

Eileen Kirsch

After an ankle injury forced retirement from doing triathlons, I followed through on a long time dream of owning a horse and bought my 1st horse, Scooter, in 2003. I started doing competitive and LD rides that year and in 2005 moved up to 50's and completed a 100. I bought my second horse, Nova, in 2009 after recovering from hip surgery (not horse related!!!) and have been competing her in LD.

The knowledge I've gained, people I've met and friends I've made, as well as the relationships I've developed with my horses have hooked me for life to the sport of endurance riding!

Success in endurance riding, whether it means finishing rides, or placing or getting Best Condition, hinges to a large degree on good care and careful planning that takes place at home. At rides I still camp the old fashioned way. I've learned and developed some very useful approaches to organizing camp and caring for my horses. I enjoy the mental focus that endurance riding requires out on the trail, in the vet holds....and all ride weekend long. And I truly enjoy conditioning and training my horses. I practice and study dressage and natural horsemanship to develop my riding and horsemanship skills, and my horses' citizenship and athleticism.

I was mentored by Bonnie Mielke, Sarah Maass, and Bettina Koehn and I enjoy helping others new to the sport.