scholarship. Yearly scholarship for a high school student who is a member of the Ride and Tie Association. No one assigned to this task.

i. Discretionary Grant Fund for Ride and Tie Managers - online application for specific needs.
No one assigned to this task.

j. Send newsletters to every AERC ride manager, not just managers who put on rides. Bob will look into an address list.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 24th 5pm/8pm

Meeting Adjourned: 6:36pm/9:36pm