

## Introductory Ride Information

The introductory ride mirrors an actual endurance ride but is of a lesser distance (approximately 18 miles). You must arrive the day before, in order to vet in, and camp with your horse, to enjoy the full ride experience.

**Vetting in your horse before the ride is now a requirement for an Intro ride. The vets leave for the away vet check at 7:30 Saturday morning so will not have time to vet in Intro riders the day of the ride.**

Pre-registration and full payment postmarked on or before April 9th is required, so we can plan for the Intro ride.

**Karen Wade, your group leader, will meet with ALL Intro riders on Saturday morning at 9:30AM** to discuss the details of the trail, explain vet checks and other requirements of an endurance ride. You will then head back to your trailer to tack up your horse and warm up.

**The Intro ride will begin at 11 AM.**

Helmets are required, and horses must have hoof protection (shoes or boots) ON ALL FOUR FEET. Shoes are preferred by ride management. But if you choose to use boots, you must have used them prior to the ride, to make sure they fit properly and will stay on your horse. When you arrive at the away vet check you'll be shown crewing techniques and how to present your horse to the vets. Your horse will be vetted and cleared to continue at which point you will have a short 20 minute hold time. Hay and feed will be provided for your horse and a sandwich and water for you. You will probably be required to unsaddle and re-saddle your horse at the vet check so be prepared. At this point you will return to basecamp and receive a final vet check followed by a post ride meeting to answer any questions you might have.

**Directions to Ride:** Take I-81 to Exit 296 (located about 4 miles south of the interchange of I-81 and I-66) and turn west on Route 55 for approximately 12 miles. The road has some steep grades and curves, so be careful. As you come down a long straightaway, watch your speed and look for horse trailers on the hill to your right, along with turn ribbons just past this hill. Turn sharp right onto Capon Springs Road, a dirt road, and come uphill about 200 yards, then turn right at the old farmhouse and follow signs to park. (Please enter at the SECOND driveway)

For questions about the Introductory Ride, you may contact Karen Wade at [kew@shentel.net](mailto:kew@shentel.net) or (540) 877-2371.