

Branching Out Competitive Trail Ride Competition & Clinic

April 25-26, 2026

Area 2 of the Branched Oak State Recreation Area
12000 W Branched Oak Rd, Raymond, NE 68428
Governed by the rules of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC)

Saturday - Leisure Division Ride with Next Step Clinic (Saturday PM after ride – if weather nice)
Sunday - Step it up to Novice / Competitive Pleasure Ride

The Leisure Division Ride (LeD) will be offered Saturday April 25. The LeD will start with check-in with the ride secretary starting at 8:30am to 9:00 am on Saturday. Time-out will start by 10:30 am. The distance will be 8 to 10 miles at a pace of approximately 3.5 mph. There will be one P&R (Pulse and Respiration check) and 3 to 5 judging observations.

The clinic will consist of questions about the ride, judges cards, and what is different about the next levels of competition.

Novice / Competitive Pleasure Ride – Check-in of horses will on Saturday afternoon, and first thing Sunday morning. There will be a ride briefing Saturday evening. The ride will be 16 to 17 miles, and will be two loops of the Saturday ride, at about 4 mph. There will be two P&R checks, at least 3 metabolic checks by the vet judge, and at least 4 judging opportunities by the horsemanship judge. You will learn a lot about your horse in this ride!

Both rides are NATRC sanctioned & NATRC members will earn points towards regional year-end awards & mileage.

Ride Notes: All competing out-of-state horses must have negative Coggins and current Health Certificate. Terrain is barefoot friendly. **Dogs are not allowed in management area, check-in area, briefings or at meals, and must be leashed at all times (insurance requirement and State Park rules).**

Directions: From Highway 79 at the Raymond Nebraska corner, take Raymond Road west for 6 miles. Turn right into Homestead Campground Area 2 and veer left to the equestrian campground.

Park Fees & Camping Facilities: Nebraska State Park Permit is required and can be purchased online at <https://ngpc-home.ne.gov/>. This equestrian area offers 15 pull-through sites with electrical hookups reservable at the park office only, as well as 14 corrals. Call 402-783-3400 to reserve by the Thursday prior (no online reservations). Camping and park fees are NOT included in the entry fees. Please independently take care of all park fees. Drinking water, pit-toilet and fire rings are available in the equestrian camping area.

Entry Fees (checks payable to NECTRA send to Ride Secretary):

Clinic	no charge
Leisure Division Ride Sat	\$65 / \$100 (member / non-member**)
Novice / CP Ride Sun	\$85 / \$120 (member / non-member**)
Ride both Sat and Sun	\$130 (discount for members only**)

A deposit of \$30 or full registration must be received by Ride Secretary by April 15th to confirm your entry

**First year NATRC membership is free. To join visit <https://www.natrc.org/join> prior to the day of the ride
First NATRC ride is sponsored by NECTRA and is 50% discount for adults and free for juniors (each day is a separate ride). Please indicate in your registration if this is your first NATRC competition.

Leisure Division Judge / Horsemanship Judge: Norma Newton
Veterinary Judge: Verona Chaffin

Ride Chair: Alex Braun alexdouglasbraun@gmail.com 402-414-7030
Ride Secretary: Helen Smith hsmithmoran@gmail.com 402-298-1411 (send text if no answer)
Trail Master: Tammy Vasa

In Case of Emergency, Call 911
Branched Oak State Recreation area 402-783-3400 or Ride Management at above #'s.
Sponsored by Nebraska Endurance & Competitive Trail Ride Association

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Leisure Division Ride (Saturday April 25) (20 Rider Limit)

Novice / Competitive Pleasure Ride (Sunday April 26) (15 Rider limit)

Submit registration with applicable entry fee **payable to NECTRA.**

Send to NECTRA, c/o Helen Smith, 750 County Road B, Ashland NE 68003

Registration Form (or skip the form & Enter in RMS [Main Menu](#)):

Rider Information:

Name _____

Phone # _____ e-mail _____

Address/City/St/Zip _____

Check one: ___ Age 18 or over ___ Age 10 – 17 & birth date _____

If 17 or younger, name of responsible adult _____

In case of emergency:

Contact _____ Phone # _____

NATRC member ___ / non-member

Horse Information:

Name _____

Color _____ Height _____ Weight _____

Birth Date of Horse _____ Breed/type _____

Check One: ___ Mare ___ Gelding Registration # _____

Horse Owner's Name _____

Please check as applicable: checks for entry fees are **payable to NECTRA**, send to Helen Smith

___ Leisure Division Ride Sat \$65 / \$100 (member / non-member**)

___ Novice / Comp. Pleas. Ride Sun \$85 / \$120 (member / non-member**)

___ LeD/Nov/CP Rides* Sat and Sun \$130 (discount for members only**)

A deposit of \$30 or full registration payment must be received by April 15th. Late payments / entries will be first come first served at the ride.

*Please circle Novice or CP

**First year NATRC membership is free. To join visit <https://www.natrc.org/join> prior to the day of the ride – your entry fees are cheaper with membership!!

A riders first NATRC ride is sponsored by NECTRA and is free for juniors & 50% off for adults (each day is a separate ride). Please preregister and indicate in your registration if this is your first NATRC competition.

Submit registration with applicable entry fee **payable to NECTRA.**

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Saturday AM - Leisure Division Ride with Next Step Clinic (Saturday PM after ride – if weather nice)

Sunday AM Step it up to Novice / Competitive Pleasure Ride

Leisure Division Ride (LeD)

The LeD will start with check-in of horses. Time-out will start within one hour of check-in (sooner if everyone is ready). The distance both days will be 8 - 10 miles, at a pace of approximately 3.5 mph. There will be one P&R (Pulse and Respiration check), and 3 to 5 judging observations. Terrain is barefoot friendly. This division is NATRC sanctioned and NATRC members will earn points towards regional year-end awards and mileage.

Saturday April 26

**Arrival and Check-in 8:30 - 9:00 am with Ride Secretary
(mentors will help greet and guide new competitors)**

9:30 am Ride Briefing

10:00 am Check-in with Judge

11:00 am LeD times Out (will leave sooner if everyone ready)

Lunch for volunteers

2:00ish pm Check out with judge

3:30 pm Awards

Clinic: 4:00pm – 4:30pm (straight after completion of awards)

The clinic will be your questions about the ride, judges cards, and what is different about the next levels of competition

5:00 pm: Check-in with Judges for Sundays Ride

6:00 pm: Ride briefing Novice / CP / Open

6:30 pm: Potluck Dinner

Sunday

7 to 7:30am: Breakfast for volunteers (& sign liability waivers as needed)

7:00am Late Check-ins

8:00 am: Novice / CP Riders time out

12:30 to 1:30pm: lunch for Volunteers

2:00 pm ish: Check-out with judges, and return vests

3:30pmish: Awards

Workers: P&R crew, safety rider, judges' secretaries, and mentors. Contact Helen or Alex if you can help. Volunteers make these rides possible & fun. No inexperienced trail horses or riders permitted as safety riders & must meet NATRC age guidelines. Auditors are welcome and will be encouraged to help during the ride.