

MESSAGE FROM THE RIDE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 55th Western States Trail Ride! Are you ready to "Ride ...Really Ride"?

The documents included in this packet were developed by the Western States Trail Foundation to provide you with most of the information you will need to successfully complete the Ride. Please read everything very carefully! Knowing the information contained in this packet will help you and your equine to reach Auburn and to avoid the disappointment of not finishing or being disqualified.

Please pay close attention to the Ride Medications Policy in the Rules booklet. The State of California will be conducting random equine drug tests to monitor compliance. The health and safety of equine participants is our foremost concern.

Each year, the Western States Trail Ride undergoes changes due to the force of nature along the Ride course, private land use permits and other modifications set by the Ride Committee. Since we don't always know the extent of these changes at the time this packet goes to print, it is **mandatory** that you attend the Pre-Ride Meeting on Friday, July 23rd at Robie Park. During this meeting we will be covering any last minute changes to the trail, cut-off times, P&R criteria and other important information relating to your successful trip to Auburn.

The Western States Trail covers 100 miles of the most challenging riding terrain in the world! Only the well-prepared can expect to be successful finishers. Read the Guide carefully and share it with your crew. Also, visit the Tevis website (www.teviscup.org) for supplemental information and general late breaking news prior to Ride Weekend.

Good luck and enjoy your Ride!

Mike Pickett
Ride Manager