

THE KEARNEY 120

RACE RULES

RACE OFFICIALS

RACE MARSHAL – Oversees all aspects of the race and reports to the Race Giving Organization (RGO). All other race officials (Chief Veterinarian, Trail Boss, Race Judges) report to the Race Marshal.

CHIEF VETERINARIAN - Oversees the health and safety of all dogs entered in the race. Is in charge of all dog health and safety issues from the mandatory vet check until the Awards Banquet and, in the case of drug testing or necropsy issues, until those issues are resolved.

TRAIL BOSS - Maintains the Trail and will have top priority in all final decisions regarding race trail matters.

RACE JUDGE(S) - Work under the direction of the Race Marshal on all aspects of rules enforcement and race safety.

1.0 ENTRY FEE: Bib numbers will be drawn in the order entries were received. The post-mark date on mailed entries constitutes the entry date. The posting date will be used for entries submitted on the Kearney web site. The fax date will be used for entries received by fax. All entries will be held for two weeks after the receiving date to await payment and confirmation. If payment is not received within the two week period following the received entry. The next completed registration will be excepted in its place. Bib numbers will be announced and given to mushers at the pre-race musher meeting. No musher will be allowed to pick up a bib number prior to the mushers meeting.

1.1 The entry fee for the 2010 Kearney 120 is \$150.00.

1.2 Withdrawing and Refunds:

- a. An entrant may withdraw for any reason on or before February 1, 2009 and receive a refund equal to 100% of the entry fee.
- b. No refunds will be issued to entrants who withdraw after February 1st.
- c. The RGO reserves the right to reject any entry for just cause.
- d. The Kearney 120 will be limited to 12 mushers. (for the first year)

2.0 MUSHERS

2.1 All mushers entering the Kearney 120 must have completed an event with a minimum of 40 miles of continuous running within the past three seasons. A waiver may be requested.

2.2 Mushers under the age of eighteen may participate with approval of the Race Marshal and a waiver of liability signed by a parent or legal guardian.

2.3 Only one musher per team is permitted and no substitution will be allowed during the race.

2.4 Substitution of mushers will be allowed at any time before the team starts the race with approval of the Race Marshal.

2.5 Musher may be accompanied by **one** handler at the mushers meeting.

2.6 Each Kearney 120 team must start the race with a minimum of 10(ten) dogs and a maximum of 12 (twelve) dogs and must leave the final checkpoint with a minimum of 6 (six) dogs hooked in the team.

3.0 MANDATORY VETERINARY EXAM

3.1. All dogs entered in the race must be current with vaccinations for parvovirus, distemper and rabies.

a. Proof of valid rabies vaccination from the musher's province/state of residence signed and dated at least two weeks prior to the race by a licensed veterinarian is required.

b. Proof of purchase for valid vaccines for other vaccinations must be submitted for inspection.

c. Race veterinarians will not vaccinate dogs during the Vet Check.

3.2. All dogs participating in the Kearney 120 must be checked by the veterinary.

a. Only dogs found to be in good health and fit to compete will be permitted to run in the race.

b. Veterinarian checks will be available between 9:00am and 2:00 pm race day.

3.3. All dogs leaving the starting line will be marked or tagged for identification along the race route.

a. After the start of the race no switching of dogs will be permitted.

4.0 VETERINARY GUIDELINES

4.1. BASIC GUIDELINES

a. No injectable, oral, or topical drug which may suppress the signs of illness or injury may be used on a dog. Mushers may not inject any substance into their dogs. No other drugs or artificial means may be used to drive a dog or cause a dog to perform or attempt to perform beyond its natural ability.

b. Mushers may administer the following compounds to their dogs orally without veterinary consent: vitamins, minerals, electrolytes, enzymes, probiotics, and any dietary supplements marked as such, provided that these compounds are maintained in their original containers with labels indicating their contents.

c. The administration of any substance to a dog orally by syringe or similar device (basting) by a musher is prohibited.

d. The administration of any substance to a dog by syringe and needle by a musher is prohibited.

e. The use of topical cortico-steroids is limited to use on the paw/pad. The only cortico-steroid containing topical products permitted for this race will be those dispensed by the race veterinarians.

f. The use of megestrol acetate (ovaban) and mibolerone (cheque drops) as an estrus suppressant is permitted in intact females that have not had an ovariohysterectomy.

g. Personal prescriptions written for and carried by the mushers may not be used on the dogs.

h. Race veterinarians may utilize any of the below listed drugs or other prohibited drugs necessary to maintain a dog's health, however, such dogs will be withdrawn from the race. The use of local or general anesthetics will not be allowed in any form unless the dog is withdrawn from the race.

i. The use of any other drug not included on this list and deemed necessary for the health of the dog by the musher's veterinarian will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Chief Veterinarian.

4.2. Prohibited drugs:

a. Anabolic steroids

b. Analgesics (pain relievers) both prescriptive and non-prescriptive.

c. Anti-inflammatory drugs, including but not limited to: · Cortico-steroids (the exception is the use on feet) · Antiprostaglandins · Non-steroidal (NSAIDS) · Salicylates · DMSO

d. Anesthetics

e. Central nervous system stimulants

f. Antihistamines

g. Bronchodilators

h. Cough suppressants

i. Diuretics

j. Injectable anticholinergics

k. Muscle relaxants

l. Tranquilizers and Opiates

4.3. Using ISDVMA guidelines, the following vital signs are indicators of health problems which would require the withdrawal of a dog from the race:

a. 7% - 8% dehydration

b. Heart rate 120 beats per minute or higher after 30 – 60 minutes of rest with or without a prolonged capillary refill time.

c. Body temperature greater than 103 F after one hour of rest.

d. Lung sounds with evidence of edema, rales, or cough.

e. Hypothermia: a body temperature less than 99 F

f. Non-responsive diarrhea with blood associated with weight loss or dehydration.

g. Severe lameness, especially of the shoulder.

h. Seizures

i. Brown or red urine.

5.0 EQUIPMENT

5.1. All harnesses must be padded around the neck and chest areas and have a total of approximately 6" of reflective tape or material.

5.2. All ganglines must be arranged for single or double file disposition. Cable ganglines are mandatory. Ganglines will be checked at bag check.

5.3. A sled must be equipped with a working brake bolted to the sled, a brushbow and two (2) snowhooks.

5.4. A sled/dog bag capable of safely restraining a struggling or injured dog.

5.5. Any sticks or poling devices (e.g. ski poles) must have at least 6" of reflective tape or material.

6.0 MANDATORY GEAR

- 6.1. Two (2) complete working headlamps.
- 6.2. Sleeping bag with winter or arctic rating.
- 6.3. One set (4) of booties per dog. (Must be in the sled when leaving Starting Line and checkpoint)
- 6.4. One pound of food per dog (Must be in the sled when leaving Starting Line and checkpoint)
- 6.5. One day's ration of food for the musher, must be in the sled when leaving Starting Line and checkpoint.
- 6.6. Knife
- 6.7. Snowshoes
- 6.8. Ax (minimum size 22 inches).
- 6.9. First aid kit (for musher and dogs) including Ace bandages and pressure dressings for severe bleeding
- 6.10. A cable cutter you know will cut your cable gangline. (It is strongly recommended that this be carried in an easily accessible spot.)
- 6.11. Compass
- 6.12. Waterproof matches or a lighter
- 6.13. Musher's veterinary log book
- 6.14. One operational cooker and pot capable of boiling at least 2 (two) gallons of water, and dog bowls (1 bowl per dog).
- 6.16. An adequate amount of fuel to boil two gallons of water. (2 bottles of HEET or equivalent)
- 6.17. Red blinking light for each lead dog.

7.0 OFFICIATING

7.1 RACE MARSHAL

- a. The Race Marshal is in charge of all aspects of the race from the mandatory mushers' meeting through to the Awards breakfast.
- b. Final authority and interpretation of all rules.
- c. Final determination for alteration of race, start location and race route changes.
- d. Final determinations of winners and placing.

7.2. RACE JUDGES shall act in concert with the Race Marshal and will hold authority within their specific locations as assigned by the Race Marshal.

7.3. RACE VETERINIAN shall have final authority over the disposition of any dogs for medical reasons.

a. The Race Marshal and Race Judges shall consult with the Chief Race Veterinarian regarding any determinations of disqualification of any dogs or teams in regards to dog welfare.

b. The Race Veterinarians is a Consulting Specialists to the race and have the right to examine any dog at any checkpoint during the race. In addition to the pre-race vet check, they will be available throughout the race for consultations, first aid, and major medical situations. Their recommendations to disallow entry or remove a dog or team from the race will go directly to the Race Marshal, who will make the final decision.

7.4. The race officials, timers, judges, and race veterinarians each have immediate authority in their specific area of responsibility and will act as consultants to the Race Marshal who has ultimate responsibility for decision making.

8.0 MUSER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

8.1. Mushers are responsible for the conduct of their dogs, handlers and representatives before, during and after the race.

8.2. The musher is required to report all violations of race rules and regulations to the Race Marshal, a Race Judge, or if no Judge is available they may report to a Checkpoint Official (who in turn will notify a Race Judge or the Race Marshal).

a. Forms for reporting violations will be available at every checkpoint.

b. Any musher who knowingly fails to comply with race rules and regulations as stated herein will face disqualification, monetary penalty, or time penalty depending on the nature of the violation as determined by the Race Marshal.

8.3. A musher withdrawing from the race either between checkpoints or at any checkpoint for any reason **MUST IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY A RACE OFFICIAL.**

9.0 PENALTIES, DISQUALIFICATION, AND PROTEST PROCEDURE

9.1. Penalties and Disqualification: Rule infractions may result in an issuance of warnings, monetary penalties, time penalties, censure, or disqualification. Warnings may be issued by any Judge. Monetary penalties and time penalties require the agreement of at least one Judge and the Race Marshal. Disqualifications require a unanimous decision of Race Judges as well as the Race Marshal. The Chief Vet will be included in all decisions involving dog treatment and welfare.

9.2. Warnings may be issued for first time minor infractions.

9.3. Monetary penalties may be imposed up to \$200.00 for each violation. Such penalties may be deducted from prize money. A musher with unpaid fines may not enter future Kearney races until such fines are paid.

9.4. Disqualifications: Mushers may be disqualified for any infractions, including but not limited to physical abuse of a dog, cheating, or deliberate rule infractions which give a musher an unfair advantage over another musher.

a. A musher will be allowed to continue racing while a decision is being made, except in cases involving cruel or inhumane treatment of dogs.

b. Any musher who violates any local, provincial or federal law while competing in this race may be disqualified from future races if convicted.

c. Disqualification will result in the forfeiture of all race placements and monetary awards.

d. Each musher shall provide and sign any and all documents requested by the RGO prior to entering the race. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

9.5. Protests: Any musher wishing to lodge a protest must do so verbally at the first checkpoint following the occurrence of the act or situation to be considered.

a. All protests shall be lodged with a **RACE JUDGE ONLY** and shall not be discussed with any other persons, including spectators or media.

b. Following the verbal notification, a written protest must be submitted within one hour of the musher's finish of the race for any actions occurring between the Grand Marais checkpoint and the race finish.

c. Protests will be decided by Race Judges no later than 2 hours before the Awards banquet.

9.6. Appeals: A musher may appeal any decision made by the Race Officials (Race Marshal, Veterinarians, Judges) by submitting a written request to the Race Marshal for a hearing and resolution prior to the Awards banquet.

a. If the appeal pertains to a Judging decision, then the Race Marshal will present information as to the reason for the decision and the Musher will present information in his/her defense. Both sides may bring a witness or witnesses that can corroborate their story. Witnesses are limited to Judges, Vets, volunteers, or mushers that have first hand information concerning the situation being considered. A jury comprised of the Vet, one (1) RGO member and the Musher Representative (selected by the mushers at the pre-race meeting) will render a majority decision. Note: if the musher representative is unable to serve, the alternate will be called upon to serve.

b. If the appeal pertains to a Veterinary decision, then the Chief Vet will present information as to the reason for the decision and the Musher will present information in his/her defense. Both sides may bring a witness or witnesses that can corroborate their story. Witnesses are limited to Judges, Veterinarians, volunteers, or mushers that have first hand information concerning the situation being determined. A jury comprised of the Race Marshal, one (1) RGO member, and the Musher Rep (selected by the mushers at the pre-race meeting) will render a majority decision. Note: if the musher rep is unable to serve, the alternate will be called upon to serve

10.0 THE RACE:

10.1 All Kearney 120 teams will have their bags checked before the Start, leaving checkpoint, and at the Finish.

10.2. All mushers and their lead dog will participate (if required) in Closing ceremonies.

10.3. The RGO will provide additional personnel to escort teams to the starting line.

a. Any musher who misses his/her pick-up time will start 2 minutes after the last scheduled team leaves the chute. If two or more teams are late they will leave at two minute intervals in the order that they were originally scheduled to leave. Teams so affected will have their start time adjusted to the time that they actually leave the start chute and will each be assessed a 30 minute time penalty.

10.4. Subject to compliance with all race rules, regulations and determinations of the Race Marshal, a team finish time, as well as the time into each checkpoint, is measured when the nose of the lead dog crosses the finish line.

a. Should any of the mandatory gear be missing a monetary penalty may be assessed for each item missing.

b. Expendable or consumable gear (e.g. booties, food) need not be present on arrival at a checkpoint or at the finish.

10.6. In order to finish the race, a team must leave the checkpoint by 6:00 am Sunday. Any team unable to leave by the designated time will be noted as "did not finish" (DNF) and will not be allowed to continue.

11.0 CHECKPOINTS

11.1. Each musher must sign in and out personally at the checkpoint.

11.2. All teams must submit to a mandatory Vet Check at a checkpoint. It is the musher's responsibility to locate a veterinarian and schedule the vet check. The musher may have the dogs checked at any time from arrival to departing the checkpoint. Having a dog pass

the vet check in the checkpoint does not automatically guarantee that the dog will not be removed from the team before departure should the dog's physical condition deteriorate or a previously undiagnosed injury be diagnosed before the team has left the checkpoint.

11.3. Dogs may be dropped from a team only at the checkpoint. If a dog is to be dropped, the musher must notify a race veterinarian before leaving the dog and must have the vet diary annotated. The dog must be marked out at that time.

11.4. Any musher leaving his/her team at an assisted checkpoint must do so only if a handler is available to supervise the team.

11.5. Accommodations (space for bedding down dogs, rest rooms, etc.)

a. Efforts will be made to give mushers every advantage in this regard, but no guarantees are tendered.

11.6. Each musher is responsible for having the necessary food at the checkpoint. (personnel and dog food)

a. One drop bag will be allowed for the checkpoint. The maximum weight of the bag is 50 pounds. The drop bag must be left at the side door (west side) of the Community Centre before the Mushers Meeting.

b. One bale of straw per musher will be available at the checkpoint.

c. Mushers or handlers will be responsible for clean up of the straw and/or any other garbage left within their checkpoint area. There will be a \$100.00 penalty enforced if clean up is not completed by 2:00pm on the Sunday before the closing ceremonies.

12.0 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

12.1. No outside assistance other than that planned by the race giving organization is permitted between checkpoints.

a. Exceptions may be made under emergency conditions as determined by the Race Marshal or a Race Judge.

12.2. Mushers may aid each other in appropriate ways under emergency conditions.

12.3. Outside assistance with repair to broken or destroyed equipment may be allowed under the supervision of the Race Marshal or a Race Judge.

12.4. Mushers may receive assistance in cases of uncontrolled or lost dog teams.

a. Outside assistance must be accepted if a musher has lost complete control of a team; this includes motorized assistance.

b. The Race Marshal or a Race Judge must be notified of such a circumstance and will rule on its validity.

12.5. A musher may not receive assistance from any motorized vehicle between checkpoints except in the case of a medical emergency or a lost team.

a. Pacing with a vehicle is prohibited.

12.6 Dog trucks will be parked in the Legion Parking Lot.

12.7 Handlers are allowed at the checkpoint.

12.8 Handlers at the checkpoint are limited too:

a. Helping park teams.

b. Watching teams while musher is not on scene.

c. Helping teams leave the checkpoint.

d. Helping a team that has officially scratched from the race return to the dog truck.

Note: Any other help is subject to a penalty or disqualification.

12.6. No electronic communication or GPS devices are permitted.

13.0 HANDLING AND TREATMENT OF DOGS

13.1. The cruel and/or inhumane treatment of dogs by any musher or handler as determined by the Race Officials is strictly prohibited.

13.2. In the event a team gets away from the musher, it will not be disqualified if the musher regains control provided they have not left the race course.

a. If the team and the musher have left the race course, they must re-enter the course at the point they left it.

13.3. All dogs on a team must be in harness and attached to the sled

a. No loose leaders will be permitted.

b. A musher must make every effort to secure a dog which becomes loose accidentally.

c. Dogs not in the team gangline must be restrained in the sled basket at all times during the course of the race.

13.4. It is the musher's responsibility to check for traffic at road crossings on the race course.

a. The RGO will attempt to secure road crossings, but final safety is the musher's responsibility.

13.5. Two or more teams may not be tied together except to assist a musher at some single location along the race route.

a. Mushers involved in such a situation must notify a race judge at the next checkpoint along the trail.

b. No penalty will be assessed if a musher is aiding another race participant in danger for his/her life.

13.6. A musher may have another team haul his/her dogs only if they agree and if the musher is hauling two or more dogs already.

13.7. Expired dogs: Any dog expired on the trail must be covered and transported in the sled to a checkpoint. The musher must then complete a report and present it to the Race Veterinarian.

13.8. Dogs cannot be boxed during the race.

13.9 Forced rehydration of a dog is the responsibility of race veterinarians only. Any dog entering a checkpoint requiring emergency or forced rehydration must be dropped from the team and placed under medical supervision.

14.0 THE RACE COURSE

14.1. Teams must stay on the race course. If the team and the musher have left the race course, they must re-enter the course at the point they left it.

14.2. When overtaking another team, the musher must call "TRAIL" if/when he or she wants the overtaken musher to relinquish the trail.

a. The slower team must relinquish the trail immediately when "TRAIL" is called and assist the passing team if necessary. Sticks and other poling aids cannot be used within 100 feet (either behind or in front) of another team and must be stowed when a musher calls for trail.

b. When neither team is able to pull away from the other, the mushers shall agree mutually on the appropriate team to lead out.

14.3. No-Man's-Land will be well marked. Musher's will no longer have the option to call trail nor will musher's be required to relinquish the trail. Sticks and other poling aids must be stowed in No-Man's-Land.

14.4. Musher's setting up camp along the trail are required to ensure that the racecourse is clear of all dogs and gear.

a. All fires must be built a safe distance from the trail.

14.5. The race will continue under all but the most severe of weather conditions.

a. Musher's must come prepared to contend with cold, wind, storm conditions, and bare sections of trail.

b. In the event of questionable trail conditions, the RGO will make the decision to postpone or cancel the race no later than the Thursday of race week.

c. After the start of the musher's meeting, the Race Marshal will assume all responsibility for any further postponement or alteration of start/finish locations.

d. The primary consideration will be the safety and well being of the dogs and musher's, not the comfort of the musher.

14.6. Musher's observing littering on the trail are encouraged to report it. A musher may be fined up to \$100 for intentional littering. A time penalty may also be imposed at the discretion of the race judges.

15.0 CLAIMS

15.1. Each musher agrees to hold the RGO, the race sponsors and other contributors (as distinguished from individual sponsors of musher's and teams) harmless from any claim or demand based upon any alleged action or inaction by the musher, his/her dogs or others acting on his/her behalf.

15.2. Each musher agrees to hold the RGO, the race sponsors and other contributors (as distinguished from individual sponsors of musher's and teams) harmless from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the musher, his/her dogs, his/her property or others acting on his/her behalf.

15.3. The RGO claims unconditional authority to allow race sponsors to film, photograph or otherwise collect and document information about the race and race participants for use in advertising, public relations or other publicity purposes.

15.4. Each musher shall sign any and all documents as may be requested by the RGO to accept the foregoing statements and conditions.

a. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

b. All documents will be presented to the musher at Registration or will be included in the musher entry packet.