



WICKENBURG HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION TRAIL RIDE LEADER SUGGESTIONS

1. A flyer about your ride needs to be emailed to all WHA member about a week before the ride. Be sure to give very clear driving instructions for your ride flyer. It starts the day off badly for a rider if he or she gets lost or has to figure out how to get his or her truck and trailer turned around. Other information about your ride should include the estimated length of time it will take, the terrain, the pace of the ride, whether there will be a lunch stop, whether water is available along the ride, and whether your ride is on Arizona State Land Trust land which requires a permit. Member at Large Jeannie Fischer will call you to obtain this information or you can call her at (970) 819-2688. This flyer will be also be posted on our web-site: wickenburghorsemen.com.
2. The WHA has two signs that are kept at Member at Large Debi MacMillan's residence on Rincon Road. These signs should be placed to help riders find the parking area and at the parking area itself. Call Debi MacMillan at (360) 631-6127 to make arrangements to get the signs.
3. Make sure to wear your name tag and be friendly. Let riders know that you are the ride leader, where you are meeting at in the parking area, and how soon the ride will start. Also, **VERY IMPORTANT**, there should be a member of the board there to check that riders are current members and they have signed this current year's liability waiver.
4. If the ride has over ten riders, it may be a good idea to designate a rider to be the drag rider on the end. If you are leading a large group, you may not be able to tell if any riders stop or drop too far back. The WHA is planning on having walkie talkies available in the future for the leader and drag rider to communicate.
5. Try to start the ride on time. Riders may have other plans for the day so they need to start on time and end on time. Also, do not change the ride itenary on the fly.
6. This is a **SOCIAL** riding club. At the beginning of the ride, introduce yourself again and if you have time, have other riders introduce themselves and where they are from etc.
7. Communicate! Give out any other information it would be good for the riders to know or expect on the ride like the length, whether there will be a lunch stop, if water is available for their horse/mule, etc.. Not every rider may have read the ride flyer.
8. Make sure that if there are any horses/mules with red flagging that new trail riders know that this means the animals may kick.
9. If the ride has a lot of riders and there is a co-leader, you may want to split the ride into groups that travel at a fast and slow pace and let the faster group start out first.
10. **VERY IMPORTANT!** Be sure to take a head count before you leave.
11. If the ride is to a specific place or an interesting stop, be sure to let all of the riders know when you reach the destination. Give riders time to take pictures.
12. At the end of the ride, **BE SURE TO GET A COUNT ON THE RIDERS COMING IN**. Thank people for coming and invite them to stay for a beverage and/or snack if they brought one. (This suggestion will be on the ride flyer.) If you know about the next ride, social, or board meeting, encourage them to attend.