

# NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF LIABILITY WAIVERS AND SIGNS

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 2013

Ride Chairs are responsible for using the required liability waivers and 50-state statutory warning requirements to comply with various states' Equine Activity Liability Act (EALA) statutes. As of 2009, every state except California (CA), Maryland (MD), Nevada (NV), and New York (NY) has enacted some form of Equine Liability Act. These acts are designed to limit the liability of equine professionals and associations by statutory "assumption of risk" provisions. To receive the benefit of these statutes, the equine event sponsor must post warning signs at the equine event and include certain warning language required by the statute in its written liability waivers.

In order to maximize NATRC™'s and management's legal protection at all sanctioned rides, each rider, worker/volunteer must complete, sign and return the waivers listed in section "B. FORMS:" below. These forms are on the website, [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org).

As Ride Chair, you are responsible for seeing that the appropriate forms and signs are used at your ride.

**A. SIGN: Post** the EALA warning sign from the state where the ride occurs.

1. Post at the Ride Entry desk **AND** at all ride briefings.
2. Each region is responsible for purchasing (from each state's Horse Council) or making, and using, these signs which can be kept with each region's ride management materials (i.e. the rider numbers, etc).
3. The warning sign requirement does not apply to CA, MD, NV and NY as these states do not have EALA statutes. **Nevertheless, rides in these states are STRONGLY advised to use a warning sign.**

**B. FORMS: Ensure that EVERY Rider, Worker/Volunteer signs TWO forms - the NATRC form and the State form.**

	NATRC Liability Waiver		STATE
	RIDER	WORKER	Liability Waiver
Rider	X		X
Worker/Volunteer		X	X
Rider who competes & works	X	X	X

1. Please use **ONLY** the forms on the website, [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org), as they are updated as needed.
2. To obtain these three forms - Worker, Rider and State Liability Waivers:
  - a. Go to the NATRC website. Under "Documents", "Ride Management", open the files and fill in the ride name, location, and date, and then print the Rider Liability Waiver and Worker Liability Waiver forms.
  - b. Go to the link directly beneath the Worker Liability Waiver, which states: "Click to Select State" for the State Release Forms page. Click on and print the form that applies to the state where the ride is occurring.
  - c. Although CA, MD, NV and NY do not have statutes, NATRC **requires** Riders, Workers/Volunteers to fill out and sign these state waivers which contain language specifically warning about the inherent risks of equine activities.
3. Permanently store all executed forms for each ride.
4. **Do not** allow any Riders and Workers/Volunteers who have not fully completed, signed and turned in **BOTH PAGES** to participate in the event.

If minors are riding, working/volunteering, the signature of one parent/legal guardian is required; the signatures of both parents/legal guardians are preferred. Children under the age of 10 are not eligible to participate as riders. Children age 12 and under can participate as workers/volunteers but are NOT COVERED by our Accident & Medical Coverage for Volunteers & Officials Insurance. Workers/volunteers 75 and over are covered **only if Equisure has ADVANCE notice. Send list of 75 and over workers to the NATRC office before ride.**

**If you have any questions, please contact the NATRC office.**