

Corinne Merten

- Hometown: Hartland, WI
 - Agency Owner Goosehead Insurance
- JDRF Connections:** All three of my kids Grace (20) Jacob (18) and Brayden (15) my brother, Dan, and my fiancée's daughter, Olivia are all type 1

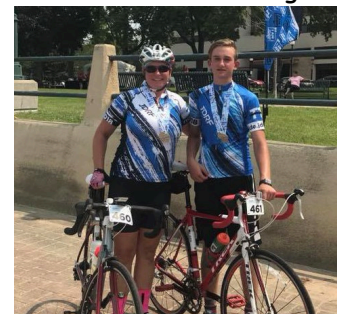


JDRF Rides: This will be my 8th and 9th rides! Tour de Tucson, Saratoga, La Crosse, Death Valley, My Rides 2020 & 2021 and back to DV in 2022.

JDRF Coach: 1st Year coaching! I'm passionate about helping riders fit into our awesome community to enjoy this whole experience, help riders achieve their personal goals (whether it's distance, fundraising, or knowledge) and especially helping female riders navigate this sport.

Ride to Cure Journey: Our family got hooked on JDRF early on from our first Rufus Bear. At Grace's first walk (6 months after her diagnosis) she finally poked her finger to test her blood sugar in public because she felt like one of the group. From then on, I've volunteered in the mentor program, talked at Children's Hospital about JDRF, trained to be a JDRF public speaker, helped organize the gala, and recently joined the board. As my kids grew older we grew out of the walk program. My first century was with JDRF in AZ on a very very windy day. When I met Doug his goal was to ride for JDRF and we went to Saratoga. I then rode with Jacob when he turned 13 in La Crosse. Then Death Valley.

The whole weekend is a goose bump - tissue grabbing - eat some extra chips and hydrate even more amazing experience to me.



Favorite Ride: This is so hard to answer! 2022 Death Valley is my favorite. We had a special course because there was flooding in the desert and it closed the normal roads. It was only 103 and the winds were not terrible. We had 2 friends join us who have no direct connection to type 1. Think about that. To travel all that way, do the fundraising, train together, and then ride your bike in the hot desert sun! It just means so very much to me. One of my favorite parts about the ride is when the coaches cross the finish line. I'm a big cow bell girl and shaking the bell ringing them in as a fan and in appreciation of all the coaches do not only on that day but throughout the whole season... and then seeing the signs that say how much we raised in our mission. Brings me to big sobbing tears every time.

My JDRF 2023 Rides: I plan to wear the Green Coach Jersey in La Crosse and Amelia Island! I'm so honored to give back to all riders - to share things I've been taught along the way. This is fun! And we have a huge purpose! I want your day to be miles of smiles and I'll do whatever I can to make you love the ride like I do. Thank you thank you thank you for riding with us. Please tell me what you need and I'll do all I can to help you.

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