

THE LAKE MINNETONKA KLONDIKE DOG DERBY

RACE RULES AND REGULATIONS

2024

SECTION I – RACE ENTRY

A. Entry Fee, Entry and Withdrawal Dates, and Entry Requirements

1. The 2024 race entry fee is \$150 USD.
2. The entry fee must be paid at the time of online registration for the entry to be considered complete.
3. The order of entries will be based on online registration and payment time stamped from the web site, on a first come first serve basis.
4. Early registration will open to 2023 mushers only on Monday, September 25th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. CST. Regular registration will open to all mushers on Monday, October 2nd, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. CST.
5. There will be a maximum of 35 teams allowed to race. Registration will close and move to a wait list if/when roster capacity is reached.
6. A team may withdraw from the race up to and including Sunday, [January 7th, 2024](#) (11:59 p.m. CST) and receive a full refund of the race fee. Withdrawals after [January 7th, 2024](#), will forfeit the registration fee.
7. The Klondike Dog Derby reserves the right to reject entries for just cause. Any sanctions to entrants by other races will be upheld for the Klondike Dog Derby at the discretion of the Race Marshal.

8. The Klondike Dog Derby will provide a dog handling crew to get each driver/team to the start chute. However, each driver will be responsible for securing a handler/handlers to get their team back to their truck at the completion of the race.
9. Each driver will be required to provide us with an emergency contact. The emergency contact must be available to help with the musher's team and/or rig in the event of an emergency at the race.

B. Event Dates and Requirements

Friday, February 2nd, 2024

1. The Pre-Race Veterinary Exams ("Vet Checks") will be held from (time TBD). It is the responsibility of each driver to secure a Vet Check time slot, available through klondikedogderby.com under the Mushers tab. It is mandatory for all teams to go through the required Vet Check.
2. The Driver's Meeting will be held at (time TBD). Attendance at the Driver's Meeting is mandatory for all drivers. Bibs and race order will be distributed at the Driver's Meeting.
3. There will be a Meet-the-Musher and Hug-a-Husky event from (time TBD). It is mandatory for all teams to be available during this event.

Saturday, February 3rd, 2024

1. Please arrive at the mushers parking area in the order and time announced at the Driver's Meeting. All teams are required to be parked by 8:00 a.m. CST.
2. There will be a short Awards Ceremony on Saturday, February 3rd at 5:00 p.m. CST under the arch at the start/finish on Water Street. This Awards Ceremony will focus on the first, second and third place award winners and will be open to the public and media. This Awards Ceremony is mandatory for the first, second and third place winners.
3. There will be an additional Finisher's Banquet on Saturday, February 3rd at 6:00 p.m. CST. The Finisher's Banquet is not a mandatory event. However, you must be present to claim any cash or other prizes and awards.

4. Exceptions to these mandatory events may be given by the Race Marshal under extenuating circumstances. If exceptions have not been made, failure of a driver/team to attend these events may result in a fine, time penalty or race disqualification.

C. Driver Requirements

1. A driver must be named by January 7th, 2024. If a driver is not named by this date, and there are additional teams on the waitlist, registration for the original team will be refunded to make room for teams on the waitlist.
2. Drivers under 18 must be approved by the Race Marshal, and have a written release signed by a parent or legal guardian before they will be allowed to race.
3. Substitution of drivers may be allowed by the Race Marshal up to the start of the Driver's Meeting and only in the case of an emergency (providing the substitute driver meets driver qualifications).
4. The driver starting the race shall drive the team throughout the race.
5. It is highly recommended that drivers have trained and/or raced on an ice trail prior to racing the Klondike Dog Derby due to it being primarily an ice trail (the trail is 100% on ice except for the short start and finish on Water Street).

D. Dog Requirements

ANY CRUEL OR INHUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS, THAT IMPLIES ANY ACTION OR NON-ACTION CAUSING PAIN OR SUFFERING TO A DOG, WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

1. Vaccinations

- All dogs participating in the competition must have the following current vaccinations. These vaccinations must have been given at least 21 days prior to the pre-race Vet Check and be current through the end of the race :
 - Distemper
 - Adenovirus-2
 - Parvovirus
 - Parainfluenza

- Rabies
- Rabies vaccines must be current.
 - Three (3) year rabies vaccines are acceptable. Three year rabies vaccines could not have been given earlier than February 3rd, 2021, or within 21 days of the start of the race.
 - One (1) year rabies vaccines could not have been given earlier than February 3rd, 2023, or within 21 days of the start of the race.
- A current Rabies Vaccination Certificate, signed by a licensed veterinarian, must be provided during the pre-race veterinary examination. If the musher is not able to provide one upon request, the dog will not be allowed to compete in the race.
- Dogs coming from Alaska having valid certificates signed by Lay Vaccinators will be accepted. The manufacturer's vaccine serial number of the rabies vaccine administered to such dogs must be available to the Klondike Dog Derby veterinary team.
- 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.
- In addition to race dogs, all non race dogs traveling with a musher must be current on all vaccinations. This is to ensure the health and well being of all dogs participating in the Klondike Dog Derby.

2. Pre-Race Veterinary Examination ("Vet Check")

- All dogs must undergo a pre-race veterinary examination ("Vet Check") performed by the Klondike Dog Derby veterinary team. All dogs must be examined at this pre-race veterinary examination or they will not be allowed to race. Only dogs in good health will be allowed to participate in the competition.
- It is the responsibility of each driver to secure a Vet Check time slot, available through klondikedogderby.com under the Mushers tab. The 2024 Vet Check will be held on Friday, February 2nd, 2024.
- Upon completion of the Vet Check, the driver will be provided with a veterinary form which will need to be carried with them and available to the vet team upon request.

Drivers must provide each competing dog's name, age and gender to the veterinary team for the veterinary form.

- Any dogs not meeting the criteria for passing the Vet Check will not be allowed to participate in the race.
 - All dogs will be identified, marked or tagged prior to the start of the race with any marking technique provided by the race. If there are multiple teams in the same vehicle, each team will be marked separately.
 - Each team is allowed to check one (1) extra dog at the Vet Check and the extra dog will be marked out the morning of the race. Therefore, 9 dogs can be checked for the 8 dog race. The number of dogs entered in the race is declared at the pre-race Vet Check and the names of the dogs participating will be listed on the veterinary form.
 - Dogs participating in the Klondike Dog Derby fall under the jurisdiction and care of the Chief Veterinarian and veterinary team from the time of the pre-race Vet Check until one (1) hour after the team finishes the race.
 - A driver must allow any member of the veterinary team to examine a race dog during this timeframe if they deem it necessary.
 - The cruel or inhumane treatment of any dog by a driver is strictly prohibited and will be penalized by disqualification and possible barring from future Klondike Dog Derby events. This includes refusing treatments deemed necessary by race veterinarians for the dog's health and welfare.
 - Welfare is defined as health issues that are life threatening or potentially life threatening as determined by a race veterinarian.
 - Upon checking in at the pre-race Vet Checks, the driver will sign waivers stating that they have read and understand this policy.
3. Only northern breed dogs will be allowed to participate in the race.

E. Drugs and Drug Testing

Drivers

1. The Klondike Dog Derby will endeavor to provide a competition that is free of those drugs and medications that could unfairly enhance the performance of the driver or might endanger the driver's animals or the driver's health. For this reason, the following drugs

which are banned by the International Olympic Committee are prohibited from the competition start until the competition ends, including the awards ceremony:

- Stimulants (amphetamines)
 - Ephedrine and related compounds (including anabolic steroids)
 - Diuretics
 - Blood doping
 - Street drugs
 - Pain killer narcotics, including codeine, cocaine, heroin, and hallucinogens
 - Alcohol above the legal limit imposed by state traffic regulations
2. Some physical disorders (i.e. high blood pressure and asthma) are commonly treated with above-listed banned drugs. (i.e. diuretics, metaproterenol and some inhalers). We value the health and welfare of the mushers participating in the Klondike Dog Derby, therefore using a form of such medications to manage health and well being is permitted.
 3. Under direct supervision of medical or drug testing staff, a musher may be requested to provide a urine sample 15 minutes after the race. A positive test or refusal to provide such a sample may subject the musher to disciplinary action.

Dogs

1. No injectable, oral or topical drug which may suppress the signs of illness or injury may be used on a dog.
2. 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.
3. A driver may not inject any substance into a dog during the race.
4. The following drugs are prohibited:
 - Analgesics (prescriptive or non-prescriptive)
 - Anti-inflammatory drugs, including but not limited to:
 - Corticosteroids
 - Antiprostaglandins
 - Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories
 - Salicylates
 - DMSO
 - Central nervous system stimulants
 - Cough suppressants
 - Anesthetics

- Diuretics
 - Anabolic steroids
 - Muscle relaxants
 - Injectable anticholinergics
 - Antihistamines
 - Appetite Stimulants (including but not limited to Capromorelin)
5. The external use of topical corticosteroids is generally limited to use on the feet. In certain cases, topical eye ointments containing steroids may be allowed by the veterinary team.
 6. The use of megestrol acetate (Ovaban) as an estrus suppressant is permitted in intact females. This medication must be declared at the pre-race Vet Check and recorded by the examining veterinarian at that time.
 7. Cheque drops (Mibolerone) is not allowed on racing dogs.
 8. Personal prescriptions written for and carried by the driver may not be used on a dog.
 9. The practice of blood doping, i.e. injection of whole blood, packed blood cells, or blood substitutes, is prohibited.
 10. The use of general or local anesthetics will not be allowed in any form unless the dog is withdrawn from the race.
 11. Race veterinarians may utilize any of the listed drugs or other prohibited drugs necessary to maintain a dog's health. However, such dogs will be withdrawn from the race.
 12. Dogs are subject to the collection of urine or blood samples, at the discretion of the testing veterinarian, at any point from the pre-race examination until one (1) hour after all the teams have finished the race. The driver or a handler will remain with the dogs. All results will be sealed and signed before the tests are considered complete.
 - A driver must assist the veterinarian in collecting samples whenever requested. If urine or blood testing of a dog reveals any of the prohibitive drugs in the dog, this rule has been violated regardless of when such drugs were administered to the dog.
 - Current drug testing techniques can reveal substances administered up to 2 weeks before the testing. If there is any concern about medications used on the dogs prior to the race, the musher should contact the chief veterinarian at least one week prior to the pre-race vet check.
 - Some non-prescription anti-diarrheals (such as Kaopectate and Pepto-Bismol) and some herbal preparations will cause a positive drug test and therefore are

prohibited. Any concerns about these preparations should be addressed prior to the race with the chief veterinarian.

F. Equipment Requirements

1. Sleds

- Sleds must be tandem hitch with one tow line, and not fan type hitch.
- Sleds shall be equipped with an adequate working brake (not only a track), brush bow, and reflective tape on the rear stanchions.
- Braking devices must be placed between the runners and not extend beyond the length of the runners.
- Sleds must have attached a snow hook and snub-line. Due to the terrain of the race (lake trail), the snow hook should be capable of hooking on ice.
- Mandatory gear items may be carried in exterior pouches so long as those items are firmly secured and do not inhibit the driver from maneuvering and controlling the sled or using the braking or anchoring devices.
- All parts and components of the sled must be in good working order at the start of the race.

2. Sled Bags

- The sled bag must be capable of securely, safely, and completely enclosing a struggling dog or, if necessary, covering a severely injured dog.
- The sled bag must be large enough to haul two dogs minimum in addition to mandatory equipment.
- “Lay down” style bags are not acceptable and will not be allowed.
- The Race Marshal has the right to disqualify any team without an appropriate sled bag.

3. Gang Lines

- All gang lines must be made of coated cable, or have a cable core, or be made of “iron rope.” Bare cable ganglines are not allowed.

4. Harnesses

- All harnesses must be padded around the neck and chest areas and in good condition.
- All harnesses must have reflective tape on them for safety during times of poor visibility.

F. Mandatory Equipment

Each driver must have the following items on their sled or on their person at the start, throughout and upon completion of the race:

1. Any promotional materials provided by the race organization
2. Trail map - provided by the race organization
3. Compass
 - this must be an actual compass, compasses on a cell phone do not qualify
4. Vet Book - provided by the race veterinary team
5. First aid kit
 - The first aid kit should include a bandage to apply pressure to a bleeding wound.
6. Knife
7. Cable cutter
 - The cable cutter needs to be a cutter you know will cut your cable gang line. A multi-tool (such as a Leatherman) is not acceptable as a cable cutter.
8. Axe or hatchet
 - The axe/hatchet can be used to notch the ice to more easily set a snow hook if necessary.
9. One set of dog booties per dog
 - The dog booties do not have to be on the dogs, but should be available if needed along the course.
10. Working headlamp

- In the case that snow conditions decrease visibility on the lake, or if a team is out after sundown, the headlamp must be turned on and visible from the front when approaching the team.

11. Leader Light

- Lead dogs must be equipped with red flashing leader lights that are turned on for the duration of the race. This is due to potential visibility issues on the lake based on weather conditions that can change at any time.

SECTION II – THE RACE

A. Start Procedures and Race Timing

1. All drivers, handlers and team trucks must be in the official musher parking area and available to the public on race day by 8:00 a.m. CST.
2. All driver's sled and mandatory equipment must be ready and available for inspection for pre-race bag checks, and at any time during and immediately following the race upon a Race Judge's request.
3. Each driver will be provided with two electronic timing tags to be attached to the back stanchions of their sled. All timing tags must be secured to the back stanchion of the sled as directed, unless the sled does not allow for this and other arrangements have been approved. Refusal to properly attach timing tags, or purposeful attempts to alter their location for a timing advantage, will result in a time penalty or DQ.
4. There will be a device (tire, post, cable) at the start line for the driver to fasten their team. At the signal, each driver will release their team and begin the race.
5. Teams will leave the starting line at 2 minute intervals.
6. Any musher not able to start according to the order drawn, will have to do so one (1) minute after the last team scheduled to start the race, or at the Race Marshal's discretion. The Race Marshal may invoke a time penalty of up to thirty (30) minutes for missed start times. If a team fails at a second attempt the Race Marshal may invoke an additional time penalty or withdraw the team. Any driver who cannot leave the starting line within ten minutes of the last team's departure will be disqualified unless extenuating circumstances prevail.

7. Late start teams will leave in a succeeding one (1) minute interval order. Additional time may be allowed at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
8. For elapsed time purposes, the race will be a common start event. Each driver's elapsed time will be calculated.
9. Trail time for each team shall begin at its original start time. However, trail time for teams required to start after the last scheduled team will begin at the actual start time.
10. The difference in departure times from the starting line will be made up at the finish. Late starting teams (teams unable to depart in the order of their bib numbers) will have their differential times calculated from their official start times. Any changes due to safety concerns will be announced at the Drivers' Meeting.
11. A team not clearing the starting chute - minimum distance 100 feet (30.5 meters) - shall make way for the next starting team(s) and in no way shall interfere with their progress.
12. The official finish time is determined by the location of the electronic timing system (electronic timing chip attached to the sled) crossing the finish line. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its musher, the team shall have finished when the musher crosses the finish line. The official finish line will be determined by the location of the electronic timing system (this may or may not be under the Klondike Dog Derby arch).
13. Finishing teams are required to continue through the finish line/ chute area past the second arrival to avoid delaying other arriving teams.
14. To be valid, times must be certified by the Race Marshal.

B. Driver's Conduct and Trail Rules

1. Drivers shall conduct themselves in a civil, sportsmanship like manner throughout the competition. No abusive behavior towards anyone will be tolerated.
2. Driver's and their crew are expected to be respectful at our partner hotels/lodging facilities, such as no littering, following hotel guidelines, etc.
3. Free dropping of dogs will not be allowed in downtown Excelsior or in any of our race affiliated facilities, or at any of our partner hotels/lodging facilities.
4. Driver's are strongly encouraged to help another driver in an obvious emergency.
5. Driver's are responsible for the conduct of their handler(s).

6. If a team is stopped along the trail for any reason, care should be taken by the stopped team's driver to maintain an unobstructed path for oncoming teams to pass.
7. Passing:
 - In the event that two teams must pass on the trail, the overtaking team has the right of way. When the passing team is within a distance of 50 feet behind the team being overtaken, they can declare "trail" to alert the team ahead that they have the right of way. The driver being overtaken must be in control of their dogs and yield the trail until the passing team has passed. Once the pass has occurred, both can continue with the race.
 - If the passing team becomes entangled as a result of the passing, the team's driver may require the overtaken team to stop for no longer than one (1) minute.
 - The exception to passing rules is No Man's Land. No Man's Land will begin approximately one (1) mile from the finish line and will be indicated by signage. Once teams enter a No Man's Land, previous passing rules no longer apply. However, if a team is stopped in No Man's Land, the driver must make reasonable efforts to not block the trail.
8. The use of ski poles are allowed on the trail with the exception of No Man's Land.
9. Cell phones and/or GPS units are allowed.
10. Pacing of any kind is prohibited.
11. Skiing behind the sled is prohibited.
12. Littering in the parking area or trail is prohibited. Driver's are responsible for cleaning up after their self and team.

C. Dog Handling and Rules

ANY CRUEL OR INHUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS, THAT IMPLIES ANY ACTION OR NON-ACTION CAUSING PAIN OR SUFFERING TO A DOG, WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

13. Each team must start the Klondike Dog Derby with a minimum of seven (7) dogs, and a maximum of eight (8) dogs for the 8 dog, 40 mile race.

14. A driver may 'drop' a dog up until the team leaves the starting line. However, there will be no opportunity to drop a dog along the course.
15. The veterinary team may examine dogs on a team from the time of the pre-race Vet Check until (1) hour after the team finishes the race. The driver or handler(s) must assist the veterinarian who is performing the examination on the dog(s).
16. The Chief Veterinarian or Race Marshal reserve the right to pull a dog or dogs from a team at any time.
17. All dogs shall be harnessed in either single or double file.
18. No dog(s) will be allowed to start the race in the sled bag.
19. Loose leaders are not allowed.
20. A driver may not allow any of their dogs to be hauled by another team except in the case of an emergency. The team receiving the assistance will be disqualified.
21. A driver who abandons or loses their team for whatever reason, for a period of time in a location that does not allow the musher to exercise direct care and control over the team, may be required to withdraw from the race.
22. All teams and drivers must complete the entire course as marked. In the event that a team deviates from the course, they must re-enter at the point they left the course to continue the race.
23. All dogs starting the race must return to the finish line either on the gangline or in the sled bag. If a driver is unable to complete the race with all dogs in the gangline or sled bag, the team is considered disqualified and will be withdrawn from the race.
24. The use of whips or any similar device is considered inhumane and is strictly prohibited.
25. The use of "jingles" or any such device is strictly prohibited.
26. Any aggressive yelling at dogs is considered inhumane treatment and will not be tolerated. This could result in the driver being disqualified.
27. All food and water must be ingested voluntarily by the dog(s) without use of physical or medical interventions.

28. Any dog that expires on the trail must be put in the sled bag and covered completely while returning to the start/finish area. The driver must stay at their truck until the Head Veterinarian and Race Officials interview the driver and get all details surrounding the situation.

- Any dog that expires during the race will have a necropsy performed by a licensed veterinarian according to ISDVMA Necropsy Guidelines.
- Prize money will not be paid until the final results of the histopathology portion of the necropsy are returned, which may take up to 4-6 months.
- If necropsy results determine that the cause of death was other than natural causes, the team will be disqualified and potentially barred from all future Klondike Dog Derby events. Prize money will not be awarded.
- If necropsy results determine that the cause of death was due to abuse, the team will be disqualified and will be barred from all future Klondike Dog Derby events. Prize money will not be awarded.

D. Outside Assistance

1. Due to the Klondike Dog Derby being a race run primarily on ice, in a climate that may or may not provide adequate opportunities for drivers to secure their team ('hook down'), outside assistance to secure a team to allow a driver to tend to their dogs or equipment is allowed. This assistance is limited to standing on the brake and/or snow hook allowing the driver to tend to their dogs and/or equipment.
2. In the event of a loose team, anyone may stop and secure a driverless/loose dog team at any time. The driver may recover their dogs either on foot or with the assistance of another driver and continue the race. All such incidents must be reported to a Race Judge and may result in being required to withdraw from the race.
3. In a case where a dog or driver's safety is in danger and it is an emergency, any outside assistance is acceptable. This includes accepting rides on motorized vehicles. All such assistance must be reported to a Race Judge.
4. Requests for directions are acceptable.
5. Replacement of broken or lost equipment on the trail must be arranged through, and directed by a Race Judge. In the event of a broken sled, the driver must send word to a Race Judge, who will then direct a handler to transport a replacement to the stranded driver.

6. Drivers may not arrange for any person or persons to instruct them on the trail in a way that is advantageous to the competition.

E. Weather and Trail Conditions

1. The race will continue under all but the most severe weather and trail conditions. Drivers must be prepared to run in cold, wind, rain, and on occasional small portions of bare ice.
2. In the event that trail conditions are deemed by the Race Organization and/or Hennepin County Water Patrol as unsafe, the Race Organization will make the decision to modify, postpone or cancel the race no less than three (3) days prior to the event.
3. A panel consisting of the Klondike Dog Derby Board of Directors, Race Marshal and Trail Boss assume responsibility for all decisions regarding the modification, postponement or cancellation of the race. The primary consideration will be the safety and well being of dogs and drivers.

F. Ethics on Sponsoring

1. The Klondike Dog Derby is and must remain a race with its own ethics and with an original and particular spirit which together make up its value and interest.
2. The Race Organization must make sure that the spirit of the race is not deviated from by events which are against such a spirit, especially as far as advertising and sponsoring is concerned.
3. The mushers as well as the people who for any reason participate in the race, even if they accompany or represent the mushers or are bound to the mushers by private agreements, must behave according to the spirit established by the Race Organization and refrain from any behavior which may be against this spirit.
4. For this reason, the mushers may not wear clothes and use equipment that are against the interest of the race or cause damage to the Race Organization or to the official sponsors.
5. The race bibs will be attached in such a way that the number and the name or names of the official sponsors be and remain perfectly visible during the entire race; at the start, at the finish and when prizes are awarded.
6. As for the sleds, the Race Organization reserves the right to have a communication space on one side of each sled for a sponsor banner or sign.

7. For the protection of each participant and for the image of the Klondike Dog Derby, every musher and handler participating in the 2023 Klondike Dog Derby gives their authorization to the Race Organization to supply and broadcast the photos and video footage representing the musher and their dogs taken before, during and after the event to be used for all kinds of support, through any technical supports as much by way the reproduction as by way of advertising, and the musher allows the Klondike Dog Derby to transmit these authorized uses to other parties.

SECTION III – OFFICIATING

A. Race Officials

8. The Race Judges are responsible for assisting the Race Marshal in all decisions and enforcement of all race rules.
9. The Chief Veterinarian is responsible for assisting the Race Marshal in all decisions that involve dog health and welfare.
10. The Klondike veterinary team is responsible for assisting the Race Marshal in the enforcement of all race rules regarding dog health and welfare.
11. The Race Marshal will consult with the Race Director prior to any penalty decisions or press releases.

B. Penalties

1. A rule infraction may lead to the issuance of fines, time penalties, or disqualification.
 - Fines may reach a maximum of US \$2,000.00 per violation and can be deducted from prize money. No musher will be allowed to participate in future Klondike Dog Derby events until fines are paid.
 - Time penalties of up to a maximum of five (5) hours per infraction may be issued if breaking a rule gives the musher a time advantage.

- The Race Organization may censure a musher even once the race is over. A censure may be a warning and/or could lead to the musher's exclusion from future Klondike Dog Derby competition.
2. Any Race Official may report to the Race Marshal an infraction from the rules and/or conduct unbecoming to the race.
 3. The Chief Veterinarian and Race Director will be included in all cases involving cruel and inhumane treatment.
 4. Time and/or monetary penalties are issued by the Race Marshal. Disqualification by the Race Marshal is based on recommendation of the other Race Officials.
 5. Any assessed penalty will be presented to the musher in writing.
 6. All decisions regarding penalties will be final.

C. Conduct and Disqualifications

1. Drivers are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their dogs, and their designated handlers at all times before, during and after the race when dealing with race personnel, officials, volunteers or the general public.
2. Failure to adhere to the published rules may lead to the issuance of fines, time penalties, or disqualification. Determination of this will be the responsibility of the Race Marshal.
3. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver, handler or team is acting in a way that is detrimental to the sport, that team may be penalized or disqualified. These penalties can affect final placement of a team.
4. A disqualified driver will forfeit all entry fees, placements or monetary awards.
5. All official decisions are final; further arguing or complaining may result in a fine or disqualification from future Klondike Dog Derby events.
6. Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail.

D. Protests and Hearings

1. Any driver wishing to register a written protest must do so at the finish of the race and before the awards ceremony. Any formal protest must be accompanied by a \$200.00 deposit.
2. Formal protests must be submitted directly to a Race Judge and shall not be discussed with media representatives or the general public prior to a decision being made. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in disqualification.
3. An official decision will be made by the Race Marshal following a hearing attended by all involved parties, as deemed appropriate by the Race Marshal.
4. Protest fee refunds will be refunded to successful protests.

SECTION IV – CLAIMS

A. Claims

1. The musher agrees to hold the Klondike Dog Derby, the main sponsor, co-sponsor and other contributors to the Klondike Dog Derby (as distinguished from the individual musher's sponsors) harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or non-action by the mushers, their dogs, agents, or others acting on their behalf.
2. The musher also agrees to release the Klondike Dog Derby, competition sponsors and their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the musher, his dogs, property including, but not limited to, lost dogs.
3. The Klondike Dog Derby has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to photography and to gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such photographs and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.
4. The musher shall sign any/all documents that the Klondike Dog Derby requests in evidence the foregoing. The documents must be executed at the Driver's Meeting.
5. The intent of these regulations is to ensure a fair competition. Klondike Dog Derby appointed Race Officials are responsible for interpreting the rules to insure that intent is met.