



# FLORIDA CRACKER TRAIL ASSOCIATION

"Keeping History Alive"

February 15<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

## 2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in the FCTA is mandatory to participate in any FCTA events. Membership runs the calendar year from January through December 31st.

Please choose the TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP that best suits you. A family is defined as up to (2) adults and minor children residing at the same address. Any additional family members over 18 years residing at the same address must pay \$15.00 to have membership voting privileges.

\_\_\_\_\_ New Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal  
\_\_\_\_\_ Single Adult \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_+\$15.00 any family member over 18yrs

MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The FCTA will communicate with our members through E-mail and our website: [www.floridacrackertrail.org](http://www.floridacrackertrail.org)

Please check here: \_\_\_\_\_ if you Do Not have an email and need to receive information via regular mail.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County

Home #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

What years have you ridden on Annual Ride? \_\_\_\_\_

### FAMILY MEMBER(S):

Spouse or Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Parent or Guardian must accompany minor children under the age of 18.

Family Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 5: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WARNING: Under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

(Florida Statutes 773.01-773.05)

Initials in acknowledgment of Membership Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Florida Cracker Trail Association or FCTA. MAIL TO: FCTA- Secretary; 2245 Melody Rd Englewood 34223

For Office Use Only: Date Ent'd: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Check#: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid Online? Amount\$: \_\_\_\_\_ **2025** Liability Form(s) Signed? Y or N



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## RIDE REGISTRATION FORM – 2025 ANNUAL CROSS-STATE RIDE

Please complete ONE FORM per individual or family.

Deadline for Registration and Membership is **JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

- **Forms need to be mailed in by the deadline of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.** If your envelope is post-marked after the deadline or if you choose to register at the start of the Ride, then Late Fee will be applied. **\*\*Money may be paid separately but MUST be paid before the start of the ride.**
- Attach a Membership Application to join or renew in **2025**. Every attendee must be a current Member.
- Familiarize yourself with the FCTA Official Rules prior to completing the Registration Form.
- Attach a SIGNED Contract for Liability Release and Indemnification for each person, rider or camper.
- All riders or campers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian at all times. Attach a SIGNED AND NOTARIZED Contract for Liability Release and Indemnification naming the responsible accompanying adult for each rider or camper under the age of 18. The FCTA will not accept any non-notarized Contract for Releases. A notary will not be provided.
- No refunds given after the start of the ride. If unable to attend the ride a refund will be issued minus a \$25.00 service fee.
- **Caterer Form:** Please send a *separate* check and Ride Caterer Form to Susy Q's Catering: **P.O. Box 52 Myakka City 34251**. **ARE YOU PAYING FOR CATERING? circle one: YES or NO**

FEES: \$\$\$

Membership: \$30.00 for single; \$40.00 for family (+\$15.00 any family member over 18yrs), \$0 if paid already

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Adult / Youth Rider Full Week; \$135.00 per rider

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Day Fee; \$60.00 per rider

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle days: Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

Non Rider / Camper Full Week; \$75.00 per individual

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Day Fee; \$15.00 per individual

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle days: Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

How many DRIVERS will you have in your party? \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Late Fee:**

**\$20.00 per Rider/Camper if ride packet is not post marked by 1/31/2025** \$ (+) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Initials in acknowledgment of Ride Registration Form: \_\_\_\_\_

*{MUST initial above for the Ride Registration Form to be valid}*

Make checks payable to: Florida Cracker Trail Association or FCTA. MAIL TO: FCTA- Secretary; 2245 Melody Rd Englewood 34223

For Office Use Only: Date Ent'd: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Check#: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid Online? Amount\$: \_\_\_\_\_ **2025** Liability Form(s) Signed? Y or N

Rev. 10/2024



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## RIDE CATERER FORM - 2025 ANNUAL CROSS-STATE RIDE

- Full Week Caterer fee includes 3 meals and beverages per day from Sunday morning (2/16) through Saturday morning (2/22).
- No caterer is available on Saturday (2/15), until the optional steak dinner on Saturday evening.

*Advance purchase is highly recommended.*

**Please send this form & a separate check to Susy Q's Catering: P.O. Box 52 Myakka City 34251.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mailing Address

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult (15 years & older): Full Week: \$375.00 per adult \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day fee: \$70.00 per adult \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle days: Sat(n/c) Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

Individual Meals: \$15 Breakfast, \$25 Lunch, \$30 Dinner

Youth (12- 14 years): Full Week: \$275.00 per youth \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day fee: \$50.00 per youth \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle days: Sat(n/c) Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

**\*\* No charge for youth up to 11 years of age. \$ No Cost**

Circle days: Sat(n/c) Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

Individual Meals: \$12 Breakfast, \$18 Lunch, \$20 Dinner

Optional Steak Dinner on Sat (2/15): *Advance purchase recommended*

\$40.00 Adult / \$20.00 Child per meal. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Late Fee: \$25.00 per Rider/Camper if payment is not received by Susy Q's by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

\$ ( + ) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### FAMILY MEMBER(S):

Spouse or Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member 5: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Any dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Email: [factasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:factasecretary@gmail.com)

MAIL TO: Susy Q's Catering: **P.O. Box 52 Myakka City 34251**. {With a separate check}

**Caterer Registration is NOT complete until (Susy Q's) is paid.**

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## ADULT Contract for Liability Release and Indemnification

This is a legally binding agreement between the Florida Cracker Trail Association Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Association"; the below named and inferred landowners, stewards, tenants and service providers **AND each participant who agrees and executes by initialing each line and signing below.**

**Please Read and Initial each line.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Association is sponsoring a Cross-Florida Trail Ride on February 15, 2022, through February 22, 2025, to promote the Florida Cracker Trail.

\_\_\_\_\_ All participants do acknowledge and agree that each and every aspect of their participation is by Florida law, an equine activity, and the Association, their agents, licensees, landlords, invitees, landowners, and permittees are all individually and cumulatively deemed Equine Activity Sponsors and not subject to liability under the Florida Statute.

\_\_\_\_\_ WARNING: Under Florida Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. (Florida Statutes 773.01-773.05)

\_\_\_\_\_ WARNING: In reference to helmets, the Association will NOT be held liable per "Nicole's Law" as an "Agricultural Practice or Pursuit, Historical Reenactment, or Parade." (Chapter 2009-105, House Bill #169, Section 4 (c), Section 6(a))

\_\_\_\_\_ Participant, on behalf of himself, his heirs and assigns, agrees to release the Association, its agents, officers, directors, board members, agents, employees, representatives, volunteers, successors, and assigns from liability whatsoever connected with said trail ride and further release any landowner or tenant along the route, including specifically but not limited to: Kibler Ag & Falkner Farms; Bar Crescent S Ranches; Kahn Ranch; Adams Ranch; Rocking Cross Ranch; Hartt Ranch, Bass Ranches; Davis Ranch; Putnam Groves & Ranch; Manatee County Sheriff's Office; Hardee County Sheriff's Office; Highlands County Sheriff's Office; Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office; City of Fort Pierce Police Department; Florida Department of Transportation; Cracker Trail School; St. Lucie County BOCC; Southwest Florida Water Management District; South Florida Water Management District; St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation Department; City of Fort Pierce; Veg-King of Florida, Tree Locators; James Hunter; Sally Hunter; Ten Fold Talent; and any other landowner/tenant and service provider along the route from all manner of claims, demands, and damages of every kind and nature whatsoever which the undersigned may now, or in the future, have against any of the above on account of any personal injuries, physical or mental condition, known or unknown, to the person, and treatment thereof, as a result of, or in any way growing out of any acts or incidents, including negligence or gross negligence of Florida Cracker Trail Association and/or any of the named or implied parties above.

\_\_\_\_\_ Participant further agrees to indemnify Association from any liability whatsoever caused by an act of, or injury to, said Participant.

\_\_\_\_\_ The parties acknowledge that this is a legally binding agreement; that the authorization for said Participant to take part in the Cracker Trail Ride as a representative of Association is good, valuable and sufficient consideration; and that they fully intend for themselves and any Participant to be bound hereby.

**Name & Signature of Participant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Name; print clearly please) (Date)



# FLORIDA CRACKER TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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## MINOR Contract for Release and Indemnification

To Be Executed by Natural Parent or Legal Guardian of Minor Rider

### Page 1 of 2

This is a legally binding agreement between the Florida Cracker Trail Association Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Association"; the below named and inferred landowners, stewards, tenants and service providers **AND each participant who agrees and executes by initialing each line and signing below.**

**Please Read and Initial each line.**

<sup>5</sup>  
[Redacted] Association is sponsoring a Cross-Florida Trail Ride on February 15, 2025, through February 22, 2025, to promote the Florida Cracker Trail.

[Redacted] All participants do acknowledge and agree that each and every aspect of their participation is by Florida law, an equine activity, and the Association, their agents, licensees, landlords, invitees, landowners, and permittees are all individually and cumulatively deemed Equine Activity Sponsors and not subject to liability under the Florida Statute.

[Redacted] WARNING: Under Florida Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. (Florida Statutes 773.01-773.05)

[Redacted] WARNING: In reference to helmets, the Association will NOT be held liable per "Nicole's Law" as an "Agricultural Practice or Pursuit, Historical Reenactment, or Parade." (Chapter 2009-105, House Bill #169, Section 4 (c), Section 6(a))

[Redacted] Participant, on behalf of himself, his heirs and assigns, agrees to release the Association, its agents, officers, directors, board members, agents, employees, representatives, volunteers, successors, and assigns from liability whatsoever connected with said trail ride and further release any landowner or tenant along the route, including specifically but not limited to: Kibler Ag & Falkner Farms; Bar Crescent S Ranches; Kahn Ranch; Adams Ranch; Rocking Cross Ranch; Hartt Ranch, Bass Ranches; Davis Ranch; Putnam Groves & Ranch; Manatee County Sheriff's Office; Hardee County Sheriff's Office; Highlands County Sheriff's Office; Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office; City of Fort Pierce Police Department; Florida Department of Transportation; Cracker Trail School; St. Lucie County BOCC; Southwest Florida Water Management District; South Florida Water Management District; St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation Department; City of Fort Pierce; Veg-King of Florida, Tree Locators; James Hunter; Sally Hunter; Ten Fold Talent; and any other landowner/tenant and service provider along the route from all manner of claims, demands, and damages of every kind and nature whatsoever which the undersigned may now, or in the future, have against any of the above on account of any personal injuries, physical or mental condition, known or unknown, to the person, and treatment thereof, as a result of, or in any way growing out of any acts or incidents, including negligence or gross negligence of Florida Cracker Trail Association and/or any of the named or implied parties above.

[Redacted] Participant further agrees to indemnify Association from any liability whatsoever caused by an act of, or injury to, said Participant.



**FLORIDA CRACKER TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

**"Keeping History Alive"**

February 15<sup>th</sup> – 22nd, 2025

**Florida Cracker Trail Association, Inc.**

**Contract for Release and Indemnification**

**To Be Executed by Natural Parent or Legal Guardian of Minor Rider**

**Page 2 of 2**

**[Redacted]** The parties acknowledge that this is a legally binding agreement; that the authorization for said Participant to take part in the Cracker Trail Ride as a representative of Association is good, valuable, and sufficient consideration; and that they fully intend for themselves and any Participant to be bound hereby.

**Name of Minor Rider:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Signature of Natural Parent or Legal Guardian of Minor Rider:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name; print clearly please) (Signature)

**NOTARIZED Name and Signature of Responsible Adult accompanying participating Minor in the absence of the Natural Parent or Legal Guardian:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name; print clearly please) (Signature)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_ [Notarial Seal]



# FLORIDA CRACKER TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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## OFFICIAL RIDE RULES

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These Official Ride Rules were developed over time for the safety of all participants, landowners, and animals. They apply to any FCTA camp-out, ride or function, and the Annual Cross State Ride.

1. All participants do acknowledge and agree that each and every aspect of their participation is by Florida law, an equine activity, and the FCTA, their agents, licensees, landlords, invitees, landowners, and permittees are all individually and cumulatively deemed Equine Activity Sponsors and not subject to liability under the Florida Statute.
2. All participants must comply with the Laws of the State of Florida and FCTA Official Ride Rules.
3. The designated Trail Boss and Outriders are here to assist you and your animals. Give them your utmost respect and attention. Be courteous and respectful of your fellow riders. All participants are under the direction of the Trail Boss. The Trail Boss will enforce these rules singularly and exclusively in line with his/her responsibility for the overall safety of all participants. Any deviation in behavior from the Trail Boss authority will be grounds for immediate expulsion from any camp-out, ride or function, or from the Annual Cross State Ride. If you have a concern or a problem while in camp or on the trail, please notify the Trail Boss, an Outrider, or a Board of Director.
4. **WARNING:** Under Florida Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. (Florida Statutes 773.01-773.05)
5. **WARNING:** In reference to helmets, the Association will NOT be held liable per "Nicole's Law" as an "Agricultural Practice or Pursuit, Historical Reenactment, or Parade." (Chapter 2009-105, House Bill #169, Section 4 (c), Section 6(a))
6. **Every rider or camper must be a 2025 FCTA member to participate in the Annual Cross State Ride.**
7. The Annual Cross State ride is open to advanced riders and trained horses. All horses in camp or on the ride must be able to handle traffic, noise, bridges, water, parades, whip cracking, etc. Do not plan to condition your horse or to train your horse on this ride.
8. **THE OFFICIAL RIDE RULES OF THE ANNUAL CROSS STATE RIDE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED ON THE RIDE. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE START OF THE RIDE. EVEN IF YOU CANNOT COMPLETE THE RIDE OR IF YOU OR YOUR HORSE ARE REMOVED FROM THE RIDE.**
9. No whip cracking after dark unless in designated areas. Designated areas to be picked daily and will be announced.
10. **There will be a Mandatory Rider's Meeting on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. before ride-out.**
11. Registration is an absolute MUST if you plan to ride ANY DAY.
12. All persons in camp or on the Cross State Annual Ride must be registered and must sign a Contract for Release and Indemnification. This includes all riders, campers, guests, ride staff and entertainers. It is the responsibility of the participant to maintain their event identification with them at all times.
13. Any riders or campers under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by their natural parent or legal guardian, in camp or on the Ride. Natural parent or legal guardian MUST become a member prior to the start of the **2025 Ride** and MUST complete a notarized Contract for Release naming the responsible accompanying adult.
14. A record of negative test for equine infectious anemia (COGGINS) conducted within 12 months is required. This 12-month period must be good through the whole ride. An agricultural inspector will be present at all camp locations to inspect your animals.



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## OFFICIAL RIDE RULES

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15. All riders **MUST** stay behind wagons, unless otherwise designated by the Trail Boss. Only riders assisting the wagons are allowed alongside the teams.
16. When riding along the roads, the grass right-of -way is the designated trail. Do not ride on the pavement unless obstacles dictate or as directed by the Trail Boss. Do not cross to the other side of the road unless supervised by the Trail Boss or Outrider.
17. The FCTA will provide water for horses in camp and on the trail. **DO NOT** crowd wagons at watering sites. Wagon horses are to drink first. For safety, stay mounted when watering your horse. Do not mount or dismount or tie your horse to the horse wagons, pick-up wagon, port-a-potty wagon, water wagons, or logo wagons. The FCTA does not provide water for human consumption or bathing or showering purposes.
18. Glass containers are prohibited on the trail. **DO NOT** dispose of your garbage on the trail, in campsite or at the water breaks. Dispose of trash in the appropriate receptacles. Do not take your trash to the Caterer. There will be dumpsters provided along the trail at designated night camps.
19. Consumption of alcohol during ride hours is prohibited. Refrain from excessive use of alcohol at camp. Public intoxication will **NOT** be tolerated.
20. No unnecessary running past other riders.
21. Refrain from riding close to pasture fences, where livestock is kept, especially loose horses. **NO** running through pastures or land on the way into campsites where there are or might be pastured cattle or horses. **DO NOT CHASE LANDOWNER'S LIVESTOCK.**
22. Stay off people's lawn and out of citrus groves. Do not pick fruit or vegetation along the trail.
23. If you or your horse has a problem, notify the Trail Boss or an Outrider. Drop to the rear if you need to load on the pick-up wagon. Horses showing undue stress will be pulled from the ride. The pick-up trailer is for the relief of the distressed animals and riders only, and it must be made available for true emergencies and distress situations.
24. All horses must have bridles, reins, and saddles while on the trail. No riding in a halter, no double-riding, no pony-ing of un-ridden horses, no bareback riding on the trail, and no stallions allowed.
25. All riders must be dressed appropriately for riding. Authentic clothing is encouraged. No sneakers, sandals or bare feet, no bathing suits or inappropriate apparel, (shorts, flip flops, etc.), or clothing with inappropriate or offensive language on the trail.
26. No dumping of holding tanks (grey or black) in camp or anywhere on the trail. Please find & use legal dump stations.
27. Horses known to kick, or horses that begin kicking on the trail, must wear a red tail ribbon at all times.
28. Quiet time is designated as 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. No unnecessary loudness or activity at this time. No generators running in quiet time, except in the vicinity of cook wagons. While in camp, be courteous to your neighbors and fellow campers.
29. All pets must be confined to the owner's camp site. No pets allowed on the trail, lunch or water breaks, or in food areas. Be a responsible pet owner. In camp, dogs must be kept on a leash.
30. No equine that stands less than forty-two inches (42") at the withers will be allowed to participate in the Annual Cross State Ride.





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## WHAT TO BRING

(Read the President's Welcome Letter for More Information)

Whether you are familiar with camping with your horse or not, here are some suggestions of what to bring on Florida's Cross State Ride.

### Horse's Needs:

*(Don't forget your Coggins)* Come totally self-contained - with everything you might possibly need.

1. Recommend horses be shod one week in advance; on the front feet at least if riding for the whole week. Some people shoe all the way around.
2. To secure your horse you will need one of the following: Picket line, ground stake, temporary electric fence, or panels-tied to your trailer or a tree, if a tree is available.
3. Saddle or cante bags, gall salve, medical supplies of all types including bute, Banamine and electrolytes. Tack repair supplies, extra lead ropes, halter, tack, blankets, buckets for feed and water, fly spray, hay (more than you think you will need) and feed. Consider checking with your horses vet for any recommendations as well.
4. A water truck will fill troughs at every campsite, at breaks and at the lunch stop. Potable water is not available on the ride.

### People's Needs:

1. Rain slicker, sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses, hat, jackets, light and heavy, and gloves.
2. Medical kit, flashlight, lantern, folding chairs, drinking water, ice, snacks, wet wipes, hose.
3. Sleeping arrangements: tent, truck, trailer, or motor home. Motels are few and far between and in every case a significant drive.
4. Porta-potties, snacks and a caterer follow the ride to every break and lunch. You will need to provide your own drinking water. Potable water is not available.
5. Showers are available off-site at Peace River/Zolfo Springs, Hickory Hammock and in Fort Pierce camps. (Ask for directions from ride staff)

February in Florida is unpredictable so pack accordingly