

BILTMORE™
Equestrian Center

Biltmore Challenge Endurance Ride

<http://www.BiltmoreEndurance.com>

Remembering Anne Ayala, October 16, 1940 – December 27, 2012

Friday, May 5, 2017: 25, 50

Saturday, May 6, 2017: 30, 55, 75, and 100

AERC SEDRA ECTRA SERA USEF FEI SR&YJ
100 Mile Ride is AHA R12 Championship, event 171213877

2016 Sponsored by: KEN WILSON FORD SEMINOLE FEEDS

DOVER SADDLERY

BILTMORE WINERY BECKY PEARMAN PHOTOGRAPHY DISTANCE DEPOT /
HORSE LOVERS OUTLET RUNNING BEAR FARM SHORTY'S SADDLES
TAYLORED TACK VETTEC

The Biltmore Equestrian Center located on the grounds of George Vanderbilt's historic Estate in Asheville, NC, will host the twenty-second annual Biltmore Challenge Endurance Ride on May 5-6, 2017. Two days of competition will be offered: Friday with distances of 25, and 50 miles; Saturday with distances of 30 miles, 55 miles, 75 miles, and 100 miles. 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 on **Saturday** in the open 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 early May, but it is usually humid with temperatures in the upper 70s to low 80s.

Once again, we will be using trails on the West Side of the French Broad with some excellent views of the mansion. 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.*

ENTRY FORMS/PAYMENT: Please return entry form and signed waiver, if not already done, with your full fee. **All entry fees are due by April 27 (closing date).** That is, any entry not paid by 27 April is accepted only at management discretion (not guaranteed, and \$40 late fee will apply). Fees are *fully* refundable if cancelled prior to April 29; then except for \$50 til May 1, then 50%. You **MUST** supply Coggins test papers valid through May 7, 2017 at check-in or send a copy in advance. Non-AERC members must pay day fee of \$15. Payment by credit card incur additional charges.

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>.

AHA: The 2017 Biltmore Challenge 100-mile ride is the AHA Region 12 Championship. To be eligible, the rider *and* owner must be 2017 'Competition' members of AHA and the horse must be AHA registered. The horse must have a minimum of 100 lifetime miles of which 50 miles may be from an AHA Regional or National Competitive Trail Ride, but any other miles must be Endurance miles (not Limited Distance). Additional, separate release form required. Sweepstakes points can accrue per AHA rules.

FEI: Biltmore is hosting ten FEI competitions: Friday has a 50 mile ride (CEI1*); and Saturday has a 50 mile ride (CEI*), a 75 mile ride (CEI**), and a 100 mile ride (CEI***); plus the same distances offered to Juniors and Young Riders. Young Riders are eligible from the beginning of the year they reach the age of 16 until the end of the year they reach the age of 21. FEI-registered juniors may enter any FEI ride, too. Separate qualifications and additional entry/release form are required for the FEI component. FEI requires ON LINE ENTRY through your USEF account as well by 27 April.

TEAM COMPETITION: *To be verified:* Open to all riders in all competitions across both days, courtesy of Running Bear. So, form your own team of three or four riders, with time for the top three finishers on each team counting towards awards. This is a good opportunity to practice team riding.... Check out how strategy and opportunities change in this environment! Entry at ride registration or ahead of time (send an email), no additional fees. At least two teams must be formed at a distance to qualify for a team competition.

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 @ \$25/day, some large paddocks @ \$30/day/horse, 6 pipe pens @ \$15/day. The Biltmore Equestrian Center phone is: 828-225-1454. Guest barn stalls and paddocks are located about 1/2 mile from Registration and Judging / Crewing area, but you may set up camp at the paddocks / barn area. Signs will be posted.

Camp opens on Wednesday, May 3. 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.

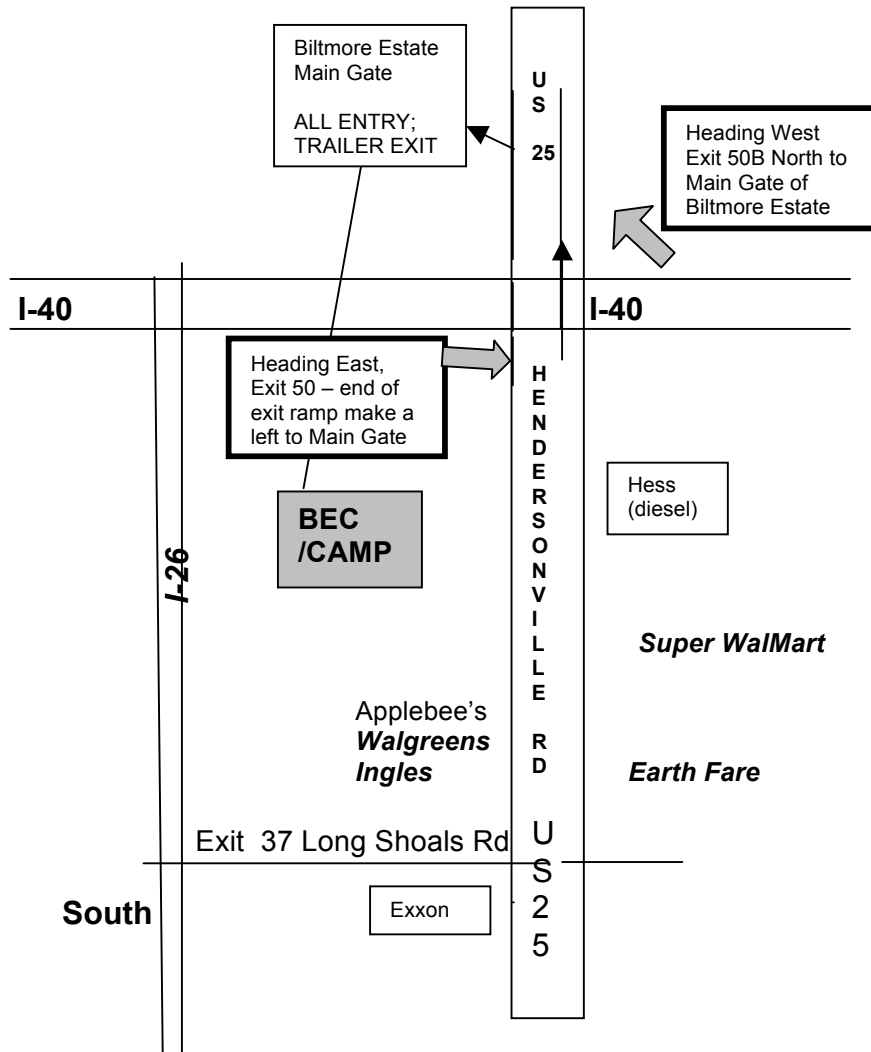
If approaching Asheville from the WEST on I-40, take Exit 50, turn LEFT off the exit ramp at the light, following signs to Biltmore Estate Main Entrance. Stay in the left lane after your merge into traffic.

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 50/55/75; 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.

No ties except for AERC placings. A dead heat will be decided by coin toss or rider agreement.

USEF and FEI rules apply to the FEI divisions, including novice qualifying, ages of horses vs star levels, and rest between competitions.

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

Bonni Hannah, Sharyn Groh, Beverly Brock - volunteer coordinators

PLANNED CONTROL JUDGES 2015

Ann Stuart, Head Control Judge, President Vet Comm

Thomas Timmons, Foreign Vet Delegate

Duane Barnett, Carter Hounsel, Art King, Ken Marcella, Olivia Rudolphi

Lynne Johnson, Treatment Vet

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday	May 3	Noon	CAMP OPENS
Thursday	May 4	11 AM – Noon; 1 – 4 PM	REGISTRATION (for Friday and Saturday)
		1 PM – 2 PM	FEI INSPECTION & VET IN
		2 PM – 5 PM	AERC OPEN VET-IN
		5:30 PM	RIDER MEETING
Friday	May 5	6:30 AM	START 50-MILE
		8:30 AM	START 25-MILE LD
		11 AM – Noon; 3 PM – 5 PM	REGISTRATION (for Saturday)
		1 PM – 2 PM	FEI INSPECTION & VET IN
		2 PM – 5 PM	AERC OPEN VET-IN
		2:30 PM	FINISH 25-MILE LD
		6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	LATE VET-IN IF REQUIRED
		6:30 PM	FINISH 50-MILE
		6:30 PM	RIDER MEETING
		7:30 PM	FRIDAY DINNER
8:00 PM	FRIDAY AWARDS		
Saturday	May 6	6:00 AM	START 100-MILE
		6:30 AM	START 75-MILE
		7:00 AM	START 50-MILE
		8:15 AM	START 30-MILE LD
		3:30 PM	FINISH 30-MILE LD
		8:15 PM	FINISH 55-MILE
Sunday	May 7	12:30 AM	FINISH 75-MILE
		6:00 AM	FINISH 100-MILE
		8:30 AM	SATURDAY AWARDS

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; FEI equines have a 20 min from arrival. Horses must be judged 'fit to continue'. Other criteria, including exit exam, may be included 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 open 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 open endurance events, the net time post-finish line to get your pulse is 50 minutes. This is allowed at the final discretion of the Veterinary Commission and Ground Jury and finalized at the rider briefing, and in the Program of the event. FEI must complete within this allowance. AERC horses have up to an hour post-finish line to pass non-pulse criteria. 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: Carmen Allen-Henke will be the equine massage therapist on the grounds. **To make an appointment in advance, please call her at 434 242 6020 or email her at ridetheskymassage@gmail.com**

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). Tickets are \$25 for Friday dinner. No meal is offered on Saturday. Coffee and rolls will be served at Awards on Sunday morning. Horse feed/hay are available by prior arrangement with BEC.