



EggSanity 1000 GOLD!!!

Over the years, Karen and I have coordinated several Iron Butt events for the MTF (Motorcycle Tourer's Forum). We really appreciated all the support that we received during those events. This year, a good friend of ours, Robert Rehkopf (SeabeeCapt), was coordinating the MTF's Southeast Regional Ride out of Cordova (Memphis), TN. It was our turn to support this ride!

As coordinator, Robert does all the leg work. He creates the rides/routes and gets them pre-approved by the IBA (Iron Butt Association) through the MTF/IBA Liaison. Robert writes-up specific criteria such as required pictures or receipts to collect along the route. These pictures and receipts document

proof that you actually rode the route and acquired the miles within the 24 hour time-limit.

After the ride, Robert will submit all of the documentation to the MTF, who will forward to the IBA for final approval and certification. The whole process will be expedited and certificates sent out by the IBA due to the unique relationship with the MTF.

Robert had 3 routes for us to choose from: Rally 1000, EggSanity 1000 Gold or the Play Ball 1500 BBG (Bun Burner Gold). Even though we have completed 2 EggSanity 1000s, we thought we would do it again. Only this time it would be considered a "Gold" ride!

EggSanity Requirements

EGGSANITY 1000 – For Egg Lovers (Vegans need not apply).

This ride celebrates the long-distance rider's favorite short order grills in classic Waffle House® style and requires you to enjoy an egg dish at each stop.

The EggSanity 1000 has many different levels of difficulty... your route must be pre-approved and must include the following:

At least one Waffle House AND one Huddle House® (rare exceptions may apply)

Other Waffle House style chains that are eligible: Royal Waffle King®, Omelet Shoppe® (only a few remain - maybe 3...)

Abbreviations: WH = Waffle House, HH = Huddle House, OS = Omelet Shoppe, RW = Royal Waffle King

ALL rides must start and end at an approved chain with a stop for lunch mid-way in the ride (we will give you wide latitude to make your route work).

EggSanity 1000 - Eat at 2 of the 4 chains, for example WH - HH - WH

EggSanity 1000 SILVER - Eat at 3 of the 4 chains, for example, WH, HH, OS

EggSanity 1000 GOLD - Eat at 4 of the 4 chains, for example, WH, HH, OS and RW

As with most MTF rides, a pre-ride dinner usually happens the night before. This dinner was at Gus's Chicken near the Wolfe Chase Mall. This gives the riders and volunteers a chance to meet and get acquainted prior to the event the following day and work out any last minute details or questions.



Pre-Ride Dinner

Since the ride would start the next morning between 4:00 and 5:00 am, Karen and I decided to reserve a hotel room nearby the start location, Waffle House.



Cordova, TN - WH

We were up bright and early! At the Waffle House, Robert verified the odometer on our Gold Wing. We ordered our eggs, got the mandatory picture with our flag, ate, and then collected our DBR (Dated Business

Receipt). The DBR would be our official start time for this ride 4:41 am, 5/18/19, Cordova, TN. We are now "on the clock"!

Our first stop was to get a mandatory DBR in Dickson, TN. Attention to detail and reading comprehension are an important part of these type challenge rides (as you will learn later in this report). The directions tell us to get a DBR at the Exxon Station located at 2332 Hwy 46 S, Dickson, TN. Funny thing is that we don't see an Exxon Station anywhere! As a matter of fact, a Citgo Station was at 2332 Hwy 46. And, it was closed! Well, the gas pumps worked, so I filled up. But, no receipt was available! \$&#@! Maybe the Ride Coordinator missed some details here! In this case when there's an issue with a specific location, you are supposed to get a DBR nearby. Ah! A Shell station right across the street gave us a valid DBR! Back on the road!



Exxon? Citgo? No DBR!

The next stop is to get a DBR in Murfreesboro, TN. This would mark our route around Nashville on I-840. From here, we headed to Ft.

Payne, AL for our next egg meal at the Royal Waffle King. Its 10:00 am, over 5 hours since out last meal.



Ft. Payne, AL - RW

So far, the weather has been great! It is starting to warm up a little bit, but still very comfortable! We order eggs, take the mandatory picture with our flag, eat and get a DBR! Next stop, the Omelet Shoppe in Sumiton, AL.



Ft. Payne, AL - RW

On the way to the next stop, we ride through Birmingham where there is major road construction going on! The GPS doesn't understand why I won't turn when it tells me too! We have to get off the interstate and ride through downtown Birmingham to bypass the construction. Finally, we are back on the right roads and the GPS is happy! We finally make it to

the Omelet Shoppe around 11:30 am.



Sumiton, AL - OS

The waitress here was expecting us since Robert had been here a week ago as part of his pre-ride verification! Well, what would you order at the Omelet Shoppe, but an omelet of course! Our food was served fast! We take our mandatory picture with flag, eat and collect a DBR! We're outta here! Next stop, the Huddle House in Laurel, MS.



Sumiton, AL - OS

It's a beautiful day for riding! The sun is shining! The temperature is great! We've ridden some scenic

areas near Chattanooga down to Birmingham. Life is good!

Now, we have to back track to Birmingham to get on I-65 south. No problems with road construction this time. Everything is going great! We arrive at the Huddle House in Laurel about 4:00 pm. Same routine: order an egg meal, take mandatory picture with flag, eat and then collect a DBR.



Laurel, MS - HH

So far, we've ridden over 700 miles according to our odometer. I see it's about 350 miles back to the Waffle House in Cordova, our finish location. So, I route the GPS straight to the Cordova Waffle House. As we leave, the GPS wants us to head toward Jackson, MS. I think to myself, why would I want to mess with Jackson when we can go directly up Hwy 45 to Tupelo and take Hwy 78 back. That sounds like the best route for us!

Well, remember that reading comprehension and attention to detail thing that I mentioned early in this report? The directive was to leave the Laurel, MS Huddle House and then go to Brookhaven, MS for a DBR. This would ensure you take

I-55 up to Memphis to get the minimum 1,000 miles. The IBA does not accept odometer readings as proof since almost all makes and model motorcycle odometers are not accurate. Typically, they are up to 5% off accurate readings. The IBA uses Google Maps or similar mapping program as the standard when verifying the official miles travelled.



Laurel, MS - HH

Back to Mark & Karen on the road heading up to Hwy 45 north! Mark & Karen are in the zone! They are headed down the road enjoying the ride! Not a care in the world! About a 100 miles from their last stop in Laurel, Mark remembers that he should be returning on I-55. He remembers that he did not read the directions as to where to go after the Laurel Huddle House. He remembers assuming all stops were complete. Mark has a bad feeling! So, he stops and calls Robert!

In the meantime, Robert has been watching Mark & Karen on the internet! The satellite tracking system on their bike shows they are off-track! So, Robert calls our emergency contact, Derek. Our son

is in California and has no idea that we are out on a motorcycle ride! Derek has no idea that he is our emergency contact! So, Robert and Derek have a good conversation, and Robert assured him that we are okay, we were still moving, just off course.

As Mark gets ahold of Robert on the phone, Mark confesses that he didn't follow protocol and missed the last DBR stop. Robert was relieved to hear that all is well! No problem! Just continue on, we'll work it out when you arrive in Cordova.



Cordova, TN - WH

Back on the road again! The weather has been perfect until we are within 10 miles of Cordova, then the wind starts gusting hard! 5 miles from the Waffle House, the rain starts and then turns into a torrential downpour! We finally make it to the Waffle House! Our odometer shows that we rode 1,056 miles. That should be more than enough miles. WRONG!!! Robert meets us at the door of the Waffle House (inside the nice dry, warm Waffle House). He says Google Maps only shows our route at 994 miles! We're short 6 miles! But, with your extra receipts

through Tupelo, hopefully your route will be okay! So, we go ahead and complete the routine at the Cordova Waffle House: order an egg meal, take mandatory picture with flag, eat and then collect a DBR. The DBR has an official end time of 9:39 pm. Two minutes short of 17 hours! Very good time! But, we are still bummed. This could very well be considered a dreaded DNF (Did Not Finish)! So, we head home with the intention of sending Robert our extra receipts from Tupelo so he can run the route again on Google Maps for verification.



Hernando, MS - WH

The ride home in the rain is quiet. It had been a great ride, but now the rain and questionable lack of miles had burst our bubble. I was thinking "How can we make this right?" We still had plenty of time left on the clock! Seven hours to be exact! Hey! We're making up miles now as we ride home! It's over 40 miles home! And, if we get another Waffle House receipt in Hernando, we could meet the end requirement according to the EggSanity guidelines! So, that's what we decided to do! We rode home in the hard rain and stopped at the local Waffle House in Hernando for one more egg meal!

We were soaking wet as we walk in the Waffle House. Again, we go through the same routine that we had done 5 times today: Order eggs, take a mandatory picture with the flag, eat and then collect a DBR. Now, if there are any question at all about our mileage, this DBR would verify more than enough miles for the 1,000 miles within the 24 hour time-limit. The Hernando Waffle House DBR shows an official end time of 11:02 pm or 18 hours, 21 minutes. Google maps shows 1,048 miles with the addition of riding back to Hernando.



Official DBR - 11:02 pm

We met the EggSanity Gold requirements with a few "eggstra" restaurant stops:

WH-RW-OS-HH-WH-WH.

EggSanities are a fun and challenging!!! We had a great time. It was another memorable Iron Butt ride with Karen. She is one tough egg! ☺