

2022 Senior Butt Rally
Friday, September 23, 2022
Day 6

The Chickens Come Home to Roost:

After suffering three DNF teams out of the total of 20 starters, all 17 remaining teams made it to the Finish by 4:00pm today. Like chickens coming home to roost, the riders seemed more than ready to put the rally in the books and get some rest. Warmer than expected temperatures and endless road construction contributed to a frustration level that wears on even the most senior riders. And for the junior teams, it's a time for learning and grooming new rally skills under true rally conditions. Riders can practice armchair rallying all they desire in the comfort of their homes. But putting those plans to work in the real world environment is a different animal.

Tomorrow night at the Finisher Banquet, or the Big As Texas Party as it is formally known, over 160 Iron Butt Association members will share the accomplishments these riders have earned over the last six days. This afternoon the 17 finishing teams assembled all their photo bonus records, receipts and other scoring items and made their way into the scoring room to plead their collective cases with the scorers and the Rallymaster. Some were disappointed to learn they had may a few mistakes they were unaware of.

There are many things that can cost you points at the scorer's table, faulty receipts and incorrect bonus documentation photos being just a couple. In this group most failures are taken with grace and an acknowledgment of the learning that comes from it. Future efforts in the big dance, the Iron Butt Rally, are upcoming for some of the riders. Lessons learned and points lost at the table in the SBR/JBR are not nearly as painful as those in the IBR. We'll see next year if those lessons carried over to the IBR. Tomorrow those same future IBR riders will be meeting with IBR Routemaster Jeff Earls. Hopefully they will have some intelligent questions for him from their experience.

The IBA's Big As Texas Party will take on a different flavor by noon-ish tomorrow. All the riders completing the Bonnie & Clyde SaddleSore 1000 and the Songs of Texas Bun Burner Gold, will be back at the hotel and their rides checked for completeness. At the afternoon happy hour the newly minted ride certificates for those folks, the riders in the Ride Around Texas, and those who completed ride-in certification rides to get here, will all be awarded. The fun moves shortly afterward to the large ballroom in the hotel where the IBA is front and center for the night.

Yours truly, acting both as scribe and Rallymaster, will be through auditing the results of the SBR/JBR to insure we have accurate scores and the placement of the teams in the correct finishing order. Some of the SBR Finishers may earn new SBR, three digit numbers, not to be confused with the IBA's three digit number bestowed upon IBR Finishers. One particular rider will be happy to get that accomplishment behind him. Paul Meyer, who teamed this year with IBR vet and three digit SBR number holder Peter Green, appears to have well enough points to hold up under audit to reach the Finisher level. After missing out on the honor in the past two SBR's he should be able to join a somewhat exclusive club.

We'll also crown the first ever Chicken Challenge team winners. The two ten team member teams (confusing, right?) will be awarded their chicken medals and chicken trophies before the individual team

Finisher and 1st, 2nd and 3rd places awards are given out in each division. And preceding that we will be hearing from the great and legendary, Dean Tanji. I spoke with him at the group no-host happy hour and dinner tonight and I can promise you it will be a great time. We like to have fun with our final banquet and this year is going to be a good one. By the end of the night everyone will be wanting to know how we can top that next year. I'm wondering that myself. But with this great volunteer team I know it will happen.

It's a short night for the scribe so I can get to my audit work and finalize all the stats we'll cover at the banquet. As usual, once our winners are announced the phones will be posting on social media, such as our Facebook page for the Senior Butt Rally and other motorcycle related sites. Therefore, there will be no report tomorrow night and not another until the Epilog is posted with a full recap of the rallies and the events of the week. As is tradition, I will leave you with more pics from the rally.

If you are interested in joining the fun next year, please watch our FB page and join the IBA's Premier Members group so you get the first shot at signing up for the events. Space is always limited so get in early and join the fun. Until the Epilog, ride safe. See you down the road.



