

IWHA MPG PROGRAM

(MILES / MINUTES PER GAIT)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



- Open to all IWHA Members and is a pathway to IWHA membership for new people.
- Promotes the versatility beyond the show ring of the Tennessee Walking Horse and other Gaited Breeds but does not limit the use of other breeds in the program.
- Fees cover all aspects of the Program and riders can participate in one or both divisions of the program.
- Program runs October 1st through September 30th of the following year.
- Open Rider Division counts hours under saddle on multiple horses. Even horses that may not be owned by rider.
 - Scouts are less experience riders not necessarily just youth riders.
 - Trail Boss' are riders who have graduated from the Scout program or are more experienced riders
 - Hours start over each year.
 - Riders will be awarded patches based on their accomplishments in the program.
 - Volunteer hours at state parks clearing trails, campsites, etc., count for hours in the program.
- 1k, Next K-Distance Division is a Horse and Rider team that counts miles on pleasure or competitive rides.
 - Awards start at 1,000 miles (1K) and are awarded again at the next 1,000 miles (Next K)
 - Miles are cumulative from year to year of active participation in the program.
- Log Sheets will be available on the IWHA Website and can be mailed or scanned and sent electronically.
- All Awards to be handed out at the IWHA Fall Membership Meeting and Fall Banquet. Fundraising/Sponsorships will be explored for future awards in the program.
- This program has plenty of areas to expand to meet the needs of program participants.

IWHA MPG PROGRAM

(MILES / MINUTES PER GAIT)

Welcome to the Illinois Walking Horse Association's Trail Riding and Distance riding program. The goal of the MPG Program is to promote fun beyond the show ring while at the same time bring the trail and competitive riders into the fold of the Illinois Walking Horse Association.

I. Eligibility and Requirements

All IWHA members and future members of IWHA paying the program participation fee. While IWHA and this program will always promote the Tennessee Walking horse, this program is available to Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horse and all other Gaited Breeds. This program also recognizes that members may also own non-gaited breeds, mules, etc. Those breeds can participate in this program as well. Open Rider Division participants may find themselves in a position where there is no option to ride a gaited bred horse.

Program participants are not required to own the horse they are riding in either the Open Rider or Distance Division so long as permission is secured directly or by agent that they can ride the horse that they will be reporting program hours and or miles.

Horses can be used in both divisions but if a rider has nominated with a horse in the Distance Division they cannot turn hours in for the Open Rider Division on their nominated horse. Other riders can turn in hours on a horse who is nominated in the Distance Division so long as they are not the nominated rider in the Distance Division.

All rides are eligible. If you are on vacation and go for a ride with friends on their horses or you are part of an organized ride. (Beach Ride, Mountain or Desert Trail Ride Etc.) Just note as much relevant information on the log sheet

II. Program Fees

1. Adult (IWHA Member): \$20.00**
2. Youth (20 & Under): \$15.00**
3. 60 & Up \$15.00**
4. Non-IWHA Member / New Member Only: \$30.00* **

*\$10 program entry and \$20 New Individual IWHA Membership

** See Scout Program

One fee gets a rider entrance into one or both divisions of the program. A rider can nominate a horse in the Distance Division and be entered in the Open Rider Program with other horses.

III. Program Dates

The program runs October 1st through September 30th of the following year.

IV. MPG Program Divisions

1. Open Rider Division

This division is an accumulation of hours ridden.

Riders do not need to own the horse that they accumulate hours on and it does not need to be the same horse. These are Rider hours not horse and rider combination hours. The Open Rider Division has two levels based on the experience of the rider. Those levels are Scout and Trail Boss.

Scout / Silver Chevrons Awarded

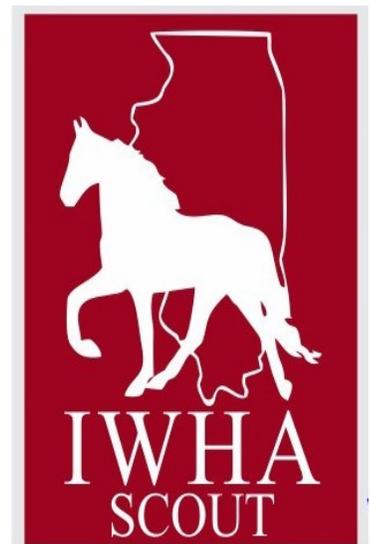
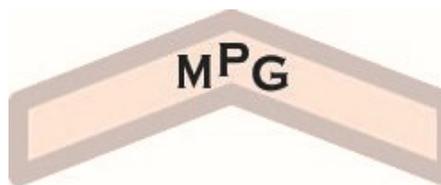
Trail ride hours are accumulated over three years of participation in the program for the initial program fee. Scouts will have the option of donating \$10.00 for year two and three of their Scout Program to help cover the cost of patches.

If circumstances do not allow for finishing in the three years, please contact the time keeper. We should be able to find a way for anyone to complete the program.

Volunteer work at any of the state parks will also be a way for Scout Level participants to earn hours. (Trail Clearing Camp site maintenance etc.) Please contact your trail mentors and they should be able to help you find information about this. Mark as much information as possible on log sheets. IWHA Newsletter would love to hear about your experience.

Scout Rider Hours and Award Increments

Hours	Scout Silver Chevrons
25	Chevron Patch
50	Chevron Patch
100	Chevron Patch
125	Chevron Patch
150	Chevron Patch
200	Trail Boss Program Patch.



Scout level participants are not defined by a person's age but rather a person's experience level and level of participation. Scout participants may be persons who have had a significant absence from horse ownership and/or trail riding. We are more concerned with your safety and encourage you to pick an experience rider to be your mentor and guide in this experience.

Trail Boss / Gold Chevrons Awarded

Trail Bosses are your experience riders and riders who have graduated from the Scout level.

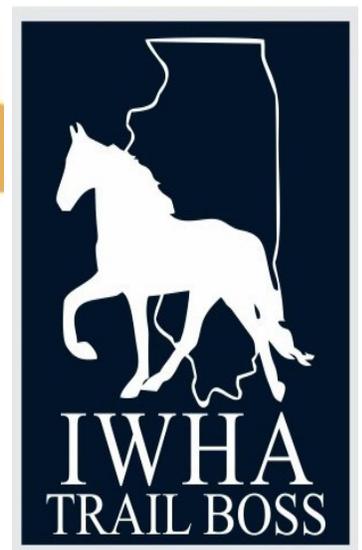
Hours are earned in 50 hour increments.

At 200 hours Trail Bosses earn Horseshoe Chevrons at 100 hours.

Helping or working at a State Park clearing trails or camp site maintenance can earn hours in the program. Mark as much information on log sheets as possible and think about submitting an article to the IWHA Newsletter.

Trail Boss Rider Hours and Award Increments

Hours	Trail Boss Gold Chevrons
25	(Scout Only)
50	Chevron Patch
100	Chevron Patch
125	(Scout Only)
150	Chevron Patch
200	Chevron Patch
Trail Boss Hours in Additional to (100 hours Increments)	Trail Boss Horse Shoes



2. 1K, Next K-Distance Division

This division is a horse and rider nominated division where participants log miles in either pleasure or competitive rides. Riders do not need to own the horse that they accumulate miles on but it does need to be their nominated horse for miles to count in this division.

The program will award riders at 1000-mile intervals (1K). Then the next 1000-mile interval will be the rider's "Next K". Mile accumulation is lifetime. Each year the total miles will carry over for each horse and rider team for every year of paid enrollment and reenrollment into the program.

The years of re-enrollment need not be consecutive. If you skip a year of reenrollment and enroll again the following year, mile accumulation picks up again after paid reenrollment.

Distance participants may buy back a missed year for the cost of program re-enrollment on the condition that they were a paid member of IWHA for the year of the miles buy back.

V. Logging

Log sheets will be available on the IWHA website. Please fill out the sheet accurately and legibly. Turn in Sheets by October 15th of each year. This should give riders adequate time to log their September trail rides and submit their log sheets. Please keep copies of log sheets for your own records. For active riders, multiple submissions of log sheets are acceptable. Copies of log sheets can be mailed directly to the time keeper or they can be scanned and submitted electronically. Time keeper will send a message of receipt of log sheets.

VI. Program Achievement

Patches, Certificates, and Awards will be given yearly at the IWHA Fall Membership Meeting and Banquet.

Open Rider Division

Scout Program Patch and Silver Scout Chevrons will be awarded for incremental hours based on program requirements met.

Trail Boss Program Patch, Gold Chevrons, and Gold Horseshoe Chevrons will be awarded for incremental hours based program requirements met.

Distance, 1K, Next K

Yearly mileage certificates and awards at 1000 mile achievements.