



12 Mile & 6 Mile Ride

When: September 30th 2017

Where: Buckeye Horse Park (Canfield, OH)

Time: 8 am

Even though this is not a sanctioned ride, for the safety of equine and rider, ALL [AERC](http://www.AERC.org) rules apply. Please click on the link or go to www.AERC.org for the AERC rulebook.

Helmets are required while mounted!!!

Ride Camp: Ride camp is located at Buckeye Horse Park 9260 Akron-Canfield Rd. Canfield, Ohio 44406. It is primitive camping if you decide to stay the night before. Decide how you will secure your horse. Some use electric corral, picket line or other. There are stalls available as well.

Water: There is water for horses, but no people water, please bring your own drinking water. You can bring a sponge to cool down the horse afterwards. Car wash sponges work great.

Feed: Bring whatever your horse is accustomed to eating.

Stalls: There are stalls available for overnight and/or day. Bedding is available for purchase if you do not bring your own (\$7.00/bag). Please use the entry form to reserve your stall. First come, first serve if not prepaid. We will not hold a stall without payment.

The Clinic: If you are a first time competitive trail rider, we will be hosting a clinic before the ride and vet in. During this time we will explain how a typical ride would go. We will explain from start to finish the sport and the major key points.

Vet Exam: We will do our first vet exam at about 10:30am (after the clinic). Your horse will need to stand still. The vet will look in his mouth at the gums, feel the legs, pick up the feet, feel for muscle tone and do a skin pinch to check for hydration before heading out on trail. Sometimes the vet line is long and the horses have to stand quietly. We will vet in those doing the 12 miles first, then those who are riding the 6 miles.

You will then jog your horse for soundness. Horse should trot out 125 feet on a loose rein, neither run ahead of you or have to be chased. You may use halter or bridle.

Start: First rider(s) will go out at 12pm for the 12 mile ride. Everyone will have a staggered start depending on the size of the groups going out. After ALL the 12 mile contestants have gone out, the 6 mile entries will be released.

Riding the trail: HELMETS ARE REQUIRED WHILE MOUNTED! Once the event has begun, the rider will want to choose a pace that will allow you to finish the ride within the allotted time but to also assure the horse is recovering to the safe parameters of temperature, pulse and respiration, and that there are no signs of excessive fatigue or lameness which would endanger the horse. **The terrain may have sections that are rocky and challenging. Plan to ride accordingly. Shoes are not required but highly recommended.**

For the 12 mile ride there will be (2) 6 mile loops. After your first loop, you will come into camp for a vet check. The vet will assess the horse's condition as he did before you started. The horse will be judged based on your horse's condition and recovery. The scoring system can be found in the AERC Rulebook. The 6 mile ride will only have a beginning and end vet check.

Trail Markers: To pace yourself accordingly, we will mark the trail at EVERY mile. You will want to shoot for 1 mile every 10-15 minutes with a goal of finishing in 2-2.5 hours (excluding your vet hold at the half way point). The trail will also be marked with pink ribbon. If you do not see a pink ribbon....you are off trail. Back trace your steps.

Food: Breakfast and Dinner are included in your entry fee for Saturday!

Directions to Camp:

Buckeye Horse Park
9260 Akron Canfield Rd.
Canfield, OH 44406

