

BILTMORE™

Equestrian Center

welcomes the

2018 AERC National Championship

for the benefit of Hope for Horses

<http://www.BiltmoreEndurance.com>

September 20, 2018 – 50 mile Championship

September 21, 2018 – Limited Distance open ride

September 22, 2018 – 100 mile Championship

AERC

SEDRA

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**Sponsored by: AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE
BECKY PEARMAN PHOTOGRAPHY**

The Biltmore Equestrian Center located on the grounds of George Vanderbilt's historic Estate in Asheville, NC, will host 2018 AERC National Championship for the benefit of Hope for Horses. Three days of competition will be available: two with Championship events with qualifications required; and a third day of open limited distance. Thursday, September 20 will have the 50 mile Championship, Friday September 21 will have a 25-mile Limited Distance open ride, and Saturday September 22 will have the Championship 100. All riders will be entered in the AERC Open or Limited Distance category. Optionally, a qualified rider and horse can also enter the FEI category (senior or Young Rider). In addition, we will have team competition in all distances.

Built in 1895, the Estate trails promise a challenging ride along the French Broad River and over rolling hills and low mountains. We recommend that all horses have hoof protection, and potentially pad at the 75 and 100 mile distances. Breast collars/cruppers may be helpful. Each loop will circle back to a central judging area adjacent to the main camping area. Weather is somewhat unpredictable in September, but it is one of our driest months with temperatures in the upper 70s to low 80s (it will still be humid by western standards).

Once again, we will be using trails on the West Side of the French Broad with some excellent views of the House. At this time, we have over 40 miles of marked trail on the West Side that we exploit.

Length of Stay Passes. As part of the need for security on the Estate, and to provide a more official mode of access for attendees to the Estate grounds, entry will require a name pre-supplied to the gate guards. Entry fees for the ride automatically include the rider and one named crew member for the 'gate list'. Entry must be via the main gate. On the Estate, including at the ride site, colored wristbands will be required to be worn as visible proof of permission, and can be used for re-entry. Additional permits may be purchased for additional named crew members for \$30 each. *Note: Children 16 years old and under are free, but still must be on the gate list and wear the wristbands.*

QUALIFICATIONS: from the AERC web site:

50-mile ride: 300 lifetime miles (horse) AND 300 lifetime miles (rider), with at least 100 miles together. The mileage requirements must be met with endurance competitions of 50 miles or more only -- no limited distance miles count towards qualification criteria.

100-mile ride: 500 lifetime miles (horse) AND 500 lifetime miles (rider), with at least one 100 mile, one-day ride together. The mileage requirements must be met with endurance competitions of 50 miles or more only -- no limited distance miles count towards qualification criteria.

Alternate qualification (either distance): If the horse and rider team has completed together for 1,000 AERC endurance miles (rides 50 miles or more only) they are qualified to enter.

Additional Alternate qualification, approved by the AERC board 4/15: All horse and rider teams who completed the previous year in the Top 10 overall standings in their region will be qualified to ride in either the 50 or 100 mile distance.

ENTRY FORMS/PAYMENT: Please return entry form and signed waiver, if not already done, with your full fee. **All entry fees are due by September 12 (closing date).** That is, any entry not paid by September 12 is accepted only at management discretion (not guaranteed, and \$40 late fee will apply). Fees are *fully* refundable if cancelled prior to September 14; then except for \$50 through September 16, then 50% if between September 17 and 19 (but pre-vet-in). After that, at management discretion. You **MUST** supply Coggins test papers valid through September 23, 2018 at check-in or send a copy in advance. Non-AERC members (restricted to LD) must pay day fee of \$15. Payment by credit card will incur additional charges (roughly 5%).

Questions? Call Cheryl Newman at 828-665-1531 or cherylnewman@charter.net or equestrian@biltmore.com. Also check the web site: <http://www.biltmoreendurance.com>.

CAMP: Camping is primitive in large open pastures. Corrals are limited to 15' by 15'. No camper hook-ups; city water at hydrants; Portajons. Open fires are prohibited; charcoal grills OK. Dogs **MUST** be ON LEASH at all times and confined (not tied) when you are riding. Multiple motels / restaurants within 2 miles. On first-call-to-reserve basis, we have 6 stalls @ \$50/day in the Guest Barn including shavings and muck-out, some large paddocks @ \$30/day/horse (about ½ mile from camp) and some paddocks @ \$50 day/horse close to the action, 6 pipe pens @ \$20/day. At the time of the ride, a new barn may be open close to the action at \$50 / horse / day, no shavings, no muck-out. The Biltmore Equestrian Center phone is: 828-225-1454.

Camp opens on Tuesday, September 18. If you plan to arrive earlier, please indicate it on entry form and be prepared to pay extra camping and trail fees. All entry to the grounds will be through the MAIN GATE of Biltmore Estate (open 24 hrs). Everyone will also exit through the main gate. If you have extra vehicle driving with you, please note driver name on entry form. *All entering the Estate must have individual names on the Gate List ahead of time.*

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP: If approaching Asheville from the EAST on I-40, take Exit 50B, US 25 NORTH. Follow signs to entrance to Biltmore Estate, turning right off exit ramp and moving into the LEFT lane to prepare for the turn into Estate Entrance.

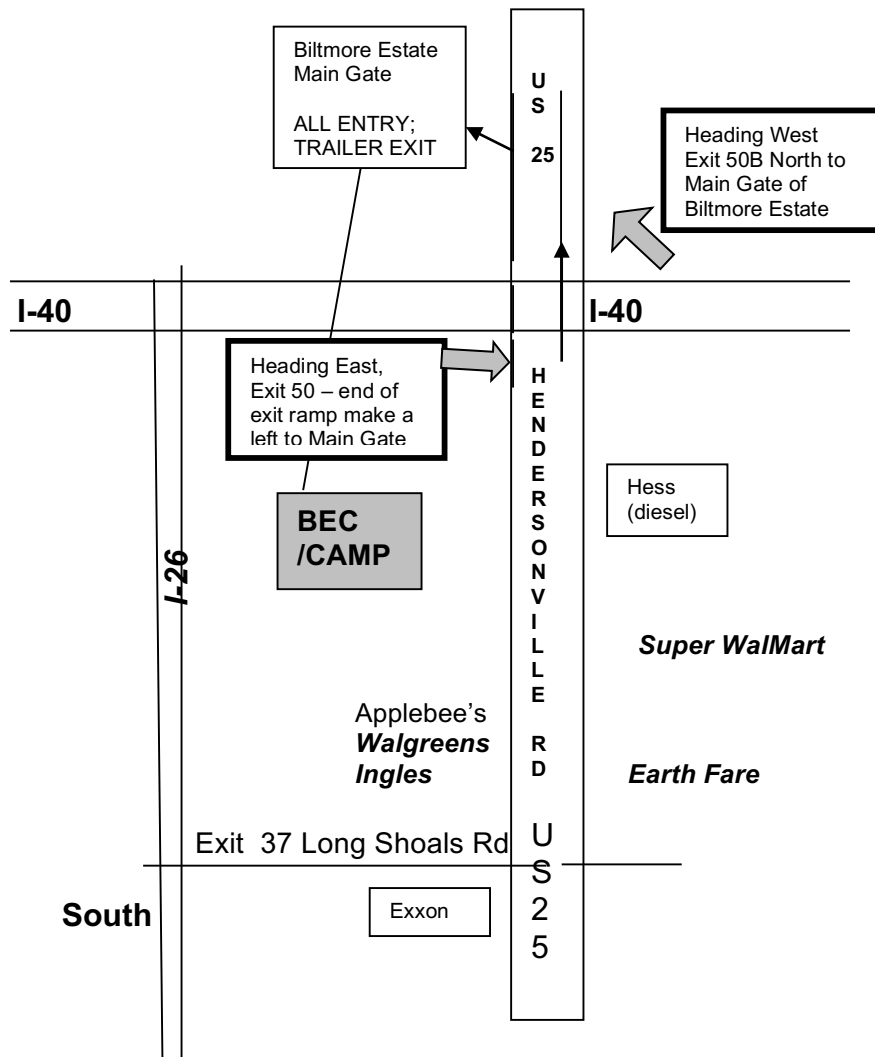
If approaching Asheville from the WEST on I-40, take Exit 50, turn LEFT off the exit ramp at the light, following signs to Biltmore Estate Main Entrance. Stay in the left lane after your merge into traffic.

If approaching Asheville from the SOUTH on I-26, continue to the junction with I-40 EAST. After you get on I-40, take Exit 50 and follow directions as above.

If approaching Asheville from the NORTH on I-26, get onto I-240 EAST to I-40 WEST. Take Exit 50B, and follow the directions above.

Pass through the first archway (Lodge Gate), and go "straight" past the Ticket Booth. Follow signs to "Horse Event" or BEC making several turns. Watch for oncoming traffic and stay well to the right side of road. Cross the large stone bridge and go straight onto gravel road, which will bear right, allowing turn for large trailers. Signs will direct you to camp area near the outdoor arena. Do NOT try to drive through fields before you get to camp area.

All entry and exit must be through the main entrance to the Estate.



RULES: All AERC/SERA rules apply to Open riders. Equines must be at least 72 mos. old for the 100; 60 mos. old for 50; 48 mos. old for LD. No Juniors on stallions. Rules regarding discourtesy to officials and protest procedures are per AERC Rules and failure to observe them may result in disqualification.

A dead heat will be decided by coin toss or rider agreement for prizes.

PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR IS REQUIRED whenever mounted. No exceptions.

SMOKING: Smoking is prohibited on trails; OK in camp or at judging check.

WHO'S WHO
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Cheryl Newman
Elizabeth McLean (Biltmore Equestrian Center)
Stagg Newman – trails

Whitney Wright – volunteer coordinator

PLANNED CONTROL JUDGES THROUGHOUT

Ann Stuart, Head Control Judge
Duane Barnett, Nancy Kay, Otis Schmitt, Art King, Nick Kohut
Lynne Johnson, Treatment Vet (tentative)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday	Sep 18	Noon	CAMP OPENS
Wednesday	Sep 19	11 AM – Noon; 1 – 4 PM	REGISTRATION (for Thursday)
		2 PM – 5 PM	AERC 50-MILE VET-IN
		5:30 PM	RIDER MEETING
		6:00 PM	DINNER
Thursday	Sep 20	7:00 AM	START 50-MILE
		11 AM – Noon; 3 PM – 5 PM	REGISTRATION (for Friday)
		7:00 PM	FINISH 50-MILE
		7:00 PM	RIDER MEETING (for Friday)
		7:30 PM	THURSDAY DINNER
		8:00 PM	THURSDAY AWARDS
Friday	Sep 21	8:30 AM	START 25-MILE LD
		11 AM – Noon; 3 PM – 5 PM	REGISTRATION (for Saturday)
		2:30 PM	FINISH 25-MILE LD
		5:30 PM	RIDER MEETING
		6:00 PM	FRIDAY AWARDS
		6:30 PM	DINNER
Saturday	Sep 22	6:30 AM	START 100-MILE
		6:30 PM	DINNER
Sunday	Sep 23	6:30 AM	FINISH 100-MILE
		9:00 AM	100-MILE AWARDS, CLOSING

JUDGING CRITERIA: Control checks will all be 'gate into hold', with 64 pulse requirement, unless control judge staff determines otherwise. For non-finish checks, for AERC the equine must meet this criteria within 30 min of arrival at check or be disqualified. Horses must be judged 'fit to continue'. Other criteria, including exit exam, may be included and would be announced either in rider packet or at rider meeting if weather is a factor.

Finishing criteria will be Fit to Continue including recovery. For AERC championship completion, recovery is to pulse rate of 64 within time limit described below. As soon as pulse is down, the equine may be brought for the final exam, but MUST be presented within the allotted time to avoid disqualification. Allowance for finish line at 1.2 miles from vetting arena: per AERC rule 6.2: after the walk back to camp all pulses must be down within 30 minutes. 20 minutes allowance for the walk has been agreed between ride management and the head control judge. SO: for all competitors (non-limited distance) in the Championship endurance events, the net time post-finish line to get your pulse is 50 minutes. This is allowed at the final discretion of the Control Judges and finalized at the rider briefing, and in the Program of the event. AERC horses have up to an hour post-finish line to pass non-pulse.

Cardiac Recovery Index (CRI) may be used, including final vetting and Best Condition.

JUDGE DECISIONS ARE FINAL!

FIT TO CONTINUE: The equine must be metabolically stable. There must be no gait aberration that is consistently observable under all circumstances that results in pain or threatens immediate athletic performance, exam to be conducted at trot (or equivalent), straight out and back, without prior flexion or palpation. Any soreness or wounds that affect equine's ability to go on may be cause for non-completion.

An equine may not have received prohibited (AERC Rule 13) medical treatment by a vet or layman prior to final exam. An equine must not be in need of medical treatment for a soundness or metabolic problem. An equine that a ride control judge advises should be treated, but treatment is refused by rider or owner, shall be considered in the same light as a equine that has been treated and disallowed completion.

FARRIER: Mountain Farrier Service / Jeff Pauley will be the ride farrier. He or a colleague will be on the grounds during rides Friday and Saturday (til around 6pm). **To make an appointment in advance please call Jeff at 828 712 2343.**

MASSAGE:

Equine: Michelle Blankenship will be the equine massage therapist on the grounds. **To make an appointment with Michelle, call her at 828 455 7899.**

Human: Nancy MacDonald will be the human massage therapist on the grounds. **To make an appointment with Nancy, call her at 828 225 5022.**

AWARDS: Completion awards for all riders. Top 10, Best Condition (BC) and 1st-to-Finish Awards; First Junior, plus other awards as sponsored.

FOOD: All meals are extra (none are included in the ride entry). Pricing is \$30 for the main Friday dinner, \$15 for other dinners. Other meals are on your own. Coffee and rolls will be served at Awards on Sunday morning. Horse feed/hay are available by prior arrangement with BEC.