Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race

2024 Race Rules

Northeast Oregon

200 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race 100 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race 31 Mile Race 31 Mile Junior Race

Race Start: January 18, 2024, 12:00 P.M.

SECTION 1: Entry, Requirements and Events

A. Entry information

- 1. Registration opens May 1.
- 2. Classes
 - a. 200 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race: 12 dog maximum
 - b. 100 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race: 8 dog maximum
 - c. 31 Mile Race: 6 dog maximum
 - i. 2-day event, 31 miles each day
 - d. Junior Race: 6 dog maximum
 - i. 2-day event, 31 miles each day

3. Entry Fees

- a. Receipt of the entry fee and entry form will constitute the musher's intent to enter the race and further acknowledges the musher agrees to comply with each and every rule as stated.
- b. For the Junior Race entry fee, entry form and signed liability waiver form is required.
- 4. Entries are determined on a first come first serve basis.
- 5. The maximum combined number of teams for the 100- and 200-mile (Continuous Mid-Distance Races) races will be twenty (20).
 - a. Initially, 10 (ten) slots will be allotted for the 200 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race.
 - When 10 (ten) teams have signed up for the 200 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race, a waitlist will be maintained on a first come, first served basis. This waitlist is a combination of teams waitlisted for either Continuous Mid-Distance Race.
 - b. Initially, 10 (ten) slots will be allotted for the 100 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race.

- 1. When 10 (ten) teams have signed up for the 100 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race, a waitlist will be maintained on a first come, first served basis. This waitlist is a combination of teams waitlisted for either Continuous Mid-Distance Race.
- c. On November 1, if a total of 20 (twenty) teams have not signed up for the Continuous Mid-Distance Races, teams will be contacted in waitlist order and offered a slot on their preferred race roster (200 mile or 100 mile).
- d. Once 20 (twenty) Continuous Mid-Distance Race teams are on the race roster, the waitlist will be utilized when teams from either race withdrawal.
- e. In the case of a waitlisted team that does not receive a spot on a race roster, entry fees will be refunded.
- f. When a musher withdraws from the 200- or 100-mile races, the team at the top of the waitlist will be notified.
- g. Wait listed teams must respond within 5 (five) days after notification. If the team does not affirm entry within 5 (five) days, they forfeit the offer and the next team on the waitlist will be offered an entry.
- 6. The maximum combined entries for the 100-mile, 200-mile, 31-mile, and Junior Race will be 30 (thirty) teams.
- 7. Starting positions for the race will be determined by a drawing after the pre-race musher's meeting. Order of the drawing will be determined by receipt of the entry fee postmark date.
- 8. If a musher has not been able to finish a race class on their last two attempts, ECX reserves the right to move the musher to a lower mileage class.
- 9. Eagle Cap Extreme (ECX) reserves the right to reject an entry.
- 10. ECX will honor censures from other sled dog races.
- 11. No one convicted of animal abuse or neglect may enter ECX.

B. Musher

- 1. There will be one musher per team. The musher starting at the beginning of the race shall drive the team for the entirety of the race in which they are registered.
- 2. Age of musher
 - a. A musher must be a minimum of 18 (eighteen) years old. An experienced musher of 16 (sixteen) or 17 (seventeen) may apply, in writing, to waive the minimum age rule. Application must include number of years of experience, references from at least two veteran long-distance mushers, and written consent from parent or guardian.
 - b. For the Junior Race, the musher must be 14-17 (fourteen to seventeen) years of age.

3. Each musher must have their own vehicle and handler.

C. Musher Events

- 1. The following events are mandatory. Meeting time and location will be announced.
 - a. Pre-Race Vet Check
 - b. Pre-Race Musher Meeting
 - c. Pre-Race Musher Potluck / Bib Draw
 - d. Post-Race Debrief (not mandatory for non-finishers)
 - e. Post-Race Awards Ceremony and Reception (not mandatory for non-finishers)
- 2. Monetary penalties will be assessed for tardiness to the Pre-Race Musher's Meeting and/or for not showing up to a mandatory event (without prior approval).
 - a. Penalty for tardiness to Pre-Race Musher's Meeting: \$1.00 per minute
 - b. Penalty for no show to mandatory event (without prior approval): \$50.00

D. Musher Conduct

- 1. All mushers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, handlers and other crew, and themselves when in the race area or on the trail.
- 2. Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail.
 - a. All mushers must use civil conduct and act in a sportsmanlike manner throughout the race.
 - b. Abusive treatment of any person or animals is prohibited.
 - c. Mushers will conduct themselves in a manner such that the next musher will be welcomed with equal hospitality.
 - d. If the Race Marshal determines that musher, handler, or other crew's conduct at any time in the race or on the trail is detrimental to the race or sport as a whole, the team may be disqualified.

SECTION 2: Dogs and Veterinary Information

A. Dogs

- 1. It is the intent of this race, its officials, sponsors, and supporters that dog care be the most important aspect of the race.
- 2. Minimum allowable dogs for race start:
 - a. 12-dog/200 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race class shall consist of not more than 12 (twelve) dogs with the minimum number to start being 8 (eight).
 - b. 8-dog/100 Mile Continuous Mid-Distance Race class shall consist of not more than 8 (eight) dogs with the minimum number to start being 7 (seven).
 - c. 6-dog/31 Mile Race shall consist of not more than 6 (six) dogs with a minimum number to start being 5 (five). Dogs can be pulled from a pool of 8 (eight) dogs.

- d. 6-dog/31 Mile Junior Race shall consist of not more than 6 (six) dogs with the minimum number to start being 5 (five). Dogs can be pulled from a pool of 8 (eight) dogs.
- 3. Minimum allowable dogs for race finish:
 - a. Minimum dogs on the line to finish the 12-dog/200-Mile Mid-Distance Race and 8-dog/100-Mile Mid-Distance Race is 5 (five).
 - b. Minimum dogs on the line to finish the 6-dog/31-Mile Race and 6-dog/31-Mile Junior Race is 4 (four).
- 4. Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race stresses dog care and expects the musher to manage their team in such a way to not push dogs beyond their limits.
- 5. DOG TYPE: Only dogs suitable for cold weather travel will be permitted to enter the race. Suitability will be determined by the race veterinarians and officials.
 - a. Dogs must possess good fur, with an undercoat that insulates them from the cold temperatures and an overcoat that prevents the build-up of ice and snow in windy and cold conditions.
- 6. CONDITIONING: As a requirement of running the race, each participating dog needs to be in proper racing condition. Proper racing condition is determined by race veterinarians and officials.
- 7. ATTITUDE: Any participating dog not ready, willing, and able to run will be deemed unfit to run.
- 8. Cruel and inhumane treatment of dogs is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification and a letter sent to other race hosting organizations, both sprint and distance. Cruel and inhumane treatment involves any action or inaction that causes preventable pain or suffering to a dog.
- 9. Any dog that expires on the trail, for any reason, must be carried in the sled, fully covered, to the next available race official.
 - a. At the discretion of the Head Veterinarian, any dog that expires on the trail may be required to undergo a necropsy at the musher or owner's expense.
 - b. The musher must remain at the checkpoint until the Head Veterinarian has released the team.
 - c. The death of any dog on the trail may, upon the combined decision of the Head Veterinarian and the Race Marshal, result in the disqualification of the musher.
- 10. A musher may not allow any of their dogs to be hauled by another team.
- 11. There will be no loose leaders or dogs. All dogs must be in the team or secured in the sled bag.

B. Pre-race Vet Check

- 1. Prior to the race start, on the determined date, each dog planning to run the race will be examined by an Eagle Cap Extreme Race Veterinarian.
 - a. At the pre-race examination, a dog may be withdrawn for health reasons upon the opinion of 2 (two) Race Veterinarians.
 - b. Aggressive dogs are not allowed to run. The Head Veterinarian is allowed to determine that a dog is too aggressive to run.

C. Vaccinations and Deworming

- 1. Proof of all required vaccinations and deworming must be provided at the Pre-Race Vet Check.
 - a. Pre-Race Vet Check will be the Wednesday before race start.
 - b. *Required Vaccinations
 - i. **Rabies**: provide certificate signed by veterinarian that administered vaccine.
 - ii. **DAPP/DHPP**: provide proof from veterinarian OR sticker from vaccine vial with written date of administration.
 - iii. **Bordetella**: provide proof from veterinarian OR sticker from vaccine vial with written date of administration.
 - iv. *Leptospirosis: provide proof from veterinarian OR sticker from vaccine vial with written date of administration.
 - c. Rabies Vaccine
 - i. Must be current for state of residence's requirements and be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
 - ii. Required no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to Pre-Race Vet Check.
 - iii. Licensed veterinarian to administer by January 4, 2024.
 - 1. Rabies vaccine may be a 1-year (one) or 3-year (three) vaccine pending previous Rabies vaccination and individual state's legal requirements.
 - d. DAPP/DHPP ("distemper-parvo") Vaccine
 - Required within 12 (twelve) months of race start and no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to Pre-Race Vet Check.
 - ii. Administer DAPP/DHPP vaccine between January 18, 2023 and January 4, 2024.
 - 1. If first ever DAPP/DHPP vaccine, administration of a second dose 4 (four) weeks later is required.
 - a. The first vaccine must be administered by December 7, 2023.

b. The second vaccine must be administered by January 4, 2023.

iii. 3-year DAPP/DHPP Vaccines

- 1. Not recommended for highly athletic and racing sled dogs.
- 2. Allowed if administered by a licensed veterinarian. Provide proof from veterinarian.
- 3. Required within 36 (thirty-six) months of race start and no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to Pre-Race Vet Check.
- 4. Licensed veterinarian to administer between January 18, 2021 and January 4, 2024.

e. Bordetella ("kennel cough") Vaccine

- Required within 4 (four) months of race start and no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to Pre-Race Vet Check
- ii. Administer Bordetella vaccine between September 18, 2023 to January 4, 2024.
 - 1. If first ever Bordetella vaccine and injectable form used, administration of a second dose 4 (four) weeks later is required.
 - a. The first dose must be administered by December 7, 2023.
 - b. The second dose must be administered by January 4, 2024.
 - 2. Oral or intranasal forms of vaccine do not require a second dose 4 (four) weeks later.

f. *Leptospirosis Vaccine: *Required*

- Required within 12 (twelve) months of race start and no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to Pre-Race Vet Check.
- Administer Leptospirosis vaccine between January 18, 2023 and January 4, 2024.
 - If first ever Leptospirosis vaccine, administer a second dose 4 (four) weeks later.
 - a. The first dose must be administered by December 7, 2023.
 - b. The second dose must be administered by January 4, 2024.
- g. DHPP/DAPP and Leptospirosis can be part of a combined 7-way (seven) vaccine protocol.
 - i. DHPP/DAPP may be good for 1 (one) or 3 (three) years.
 - ii. Leptospirosis MUST be updated yearly.
- h. No vaccine can expire during the race.
- i. *Deworming: *Required*
 - i. Deworming for tapeworms, roundworms, hookworms, and whipworms is required.

- ii. 2 (two) doses of dewormer are required for complete intestinal deworming.
 - 1. Administer the first dose 4 (four) weeks prior to Pre-Race Vet Check. This dose must be administered on December 21, 2023.
 - 2. Administer a second dose 2 (two) weeks after first dose. This dose must be administered on January 4, 2024.
 - 3. For exceptions to deworming, contact the Head Race Veterinarian.
- Consult with your regular veterinarian regarding the best vaccination and deworming program for your dogs/kennel.

D. Drugs, Therapies, Supplements

- 1. The overall intent of the race rules concerning any medication is that all competing dogs are racing in a state of acceptable normal health and natural ability and appropriate conditioning to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of the dogs.
- 2. No injectable, oral, or topical drug or supplement which may suppress the signs and symptoms of illness or injury may be used in or on a dog. No drugs, supplements or other exogenous (outside of the natural biology of the body) means may be used to drive a dog or push a dog to perform beyond its natural ability. At no time may a musher use injectable drugs, vitamins, or other supplements on their dogs.
- 3. Dogs must ingest water and food without physical or chemical intervention.
- 4. The following drugs are prohibited:
 - a. Analgesic medication (prescriptive or non-prescriptive) including, but not limited to, Hemp Oil and CBD-containing products.
 - b. Anti-inflammatory medication including, but not limited to:
 - i. Corticosteroids, Anabolic steroids
 - ii. Non-steroidal agents including, but not limited to, antisprostaglandins, salicylate, DMSO, central nervous system simulants, anti-convulsants (anti-seizure medication), cough suppressants, anesthetics, diuretics, muscle relaxants, anticholinergics, antihistamines, furacin, and wintergreen.
- 5. No acupuncture or cold laser therapy is allowed to be used on dogs actively in a race team during the race.
- 6. Mis-mating medications or therapies including oral medications, implants, and injectables should only be used under veterinary care. All treatment(s) should be administered 28 (twenty-eight) days prior to the race start. All treatment(s) must be declared to the Head Veterinarian.

- 7. The injection of whole blood, blood products or any blood substitutes ("blood doping"), is prohibited.
- 8. Any other treatment, therapy, medication, or supplement determined by the Head Veterinarian to not be in the best interest of the competing dog is prohibited.

SECTION 3: Equipment

A. Equipment

- 1. All harnesses shall be padded around the neck and chest areas.
- 2. All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- 3. Some type of sled shall be drawn.
- 4. Sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, brush bow, snow hook, and snub line.
- 5. A sled bag capable of safely restraining a struggling or severely injured dog is required. Sled and sled bag shall be large enough to contain all required equipment in addition to hauling an injured dog. If you have questions about this, contact the Race Marshal.
- 6. If cable or chain necklines are used there must be a weak link incorporated into the neckline. If you have questions about this, contact the Race Marshal.
- 7. All dogs must have their name either written on their collars or attached to their collars in some fashion.

B. Mandatory Gear: 12-dog/200-Mile Mid-Distance Race and 8-dog/100-Mile Mid-Distance Race

- 1. Mandatory gear must be in the sled at the start, layover or turn-around, and at the finish line of the race. Mandatory gear will consist of:
 - a. Arctic parka
 - b. Proper cold weather sleeping bag
 - c. A usable 3 (three) gallon cooker and appropriate amount of fuel
 - d. Ax with head weight 1.5 pounds minimum and a handle at least 22 (twenty-two) inches long
 - e. 2 (two) working headlamps
 - f. Cable gang line or other chew proof gang line material
 - g. Cable cutters capable of cutting 3/16" cable in a single action
 - h. Any promotional materials provided by the ECX
 - i. Vet book
 - i. Knife
 - k. 2 (two) full sets of booties for each dog, including those being worn by dogs
 - I. First-aid kit (minimum of ace bandage, pressure dressing, and tape)
 - m. Waterproof matches or lighter
 - n. Snowshoes

- o. Trail Map
- p. SPOT Units are required if provided by ECX. If either the SOS or "hands" button (non-life-threatening situation) is activated, the musher and team will be withdrawn from the race.
- q. For mandatory dog food and musher food: see Section 3: Equipment, D: "Mandatory Gear: Food, all races"

2. Recommended equipment

- a. Emergency rations
- b. 25 (twenty-five) foot long snub line for securing team while at Ollokot checkpoint
- c. For returned dog requirements: see Section 4: The Race, E: Returned Dogs.

3. Additional equipment

- a. PLBs (Personal Locator Beacons) or SENDs (Satellite Emergency Notification Devices) will be allowed at the Musher's discretion. Activation of PLB or SEND will constitute withdrawal or disqualification from race.
- b. GPS will be allowed as long as there is no communication between persons (no voice, no email, no text messaging, etc.).
- c. The use of any device for the purpose of two-way communications is not allowed on the trail or at any checkpoint on the race. Use will result in disqualification.
- d. Spot Units: If either the SOS or "hands" button (non-life-threatening situation) is activated, the musher and team will be withdrawn.

C. Mandatory Gear: Non-Consumables, 6-dog/31 Mile Race, and 6-dog/31 Mile Junior Race

- 1. Mandatory equipment must be in the sled at the start and finish line. Mandatory gear shall consist of:
 - a. Adequate cold weather coat/parka
 - b. Working head lamp (2 (two) recommended)
 - c. Cable cutter
 - d. Any promotional materials provided by the Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race
 - e. Vet book
 - f. Knife
 - g. 2 (two) full sets of dog booties for each dog either in the sled or being worn by dogs
 - h. First-aid kit (minimum ace bandage, pressure dressing and tape)
 - i. Map
 - j. SPOT Units are required if provided by ECX. If either the SOS or "hands" button (non-life-threatening situation) is activated, the musher and team will be withdrawn.

k. For mandatory dog food and musher food: see Section 3: Equipment, D: "Mandatory Gear: Food, all races"

2. Recommended equipment:

- a. Cable gang line or other chew proof gang line material
- b. Snowshoes

3. Additional equipment

- a. PLBs (Personal Locator Beacons) or SENDs (Satellite Emergency Notification Devices) will be allowed at the Musher's discretion. Activation of PLB or SEND will constitute withdrawal or disqualification from race.
- b. GPS will be allowed as long as there is no communication between persons (no voice, no email, no text messaging, etc.).
- c. The use of any device for the purpose of two-way communications is not allowed on the trail and will result in disqualification.
- d. Spot Units: If either the SOS or "hands" button (non-life-threatening situation) is activated, the musher and team will be withdrawn.

D. Mandatory Gear: Food, all races

- 1. Teams must leave the starting chute and Ollokot checkpoint with a minimum of 1 (one) pound of kibble for each dog in the team.
 - a. This should be considered the bare minimum. Bad weather and common sense will dictate when additional food should be packed.
 - b. Littering on the trail is prohibited. Dumping food to lighten the load after leaving the start or checkpoint is prohibited.
- 2. Teams must leave the starting chute and Ollokot checkpoint with a minimum of 1 (one) day's ration of food for the musher.

SECTION 4: The Race

A. Start

- 1. All mushers and team trucks must be in the official start parking area at a specified time to be announced at the Pre-Race Musher Meeting. At the specified time, each team's sled and mandatory gear must be ready and available for inspection.
- 2. All mushers and dogs will be required to take part in pre-race ceremonies and photo session.
- 3. The 8-dog/100-mile and 12-dog/200-mile races will use a common start format. Teams will leave the start at 3 (three) minute intervals.
- 4. The 6-dog/31-mile and Junior races will use total race time where their trail time for day one and day two are combined for their total trail time.

- 5. A team that fails to arrive at the starting chute for their assigned start time will start after the last musher from the 6-dog Junior Race leaves the starting chute. The specified starting time interval will be observed.
 - a. Any musher unable to depart from the starting chute within 10 (ten) minutes of the last 6-dog Junior Race team's departure will be disqualified. In cases of extenuating circumstances, the team in question may be allowed to race at the Race Marshal's discretion.
- 6. Time differentials for the 8-dog/100-mile and 12-dog/200-mile races will be adjusted at the mandatory vet check layover at Ollokot checkpoint.
- 7. Handlers will be allowed to assist teams and mushers at the start of race only. Once a team leaves the starting chute, handlers will no longer be allowed to assist.

B. Salt Creek Checkpoint

- 1. There is no returning of dogs at Salt Creek.
- 2. There is no handler interaction with mushers or teams at Salt Creek.
- C. Ollokot Checkpoint / Mandatory Layover (8-dog/100-mile and 12-dog/200-mile)
 - 1. Each musher must sign **in** and **out** of Ollokot checkpoint each time they arrive and depart.
 - 2. Mandatory layover for the 8-dog/100-Mile Race
 - a. There is a 6 (six) hour floating mandatory rest time.
 - b. 3 (three) hours of the floating mandatory rest time must be taken at Ollokot checkpoint after the second leg of the race to allow for a mandatory vet check.
 - i. Start time differentials, if any, will be applied to this 3 (three) hour mandatory rest period.
 - 3. Mandatory layover for the 12-dog/200-mile Race
 - a. There is an 8 (eight) hour floating mandatory rest time.
 - 4 (four) hours of the floating mandatory rest time must be taken at Ollokot checkpoint after the second leg of the race to allow for a mandatory vet check
 - i. Start time differentials, if any, will be applied to this 4 (four) hour mandatory rest period.
 - 4. Mandatory rest must be declared by the musher when checking in to Ollokot checkpoint.
 - a. A team must rest for the entire period of rest time declared at check-in to receive credit for the rest time.
 - i. In example, if a musher declares 3 (three) hours of rest time when checking in to Ollokot checkpoint and leaves after only 2 (two) hours, they do not get credit for the any of the rest time.

- b. Only the amount of rest time declared at check-in will be credited.
 - i. In example, if a musher declares 2 (two) hours of rest time when checking in to Ollokot checkpoint and stays longer than the declared time, only 2 (two) hours of mandatory rest time will be credited.
- c. Additional rest time for the mandatory vet-check rest time (after leg 2 (two)) may be declared during checking in to Ollokot checkpoint.
 - i. Additional time must be declared at check-in.
- d. Rest time must be declared in whole hours. Partial hours will not be credited.
- 5. Mandatory gear except booties, dog food, and musher food will be assessed when the musher checks in to Ollokot checkpoint.
 - a. A penalty of \$25.00 will be assessed for each piece of missing mandatory gear (except booties, dog food, and musher food). A musher must acquire the missing item prior to signing out of Ollokot checkpoint.
 - b. Booties, dog food, and musher food will be assessed when the musher signs out of Ollokot checkpoint.
 - c. Each team must leave Ollokot checkpoint with all mandatory gear in the sled bag.
- 6. Outside assistance is not allowed during the race except for that offered by Eagle Cap Extreme.
 - a. Mushers may help each other at Ollokot checkpoint.
- 7. If a musher enters Ollokot checkpoint with fewer dogs than they left the starting line or last checkpoint with, the team will be disqualified.
- 8. Boisterous behavior on the part of any musher around other resting teams is strictly prohibited.
- 9. Before leaving Ollokot checkpoint to return to the finish line, the musher's parking area at Ollokot checkpoint must be clean of trash and drop bags packed for return.

D. Finish

- 1. A team's official finish occurs when the nose of the first dog crosses the finish line.
 - a. In the event the musher is not with the team when it crosses the finish line, the official finish time will be recorded when the musher crosses the finish line (after the team).
- 2. Mushers must make a sincere effort to continue in the race in a timely manner or they will be disqualified.
- 3. Each team will have a mandatory vet check after crossing the finish line.

E. Returned Dogs

1. 12-dog/200 Mile and 8-Dog/100 Mile Races: Dogs may only be returned at Ollokot checkpoint.

- 2. Returned dog paperwork must be signed by musher before leaving Ollokot checkpoint.
- 3. Each returned dog must be left with:
 - a. 2 (two) pounds of kibble +/- meat for each returned dog
 - b. 1 (one) bowl (for food/water)
 - c. 1 (one) 12" 18" (twelve to eighteen inch) chain drop.
- 4. A penalty of \$25.00 per item will be assessed for items not left with a returned dog.
- 5. At Ferguson Ski Ridge, returned dogs will not be released to handlers without a member of the Race Vet Team or a Race Official's approval.
- 6. The Vet Team will account for every returned dog and discuss medications or after care with the owners or handlers.

F. Running the Course

1. The Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race is a guest on land of the United States Forest Service and private landowners. In light of this, mushers will conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and will at no time demand "rights" to the trail.

2. Passing

- a. When overtaking another team, the musher shall call "trail." The overtaken team must relinquish the trail and assist the passing team when necessary.
- b. When neither of the teams is able to pull away from the other, the mushers shall mutually decide on the appropriate team to lead out.
- c. In a head-on passing situation, the homeward bound team has the right-of-way. The outbound team must relinquish the trail. The exception is when the outbound team is moving downhill, in which case the outbound team has the right-of-way.
- d. There shall be no calling of "trail" in No Man's Land. No Man's Land will be announced at the Pre-Race Musher's Meeting.

3. Loose Teams/Loose Dogs

- a. In the case of a loose team, the team will not be disqualified if the musher regains control of the team and the team completes the entire race trail and complies within the race rules, including checkpoint requirements.
 - i. A musher may receive any assistance from anyone in recovering a loose team.
 - ii. All teams must follow the trail as marked. As long as the team and musher continue on the trail when separated, the musher may continue the race after regaining control of the team.
 - 1. Teams inadvertently leaving the course must regain the course at the point at which it was left.

- b. Anyone may stop and secure a loose team or loose dog.
- c. Motorized assistance must be reported to a race official at the next checkpoint.
 If mechanized help is used and advantage gained, the Race Marshal may impose appropriate sanctions.

4. Safety

- a. It is the musher's responsibility to check for traffic at road crossings.
- b. Be cautious when overtaking, encountering, or being overtaken by snow machines. Always use your headlamp to signal snow machines during night travel.
- c. In the case of an emergency or an unmanageable team, outside assistance may be accepted without penalty. Any assistance must be reported to a race official by the musher at the next checkpoint.

5. Stopping on the trail

- a. When stopped on the trail, adequate room must be provided for running teams to pass the stopped team. Assistance may be given. Every effort should be made to get completely off the trail while stopped.
- b. If snacking, watering, or feeding on the trail the team must be completely off the trail when possible. An honest effort should be made to keep the trail clean of food or debris.
- c. Pack out all garbage. Littering is prohibited.
- 6. Numbered bibs, if supplied, will be worn at the start and finish. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in a \$50.00 penalty.
- 7. Necklines are required on all dogs at the start, finish, and when entering and leaving each checkpoint.
- 8. Mushers wishing to scratch from the race may do so by notifying a Checker, Race Judge or Race Marshal and signing an official scratch form. Mushers are responsible for retrieving personal gear.
 - a. A mandatory vet check is required for all scratched teams. This vet check will be performed once the team arrives at Ferguson Ski Ridge.

G. Weather and Trail Conditions

- 1. The race will continue under all but the most severe trail and weather conditions.
- 2. Postponement or cancellation of the race will be made no less than 10 (ten) days prior to the start of the race.
- 3. In the event of questionable trail conditions, the Race Marshal will decide which portion(s) of the trail will be altered.
- 4. The Race Marshal is responsible for alteration of starting and/or finishing locations.

SECTION 5: Race Officials

A. Race Marshal and Judges

- 1. The Race Marshal and Judges are responsible for the enforcement of all Eagle Cap Extreme policies and race rules. Race officials shall consult with the Head Veterinarian on all matters relating to dog care and treatment.
- 2. The Race Marshal is in charge of all aspects of the race from the Pre-Race Vet Check to the Post-Race Awards Ceremony and Reception. The Race Marshal may impose, reduce, or waive monetary or time penalties.
- 3. The Race Marshal shall have the authority to withdraw a team that is determined to no longer be competitive. The Race Marshal also has the authority to withdraw a musher whose conduct, in the Race Marshal's sole and exclusive judgement, constitutes an unreasonable risk of harm to either themselves, other persons, or dogs.
- 4. Failure of a musher to comply with the published rules may result in a monetary fine, time penalty, or disqualification. In the event a fine is imposed, application to enter future Eagle Cap Extreme sled dog races will not be accepted until full payment of the fine is received by the Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race. Disqualified mushers forfeit all race standings. All decisions by the Race Marshal shall be final.

B. Head Veterinarian and Race Veterinarians

- 1. Race Veterinarians are present throughout the race to monitor the health and welfare of all dogs, advise mushers in caring for their dog's medical needs, and to provide veterinary treatment for returned dogs as needed.
- 2. The Head Veterinarian, in conjunction with the Race Marshal, shall have authority to hold a dog or dogs at any checkpoint for medical reasons.
- 3. The decision to remove a dog, dogs, or a team from the race shall be the responsibility of the Race Marshal in conjunction with the Head Veterinarian.
- 4. Race Veterinarians will be available to mushers up until 2 (two) hours after the last team crosses the finish line.

SECTION 6: Protest and Hearing

- A. Protests must be submitted in writing to the Race Marshal or Race Judge within 1 (one) hour of the protester's race finish and shall not be discussed with spectators, media representatives or the general public prior to a decision being handed down by the Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race.
- B. An official decision will be made by the Race Marshal following a hearing attended by all parties involved.

SECTION 7: Post-Race Awards Ceremony

It is the desire of Eagle Cap Extreme sled dog race officials that all mushers finishing in the races be present at the awards ceremony. Absence may result in disqualification and/or forfeiture of winnings. Purse monies will be awarded only to participants who are designated official finishers of the Eagle Cap Extreme sled dog race.

SECTION 8: Claims

Each musher is responsible for their own actions and the actions of their dogs and crew. The musher also agrees to release the Eagle Cap Extreme sled dog race and their sponsors, agents, and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the musher, their dogs, their property, or the property of their crew. Eagle Cap Extreme has the unqualified and unrestricted authority to authorize the race sponsor(s) 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.

Every musher shall sign any and all documents as may be requested by Eagle Cap Extreme evidence of the foregoing. These documents will be executed at the Pre-Race Musher Meeting. Any musher who does not sign the required documents as requested by Eagle Cap Extreme officials will not be allowed to participate in the race.