

**WANAC - Catered Horse Camping  
Frequently Asked Questions  
Before Registering for a Ride You MUST Read This Information**

Thank you for your interest in WANAC and for taking the time to go deeper into understanding how our rides work. Mike is the caterer and I am his sidekick. I do all the organizing of the rides. I do this to support my sweetie but mostly so I can be assured to have catered camping trips for my friends and I. I RIDE - you won't see me in the kitchen. One of the most important roles in my life, is as CEO, Executive Director, of a thriving value based supported living program for adults with developmental disabilities, NorthStar Services, (website NorthStarSLS.org). Because I am "volunteering" to organize the rides, and I have very urgent and important job duties with my agency, I don't have much time to organize rides. The most time consuming aspect is answering questions that participants have about the rides - before the rides. We hope that your questions can be answered by reading the detailed ride flyers and these frequently asked questions and answers. Thank you for taking this time. If you still have a question that must be answered before you register or come on a ride please e-mail me putting WANAC in the subject line so I can find your message.

**Question:** Am I considered "registered" for a ride by sending you an e-mail of interest?

**Answer:** No - you are not "registered" until you send in the registration form and the deposit.

**Question:** I can't come for the entire ride. Can I pay a portion of the fees?

**Answer:** No - We are not offering any pro-rated events. There are many reasons for this. Mike must bring a crew and supplies for the total number of people coming even if you leave early or arrive late. Also, you occupy a camping spot and if you leave early or come late that spot will not be available to another camper. We are not making any exceptions to this so we can be consistent and fair to everyone. You may however, arrive late and leave early from any ride. It is helpful if we know this in advance.

**Question:** Are dogs allowed?

**Answer:** Each campground has their own rules on allowing dogs. They are not allowed at Stewarts Ranch, Pt Reyes. They are allowed at Silver Lake, JC High Country Little Antelope Pack Station and Cuneo Creek. We love dogs and encourage their participation when the campground allows them. We do ask that they be kept on a leash around camp and they are never allowed in Mike's kitchen area.

**Question:** I have a large, long trailer. Will I be able to get it into the campground?

**Answer:** Yes. Any size trailer can get into the all locations we are camping at. At Placitas, Silver Lake we do need to know in advance the size of your trailer as we are pre-assigning camping spots. This is because space is limited and we are accommodating everyone we can.

**Question:** I sent you an e-mail or left you a voice message. Why haven't you called me back?

**Answer:** I have a very busy work schedule and I also go horse camping with other groups. I will always try to return a message but it may take me a few weeks. I am hoping that your urgent questions can be answered in the ride flyers and this sheet. Make sure to put WANAC in your subject line of your e-mail. I send a confirmation of having received your deposit and registration two weeks before the ride after all registrations are received. I don't send individual messages about ride confirmations. I just don't have the time to do that ☺ My mail box is dependable and secure so you should not worry after sending in your registration. You can check with your bank to see if your check was deposited. Give us a few weeks after receiving your check to get to the bank. We haven't lost one mailed in registration yet.

**Question:** Can I tell my friends about your rides?

**Answer:** Yes - We love meeting new riders. One of the things people like about our rides is the diversity of people. We have endurance riders, natural horsemanship practitioners, trainers, newbies, cattlemen, back country members, etc. You can share our flyers with your friends but in doing so please make sure they read this Question and Answer sheet before they contact me.

**Question:** My husband or friend wants to come but they don't ride. Do they have to pay the same amount?

**Answer:** Many non-riding people participate for the fun camping experience. The cost is the same for both catering and camping at all locations, even without a horse.

**Question:** I have special dietary needs or I am a vegetarian. Will I have enough to eat?

**Answer:** We think so. Mike always has a variety of vegetables and fruit as well as the hardy foods loved by carnivores. He can't cook food to order because of the numbers of people he is feeding but there will be plenty of healthy variety at all meals. I don't have time to answer email questions about the meals. I am sorry - really.

**Question:** I would like to come camping but I don't want to participate in the catered meals. Is that an option and what is the cost?

**Answer:** We would love to have you join us. The cost is exactly the same whether you participate in catered meals or not. It is a package deal - participation and meals. We don't break it down separately.

**Question:** I would like to bring my mother who is quite elderly and doesn't eat much. Can she come at a reduced rate?

**Answer:** No - everyone pays the same amount. We have seen the elderly mother eat more than many men.

**Question:** I would like to bring my child or grandchildren. Are they welcomed?

**Answer:** There have been a few extremely well behaved children who have participated. Children 12 and under are half price off of the regular catering fees for all rides. Please indicate on the registration form if you are registering a child 12 or under.

**Question:** How do we contain our horses on the rides?

**Answer:** At Pt Reyes there are some poles to set up high lines but not all campsites have poles. You may not tie to the trees there and there are no corrals. JC High Country's Little Antelope Pack Station has trees on the perimeter of the area we camp in and you can high line to the trees. Silver Lake does not have corrals and the trees for high lining are very limited. If you need trees for high lining at Silver Lake please indicate that on the registration form. At all camps, you can bring your own portable corrals or tie to your trailer.

**Question:** When do the meals start and end?

**Answer:** Meals always start with dinner on the first day and end with lunch on the last day of the ride. If you are arriving after dinner is served on the first day we are not able to hold it and keep it warm. We would have no way of knowing when you were arriving. Mike has to clean up the kitchen before dark. However you will wake up to a delicious breakfast!!

**Question:** I sent in my registration. When will I get directions and confirmation of my registration?

**Answer:** I wait until I have received all the registrations and two weeks before the ride I send out the registration confirmation, more ride details and directions. Please be patient with me on this. I just don't have the time to send out a message each time a registration comes in. Mike deposits your registration checks within a few weeks of having received it. A great way to check to see if your registration was received is to check your bank account to see if the check was cleared.

**Question:** I must cancel my attendance. Will you return my deposit?

**Answer:** No - deposits are not returned unless Mike cancels the ride due to awful weather. If you cancel two week prior to a ride your deposit can be transferred to another ride. If you have a deposit credit with us please indicate that on the registration form. If you cancel less than two weeks before the ride your deposit will not be transferrable because Mike has already started planning and shopping based on your attendance and it may be too late to add another rider to take your place.

**Question:** May I transfer my deposit, fees, corral or camping spot to my friend?

**Answer:** No - all registration must go through us. There are reasons for this. We want to be fair to everyone. For example, if you registered early and we are holding a corral for you at

Cuneo and than you cancel, we want to give that corral to someone already on the waiting list. If we gave it to your friend (who wasn't already registered), we don't think that is fair to those waiting. If any of these practices are not comfortable for you. Please do not register for a ride.

**Question:** How many people are on your rides?

**Answer:** We typically have between 30 and 70 people on our rides depending on the location. We are a very friendly and welcoming group.

**Question:** I may be coming alone and won't know anyone. Will I have to ride by myself?

**Answer:** If you remind me of that during the ride I will make sure to introduce you to others. No one ever has to ride alone. You will feel welcomed and not alone at our campout.

**Question:** I have never camped with my horse before. What should I expect?

**Answer:** Expect to have a fantastic time. I am serious!! You will love it. Everyone remembers their first time camping with their horse and you will have a lot of support from the participants.

**Question:** Whom do I make the deposit check out to and where do I send it.

**Answer:** That information is on the bottom of the registration form. We do not take PayPal or credit cards. Send checks to Mike Garman, 4171 Starkes Grade Road, Placerville, CA 95667.

**Question:** How do I pay the campground fees?

**Answer:** That information is on each individual ride flyer and on the registration form. You will pay cash only to the campground host at Pt. Reyes. For all the other rides, you will send your entire payment to us no later than three weeks before the ride. We do not take credit cards or PayPal ☺ Our goal is to not have to burden you or us with collecting fees at the campsite.

#### **Fee Payments and Refunds:**

The deposit to register and hold a spot is \$100 per person, per ride. A completed registration form must be sent with the deposit.

**The balance of fees owed and the waiver form must be returned three weeks prior to the ride. If the participant cancels with no notice, they will forfeit their \$100 deposit but the balance of their fees will be returned within 30 days after the ride. With at least a two week notice of cancellation the deposit will be credited toward another ride and the balance of the fees will be returned to the participant within 30 days after the ride. Paying for an entire event in advance is common in other groups, and activities such as clinics and conferences. Also, we have had several participants make this request so they don't have to deal with us collecting fees at the ride.**

All payments made to Mike Garman for registration will be fully refunded if a ride is canceled by the host for any reason.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this information. I hope you understand that I love organizing the rides and welcoming you all to the campgrounds however I am trying to keep the pre-ride organizing time to a minimum so that it doesn't become impossible for me to keep doing this. If you are not comfortable with any of this information or the fee payments and refund policy please do not register for a ride. You can notify me and I will remove you from the email list.

Hugs and Happy Trails,  
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Remember in subject line of e-mail please put WANAC