

Yosemite Gold Cup

Fun Ride, 25, 50, 75, 100 Mile Ride

April 21, 2012

About the ride: This ride is being produced in conjunction with Southern California Equestrian Sports, www.scesports.org, a 501c(3) public charity. As in... Not For Profit. Proceeds from the raffle and ride go to support international equestrians. Our goal for this event is to promote Agri-tourism in our area, introduce some exciting new ideas to our sport, see some beautiful country from the back of your horse, and for everyone to have as much fun as possible. Riders new to the sport will be able to rub shoulders with some of the veteran international riders that they all read about in Endurance News and on the internet. Take advantage of this opportunity to ask questions and learn.

An Asgard Arabian gelding started at the Clinton Anderson Academy is being raffled off to support the ride. There will be a second and third raffle prize as well. See the Raffle tab on the ride website, www.yosemitgoldcup.com. A minimum of 75 tickets must be sold, otherwise, ticket money will be refunded. The winning tickets will be drawn during the April 20, 2012, Friday evening banquet. We urge you to stay overnight on Saturday, since the camping fee is the same regardless if you stay one night, or seven. Showers are available to everyone in the cabin area of Tuolumne Trails. Bunks are available to rent in the community style cabins for \$46 per night. There are eight bunks per cabin, a toilet and sink. You will need to bring your own bedding and showers are located in a separate building.

Dinners/Breakfast: The Main banquet/party will be **FRIDAY NIGHT**, starting at 5:00 pm. It will be a nice sit-down steak meal, (vegetarian available upon request) in the main dining hall of Tuolumne Trails Camp. There will be a no host bar available and dinner tickets will be supplied for all ENTERED riders. Additional banquet tickets are available for purchase in advance for \$22. Dinner tickets at the door will cost \$32. **SATURDAY NIGHT:** Dinner will be something interesting like Elk stew and start being served at 6:00 pm with awards for the Fun Ride, 25 and 50 mile events to follow. Dinner tickets are available for purchase in advance for \$15. Dinner tickets at the door will cost \$25.

Breakfast: Will be available Friday-Sunday morning being served from 8-10:30 am EXCEPT Saturday morning (ride day), when it will be available from 5 am to 8 am. Breakfast tickets are available for purchase in advance for \$10 or \$15 at the door.

Camp Information: Camping and stabling for horses is located in the vacant lot, 100 yards away from the entrance to Tuolumne Trails Camp, (22988 Ferretti Road, Groveland, CA, 95321) across Ferretti Road. The vet in area is about 1/8 of a mile away on the Tuolumne Trails camp property. Parking will be tight so high ties and SMALL portable pens are the order of the day. The camping fee is \$25 PER RIG. If you arrive with a separate motor home from your truck and trailer, there will be a \$25 fee for that rig. There will not be enough space for 1/2 acre electric tape pens. There will be designated AERC and FEI areas and there will be a volunteer to direct you to a parking slot. Please do not set up camp without receiving instructions as you may be asked to move. We encourage you to take advantage of the inexpensive camping fee and to arrive early to take time to visit Yosemite National Park and the historic towns of Columbia and Jamestown with your family. If you intend to arrive before Thursday, please let us know. Ridecamp is approximately 20 miles from the Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite. It can get cold at night, heck it can even snow. We advise you to bring a blanket for your horse.

There are a very limited number of stalls (6) available to rent at the Yosemite Rose Bed and Breakfast next door to the base camp. You **must** stay at the bed and breakfast in order to be able to rent a stall. Do not try to talk them into just renting you a stall. To check availability at the bed and breakfast visit their website at www.yosemiterose.com. Diesel is available within 8-10 miles of camp. The grocery store in Groveland is 7.2 miles from camp.

Course: The ride is on Stanislaus National Forest Road, old Logging trails and private property sections that usually no one gets to ride on. A lot of effort has gone into making this a nice trail and gathering private property owners together for permission to cross their land. Please be respectful of the land and do not go cross country if you have missed a turn in the marked trail. Go back to where you made your mistake. If you have ridden the Buck Meadows Boogie ride prior to 2011, this IS NOT the same trail. If you rode the ride on 4/9/2011, specifically, then parts of the trail will be familiar. Stay on the trail at all times as there are sections that have old wire fencing along side. This is a MULTI USE FOREST so there may be ATV's, or other vehicles using the roads. This is a moderate, rolling course with areas of flat trail to move out. Footing is good with areas of rock. Depending on rainfall, or lack thereof, there will be several stream crossings. Make sure your horse will cross water. There are two OUT Vet Check locations that the longer distances may pass through several times. Distances less than 75 miles will have ONE Out Vet check. Hay, carrots and horse water will be provided at vet checks. Ride management will provide a trailer to haul crew bags to the out vet checks. Longer distance riders will be asked to label their crew bags for particular check points. All out vet checks are located in a "holler" (if you're from the south) and hollow/valley for the rest of us, so bring a sheet, or cooler to keep your horse warm. Ride Start is 5:30 am for the 75's and 100's, 6:30 am for the 50's, 7am for the 25's, and 10 am for the Fun Ride. This is subject to change due to climate, other forest conditions, or ride management couldn't get out of bed that morning. There will be water troughs on the trail for horses; the Forest Service has asked us not to water in Moore Creek except where the trail crosses it. There will be hay and carrots at the Vet check. Spotters may be at some turns in the trail. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE RIDER MEETING AT 5 pm FRIDAY FOR LAST MINUTE COURSE DETAILS!!!! There are several road/pavement crossings across Hwy 120 and Ferretti Road.

Awards: Awards for the Fun Ride, the 25 and 50 mile distances will be presented during the Saturday night dinner. Awards for the 75 and 100 mile distances will be presented Sunday morning during breakfast. Best Condition judging for the 75 and 100 mile distances will start at 7:00 am on Sunday. **Every rider who completes their ride will receive a completion award.** There will be an award for Best Condition in the 50, 75 and 100 mile distances. A Horse Excellence award will be given to one horse that the vets determine meets that criteria in the Fun Ride and 25 mile ride.

CASH PRIZES IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE AWARDS: There will be cash prizes awarded in a similar format to barrel racing called a "D" format. Barrel racing works like this: In a 3D or 4D barrel race, the racing associations split the times of all the clean runs into divisions. The winner of the First Division, or the 1D, is the rider with the fastest time. The winner of the Second Division, or the 2D, is the rider who ran a ½ second slower than the fastest rider's time. The winner of the Third Division, or the 3D, is the rider who ran one second slower than the fastest rider's time, while the winner of the Fourth Division, or the 4D, is the rider whose time was two seconds slower than the fastest rider's time. You can either win money by luck or skill. It's luck when you know you don't have the fastest time, but place in the 2D, 3D or 4D. It's skill when you're one of the fastest riders in the race and place in the First Division. When you fall in the "crack," that means you fell out of the pot of money or out of the paid placings. Most barrel races, depending on their size, only pay out a certain number of places in each Division. You might have the fifth-fastest time at the barrel race, but if they are only paying out four places in each division, you'll fall in the "cracks." Since you won't know what the fastest time will be at a race until all the riders have taken their turn, you're encouraged to run your best every time.

How this format will be applied to the Yosemite Gold Cup Ride:

1. We will be running a 3D, with a 3 placings format, for this ride for each distance excluding the Fun Ride, which will have a 3D with single placings. That means there are NINE opportunities to win money in each distance excluding the Fun Ride (total of 3 cash awards for the Fun Ride).
2. Since our endurance events are much longer than barrel racing, we will be adding Minutes, not seconds to the first place rider to come up with the winning times for 2D and 3D divisions.
3. The number of minutes we decide to add to the first place rider's time will be announced at the start of each event.

Unless you're in the top three for your distance entered, or you have a cell phone that actually works in this area so you can call ahead to find out the winning time ahead of you, skill and LUCK will somewhat play a role in whether or not you fall into the 2D or 3D divisions for cash payouts. With this system, the last three horses that come in a particular distance could conceivably get a cash award. The system is designed to reward the first place horses while making money available for the middle of the pack horses.

If you're a strategist, you might look at last year's results for the Buck Meadows Boogie ride on 4/9/11 ONLY, for the distance you're interested in to see the finishing times. Look at who is entered for this year and determine if you think they might win and what the time might be. You might even ask your projected winner what their ride time is going to be. They may or may not tell you, however. The number of Minutes that will be added to the first place rider for each distance will be announced at the start of each ride. Add that number to what your projected winner's time might be and that will be your ride time to come close to winning a pot in either the 2D or 3D division. Now you have something to calculate while you're in the saddle to figure where you need to come in, if not positions 1-3, in order to get "lucky" to place in one of the other divisions. EXAMPLE: The winning rider in the 50 mile distance crosses the finish line at 1:03 pm. We have announced that the added minutes for the 50 mile distance for the 2D is 68 minutes and for the 3D is 122 minutes. The winning rider in the 2D, 50 mile distance, will be the one that crosses the finish line at 2:11 pm. The next two horses across the finish line behind that horse will be 2nd and 3rd in the 2D pot. The winning rider in the 3D, 50 mile distance, will be the one that crosses the finish line at 3:05 pm. The next two horses across the finish line behind the winning 3D horse will be 2nd and 3rd in the 3D pot.

Depending on the number of entries, we will most likely award "added money" for the FEI riders placing 1-5 in each distance.

Now before you all flood me with emails about "how much will be in each pot," the answer is, that will depend on the number of entries, so ride the ride for the fun of it. Or.... "The AERC doesn't allow awarding cash prize money," the answer is, yes it does, read the rules.

Directions to Camp: Camp is located about 8 miles east of Groveland CA off Highway 120. From Oakdale take 120 east 26 miles. Turn Right at Yosemite Junction, following the signs to Yosemite until you reach the town of Groveland. From Groveland travel 7.2 miles on Hwy 120 towards Yosemite. Turn left on Ferretti Road. Travel 2.5 miles on Ferretti Road PAST the entrance to Tuolumne Trails Camp on the right, SLOW DOWN watch for the vacant land/lot on the left side of Ferretti Road. Turn left into the first opening in the fence. There will be a ONE WAY dirt track through the vacant lot. If you pass the entrance and have a large rig it will be difficult to get turned around.

Directions (cont.)

DO NOT enter the vacant lot from the second driveway if you missed your turn. You will need to turn around and enter the first driveway. There will be parking attendants and assigned spots based on rig size. Do not just pull in and set up camp. Camp will open on Thursday. If you are arriving sooner, please make arrangements with us for that.

Veterinary Inspection: The head veterinarian is Mike Tomlinson, DVM. The Foreign Veterinarian is Thomas Timmons, DVM. The associate veterinarians are Ann Stuart, DVM, Mike Foss, DVM, Henk Basson, DVM from South Africa, Gerhard Van Der Westhuizen, DVM from South Africa and Melissa Ribley, DVM. There will be several apprentice veterinarians working the ride to gain their FEI credentials. The treatment veterinarian will be Langdon Fielding, DVM. FEI: Veterinary inspection will be held at Ride Camp between 9am and Noon on Friday, April 20, 2012. Vetting for non-FEI horses will start at 1pm on Friday April 20, 2012 and will finish by 4pm. There will be a Pre-Ride Meeting starting sometime after dinner, (5 pm) is served in the Tuolumne Trails dining room. All Horses must satisfy the ride veterinarians as to soundness and condition before being allowed to continue at any time during the ride. PLEASE MAKE PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS FOR LATE ARRIVALS. If you arrive late, you will not be able to participate in the banquet that is included with your ride entry and you will miss the ride meeting which is mandatory.

Entry Fees: See ride application for fees. Credit cards are accepted and will only be processed through PayPal. To make your payment either send a check or click the "PayPal PAYMENTS" button located on our home page, in the lower left hand corner. NO SHOWS RECEIVE NO REFUND. The entry includes FRIDAY Dinner, Stanislaus Nat'l Forest Fee, and AERC ride fee. Bring Proof of AERC Membership. A \$30 fee will be retained if the horse does not pass veterinary inspection.

Complaints: These are not permitted! We are going to a lot of effort (time, money and serious lack of sleep) to put on a quality ride for you, but we are not perfect – so WHINING is not welcome. Especially, if DIMR (Distance Induced Mental Retardation) has set in, or you've never managed a ride. However, if you encounter a problem that can be resolved, we will ask you to please let us know what that problem is and your suggestion for resolution, or correction. We've had some very helpful suggestions in the past using this system.