



*“Start to Finish”*

**Endurance Riders**

**Association of**

**British Columbia**

**HANDBOOK**

2020

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*MISSION STATEMENT*  
*of*  
*Endurance Rider's Association*  
*of British Columbia*



- To foster and stimulate interest in the equestrian sport of endurance riding;
- to bring together all persons wishing to ride competitively;
- to promote and encourage training and competition opportunities for beginning and advanced riders;
- to assist in the development and preservation of courses or terrain suitable for endurance competitions;
- to bring together all local long distance riding associations for increased educational opportunities.

## **FUNCTIONS**

This handbook contains updates as of the date on the cover. Any notable revisions over time are dated.

### **FUND RAISING:**

Any member or ride manager that engages in a fund raising activity whereby proceeds are donated to ERABC in the amount of \$200.00 or greater will be given a complimentary annual club membership for one year. (11/11/00)

### **COGGINS TESTING:**

Although it is not mandatory, ERABC requests that all horses brought to an endurance ride have a current negative coggins test. (11/11/00)

### **EDUCATION**

ERABC hosts informative endurance clinics

## **RIDE CLASSIFICATIONS:**

- 1, Endurance rides of 80 km (50 miles) and greater are sanctioned by Equestrian Canada, American Endurance Ride Conference, or a combination of both and are conducted according to the appropriate national rules.
2. Endurance Trial rides of 40 – 56 km (25-35 miles) are Provincially sanctioned by Horse Council BC and its affiliate ERABC and follow ERABC Endurance Trial Rules
3. ERABC “Fun” or “Introductory” rides are rides of up to 25 km/15 miles held in conjunction with Endurance events. Basic procedures and rules of Endurance Trials will apply.

Horses are required to present for a veterinary examination pre- and post- ride.

There is no minimum or maximum riding time, and no 'shotgun start'--riders may depart singly or in groups at the discretion of the ride manager.

There are no points or miles accrued but riders will be recognized at the awards ceremony and ERABC online results.

No memberships are required, although HCBC is strongly recommended.

4. Competitive Trail Rides of 20-80 km (12 to 50 miles) Provincially sanctioned by Horse Council BC and its affiliate ERABC under ERABC CTR Rules.

## **ENDURANCE ORGANIZATIONS:**

**ERABC**                      [www.ERABC.com](http://www.ERABC.com)

**AERC**                        [www.aerc.org](http://www.aerc.org)

**American Endurance Ride Conference** is a national governing body for Endurance in the USA. Sanctioning body for most American endurance rides, national rules, yearend awards and lifetime performance records, monthly magazine, yearly convention.

**ECE**                         [www.equestrian.ca/sport/endurance](http://www.equestrian.ca/sport/endurance)

**Equestrian Canada Endurance** is a Discipline Committee of Equestrian Canada. The Endurance Committee has drafted national rules and policies; is working to provide sanctioning for all endurance rides in Canada; is developing a nationals awards/recognition program (Canadian rankings are available); is building educational, coaching, officials and athlete development programs - grassroots to international; supports our riders representing Canada on the world stage; publishes e-newsletters; provides forums for discussion through the Endurance in Canada Facebook group page. Endurance Canada's website: [www.equestrian.ca/sport/endurance](http://www.equestrian.ca/sport/endurance)

**PNER**                        [www.pner.net/](http://www.pner.net/)

Pacific Northwest Endurance Rides is an independent Endurance organization that supports the ride managers and riders in the AERC Northwest Region. They provide education, awards, and a yearly Convention and Trade Show.

## **ERABC MEMBERSHIP:**

### **HCBC MEMBERSHIP:**

It is mandatory that all riding ERABC members also be members of Horse Council of British Columbia. (01/15/94) This requirement is not mandatory for non-riding members.

ERABC Membership fees are:

- \$30.00 per year for adults (>18 yrs) "seniors"
- \$20.00 per year for juniors (to 16 yrs) and youth (to 18 yrs)
- \$60.00 per year for families.
- Lifetime membership discontinued (11/2014)
- (rates reviewed annually, last changed 11/2014)

ERABC membership entitles you to vote on all ERABC issues as presented at general meetings. ERABC members may seek election to the board of directors. ERABC members are provided with the current policy handbook (website). ERABC members enjoy a discounted entry fee at most ERABC rides.

ERABC Members in good standing earn points on every ERABC Ride completed. Points are allotted based on placing and number of entries. Points accumulated at ERABC rides will be compiled on your behalf by ERABC. You will only need to use the Mileage Record to have ERABC recognize endurance miles achieved at other rides, e.g. International, U.S. or other provinces. Annual mileage awards, high point horse and rider and high point B.C. awards are given as well as awards for consistency. Awards are presented at the annual general meeting after the year end.

ERABC members can stay informed through the website (ERABC.com), including the Members Only pages and the Membership site (enduranceridersassocofbc.wildapricot.org/). ERABC also has a Facebook group page: [www.facebook.com/groups/EndRidersAssocBC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/EndRidersAssocBC) You will find the membership application form through the website at [www.erabc.com](http://www.erabc.com) or on the membership site noted above.

### **POINTS AND MILEAGE RECOGNITION:**

All members must be members in good standing BEFORE the ride at which they wish to begin accumulating mileage or points.

If a member should not renew his/her membership in any given year, mileage and point accumulation for said year will not be recognized or recorded for that year.

If a rider rejoins ERABC after not being a member for one or more years, he/she will resume collecting mileage and adding it to that previously collected during the period in which he/she was a member in good standing.

Points and mileage recording of rides held within the Province of BC are calculated by ERABC based on the ride standings report submitted by each ride manager after the ride has taken place. The statistician must be notified of errors in posted ride results as soon as possible, and no later than September 30th in the ride year (18 Nov 06), except for rides held after that date. ERABC does not recognize ties for distances of 80km/50 miles and greater.

It is the responsibility of the member to submit verification of completion of any recognized rides outside of the Province of BC.

An *out-of-province member* must show proof of HCBC membership (or equivalent with Capri Insurance) and participate in at least two (2) rides in British Columbia in order to have points or miles recorded and/or recognized (12 Nov 05).

### **MILEAGE:**

Each ERABC member in good standing is awarded cumulative mileage at all sanctioned endurance rides. The mileage is cumulative for the member (rider) regardless of horse ridden. Mileage will only be recorded if the ride was successfully completed. A member's year-after-year recorded mileage accumulation will remain in the ERABC records indefinitely. (11/11/00)

### **POINTS:**

- Each ERABC member in good standing is awarded points at all sanctioned endurance rides in BC.
- Points are earned by successfully completing a ride.
- The point structure that ERABC is currently using is similar to that of AERC, which computes points (except for Juniors) based on the formula of one point per mile, plus bonus points per mile for Top Ten (see chart). Points for Juniors are based on Top Five placing (see AERC chart). Members completing one-day rides of 100 or more sanctioned miles receive 1.5 times the number of points listed in the Seniors chart and 1.25 times for 75 mile rides, or according to AERC's current criteria. (20/11/04)
- Points are based on the same horse and rider throughout the ride year, unless indicated otherwise. (11/12/05). A rider may appear in the standings more than once when riding 2

or more different horses. Junior points are calculated based on the PNER system where Juniors up to 5th get full points regardless of the number of starters:

**Junior Division** *(These points times the mileage ridden) PNER system Always full points)*

Place	20-74 mi	75-99 mi	100+ mi	25 mi	50 mi	30 mi
1	3.0	3.75	4.5	75.0	150.0	90.0
2	2.2	2.75	3.3	55.0	110.0	66.0
3	1.8	2.25	2.7	45.0	90.0	54.0
4	1.4	1.75	2.1	35.0	70.0	42.0
5	1.2	1.50	1.8	30.0	60.0	36.0
6+	1.0	1.25	1.5	25.0	50.0	30.0

**ERABC YEAR END AWARDS' CRITERIA:**

To participate in the Awards Program you must be an ERABC member in good standing, and must be a member prior to all rides attended to have them recognized.

Final date to nominate for an award where a person(s) must nominate themselves is September 30<sup>th</sup>. Nominations to be made to the club statistician/points recorder.

Final ride date accepted for points and/or miles will be *October 31*. Rides after that will be counted in the following year. It is responsibility of the rider to forward ride completions from out-of-province rides by October 31. Download the form from ERABC website [www.erabc.com](http://www.erabc.com)—Forms page. Mileage must be verifiable.

Miles and points accumulated at ERABC rides are calculated by the club statistician. Same horse's registered (or consistently-used) name must be used throughout the ride season on all ride entry forms or risk losing points. ERABC does not recognize points from out-of-province rides. (11/14/09)

1. **ERABC GRAND CHAMPION & TOP TEN:**  
Points from all BC rides of any distance to count. Must be same horse and rider combination. (Perpetual).
2. **ERABC HIGH MILEAGE AWARD:**  
All sanctioned ERABC rides of any distance to count, one rider, any number of horses.
3. **ERABC FAMILY AWARD:**  
Points from all ERABC rides of any distance to count. Must include two or more family members, one of whom must be a child.
4. **ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:**  
Senior rider award, based on miles (changed from points AGM 2011). Must be an ERABC senior member in first year of competition. Results from all divisions considered.

5. **OVERALL HIGH MILEAGE AWARD:**  
All sanctioned endurance rides of any distance to count (including out-of-province rides). One rider, any number of horses.
6. **ERABC HIGH POINT JUNIOR (TOP 3\*):**  
Points from all ERABC sanctioned endurance rides of any distance to count. Must be same horse and rider combination. Scored under AERC junior point structure. \*Note, a larger number of juniors may be recognized, at the Awards Committee's discretion.
7. **OVERALL HIGH MILEAGE JUNIOR:**  
All sanctioned endurance rides of any distance to count (including out-of-province rides). One rider, any number of horses.
8. **ENDURANCE TRIAL MILEAGE AWARD:**  
All sanctioned ET rides of any distance to (up to 56 km/35 miles). One rider, any number of horses. The rider may also enter endurance distances, but these miles do not count (11/14).
9. **GOOD SAMARITAN AWARD:**  
To be determined by the ERABC Executive. Not necessarily given on an annual basis.
10. **SPECIAL VOLUNTEER(S) AWARD:**  
To be determined by the ERABC Executive. Not necessarily given on an annual basis.
11. **RIDE MANAGERS' APPRECIATION AWARD:**  
Ride Managers will be acknowledged for their major contribution to our sport.
12. **PARTNERS' AWARD:**  
In recognition of the extraordinary bond between Kim Hofmarks and her special partner, Dakota. Criteria based on AERC Pard'ners Award. (Perpetual). Nominations will be voted on by the ERABC Executive and at least one Board member. Nominees will be ranked (1 to 10, etc.), with '1' given 10 points, '2' given 9 points, etc.  
  
*Partners' Award Criteria: "Rider and horse perform together as a mutually bonded team. Rider and horse engender a spirit of friendship, enthusiasm and championship that makes those around them glad to have attended the ride. However competitive they may be, good sportsmanship remains their main priority. Horse and rider take care of each other. Together horse and rider personify the prevailing and abiding goal of ERABC - 'To Finish is to Win'."*
13. **ERABC BEST CONDITION AWARD:**  
(Lil Schmidt Memorial Award)  
Each member owned equine receiving a Best Condition at a ride in BC shall receive one point per mile of sanctioned ride length (in the Best Condition point system – those points do not go into the overall point system). If there are fewer than ten starting equines, the points are reduced by 10% for each starter fewer than ten; that is, if there are nine starters, the points are reduced by 10%, for eight starters by 20%, and so forth. However if there is only one starting equine, no Best Condition points shall be awarded. At the end of the ride season the member owned equine with the highest number of BC points, for at least 2 rides, shall be the ERABC Best Condition Champion. (Perpetual)  
(20/11/04)



**14. MILEAGE BADGES:**

Presented to all those who reach 250, 500, 750, 1000 miles, and for 500 mile increments thereafter.

**ERABC MEETINGS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

ERABC holds an annual general meeting each year, usually in November. The board of directors is elected at this time. All positions are for a two year term. The AGM will usually be held centrally in Kamloops, BC, save and except when applications are presented to the board to be held elsewhere. (Nov 12/11)

Members may bring forth new motions or motions to change existing rules or set policy. These notices of motion must be received by the ERABC secretary 6 weeks prior to the AGM in order that they can be forwarded to the general membership 30 days prior to the annual general meeting in compliance with ERABC bylaws. Motions may also be made from the floor.

Please refer to the ERABC bylaws included in this handbook.

The ERABC Board of directors is made up of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Directors

ERABC Executive has an annual discretionary fund of \$200.00 available for unforeseen circumstances that may arise. It may be accessed without being presented to the membership or Board of directors for approval. (02/22/99)

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**PUTTING ON A RIDE IN BC:**

There are two options for conducting rides in BC:

1. ERABC Club ride:
  - a. Managed by an individual member(s), under the guidance of ERABC board of directors.
  - b. Ride manager is required to submit a detailed budget & income/expense statement with receipts after the ride. (11/11/00)
  - c. ERABC will establish a fixed ceiling for expenses to put on an ERABC ride and the ride manager needs executive approval to exceed that ceiling. (11/11/00)

- d Club ride losses excluding vet fees that are in excess of \$1500 will not be reimbursed by the club. (15/11/2019)
- e Ride managers must submit any profits to ERABC.

2. Private Treaty:

- a All profits/losses are absorbed by the individual or club who puts on the ride. ERABC has a quantity of essential equipment available for rent by ride organizers at the rate of \$1.00 per starting rider. (02/26/99) This equipment rental rate is assessed at each annual general meeting. (02/26/99)
- b ERABC offers “umbrella” insurance coverage through the Societies policy with the Horse Council of British Columbia. This coverage is available to ride managers for a contribution of \$40.00. (02/22/99)
- c ERABC Sanction and insurance fees combined are \$50.00. When hosting an ERABC event, Clubs or associations that carry their own event/activity insurance need not use the coverage available through ERABC, however the sanction fee of \$10.00 is still available. ERABC accepts no responsibility for unsanctioned or uninsured rides.

In all cases, Ride managers are encouraged to promote ERABC fund-raising activities.

### **Sport Development Fund**

The ERABC Sport Development Fund (SDF) is funded by monies set aside for use in sport development and enhancement i.e. education (e.g. clinics, lectures), trail development or preservation or administration of FEI level competition. Application for use of these funds may be made to the board of directors, or funds may be directed as approved by the BOD. Monies may be contributed to the fund by fundraising and donation.

Except as approved otherwise by the BOD, funds in the Sport Development Fund will be allocated as follows:

- 50% for Educational projects,
- 25% for Trail development or preservation,
- 25% to support the administration of International level competition.

Refer to the Members only section of ERABC.com for further information and application form.

## CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Where conflicts occur at a sanctioned event, every attempt should be made to resolve the conflict on site and before the awards ceremony. Should this not be possible any Protest or Grievance should be directed to the primary sanctioning body: Equestrian Canada, AERC, or FEI .

### On Site Conflict Resolution

- Protester should report any alleged rule infraction to the Technical Delegate as soon as possible. This includes incidents of inhumane or neglectful treatment of equines, poor sportsmanship including rude or abusive behavior, and violations of the rules of competition.
- In all cases, if additional witnesses are available they should be identified to the TD.
- In no case should the Protester directly confront the other party (s) involved.

The Technical Delegate, with the assistance of the Ride Manager, Ride Host, or Veterinary Control Judge if necessary, will attempt to ascertain the facts and resolve the conflict prior to the conclusion of the event (Awards ceremony)

- EC sanctioned events provide a number of options to the TD. While these may not be available for ERABC sanctioned events (Endurance Trials and Fun Rides) the ERABC Board may consider similar action.
- Abuse of Equines is immediately reportable to Equestrian Canada.
- For less egregious incidents of neglect or poor treatment, the Technical Delegate has the ability to issue Yellow Cards. A copy of these is sent to Equestrian Canada. Yellow cards may be issued for infractions such as failure to provide food/water/shelter, failure to contain the animal safely, failure to maintain reasonable safety standards.
- Yellow cards may also be issued for inappropriate conduct, such as abuse or harassment of volunteers, unsafe or unsportsmanlike conduct on trail, etc.
- Off Trail
  - Where a competitor is suspected of having ‘cut trail’ either deliberately or inadvertently, protester and any additional witnesses should bring this to the attention of the TD immediately. In some cases it may be Timers or OC who are first aware that a course may have been ‘shortened’—again the TD must be informed immediately.
  - The TD will immediately approach the involved rider and inform them of the issue. That rider may agree that they must have made an error. If not, the following process will be followed:

- The TD, in conjunction with Ride Manager and/or Ride Host will make every effort to ascertain whether the course was indeed ridden incorrectly. This may involve gps readings, witness testimony, timing data, and/or riders entering the hold improbably soon or without having passed other riders on trail.
  - The TD will further try to ascertain where the error occurred and how much distance was missed.
  - Where trail has been determined to have been missed, the offending rider has the option of returning to the place where they went wrong, and riding the course correctly. In this event, no penalty of any kind accrues.
  - If this is not possible, or the rider does not wish to do so, Ride Management has the option of allowing the rider to make up the missed mileage elsewhere. In this case, the rider gets a completion only; they are placed behind all riders who rode the course correctly. Note that ride management is not obligated to allow this; in that case the rider would be disqualified.
  - Protester and ‘offending rider’ should be personally informed of the TD’s decision prior to the awards ceremony and public announcement of results.
- The TD will include a brief description of the conflict in their Report to Equestrian Canada.

#### **Off Site resolution**

- Where a conflict cannot be successfully resolved on site, all parties must be informed that the issue is still under review and that the placings awarded at the awards ceremony may be changed.
- TD and Ride management will contact involved parties by phone or email and attempt to resolve the issue within 48 hours.
- The TD will include a brief description of the conflict in their Report to Equestrian Canada.

### **The following is an extension of ERABC’s rules as they pertain to ERABC sanctioned Endurance Trial rides**

#### **General Explanations**

When violations have not been determined and/or redressed during the course of a competition by means of the ordinary application of ERABC Rules and Regulations, or other improprieties are alleged which have occurred outside a competition, the protest procedure shall be utilized.

The provisions of this section apply to any ERABC sanctioned ride for the following persons: owner, rider, agent, trainer, crew member, ride manager, ride management personnel, veterinarian, any member of the family of the above, individual ERABC member, or any person who violates ERABC Rules and Regulations. Violations and Penalties will be determined by the, ERABC BoD

All involved parties will be informed in writing (mail or email) of the determination of the Board within one week of the Board rendering its decision, including all penalties levied.

## 2. ERABC Director and/or Policy, Procedure & Rules Committee assistance.

When the competitor/management interaction fails, and/or the infraction is alleged more than 48 hours after the ride date, then an ERABC Regional or At-Large Director must be contacted and this director should attempt to resolve the matter

If no resolution is reached within 10 days after the ride date, a charge may be continued only if a protest is filed with the ERABC BoD.

### **Formal Protest Procedures**

A protest is a properly documented complaint by an ERABC member alleging an infraction of an ERABC rule or failure to apply a rule properly. A protest will not be deemed properly initiated unless the requirements of ET10.1, ET10.2, and ET10.3 are met. Prior utilization of the Informal Protest Procedure is neither a pre-condition nor a bar to initiation of a formal protest on the same grounds.

**ET10.1** Such protest must be:

- a. in writing.
- b. signed by the protestor.
- c. accompanied by personal testimony, sworn statements, or other evidence supporting the protest. Evidence consists of physical evidence including written records, statements of principals and firsthand witnesses. Hearsay evidence will be accepted, but may be given lesser weight than first-hand evidence.
- d. accompanied by a \$100 cheque (which is refunded if the protest is upheld) payable to the ERABC, and
- e. sent to the ERABC BoD, with a postmark no later than the 10th day after the ride date; or if an alleged infraction does not come to light until ride results are posted, then the postmark of the protest must be within 30 days of the ride results being officially posted

**ET10.2** Such protest must contain:

- a. the full name and address of the party allegedly in violation,
- b. the ride name, location, date, and manager,
- c. a complete and definite statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation,
- d. clear reference, by number, to each ERABC rule or regulation allegedly violated.

**ET10.3** Upon receipt of a properly initiated protest, the Protest and Grievance Committee must immediately provide a copy of the protest and all supporting evidence to the accused, and notify the accuser that the protest has been initiated. From the postmark date of the announcement the accused and accuser have 14 days (postmark) to send materials refuting/substantiating the charges, to the Protest and Grievance Committee. The P&G Committee must reach a decision, and report it to the ERABC and the accused and the accuser, in writing, no later than 30 days after the accusation was announced to the accused. This decision must indicate actions to be taken, including but not limited to: amendment of ride results, assessment of penalties, and restitution of awards.

**ET10.6 General.** All time limitations of the protest procedure may be extended at the discretion of the President of the ERABC. At any point in the procedure, if the accusing party elects to drop charges, that accusing party shall promptly notify the ERABC Secretary of this decision in

writing.

### **ET11. Violations and Penalties**

When assigning penalties, the Protest and Grievance Committee and the Board will take into consideration such things as severity of the infractions, intentional infractions, repeated infractions, and multiple infractions.

**ET11.1 Individual violations.** Violations include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Infraction(s) of ERABC Rules and Regulations.
- b. Acting, or inciting any other to act, in a manner contrary to the rules of the ERABC, or in a manner considered otherwise illegal or un-sportsmanlike.
- c. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to an equine.
- d. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the ERABC.

**ET11.2 Individual penalties.** If found guilty, the party will be subject to such penalty as the Protest and Grievance Committee, or the Board, may determine, including but not limited to (more than one penalty may be applied to an infraction):

- a. Send a letter to the accused that may contain a warning without further penalty.
- b. Censure. A censure penalty makes the reprimand public information and serves to warn the guilty party that further violations will subject the defendant to heavier penalties.
- c. Forfeiture of completion and/or placement in a competition and/ or forfeiture of any awards or prizes won in connection with the offense committed.
- d. Suspension of such person for any period from competing. A suspended person is forbidden for the time specified in the decision from: holding or exercising any office in the ERABC; participating in any way whatsoever in any ERABC sanctioned ride.
- e. Suspension from membership in the ERABC.

**ET11.3 Ride Violations.** A sanctioned ride is subject to penalty for, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Failure to conduct a ride in accordance with ERABC Rules and Regulations.
- b. Failure of a ride to pay its indebtedness in the ERABC or to report ride results within 30 days of ride date.
- c. Failure to honor agreements with any ride officials or employees.
- d. Knowingly permitting a suspended person to participate in any manner.
- e. Permitting acts that are contrary to the rules of the ERABC.

**ET11.4 Ride Penalties.** A sanctioned ride found guilty of a violation will be subject to such penalties as the Protest and Grievance Committee, or the Board, may determine, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Censure. A censure penalty makes the reprimand public information and serves to warn the ride and its management that further infractions will subject the ride and its management to heavier penalties.
- b. Fine(s).
- c. Suspension for any period from the privilege of being sanctioned. This may be applied to the ride and/or ride management.