

All dogs entered in the race must be vaccinated against Parvo, Distemper, and Rabies. Proof of vaccinations must be shown at the musher sign-in at 1pm-5pm at Wild West Pizzeria on Thursday, Dec. 10th, 2009.

Dogs can be dropped from the team, but no dogs may be added.

All dogs shall be in the team, on the sled, or appropriately restrained. In the event of a lost dog, the musher must regain control of the dog before completing the race. Mushers crossing the finish line with a loose dog will be disqualified.

Cruel or inhumane treatment of dogs by any musher or handler will result in disqualification.

Equipment

All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.

All harnesses shall be padded around the neck and chest.

Some type of sled shall be drawn. Sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, brush bow, and snowhook. Sled shall include a sled bag capable of carrying a dog and able to be completely enclosed in the case of a severely injured or dead dog.

Dog Bedding

The Forest Service requires that any straw or hay used on National Forest Land be certified.

Running the Race

All teams shall complete the course as marked.

When overtaking another team, the musher shall call "trail". The overtaken team must relinquish trail by stopping or slowing their team and must assist the passing team when necessary. When neither team is able to pull away from the other, the mushers shall mutually agree on who is to lead. Please use common courtesy and good sportsmanship.

In the case of head on passing, the homeward bound team shall have right of way.

There will be no calling of "trail" in no man's land. No man's land will be the last 2 miles of the course, starting at the bridge crossing the South Fork of the Madison River.

In the case of a lost team, the musher will not be disqualified provided the musher regains control of the team and completes the course. Mushers may use any means necessary to regain control of a lost team.

A team has officially finished when the nose of the lead dog crosses the finish line.

Conduct and Disqualification

Mushers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs and handlers at all times during the race. If the Race Marshall determines that the musher or handler's conduct is detrimental to the race, that musher will be disqualified.

Willful failure to follow race rules may result in disqualification.

Officials

The race marshall has the final say on any and all matters that may arise. The race marshall will be announced at the musher's meeting.

The West Yellowstone Sled Dog Race has been made possible with money received from the Town of West Yellowstone Marketing and Promotion Fund.