

## Final Pre-Championship Notes

by Mary Ann Buxton

**D**ear Ride & Tie Family,  
 On the long weekend of May 20-24, Mary Tiscornia, Steve Shaw and I traveled up to Klamath Falls to look at the course. Cam Curtiss and Ron Kelly are proposing for the 1999 Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship Race. We were struck by how beautiful it is! The campsite was covered with snow when we were there last November, and it has only just warmed up. The first view you get of the site is from the top of the hill, and you see a vast green meadow with a stream and some irrigation ditches, and snowcovered peaks in the background. On the way up we passed Klamath Lake with its varied birdlife, including white pelicans, egrets, Canadian geese, yellow headed blackbirds, cinnamon teal, and sandhill cranes.

The campsite itself has lots of trees for shade and water is running well right now. Because of the late spring, there will likely be mosquitos, and Cam says he sprays regularly every Wednesday (with Malathion) to keep them at bay. If you're sensitive, you'll want to be out of camp around 5:00 pm, when the regular spraying takes place. He'll also spray on Friday - time to be posted. We are asking for chips to be scattered on the road through camp to try and keep down on the dust. You can help by driving slowly.

The course at this time is very fast,

rather flat and mostly on old logging roads. The start of the race will be exciting for spectators and participants as well. Make sure you pre-ride the starting meadow as there are some irrigation ditches you'll want to know well before galloping over them! The views – especially on the first loop – are spectacular! One stretch has Aspen lake in the foreground and snow covered Mt. Shasta in the background. There are plenty of trees for ties. We've had to alter the course already because a bald eagle has nested along the proposed route. We have asked for more hills and trails. We'll see the changes when we go back the first week in July.

The surface is primarily graded, but there are sections with ground-up lava rock that can be sharp on horses' feet. During the clinic, one rider's mount had a bad bruise. Mary Tiscornia suggests using Easyboots.

Annette Parsons and her husband Jim Clover joined us to "GIS" the course. Annette had her high tech equipment with her and will provide a very accurate map, for which we're very grateful.

The R & T clinic on the 22nd went stunningly well. Twenty-two people came from near and far to hear Mary Tiscornia and Steve Shaw reveal their winning strategies and training tips. From the great questions asked, it was a group of "quickstarts" and they'll all be leading

their own clinics in no time at all! Our local organizing crew headed by Tim Kerns even thought to provide us with a Port-a-potty!

Tim's doing a great job of getting local cooperation. Jan Kelley, our volunteer coordinator, was there to report on all the local people that are excited about helping us out. Cam and Jennie Curtiss, owners of Rock Creek Ranch could not have been more hospitable, and we're looking forward to hearing their band "Outta Nowhere" both Wednesday for the "surprise" and Saturday at the banquet. We had fun meeting the Shriner's Muleteer Desert Patrol, who will be providing the food for the BBQ. They are going out of their way to cook up a delicious, yet nutritious meal! They'll add lots of local color as well! Most of them were hiking, riding, hunting and fishing in these back woods way back when. Ask them to tell you their stories!

There are two entries to the race site – depending which way you're coming on 140 W. Make sure you don't turn left at the bottom of the hill opposite Rock Creek Ranch. You are likely to be rear-ended! Oregon Department of Transportation has asked Cam to open up the EAST entrance at the top of the hill, where there are 4 lanes, and people aren't traveling so fast. SO if you're traveling northwest from Klamath Falls, turn left

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# President's Message

by Mary Tiscornia

**H**ello, everyone.

Steve Shaw, Maryann Buxton and I went to the race site in Klamath Falls to conduct a local clinic, review the trail, and pull some things together, so I thought I'd give a report.

It took us about 6+ hours from the Bay Area with a horse trailer. There was no check at the border into Oregon but they may spot check, so have your Coggins and health certificate just to be safe.

The clinic went well with about 10 teams and the word is that we should have more than our usual number of Oregonians. Sherode Powers dropped by with a horse for Steve. It was great to see him.

The trail is on property belonging to Cam Curtis and U.S. Timberlands (a private logging company). It will be 40 miles long, fast, and relatively flat. There will be three loops, all starting and ending in camp. The footing is generally good with a few rocky sections. I would recommend Easyboots because of the faster pace, especially if you plan to be a front runner. Steve and I are working with Cam and Ron to put in more off-trail sections and some steeper pitches. I think, however, you will all find the trail quite nice. There are some great views and some lovely galloping sections.

The start is in a large beautiful meadow about a mile long and half that wide. The footing is terrific with no holes but, it does have an irrigation ditch running across it. It may have some water in it and, while not deep or wide, will come up quickly. If you have the chance, you might practice galloping over a ditch or two. There is plenty of room to spread out but, as everyone knows, the start is usually less than calm and we do funnel down to a road about 3/4 of a mile out so I would suggest that if you can come early and accustom yourself and your horse to the start.

The camping is very nice. Lots of flat with plenty of trees and water for the horses. The weather will probably be warm and could be hot; however, my recollection of the Sun River race was 110 degrees all week and rain and hail the day of the race, so come prepared for anything.

Maryann, Tim Kerns, Ron Kelly, Cam Curtis, Jan and all her volunteers are doing a great job and we should have a great race. Get your entries in early. Until then happy trails and training.

Mary Tiscornia

Phone (415) 868-0771; Fax (415) 868-2563

E-mail [escalles@pacbell.net](mailto:escalles@pacbell.net)

## YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD!

*If you have become a new member or renewed your membership since the previous newsletter your membership card would be attached*

**HERE.**

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(530) 367-2525  
[www.rideandtie.org](http://www.rideandtie.org)

# 1999 EasyBoot Ride & Tie Championship

**Entry Forms:** Enclosed is an entry form. Remember to send it by June 15 for the early entry price. If you do not send it by June 15, bring it with you to the race site, as Leah, our faithful and hardworking Treasurer will not be at her home, she will be at camp! If she does not receive it before she leaves, you will need to pay the full entry fee!

## Site information

The camp is in a beautiful meadow on the site of Tomahawk, an old ghost town. There is plenty of water for horses in the creek, and Mt. Shasta Spring Water Company is generously donating some drinking water. Bring your solar showers, however.

As Cam Curtiss says, "Cattle and dogs don't mix." We encourage you to leave your dogs at home. If you must bring your dogs, they must be on a leash at all times!

The race will start and finish at the campsite, and the vet checks will be at the campsite, making it a good race location for spectators and logistics easier for crewmembers.

Course maps will be distributed with your race packet at the race site.

## Mosquito Spraying

There will be mosquito spraying in camp Wednesday, July 5 in the afternoon, and again, Friday, July 9, around 5:00 PM. If you are sensitive to Malathion, please plan to be out of camp at that time.

## Coggins and Health Certificate

Because you are going out of state, you need to bring these with you.

## Directions to Race Site

Please note: There are two entrances to the camp. Do not turn left onto the West entrance to the camp at the bottom of the long hill!

## From Redding/San Francisco

Take I-5 north to Weed and exit to Hwy. 97 north, continuing to Klamath Falls. As you approach Klamath Falls, take the Hwy 140/66 exit toward Ashland/Medford. At the stop sign, turn left and

cross under the overpass.

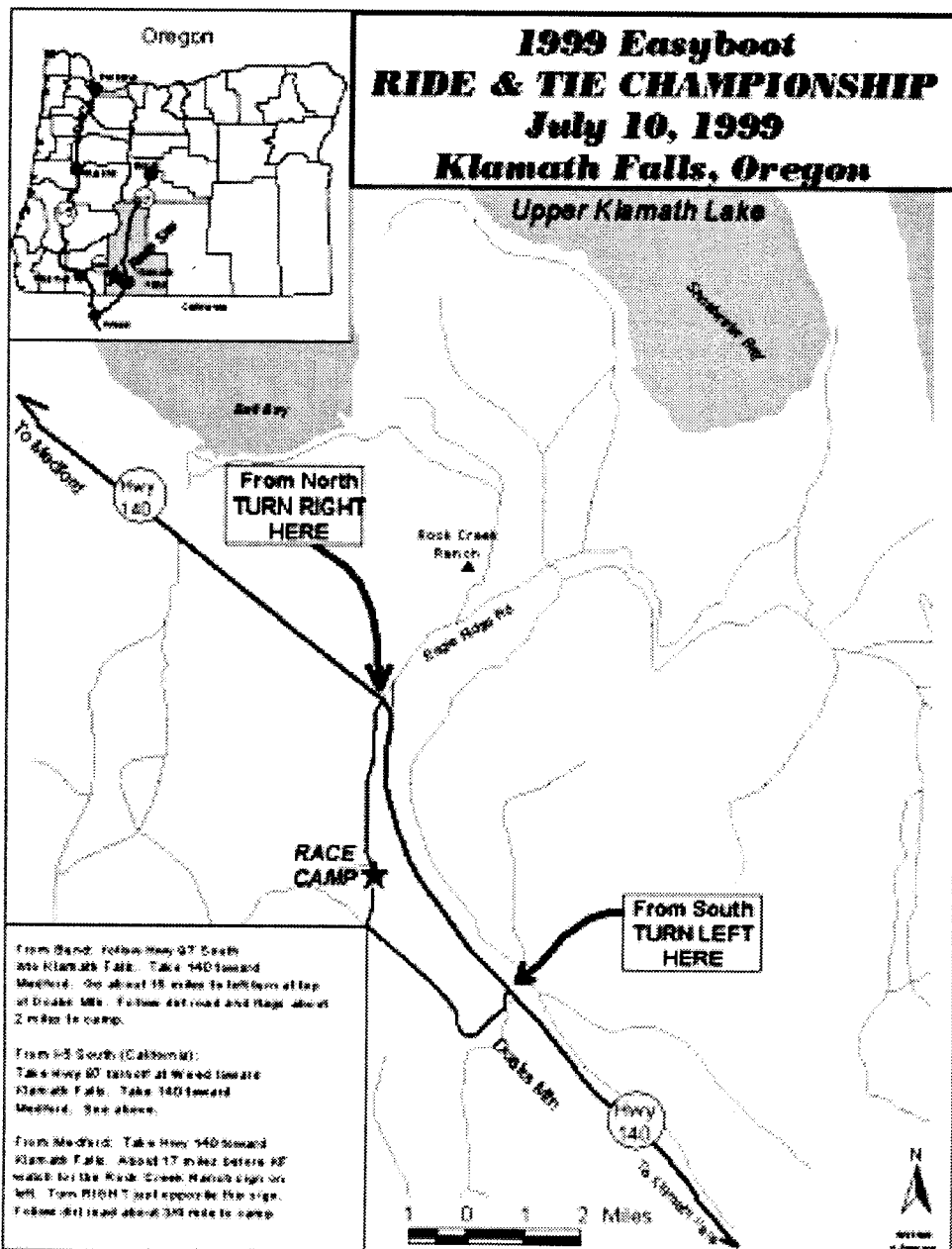
*Drive approximately 50 yards and turn right to continue on Hwy. 140 west toward Lake of the Woods/Fish Lake/Medford. The Running Y Resort will be on your right at 7.2 miles. Continue on for approximately 10 miles. At the top of the hill, is the EAST entrance to camp. In the short section where there are four lanes, there will be a dirt road on your left. Turn left carefully, as there is a lot of traffic on this road. Follow the signs on the dirt road for about two miles to camp. If you miss this entrance, please do not*

turn left onto the WEST entrance, as it is at the bottom of a long hill and hard for people behind you to stop. Instead, turn right just before Rock Creek Ranch, onto Eagle Ridge Road. Loop around so that you come out at the Ranch entrance, then cross the road when it's safe.

## From Bend

Take Hwy. 97 south 140 miles to Klamath Falls. As you approach Klamath Falls, watch for the exit to continue toward Weed/San Francisco. Continue on

continued on next page



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Hwy 97 for 2.5 miles to the Hwy 140/66 exit towards Ashland/ Medford. At the stop sign, turn right. See the italicized directions above.

#### From Portland/Eugene

Take I-5 south through Eugene and exit to Hwy. 58 east toward Oakridge. Drive 90 miles to the junction with Hwy. 97 south. See the directions from Bend, adding the underlined directions above.

#### From Medford/Grants Pass

Exit I-5 onto Hwy 62 to White City. At White City, turn right onto Hwy 140 east and continue about 50 miles. Turn right at the WEST entrance at the bottom of the hill, opposite the sign to Rock Creek Ranch. You will see corrals at the entrance. Drive about ½ mile on a dirt road to camp, with a large meadow on your right. If you miss this turn, you can drive to the top of the hill and turn right as indicated above. You will have a two-mile drive on a dirt road.

#### Grass roots publicity search

The question arises, "Why would a company chose to sponsor an athletic event?" The answer usually has to do with what they will get out of it. Usually what a company will get out of being a sponsor has to do with publicity associated with the event. There is another area of opportunity for you! Enclosed is a "grass roots" press release form. Please take a few minutes to

1. write down all the press contacts you can think of
2. fill out the form
3. make as many copies of the form as you have contacts
4. Send the forms out!
5. Send a copy of the completed form with your race entry to Leah Mirsch for future use.

You will be amazed at how effective this grass roots method of getting publicity is. It has been through the efforts of a wonderful crew of very dedicated individuals that the race is celebrating its 29<sup>th</sup> year in 1999. Can we count on you to become just a little more active

Championship Schedule of Events	
July 3 to July 11	Camp opens Trail open July 3 to July 9 Race Week Activities: Volleyball, Visits to Crater Lake, Golf, Cow Pasture Croquet, Boating, Kids Games
Wednesday, July 7	Surprise party – 7:00 PM
Thursday, July 8	Merchandise sales 12:00 PM – 4 PM Ride & Tie Board Meeting - 12:00 PM Vet Clinic, Linda Blythe, DVM - 2:00 PM Member Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner 6:00 PM
Friday, July 9	Merchandise sales 10:00AM – 6 PM Registration 10:00: AM – 6:00 PM Horse Exam by Vets 12:00 PM – 5:00PM Kids games – 1:00 PM Pre- Race meeting 6:00 PM
Saturday, July 10	8:00 AM Race Starts 4:00 PM Race Ends Merchandise sales 10:00AM – 6 PM Banquet 5:00 PM Awards 6:30 PM Dancing after – 'til 9:30 PM
Sunday, July 11	Disassemble camp

part of that crew? It will only mean a better race for all.

#### Accommodations for non-campers

For those of you who don't like to camp, the following are suggestions for accommodations:

- Running Y Ranch and Resort (800) 244-6015 or (888) 850-0275. The hotel is currently booked due to a golf tournament, but it's worth getting on the waiting list, as I am told rooms will open up. Identify yourself as part of the Ride & Tie for special rate of \$60 on availability. There are also condos for rent: \$200/night for 2 bedrooms and \$250/night for 3 bedrooms.
- Shilo Suites Hotel (800) 222-2244 or (541) 885-7980. Special rate of \$89 for 2 queen beds or \$99 for a king bed.
- Econolodge (800) 446-6900 or (541) 884-7735. Special rate of \$38/ night or \$190/week for room with 2 beds.
- Red Lion Inn (800) 773-5466 or (541)882-8864. Regular rates \$74-\$99.

- Best Western Olympic Inn (800) 528-1234 or (541) 882-9665; reg. rate \$61.

- Rocky Point Resort (541) 356-2287. It is 9 miles west of the race site. There are 4 cabins: 1 bedroom (sleeps 4) \$75, 2 bedroom (sleeps 6) \$95. Motel rooms are \$55. For the special rates, you will need to mention the Ride & Tie.

July is a busy time for Klamath Falls, so please book early.

#### Volunteers

If any of you are not racing this year, we need volunteers! Please contact Jan Kelley, of the Running Y Ranch (541-850-5585) to sign up for a specific category. Volunteers may receive a special T-shirt, generously donated by Mountain Monograms.

# Thanks to our sponsors

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## Final Pre-championship Notes Continued From Front Page

there! If you're traveling southeast turn right at the bottom of the hill, at the WEST entrance.

Make sure to get your entries in early to save \$30! Call Judy Haulman 530-367-2525 at the Ride & Tie Association for your entry form or download it from the website. Remember to send in your individual press release form to your local newspapers, so we can get good local publicity! And when you get that story, send Judy a copy of it for the files and to help us get sponsors for next year!

Happy training! And many thanks to all of you who either helped organize or participated in the Clinic!

— Mary Ann Buxton,

Easyboot 1999 Championship Ride & Tie Race Director

Phone: (415) 456-9391

Fax: (415) 454-1419

Email: mabuxton@cwix.com

## Steve Shaw Adds:

I was particularly impressed with the new venue for the race and the support of all of the people involved. It has the potential of being one of our many return sites! The wildlife in the area is fantastic; there is great fishing right on the camp grounds and even more in the nearby Klamath Lake. Bird watching opportunities are ample, with many neat things to see and Crater Lake nearby, too. I am sure that someone will come up with some good swimming holes and maybe even some hot springs ( I sure want to know about any of those!)

This campsite has so much history around it, and all of the surrounding area as well. I can see that we have many weeks of exploring to do and I hope that all of you can convey that to the rest of the Ride and Tie Family and excite them to come up and enjoy it all.

We are fortunate to have such committed people involved, Judy Haulman, MaryAnn, Tim Kerns and the Curtisses, among the few. — Steve Shaw

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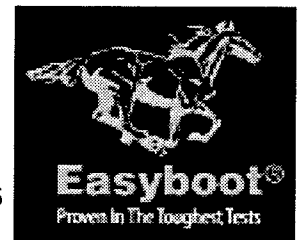
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# A Note From Your (Horse ) Doctor

by Head Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Steere

**R**ide and Tie Participants,  
Do This:

1. Call your vet, Have him/her do a health exam, plus a trot-out to make sure your horse is healthy and sound for the R&T.

2. You need an official health certificate for interstate shipment to Rock Creek Ranch, Klamath Falls, Oregon, a blood test showing that your horse is negative to Equine infectious anemia (EIA), and a permit number from the Oregon State Veterinarian, which your vet will procure after his exam and blood

test, and this permit number is attached to the official health exam. Oregon is very particular about protecting the health of their livestock, so do not fail to get this done within 30 days of the R&T.

On Saturday, June 19, I will hold a Ride & Tie clinic at Artaurus Vet Clinic, to perform the Interstate health exam, plus a soundness trot -out, take blood for the Coggins(equine infectious anemia) test and call the Oregon State Veterinarian for a permit number for your horse(s), at cost plus 10% (\$30 total). If you are in easy driving range and want to avail

yourself to this service, please call for approximate appointment time (between 10 and 12 noon).

The address is: #2 San Antonio Road, Petaluma (half way between Novato and Petaluma).

We have not been over the trail yet but, unless your horse has well-toughened hooves, pads or Easyboots on the front are well-advised. I look forward to seeing you all for the 29th running of the Ride & Tie Championship.

— Warmly, Jim

## Point Standings (through Big Creek)

**S**even sanctioned races have been completed and recorded through the end of May. Those include Cahuilla Heights, Mountainside, Quicksilver Pro/Am and Big Creek in CA, Prineville in OR and No Frills in VA.

Chris Turney and his horse, Buddy, are off to an impressive start this season. They have competed in four races with four different partners, winning three and placing third on the other one. Few teams have jelled yet; only three (Bob Edwards/Frank Lieberman, Skip Lightfoot/Curt Riffle and Bill Logan/Diane Logan) have completed more that one race together. Most of the other teams cur-

rently scoring in the top five were the high placing teams at Big Creek, the longest and most heavily attended race so far this year.

### OOPS!!!

The year was over, all the points had been tabulated, the results had been published and the awards had been presented. Then the Association office received a note from one of our loyal members, saying she really never understood how points were calculated but she did understand miles and she believed she hadn't received full mileage credit for the year.

Following discussion between the office and our volunteer points recorder, it was found that the results from one race were received by the office but never forwarded to the recorder. The overlooked race was the Fort Valley event in Virgin-

ia. That opened a can of worms relative to one of the 1998 annual team titles!

The woman/woman team title had been closely contested throughout the season. On the West Coast, there was the team of Arleene Foster and Evelyn Marshall. They completed eight races of 25-30 miles plus the Championships for a total of 233 miles.

From the East Coast, there was Kathy Broaddus, DVM and Lani Newcomb, DVM. They completed one 25-miler, two 50-milers and one 100-miler plus, the Championships for a total of 256 miles. Once the points were recalculated including Fort Valley, Broaddus/Newcomb took the lead by a mere three points with a total of 389 points vs. 386 points earned by Foster/Marshall. Congratulations to both teams for an impressive year and our apologies for the oversight.

### INDIVIDUAL POINTS

1 -- Chris Turney .....	284
2 -- Warren Hellman .....	211
3 -- Curt Riffle .....	208
4 -- Tom Christofk .....	205
5 -- Bob Edwards .....	203
5 -- Frank Lieberman .....	203
6 -- Laurie Riebeling .....	196
7 -- Mark Richtman .....	158
8 -- Becky Widler .....	149
9 -- Skip Lightfoot .....	137

### INDIVIDUAL MILEAGE

1 -- Bob Edwards .....	107
1 -- Frank Lieberman .....	107
1 -- Chris Turney .....	107
2 -- Tom Christofk .....	82
2 -- Warren Hellman .....	82

### HORSE POINTS

1 -- Budweiser (Turney) .....	284
2 -- Samurai (Hellman/Osterweis) .....	211
3 -- Fancy Belle (Edwards) .....	203
4 -- Zaraph (Christofk) .....	150
5 -- Rajiek (Lightfoot/Riffle) .....	137

### MAN/MAN TEAMS

1 -- Bob Edwards/Frank Lieberman .....	108
2 -- Skip Lightfoot/Curt Riffle .....	98
3 -- Tom Johnson/Mark Richtman .....	67
4 -- Matt Madieros/Chris Turney .....	64
5 -- Warren Hellman/Jeff Townsend .....	61

### WOMAN/MAN TEAMS

1 -- Diane Logan/Bill Logan .....	59
2 -- Michele Shaw/Steve Shaw .....	43
3 -- Ellen McCrary/Dennis Rinde .....	40
3 -- Cindy Webb/Gary Webb .....	40
4 -- Linnea Hearst/Mike Hearst .....	37

### WOMAN/WOMAN TEAMS

1 -- Mo Bartley/Becky Widler .....	46
2 -- Lauri Riebling/Mary Tiscornia .....	43
3 -- Linda Mornell/Mara Mornell .....	40
4 -- Peggy Jern/Dana Tryde .....	37
5 -- Debbie Lyons/Abby Radecki .....	34

# Recent Results

## No Frills Ride & Tie, Herndon, VA April 10, 1999 - 25 Miles

1 -- Mark Lovecky/Kim Burns .....	Cloud .....	4:16:59
2 -- Lu Dooley/Tom Hutchinson .....	G.M. Baymar .....	4:18:02
3 -- Janice Haug/Andy Peterson .....	Timber .....	4:23:58
4 -- Jean Lichtenberger/Tom Sites .....	G.M. Ballistic .....	4:36:02
5 -- Doris Kulp/Patty Proyost .....	ARR Alex .....	4:54:10
6 -- Lani Newcomb/Kathy Broaddus .....	Crystal .....	4:58:02
7 -- Karen Clark/Karen Deskins .....	Jeb .....	5:28:52

## Mountainside Ride & Tie, Redding, CA April 17, 1999- 25 Miles

1 -- Chris Turney/Dennis Scott .....	Budweiser .....	11:35
2 -- Jim Cloud/Les Nightingill .....	Bones .....	11:44
3 -- Gayle Snow-Lynch/Christy Snow .....	Stari Night .....	12:04
4 -- Dave Vanwicklin/Dave Burkland .....	Starfire .....	12:14
5 -- Jerome Beauchamp/Peggy Flynn .....	Zango .....	12:43
6 -- Annetta Parsons/Debi Waynob .....	Sari .....	12:50

## Prineville Ride & Tie, Prineville, OR May 9, 1999 - 25 Miles

1 -- Becky Fiedler/Teresa Copeland .....	Tsahad Stas .....	3:11
2 -- Elizabeth Schafer/Debbie Hanson .....	Sunny .....	4:20
3 -- Joan Ruprecht/Ted Ruprecht .....	Magic Nisaba .....	4:40

## Big Creek Ride & Tie, Santa Cruz, CA May 15, 1999- 25 Miles

1 -- Mark Richtman/Tom Johnson .....	Eli .....	3:53
2 -- Steve Shaw/Michele Shaw .....	Cougars Clown .....	4:00
3 -- Chris Turney/Matt Madeiros .....	Budweiser .....	4:06
4 -- Warren Hellman/Jeff Townsend .....	Sam .....	4:10
5 -- Mo Bartley/BeckyWidler .....	Don .....	4:12
6 -- Curt Riffle/Skip Lightfoot .....	Rajzik .....	4:20
7 -- Ellen McCrary/Dennis Rinde .....	General Geranium .....	4:33
8 -- Tom Christofk/Christoph Shork .....	Zaraph .....	4:42
9 -- Paul Robinson/John Steinmetz .....	Tazz .....	4:45
10 -- Laurie Riebeling/Mary Tiscornia .....	Albi .....	4:48
11 -- Jeff Herten/Jim Hurley .....	R D Famus .....	4:49
12 -- Gabrielle Mann/Alain Karmitz .....	Savannah .....	5:14
13 -- Linda Mornell/Mara Mornell .....	Macho .....	5:17
14 -- Peggy Jern/Dana Tryde .....	Hi Lite .....	5:19
15 -- Frank Lieberman/Bob Edwards .....	Fancy Belle .....	5:23
16 -- Leslie Yates/George Hall .....	Kian .....	5:37
17 -- Debby Lyon/Abby Radecki .....	Belesemo Malik .....	5:56
18 -- Robin Klaus/Dave Tarpinian .....	Rafiq .....	6:06
19 -- Jim Steere/Thom Steere .....	Bombay .....	6:14
20 -- Bill Logan/Diane Logan .....	Duke .....	7:45
DNF Dave VanWicklin/Roger Dike .....	Jassure Al Baraq .....	

## 1999 Quicksilver Ride & Tie, San Jose CA May 6, 1999 - 23/11 Miles

1 -- Dan Barger/Chris Turney .....	Budweiser .....	2:15
2 -- Tom Christofk/Tony Brickel .....	Zaraph .....	2:33
3 -- Lorrie Barger/Christy Snow .....	McCoy .....	2:39
4 -- Curt Riffle/Sara Smith .....	Corky .....	2:40
5 -- Mark Richtman/Luke Richtman/ -- Jake Richtman .....	Eli .....	2:44
6 -- Laurie Riebeling/Molly Gleason .....	Omega Sun .....	2:48
7 -- Linda Rapposelli/Michael Rapposelli .....	Mystique .....	2:52
8 -- Warren Hellman/Russ Kiernan .....	Sam .....	2:58
9 -- Frank Lieberman/Bob Edwards .....	Fancy Belle .....	3:00
10 -- Gayle Snow-Lynch/Mike Lynch .....	Brandy .....	3:10
11 -- Steven Anderson/Sandy Smyth .....	Rainbow .....	3:12
12 -- Bob Spoor/Shellie Hatfield .....	Major Attraction .....	3:13
13 -- Jerome Beauchamp/Robert Beauchamp ..	Tango .....	3:15
14 -- Cheryl Dominitch/Jennifer Rader/ -- John Stenmetz .....	Rajzik .....	3:16
15 -- John Osterweis/Barbara Osterweis .....	Victor .....	3:22
16 -- Paul Rink/Bob Perrault .....	Bezane .....	3:24
17 -- Gabriell Mann/Desiree Mann .....	Savannah .....	3:51
18 -- George Hall/Deb Sell .....	Fire .....	3:52
19 -- Susan Simons/Dawn Hartsock .....	Montana .....	4:11
20 -- Paul Robinson/Don Betts/Les Nightingill/ -- Cathy Magor .....	Tazz .....	4:14
11mi - Frank Lieberman/Bob Edwards .....	Fancy Belle .....	
Best Conditioned Horse .....	Budweiser .....	

### Quick Quicksilver Report by Curt Riffle

We had 23 teams entered (three of the 23 had to cancel at the last minute) for the 23-mile event. This is up from 19 last year.

We invented a new category that is not sanctioned but worked out well: Introducing the ride & tie relay! Mark Richtman's kids couldn't run the 23-mile course, so one substituted for the other at the vet check. Cheryl Dominitch's partner couldn't continue past the vet check, so Cheryl found a person who was crewing and finished the race with him.

Finally, Les Nightingill was kicked in the leg by Paul Robinson's (his partner) horse. Paul took Les to the hospital at the vet check, so they gave the horse to Don Betts who was standing around drinking beer and telling lies. Don found A SPECTATOR who wanted to try out the sport and they finished the race. So we had three teams in the Quicksilver Ride & Tie relay category!

Sarah Smith (a novice from Berkeley who is also a freelance writer) and I won the Pro-Am on Corky finishing 4th overall, but dueling the whole race with Lorrie Barger and her sister Christy. They beat us by 100 feet!



# 1999 Big Creek Ride & Tie

**B**ack after a one-year hiatus due to "El Nino" flood damage, this year's Big Creek Ride and Tie was run under perfect (cool and dry) weather conditions. Twenty-one teams competed over the hilly 34-mile course. Overall winner in a time of 3:53, first man/man team and Best Conditioned horse honors went to Tom Johnson/Mark Richtman on Eli – no surprises there. Newlyweds Michele and Steve Shaw on Cougar's Clown were first man/woman team. First woman/woman team honors went to Mo Bartley and Becky Widler on Don.

As usual, there were lots of interesting stories to tell after the race. Tom Christofk and Christoph Shork were running strong in second until Christoph got off course somewhere on the second

loop. Tom left their horse at the second vet check and ran to the finish; Christoph and the horse finally arrived nearly an hour later for an eighth place finish.

At a hand-tie less than a half-mile from the start, Mary Tiscornia's horse, Albi, slipped his bridle and ran off. Her teammate, Laurie Riebeling, spent nearly 45 minutes searching for the lost horse. Once she found him, Laurie rode the fastest trip ever around the first loop of the course, catching Mary just before the first vet check. They went on to finish in tenth place and the veterinarians gave Albi an honorable mention for Best Condition.

The mismatched teams of Matt Madieros/Chris Turney and Ellen McCrary/Dennis Rinde competed head to head much of the way, using strong runners (Chris and Dennis) and experi-

enced riders (Mat and Ellen) to their advantage. In the end, Chris' more seasoned horse prevailed, carrying them to a third place finish, while Ellen ended up leading her young horse most of the last three miles, dropping to seventh place.

Last place finishers were Bill and Diane Logan, who toughed it out to complete the course in 7:45. Leslie Yates made his annual trip out from Missouri to get his ride & tie fix. Novice contestent Peggy Jern showed that she's already a ride & tie convert when she was heard saying after the race, "The hills weren't nearly as tough as I expected!" since this is considered one of the toughest courses around, she has a great future in ride & tie.

## Annual Awards Program

The Ride & Tie Association has an annual awards program to recognize competitors of diverse talents for their excellence at ride & tie and their support of the sport through dedicated participation throughout the year. The intention is to recognize outstanding performance over a variety of courses for the whole season, as opposed to the Championship race that recognizes superior performances on a given day and a given course.

The point system we use was originally developed by Lew Hollander in the *Ride & Tie Gazette* to spread recognition over "the long, the fast, and the durable." The system has been adjusted slightly a couple of times as our sport has evolved. With an increasing diversity of race lengths and sizes, the Board once again recognized the need to adjust our point system. Our goals were to:

1. Make the system easier to understand while keeping the original concept of recognizing both miles completed and teams passed; many members never did figure out how the bonus points were calculated under our old system.

2. Make allowances for a wide variety of race lengths and sizes under one system.

3. Keep the record-keeping relatively simple in respect of the fact that it is all done by a volunteer who is also an avid ride & tie competitor.

4. Hopefully not create any unintended consequences.

Effective for the 1999 season, points will be calculated by

the following formula:

**1 point per mile + 3 points per team passed.**

The following awards are presented each year, based on points earned for completion of Ride & Tie Association-sanctioned events during the season running from January 1 through December 31:

1. High Point Individual (top 10): Individuals who accumulate the most points overall based on total number of starters in each race; can be with any partner or any horse.

2. High Point Teams (Top 5 in each division: (M/M, M/W, W/W): Teams of the same two people that accumulate the most points in their division, based on the number of starters in their division in each race. Teams may use any horses throughout the season.

3. High Point Horse (Top 5): Horses that accumulate the most overall points based on the total number of starters in each race; can be with any teams.

4. High Mileage Individual (top 5): Individuals who accumulate the most mileage at sanctioned events throughout the year; can be with any partner or any horse.

This new system was well received when presented at our annual awards banquet in February. Now we'll see how well it works in practice. Your Board of Directors welcomes your input.

# 1999 Race Schedule

## JUNE 12

Browning's Challenge  
Grass Valley, CA; 22 miles  
Pat & Nita Browning  
21266 Pleasant Valley  
North San Juan, CA 95960  
(530) 272-8912

## JUNE 27

Mt. Adams Challenge  
La Center, WA; 10/20 miles  
Dennis O'Brien  
PO Box 761  
La Center, WA 98629  
(360) 263-5064

## JULY 10

**29th Annual Ride & Tie  
Championship**  
Klamath Falls, OR; 38 miles  
Judy Haulman  
PO Box 697  
Forest Hill, CA 95631  
(530) 367-2525

## AUGUST 7

Champagne Ride & Tie  
Santa Cruz, CA; 30 miles  
Steve Shaw  
155 Baltusrol Drive  
Apros, CA 95003  
(408) 685-3436

## AUGUST 21

Horsethief Canyon Ride & Tie  
Descanso, CA; TK miles  
Rufus Schneider  
PO Box 311  
Descanso, CA 91916  
(619) 445-2060

## AUGUST 28

Headwaters of the Rogue Ride & Tie  
Ashland, OR; 10/30 miles  
Ann Swartz, DVM  
3053 Deer Trail Lane  
Medford, OR 97501  
(541) 535-6509

## AUGUST 28

Swanton Pacific 100 Ride & Tie  
Santa Cruz, CA; 100 miles  
Ellen McCrary  
318 Swanton Road  
Davenport, CA 95017  
(831) 423-6089

## SEPTEMBER 4

A Brief Nevada Ride & Tie  
Gardnerville, NV; 25 miles  
Gary Ceragioli  
230 Shake Hill Drive  
Markleville, CA 96120  
(530) 694-2972

## SEPTEMBER 5

Rockbridge Ride & Tie  
Rockbridge, VA; 25/50 miles  
Jean Lichtenberger  
1788 Seven Fountains Road  
Fort Valley, VA 22652  
(540) 933-6991

## SEPTEMBER 18

Bloomfield Boogie Ride & Tie  
Grass Valley, CA; 11/25 miles  
Donna Jones  
11017 Iron Clad Road  
Rough and Ready, CA 95975  
(530) 432-1371

## OCTOBER 2

Cool Ride & Tie (Pro-Am)  
Auburn, CA; 11/22 miles  
Suzanne Remillard  
1971 American River Trail  
Cool, CA 95614  
(530) 823-0973

## OCTOBER 16

Carrillo Cheese Ride & Tie  
Ortego Canyon, CA; 22 miles  
Robyn Tustison  
7522 Slater Avenue, # 101  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
(949) 728-0723

## OCTOBER 30

Mile High Ride & Tie (Pro-Am)  
Idyllwild, CA  
Arleene Foster  
38230 Lorenzo Lane  
Hemet, CA 92544  
(909) 767-1237

## OCTOBER 31

Fort Valley Ride & Tie  
Hume, VA; 25/50 miles  
Jean Lichtenberger  
1788 Seven Fountains Road  
Fort Valley, VA 22652  
(540) 933-6991

## NOVEMBER 13

Cowboy Country Ride & Tie  
Hemet, CA; 25/50 miles  
Arleene Foster  
38230 Lorenzo Lane  
Hemet, CA 92544  
(909) 767-1237

**Do you need a ride to the Championship?**

**OR,**

**Do you have room in your car for a person, or room in  
your trailer for a horse?**

**Call the Ride & Tie Association Office so we can fix you up  
with a ride or riding partner!**

**(530) 367-2525**

### **STALL SPACES FOR RENT AT CHAMPIONSHIP**

Rock Creek Ranch has horse stalls available for rent at this year's Championship race site. The stalls are conveniently located across the road from base camp. The stalls will rent for \$20 per night (which includes alfalfa hay) and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If you are interested in keeping your horse(s) at the Ranch contact Leah Mirsch at 310-541-8641 prior to June 30 for reservations. Leah will also be in camp beginning July 6 and can assist you then.