

# Chugiak Dog Mushers (CDM) Racing Rules

Adopted: November 29, 1989 Revised: Nov 2004, Nov 2010, Nov 2011

## *I. OFFICIALS:*

### **A. Judges:**

1. Judges shall consist of:
  - a) a. Race Marshal
  - b) b. Chute Judge
  - c) c. Trail Judge
  - d) d. Chief Timer

### **B. Other officials:**

1. Other officials shall consist of:
  - e) a. Assistant Timer
  - f) b. Trail Guards
  - g) c. Sled Holders
  - h) d. Other officials as may be appointed by the Race Marshal

### **C. All officials shall be identified in Paragraph 1A will be identified by vests identifying them as a CDMA race officials.**

### **D. Duties:**

1. Race Marshal:
  - a) a. The Race Marshal shall be responsible for the general conduct of the race, assignment of duties to other judges, officials and enforcement of these rules.
  - b) b. The Race Marshal shall have final ruling and judgment of disputes, protests and disciplinary actions arising from conduct of the race, following due counsel with the judges.
2. Chute Judge:
  - a) Shall be responsible for inspecting all sleds, dogs and equipment for compliance with these rules prior to the start of the race.,
  - b) Following the start of the team, the Chute Judge shall provide the only assistance to a team or driver within the designated starting chute.
  - c) Shall be responsible for clearing the chute area when a musher is disqualified for failure to leave the starting chute within the prescribed time.
  - d) Shall be responsible for ordering late starts in accordance with these rules.
  - e) Shall provide counsel to the Race Marshal in the event of disputes, protests or alleged misconduct of a driver.
3. Trail Judge:
  - a) Shall be responsible for proper marking of the trail in accordance with these rules.
  - b) Shall be responsible for placement of road guards, and trail guards.

- c) Shall be responsible for modification of the trail as necessary to avoid hazards and to provide pre-race information on the condition of the trails prior to the start of the race.
  - d) Shall provide counsel to the Race Marshal in the event of disputes, protests or alleged misconduct of a driver of dogs.
4. Chief Timer:
- a) Shall be responsible for keeping and recording:
    - i. Name and race number of the Driver.
    - ii. Number of dogs in a team starting and finishing the race.
    - iii. Providing the starting countdown for teams starting a race.
  - b) The Chief Timer shall provide counsel to the Race Marshal in the event of disputes, protests or alleged misconduct of a driver.
5. Assistant Timer:
- a) a. Shall assist the Chief Timer in the execution of his/her duties.
6. Road Crossing Guards:
- a) Shall assist the Trail Judge in the execution of his/her duties.
  - b) Shall be responsible for stopping vehicle traffic when a team is approaching a road crossing.
  - c) Shall be responsible for controlling the spectators at the road crossings when a team is crossing the road.
  - d) Shall provide any and all assistance necessary to assure the safety of the team and driver crossing the road.
7. Trail Guards:
- a) Shall assist the trail judge in the execution of his/her duties.
  - b) Shall provide like assistance to all teams to stay on the prescribed trails within their area of responsibility.
  - c) Report any infractions of these rules to the Trail Judge or Race Marshal.

## *II. PRE-RACE PROCEDURE:*

### **A. Course:**

1. The course shall be clearly laid out with a sufficient number of highly visible markers.
  - a) Right Turn: Red marker on right.
  - b) Left Turn: Red marker on left.
  - c) Straight Ahead: Blue marker.
  - d) "Caution" shall be indicated by yellow or orange markers.
  - e) The end of the "Starting Chute" shall be indicated by markers on both sides of the trail.

- f) "NO-RIGHT OF WAY ZONE" shall be marked approximately ¼ mile from the finish line, unless trail conditions indicate otherwise.
- g) Fencing may be used to block those trails not part of the race course.

**B. Eligibility of dogs, teams, and drivers:**

1. CDM may reject any entries submitted for due cause.
2. Disease:
  - a) No dog shall be brought from a kennel where Hepatitis, Distemper, Leptospirosis or other contagious disease exists.
  - b) No equipment or clothing shall be brought to the race if it has come in contact with a dog having any contagious disease.
  - c) Any team of dogs coming to the starting point which, in the opinion of the judges, is unfit or incapable of completing the course, will be disqualified by the Race Marshal.
3. Dogs recorded for the first departure are the only dogs that may be used during the race.
4. Dogs will be marked in a race of more than one heat.
5. A purebred class will be recognized by CDMA for the purpose of racing.
  - a) Purebred is deemed as a breed recognized by the American Kennel Club or the Canadian Kennel Club.
  - b) Only "Northern" type working breeds will be allowed. (Dashhunds, Chihuahuas, and Standard Poodles etc. will not be eligible).
  - c) Registration paperwork will not be required at race time.
  - d) If any questions arise about a dog's eligibility, the Race Marshal's decision will be final.
6. Number of dogs in a team:
  - a) An Unlimited Class team in the first heat shall consist of not less than five (5) dogs.
  - b) An Unlimited Class team in ensuing heats shall consist of not less than four (4) dogs.
  - c) Limited Classes:

| Class               | Maximum | Minimum |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Ten (10) Dog Class  | 10      | 5       |
| Eight (8) Dog Class | 8       | 4       |
| Six (6) Dog Class   | 6       | 3       |
| Five (5) Dog Class  | 5       | 3       |
| Four (4) Dog Class  | 4       | 2       |

7. Any team or dog not starting any heat of a race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
8. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of a race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
9. After the first heat, the driver may drop any dog(s) he/she wishes from ensuing heats

subject to the minimums specified in Rule in B.5 above.

10. All dogs must be properly harnessed in the team.
  - a) All dogs except the lead dog(s) must be fastened with necklines.
  - b) The lead dog(s) may run with or without a neckline.
11. No dog shall compete in more than one class on the same day.
12. The time of a team driven in a race of more than one day by two drivers shall be counted in the season standings, provided such change of drivers has the approval of the judges. Such changes of drivers is permitted only by an injury or illness accompanied by a doctor's statement. Any driver dropping out cannot return on a subsequent day.
13. All drivers must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.

**C. C. Medications Administered to Dogs -Prohibited Drugs:**

1. All DEA listed stimulants and depressants, analgesics, prescriptive and non-prescriptive, anti-inflammatory agents including, but not limited to, corticosteroids, anti-prostaglandins, and calculates, anti-anxiety agents, anabolic steroids, diet pills and any other substance that may affect the performance of the dog is prohibited. Any state, federal or local restricted substance is prohibited.
2. CDM will allow a positive test for previously declared parasites in the test for prohibited substances in sled dogs. It is incumbent upon the driver to declare all foreign substances used in his/her dogs before testing occurs.
3. Drug Testing:
  - a) If CDM intends to test for prohibited drugs, it shall use ISDRA Drug Testing Procedures and shall declare so on the entry form.
  - b) Whenever a specimen is requested for testing, the driver or his/her designated representative shall be present and shall declare in writing to the sampling official all medications administered to the dog(s) within 72 hours preceding the start of the event.
  - c) If a driver refuses to allow a sample to be collected from a dog, that team shall be disqualified.
  - d) If any dog in a team shows a positive test of a prohibited drug, that team is subject to disqualification, the decision to be made following a hearing of the judges.

**D. Equipment:**

1. Inspection:
  - a) Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the vehicle holding area ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled time of departure each day.
  - b) Eligibility to race, in case of inability to meet this requirement, will be at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
2. Sleds:
  - a) Must be capable of adequately carrying the driver.
  - b) Must be capable of adequately carrying a dog.
  - c) Must be equipped with a snow hook, a suitable brake and a brush bow.

- d) Must be equipped with a dog bag, capable of safely restraining a struggling or incapacitated dog and covering a dog. Dogs carried in the sled shall be sufficiently secured to ensure their safety.
  - e) Musher will be disqualified if any part of a carried dog protrudes beyond the boundaries of the sled basket.
3. Prohibited:
- a) Collars which can be hooked as full choke collars.
  - b) Passengers, unless called for in the conditions of the race.
  - c) No chains will be allowed in any part of the racing rig, including collar, neckline or bridle, except modifications approved by the Race Marshal.
  - d) Cable necklines will be allowed, providing the cable neckline is not directly attached to the gangline but contains a break-away safety means.
4. A racing number for each driver will be provided by the Race Marshal. The driver will display this number on his/her person throughout the race.

### *III. STARTING PROCEDURE:*

#### **A. Entry fee and Waiver of Liability:**

1. All competitors must be members of CDM.
2. All competitors shall sign waivers of liability.
3. All competitors shall pay race entry fees as determined by CDM prior to the driver's meeting.
4. Entry fees must be paid and waivers must be signed before the driver may leave the starting line.
5. No entries will be allowed later than 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the race.

#### **B. Prizes:**

1. Prizes and trophies shall be determined by the CDM Board of Directors prior to the scheduled race.
2. Any musher receiving more than \$600 from CDM in a twelve-month period must provide a social security number before the amount can be awarded.

#### **C. Drawing:**

1. The order of the Drawing shall be in order of sign up for the race.
  - a) Starting position and time for each team entered will be determined by drawing, with No.1 leaving first, No.2, leaving second, etc.
  - b) Such drawing is to be held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the Race Marshal.
  - c) The owner or driver or designated proxy of each team will draw his/her own position.
  - d) In the absence of the owner, driver or proxy, the position of any legally entered team will be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative.
  - e) If a musher wishes to be the last musher in their class, they must declare this at the time of sign-ups. In the case of one or more mushers wishing to leave last, the

race marshal will resolve the issue with a coin toss. The losing musher will leave second to last.

**D. Race Start:**

1. In races of two (2) heats, the second heat's starting position will be determined by the first day's times, with
2. The fastest team starting first or last, the second fastest team starting second, or second to last, etc. The decision will be made prior to the 1st heat.
3. In races of more than two heats, the total elapsed time of previous heats will determine starting positions, with the fastest or slowest teams starting first, etc. Decision to be made prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> heat.
4. Races will be run regardless of weather, unless deemed prohibitive by the Race Marshal.
5. Starting point of the team shall be determined by the brush bow and the starting line.
6. Starting intervals shall be two minutes unless otherwise specified by the race marshal.

**E. Starting time of the team:**

1. Starting time for each team will begin when such team is scheduled to leave the starting line.
2. A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time shall be declared a late-starting team.
  - a) A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.
  - b) A late-starting team shall not interfere with any other team.
  - c) If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in their originally scheduled order.
  - d) If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for anyone heat, that team shall be disqualified.
3. A team not clearing the Starting Chute prior to the scheduled start of the next team will be disqualified.

**F. Assistance in the Starting Chute:**

1. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal prior to the scheduled start of the race:
  - a) Any amount or type of assistance is allowed to a team prior to the actual starting time.
  - b) Once the team's starting time has commenced, only the Chute Judge or officials designated to assist may help in the chute.

**IV. TRAIL PROCEDURE:**

**A. Driver:**

1. A driver may ride, pedal or run as and when he/she wishes.
2. Abuse of the dogs with or without an instrument is prohibited.
  - a) The snub line may not be used in any way other than for hitching.
  - a) Any abuse of dogs by whips or in any manner whatsoever is prohibited.
3. Interference by a driver with a competing team is prohibited.

**B. Dogs:**

1. All dogs starting a heat must complete it.
  - a) All dogs must be hitched in the team or carried on the sled.
  - b) A dog becoming unfit after departure must be carried on the sled.

**C. Following the course:**

1. A team and driver must run the full course as established by CDM.
2. If a team leaves the course:
  - a) The driver must return the team to the point at which the team left the course.
  - b) A team and driver meeting the above requirement may continue the course without penalty.

**D. Outside Assistance:**

1. All teams may receive similar assistance of any kind by officials stationed at designated points along the trail if so authorized by the Race Marshal.
2. An individual team may receive assistance from anyone when unmanageable.
3. Individual team assistance may consist of stopping the team. After the team is stopped:
  - a) If a driver is present, help is limited to holding the sled.  
If the driver is not present, the team may be held or snubbed until the driver arrives.
4. No one is allowed to assist a team and driver by willfully pacing it.

**E. Loose Teams:**

1. All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog. Anyone is encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
2. A loose team must not delay or interfere with other teams.
3. The driver must overtake his/her team by the quickest means available.
4. In the event the driver cannot quickly and safely recover the team, he/she must accept assistance, including a ride if available, to recover the team. Failure to accept assistance may result in the disqualification of the driver. The Race Marshal shall determine if the driver is to be disqualified.
5. A team and driver meeting all the above requirements may continue the course without penalty, providing the team covers the entire course.
6. In the event a driver does not overtake his/her team before the team crosses the finish line, the time of finish will be when the driver crosses the finish line.

**F. Right of way:**

1. A team late to the starting line shall not interfere with other teams.
2. When passing in opposite directions on a single trail, the right-of-way, if any, will be determined at the driver's meeting prior to the race.
3. No incoming team has the right-of-way over another incoming team within the "no-right-of-way" zone.

**G. Passing:**

1. When one team overtakes another within fifty (50) feet, the team behind shall have the immediate right-of-way upon demand. The driver ahead must stop his/her dogs and hold

them to the best of his/her ability until the other team is by.

2. The overtaken team may request and receive the right-of-way as above after four minutes or one mile, or if the concerned drivers are in agreement, at lesser time and mileage intervals.
3. A passing driver with a tangled team may require the following driver to wait no longer than one minute.
4. Teams following shall maintain an interval sufficient so as not to interfere with the driver on the team in front.

*V. FINISHING PROCEDURE:*

- A. The finishing point of the team will be the first dog to the line unless otherwise determined by the Race Marshal prior to the start of the race.**

*VI. CONDUCT:*

- A. All drivers are responsible for the conduct of their dogs and handler(s), before, during and after the race.**
- B. Unsportsmanlike conduct in the race area and on the race course is prohibited.**

*VII. PROTESTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION:*

**A. Protests:**

1. Any entrant wishing to protest any violation of the rules must do so immediately following the heat in which the alleged violation occurred: this protest may be verbal, but must be followed by a written statement submitted to the judges within six (6) hours after the finish of the heat. Protestant must pay ten dollars (\$10) with the verbal protest. This money will be refunded upon receipt of the written protest.

**B. Disciplinary Action:**

1. Violation of any of these rules will be cause for disqualification from the race in which the violation occurs.
2. The decision of the Race marshal shall be final.

*VIII. POINTS AND TROPHIES:*

- A. A competitor may collect points and receive trophies in any and all classes.**

- B. The first three places shall receive trophies in Preliminary races.**

- C. Season trophies for Preliminary races will be awarded to the first three places in each class based on the following point system:**

| Place               | Points |
|---------------------|--------|
| First               | 10     |
| Second              | 7      |
| Third               | 5      |
| All Other finishers | 1      |

**D. D. Other trophies -established by CDM membership.**

*IX. PRIZES:*

**A. Established by CDM membership before the start of the Race.**

*X. OTHER RACES:*

**A. Cheechako Race**

1. Competitors shall have not participated in any previous open or limited class races.
2. Competitors may have participated in previous Cheechako Races or Businessperson's Race.
3. No Preliminary points will be awarded for placing in this race.
4. All other CDM Race Rules apply.

**B. Businesspersons Race:**

1. Competitors may have participated in previous Cheechako Races or Businessperson's Race.
2. No Preliminary points will be awarded for placing in this race.
3. All other CDM Race Rules apply.

**C. Distance Races:**

1. Day's heat will end when all competitors cross the finish line or when twice the first finisher's day time has elapsed, whichever occurs first.
2. Competitors not completing the course within the prescribed time shall be judged as did not finish (DNF) and not allowed to compete in subsequent heats.
3. Race Officials and Judges will not be required to execute their duties and responsibilities beyond the end of the day's heat.

*XI. XI. CHANGES AND/OR ADDITIONS TO RACE RULES:*

**A. Additions and or changes will be handled and voted on in the following manner:**

1. The voting to change race rules shall be on the first meeting in November. No race rule changes can be made at any other time.
2. The president shall ask if there are any considered changes to the race rules for the following season at least thirty (30) days prior to the date set for the vote.
3. All considered changes will be presented in the final form at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for the vote.
4. All members in good standing must be notified of the list of all considered changes at least seven (7) days prior to the date set for the vote.
5. Voting will be by members in good standing present at the designated meeting.