

Ride The Edge



at White River Rides

2019 Endurance Clinics

Hesperia, Michigan

Clinic and 15 mile ride will be held in the Little Manistee National Forest on trails, two-tracks and dirt roads

10am

May 4 • June 8 • Aug. 31

Timber's Edge Campground

4345 Warner Ave, Hesperia, MI 49421

\$25 each, prepaid registration & negative Coggins required

Day parking included, camping extra

Clinic starts at 10:00 am, followed by 15 mile ride

So you want to be an endurance rider but aren't sure if you can? How will you ever know unless you explore the possibilities of this exciting sport?

An endurance competition is not just another trail ride. It is a timed event over a marked and measured trail, governed by rules from the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC). This organization sanctions endurance rides in all parts of the country, so that no matter where you compete, the rules will be the same.

The distances for these rides are usually 25, 50 or 100 mile one-day events. The allowed times for completion is 6, 12 or 24 hours. The most important part of the ride is the vet checks for the horses, the checks will be every 10-15 miles. At the check the horse has time to eat, drink and rest. It is also important that the rider take care of themselves — eating and drinking plenty of water. Electrolytes are good for both horse and rider. Veterinarians check the horses for lameness or metabolic problems that might have developed during the day. If the vets feel that the horse is not fit to continue, it is pulled from the ride. The veterinarian's word is final.

The key to being a successful competitor is to bring a well-conditioned horse to the ride, and to ride your own ride. The distance you chose to go at each ride depends on where you are in your training program, whether your horse does better on flat or mountainous terrain, and how you feel that day. Most people who participate in this sport have families and jobs but still find time to compete successfully.

So, who does endurance riding? A person looking for adventure, challenge and a good time will love this sport! Camping, enjoying the beauty of our forests and the camaraderie of friends will bring you back again and again!

For more details contact Kari Hanes: 231-924-2271 or white.river.rides@gmail.com, limited to 10 riders each date, if enough interest additional riders will be added.