



## WHY?

The Saddle Mule excels in giving its riders a pleasurable, enjoyable ride on the trail. An exceptionally safe and dependable mount, the Saddle Mule has proven to be the ideal companion to those riders who enjoy the challenge of the great outdoors and the trail. Whether it's in the mountains, on the beach or in the desert, most mule owners have found that the Saddle Mule's endurance and hybrid vigor makes it the animal of choice for riding and driving.

With 95% of the Saddle Mules participating in this endeavor, **NASMA** would like to recognize those member riders and their mules who engage in trail riding and driving as their major leisure time activity. Designed to reward the hours spent in the saddle or in a driving vehicle, this program is devised for those individuals who promote the mule to the public as the best and most reliable of trail animals.

**NASMA** believes this recreational activity is just as important as contests and events are in educating the public about the benefits of Saddle Mule ownership. Whether you are involved in recreational, endurance or competitive trail riding and driving, **NASMA** would like to recognize your pastime with an awards program to acknowledge your contribution in bringing the Saddle Mule to the forefront as the new equine of choice in the 21st. century.

## HOW?

The program is simple. When you enroll in the Versatility Trail Program you will receive the official **NASMA VTP** log sheet on which you keep track of the hours you spend riding or driving a Saddle Mule. You set your own pace and there is no time limit for completion of any level of participation.

**NASMA** would challenge you to do your *personal best* not to compete with other riders. Participants must, however, submit log sheets at least once a year for **NASMA** to be able to update and keep accurate records.

Once an award level is reached, members send in their log sheets to have them verified. A period of one month will be required for verification of accrued hours and presentation of awards. Members will be on the honor system.

To help members set their goals and reach them, **NASMA** will recognize member's achievements for each milestone they accomplish beginning with 50 hours. The participant may then progress to 100, 250, 500, 750, 1,000, 1250, 1500, 1750, and 2,000 hours. At each level, members' achievements with a photo will be published on the official **NASMA** website [www.nasma.net](http://www.nasma.net) and/or *Mules and More Magazine*.

The **VTP** is designed not to be a competitive event. Rather it is established to promote social and family recreation centered around the Saddle Mule and its role as a family animal.

**Happy Trails!**  
&  
**Visit at Our **NASMA** Website**  
[www.nasma.net](http://www.nasma.net)

## VTP ACTIVITIES

The first annual **NASMA** National Rides were held in the spring of 1996. Nine rides were hosted in every zone across the country. In 1997 over 450 participants enjoyed eleven rides from April to August. Due to the success of this program, the National Rides will be continued to be held. If you would be interested in hosting a trail ride, contact VTP Chairman at [vtp@nasma.net](mailto:vtp@nasma.net).

## SIGNING UP

Signing up for the **NASMA VTP** is easy. Simply fill out and return the attached form, along with your enrollment fee. We'll send you everything you need. You'll receive your log sheets and your official certificate of participation award.



## OFFICIAL RULES

- To enroll in the VTP, you must be a member of **NASMA**. You must remain an active member for the duration of time in which you are trying to record hours toward a recognition level.
- You must pay a one-time enrollment fee of \$20 per rider.
- You must ride or drive a mule/hinny/donkey.
- You do not have to own the mule/hinny.
- You must keep an accurate record of the time (one hour for each hour actually spent riding or driving) in your official **NASMA VTP** log. \*
- Endurance riders may compute their miles at 4 miles per hour (4:1 ratio).
- **NASMA VTP** offers bonus hours to members who log time on a national trail, as recognized by the Canadian or U.S. National Parks Service (state or provincial parks are not included.) For every hour you spending riding or driving on a trail in a U.S. or Canadian National Park, you may earn double hours. In other words, if you spend one hour riding or driving in a national park, you may log two hours for your time.
- You may record time for any activity other than showing in which you participate in leisure riding or driving on the trail or participation in endurance and/or competitive trials.
- **NASMA VTP** will recognize your riding or driving participation with an official **NASMA VTP** award and a certificate of participation at enrollment time. Achievements will then be recognized at 50, 100, 250, 500, 750, and 1000, 1250, 1500, 1750, and 2,000 hours. There is no time limit during which you must achieve these hours, however, you must maintain your membership in **NASMA**.



## JUST A FEW OF OUR ACHIEVERS

**Bob Davis, CA 1000 Hrs**  
**Cole Basham 100 Hrs**  
**Cyla Allison 1000 Hrs**  
**Donald Humphries 50 Hrs & 100 Hrs**  
**Kameron Worley 250 Hrs**  
**Marquerite Sloan 250 Hrs**  
**Mary Hurley 50 Hrs**  
**Connie Melton 500 & 750 Hrs**  
**Hannah Holland 50 Hrs**  
**Sheri Dugan 50 Hrs**

\*Recently, VTP went live for submitting your hours online at [www.nasma.net](http://www.nasma.net), all you need is a member login & password which can be obtained through the member area of the **NASMA** website. Once you have that information, just login and simply follow the instructions. You can submit and track your hours online.

## ENROLLMENT

(You may also enroll online with PayPal @ [www.nasma.net](http://www.nasma.net))

Yes, please enroll me in the **NASMA** Versatility Trail Program. ( I am currently a member of **NASMA**. )

Please enroll me in **NASMA** as well as the Versatility Trail Program

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

NASMA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Versatility Trail Program  
*One time enrollment fee.....\$20*

Membership in **NASMA**  
*Annual fee.....\$20*

Membership in **NASMA YOUTH.....\$10**

**Total**  
 VTP and/or **NASMA** membership.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**