

2019 Award Descriptions

The intent of the Equine Distance Riding Association (EDRA) Award Program is to recognize and celebrate achievements requiring significant effort by both rider and equine while encouraging the humane treatment of equine participants and supporting their longevity in our sport. EDRA promotes the competitive aspects of distance riding and defines “compete” as an ardent desire to succeed. We recognize and support members who may have a wide variety of competitive goals – whether they prepare their equine partner to out-perform other participants, or enable their equine partner to complete distances – ride-after-ride, year-after-year.

The organization offers a variety of awards – some of which are based upon the number of miles ridden or rides completed. Winning one of these awards may not necessarily require extensive speed, but durability is a significant factor. Other awards are based upon points accumulated and we consider these awards to represent truly remarkable riders and equines. Bonus points can be accrued through faster placement finishes and successfully completing longer distance events. Regardless of the type of award offered, riders are strongly encouraged to carefully prepare their equine for the challenge they’re striving to achieve.

The following requirements apply to all awards:

- Awards are available to members of the Equine Distance Riding Association (EDRA) and equines with EDRA logbooks
- EDRA membership is required to be eligible for our award program. Miles, completions and/or points are not accumulated retroactively.
- The award cycle covers the ride season (January 1 through December 31).
- For award calculation purposes, EDRA recognizes EDRA endorsed events and events covered by organizations where an active reciprocity agreement is in place. (Currently only Endurance Riders Association of British Columbia has an active reciprocity agreement with EDRA.)
- For events covered by a reciprocity agreement, the EDRA member or applicable ride manager must submit ride results information to EDRA IT at wildhrse58@gmail.com no later than 30-days from the date of the ride, unless results are not available at that time. When ride results are not available within this 30-day period, it is the EDRA member’s responsibility to contact the ride manager to secure information as to when the ride results will be available and to notify EDRA IT at wildhrse58@gmail.com of the situation. All ride results should be submitted within 30 days of the event unless prior arrangements have been made.
- When EDRA general rules have been followed for distance rides, miles, points and completions apply toward end-of-season and lifetime awards.
- When EDRA general rules and EDRA relay rules have been followed, miles apply toward the end-of-season relay award, as well as lifetime mileage records and awards.
- When EDRA general rules and Ride & Tie Association rules have been followed, miles from ride-and-ties conducted at an EDRA event apply toward lifetime mileage records and awards for the equine with an active EDRA Logbook.

Rider age is determined as of January 1 of each year for the applicable ride season. Age divisions are defined as:

- Adult Division – age 18 and older
- Youth Division¹ – under age 18, sponsored and supervised by Senior riders during the event

¹ Youth with 1,000 or more completed lifetime miles and written parental consent which has been accepted and approved by EDRA, may ride without adult supervision and maintain their status in the Youth Division.

Members compete in one of three weight classes:

Weight class determination is based upon member self-declaration at the time of membership or membership renewal. Weight class divisions are defined as:

- Weight Class I – Combined rider and tack weight of 170 or fewer pounds
- Weight Class II – Combined rider and tack weight of 171 pounds to 200 pounds
- Weight Class III – Combined rider and tack weight of 201 or more pounds

There are three major categories of awards offered by EDRA:

1. Awards recognizing the mileage successfully accumulated.
2. Awards recognizing the quantity of events successfully completed.
3. Awards recognizing the number of points successfully accumulated.

Awards recognize individual equines, individual riders and the explicit pairings of one equine, one rider teams.

MILEAGE AWARDS		
Name of Award	<i>Miles from distance rides are included in the computation of these awards. Miles from relays and ride-and-ties are included only where specified.</i>	Maximum Placings
1. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Horse	Top two equines with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. The equine may be ridden by any number of EDRA members of any age.	2
2. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Youth Rider	Youth with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. Multiple equines may be ridden.	2
3. Champion & Reserve Champion High Mileage Adult Rider	Adults with the highest total accumulated miles are recognized. Multiple equines may be ridden.	2
4. Auli Farwa Lifetime Achievement	This award is named after Auli Farwa (aka Far), a formidable horse owned and cherished by Kevin Myers, a long-time distance rider known to many throughout North America and internationally. It is a milestone award based on the equine's total lifetime miles. For clarification, this award includes miles from:	All who qualify

MILEAGE AWARDS		
Name of Award	<i>Miles from distance rides are included in the computation of these awards. Miles from relays and ride-and-ties are included only where specified.</i>	Maximum Placings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed rides and relays, • Events where an active reciprocity agreement is in place, and • Miles from a ride-and-tie conducted at an EDRA event, when the distance of the ride-and-tie is 25-miles or more <p>Recognition is acknowledged at 500-mile and 1,000-mile achievement levels. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed in 1,000-mile increments.</p>	
5. Lifetime Rider Mileage Achievement	<p>This is a milestone award and is based on the rider's total lifetime miles.</p> <p>For clarification, this award includes miles from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDRA endorsed rides and relays, and • Events where an active reciprocity agreement is in place. <p>Recognition is acknowledged at 500-mile and 1,000-mile achievement levels. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed in 1,000-mile increments.</p>	All who qualify
6. The Raymond Blur 100	<p>The award is named after Raymond Blur, a remarkable gelding owned and ridden by Sue and Dennis Summers who completed seventeen one-day 100-mile rides during his decade-plus career. Ray was purchased by the Summers' at a local auction because his pace was just too fast for his job in a pack string. His stamina and speed were put to effective use in endurance, compiling over 5,500 miles, the vast majority in top-10 standings.</p> <p>This is a milestone award and is based on the quantity of one-day 100-mile EDRA recognized completions over the lifetime of the equine's distance career. Milestones are acknowledged at 100 (the first), 300, 500, 800, and 1,000 miles. Thereafter, recognition is conveyed for each eligible 100-mile event.</p>	All who qualify
7. 100-Mile Youth Rider Achievement	<p>Any Youth rider completing a one-day 100-mile EDRA recognized event during the current ride season is honored.</p>	All who qualify
8. Test Your Mettle Relay Team Champions	<p>This award recognizes the rider and equine pairing consistently participating and successfully completing Test Your Metal Relays -- individuals championing this aspect of the EDRA experience throughout a ride season.</p> <p>The top rider/equine pairings with the highest cumulative relay miles are honored. Only miles from relays where the entire team successfully completed the event are counted toward this award and the individual rider/equine pairing's completed miles are accumulated. Although only EDRA members and equines with an active EDRA Logbook are eligible for the award, a relay team may be made up of non-EDRA riders/equines. The shortest cumulative team ride time on successfully completed relays breaks any tie.</p>	The higher of 2 recipients or 10% of unique rider/equine combinations during the ride season

Name of Award	COMPLETION AWARDS <i>Only completions from distance rides and relays are included in the computation of this award.</i>	Maximum Placings
9. Wayfarer	<p>Some of us are lucky to have a special equine who has carried us for ages, year-after-year, over thousands of miles. Others have equines that have conquered multiple longer distance rides across the country. Riding in the dark, in inclement weather, through challenging trails — building connection between equine and its human partner.</p> <p>This award recognizes the special, unique connection that develops over time and miles between hard-working and dedicated humans and their equally hard-working equine partners. It is about devotion and persistence, figuring out what works, and just getting the job done as a team. We also wanted to honor an EDRA member who symbolizes this connection and Lois Fox immediately emerged as the candidate. But which horse?</p> <p>Lois doesn't have just one horse that fits the description — she has had three: Colt 45 (aka Fiver). This mare was Lois' main partner for 13 years (1986-1999) and they accumulated 4,395 miles. Next was Iced Mocha with the duo currently having amassed 4,445 miles. And then Rustie, her highest mileage horse of all: 5,180 miles, thus far. These are all formidable accomplishments with a deep bond between rider and horse. In the end, there was no way to choose between these three horses. <i>The Wayfarers Award memorializes the achievements of Lois Fox and Fiver, Mocha, and Rustie. They inspire us to Start Ready and Finish Proud.</i></p> <p>This is a milestone award recognizing the explicit pairing of one equine and one rider and is based on successful EDRA event completions, over a multi-year period.</p> <p>The intent of the award is to encourage less experienced riders to become proficient at managing their equine partner in a manner that enables the equine to continue in the sport for an extensive period, as well as recognize experienced riders who focus on equine longevity in the sport.</p> <p>Years do not need to be consecutive. The duo must complete at least four EDRA recognized events of any distance each ride season (ride and tie completions are not counted toward the Wayfarer award).</p> <p>Milestones are acknowledged for years two through ten and then for each five-year increment thereafter (e.g., fifteen, twenty years, etc.).</p>	All who qualify

Name of Award	POINT AWARDS <i>Only points from distance rides are included in the computation of these awards.</i>	Maximum Placings
10. Champion & Reserve Champion High Point Adult	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance, competing against other rider/equine pairings in the same Weight Class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weight Class I – Combined rider and tack weight of 170 or fewer pounds • Weight Class II – Combined rider and tack weight of 171 pounds to 200 pounds 	2 for each Weight Class

POINT AWARDS		Maximum Placings
Name of Award	<i>Only points from distance rides are included in the computation of these awards.</i>	
Rider & Horse Teams by Weight Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weight Class III – Combined rider and tack weight of 201 or more pounds 	
11. Champion & Reserve Champion High Point Adult Rider & Horse Teams by Mileage Category	<p>The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance, competing against other rider/equine pairings in the same mileage categories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ride distances between 25 to 49 miles. Ride distances between 50 to 74 miles. Ride distances between 75 to 99 miles. Ride distances 100 miles or longer. 	2 for each Mileage Category
12. High Point Youth Rider & Horse Team	The explicit pairing of one equine and one Youth rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance.	Top 20%
13. High Point Adult Rider & Horse Team	The explicit pairing of one equine and one Adult rider accumulating the most points on rides of any distance.	Top 10
14. Best in Class	This award seeks to recognize the equine who represents the best in distance riding. For each ride in which an equine is awarded Best in Class (BC), the equine will accumulate BC points toward this award equal to the distance entered. (E.g., a horse winning BC on a 50-mile event will earn 50 points, winning a 30-mile BC will earn a corresponding 30 points.) The equine with the highest accumulated BC points at the end of the ride season is recognized. Mettle Relay Vet's Choice honors are not included in the computation of this award.	1

EDRA wishes to honor the accomplishments of our members from other organizations in which we have a relationship. Currently, several breed organizations recognize EDRA events toward their distance riding breed awards. This includes:

- The Jockey Club's Thoroughbred Incentive Program Award (<http://tjctip.com/>),
- Distance riding programs and awards offered through the Arabian Horse Association (<https://www.arabianhorses.org/competition/aha-recognized/distance-riding/>).
- Distance riding programs and awards offered through the Appaloosa Horse Club (http://www.appaloosa.com/pdfs/Promo_Endurance_Flyer.pdf)
- Open Competition awards through the American Paint Association (<http://apha.com/>).
- Saddlebred Mileage Champion – an award sponsored by Blue Haven Stable and EDRA member, Shelah Wetter, recognizing EDRA members riding horses registered with the American Saddlebred Horse Association. For details on eligibility and enrollment, contact Shelah at Blue Haven Stable. Phone: (509) 475-0442 or Email: bluehavenstable@yahoo.com.

Appendix E

As an EDRA member, should you receive recognition from one of these organizations, please let us know so that we may help celebrate your achievement at our annual convention.