



is published quarterly on behalf of its membership. We welcome articles and photographs from members. All material is edited and copywritten.

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2001

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President's Message

A REVIEW OF ERA RULES

ERA has worked hard to develop a set of regulations that clearly define rules relevant to each ride distance. While rules and regulations aren't everyone's favourite nighttime reading, please remember to review the rules periodically during winter and the ride season, in order to refresh your memories and prevent disappointment.

The following has been prepared as a condensed version of ERA rules that will provide riders with a quick reference to the more pertinent facts in completing either a Limited Distance Ride (not less than 25 miles or not more than 35 miles) or an Endurance Ride (50 miles or greater). Remember, it's ERA's and each ride manager's goal to help riders complete their rides. Feel free to add to this list by contacting Eve Comrie at evec@athabascau.ca.

1. Arrive at a ride early to allow time for your horse to settle in, relax, and recover from the trailer trip. One hour of trailering is equal to one hour of walking to a horse. Fill out your entry form in advance (if it was mailed to you) and present it to the ride secretary. Know your ERA membership number and the horse's ERA membership number, as going through the list when registering slows down the membership process for others. Our rides are getting bigger, busier, and better. People who streamline the registration process are greatly appreciated by the ride secretary.

Note: Points are calculated on the basis of actual finishing position regardless of whether you are an ERA member or not. If you aren't an ERA member, it's to your advantage to register at a ride, so you and your

horse's efforts are recorded as points towards year-end awards.

2. Once registered, determine who the vet is for the ride you've entered. Usually there are two vets; one for the 50- and 100-mile ride (if offered) and one for the Limited Distance Ride. Once you've determined who your vet is, get your horse vetted in, the paperwork completed, and allow your horse some quiet time to eat and rehydrate. Don't change any feed or tack protocol before a ride.
3. Ensure you're familiar with the rules relevant to your ride distance and that you attend the Friday night ride briefing. It's at the ride briefing where you'll hear your hold times, what obstacles you may be negotiating, what the pulse criteria is, and where any "out" vet checks might be. An extra copy of the ERA rules should be available at the ride.
4. Review carefully, your total ride competition time: 12 hours for 50 miles, 24 hours for 100 miles, and other distances (a formula for completion time reflects 12 hours for 50 miles = 4.167 mi/hr) according to the chart in Appendix A of your ERA Rules and Regulations. Remember, that completion time includes your hold time also.
5. Completion of a ride requires the following: that all riders and mounts be present and accounted for at post time and must they start within 10 minutes of the stated start time of the ride and be properly entered in the ride. In addition:

- obey all the rules
- follow the prescribed course, and do multiple loops in the correct order
- pass all control points
- pass vet check requirements
- finish within the prescribed maximum time
- not being disqualified
- meet criteria at post-finish-line check
- meet any other criteria prescribed by ride management
- not having been paced or prompted by an unentered, withdrawn, or otherwise unauthorized horse, vehicle, or person other than another entrant. This does not preclude the ordinary support services of attendants or pit crews. A crew may accompany their rider down a public road in a support vehicle (unless there is a ride

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Upcoming Events

Pan Am Endurance Championship
Vermont August 25

CaLDRA Annual General Meeting
Vermont August 22

Volunteers needed for ERA/TRAC booth at Spruce Meadows Masters! September 5 - 9

ERA Annual General Meeting
Leduc, Alberta November 2-3

Volunteers Needed for ERA/TRAC CASINO
December 31/January 01

management prohibition against it) provided they do not push or haze the horse.

6. A competitor must pass all veterinarian criteria for completion. The horse must recover to the pre-set veterinary recovery criteria (usually 64 beats per minute, but if weather dictates, vets could reduce that to 60 bpm. It's the veterinarian's call) within 30 minutes of arrival at any of the veterinary control checkpoints and within 30 minutes of arrival at the finish line. You and your horse won't be awarded a completion if you arrive late, regardless of whether your horse pulses down. Remember the 30-minute pulse rule.
7. Each ERA-sanctioned ride (Limited Distance or Endurance Ride) has a post-finish-line examination that the horse must pass for a successful completion. The criteria is to be announced before the ride. Any ride may adopt more stringent criteria than the following, but these must be provided to competitors before the ride in written form. The post-finish-line vet check is where the final criteria for completion must be met.

A horse has not completed the ride until it has passed this check. The post-finish-line vet check also serves as a safety check to monitor for late developing problems (so that they can be treated if necessary) as well as extending veterinary control over the last leg of the ride. Because a horse at the finish line is not, in actuality, going on—and not going into the wilderness far from veterinary aid—the standards for completion need not be as strict as those on the trail, but they must meet the minimum standards below.

All horses must stand for a mandatory post-ride evaluation within one hour of finishing (don't forget this check is separate from the mandatory pulse down criteria within 30 minutes of crossing the finish line). You must also, within the hour after arriving at the finish line, present your horse to the vet (pulse first, then on to the vet. You may go directly to vet or wait until closer to your hour; it's each rider's call.). If there's a long line up for the vet, get in it, carry some hay for your horse to eat while you wait, and keep it moving, but get in the line-up regardless. Once your horse has passed the post-ride examination it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons.

Sounds strict? We don't mean to sound formidable. Quite the opposite. The rules are in place for the safety and protection of the horse and to provide all riders a firm foundation to launch themselves towards successfully preparing for an endurance competition now and in the future. It is through continuous education, knowledge, and communication that we get better and strengthen our association. Have fun, enjoy the day, and remember the rules. They've been developed to help, not hinder, your experience. 🐾

TIME TO TALK ABOUT THE AGM!

If you have issues, concerns, ideas for 2002, the board wants to hear from you! Make sure they are on the Agenda!

Contact Monika Smith before
September 30, 2001.

ERA Board Meeting Highlights

February 3, 2001

The second meeting of the 2000-2001 board took place at the Black Knight Inn, Red Deer, on Feb. 3, 2001. A number of people attended:

Eve Comrie, president
Bruce Guest, vice-president
Brenda Kossowan, past president
Monika Smith, secretary
Mary-Anne Dorchester, director
Larry Handziuk, director
Linda Riley, director
Keith Thorne, director
Brion Zutz, director

Guests:
Annemieke Aardoom
Nicole Belland
Robin Dorchester
Paige Koberstein
Carol Wadey

Investing in the Future: One interesting idea, presented by ERA Vice-President, Bruce Guest, revealed that there are no barriers for investing Casino funds into revenue-generating vehicles that would help secure ERA's future. Bruce is further reviewing the idea and providing both recommendations and a schedule to the board at a later date. Any investment would require a motion and subsequent approval from ERA members at the next annual general meeting (AGM) and ERA would be required to appoint a trustee.

Items of discussion also included clarification of ride veterinarian membership. According to ERA Bylaw Article II: Membership, 2.2. "There shall be five classes of members which shall be admitted, retained, permitted to withdraw, be suspended or expelled under such terms as the Board of Directors shall adopt from time to time:..."

Veterinary Membership status will be granted to all Veterinarians upon payment of the annual single membership fee and agreement to abide by the Bylaws. Such members will be considered Individual Veterinary Members and will be entitled to the same rights and privileges as regular members. Veterinarians who officiate at ERA-sanctioned Endurance Rides, and who are not Individual Veterinary Members, will be granted a Voting, Honourary Membership that will be valid for the year in which they officiate and the following year."

The International Committee, composed of Monika Smith, Paige Koberstein, and Nicole Belland, presented a draft Terms of Reference and a three-year plan. Discussion included promotion of FEI rides and a provincial FEI ride, creation of FEI officials, and the use of Casino funds. Directors were asked for input. Before the next board meeting, the committee hopes to develop timelines and revise the action plan with input from the balance of the board. If a provincial championship is planned, Gayle Kennedy, OC chair of the 1993 PAC, Kananaskis Country, will be contacted.

Newsletter and Web site: ERA's first newsletter was presented by Monika Smith. Each registered member in 2000, received a copy of the newsletter along with the Rules and Regulations, mailed in early March 2001. In the future, only those without internet access will be mailed a copy. Otherwise,

the newsletter will be posted on ERA's Web site. A new ERA Web presence and home page are being designed and developed, along with a new look to the internal pages. (Note, the web site is under construction and not up to date. *Editor*)

Promotions: Brion Zutz (chair) presented a generic colour poster mock-up for ride managers, however, the board chose not to invest in more posters at this time. New posters are not required as various generic ride posters are available online. Mary-Anne Dorchester is distributing ERA's remaining colour posters. It was further noted that any advertising photographs should show riders wearing helmets.

Brion Zutz fund-raised \$1,140 from various sponsors for ERA T-shirts for first-time completions for the 50 and 100 mile riders. It took three years to distribute 110. Sponsorship funds to go into general revenue, but are identified and earmarked for T-shirts. It was moved by Brion to order 60 T-shirts to be paid through sponsorship money, seconded by Keith Thorne, and passed. Sixty T-shirts are required to meet the financial break-even point. Forty T-shirts are required for 50 milers, 20 for 100 milers. T-shirt sponsors will be acknowledged in the ERA newsletter. Contributors of more than \$100 will receive a one-time logo acknowledgement.

Communications: Brenda Kossowan (chair) is continuing to provide articles to *Horses All* and *Go the Distance*.

Ride Sanctioning: Mary-Anne Dorchester (chair) presented completion award ideas with an aim to vary the awards over the 2001 ride season. It was decided to bulk-order water bottles (with ERA logos on them) as completion awards for all rides for the 2001 and 2002 ride season. The Ride Manager's Package has been completed and is being distributed as requested. Newly developed vet cards and completion certificates were further reviewed and approved by board members. Consequently, a motion was passed to print 2000 vet cards and 2000 completion certificates as per printer quote, and applied to ERA Casino funds.

Capri Insurance answered a number of Eve Comrie's specific insurance-related questions via two e-mailed letters. A recap of those notes has been compiled in a letter available for ride managers.

Drug Testing at Rides: In a letter to ride managers, the sanctioning committee has stressed that if the vet has been asked to drug test three horses at the ride, the test must occur before the final hour is up. After that hour, the horse has officially finished the ride.

Grievance Committee: Larry Handziuk (chair), Carol Wadey, Bruce Guest, and Eve Comrie (ex-officio). No grievances to discuss.

Handbook, Rules and Regulations: Keith Thorne (chair) reported on the final revisions. Very few minor changes were required. Keith Thorne motioned that the revised rules shall now be mailed to all ERA members registered in 2000, along with a ballot as stated at the 2000 AGM. In April 2001, the Rules and the first newsletter were forwarded to each member. Keith further proposed that a motion be presented at the 2001 AGM regarding Limited Distances—that first to fourth place completion awards must be given, including Juniors.

1-800 Number: Linda Riley reported that the 1-800 number costs \$45/month. If the number was

not going to gain more users, it would be discontinued. (The number has not attracted more enquires, and at the time of the meeting, only three calls had been received and it was therefore, discontinued late July. *Editor*)

TV/VCR: Brenda Kossowan, who attends many trade shows, motioned that ERA use Casino funds to purchase a small TV/VCR combination set to be used at shows, demonstrations, and clinics. It can be difficult for people to understand endurance riding in a brief talk over a table. An ongoing videotape would draw peoples' initial attention, while the resulting questions can be answered.

After much discussion, the motion was passed with Brenda confirming responsibility for the equipment's care. The TV/VCR combo is estimated to cost less than \$300 from London Drugs (or similar store). (No, the board isn't planning on watching videos instead of having a meeting!)

April 27, 2001

Cromdale Stables, Crimson Lake Alberta

Eve Comrie, president
Bruce Guest, vice president
Brenda Kossowan, past president, acting as recording secretary
Mary-Anne Dorchester, director
Linda Riley, director
Keith Thorne, director
Brion Zutz, director

Guests:
Mavis Holroyd
Kathy Thorne

The meeting covered a short agenda.

As the secretary, Monika Smith wasn't available, Brenda Kossowan put on another hat and filled that capacity.

The Veterinary Committee, chaired by Keith Thorne and Mavis Holroyd, DMV, member at large

reported that the committee plans to educate veterinarians who are willing to attend rides. The committee would like to send a letter to the Alberta Veterinary Medicine Association asking for members who are willing to assist at rides.

Questions were raised regarding how much money was available for continuing education of vets. Thorne said the committee would present a budget at the next meeting.

There was discussion on veterinary qualifications as defined by ERA. Alberta Veterinary Medicine Association (AVMA) regulations state that drawing blood is the equivalent of practicing medicine, but AVMA is not clear on whether judging an animal is also considered to be practicing medicine.

The ERA board is also stepping into a new way of looking at its efforts. Following a corporate-style formula, Bruce Guest is collecting business plans from ERA committees. These three-year plans will help ERA manage its finances, strategic planning, and goals, better. 🐾

Just What are ERA Horse ID numbers?

by Monika Smith

ERA provides a unique horse identification number for competing horses. One way to ensure that your horse is credited with the miles it's entitled to, is by you keeping track of its ID number. Horse ID cards will be issued with your ERA membership cards.

The horse ID number is for ERA purposes only. It is neither a breed registration number nor is it transferable.

No foals, please!

The number is only useful for competing horses. If you have foals that you feel have great potential at three months of age, please don't register them with ERA. This is not a breed registration!

Keeping track of that number for four years before this horse ever shows up at an event is difficult for a volunteer organization. And just to confuse things further, this foal could end up with two or three numbers, especially if the name changes from Sweetie Pie to El Diablo to Speedo-matic; is sold a couple of times; and no information is provided about sex, colour, etc.

Is your horse a grade or registered?

However, if you do have a breed registration number for your horse—IAHA (International Arabian Horse Association), CAHA (Canadian Arabian Horse Association), AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association), etc.—please don't lose this number. Aside from the fact that this is a legal identification and it would be somewhat fraudulent to sell this horse under a different name and number, owning a bona fide registered horse may provide you with some cash at the end of the year!

For example, the International Arabian Horse Association has terrific cash awards for horses that do well in Endurance and Competitive Trail in Region 17 events. A couple of years ago, a novice rider in a competitive ride received about US\$1500 for finishing as top Sweepstakes-nominated horse. A nice way to cover some costs! Check out the

awards for endurance sweepstakes horses; there are criteria to be met, but riders have done very well at regional events.

Breeders have paid fees for both their stallions and mares to nominate the offspring as "Sweepstakes". Consequently, breeders are quite happy to know when their babies do well, especially in endurance. It's a way of tracking the success of their breeding program and a good advertisement for selling their offspring.

Other breeds, such as the AQHA, award trophies for Quarter horses taking part in endurance. The Appaloosa and Morgan clubs also provide awards for riding miles.

What if you have an unregistered or "grade" animal? There certainly isn't any 'official' paper work involved, but, it is important to keep the horse's name over its career. It's not unusual for a grade horse to have a relatively simple name, like 'Joe'. But, if there are two 'Joes' registered, it's important to have more information other than both are just horses! Points and mileage can go astray while the secretary and mileage secretary make best guesses.

ERA doesn't care if you have a "stable" name for your horse. However, if your horse was listed as "1234 - Silver Shadow" five years ago, ensure that

name stays with him throughout his career or change of ownership. That way we can track his miles and award the correct points throughout his career as an active endurance horse.

So why all the info requested on the membership form? To create a database that makes sense. Cross-referencing does work, and statistics can be gleaned, if the information is there. However, there are hundreds of horses listed that have no history, age or even status. The newer system, attempts to have current horses listed and the Horse ID Card, lists horses that are being ridden in the current season.

If there are errors, please contact me to correct or update information. What's reported is often due to what's provided!

To help ensure that the right horse and number stay together, please use the original name (only the registered name or the original name for the horse if it is a grade.) when registering a horse with ERA, and that the same name is used for changes in ownership.

If you are selling or retiring the horse, it would be very, helpful to have that information sent to me. There is an archive for this, and it keeps the current file of active horses a nice, easy-to-manage size. 🐾

2001 ERA RIDE SCHEDULE:

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT	PHONE
August 18	Drayton Valley	Verna Sprague	(780) 542-7417
September 1	Whitecourt	Mary-Anne and Robin Dorchester	(780) 778-8653
September 15	Grand Prairie	Karen Badger	(780) 814-3950
September 28	Sundre	Nitchi Nicker, Bruce Guest and Annemieke Aardoom	(403) 638-4287

ERA 2001 RIDE RESULTS

LaGlance—June 9, 2001

100 MILES

1	Larry Handziuk	Misty	13:13:21
2	Audrey Gibb	Special Delivery	13:55:30
3	Bruce Guest	Golden Boy	13:55:38
4	Nicole Belland	Dakota's LadyHawk	13:55:52
5	Jamey Olsen	Whatabreeze	17:11:01
6	Karen Badger	XXX Flashman	17:11:01

BEST CONDITION

Larry Handziuk Misty

50 MILES

1	Kelly Kuz	Silent Sirender	5:13:14
2	Fern Lacey Short	Congos Masade	5:13:15
3	Brenda Kossowan	KC's Angel	5:28:44
4	Travis Landsman	Casper	6:00:15
5	Don Redford	Sincerity Sonet	6:00:18
6	Ellen Gobbels	J.R Cheeko	6:04:55
7	Roy Cust	Alotta Disco	6:04:57
8	Jamie Safton	Big Red Mixed	6:42:42
9	Linda Riley	Kittaajah	7:19:13
10	Annemieke Aardoon	Chance	7:19:16
11	Mavis Holroyd	Snowy Dan	7:58:15
12	Linda Lavis	Badie Men Jadid	8:56:42

BEST CONDITION

Kelly kuz Silent Sirender

PULLED

Donna Venables Pulled own horse-lame

JUNIOR

1	Scott Holroyd	Pickett	7:58:14
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25 MILES—LIMITED DISTANCE

1	Tara Macleod	McCoy's Thunder	2:31:38
2	Colleen Killins	Katz Talisman	2:31:43
3	Susan Karpisek	Lady	2:37:10
4	Penny Wedge	Lyndales Beaudacious	2:38:09
5	Ben Karpisek	Bailey	2:58:29
6	Pat Landsman	Taj Rai Ghai	3:04:28
7	Melina Sweezey	Jake	3:04:50
8	Norm Catellier	Joe	3:24:10
9	Judith Hall	Chi Chi	3:33:07
10	Mike Sandbeck	Kramer	3:34:07
11	Lucie Janosek (Zotich)	Victory	3:48:01
12	Wanda Lea	Savannah	3:50:22
13	Peggy Mitchell	Kittaajah	4:51:55
14	Maryann Austin	Connie	4:53:66
15	Elizabeth McGoon	The Desert Rose	5:22:45

BEST CONDITION

Colleen Killens Katz Talisman

JUNIOR

1	Canaan Swezey	Hank	2:57:00
2	Shyla Swezey	Shadow	2:58:58
3	Amanda Rogers	Big Bert	3:48:09

Other rides results will be published as they become available.

Please ensure that ride management has your horses' ERA number and correct spelling. Apologies for typos, etc. If you have concerns about ride results, please contact the ride manager or Linda Riley.

Blackfalds—May 20, 2001

50 MILES

1	Audrey Grieb	Special Delivery	5:33:30
2	Travis Landsman	Casper	5:35:45
3	Larry Handziuk	Misty	5:35:55
4	Mary Boulware	Bacardi	5:35:56
5	Bruce Guest	Chance	6:15:30
6	Ferne Lacey Short	Congos Masade	6:21:27
7	Kelly Kuz	Silent Sirender	8:16:00
8	Caroline Williams	Red Satin Rascal	8:16:00
9	Roy Cust	Alotta Disco	8:32:15
10	Carol Wadey	Gypsy	8:39:00

BEST CONDITION

Larry Handziuk Misty

PULLED

Clarence Skuter Slinky
Ellen Gobbels JR Cheeko

JUNIOR

1	Rae-Anne Wadey	Jet	8:37:00
2	Robyn Wadey	Kris	8:37:00

JUNIOR PULLED

Becky Skuter Jazz

25 MILES—LIMITED DISTANCE

1	Sherry Ruskowski	Santana Lady	2:37:00
2	Melina Swezey	Jake	2:37:30
3	Tara MacLeod	McCoy's Thunder	2:42:20
4	Cathy Kolesa	Kaylee	2:47:30
5	Victor Novakowski	The Dominator	2:48:45
6	Dianne Jackson	Majik Marquis	2:59:00
7	Don Redford	Sincerity Sonet	2:59:30
8	Jody Gallamore	Wilhemaker	3:00:00
9	Susan Harris	Irish	3:00:30
10	Cathy Hartley	Six Kegs To Go	3:01:30
11	Karen Badger	What A Breeze	3:01:30
12	Donna Venables	Shannon	3:05:03
13	Rosemary Atel	Sueldo TDR	3:05:45
14	Brion Zutz	Dynamo	3:06:45
15	Verlin Rau	Sockeye	3:07:30
16	Paddi Sprecher	Reid	3:17:45
17	Carol Rambaut	Kay-Tu	3:19:45
18	Rolf Klein	To Bask With Love	3:20:30
19	Jane Henry	Blue	3:29:00
20	Patricia Landsman	Taj Rai Ghali	3:33:30
21	Rob Heuvelink	Indina	4:40:00
22	Melinda Clendenan	Tumbler	4:45:40
23	Ray Heuvelink	SA Night Magic	4:51:30
24	Sheri Smith	SD Libitad a Mosca	4:55:00
25	Dorothy Kavalchuk	Breezy	5:10:30
26	Hank Heuvelink	Carmelita	5:13:30

BEST CONDITION: N/A

PULLED

Dave Manzer Smudge
Margaret Toma Bello
Linda Lavis Samuel Love

JUNIOR

1	Canaan Swezey	Buddy	2:39:00
2	Shyla Swezey	Shadow	2:39:45
3	Neyse Klein	Alya Foxtail	3:21:00

PULLED JUNIOR

Chad Kowalchuk Princess
Ashely Graham Kalva Shooter

ERA 2001 RIDE RESULTS

Devon—July 20 - 22

100 MILES

1	Christy Janzen	Triple A Bostu	11:42:30
2	Nicole Belland	Dakota's LadyHawk	13:05:45
3	Eve Comrie	Dakota's Pride	13:06:00

BEST CONDITION

Christy Janzen Triple A Bostu

50 MILES

1	Audrey Grieb	Special Delivery	5:46:15
2	Travis Landsman	Casper	5:58:15
3	Larry Handziuk	Misty	5:58:16
4	Don Redford	Sincerity Sonet	5:58:18
5	Trisha Dowling	Au Kari On	6:27:45
6	Ellen Gobbels	J.R. Cheeko	6:29:05
7	Roy Cust	Alotta Disco	6:29:15
8	Bruce Guest	Chance	7:07:00
9	Annemieke Aardoom	Golden Boy	7:07:05
10	Rolf Klein	Alaya Foxtail	7:16:25
11	Carol Wadey	Gypsy	9:30:10

BEST CONDITION

Travis Landsman Casper

PULLED

Caroline Williams Red Satin Rascal
 Victor Novakowski The Dominator
 Charlotte Edgar Spank'um Hank
 Carol Rambaut Kay-Tu
 Geoff Rambaut Eskalon

JUNIOR

1	Rae-Anne Wadey	Jet	9:30:00
1	Robyn Wadey	Kris	9:30:00

25 MILES—LIMITED DISTANCE

1	Ralf Wagner	Equalizer	3:12:30
2	Susan Ostapowich	Necarra	3:15:15
3	Sherry Ruskowsky	Sassy	3:16:00
4	Tara MacLeod	McCoys Thunder	3:21:45
5	Keith Thorne	Kossack Surefire	3:23:20
6	Brian Zwaan	ZF Paguis	3:25:35
7	Patricia Landsman	Taj Rai Ghali	3:31:20
8	Eby Banfill	Mustang Jana	3:56:05
9	Vicki Holmes	Dark Shadow	3:59:20
10	Kathy Irvine	Bruce	4:00:05
11	Vivi Klein	Savanah	4:06:05
12	Leanne Lefebvre	Nevada	4:14:25
13	Amy Chapella	Levi	4:15:00
14	Donna Venables	Shannon	4:16:10
15	Brenda Kossowan	DSK Minnazze Wiid	4:47:00
16	Anna Amero	Spud	4:58:20
17	Arlene Mackenzie	Savoir Faire	4:59:15
18	Sheri Lynn Smith	Libitad a Mosca	4:59:25
19	Kerry Doidge	Starburst Obsession	5:21:35
20	Tamara Bruins	Odin's Thor	5:40:00
21	Susan Jaeger	Gaefa Fra Hnausum II	5:44:10
22	Jocelyn Dubuc	Danny	6:02:30
23	Paddi Sprecher	Reid	6:14:10
24	Gwyn Davies	B.J.	6:15:50
25	Lyn Davies	CM Tricky Spots	6:15:55
26	Jane Henry	Saraf	6:17:15
27	Paula Schnick	Duke	6:26:45
28	Wilfred Schnick	Duster	6:27:55

BEST CONDITION

Keith Thorne Kossacks Sure Fire

PULLED

Lise Boesgaard Port Jackson
 Mary-Anne Dorchester SH Rock 'n' Roll

JUNIOR

1	Kathrin Wagner	Prince Arduno	3:06:10
2	Taylor Godin	Tiba	4:12:25
3	Jesse Amero	Booby	4:57:05

Endurance Riders of Alberta ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2001

November 3, 2001

Denham Inn, Leduc, Alberta, T9E 6V3

Invitation to make notice of motions

All motions to be raised at the ERA 2001 AGM must be submitted to Secretary Monika Smith by **Sept. 30.**

Notices of motion must be in the proper format:

- Give the full name of the person making the motion and the seconder. Both must be ERA members in good standing.
- If a rule or bylaw is to be changed, quote the affected section verbatim.
- Quote the change to be made exactly as it is to be worded in the official rules.
- All notices of motion will be scrutinized before they are circulated to club members.
- Motions that do not affect rules and bylaws can be dealt with at the AGM but do not require advance notice.
- Please contact the Secretary if you wish to include discussion items on the agenda.

Mail or e-mail notices of motion and discussion items for the agenda to:

Monika Smith, ERA Secretary
 5347 17 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T3E 0E8
 smithpr@cadvision.com

A receipt will be mailed or e-mailed to all people who have submitted notices of motion. Please contact the secretary if you do not receive confirmation of your notice of motion within two weeks of the day it was sent. Agenda items will be reviewed for inclusion.

Notices of Motion received after the **September 30th** deadline will be rejected, so please ensure that your submissions are mailed in plenty of time.

Plan to attend the Awards Banquet November 3, 2001

Denham Inn, Leduc, Alberta, T9E 6V3
 1-800-661-3327

The AGM starts at Noon. (to be confirmed)
 Banquet commences at 7:00 p.m.,

Further information, next newsletter!



LaGlance, June 9, 2001—At a vet check, Dakota's LadyHawk and Eve Comrie, owner, are taking a rest. This was rider Nicole Belland's first 100 miler and her first endurance ride all in one. Also crewing was Dwayne Bury (Nicole's significant other) who has evolved from a non-horseman to the best crew in town!

Dubai to Cairo

by Brenda Kossowan

The little red horse from Spruce Grove continues to wow 'em with her ability to hit the ground running.

Late in March, Christy Janzen rode her partbred mare, Tais (Tang), to a 26th-place finish in the 80-mile World's Most Preferred Endurance Race, hosted in Dubai by the royal families of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

It was an outstanding finish for Christy and Tang, given the odds against a Canadian horse competing well after a long flight and with little chance to acclimatize to desert conditions.

Fewer than half of the 88 entries finished the ride, with horses from the UAE taking eight of the top-ten placings. Australia's Terry Wood finished third with 10th going to a Spanish rider, Merce Oms Molist.

The Arabs loaned horses to a number of foreign riders whose own mounts did not pass the pre-ride veterinary inspections.

Veterinary criteria for the ride were extremely rigorous, with no horse allowed to start if it showed even the slightest problem.

Tang had travelled the farthest of all the starters, with little chance to recover from the stress of her long flight.

"Horses should have at least one month to acclimatize," said Christy.

"This time, Tang only had two weeks. It took five days to get her to Los Angeles, then she ended up getting an infection and had a temperature of 103 (F)."

Tang was put on antibiotics at the Ghantoot Stable in Dubai, where she recovered in time for the race.

Julie Phair, president of the Canadian Long Distance Riders Association (CaLDRA), said Janzen had an "awesome" ride on an "amazing" horse.

"I think Tais is looking better with age, and this was her fifth trip to the Middle East," said Phair in an email to members. "Aside from the natural talent of the horse, there is a great partnership that brings out the best, with Christy and Ron Janzen providing their tremendous experience gained over the years."

Christy said the World's Most Preferred was Tang's first completion after undergoing surgery in October to remove a bone splint. There was no sign of any lameness throughout the day of the ride, with Tang earning top marks at vet checks throughout the day.

Regardless of her horse's ability, Christy said she doubts she could ever win in the desert.

"I couldn't push that hard without better acclimatization. The UAE has the best vets, best trainers, etc. Our only edge over the UAE riders now is that we are better riders and have years of solid riding and problem-solving behind us.

"The calibre of horses this year was phenomenal—like the Olympics. They specifically chose the horses this year. You got invited to attend upon a certain horse."

The Arabs continue to raise the bar concerning the welfare of their endurance horses, said Christy.

Arab competitors have started to pace their animals more carefully and no longer attempt to run at the breakneck speeds of their earlier races, she said.

Although some horses were still over-ridden, Christy points out that riders in North America can also get carried away.

"There are always a couple of horses ridden a little too hard. You see just as many here. The biggest hurdles were heat and lack of conditioning in that climate. I had to be very careful on the third loop. My guess was that it was 110 degrees," she said.

Back at Ghantoot, Tang was a virtual prisoner in the barn, unable to be out romping in a pen and "doing her thing."

Christy said her mare was upset by the camels, who were chopping palm fronds from the trees in her paddock.

Of course, all the while she was in Dubai, Christy and crew were nagged by the possibility that they wouldn't be able to bring their horses home because of foot-and-mouth disease.

The Arabs built three extra barns in case their visitors had to leave their horses behind.

As it worked out, the horses were allowed to return home, but not without a good deal of fuss.

The Janzens had taken eight boxes of tack and supplies with their horses and were worried that they would not be returned.

The boxes came back OK, but smelling strongly of vinegar.

Canada's First CEI-A in BC!

by Monika Smith

An Apprentice Judge's Perspective

It took a lot of organization, but the Organizing Committee for Canada's first CEI-A, 160-km ride was held, June 30th, 2001, in the forested mountains above Merritt, BC.

Ride Over the Rainbow is not for the faint at heart at the best of times. It's a wilderness area, with enough roughing, bears, and rocky trails to give this a "tough-to-finish" classification.

From the FEI perspective, there were quite a few people involved that were there to make sure that the FEI rules and regulations were undertaken and upheld throughout the event. Ruth Carlson was the President of the Ground Jury; Sandy McCartie, Technical Delegate, and Keith Thorne, the Chief Steward. (Other apprentice judges from the USA took part in the Ground Jury.)

In addition to being part of the ground jury, Ruth Carlson, also held a Judge's Course. Albertans, Christy and Ron Janzen, Bruce Guest and I took part.

Alberta riders that showed up to ride FEI: Christy Janzen, Karen Badger, Larry Handziuk, Eve Comrie, Bruce Guest, Brenda Kossowan and Linda Riley. Roy Cust attended a non FEI 100 and Annemieke Aardoom completed the 50.

Those unfamiliar with a "real" FEI ride were immediately drawn into the paperwork. You actually had to enter by the 22nd! No more showing up the night before and entering with the friendly ride secretary.

Then, there was the scrutiny of the paperwork. Was it in order? Were vaccinations up to date? A taste of what happens at the "big" rides.

And the weigh-in! At least 70 kg. And if you were "light", you had to add weight to the saddle and have it sealed in. No full water bottles, not horse boots, no overly wet saddle pads or suspiciously wet tack and equipment. Christy whizzed through this part. Others got sent back to add weight, bring equipment that would actually be used on the ride, and so on. Of course, we did a dress check too. Too often this becomes the boogy man of FEI events. Any shirt with a collar is fine. A helmet is mandatory, as is footwear with heels, or baskets on the stirrups, if not. Not exactly onerous—unless you only ride topless, in bare feet and like to feel your hair flying in the wind.

"The smell happened since I left, because we disinfected with the federal vets over there with a bleach and then the vets had to seal all items and mark them. All blankets, pads etc. had to be professionally washed before this, so the night of the race we sent out everything. It was very chaotic, but the cleanest I've ever been coming home."

Tang's feet had barely touched home soil when the Janzens were already making plans to attend another ride in the desert.

"Tang and I were invited to Cairo, Egypt for the end of April. We opted to have Tang shipped home due to hoof and mouth."

Christy told her kids before she left that Dubai would be her last trip. But once there, she sent them a fax advising it may not be her last trip after all.

But she figures she may have to cut down on the frequency.

"I don't think I'll ever do two trips in one year again—just too much for a working mom."

Then the vet check. Yes, the papers were checked again. The horses scrutinized by a committee of vets, headed by Doug Magnowski, an FEI veterinarian. With six vets looking, it was one of the smoothest vetting in ever seen for a multi-sanctioned, mega-event.

As a member of the Ground Jury, I was there to listen to rider concerns and complaints and deal with them, under the direction of the president and in consultant with other jury members, in light of FEI rules and regulations.

Instead of a ride manager having to deal with it, the interpretation of the rules was in the hands of a committee, who can solve the issue on the spot, or through a specific process.

The biggest difficulty of the ride was the trail marking. A wilderness area has its own problems with ribbons and markers staying in place, and this area will be reviewed and dealt with before the next FEI race.

In passing this exam, apprenticing at this ride, I'm now at a Candidate level, although, it may be a while before the FEI will get to it and put me on the "list".

What Merritt showed is that it is possible to hold an FEI ride. Yes, it's more expensive, sanctioning, for example. Some sponsorship dollars were also available from the UAE, which hopefully, will continue.

If you are interested in hosting an FEI ride in 2002, it's timely to talk about it. Contact me! 🐾



Christy Janzen, finishing 3rd, with Barb Holmes offering champagne. Grant Balmer is in the background, "Chef d'Eats" for the event.

PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A small group of very dedicated riders have run the gauntlet from facing challenges of hard work, conditioning, paper work, vet work, farrier work, questions, answers, and more questions. Under the able administration and leadership of Linda Riley, a well-known and respected Alberta rider, director and a past-president of ERA, will lead the Canada West team as chef d'equipe at the Pan Canadian Championships in Woodstock, Vermont, August 25, 2001. The team's vet is the well known and well respected Dr. Roxy Bell, whose expertise in international events has helped many a team horse finish successfully. Roxy was team vet for Team Canada, for the World Endurance Championship, Compiègne, France, 2000. Team manager is Marg Uhlig, from Saskatchewan. Assisting Roxy, is Dr. Don Hamilton, the University of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

With a very long and tough journey ahead, riders are arriving well in advance to ensure that horses complete the trip in slow stages and have a chance to rest, recuperate, and rehydrate.

Vermont will be a challenge to Alberta horses and riders, with its hot, humid, climate and relentless rocky hill country. This course is designed to challenge the best from North America. Four Alberta stars, Christy Janzen and the well known Tang, and Larry Handziuk with award-winning Misty will be there to win. Eve Comrie is getting a taste for international riding and developing a solid competitive and conditioning program that looks years ahead. And, enthusiastic Karen Badger has been eating up the miles to become a strong competitor with an excellent international career emerging.

The Canada West team at date of publication:

Eve Comrie	AB	Dakota's Ladyhawk
Myna Cryderman	MN	SCA Dartagnan
Trisha Dowling	SK	Au Kari On
Karen Badger	AB	XXX Flashman
Larry Handziuk	AB	Misty
Christy Janzen	AB	Tais
Bianca Loseth	BC	Kikuyu

Until the day before the ride, the official team members won't be named. The rest of the riders will be riding as independent, Canada West riders. Only official team members will be in competition for team medals.

Costs are always a concern for riders and team members going to an event of this stature. Thanks to these sponsors for assisting Canada West

Intervet Canada Ltd.

Bayer

Carousel Action Wear

Please wish all Canada West members a successful event. To find out more about PAC, go to their Web site. It's chock full of information and tidbits! Enjoy.

<http://panam2001.tripod.com> 

ALBERTA RIDER WINS BEST CONDITIONED CANADIAN HORSE AWARD

by Annemieke Aardoom

He was born on a farm and started riding horses when he was four years old. His rides then would have been short and slow.

Now, many years later, Larry Handziuk regularly rides 50 or a 100 miles at an extended trot of about 10 to 12 miles per hour while competing in endurance races. He's been at it for about 13 years and his efforts have brought him the 2000 Best Conditioned Canadian Horse Award by CaLDRA, the Canadian Long Distance Riding Association.

This best-conditioned horse is his 16-year-old Arabian mare Misty. Misty, like Larry, has come a long way.

"I bought her from a young girl," says Larry, who has short, dark brown hair on which is perched a black cowboy hat. "She was too rank of a horse. She was a halter puller and you couldn't load her. [I bought her] because of her attitude. I thought she could be a tough horse."

He was right. Misty has trotted and cantered about 3965 race miles, not to speak of all the conditioning miles she has run. She has completed 20, 100-mile rides and many more 50 milers. She won the Best Condition Award by ERA (Endurance Riders of Alberta) for the year 2000 as well as awards for High Point Horse and Top Mileage Horse. Handziuk has ridden about 6000 endurance miles and won the 2000 awards for High Point Rider and Top Mileage Rider.

Getting to this place takes time and effort.

"For every race mile you probably condition 10 miles," says Larry, who lives on an acreage near Busby, north of Edmonton. "I believe conditioning is everything."

For a race date of May 1, Larry begins conditioning an experienced endurance horse by March 1. He rides his horse four days a week. On two of the four days, he rides 10 miles and on the other two days, he rides 15 miles. Once the horse is fit and the race season has started, he cuts back on his riding. In between two races that are two weeks apart, he would do three rides, two short rides of about eight miles and one longer one of about 15 miles.

Being out riding on the trail so much can only be a happy time if the horse and rider team enjoy it. Misty loves the sport. "Running is what she loves to do," Larry. "She wouldn't be at it so long if she didn't like it."

And Handziuk loves it too. He read about endurance racing in *Horses All*. He showed up for a ride and hasn't stopped showing up since.


"I like the competition—being together with other riders—the friendship," he says. "You end up with so many friends. Everybody's got the same interest."

After the many miles that Misty has travelled, she is now an experienced endurance horse. She keeps a steady pace and has lost some of the less agreeable ideas she had when Larry bought her. Anyone could ride her now. But there were challenges in the beginning.

"She'd be so excited she wouldn't eat before the race and that's a problem," Larry says. "She'd be doggy for 50 miles and eat only after the first 50 miles of a race." Another difficulty was that Misty wasted her energy by running too fast, but the

many miles have settled her down and helped her to pace herself.

At 16 years old, Misty is getting on for a top endurance horse and the 2001 season will probably be her last with Larry. He thinks she could go for another two or three years at a slower pace and he might lend Misty to a rider who would ride less competitively with her. Larry, who owns 14 horses of which three are endurance horses, is grooming his eight-year-old Arab gelding XXX Flashman to take Misty's place. Flashman, just like Misty, was difficult to handle for his previous owner, who wisely decided to let him go. So if the similar circumstances under which Larry bought Flashman are any indication, he should be a tough horse. The indications are there: Flashman successfully completed two 100-mile rides in 2000 and made it to the 87-mile marker during the tough Tevis Cup. This was quite a feat even though Flashman got pulled. Due to an Achilles tendon problem, Larry could not ride properly. He could not post the trot or get off his horse to walk beside him up the grueling hills.

But for the 2001 season we will see Larry with Misty, who will probably also be one of the horse and rider teams to represent Canada West during the Pan Am games in Vermont this August. In 1997, Larry and Misty were part of the Canada West team who won the gold medal at the Pan Am games held in Bend, Oregon. Hopefully, they'll have one more year of international success. We'll keep our fingers crossed for them. 

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE CALDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday, August 22, 2001

at the Pan American Championship Ride Site, Woodstock, Vermont. Tentative time for the meeting is 5:00 p.m.

A Nomination Committee of Trisha Dowling and Peter Renton has been working for the last couple of months seeking nominations for the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Please contact either of the Committee members if you have anyone in mind that is interested in being nominated. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the AGM.

Nominations to date:

President: Myna Cryderman, Manitoba
Vice-President: Fred Buchanan, Ontario
Treasurer: Rick Burnside, Ontario
Secretary: Trisha Dowling, Saskatchewan

This is YOUR opportunity to make a difference with the association responsible for endurance in Canada. With a brand new executive, what do you see CaLDRA's role in the future? Do you like Canadian awards? Do you see stronger provincial ties?

Contact your CaLDRA rep and have your views known.

Endurance an Olympic Event?

Endurance gets major boost towards Olympic status

by M. Satyanarayan

Abu Dhabi, June 6, 2001—The efforts of General Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Dubai Crown Prince and Defence Minister, to make Endurance Riding an Olympic sport received a major boost last week when the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) formed a subcommittee to handle it.

The FEI, the governing body of all equestrian sport except flat-racing, established the subcommittee at the FEI Endurance Committee annual meeting held in Amsterdam on May 28-29 to look at the feasibility of Endurance becoming an Olympic discipline. Faisal Seddiq Al Mutawa, secretary-general of the UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation, has been named Chairman of the subcommittee while FEI Assistant Secretary-General Michael Stone and Dr. Hallvard Somerseth are the members.

Since Endurance Riding became an organized sport here in the UAE less than a decade ago, Sheikh Mohammed has been one of the most popular riders both at home and abroad. The UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation has been in the forefront of the drive towards making Endurance an Olympic sport. Sheikh Mohammed had earlier this year given his approval to a gigantic endeavour to help Endurance Riding grow into a global sport and move towards becoming an Olympic discipline.

He had approved a move to organize rides under Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) rules in the U.S., Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Though these countries organized many rides, the move is aimed to organize them under FEI rules and bring them under one umbrella. "The UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation has been sponsoring such rides both in the region and in a few venues in Europe. However from this season we are planning almost 22 rides all over the world," Faisal Seddiq Al Mutawa, Secretary General of the Federation had told Gulf News after Sheikh Mohammed's approval.

"Sheikh Mohammed has approved the plan which will not only encourage more countries to organize rides under FEI rules but will also broaden the base of the sport thereby making the case stronger for the inclusion of Endurance Riding as an Olympic sport," Faisal Seddiq said.

Now with the FEI having given its approval through the formation of the subcommittee, the movement of making Endurance an Olympic sport will gather more pace. The committee's main target will be to work towards making Endurance a demonstration event at the Athens Olympics before finally getting it into the Olympic fold for the 2008 Olympic Games.

Meanwhile, on the sidelines of the FEI's Olympic Committee meeting, a seminar for experienced

endurance officials was also held in Amsterdam. Forty-one experienced endurance judges and stewards attended the seminar addressed by Dr. Jerry Gillespie of the U.S. on May 26-27. The seminar was the first of its kind and is the start of a program established by the FEI Endurance Committee to improve the quality of officials in this fast growing discipline, according to the FEI.

reprinted from Gulf News

Impact on ERA?

by Monika Smith

The above article may be pretty exotic stuff for riders interested in just getting to the next ERA race, and taking pop bottles to the recycler to do so.

However, world endurance events are starting to impact Canadians, and even ERA, an organization that has maintained its independence and strength without the necessity of strong affiliations with other organizations, including AERC (American Endurance Ride Conference), CaLDRA or CEF (Canadian Equestrian Federation).

But, things have been shaking that scenario. And, ERA may end up paying at least lip service to what's transpiring in the gilded halls of Dubai.

What's not mentioned in the article is that Dubai, through a very serious sponsorship program, via Emirates Airlines, is providing big dollars to put on World Endurance Championships. While not the dizzying dollars that allowed a team of six riders and horses to have a huge chunk cut out of the travel and accommodation dollars (airfare per horse from LA to Dubai would have run at least \$20,000) for the 1998 WEC. More modest amounts have been provided to organizing committees and teams to ensure that LOTS of countries compete. These extra dollars have made an impact, as has the creation of an FEI leader board; prize money; sheikhs with deep pockets shopping for good horses have perked up a lot of interest in many countries.

Think about this...

Well, we can still live without that, and enjoy grass roots endurance, right? Yes, to a degree. Individuals may not be really impacted, but ERA is becoming more so. We operate as an official provincial association because CaLDRA has given us official status.

A strange thing happened when the U.S., and of course Canada (and a couple of other foot-dragging countries), decided that they would take a wait-and-

see attitude on qualifications for international rides. The AERC was particularly unconvinced that it had anything to do with international and did not want to change its mandate. On the other hand, we have CaLDRA that deals with national and international activities reporting to the CEF. A tidy relationship that has worked for many years, although, as few understand, it is a pay-to-play relationship!

ERA pays a small fee to CaLDRA to be the official provincial body and CaLDRA pays a larger fee to CEF as the national federation (NF) representing endurance in Canada.

What the FEI did was simply no longer allow "exemptions" for international riders. So, our well run, well respected 100 miler, LaGlace, no longer can be used as an FEI qualifier for either PAC or the WEC. This is a problem. This ride loses the prestige of being a qualifier and can lose top riders who are hunting for FEI rides as nearby as possible.

The U.S. is no slouch to getting things done once it's really, really threatened and the marines can't fix it. So, FEI rides have sprung up across the U.S. But, having endurance riders go south means that our rides have a few less riders and support, and these riders are spending that much more to become qualified. (Ok, the rest of you can stop cheering if a top rider doesn't attend a ride!)

Since ERA has been a source for international riders over the last 20 years, it's a real shame to have this situation happen.

Solutions? Well, we can host FEI rides. Hold a provincial championship and encourage and support a Canadian Championship (through CaLDRA).

Got you interested? More next newsletter on the wonderful, wacky world of international.

I leave you with this thought: *Do you have an Olympic horse in your backyard?* 🐾



is published on behalf of its membership.

We welcome articles and photographs from members. All material is edited and copywrited.

If you wish to receive an electronic copy, please email the editor.

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phone: 403-242-6162
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Welcome these NEW ERA members!

1421	Aardoom	Annemieke	Sundre	1441	Kuhn	Robyn	Edmonton
1451	Austin	Maryann	Fairview	1448	McKercher	Linnea	Spruce Grove
1429	Belland	Nicole	Athabasca	1423	Newbert	Judy	Crossfield
1444	Feldman	Victoria	Edmonton	1430	Odegard	Arlen	Edmonton
1455	Fulcher	Crystal	Edmonton	1431	Odegard	Cynthia	Edmonton
1457	Fulcher	Charnelle	Edmonton	1432	Odegard	Caleb	Edmonton
1446	Getzinger	Dixie	Drayton Valley	1433	Odegard	Dylan	Edmonton
1447	Getzinger	Danica	Drayton Valley	1434	Odegard	Isaac	Edmonton
1452	Gobbels	Ellen	Beaumont	1436	Ranta	Helen	Bowden
1453	Gobbels	Rachel	Beaumont	1454	Rau	Verlin	Beiseker
1425	Goring	Monika	Barrhead	1442	Rice	Linda-lou	Canmore
1445	Hango	Amber	Perryvale	1426	Riddle	Maddie	Sherwood Park
1450	Harris	Susan	Calgary	1420	Sandbeck	Mike	Grand Prairie
1414	Heuvelink	Robert	Edmonton	1424	Saum	John	Pilot Butte
1418	Heuvelink	Bea	Morinville	1449	Schilperoor	Sylvia	Fox Creek
1419	Heuvelink	Hank	Morinville	1427	Smith	Sheri Lyn	Cold Lake
1443	Heuvelink	Ray	Morinville	1417	Toma	Margaret	St. Alberta
1422	Janzen	Sarah	Spruce Grove	1428	Webster	Carol	Fernie
1438	Jordan	Rosemary	Leduc	1435	Wise	Wendy	Calgary