

S.I.R.E. Workers Notice

When: Saturday, October 19, 2002

What: 10th Annual "Saddle Up For SIRE" Ride-A-Thon

Where: 7IL Trails, Cat Spring, Texas

Here are the details...

Meeting Place

We will assemble at the Whataburger on SH249 just south of FM2920 in Tomball. We need to be out at the site by 8:00 AM, so we will leave from the Whataburger parking lot at 6:45 AM. If you want to eat breakfast, join the early bird group at 6:15 AM.

Route

The route to Cat Spring will be FM2920 to Waller, US290 to Hempstead, SH159 to Bellville, SH36 to the Cat Spring turn off (Exxon gas station), FM2429 to FM 949 to Mill Creek Road to the ranch entrance. Go through the gates and proceed to the camp where you will receive directions to park. The driving distance from Tomball is about 52 miles.

Assignments

We will need one person at the main control station located at the starting point, seven experienced persons at selected points and six persons at additional selected points. Requirements for the control station is a mobile rig with 50 watts of power and a good antenna, which should enable clear communications with all other stations.

The riding trail is about 10 miles in length. Each worker will be given a map showing the location of each position. We will mark each position with the name and call sign of the person working the position.

If you have an assignment preference, let me know. If you want to be the control operator, plan to drive your vehicle out to the site, and let me know as soon as possible. You can email me at wd5dxl@arrl.net, or call me at 713-365-1509 during the day or 281-351-7683 during the evening.

Procedure

Set your transceiver to 145.50 MHz, simplex.

After the assignments are completed each worker should ensure their map shows the location and call of all workers. We will be trucked out to the checkpoints. The ride officially begins at 9:00 AM. Each person should check in to control as they arrive at their position and get last minute instructions, if needed. We will be using 145.50 MHz, simplex, for all communications.

Priority of messages is as follows:

1. Request for emergency medical service.
2. Request for veterinary (ill horse) or farrier service (thrown shoe).
3. Request for personal service (complaint, unruly horse, etc.).
4. Information to be passed to/from a ride official.
5. Information to be passed from control to a checkpoint.
6. Information to be passed from a checkpoint to control.
7. Information to be passed from a checkpoint to another checkpoint.

Control will pass all traffic, and will give permission for all direct traffic. Main control shall pass control to another station as necessary for continued, reliable communications (such as temporary absence from

station). Control will be notified when the direct traffic has concluded, or will interrupt direct traffic as needed for higher priority traffic. Direct traffic may use 145.60 MHz as needed for high traffic situations, or as directed by Control. Simple protocol will be used: e.g. "Control, this is Primary FIVE," or "Control from P5," or "Rover 1 from control."

As horses come by a position, their participant numbers will be recorded. Control will be notified from each position when the first rider passes; give the rider number. Thereafter, notify control after approximately 10 more riders have passed, and give their numbers. This is NOT priority traffic; so don't get over-anxious trying to call control if there is a lot of traffic at the time. However, the recording of rider numbers is important so that the last known position can be determined if a rider gets lost.

If cattle are near a position please ensure that they do not interfere with riders going through the gate. If the cattle try to cross with riders, ask the riders to stop and/or help while managing the cattle.

Keep traffic moving and verbally guide traffic through gate or bridge areas where there may be congestion. Also, some riders need directions about where the trail goes, assist them by showing them where they are located on the map.

Water and Dixie cups may be available at some of the positions. Please assist the riders as necessary.

What To Bring

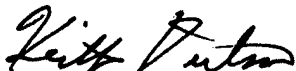
- Umbrella
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Chair (camp stool or lawn chair)
- Suntan Lotion
- Paper and Pen
- Bug Spray
- Small Cooler
- Handie Talkie, set to 145.50 MHz

Ice, sodas and water will be provided for your cooler.

Lunch and a T-shirt will be provided.

There may be extended periods when there are no riders passing, so you may want to bring a book or magazine to fill the time.

See you there!



73 de Keith WD5DXL