

# JR. IDITAROD

## 2012 RACE POLICY

### 1. RACE START - DATE/TIME/PLACE/WEATHER

The official starting date and time for the 2012 race will be February 25, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. The official starting place will be Wasilla, unless otherwise designated by the Jr. Iditarod. The race will be held as scheduled regardless of weather and/or trail conditions. The race is scheduled to be 150 miles.

(Each year, the starting date and time will be determined by the Jr. Iditarod. Each year, the official starting/finish place will be in the Wasilla, Alaska, area. The starting place, finish place or trail may be changed by the Race Marshal due to weather and/or trail conditions.)

### 2. ENTRY FEE

The entry fee will be \$150.00 (one hundred fifty dollars) payable on or after June 25, 2011 and postmarked no later than December 15, 2011. Entry fees paid after December 15, 2011 will be \$250.00. All entry fees include an Iditarod membership. All entry fees must be received by the Jr. Iditarod by 2 p.m. February 11, 2012. **All required paperwork must accompany payment of entry fee.** Any entry fee received otherwise will be refunded and the musher will not be permitted to participate. Receipt of the entry fee will constitute the musher's intent to enter the race and further acknowledges that the musher agrees to comply with every rule as stated. Upon written request, all of the entry fee will be refunded until the required food shipment date, February 11, 2012. After February 11, 2012, no part of the entry fee will be refunded. THE JR. IDITAROD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL ENTRIES.

The entry fee includes an Iditarod membership in the Iditarod Trail Committee, Inc. and a ticket to the Jr. Awards Banquet. Also it helps provide trail work, distribution of required food and supplies from main points and return of dropped dogs to the main collection points. The Jr. Iditarod will receive mailed entry fees at Jr. Iditarod, ITC Headquarters, PO Box 870800, Wasilla, AK 99687.

**ALL ENTRANTS MUST SUPPLY A COPY OF THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATE WITH ENTRY.**

### 3. REQUIRED PAPERWORK & OTHER MATERIAL

**Entry fee will not be accepted until all paperwork is completed.**

Required paperwork includes: Participant's Release (for dog owners other than musher), Dog team application, Health & Medical Treatment Permission, Musher participant's release, Musher's application, Biography, Rookie reference sheet (for Jr. Iditarod rookies only), Local contact, and Sponsor list (if you have sponsors.)

Other required material includes: Birth certificate (may be copy) and photo of musher.

4. FIRST TIME ENTRANTS (ROOKIES)

Rookie mushers must submit, with their application, the recommendation from two known adult dog mushers or a known dog mushing organization and one known adult dog musher, (they must be known to the Jr. Iditarod), as a reference to be reviewed by the Jr. Iditarod Director and appointed board. The Jr. Iditarod reserves the right to reject any and/or all entries.

(A "rookie" means a musher starting the Jr. Iditarod for the first time. Rookie mushers will receive notice of acceptance/rejection within five days of receipt of all application forms.)

5. DOG TEAM APPLICATION

All dogs (teams) must have an application form filled out by the OWNER(S) of all dogs running on a Jr. Iditarod musher's team and all owners must sign a participant's release. This dog team application and release must be submitted with the musher's application and release. The Jr. Iditarod will notify all mushers within five (5) days of receipt of their applications as to acceptance/rejection of any or all dogs on the team. The Jr. Iditarod reserves the right to reject any and all dog team applications.

(This application is due to the fact that the entry fee is paid on the dog team rather than on the driver of the team.)

6. CHECKPOINTS

OFFICIAL CHECKPOINTS FOR THE RACE WILL BE: (Unless notified by the Jr. Iditarod Committee of a change)

Wasilla Area -- Race Start

Pass through checkpoint -- Location to be identified at musher meeting

Eagle Song Lodge -- Sign in only checkpoint, both ways; dog drop – no sled check

Yentna Station Roadhouse -- Halfway point and layover, sign in / sign out checkpoint.

One additional sign in checkpoint may be added depending on racecourse.

Wasilla Area -- Finish

Return trip over the same trail and checkpoints unless otherwise notified. Bibs must be worn so they can be seen by the checkers through all checkpoints. At

the halfway checkpoint and the start and finish line they must be worn on the top of all clothing in full view.

7. PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

No musher will be permitted to carry promotional material over the trail unless first receiving the permission of the Jr. Iditarod Director. Requests must be made in writing and will not be considered for anything over five (5) pounds.

8. SHIPPING OF FOOD AND GEAR

All mushers' food, supplies and dog food must be shipped to Jr. Iditarod - ITC Headquarters, PO Box 870800, Wasilla, Alaska 99687, or delivered to the ITC Headquarters between the hours of 12 noon and 2 p.m. on February 11, 2012. Jr. Iditarod will receive and care for these supplies until they reach the layover checkpoint. Each musher will be allowed one bag of food to be kept frozen prior to delivery to checkpoint. Exceptions without prior arrangements may result in a \$75 fine.

- a. All items to be shipped **MUST** be in strong bags tied with strong string or rope (no wire). Each bag should weigh no more than forty (40) pounds. Musher may ship a maximum of two (2) bags.
- b. Dog food to be used during the race at the layover(s), minimum four (4) pounds per dog. (The large amount is due to the possibility of weather setting in and dropped dogs having to be left at the halfway checkpoint until we can fly them out.)
- c. Human food to be eaten at the layover checkpoint and on the trail home.
- d. Allowable items to be shipped to the halfway point include only dog food, human food, dog booties, gloves, socks, similar items and nothing else.
- e. If any of the following items are desired they **MUST** be carried on the sled: tent, feeding and cooking utensils for the musher and dogs, drop chains or cables, wrist wraps and dog coats. Please contact the Iditarod office if you have any questions.
- f. All mushers will be cooking their own meals and their dogs' food at the halfway point.
- g. All items to be shipped **MUST** be clearly marked with first and last name.
- h. Straw will be available at the halfway checkpoint.
- i. All items shipped or carried to the layover point that are not used or carried back by the driver become the property of the Jr. Iditarod Trail Committee.
- j. Contents of all drop bags will be inspected at time of food drop.

9. SHIPPING OF DROPPED DOGS AND SLEDS

The Jr. Iditarod will ship all dropped dogs back to the main collection area to be picked up by the musher or his/her representative. Jr. Iditarod MUST be notified in writing of who will pick up dogs, if not the musher. All dogs must be picked up within four (4) hours after landing. If any dropped dogs become unmanageable, the pilots or handlers will not be responsible for care and transportation. All equipment, other than dogs, is the responsibility of the musher. The Jr. Iditarod will not ship sleds.

10. RACE MARSHAL AND VETERINARIAN

The Race Marshal and Chief Veterinarian will have absolute authority over the dog teams. Their judgment as to withdrawal of a dog or dogs from the race or any other condition relative to dog care on the trail shall be FINAL.

11. PRE-RACE EXAMINATION

- A musher must have the team physicals performed at the official pre-race veterinary examination or by a Jr. Iditarod approved veterinarian, within fourteen (14) days prior to the race. The following conditions will prohibit a dog from participating: seizures (epilepsy), syncope (fainting) and/or pregnancy.
- All dogs entered in the race must have current distemper, hepatitis, parvo, and rabies vaccines. Proof of these vaccinations, except for rabies, must come from a veterinarian or a certified lay vaccinator or if administered by the musher, records must include type of vaccine, proof of purchase (i.e., receipt) or labels from vaccine bottles, and date of vaccination in writing. The distemper/hepatitis/parvo/vaccine must have been given less than one (1) year and more than fourteen (14) days before the race.
- Proof of rabies vaccine must come from a licensed veterinarian or certified lay vaccinator. Rabies vaccines must be given no later than two (2) weeks before the race and must be current through the race according to Alaska State regulations.

A handler is required to be with the team at all times during the examination.

If musher is not going to the official Jr. Iditarod pre-race health check, he/she must notify the Jr. Iditarod Chief Veterinarian or headquarters before 8 a.m. on the day of the health check.

12. MUSHERS' MEETING AND DRAWING

The Iditarod Rookie Meeting will be held at the Millennium Hotel Anchorage on December 5 and 6. All junior mushers are encouraged to attend that meeting.

The mandatory mushers' meeting will be at Iditarod Headquarters, February 24, 2012, at 5 p.m. Failure to attend this meeting will prohibit the musher from participating in the race. Starting positions will be drawn at this time and a discussion of rules and trail will take place. EACH MUSER MUST DRAW HIS/HER OWN STARTING NUMBER.

13. TROPHIES AND PRIZES

First through fifth place trophies, a lantern for last place, and participation trophies for the remainder of the mushers will be awarded at the Jr. Iditarod banquet. Special awards to be given are Sportsmanship, Rookie of the Year, Blue Harness (lead dog award), and Humanitarian (awarded by the chief veterinarian.) Prizes will be awarded according to donations. Only parents or legal guardian of musher may accept tickets to Nome for presentation of trophy.

14. SLED

Each musher has a choice of his/her own sled, subject to the condition that some kind of sled or toboggan must be used. The sled must have a snow hook, brake, brush bow and handle bar. The design is the musher's option. All sleds will be no shorter than four (4) feet of useable basket. This does not include the turn-up out to the brush bow. Mushers must complete the entire race with one sled.

(The sled or toboggan must be capable of hauling any injured or fatigued dogs and the required equipment. We have found that any sled smaller than the required four (4) feet useable basket is too small to handle the required gear and also haul injured or fatigued dogs.)

15. CLEARING THE TRAIL

Mushers setting up camp must clear the trail of their dogs and gear.

(This means that a musher must select a campsite far enough off the trail so that his/her dogs cannot swing into the trail at any time.)

16. LITTER

Litter of any kind may not be left on the trail or at any checkpoint campsite. Camps must be cleaned up before moving on down the trail. The trail will be kept clean! Yentna checkpoint will be inspected prior to any musher's departure. Beware, your departure time may be delayed if the checkpoint is not clean! Refuse found belonging to a musher after departure or on the trail may result in a time penalty at Yentna or the finish line.

(The Iditarod Trail is a National Historic Trail and continued use of this trail for the race depends upon compliance with this policy. This not only means trash and gear must be cleaned up but also waste dog food and human food. Food left in

the trail can cause problems for a fellow musher's team. Disqualification or penalties may result if you do not comply.)

17. AWARDS PRESENTATION

The awards presentation ceremony shall be held the evening of February 26, 2012, (the time and place will be announced at a later date.) All mushers who have crossed the finish line at the time of the banquet must be present at the awards ceremony. NO EXCEPTIONS. Mushers' banquet tickets are covered by the entry fee.

18. CLAIMS

Each musher agrees to hold the Jr. Iditarod, the Iditarod Trail Committee, Inc., the race sponsor(s) and other contributors (that is sponsors and contributors of the race as distinguished from the sponsors of the individual mushers) harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or inaction by the musher, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting in his/her behalf. The musher also agrees to release the Jr. Iditarod, race sponsor(s), and the agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the musher, his/her dogs, or his/her property. Further, the Jr. Iditarod 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. Each musher shall sign any and all documents as may be requested by the Jr. Iditarod to evidence the foregoing. (Parents and/or legal guardian(s) must also agree to sign above mentioned documents.) If any musher or parent/legal guardian refuses to sign the documents requested by the Jr. Iditarod, the musher will not be permitted to participate in the race.

19. PROTEST

To be recognized as a legitimate protest, any infraction observed by a musher must be protested, in writing, at the next checkpoint, at the latest the finish line and/or at least two (2) hours before the awards are given out at the banquet.

20. CENSURE

The Jr. Iditarod may censure a musher for cause, including time penalties and prohibiting a musher from entering future races. The musher so involved may request an informal hearing before the Jr. Iditarod. Such requests shall be granted and the hearing shall be held within ninety (90) days of the request.

(This refers to the action taken following the completion of the race.)

21. RACE OFFICIALS

Race officials are the Race Marshal, appointed Race Judges and Chief Veterinarian. The Jr. Iditarod director, race medical doctor and checkers act in an advisory position only.

(A Race Judge's responsibility is to assist the Race Marshal and Chief Veterinarian. The director, medical doctor, and checkers are to be used as advisors only.)

22. PARENTS, HANDLERS, AND/OR VISITORS

All parents, handlers, and/or visitors planning to go to any checkpoint must provide their own transportation and housing. All such plans for the halfway checkpoint must be cleared with the Jr. Iditarod director no later than the mushers' meeting. The owner of the lodge will also need to be notified so he will be prepared for the size of group expected. (This is a bush lodge.) All persons going to the halfway checkpoint other than race officials and designated workers will pay for lodging and food. The method of going to the halfway point should be known by the Jr. Iditarod only to aid in the trail traffic and air traffic. No alcohol or drugs will be permitted in any of the checkpoints. (Exception being if drugs are prescribed by a physician.)

(Parents, handlers and/or visitors at the checkpoints may not aid, handle or enter the mushers' area at a layover checkpoint. IT IS THE DUTY OF THE MUSER TO INFORM ALL HIS/HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THIS RULE. FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OR PENALTY TO THE MUSER.)

The Yentna Lodge phone is NOT to be used for calls or messages to the mushers except in an emergency.