

AHA Region XII 2009 Distance Challenge

In a continuing effort to induce the Arabian / Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian Distance community to join and participate in the organization which protects and governs the heritage of the very horses that they ride, Region XII of the Arabian Horse Association (www.AHARegion12.com) is presenting the following challenge to the Arabian / Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian Endurance and CTR communities.

Join an AHA Region XII “local” club (www.aharegion12.com/clubs/index.html) as a “Competition” member, ride a registered Arabian / Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian in an AERC and AHA Sanctioned Endurance Ride (LD’s included) in three (3) Region XII states (**FL, SC, NC, TN, MS, AL, GA**) and receive a Region XII Endurance Challenge Bronze Level Polo Shirt. Ride in four (4) states and receive a Region XII Endurance Challenge Silver Level Hay Bag with R12 logo. Ride in five (5) states and receive a Region XII Endurance Challenge Gold Level Bale Bag with R12 logo. A Region XII Endurance Challenge Championship Blanket will be awarded to the rider with the highest mileage occurring within the region, who has ridden in at least five (5) states. There will be one high mileage award for endurance and one high mileage award for limited distance. The miles track with the rider as long as you rode a registered Arab, registered Half or registered Anglo Arabian. Ride CTR? For 2009, ride in any sanctioned CTR ride on the approved AHA list (SEDRA, ECTRA, UMECRA, OAATS, CALDRA, TRAC, MODTRA, etc) held within R12 and the same awards can be earned! MIX AND MATCH – Ride LDs and CTRs....for 2009, AERC rides must be co-sanctioned by AHA and beginning in 2010, CTR rides must be co-sanctioned with AHA.

Sound easy? That is how it should sound. This is Region XII’s way of asking for your support in promoting Arabian / Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian horses as the world’s most lovable, and versatile breed. QUESTIONS: Call Lynn Kenelly 803.xxx.xxxx or EMAIL (sunset900@bellsouth.net), Eric Rueter 865.599.3594 or EMAIL (eric@rueterconsultinginc.com) or call Cheryl Van Deusen 386.566.4820 or EMAIL (cvandeusen@gmail.com) or EMAIL (R12Endurance@gmail.com).

The Arabian / Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian Distance community has complained long and hard that AHA does not do anything for them; at least Region XII has heard you! And now is your chance to show Region XII that they were right in listening! Become an AHA competition member through a local AHA affiliate club (www.aharegion12.com/clubs/index.html), load up your horse and RIDE! There will be local club AHA membership forms available or you can join through Arabian Distance Riders Club (AHA # 12277) by filling out a form or joining on line through www.ArabianHorses.org – a one year membership costs \$65 for adults. You may call AHA at 303.696.4500 if you wish to join over the phone Monday –Friday. **THIS MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES THE LIABILITY THAT YOU HAVE TO PAY AN EXTRA \$20 FOR THROUGH AERC!**

Official Rules:

1. Horse MUST be a registered Pure Bred, Half-Arabian or Anglo-Arabian.
2. Current horse registration owner MUST be an AHA competition member in good standing for this year.
3. Rider MUST hold a current AHA Competition Card and be a recognized member of a Region XII affiliated club (i.e. be counted as member through the AHA) prior to June 30th of the current Challenge year.
4. **For a ride to count the competitor must only earn a completion. Placements have no meaning in this challenge.**
5. The period of the challenge will coincide with the AERC ride year (December 1 through November 30).
6. High Mileage award miles are attached to the rider by type, either CTR, Limited Distance or Endurance, but can come from multiple registered horses.
7. **FOR 2009 – THE AERC RIDE IN THE SEVEN SOUTHEASTERN R12 STATES MUST BE CO-SANCTIONED WITH AHA AS EITHER A LOCAL RECOGNIZED OR REGIONAL RIDE (at least one distance) but any CTR ride by a recognized AHA organization is acceptable!**
8. **FOR 2009 – YOU MUST SIGN UP SO THAT WE CAN TRACK YOUR PROGRESS. Contact Eric, Lynn or Cheryl NOW!**

OK, I'm in, How Do I get my "Stuff":

NOW – send an email to either Cheryl Van Deusen (cvandeusen@gmail.com) or Lynn Kenelly (sunset900@bellsouth.net). You must include your AHA competition membership number, your club affiliation and location, your horse(s) registered name and registration number(s). If the owner is different, you must include their AHA competition membership number and their club affiliation/location of club. (We will NOT award prizes for 2009 AFTER February 1, 2010. WHEN you have completed AERC rides in three / four / five states, and the results of those rides have been posted on www.AERC.org; contact either Cheryl or Lynn at the above contacts. Be prepared to answer a couple of questions, like:

- What size shirt do you need?
- Were you already an AHA Competition member?
- IF yes, then will this effort help keep you a member?
- IF no, did you join / upgrade to competition member because of the challenge (either this year – 2008 or last - 2007)?
- Have you been an AHA member before? IF yes, why did you leave AHA?
- Rides / State completed in
- Are you aware of the following AHA Programs?
 1. Frequent Rider program
 2. Achievement Awards
 3. Distance Horse of the Year
 4. Open Event Incentive Program
 5. Competitive Distance Program
 6. International Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes
 7. AERC High Point National Awards (100 mile and 50-99 miles)

Lastly show you understand that you want to help. Come participate in the **Region XII Distance Round Up (March 26-29, 2009)**. Proceeds from this ride will help pay the costs of the 2009 Region XII Challenge. Contact Eric Rueter (Eric@RueterConsultingInc.com) or Cheryl Van Deusen (cvandeusen@gmail.com) for more information. You can also volunteer at any AHA shows where you live to say thanks as many of the show set come out and volunteer at our rides!