

Awards Program

The intent of the Equine Distance Riding Association (EDRA) Award Program is to recognize and celebrate achievements requiring significant effort by both rider and equine while encouraging the humane treatment of equine participants and supporting their longevity in our sport. EDRA promotes the competitive aspects of distance riding and defines “compete” as an ardent desire to succeed. We recognize and support members who may have a wide variety of competitive goals – whether they prepare their equine partner to out-perform other participants or enable their equine partner to complete distances – ride-after-ride, year-after-year.

The organization offers a variety of awards – some of which are achieved and presented to participants at rides; others achieved over the course of a ride season and recognized at the annual conference; and still others that are achieved over multiple years and miles which are also acknowledged at the annual conference once a major milestone are reached.

A number of awards are centered around the number of miles ridden or the number of rides completed. Winning one of these awards may not necessarily require extensive speed, but durability is a valued and cherished distinguishing attribute. Other awards are based upon points accumulated and tend to require faster speeds in order to garner bonus points through higher placement finishes and successfully completing longer-distances. Regardless of the award pursued, riders are strongly encouraged to carefully prepare their equine for the challenge they’re striving to achieve.

Ride Awards

Ride awards are granted to participants regardless of membership status.

Intro Rides must offer completion awards.

Each Distance Ride must offer at a minimum, the following award categories:

- Completion award – participants who successfully completes the course are to be recognized.
- First place Adult – Adult competitor who completes the course with the shortest Ride Time.
- First place Youth – Youth competitor who completes the course with the shortest Ride Time.
- Overall Best-in-Class Equine (irrespective of the Adult/Youth status of the riders) – Selected from the top 10 competitors, the Equine with the highest Total Best-in-Class Score.
- Youth Best-in-Class (only when two or more Youth participants start the event) – Selected from all Youth competitors, the Equine with the highest Total Equine Score.

Ride managers may at their discretion offer other fun and creative awards such as High Vet Score (from the Best-in-Class judging), Turtle (last place), Trail Angel (an individual demonstrating inspiring sportsmanship) Top-10 Placing, First 50, First Place 100, etc.

The following requirements apply to Annual and Lifetime awards:

- Awards are available to members of the Equine Distance Riding Association (EDRA) and equines with EDRA Logbooks.

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- The rider must be an active EDRA member, and the equine must have an active Logbook in order to accumulate points and miles for ride season awards.
- Retroactivity for lifetime mileage and completions may be provided up to 30 days from joining the club or applying for an equine's Logbook.
- The award cycle covers the ride season (January 1 through December 31).
- For award calculation purposes, EDRA recognizes EDRA endorsed events and events covered by organizations where an active reciprocity agreement is in place. (Currently only Endurance Riders Association of British Columbia has an active reciprocity agreement with EDRA.)
- For events covered by a reciprocity agreement, the EDRA member or applicable Ride Manager must submit ride results information to EDRA at wildhrse58@gmail.com no later than 30-days from the date of the ride, unless results are not available at that time. When ride results are not available within this 30-day period, it is the EDRA member's responsibility to contact the Ride Manager to secure information as to when the ride results will be available and to notify EDRA at wildhrse58@gmail.com of the situation. All ride results should be submitted within 30 days of the event unless prior arrangements have been made.
- When EDRA general rules have been followed for distance rides, miles, points, and completions apply toward end-of-season and lifetime awards.
- When EDRA general rules and EDRA relay rules have been followed, miles may apply toward the end-of-season and lifetime awards.
- When EDRA general rules and Ride & Tie Association rules have been followed, miles from ride-and-ties conducted at an EDRA event apply toward equine lifetime mileage records and applicable awards for the equine with an active EDRA Logbook.

Rider age is determined as of January 1 of each year for the corresponding ride season. Age divisions are defined as:

- Adult Division – age 18 years and older and approved Unaccompanied Youth
- Youth Division – under age 18 years, those children who are required to be sponsored and supervised by Adult rider(s) during the event

Weight Divisions:

Adult Members and approved Unaccompanied Youth in the Adult Division compete in one of three weight classes. Weight class determination is based upon member self-declaration at the time of membership, membership renewal, or after approved to ride as an Unaccompanied Youth and annually in advance of each ride season thereafter. Weight class divisions are defined as:

- Weight Class I – Combined rider and tack weight of 170 or fewer pounds
- Weight Class II – Combined rider and tack weight of 171 pounds to 200 pounds
- Weight Class III – Combined rider and tack weight of 201 or more pounds

There are three major categories of awards offered by EDRA:

1. Awards recognizing the mileage successfully accumulated.
2. Awards recognizing the quantity of events successfully completed.
3. Awards recognizing the number of points successfully accumulated.

Awards recognize individual equines, individual riders, and the explicit pairings of one equine, one rider teams.

Name of Award	MILEAGE AWARDS	Maximum Placings
<p>1. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Horse</p>	<p>Top two equines with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. The equine may be ridden by any number of EDRA members of any age.</p> <p>This award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • EDRA endorsed relays when the full team successfully completes the relay. • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. • Ride & Tie Association events when conducted at an EDRA event and the event distance is 25 miles or more. 	<p>2</p>
<p>2. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Youth Rider</p>	<p>Youth with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. Multiple equines may be ridden.</p> <p>This award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. 	<p>2</p>
<p>3. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Adult Rider</p>	<p>Adults with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. Multiple equines may be ridden.</p> <p>This award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • EDRA endorsed relays when the full team successfully completes the relay. • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. 	<p>2</p>
<p>4. Auli Farwa Lifetime Achievement</p>	<p>This award is named after Auli Farwa (aka Far), a formidable horse owned and cherished by Kevin Myers, a long-time distance rider known to many throughout North America and internationally. It is a milestone award based on the equine's total lifetime miles.</p> <p>This award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • EDRA endorsed relays (when having completed assigned legs totaling 25 or more miles and irrespective of whether or not the full team completed the relay). • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. • Ride & Tie Association events conducted at an EDRA event and the distance is 25 miles or more. <p>Recognition is acknowledged at 500-mile and 1,000-mile achievement levels. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed in 1,000-mile increments.</p>	<p>All who qualify</p>

Name of Award	MILEAGE AWARDS	Maximum Placings
<p>5. Lifetime Rider Mileage Achievement</p>	<p>This is a milestone award and is based on the rider’s total lifetime miles.</p> <p>This award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • EDRA endorsed relays (when having completed assigned legs totaling 25 or more miles and irrespective of whether or not the full team completed the relay). • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. <p>Recognition is acknowledged at 500 mile and 1,000 mile achievement levels. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed in 1,000 mile increments.</p>	<p>All who qualify</p>
<p>6. The Raymond Blur 100</p>	<p>The award is named after Raymond Blur, a remarkable gelding owned and ridden by Sue and Dennis Summers who completed seventeen one-day 100 mile rides during his decade-plus career. Ray was purchased by the Summers at a local auction because his pace was just too fast for his job in a pack string. His stamina and speed were put to effective use in endurance, compiling over 5,500 miles, the vast majority in top 10 standings.</p> <p>This is a milestone award and is based on the quantity of one-day 100 mile EDRA endorsed distance ride completions over the lifetime of the equine’s distance career. Milestones are acknowledged at 100 (the first), 300, 500, 800, and 1,000 miles. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed for each eligible 100 mile event.</p>	<p>All who qualify</p>
<p>7. 100 Mile Youth Rider Achievement</p>	<p>Any Youth rider completing a one-day 100 mile EDRA endorsed distance ride during the current ride season is honored.</p>	<p>All who qualify</p>
<p>8. Test Your Mettle Relay Team Champions</p>	<p>This award recognizes the rider and equine pairing that consistently participates and successfully completes Test Your Metal Relays – individuals championing this aspect of the EDRA experience throughout a ride season.</p> <p>The top rider/equine pairings with the highest cumulative relay miles are honored. Only miles from relays where the entire team successfully completed the event are counted toward this award and the individual rider/equine pairing's completed miles are accumulated. Although only EDRA members and equines with an active EDRA Logbook are eligible for the award, a relay team may be made up of non-EDRA riders/equines. The shortest cumulative team ride time on successfully completed relays breaks any tie.</p>	<p>The higher of 2 recipients or 10% of unique rider/equine combinations during the ride season</p>

Name of Award	COMPLETION AWARDS	Maximum Placings
<p>9. Wayfarer</p>	<p>Some of us are lucky to have a special equine who has carried us for ages, year-after-year for thousands of miles. Others have equines that have conquered multiple longer-distance rides all across the country. Riding in the dark, in inclement weather, over challenging trails — building connection between equine and its human partner.</p> <p>This award recognizes the special, unique connection that develops over time and miles between hard-working and resolute humans and their equally diligent equine partners. It is about devotion and persistence, figuring out what works, and just getting the job done as a team. We also wanted to honor an EDRA member who symbolizes this connection. Lois Fox immediately emerged as the candidate. But which horse?</p> <p>Lois doesn't have just one horse that fits the description — she has had three: Colt 45 (aka Fiver). This mare was Lois' main partner for 13 years (1986-1999) and they accumulated 4,395 miles. Next was Iced Mocha with the duo having amassed 5,180 miles. And Rustie, having also accumulated 5,180 miles. These are formidable accomplishments with a deep bond between rider and horse. In the end, there was no way to choose between these three horses.</p> <p><i>The Wayfarers Award memorializes the achievements of Lois Fox and Fiver, Mocha, and Rustie. They inspire us to Start Ready and Finish Proud.</i></p> <p>This is a milestone award recognizing the explicit pairing of one equine and one rider and is based on successful completions, over a multi-year period.</p> <p>The intent of the Wayfarer award is to encourage less experienced riders to become proficient at managing their equine partner in a manner that enables the equine to continue in the sport for an extensive period, as well as recognize experienced riders who focus on equine longevity in the sport.</p> <p>Years do not need to be consecutive. The duo must complete at least four EDRA endorsed events of any distance each ride season.</p> <p>This award includes completions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed distance rides. • EDRA endorsed relays (when having completed assigned legs totaling 25 or more miles and irrespective of whether or not the full team completed the relay). • Distance rides from events with an active reciprocity agreement. <p>Milestones are acknowledged for years two through ten and then for each five-year increment thereafter (e.g., fifteen, twenty years, etc.).</p>	<p>All who qualify</p>

POINT AWARDS		
Name of Award	<i>Only points from EDRA endorsed distance rides are included in the computation of these awards</i>	Maximum Placings
10. Champion & Reserve Champion High Point Adult Rider & Horse Teams by Weight Class	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance, competing against other rider/equine pairings in the same Weight Class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weight Class I – Combined rider and tack weight of 170 or fewer pounds • Weight Class II – Combined rider and tack weight of 171 pounds to 200 pounds • Weight Class III – Combined rider and tack weight of 201 or more pounds 	2 for each Weight Class
11. Champion & Reserve Champion High Point Adult Rider & Horse Teams by Mileage Category	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance, competing against other rider/equine pairings in the same mileage categories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ride distances between 25 to 49 miles. • Ride distances between 50 to 74 miles. • Ride distances between 75 to 99 miles. • Ride distances 100 miles or longer. 	2 for each Mileage Category
12. High Point Youth Rider & Horse Team	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Youth rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance.</p>	Top 20%
13. High Point Adult Rider & Horse Team	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance.</p>	Top 10
14. Best-in-Class	<p>This award seeks to recognize the equine who represents the best in distance riding. For each ride in which an equine is awarded Best-in-Class (BC), the equine will accumulate BC points toward this award equal to the distance entered. (E.g., an equine winning BC on a 50 mile event will earn 50 points, winning a 30 mile BC will earn a corresponding 30 points.) The equine with the highest accumulated BC points at the end of the ride season is recognized. Mettle Relay Vet's Choice honors are not included in the computation of this award.</p>	1

EDRA wishes to honor the accomplishments of our members from other organizations. Currently, several breed organizations recognize EDRA events in their various programs. This includes:

- The Jockey Club's Thoroughbred Incentive Program – Performance Awards that utilize endurance and obstacle mileage on an annual basis and are horse based. Miles are only counted from competitions. The competition year begins December 1 and ends November 30. To download forms, visit <https://tjctip.com/About/TBPAF>

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- Some Distance riding programs offered through the Arabian Horse Association allow the inclusion of EDRA mileage – <https://www.arabianhorses.org/competition/award-programs/incentive-programs/>
- Distance riding programs offered through the Appaloosa Horse Club – <https://www.appaloosa.com/TrailEnduranceCTR>
- Endurance riding recognition through the American Saddlebred Horse & Breeders Association’s Sport Horse Awards Programs -- <https://www.saddlebred.com/competitions/annual-awards/program-information>
- Saddlebred Mileage Champion – an award sponsored by Blue Haven Stable and EDRA member, Shelah Wetter, recognizing EDRA members riding horses registered with the American Saddlebred Horse & Breeders Association. For details on eligibility and enrollment, contact Shelah at Blue Haven Stable. Phone: (509) 475-0442 or Email: bluehavenstable@yahoo.com

As an EDRA member, should you receive recognition from one of these or other organizations, please let us know so that we may help celebrate your achievement at our annual conference.