



Battlefield Equestrian Society

Spring Judged Pleasure Ride

Crystal Crown Series Event

Sunday, April 27, 2025

(Rain Date: May 4, 2025)

[Click here to Register](#)

General Information on Ride

Please join BES for a wonderful Judged Pleasure Ride on Sunday, April 27th. This ride will be held in the historical Manassas National Battlefield Park and cover 8 to 10 miles of gently rolling terrain. The trails are a mix of gravel and dirt roads/paths and open fields. Please bring your own water. A portable restroom will be available. Ride times will be pre-assigned with first riders scheduled to head out about 9:00 AM. You will be notified of your ride time by email 2-3 days prior to the event. On the day of the ride, Check-In will open at 8:00 AM. Upon your arrival, you must check in to receive your rider packet. Please plan accordingly to arrive, check in, and be tacked up and ready to go by your assigned start time.

Safety for our riders, spectators, and volunteers is paramount. Approved hard hats are recommended for all riders. All junior riders 17 and under must wear an approved hard hat and be accompanied by a responsible adult. Horses known to kick should be identified with red tail ribbons and green horses with green ones. Please leave your dog(s) at home for the safety of your dog(s) as well as event participants.

Due to liability, BES does not allow non-registered friends/riders to ride along, participate at obstacles, or park their trailer at the event site. In addition, bareback riding (obstacles may require dropping/picking up your stirrups) and “ponying” horses (in training or otherwise) are not allowed during this event.

Registration/Cost

Online, pre-registration is required for all riders. Click [HERE](#) for online registration form. No walk-in entries accepted. Entries must be received with all required documentation and be paid in full no later than Tuesday, April 22nd. After this date, please contact Stephanie Chao (Stephanie.h.chao@gmail.com or 703-868-0688) for space availability. Late entries may be accepted on a space available basis, will not be eligible to purchase lunch, and will be assessed a \$20 late registration fee with electronic payment in full a requirement. **Entry fees are non-refundable and will be donated to BES towards trail maintenance unless both ride dates are cancelled.**

Registration Fees (Please note lunch is not included with the ride fee and must be purchased separately):

- BES Members Ride Fee → \$50
- Non BES Members Ride Fee → \$55
- All Juniors (17 & under) Members and Non-Members → \$25
- Lunches → \$15 each (choices: Turkey, Ham, or Veggie)
- Late Fee → \$20 – After April 22nd, please contact Stephanie Chao for availability; lunch purchase is not available with late entries.
- New or Renewal Membership (see [BES Membership Form](#))

Your registration must be complete including application, liability waiver, Coggins, and full payment before your registration is accepted.

BES Membership

The BES membership year runs from April 1 to March 31. If you are not already a member, join or renew your membership now and take advantage of the lower Members entry fee – not only for this ride but other rides throughout the year!! Our membership form is available [BES Membership Form](#).

Treatment of Judges, Ground Volunteers and/or Your Horse

Any act of disrespect or unsportsmanlike conduct, whether verbal or physical, toward judges, event volunteers or your horse will result in loss of points on the particular obstacle and may be grounds for immediate disqualification. If disqualification occurs, the rider shall forfeit all entry fees and prizes and must immediately leave the premises.

Judging and Ribbons/Awards

The course will consist of natural and man-made obstacles. Horse and rider will be judged on ability to negotiate these obstacles safely as well as on trail manners and general horsemanship. Riders will have one minute to complete the obstacle unless otherwise directed. Decisions of the onsite judges are final.

All scores will be tabulated after the event with results emailed to participants and posted on the BES website. Ribbons will be awarded to overall and division winners. These are expected to be mailed (see note below) within 3-4 weeks of the event date. Up to six ribbons may be awarded in each category.

- Age categories will be determined based on the number of riders. If no age is provided on registration, you will not be placed in an age division.
- Novice Horse and Novice Rider divisions are open to horses or riders that have competed in 3 or less judged pleasure rides (or similar events) prior to this ride.

****Note** The cost of ribbons and mailing them to participants is a large expense. You have the option to forego ribbons allowing more funds to go toward trail maintenance. You can also make a donation to help offset the cost and allow more funds to go to trail maintenance (minimum \$5.00 donation suggested).**

Crystal Crown Series and Year-end Awards

The Crystal Crown Series recognizes the top riders from a series of judged rides held by several equestrian organizations. This ride is the first ride of the 2025 series. Each participating organization puts on their own ride with their own rules. For more information on the Crystal Crown Series and rules/requirements to qualify for year-end awards, please visit the Crystal Crown Series Facebook page or website (www.crystalcrownseries.com). You can also contact Crystal Crown Series Committee members. Lacy Warner (dreamcatcherequineva@gmail.com) is the CCS Chair. Dewey Brown (gohrsecrzy@aol.com) and Gail Kelsey (gailannkelsey@gmail.com) are the BES representatives on the committee.

Directions

From I-66, take Exit 47 onto Route 234 North. Travel ~1.4 miles and turn right at the light onto Route 29 North (Stone House intersection). Travel less than a mile and look for signs on the right. Ride base is located between the Stone House and the Stone Bridge on Route 29.

Inclement Weather Policy

The event will be held rain or shine but may be postponed (rain date 5/4/2025) or cancelled if weather or trail conditions are considered hazardous. If the event is postponed or cancelled, you will be notified by email (by phone if no email) by 8:00 PM the evening prior to the ride.

Extras!

BES 40th Anniversary merchandise available – order form coming soon! Photos of this event may be taken and available online after the ride.

Contact Information

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact:

Stephanie Chao, Ride Secretary: stephanie.h.chao@gmail.com or 703-868-0688 (email or text preferred)

Dewey Brown, BES President: gohrsecrzy@aol.com or 540-272-6368

BES Website: battlefeldequestriansociety.org

Volunteers

The ride takes a small army of volunteers especially judges and judge assistants. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Dewey (gohrsecrzy@aol.com or 540-272-6368). Thanks in advance to all volunteers!!

BES thanks you for your support! We look forward to you joining us for a great experience for you and your horse that benefits the equestrian trails at Manassas National Battlefield Park.

BES also acknowledges many, many years of stone donations from *Luck Stone* in support of trail maintenance on the hiking and bridle trails of the Manassas National Battlefield Park.

Battlefield Equestrian Society is Celebrating 40 Years!!!

40th Anniversary Tumblers, Totes and Mugs Available.

Order Form coming soon.

Release and Waiver of Liability

I am a participant, not a spectator, engaged in an equine activity. I am aware that equine activities, whether riding or not, poses potentially serious risks of injuries or death to its participants. I understand that my horse or I may be injured or die as a result of my negligence, the negligence of others, or through no fault of myself or anyone else, because of the nature of the activity in which I am going to be engaged. I also understand that horses, even the best trained, are often unpredictable and difficult to control.

With this waiver I accept notice of the provision of Section 3.1-796.130 through 3.1-796.133 of the Code at Virginia, which states in part: That there are inherent risks in equine activities, including (i) the propensity of an equine to behave in dangerous ways which may result in injury to the participant; (ii) the inability to predict an equine's reaction to sound, movements objects, persons or animals; and (iii) hazards of surface or subsurface conditions. The waiver shall remain valid unless expressly revoked by the participant or parent or guardian of a minor, in writing, with receipt acknowledged by at least one of the officers or directors of the Battlefield Equestrian Society (BES).

Furthermore, with this document, I expressly assume the risk of injury or death due to negligence by the BES, its officers, directors, members, agents, employees, and staff, or guests for my own safety or for the safety of my minor child or horse. If this or any other provision of this Agreement is held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be unimpaired.

With the knowledge of the foregoing, and as an inducement for the officers, directors, and members of BES to allow my participation, I do hereby waive and release any and all rights that I or my heirs may have to make a claim against the BES or its members; the owners, tenants or others of interest of any property over which I may pass, ride, or by any other means be; and other participants (including guides, planners, judges, or others) arising from any damages, injury, or death which I might sustain or which might occur to any horse as a result of my participation in this equine activity. I further agree to indemnify all of the foregoing from any claims which I might make or which might be made on my behalf by others or which might be made against me by others arising from riding with the BES or following or participating on foot or by automobile. Furthermore, I agree to indemnify the BES and its members for any injury, death, and loss of or damage to any personal property, which I might cause during this equine activity.

I further acknowledge and accept that BES strongly suggests that I will wear an approved hard hat/helmet while participating in this ride.

By signing this release and waiver, I understand that I am giving up any right I have to sue or make a claim which I might have or which might subsequently arise or occur against the BES and its members and participants for any injuries I might sustain while horseback riding or following or participating on foot or by automobile and that I am indemnifying BES and its members for injuring anyone else or any horse ridden by another while so engaged. It is my intent to give up those rights, and I do so knowingly and voluntarily.

Rider Signature _____ Date _____

(Rider) Print Name _____

Horse Owner Signature _____ Date _____

(Horse Owner) Print Name _____

Parent or Legal Guardian Release and Waiver

I am the parent or guardian of _____, a minor (under the age of 18), and on the minor's behalf and on behalf of all other parents or guardians of the minor, I accept the release and waiver of liability at the top of this form as an inducement for allowing my child, or this minor, to ride with the BES. I further acknowledge and accept that said minor will wear an approved hard hat/helmet while participating in this ride. I further authorize any emergency medical care, which may be necessary. I represent and warrant that I have the authority to give this release.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____ Date _____

Print Name _____