



ARKANSAS TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

ATRA Rides

To be an official ATRA ride where mileage will count in the awards program, the ride must be scheduled with the Ride Chair and all members notified. ATRA rides are communicated via email and are usually published in the *Horseman's Roundup*.

The Ride Leader is in charge of the ride. If the ride is cancelled for any reason, every attempt will be made to communicate the cancellation to the membership by email; however, it is each rider's responsibility to confirm with the respective Ride Leader that the ride will take place.

If the Ride Leader plans to have a ride that moves at a pace other than a energetic walk, he or she should note in the ride description that the ride is "gaited" or "fast" as appropriate.

Clear and accurate directions to the ride should be included in the ride description. If needed, the Ride Leader should place signs at appropriate locations to show riders the way to the ride location.

The Saturday ride will *depart* at 10 am and the Sunday ride at 9 am, unless otherwise specified.

If the number of riders is sufficient, there may be a fast group and a slow group with a leader and a drag rider for each group. Ride Leaders should stop from time to time to let the drag rider catch up and to insure that all is going well. Be sure and stop at a safe location that allows all riders plenty of room.

A lunch break should occur sometime around noon at a scenic or otherwise pleasant location where horses can be tied. Remember to pack a lunch and drink.

At any fork or trail turn, the Ride Leader should stop so the drag rider can catch up and to insure that everyone takes the appropriate direction.

For riders participating in the Mileage Program, the Ride Leader should sign ride forms certifying that the rider rode the specified number of miles. An approved ATRA ride route is designated by the Ride Leader. In order to receive mileage, it is the rider's responsibility to stay with the ATRA group.

Experience has taught us that everything does not always go well. Ride Leaders should have some plan of what to do in case of an accident. A good plan includes knowing where and how to contact the nearest veterinarian.

Please refer to ATRA's Trail Etiquette. Be courteous on the trail; don't crowd other horses, don't lag way behind and don't run up behind another horse. Due to safety concerns and consideration for all riders and horses, dogs are not allowed on ATRA rides. If a horse is a kicker, it should have a red ribbon tied to its tail. Stallions should be designated by a yellow ribbon and when tied, should be double tied.

And, most importantly, someone MUST check Coggins papers for each horse upon arrival. A suggestion is for the Ride Leader to have slips of papers printed stating "Coggins Checked" to be placed in each vehicle upon verification of a negative Coggins.