



March 7th, 2010 Ely, Minnesota

2010 OFFICIAL RULES – 6 DOG RACE

SECTION A -- ENTRY

1. ENTRY FEE

- a. The entry fee for the 2010 WolfTrack Classic 6-Dog Race is **\$95.00 (plus transaction fee)** and must be paid at the time of registration. The last day to register shall be February 19, 2010.

2. QUALIFICATIONS

- a. The Organization reserves the right to reject any entry in any WolfTrack Classic event.

3. DRIVERS

- a. The driver starting at the beginning of the race shall drive the team throughout the race.
- b. In all races, any driver who is a minor must supply the Organization with a written release signed by a parent or legal guardian before they will be allowed to race.
- c. Substitution of drivers may be allowed by the Race Marshal up to the Drivers Meeting (providing the substitute driver meets the above criteria).
- d. **All entering drivers must attend The Adventurer's Gala on Saturday, March 6th, 2010 at 5:00pm.**
- e. All entering drivers and one (1) handler must attend the mandatory Driver's Meeting. Failure of BOTH driver and handler to meet first roll call at the Driver's Meeting, will result in a fine equal to entry fee. Failure of BOTH to attend the meeting will result in disqualification.

4. DOGS

- a. Each team must start the WolfTrack Classic 6-Dog Race with a minimum of four (4) dogs and maximum of six (6) dogs in harness and finish with not less than 4 dogs in harness.
- b. All dogs must undergo a veterinary check as scheduled by the Organization. All dogs must meet the criteria for the signing of an OFFICIAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE, and any other specific criteria as published by the Organization.
- c. Any dogs NOT meeting the criteria for an Official Health Certificate will not be allowed to run the race.
- d. All entered dogs must have current Distemper, Parvo, and Rabies vaccinations.
- e. Proof of Distemper and Parvo vaccinations must come from a Veterinarian OR, if administered by the driver, records must include type of vaccine, proof of purchase (i.e., receipt), and date of vaccination in writing. The Distemper and Parvo vaccine must have been given at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Pre-Race Vet Check.
- f. Proof of Rabies vaccination must come from a licensed Veterinarian only. Rabies vaccines must be given at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Pre-Race Vet Check.
- g. Dogs coming from Alaska having valid certificates signed by Lay Vaccinators will be accepted. The manufacturer and vaccine serial number of the Rabies vaccine administered to such dogs must be available to the Organization.

- h. All dogs may be marked and/or photographed prior to the start of the race. If there are two separate teams in the same vehicle, each team may be photographed with its respective driver and marked separately.
- i. Any dog dropped, before or during the race, must be marked out and cannot be substituted or re-entered.
- j. Northern breed dogs suitable for arctic travel will be permitted to enter the race. Northern breeds will be determined by the Race Marshall and Chief Veterinarian.

5. DRUGS

- a. No injectable, oral or topical drugs that may suppress the signs of illness or injury may be used on a dog. A driver may not inject ANY substance into his/her dogs. No drugs or other artificial means may be used to drive a dog or cause a dog to perform or attempt to perform beyond its natural ability.

THE FOLLOWING DRUGS AND TREATMENTS ARE PROHIBITED:

- * Anabolic Steroids
 - * Analgesics (prescriptive and non-prescriptive)
 - * Anesthetics
 - * Antihistamines
 - * Anti-inflammatory drugs including but not limited to Cortico-steroids (only those provided by the WolfTrack Classic Veterinarians for use on feet.), Antiprostaglandins, Non-steroids, Salicylates, and DMSO.
 - * Brochodilators
 - * Central Nervous System Stimulants
 - * Cough Suppressants
 - * Diuretics
 - * Injectable Anticholinergics
 - * Muscle Relaxants
 - * Tranquilizers & Opiates
 - * Anticonvulsants
 - * Acupuncture is not allowed
 - * The only medication approved for use under sweats is Furacin Ointment (Nitrofurazone) and Algyval.
- b. It is the intent of these rules that no drugs or other artificial means be used to drive a dog beyond its natural ability. A driver must have his/her team free from any prohibited drugs at the time of the Pre-Race Vet check and during the race. If, in the opinion of a Race Veterinarian, it is necessary to use one of these drugs for the dog's well being, administration of any such DRUG will be done only after the dog has been dropped.
 - c. The use of blood doping -- i.e., injection of whole blood, packed blood cells or blood substitutes -- is prohibited.
 - d. Use of ANY prohibited substance will result in disqualification or other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Rules Interpretation Committee as determined.
 - e. WolfTrack Classic Race Veterinarians and/or their representatives shall have the authority to collect blood and/or urine samples at random, at any point commencing with the Pre-Race Vet Check and through the completion of the Awards Ceremony. It will be the driver's responsibility to assist the Race Veterinarians and/or their representative in the collection of these samples. All samples will be sealed and signed for, before the collection is considered complete.

6. EQUIPMENT

- a. All harnesses shall be padded around the neck and chest areas.
- b. All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- c. All sleds shall be equipped with an adequate working brake (not only a track), brushbow, snowhook and reflective tape on the rear stanchions of the sled.
- d. Above said sled shall include a sled bag capable of restraining and completely enclosing a struggling dog and, if necessary, covering a severely injured dog. **SPRINT BAGS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
- e. Cable or cable core ganglines are optional.
- f. Food for musher and dogs shall be optional.
- g. Ski poles will be allowed.
- h. Snowshoes shall be optional.

7. MUSER'S MANDATORY GEAR (REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES)

- a. One sleeping bag.
- b. A cutter that you know will cut your gangline (may be a knife)
- c. First Aid- Kit for human and animal-related emergencies
- d. One set of booties (4) for each dog.
- e. One working headlamp.

SECTION B -- OFFICIATING

1. RACE OFFICIALS

- a. The RULES INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE (RIC) is a three (3) person committee. Once called together by the Race Marshal on a specific question, its decision becomes the final word on that issue. The RIC consists of the Race Marshal and two (2) Assistant Judges.
- b. The Race Marshal has the final word over all safety considerations for both the dogs and the drivers. S/He has the authority to interpret rules at the Drivers Meeting, alter any participant's official running time, disqualify dogs, teams or drivers, and refer rules questions to the Rules Committee. S/He can order drug testing and determine winners and subsequent placements. The Race Coordinator will supply any information as required by the Race Marshal for the purpose of providing the best possible decision.
- c. The Race Veterinarians are consulting specialists to the race on matters pertaining to dog care and treatment. Dogs are under the care of the Chief Veterinarian and the Veterinarians from the time of the Pre-Race Vet Check through the completion of the Awards Ceremony. All dogs may undergo a Post-Race Vet Check at the time they cross the finish line. The Race Veterinarians, in addition to the Pre-Race Vet Check, will be available throughout the race for consultation, first aid and major medical situations. Any Race Veterinarian may delay or prevent a dog or team from leaving starting line for medical or health concerns. If the driver is not in agreement, a consultation between the Veterinarian and a Judge will result in a final decision.
- d. Timers, Checkers and Race Veterinarians will act as consultants to the Judges.

2. CONDUCT AND DISQUALIFICATION

- a. Drivers are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their dogs and their designated handlers whether they are in the race area, on the trail, or dealing with race personnel, officials or the general public.
- b. IF THE RACE MARSHAL DETERMINES THAT A DRIVER, HANDLER, OR TEAM AT ANY TIME -- WHETHER IN THE RACE AREA OR ON THE TRAIL -- IS ACTING IN A WAY THAT IS DETRIMENTAL TO THE SPORT, THAT TEAM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. ALL OFFICIAL DECISIONS ARE FINAL. FURTHER ARGUING OR COMPLAINING MAY RESULT IN A FINE OR DISQUALIFICATION FROM FUTURE WOLFTRACK CLASSIC RACE EVENTS. COMMON SENSE AND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP SHALL PREVAIL.

- c. Failure to adhere to the published rules will result in disqualification or penalty. Determining this will be the responsibility of the RIC. A disqualified driver will forfeit all entry fees, placements or monetary awards.
- d. The RIC may assess penalties other than disqualification. These will take the form of time penalties or fines and can affect the final placement of a team.

3. PROTESTS AND HEARINGS

- a. A musher may protest any action of a competitor, which she/he feels is contrary to these rules. To be considered as a legitimate protest, any infraction observed by a musher must be presented in writing to the Race Marshal no more than one hour after the race. This written protest must be delivered to the Race Marshal, accompanied by a \$10.00 protest fee. All protests shall be logged with the Race Marshal only and shall not be discussed with any other person(s), spectators or media.
- b. Any diver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will receive a hearing before the race marshal and committee. Such hearings will occur prior to the Awards Ceremony.

SECTION C -- THE RACE

1. START/TRAIL/FINISH

The 6-Dog Race will begin at the Industrial Park on Miners Lake Drive in the town of Ely, Minnesota. Local city trails will be well marked and staffed and will lead the teams to the Taconite State Trail. The Taconite Trail runs west all the way to the City of Tower (approx. 30 miles). The 6-Dog Race will finish in Tower. There will be NO checkpoints or layovers in the 6-Dog Race.

The 6-Dog Race will begin PROMPTLY at 9:00am on race day.

- a. The starting positions for the race shall be determined by the order in which teams register online. **Bibs will be distributed at the mandatory “Adventurer’s Gala” on Saturday, March 6th, 2010.**
- b. All 6-Dog Race drivers, handlers and team trucks must be in the official musher parking area and available to the public by 7:30am on Race Day. Each driver’s sled and mandatory equipment must be ready and available for inspection at 7:30am. A \$2.00 per minute late fee may be charged for arriving after 7:30am.
- c. Team must be harnessed and ready to leave for the chute at least 5 minutes prior to their designated start time.
- d. The amount and type of assistance in the starting chute shall be determined by the race marshal prior to the start of the race.
- e. There will be a device (tire, post, or cable) at the Start Line for the driver to fasten his/her team to.
- f. At the signal, each driver will release his/her team and begin the race.
- g. Any driver who cannot leave the starting line within ten (10) minutes of the last team’s departure will be disqualified unless extenuating circumstances prevail.
- h. Subject to compliance with all race rules, regulations and determinations of the race marshal and chief veterinarian, a team’s finish time is measured when the nose of the lead dog crosses the finish line.
- i. All time involved on the trail shall constitute trail time.
- j. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver crosses the finish line.
- k. Teams with equal times shall be awarded the high finishing position. The purse for tied place and the next lower place shall be combined and divided equally.
- l. A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race marshal.

The trail shall be followed as marked:

- * “Right Turn” shall be indicated by a right pointing arrow.
 - * “Left Turn” shall be indicated by a left pointing arrow.
 - * “Straight Ahead” shall be indicated by a straight up arrow or painted stake.
 - * “Caution” shall be indicated by a down pointing arrow.
- m. It is the musher’s responsibility to check for traffic at road crossings on the trail. The Race Director will attempt to secure the road crossings, but final safety is the musher’s responsibility.
- n. A driver may ride the sled, pedal or run as wished.
- o. All dogs becoming unfit after departure shall be carried on the sled.
- p. All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials at designated points along the trail as authorized by the race marshal.
- q. A driver may not receive outside assistance between the Starting Line and the Finish Line. In case of emergency, drivers may assist each other in appropriate ways. Handlers may assist the musher at the start and in Tower.
- r. Outside assistance shall be allowed only if a team becomes so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to the team of dogs, other teams or persons. This action shall be reported to the race marshal.
- s. “No Man’s Land” section of the trail will be announced at the Drivers Meeting.
- t. In the “No Man’s Land” zone, no team shall have the right of way over another.
- u. When one team intends to pass another, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) comes within fifty (50) feet of the sled of the overtaken team.
- v. The overtaken team shall make way for the passing team by moving to one side of the trail and by slowing down or stopping if requested by the overtaking team driver.
- w. Once a team has been passed, that team shall not re-pass until: Such time as the leading team has had sufficient time to pull away. At any lesser interval whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- x. If the passing team becomes tangled as the result of the pass, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team to stop and wait no longer than one (1) minute.
- y. Should a major tangle occur, the overtaken team may re-pass with the permission of the leading team.
- z. A driver coming upon one or more stopped teams may pass all such teams. The stopped team’s driver(s) shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team.
- aa. Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length except passing or in the “No Man’s Land” finishing zone.
- bb. All official money and/or prize winners must complete the whole race.
- cc. Drivers may accept rides on motorized vehicles in an emergency. Such incidents must be reported to a Judge in Tower or the Finish Line.
- dd. Drivers may not arrange for any person or persons to instruct them along the trail. Requests for the directions along the way are acceptable.
- ee. Two-way radios are not permitted.
- ff. Cellular phones are not allowed.
- gg. GPS units are permitted.
- hh. **Handlers are NOT allowed at road crossings.** This may result in one hour time penalty or disqualification of team.
- ii. The Race Marshal may remove a participant from the race if they are deemed non-competitive.

- jj. Littering along any point of the trail (including the Start and Finish) is strictly prohibited. A maximum fine of \$200.00 will be imposed for littering. Any team snacking on the trail may not leave trail food behind.

2. MANAGEMENT/HANDLING OF DOGS

- a. The cruel and/or inhumane treatment of any dog by any driver is strictly prohibited and will be penalized by disqualification and barring from future WolfTrack Classic Race events.
- b. Whips are not allowed.
- c. Any dog that remains in the race shall not be boxed once the race has begun.
- d. Any dog that expires on the trail for any reason must be taken to Tower or the Finish Line, whichever is closest. Expired dogs must be covered completely when being carried in the sled. The driver must stay at that location until the Chief Veterinarian comes to investigate the situation. At that time, there will be an interview between the driver and Race Officials. The driver MAY be allowed to continue/finish the race contingent on the Gross Necropsy and/or only after approval of the Chief Veterinarian and Race Marshal.
- e. Any dog who expires during the race will have a Necropsy performed by a licensed Veterinarian according to ISDVMA Necropsy Guidelines.
- f. Prize money or prizes will not be paid until the final results of the Histopathology portion of the necropsy are returned (may take 4-6 months). If it is determined that the cause of death was other than natural causes, the team will be disqualified. Any place money will then revert to the WolfTrack Classic Sled Dog Race General Fund.
- g. If the Necropsy determines the cause of death to be abuse, the team will be disqualified and barred from participation in any future WolfTrack Classic events.
- h. A driver may not allow any of his/her dogs to be hauled by another team.
- i. A dog hauled in a driver's sled must be handled in a humane fashion.
- j. There will be no loose leaders. All dogs will be in the team or on the sled.
- k. Each driver and his/her handlers are responsible for having necessary food and water at the Start Line and Finish Line. The Organization will make no arrangements for food and water distribution. The Start Line and the Finish Line are accessible by truck.
- l. **NO TEAM SHALL BE LEFT UNATTENDED.** Any driver wishing to leave a team at the Start Line and Finish Line shall leave his/her team under the supervision of a handler.

3. WEATHER AND TRAIL CONDITIONS

- a. The race will continue under all but the most severe trail and weather conditions. Drivers must be prepared to run in cold, wind or in storms, and over sections of bare ground if necessary.
- b. In the event of questionable trail conditions, the Organization will make a decision to postpone or modify course no less than seven (7) days before the race.
- c. A panel consisting of three Board Members and the Race Director assumes responsibility for any further postponement or alteration of starting location. The primary consideration will be the safety and well being of the dogs, not the comfort of the drivers.

SECTION D -- AWARDS PRESENTATION

- 1. All drivers finishing the race must be present at the Awards Ceremony. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of any winnings.

SECTION E -- REFUNDS

- 1. Full refunds of entry fees may be granted until February 19, 2010. After February 19, 2010, no refunds will be granted.

SECTION F -- BIBS

1. Drivers are required to wear their race bibs on the outside of their outer clothing at all times, from the beginning of the race through the finish. Please be cognizant of the fact that sponsors of the WolfTrack Classic paid for these bibs. The more exposure we can provide for the businesses that support the WolfTrack Classic, the better the opportunities to attract additional sponsors and consequently increase the race purse in future years. Your consideration will be appreciated.
2. All race bibs must be returned to a Race Official at the finish or a \$150.00 penalty will be charged.

SECTION G -- CLAIMS

1. Each driver agrees to hold the WolfTrack Classic Sled Dog Race, race sponsors, and other contributors (sponsors and contributors of the Organization as distinguished from sponsors of any individual driver) harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or inaction by the driver, his dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The driver also agrees to release the WolfTrack Classic Sled Dog Race, race sponsors and agents and employees from any claim, or demand resulting from injury to the driver, his/her dogs, or his/her property. Further, the WolfTrack Classic Sled Dog Race has the unqualified and unrestricted authority to authorize race sponsors to photograph and otherwise collect information about the race and all participants therein and to use such photographs and information for advertising, public relations or other publicity purposes.
2. Each driver shall sign any and all documents as may be requested by the Organization to evidence the foregoing. These documents will be executed at registration. Any driver who does not sign the documents requested by the Organization will not be allowed to participate in the race.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL!