



Trail Riders Incentive Program

Standard Operating Procedure

Purpose: This procedure provides guidance for the National Walking Horse Association (NWHHA) Trail Riders Incentive Program (TRIP).

Scope: This procedure applies to any NWHHA member who wishes to participate in TRIP.

Responsibilities:

Title	Description
Board of Directors	Assure that TRIP rules are in place and meet the needs and desires of NWHHA members.
Executive Officer	Provides a venue for formal recognition of TRIP participants. Provides forms, maintains and files copies. Assures that information is provided on all media outlets and all communications are answered in a timely manner.
Trail Committee	Solicits and encourages TRIP enrollment. Provides information to NWHHA membership through NWHHA and other approved media sources.

Procedures:

1. TRIP awards are presented at designated hourly levels and will accumulate from year to year. The hourly levels are as follows:
 - a. Initial 100 hours
 - b. Every 250 hours thereafter
2. The following achievements will receive an annual award presented at the annual awards banquet:
 - a. High hour adult rider.
 - b. High hour youth rider.
 - c. High hour horse.
 - d. Special Distance Award
 - i. Awarded to the highest number of hours at American Field Trial events. TRIP members need only note in their trail logs which rides are field trials in order to be eligible.
3. Logs must be submitted by Oct 15 of each year to be eligible for year-end awards.
4. TRIP hours will accumulate from October 1-September 30 for the purposes of yearly high-hour awards.

TRIP Rules:

1. TRIP is open to any NWhA member and any gaited horse owned by an NWhA member.
2. Only horses that are owned by NWhA members may accumulate hours with any rider or any combination of riders to be counted towards the high hour horse award.
3. Continuous NWhA membership is required in order to accumulate trail hours on any gaited horse to be counted towards the high hour rider award.
4. Trail riding time is to be reported in time spent in the saddle and not by the miles covered. Time is only counted while riding. No credit is given for arena riding, showing, riding in parades or riding within $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile of owner's own home.
5. Trail hours will be counted in $\frac{1}{4}$ hour (15 minute) increments, with the time rounded out to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ hour and with a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour minimum per ride.
6. Hours must be reported on the official log forms/book with a separate log for each participating horse and/or rider. These forms are available online or provided upon request.
7. NWhA sanctioned trail rides, or any other competitive trail ride that utilizes a licensed judge, and Best of America by Horseback rides will count double the actual amount of time spent in the saddle.
8. Hours spent in the saddle for Field Trials may be counted towards TRIP.