

# Windridge Farms Fall Hunter Pace and Trail Ride

Held Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Submitted by Missy Bright

Windridge Farm opened its gates for their Fall Hunter Pace and Trail Ride on a beautiful fall morning.

Many thank yous to the wonderful volunteers that help make this Hunter Pace a success. It takes a small army make a Hunter Pace a success. Ricky Thomas was the entrance gate keeper and parking attendant for the day. He pointed rigs to their appropriate parking areas. The lower pasture was quite lovely. Large shade trees provided a cool area to park, go ride, and then return to eat. Since the weather hadn't turned cold yet, Alicia still had the water faucets turned on so a quick rinse off for the mounts was appreciated.

The trails were very nicely marked with ribbon as well as arrow signs and serpentine through the woods. Avery Carlton and Greg Park handled the mowing which was very nice to follow the trails throughout. For the most part stumps were marked with orange paint but it's hard to get them all when several hundred acres are involved. The footing was very nice throughout the trails but had the standard mush around water crossings.

Diane Bastien performed with ease at the Registration table. She did a wonderful job of handling multiple riders on teams.

Nickie Flack and Aidan McGinnis were the start and finish timers. Riders were advised which way to head out and what ribbons to follow, and which way riders come back into camp.

The Landowners who allowed riders passage over their properties were Windridge Farm and Davis Lake. Without them, no Hunter Pace could take place. Alicia and David stayed on top of things throughout the day.

There were two Deputies who manned the road crossings for the day. Without them, road crossings could get a tad tricky. It always helps to have a blue light going to alert oncoming traffic. Their time and dedication was much appreciated.

As always, let's not forget about the food that was prepared for the riders. Anita Earley, Cindy, and Cynthia Thomas worked diligently to prepare the food per requests riders had filled out on their lunch sheet while registering. Lunch was neatly placed in to go boxes complete with fruit and cookies. There was a wide variety of cold drinks to choose from. It seems that preparing the lunches in this manner has worked exceptionally well, especially when a pre-pace head count can give the ladies an idea of how much food to buy and have at the ready.

There was not a mandatory stop at a check point, so riders continued the ride, enjoying the cross-country fields and woods. The water crossings were very manageable as well.

The official mileage for the trails was clocked at 7.93 miles.

There were 31 riders in 17 teams in the Field Hunter Division. The Optimum time was clocked at one hour, 13 minutes, 29 seconds.

Now, let's get to those results:

First Place Honors were awarded to the team of Amanda Jones and Linda Plummer from Ellenboro with the time of one hour, 14 minutes, six seconds. Solo rider Samantha Vaughn from Greer placed Second with the time of one hour, 11 minutes, two seconds. Another solo rider, Tracie Parker from Greer took the Third Place Yellow with the time of one hour, 30 minutes, two seconds. Asher Quinn and Sarah Yeziarski from Pisgah Forest claimed the Fourth-Place spot with a time of one hour, 30 minutes, 46 seconds. Fifth Place was awarded to the team of Kathy Bethka from Simpsonville and Steph Culbertson from Fountain Inn with the time of one hour, 32 minutes, ten seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Field Hunter Division for Sixth Place was Toni VonRuden from Bradley with the time of one hour, 35 minutes, seven seconds. There is an Honorable Mention in the Field Hunter Division. Janada Jay finished the ride with a time of one hour, 35 minutes, eight seconds. That was only one second out of the Sixth Place spot!

Other Field Hunters out on the trails were Rachel Abrams, Stephanie Bryant, Leslie Campbell, Kayla and Matt Casura, Mark Farino, Daisy Fouts, Helen and Jacob Kaiser, Natalie Lane, Leslie Lattanzio, Kathryn Maynard, Emily Mitchell, Elena Perea, Fern Powell, Amy Quinn, Laura Spelling, Allison Thompson, Sutton Turner, and Carrie and Olive Wilsey.

There were 27 riders in 10 teams in the Trail Rider Division. The Calculated Optimum Time was two hours, 11 minutes, two seconds.

First Place Honors were awarded to the quartet of Susan Angermeier from Chesnee, Missy Bright from Campobello, and Ronnie Mann and Nancy Mason from Columbus. Their time of two hours, ten minutes, 42 seconds. Second Place was awarded to the sextet of Emma Flynn from Anderson, Anna Ginn from Anderson, Allison Higgins from Anderson, Alison Saari from Williamston, Paige Saari from Anderson, and Layla Sutton from Anderson. Their time was two hours, six minutes, 30 seconds. Third Place was awarded to the team from Columbus, Tamara Bruning and Cynthia McDonald with the time of two hours, 16 minutes, 37 seconds. Jennifer and Olivia Wilson from Mill Spring claimed the Fourth-Place award with the time of two hours, four minutes, 36 seconds. Fifth Place was awarded to solo rider Debra Zarish from Tryon with the time of two hours, two minutes, 41 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Trail Rider Division for Sixth Place was Tracie Parker from Gaffney and Peggie Sullenberger from Inman with a time of two hours, two minutes, three seconds.

Other Trail riders out navigating the trails were Donna and Kenneth Caldwell, Lisa Deal, Dawn Harrison, Meaghan Morris, and Carter, Hazel, Keith, Olive, and Renee Wade.

The Mini-Pace Division was well represented at this Hunter Pace. Those participants enjoying a shorter ride were, Dorothy Bayer, Beth and Camille Fiszer, Danielle Lamb, Madigan Murphy, Melissa Palotta, Henley Simmons, and Michael Sims.

Next up is the Western Carolina Hunter Pace and Trail Ride Series is the Tryon Hounds Annual Fall Hunter Pace to be held on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The rain date is Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The venue is the beautiful Cothran's Field. Ride times start at 9am and run

til 2pm. Those who are riding WINGS will start at 8:30am. WINGS is a special division for the fast and furious!

To save time at the Registration Tables, please download the Registration Forms from the Western Carolina Hunter Pace website for each specific event and slap a return address label on it including your full address and emergency contact and email to insure you can be contacted. There are five pages on the Tryon Hound's Pace waiver, so please be careful to sign and initial at each of the indicated spots.

Check the website at [www.wchpace.org](http://www.wchpace.org) for upcoming events, changes, and to view your photos taken by Photographers Lou Smith, Katie Tighe, and Amanda Towery. Some of the photos this season are in a new format which will link you across to Amanda's website. With the weather being so unpredictable here of late, rain dates are in place in case of a postponement.

See you on the trails....