

Gentle Use Program **for the Rendezvous**

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GENTLE USE PROGRAM
for the RENDEZVOUS

I. GOALS:

The Gentle Use Program at the Rendezvous will provide educational opportunities for participants to gain knowledge in how to use stock in the backcountry and practice responsible wildland ethics. This program is intended to help participants develop a sense of stewardship and pride toward their behavior while visiting the backcountry.

Participants will:

- Learn why Gentle Use concepts are important, and how to use them; and
- Pick up new and/or refresh skills.

The State Education Committee will strive to ensure continuity, consistency, and integrity in the Gentle Use Program at each year's Rendezvous.

II. ORGANIZATION:

A. State Education Committee

1. *Education Rendezvous Liaison*

The designated "Education Rendezvous Liaison" will coordinate with the Rendezvous Committee and the State Education Chair in reviewing the programs for each year's Rendezvous.

Rationale:

- The State Education Committee needs to continually better our educational efforts, and we want to provide continuity in our education programs.
- The Education Rendezvous Liaison will help implement the educational goals for the programs, and will provide the framework and sideboards for the point system for each year's Rendezvous committee.

Purpose:

This position will have a two-fold purpose:

- a. To work with the local unit(s) in charge of the seminars at the State Rendezvous helping to ensure a well-rounded program of Gentle Use educational seminars are presented.
- b. To provide information and serve as a resource to the Rendezvous Chair.

Selection:

Application forms will be available at the Rendezvous and should be returned by May 1st. Selection will be made by the State Education Chair for a recommended 3 year term. (An application form is included).

Responsibilities:

- Contact the Rendezvous Committee as soon as possible to ensure they have someone designated as the "Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator."
- Work with the Gentle Use Coordinator to provide assistance in developing the schedule of programs, seminars, and clinics for the next Rendezvous.
- Ensure a report and article is submitted to the State's newsletter about the Gentle Use Programs.

2. *Gentle Use Database Coordinator*

Purpose:

- Maintain a database of participants in the Gentle Use Pin Program. Keep records of the points participants' have accumulated. Include their name, address, phone number, and unit affiliation.
- Maintain a database of qualifying sessions (ie: clinics, seminars, presentations, etc). Include date presented, location, name of presenter, and number of points assigned.
- Maintain a supply of green and silver pins.

Selection:

Application forms will be available at the Rendezvous and should be returned by May 1st. Selection will be made by the State Education Chair for a recommended 3 year term. (An application form is included).

Responsibilities:

- Provide a list of seminar topics and categories that have qualified as "Gentle Use" sessions at previous years Rendezvous to the current Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator.
- Provide the current Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator with an updated list of participants and their assigned points. The list should be provided one month prior to the Rendezvous.
- Provide the Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator with a supply of green and silver pins.
- Collect the documentation of names and points accumulated at the Rendezvous, as well as the qualifying sessions.
- Mail pins to qualified participants who did not receive them at the Rendezvous.

B. Rendezvous Committee

1. Gentle Use Coordinator

Purpose:

To work closely with the State Education Steering Committee, the Education Rendezvous Liaison, and the hosting unit(s) in the selection of the programs, seminars and clinics for the Gentle Use Program at the Rendezvous.

Selection:

The unit(s) hosting the Rendezvous, or the Rendezvous Chairman, should designate an individual for this position. Preferably this selection will be made one year prior to the next Rendezvous.

Responsibilities:

Work with the Education Rendezvous Liaison to complete the following:

- Review the standards and framework of the Gentle Use program.
- Identify and select the categories needed to ensure the Gentle Use Program is well rounded and complete from year to year.
- Provide for enough Gentle Use seminars, clinics and programs to ensure that a minimum of 50 points can be earned.
- Mail the "Speakers' Qualification Form" to all presenters who wish to have their seminars included as Gentle Use programs. (Sample included).
- Evaluate responses and determine if seminars qualify under the Gentle Use categories.
- Follow-up notification to all who have submitted requests.
- Notify the individual responsible for printing the program which seminars qualify as Gentle Use Programs. This is necessary as the program needs to identify those that qualify for points.
 - a. Ensure that an explanation of the Gentle Use Program is printed in the Rendezvous Program to help participants understand how the program works. (Sample text included).
 - b. Have Gentle Use Program point cards printed for the Rendezvous. (Sample included).
 - c. Ensure cards are distributed to everyone attending. They should be included in all registration packets, at the State Booth, at the Registration Office, and at each of the seminars.
 - d. Inform presenters of how the cards work, and how to correctly document the points earned.
 - e. Arrange for the State Booth to collect the cards and distribute pins to those who qualify at the Rendezvous. Provide the Booth with copies of an updated point list, the procedures for verification, the procedures for the program presenters, and any other information pertaining to the Gentle Use Program.

- f. Ensure the cards and participant lists are returned to the Gentle Use Database Coordinator.
- g. Review and evaluate the program for improvements and changes.

III. GENTLE USE PIN PROGRAM

A. **General Overview**

At each year's Rendezvous, there are a series of seminars that qualify for the Gentle Use Program. Points are assigned to each of the sessions, which can be accumulated to earn awards. Ten points per seminar is recommended for fairness and simplicity. Participants who earn 50 points are entitled to a Green Pin, and those who earn 100 points are entitled to a sterling silver pin. Points may also be earned at other events and clinics throughout the year.

The Education Rendezvous Liaison will assist the Rendezvous committee with the mechanics of the Gentle Use Pin/Point Program. This includes the following elements:

- categories
- seminar qualification
- values (points)
- cards
- program identification of qualifying seminars (getting the main program for the Rendezvous to clearly identify which seminars qualify for points)
- pick/up distribution of cards (how to, where, etc...)
- marked (how to, who does, etc...)
- instructions to presenters
- instructions to participants (registration packets & on the cards)
- turn in / tally
- pin distribution (getting them from the main keeper of the pins to the State Booth)

B. **Seminar Qualification**

The Education Rendezvous Liaison will work with the Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator to request that all Gentle Use Programs to be presented have an outline of the presentation submitted, a general overview of the topic, and some background on the speakers' knowledge, skills and abilities. A simple form will be sent to each speaker or presenter to gather this information. A sample questionnaire is included to assist in this task. It may be modified to include additional information that may be important for planning and/or logistics. This information will then help to determine if the course qualifies for the Gentle Use Program, and which category the course falls into. The Liaison will coordinate with the Rendezvous Committee and the State Education Chair to ensure that the Gentle Use Courses are appropriate for points. Seminars with sales promotions, contests, and un-staffed demonstrations will not qualify for the Gentle Use Program.

C. Seminar Categories

A minimum of five categories will be covered each year. The selection of categories chosen each year must take into consideration the categories chosen in the previous year to ensure a well rounded and complete opportunity for program participants.

- A suggestion for selection of categories is to select those with an even number for even years, and those with odd numbers for the odd years. The category of "Plan and Prepare", which is indicated by a "0," should be offered every year as it is the base for all of the categories. See Attached List of Categories and Examples of Qualifying Topics.

D. Point System

To qualify for the assigned number of points (10), a seminar should cover a single category for at least 45 minutes. The category may include a variety of topics, but they should relate or pertain to the main category.

1. Points Needed for Pins:

- ◆ For a Green pin, a minimum of 50 points are required.
- ◆ For a Silver pin, a minimum of 100 points are required.

2. Mechanics of Tracking Points Earned at the Rendezvous

The Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator is responsible for the printing and distribution of the point cards, and to ensure the Official Rendezvous Program has information included about the Gentle Use Seminars. A sample point card is included.

The Database Coordinator will provide a current list of program participants no less than 30 days prior to the Rendezvous.

The State Booth will be the collection point for cards and for the distribution of pins. A sample form is included to help track the points earned at the Rendezvous.

IV. PROGRAM REVIEW AND EVALUATION:

To protect the integrity and consistency of the Gentle Use program, the State Education Committee Chair, the Education Rendezvous Liaison and the Rendezvous Gentle Use Coordinator will want to visit and attend as many of the seminars as possible throughout the Rendezvous to evaluate the quality of the presentations and program content. A complete report of the overall Gentle Use Program at the Rendezvous should be prepared.

Suggestions for reporting may include:

- An article for the State Newsletter with information on the number of participants, the number of pins awarded, and any noteworthy accomplishments or sessions.

The Data Base Coordinator should receive a summary with the following:

- A list of the seminars and speakers.
- The categories the seminars were listed under.
- The number of cards printed, and the number actually submitted.
- The number of green and silver pins awarded.
- A completed Participants Log Sheet

APPLICATION FOR
Education Rendezvous Liaison

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

UNIT: _____

Knowledge of, and experience with the *Gentle Use Program*

- ◆ List and describe participation and/or attendance at:
 - Rendezvous,
 - Seminars,
 - Clinics,
 - The Gentle Use Program,
 - Wilderness Rider Course,
 - Masters Training, or
 - Other Educational Programs.

Describe Organizational Skills. List examples.

Describe Communication Skills. List Examples.

Describe Interest in this position.

APPLICATION FOR
Gentle Use Database Coordinator

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

UNIT: _____

1. Describe Computer and Organizational Skills for Ability to Manage a Database.
2. Describe Interest in this position.
3. Describe Familiarity with the *Gentle Use Program*.
 - ◆ Describe participation and/or attendance at:
 - Rendezvous,
 - Seminars,
 - Clinics,
 - The Gentle Use Program,
 - Wilderness Rider Course,
 - Masters Training, or
 - Other Educational Programs.

Categories	Examples of Qualifying Topics
#0. Gentle Users Plan and Prepare	Permits and Regulations Selection of Destination Stock Preparation Equipment needed - check lists First-aid and emergencies Orienteering
#1. Gentle With Other Users	Gentle Manners Gentle on the Eyes and Ears Understanding Other Viewpoints Perceptions of Stock Use
#2. Gentle on the Trail	Trailhead Manners Trail Encounters and the Right of Way Travelling Techniques
#3. Gentle with Waste Materials	Repackaging of Foods - Dry Refuse Food Scraps - Wet Refuse Grey Water Latrines, Cat Holes and Difficult Materials Trash / Garbage
#4. Gentle Stock Management	Stock Restraint Control in Different Situations Feeding Practices
#5. Gentle Stock Care	Shoeing Veterinary Care Selection of Appropriate Equipment Knots and Hitches
#6. Gentle Use of Campsites	Selection of Location Hardened vs. Pristine Campfires (types of fuels, fires, & clean-up) Camp Organization Camp Clean-up
#7. Gentle Concepts	The Wilderness Act and its Implications Backcountry Philosophy (Solitude and what Wilderness means to you) Leave What You Find (Cultural artifacts, wildflowers)
#8. Gentle with Plants and Animals	Camping with Bears, Mountain Lions and other critters Impacts on Plants and Herbage Impacts on Fish Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Sample speakers qualification form

Back Country Horsemen of California

RENDEZVOUS & SYMPOSIUM

RENDEZVOUS LOCATION: _____

DATE: _____

Attention all program and seminar presenters please fill out the following speaker's form and return to: _____

Presentations are expected to be a minimum of 45 minutes in length. Handouts are appreciated and preferred. If available prior to _____, they will be included in a symposium colloquy.

When available please mail to the above address no later than: _____

Title of Presentation: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ e-mail: _____

Will presentation be indoors _____ outdoors _____ no preference _____ Estimated time _____

Will written handouts be available _____ Yes _____ No _____ Uncertain

Will you be bringing live animals yes/no _____ or will you need one provided yes/ no

Presentations requiring audio and/or visual aides will require special scheduling. Please list below any audio/visual aides that you will need, (i.e. microphones, projector, pointer, props, etc.) _____

About the Gentle Use Program

Every year at the Rendezvous, a Gentle Use Program is administered. If the Gentle Use Chairman believes your seminar will qualify for one or more of the Gentle Use Program Categories, your seminar will be selected to be a participant of this program. Participants will choose the seminars they are interested in, and attend them. After each of the seminars, they will need to get their cards signed by speakers or presenters. Cards will be dropped at the State's Information Booth. Points will be verified, totaled, and awards will be given or mailed to those who qualify.

Qualification of your seminar for the Gentle Use Program is based on whether each seminar or presentation will discuss a principal of "Gentle Use", "Minimum Impact", "Leave No Trace" etc. Topics which teach "traditional skills" relating to these principals will be considered also. If you believe your presentation will discuss one of these principals please mention it in your description below.

Please write a short description, list the key points you will cover, and/or an outline of your presentation for qualification and documentation of the Gentle Use Program (if applicable). A biographical sketch of you is also needed for the program book. _____

Sample Text for the Official Rendezvous Program

GENTLE USE PROGRAM

Welcome to the Backcountry Horsemen of California's 2000 Rendezvous!

Develop a sense of stewardship and pride toward today's backcountry by attending the seminars which have qualified for the "*Gentle Use Program.*" Come to the *Gentle Use Program* seminars with an open mind and view the information as guidelines. Take an honest look at your skills and practices and see if you can improve them!

When you arrive at the Rendezvous, you will find a *Gentle Use Program* card in your registration packet. This card will list the seminars that qualify for *Gentle Use Program* points. Choose the seminars you are interest in and attend. After each seminar, be sure to have your card signed or stamped. Before leaving the Rendezvous, stop by the State Information Booth and leave your card. Your points will be totaled, and awards will be given to those who qualify as follows:

- ◆ Green Pin: 50 Points
- ◆ Sterling Silver Pin: 100 points

Points may be carried over from year to year, so you can accumulate them over time.

Seminars that qualify for the *Gentle Use Program* are identified with an asterisk.

Hope to see you there!



Gentle User Points

Gentle User Program

1998 Rendezvous

Presented by

Backcountry Horsemen of California

Card must be stamped or initialed by the presenter or a Rendezvous Committee member for each workshop. Please total points and present to the state booth when completed for recording. Points are cumulative and may be added to points already earned at past events or used at future events. Points earned are towards required points for an award.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Unit/Affiliation _____

Total Points earned 1998 Rendezvous _____

Previous Points..... _____

Total earned to date _____

Award Presented _____

for _____ 50 points
(green pin), and 100
points for Gentle Use (silver pin)

- How to Plan and Prepare to Be a Gentle User..... (10 Points)
Fri. 12:00 PM - Desert Hall
Sat. 4:00 PM - Jaqua Arena

- Gentle Ways on the Trail(10 Points)
Fri. 3:00 PM - Desert Hall
Sat. 5:00 PM - Jaqua Arena

- Gentle User and Campsites(10 Points)
Sat. 10:30 AM - Desert Hall
Sun, 9:00 AM - Desert Hall

- Gentle Stock Control(10 Points)
Sat. 4:00 PM- Desert Hall
Sun. 11:00 AM - Desert Hall

- Gentle with Fires (10 Points)
Sat. 5:00 PM - Desert Hall

TOTAL POINTS:

Enter total points here and on reverse.

Backcountry Horsemen of California advocates and supports the following Good Manners and Practices

Practice Minimum Impact Camping - help maintain our image as responsible users. A good Backcountry horseman is a GENTLE USER.

• Offer Assistance to backcountry users when a need is encountered. Practice good manners and back country etiquette.

• Pack Out Your Trash: Burn only paper and wood, pack out the rest. Plastic and foil do not burn well, and it is best to pack it out. If you come upon a dirty camp, clean it up and pack out what you can.

• Do not Tie to Trees: except when packing up or unpacking. Use a picket line placed between two trees and over bare mineral soil.

Gentle Use Program
"Points for Pins"

Procedures for Gentle Use Program Presenters

Your seminar has qualified to be included in this year's *Gentle Use Program*.
Thank you for your time and effort. It is greatly appreciated!

As a presenter, you will be asked to stamp cards so participants can verify their attendance at your seminar. Please observe the following procedures:

1. Please stamp the cards at the **END** of each seminar.
2. Only presenters and/or any Rendezvous Committee Members may stamp cards.
3. If your seminar runs more than one time, please stamp the correct time, also. (This will be a BIG help in verifying the points).

Again, Thank you for your time and help with this important program.

Rendezvous Gentle Use Program Coordinator