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**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.**
Race Rules
All classes



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Definitions

CHECK POINT: A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
DRIVER:	.....A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
EVENT:	.....A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
HANDLER:	..... A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
HEAT:	.....A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
OFFICIAL:	.....A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:	.....The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).
PULKA:	..... The pulka or the Nordic sled (small sled with short runners and hand brake)
RACE:	.....A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.
RACE AREA:	.....All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
RACE JUDGE:	.....Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.
RACE JURY:	.....The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
RACE MARSHAL (RM):	.....The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
SLED:	.....The vehicle driven by the contestant and pulled by his/her dog team during the competition, also includes a pulka, a bike, a scooter, a rig when appropriate.
STARTING CHUTE:	.....A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
SHALL:	.....Shall be construed as being imperative.
SHOULD:	.....Shall be construed as advisory.
MAY:	.....Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.

- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.
- 1.2 Claim
 - 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co- sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor's sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.
 - 1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

- 2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.
- 2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.
- 2.3 Age of competitors:
 - 2.3.1 In Nome style Sprint classes, (including sprint stage events), and in Dryland classes, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.1.1 Senior classes: 16 years and above
 - 2.3.1.2 Junior classes: 14 to and including 16 years (A 16 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class. That decision will apply to all the Nome style classes).
 - 2.3.1.3 Veteran class (Canicross and Bikejoring only): 40 years and above. Canicross and Bikejoring veteran competitors may request to compete in the corresponding senior class.
 - 2.3.2 In Nordic style sprint events, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.2.1 Senior classes: 19 years and above
 - 2.3.2.2 Junior classes: 17 to and including 20 years (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class. That decision will apply to all the Nordic style classes).
 - 2.3.3 In distance classes (including distance stage events) the minimum age for all competitors shall be eighteen (18) years.
 - 2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of Sprint and Nordic style races. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.
- 2.6 Drivers shall attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of the Distance races as well as any other meeting officially announced **in order to qualify to compete in the race**. The Race

Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.

3. Dogs

- 3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.
- 3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2).
- 3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least twelve (12) months old. However, in certain classes a minimum age of 18 months is dictated.
 - 3.5.1 Dryland: 18 months in the Bikejoring, 12 months in the other classes.
 - 3.5.2 Sprint: 18 months in the Unlimited class, 12 months in the other classes.
 - 3.5.3 Nordic Style: 18 months.
 - 3.5.4 Distance classes: 18 months.
- 3.6 Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day unless that other class is a skijoring relay or canicross.
- 3.7 Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.

4. Disease

- 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
- 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.

5. Identification

- 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.
- 5.2. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats or, in case the marking is performed via chipping, the responsible official shall make a note on the applicable chip list.

6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers

- 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing
IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.
- 6.2 At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.

7. Equipment

- 7.1. Inspection
 - 7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.2 In distances races the teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area or any other place as announced by the Race Marshal at least thirty (30) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.3 When the control is completed, no equipment shall be removed from the sled without the Race Marshal's permission, and under supervision of same or of an authorized official.
- 7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.

- 7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.
- 7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.
- 7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.
- 8. Other Equipment.
 - 8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.
 - 8.2. Whips are forbidden.
 - 8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.
 - 8.4. The competitor should not be wearing shoes that could be dangerous for dogs. Shoes with **hardened spikes or studs of any material** are strictly forbidden.
- 9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)

An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

- 10. Drawing
 - 10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.
 - 10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.
 - 10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.
- 11. Single Start Race
 - 11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.
 - 11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
 - 11.3. In races of more than two heats,
 - 11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
 - 11.3.2. At the option of the organizer, in distance races (including distance stage races), the starting positions may be determined by the reverse of the elapsed time of the previous single heat (reverse start).
- 12. Dual Start Race
 - 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
 - 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
 - 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.
- 13. Equal Times
 - 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
 - 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.

- 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.
14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start
- 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.
- 14.2. Mass start:
- 14.2.1 All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line. If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
- 14.2.2 The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.
- 14.2.3 There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.
- 14.2.4 One assistant/ handler is allowed with 1-4 dogs and two with more than 4 dogs. The assistant(s) shall all stand on the **left side** of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall **stand stock still** and face the starting teams until all teams has passed.
- 14.2.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one or two flags and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors
- 14.2.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
- 14.2.7 Starting order is given in the following way:
- 14.2.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
- 14.2.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.
- 14.2.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.
- 14.2.7.4 The rapidly lowering of starter's arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.
- 14.2.8 If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 14.2.9 A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.
- 14.2.10 Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring, scooter and rig classes.
- 14.3 Pursuit start
- 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.
- 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors' times from the first race results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.
15. Starting Point and Time
- 15.1 Starting Point
- 15.1.1 In Nome Style, the brush bow of the sled should determine the starting point of the team.
- 15.1.2 In Nordic Style and Canicross classes, the entire team, with the competitor holding his/her dogs by the collar or the harness, shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 15.1.3 In Dryland scooter, bikejoring and rig classes, the front wheel shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.

- 15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.
- 15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.
- 15.4 A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time or within half of the starting interval after the scheduled starting time shall be declared a late starting team, and shall receive a new starting time plus a time penalty of 3 (three) times the starting interval in its class. (Not applicable in Nordic Style, see §63).
 - 15.4.1 A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.
 - 15.4.2 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in the originally scheduled starting order.
 - 15.4.3 If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for any one heat, that team shall be disqualified.
- 16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.
- 17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.
- 18. Finish
 - 18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line. Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.
 - 18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.
 - 18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
 - 18.5. *Finishing zone, where the “no right of way” applies, shall be 800 meters long (150 m for Nordic style classes and Canicross)*

III. TRAIL RULES

- 19. Following the Trail
 - 19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.
 - 19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.
- 20. Driving a Team
 - 20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.
 - 20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.
 - 20.3 Carrying a passenger at any time during the race shall be prohibited unless:
 - 20.3.1 Called for in the conditions of the race.
 - 20.3.2 Giving a ride to a driver in an emergency situation.
- 21. Assistance on the Trail
 - 21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.
 - 21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
 - 21.3 Handler and spectator assistance *is recommended to be limited to holding the sled, except in dryland, where depending on the circumstances musher may ask to hold the dogs, and* in the case of a loose team, or a team so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to themselves, other teams or persons.
 - 21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.
- 22. Loose Team and Dogs
 - 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
 - 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
 - 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.

- 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
 - 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
 - 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
 - 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.
23. Right of Way
- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
 - 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
 - 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
 - 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
 - 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.
 - 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.
- 23.4
24. Passing
- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the sled of the overtaken team.
 - 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the sled to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team and, if demanded by the overtaking team driver, stopping and keeping the team from moving forward. Stopping is not required in Nordic style classes (see Chapter Three, §69) and in Dryland canicross, bikejoring and scooter classes (see Chapter Four, §74.3.5, 75.3.5, 76.3.4)
 - 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one (1) minute in Unlimited and Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, one half (0.5) minute in all other classes.
 - 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
 - 24.4.1 in Unlimited or Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, after less than four (4) minutes or 1600 meters.
 - 24.4.2 in Limited Classes involving fewer than eight (8) dogs, after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
 - 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
 - 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:
 - 24.5.1 repairs gear or
 - 24.5.2 unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in a team to another position in the team or
 - 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled constitutes changing a dog’s position in the team.
 - 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
 - 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the “no-right-of-way” Zone.

- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

- 28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.
- 28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

- 29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.
- 29.2 Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

- 30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.
- 30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
- 30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).
- 30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
- 30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.

31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.

32. Appeals Jury at World Championships

- 32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and

shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.

32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.

32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.

32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.

32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.

32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.

32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.

32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.

33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships

33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.

34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision

34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.

34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.

34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

Special Rules for Nome style Sprint and Distance Classes

I. ENTRY RULES

35. Eligibility

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

35.1 Classes in Sprint races

35.1.1 An **Unlimited Class Team (SpU)** shall consist of not less than seven (7) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).

35.1.2 A **Limited Ten-Dog Class Team (Sp10)** shall consists of no more than ten (10) dogs, not less than seven (7) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).

35.1.3 A Limited **Eight-Dog Class Team (Sp8)** shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs, and not less than five (5) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).

35.1.4 A Limited **Six-Dog Class Team (Sp6)** shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs, and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).

- 35.1.5 A Limited **Four-Dog Class Team (Sp4)** shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs, and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.6 A Limited **Four-Dog Junior Class Team (Sp4J)** shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.7 After the first heat and each ensuing heat, a driver may voluntarily reduce the size of the team, subject to class minimums.
- 35.1.8 The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team that s/he determines is too large for the designated driver.
- 35.2 Classes in Distance races
 - 35.2.1 A **6-dog Mid-Distance class Team (MD6)** shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.2 A **12-dog Mid-Distance class Team (MD12)** shall consist of not more than twelve (12) dogs and not less than eight (8) dogs in the first heat and not less than seven (7) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.3 A **Limited 8-dog Long Distance Class Team (LD8)** shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs and not less than six (6) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.4 An **Unlimited Long Distance Class (LDU) Team** shall consist of not less than eight (8) dogs in the first heat and not less than seven (7) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.5 Upon request from the organizer, the IFSS may determine a maximum number of dogs in an Unlimited Class Team. The race invitation shall inform of an eventual limitation.
- 35.3 Additional and optional rules:
 - 35.3.1 At the option of the organization, each driver may have a rotation pool of dogs to choose from before each stage to meet the minimum/maximum requirements set for the class. The organization shall define the maximum number in the pool for each concerned class.
 - 35.3.2 Each driver shall declare all the dogs included in his/her rotation pool. A driver may not exchange or add dogs once his/her pool of dogs has been declared and marked.
 - 35.3.3 A race-giving organization may impose additional rules to meet requirements unique to local conditions.

36. Equipment

- 36.1 Harnesses and Lines
 - 36.1.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
 - 36.1.2 All harnesses shall be well fitting and at least be padded around the neck and chest area. They shall be made from flexible fabrics.
 - 36.1.3 All dogs shall be fastened to the tug line by a neck line and a tail line with the exception of the leader(s), who may run without a neck line.
 - 36.1.4 A snub line may be carried on the sled but it shall not be used in any other manner than to tie down and hold the sled.
 - 36.1.5 Chain lines are strictly prohibited. All other lines shall not endanger the dogs welfare and are subject to the approval of the Race Marshal (see §7.2).
- 36.2. Sleds
 - 36.2.1 A sled shall be capable of adequately carrying the driver and in case of emergency a passenger, and have a basket with a hard bottom of minimum surface of 40 cm x 50 cm capable of safely carrying a dog.
 - 36.2.2 A sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, an adequate rubber braking pad fastened to the sled via a solid tip-up system, brushbow, one snow hook in Sp4 and Sp6 classes, two snow hooks in all other classes and an adequately ventilated dog bag.
 - 36.2.3 Sleds may be replaced between heats/stages and at designated checkpoints (Distance races).

- 36.3 Helmets and other safety equipment
 - 36.3.1 For junior class participants, with the exception of Nordic style and Canicross classes, a helmet is mandatory. For all classes, with the same exception as above, helmets are strongly advised.
 - 36.3.2 The Race Organizer may mandate additional special rules for safety equipment.
- 36.4 Other equipment

At the option of the organizer, additional mandatory equipment may be dictated. The race invitation shall list the equipment.

II. TRAIL RULES

37. Driving a Team

- 37.1 A driver may ride the sled, pedal or run as wished.
- 37.2. All dogs starting the heat shall complete the entire course, either hitched in the team or carried on the sled.
- 37.3. A dog becoming unfit after departure shall be carried completely in the dog bag of the sled to the finish unless specific drop checkpoints have been prepared along the trail and announced.
 - 37.3.1. A dropped dog shall be fastened by a chain or cable to hold it in place until it is picked up by an authorized person.
 - 37.3.2. Dropped dogs shall be disqualified to compete in the remainder of the race, unless the driver dropped a pool dog or dogs, at his/her discretion and according to the requirements as per the rules. In this case, the driver, on his/her own discretion, may use dogs dropped by himself/herself again, provided the dogs are in good health. However, sick or injured dogs have to be reported to a race veterinarian.

CHAPTER THREE

NORDIC STYLE

Special rules for pulka classes, skijoring and Nordic relays

I. ENTRY RULES

- 38. At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following disciplines:
 - 38.1 1-dog and 2-dog Skijoring
 - 38.2 1-dog and 1-4 dog Pulka
 - 38.3 Combined race with skijoring and pulka stages.
 - 38.4 Relay with all legs in pulka style, skijoring or mixed.
- 39. The classes (except relay) shall be divided by men and women if there are at least 5 participants in the class. In case there are less than 5 participants per class in the separate classes, men and women classes could be combined in one class.
- 40. In multiple dog class, the drivers may reduce their team if wanted. If the team is reduced, the driver may not add that dog back in subsequent stages (unless authorized otherwise by the Race Marshal or in supplementary regulations.). A participant is allowed to reduce the team only between stages.
- 41. The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team determined to be too large for the designated driver.

II. SKIJORING

- 42. A Skijoring team consists of a competitor, racing solely on skis and being connected to one or two harnessed dogs via a snub line.
- 43. Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

 - 43.1 One Dog Class Skijoring Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMS1)
 - 43.2 One Dog Class Skijoring Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWS1)
 - 43.3 One Dog Class Skijoring Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (MNSJ)
 - 43.4 One Dog Class Skijoring Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWSJ)

- 43.5 Two Dog Class Skijoring Men (minimum 1 dog, maximum 2 dogs) for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMS2)
- 43.6 Two Dog Class Skijoring Women (minimum 1 dog, maximum 2 dogs) for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWS2)
- 43.7 Children's classes with competitors being younger than per §2.1.3. and 2.1.4. may also be held with One-dog team only.

44. Equipment

- 44.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in a single file or in pairs and shall be attached to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber at all time.
- 44.2 The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). The belt shall have an open hook in order to make it easy to release the line, or a quick release connection (panic-snap).
- 44.3 It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line.
- 44.4 The length of the expanded snub line should be a minimum of 2.5 meters and a maximum of 3.5 meters.
- 44.5 A neckline shall be used in two-dog classes.
- 44.6 Only cross-country skis without steel edges or sharp tips and non-dangerous for the dog(s) may be used.
- 44.7 The equipment shall be available for inspection by the race officials before and after the race.
- 44.8 All entrants shall be responsible for seeing that their equipment meets the requirement of these rules.

45. Start, trail and finish rules.

(See the Common rules for Nordic races: § VI. Start Rules; §VII. Trail Rules; §VIII. Finish rules)

III. PULKA

46. A Pulka team consists of a competitor, racing solely on skis and being connected with a pulka pulled by harnessed dog(s).

47. Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 47.1 One Dog Class Pulka Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMP1)
- 47.2 One Dog Class Pulka Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWP1)
- 47.3 One Dog Class Pulka Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NMPJ)
- 47.4 One Dog Class Pulka Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWPJ)
- 47.5 One-Four Dog Class Pulka Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMP4)
- 47.6 One-Four Dog Class Pulka Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWP4)

48. Equipment

- 48.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- 48.2 The pulka shall be:
 - 48.2.1 Connected with one or two solid shafts to the dog (s) closest to the pulka or sled (wheeldogs) so that it is not possible for the pulka or sled to overrun a harnessed dog(s);
 - 48.2.2 So constructed that the runners do not create any risk of harming the dog(s).
 - 48.2.3 Equipped with the possibility of fastening the load securely;
 - 48.2.4 Equipped with a hand brake, if there are more than two dogs in the team;
 - 48.2.5 Equipped with a snub line with shock absorber.
- 48.3. The total load to be carried shall be:
 - 48.3.1 For a one (1) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: weight of the dog (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.7. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.

- 48.3.2 For a two (2) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.7. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.3.3 For a three (3) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.6. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.3.4 For a four (4) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.5. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.4 The load consists of: pulka, shafts, harness(es), lines and the additional weight.
 - 48.5 The additional weight shall be furnished by the participant him/herself.
 - 48.6 The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). The belt shall have an open hook in order to make it easy to release the line or a quick release connection (panic-snap).
 - 48.7 Only cross-country skis without steel edges or sharp tips and non dangerous for the dog(s) may be used.
 - 48.8 The equipment shall be available for inspection by the race officials before the race, and for inspection and pulka weight control after the race.
 - 48.9 All entrants shall be responsible for seeing that their equipment meets the requirement of these rules.
49. Start, trail and finish rules.
(See the Common rules for Nordic races: §VI. Start Rules; §VII. Trail Rules; §VIII. Finish rules)

IV. COMBINED RACE

50. Combined race is a Nordic style event consisting of one heat with pulka and one heat with skijoring, run by the same team.
51. Classes
At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:
- 51.1 One Dog Class Combined Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMC)
 - 51.2 One Dog Class Combined Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWC)
 - 51.3. One Dog Class Combined Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NMCJ)
 - 51.4 One Dog Class Combined Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWCJ)
52. Equipment
(See the Equipment Rules for Skijoring §44 and Pulka §48.)
53. Start, Trail and Finish rules
At the option of the Organizer the combined race may be held in two different variations:
- 53.1 Mass start and pit-stop
 - 53.1.1 The start of the first heat is regulated by the Mass start Rules as per §64. After the first heat the competitors go directly into a pit-stop at the change over-area (see §54) and change to skijoring.
 - 53.1.2 The total race time is the time from the start of the mass start until the participators cross the finish line after the second heat.
 - 53.2 Pursuit race
 - 53.2.1. After the first heat, the competitors have a rest. The duration of the rest is determined by the Organizer. Pursuit start Rule §65 defines the start order of the second heat.
 - 53.2.2. The total race time is the sum of the results of the two heats.
 - 53.3. Trail Rules (see the Common §VII: Trail Rules for Nordic races).
 - 53.4. Finish Rules (see the Common §VIII: Finish Rules for Nordic races).
54. Combined Change-over Area (See drawing below for example)
- 54.1. The change-over area shall be a marked area, length approximately 20-50 meters, width approximately 15 meters. It begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
 - 54.2. The dog is to be held by the shaft or harness in the change-over area.

- 54.3 The participant shall change equipment from pulka to skijoring (or on the contrary) in his/her designated pit and leave all equipment in that pit.
- 54.4 It is not allowed for the participants to receive any help in the change-over area.

V. NORDIC RELAY

- 55. A relay race is a one-day competition, which involves relay teams of at least three participants.
- 56. At the option of the race giving organization, the relay will include stages of:
 - 56.1 pulka only,
 - 56.2 skijoring only,
 - 56.3 mixed skijoring and pulka. In that case the race giving organization will specify in advance which legs of the relay will be run in each discipline.
- 57. Each participant runs the trail once. After the finish line the participant changes over to the next participant in the relay team, who may then start.
- 58. The relay team that reaches the finish line first after all stages is the winner of the relay competition.
- 59. Relay Team
 - 59.1 The participants in a relay team shall in principle be representatives of the same organization or country. At the option of the race giving organization, a mixed team of organizations or countries may be allowed full participation, but they shall never be awarded with titles and the corresponding prizes at IFSS World Championships.
Note: National organizations are, during their events, at all times free to decide on awarding mixed teams.
 - 59.2 Only one-dog teams are allowed in relay races.
 - 59.3 Each Relay team may consist of men, women and juniors.
 - 59.4 Separate relay competition may be organized for men, women and juniors.
- 60. Relay Entries
 - 60.1 The name of the participants in each relay team and the order in which they start shall be handed over to the race office at least 60 minutes before the start or otherwise as timely informed by the race marshal.
- 61. Areas for Start, Trail, Change-Over and Finish in Relay Race (See drawing below for example of change-over area)
 - 61.1 Starting, change-over and finish area do not have to be the same location.
 - 61.2 Relay Starting area meets the requirements for the mass start area (see the Common Mass start Rules for Nordic Style §64).
 - 61.3 The Trail of the Relay Race meets the requirements for the common trail rules (see the Common Trail Rules for Nordic Style §VII).
 - 61.4 Relay Change-Over Area
 - 61.4.1 The change-over area shall be a marked area, length approximately 20-50 meters, width approximately 15 meters. It is to be preferred that the change over area is made at an angle to the incoming trail (see examples attached).
 - 61.4.2 The change-over area begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
 - 61.5 Change-over procedure
 - 61.5.1 A race official shall give a signal (e.g. the speaker announcing the starting number) to every team leader or assistant when an incoming team is approximately 1 km from the change-over area.
 - 61.5.2 The signal has to be clear for the team leaders or assistants, who shall be located at a special sector of the change-over area.
 - 61.5.3 An incoming participant shall release the dog as soon as the dog has passed the finish line.
 - 61.5.4 The team assistant should take charge of the dog.
 - 61.5.5 The participant continues into the change-over area and touches the next participant of his/her team with his/her hand.

- 61.5.6 The change-over shall take place within the change-over area. A race official shall control the change-over.
- 61.5.7 It is not allowed for participants to receive any help in the change-over area except as already provided for in §61.5.4 above.

61.6 Relay Finish rules meet the requirements for the common Finish rules (see the Common Finish Rules for Nordic Style §VIII.).

62. Relay Timing

- 62.1. Time is measured from the starting order “Go” until the last participant of the team crosses the finish line.
- 62.2. Time is also measured the moment each individual participant passes the finish line. Therefore, it is advised to equip relay teams with bibs, which mention, besides the team number, also the starting position of each individual team member (e.g. 1¹, 1² etc.)

VI. COMMON START RULES FOR NORDIC RACES

63. Individual Start Rules

- 63.1. Individual Start chute is a specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters length and 4 meters width.
- 63.2. The competitor and the dog(s) shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 63.3. The starting interval between the participants shall be 30 seconds or 1 minute.
- 63.4. If the team starts before the start signal is given, it will be called back for a proper start. This start will be allowed as soon as possible, but cannot take place within 10 seconds before or within 10 seconds after another team’s scheduled start.
- 63.5. If the team is late to the start, it will be allowed to start whenever it is ready, except for ten seconds before or after another starting team
- 63.6. In both cases, the time shall be kept as if the team had started on time, but the starter shall make a note of the real starting time.

64. Mass start:

- 64.1. See General rules §14.2 for Mass Start general rules with the following additional rule:
- 64.2. The competitors must lead their dogs by the shackle or harness along the starting track and must keep skis and poles parallel.
- 64.3. If a competitor does not hold his/her dog as instructed in §64.2, s/he shall get a warning. If, in this situation, another competitor had to stop or was delayed, the offender should be disqualified.

65. Pursuit start

- 65.1. In the first heat of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is in accordance with race rule §63.above.
- 65.2. The competitor and the dog(s) shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 65.3. See General rules §14.3 for Pursuit start general rules.

VII. COMMON TRAIL RULES FOR NORDIC RACES

- 66. The driver shall follow his/her dog(s) on skis
- 67. The driver is not allowed to pace the dog(s) by running ahead of the team.
- 68. Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden. Assisting the dog(s) by pulling or pushing the pulka or the sled is permitted. Assistance in watering or feeding dogs is permitted. The race Marshal shall designate specific spots on the trail where such help may be given.
- 69. During the overtaking procedure on the command “TRAIL,” the overtaken team shall make way for the passing team by moving on behind the dog(s) on the same side of the trail, shall not be skating and shall keep the skis and poles parallel to the trail.
- 70. If a dog becomes unfit or stops advancing for any reason, the competitor is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 71. The trail for individual start should be 4 meters wide and the last 150m should be 6 meters wide.
The trail for mass start should be 6 meters wide and the last 150m should be 8 meters wide.

VIII. COMMON FINISH CHUTE FOR NORDIC STYLES

72. A marker, placed 150 meters before the finish line defines the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone in which the Nordic style driver and his/her dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team. The passing procedure, as per §69 above is no longer applicable

CHAPTER FOUR DRYLAND STYLE

I. ENTRY RULES

73. Entry Rules

73.1 At the option of the race-giving organization, competitions may be held in the following disciplines:

73.1.1 Canicross,

73.1.2 Bikejöring one dog,

73.1.3 1 and 2-dog Scooter,

73.1.4 4-, 6-, 8-dog Rig

73.1.5 Relay in canicross and/or bikejöring.

73.2 In multiple dog class for races over two or more stages, the drivers may reduce their team if wanted within the limits defined in §61 below. If the team is reduced, the driver may not add that dog back in subsequent stages. A participant is allowed to reduce the team only between stages or at designated dog drop points.

73.3 The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team determined to be too large for the designated driver.

73.4 Any dog having raced in one class of a dryland race shall not be eligible to race in a second class on the same day, unless the second class is canicross.

II. CANICROSS

74. Canicross

A Canicross team consists of a competitor, racing solely on foot, and one dog.

74.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

74.1.1 [Canicross junior men 1 \(DCMJ1\) and Canicross Junior women 1 \(DCWJ1\) for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age, and Canicross junior men 2 \(DCMJ2\) and Canicross Junior women 2 \(DCWJ2\) for competitors from 17 until and including 20 years of age \(Note 1\).](#)

74.1.2 Canicross senior men (DCM) and Canicross senior women (DCW) for competitors from 21 until and including 39 years of age and older (Note 1).

74.1.3 Canicross veteran men (DCMV) and Canicross veteran women (DCWV) for competitors from 40 years of age and older (Note 1). A competitor shall not run in both senior and veteran classes during the same event.

74.1.4 Relay competitions with women and men teams for competitors from 14 years of age.

74.1.5 Children classes with competitors being younger than per §74.1.1 above may also be held.

74.2 Equipment

74.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber at all time. The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line. The expanded snub line shouldn't be less than 2 meters and shouldn't exceed 3 meters in length.

74.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules

74.3.1 The competitor and the dog shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.

74.3.2 The driver shall not pace the dogs by running ahead of or force the dog to run in any way.

- 74.3.3 Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden.
- 74.3.4 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the competitor is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 74.3.5 During the overtaking procedure, the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down.
- 74.3.6 If a mass start is organized, all the competitors of the same class shall wait together behind the starting line holding their dog by the collar or the harness. If they cannot all stay on one line, they shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
- 74.3.7 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

III. BIKEJÖRING

75. Bikejöring One Dog

A Bikejöring one dog team consists of a driver pedalling a bicycle and one dog.

75.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 75.1.1 Bikejöring senior men (DBM) and Bikejöring senior women (DBW) for competitors from 16 until and including 39 years of age and older (Note 1).
- 75.1.2 Bikejöring veteran men (DBMV) and Bikejöring veteran women (DBWV) for competitors from 40 years of age (Note 1). A competitor shall not run in both senior and veteran classes during the same event.

75.2 Equipment

- 75.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the bicycle or to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber not less than 2.5 meters expanded and not exceeding 3 meters in length expanded in front of the bike. If the line is attached to the driver, it should be by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line.
- 75.2.2 The bicycle shall be equipped with an efficient brake on each wheel.
- 75.2.3 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended.
- 75.2.4 [Studded tires are not allowed on bikes.](#)

75.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules

- 75.3.1 The front wheel of the bicycle shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 75.3.2 The driver shall not pace the dog by driving ahead.
- 75.3.3 Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden.
- 75.3.4 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 75.3.5 During the overtaking procedure, the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and stop pedaling.
- 75.3.6 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

IV. SCOOTER

76. Scooter

76.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 76.1.1 [Scooter one dog junior \(DS1J\) for competitors 14-16 years, and Scooter one dog \(DS1\) for competitors 16 years and older \(Note 1\).](#)
- 76.1.2 [Providing that there are enough competitors for both categories, Scooter one dog class shall be divided into men \(DSM1\) and women \(DSW1\) categories.](#)

- 76.1.3 Scooter 2 dogs (DS2) for competitors 16 years and older (Note 1).
- 76.1.4 A Scooter team consists of a driver riding a two-wheeled scooter-type vehicle pulled by one or two dogs.
- 76.1.5 Bicycles without pedal mechanisms and bicycles with the pedal mechanisms blocked will be allowed.
- 76.1.6 Light three-wheeled rigs will be allowed in the Scooter 2-dog class.
- 76.2 Equipment
 - 76.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the scooter by a snub line with shock absorber not less than 2.5 meters expanded and not exceeding 3 meters in length expanded in front of the scooter.
 - 76.2.2 A neckline shall be used in two-dog classes
 - 76.2.3 The scooter shall be equipped with an efficient brake on each wheel.
 - 76.2.4 The minimum wheels diameter shall be 12 inches (30 cm).
 - 76.2.5 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended.
 - 76.2.6 Studded tires are not allowed on scooters
- 76.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules
 - 76.3.1 The front wheel of the scooter shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 76.3.2 The driver shall ride the scooter behind his/her dogs.
 - 76.3.3 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat.
 - 76.3.4 During the overtaking procedure the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down.
 - 76.3.5 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

V. RIG CLASSES

77. Rig Classes

- 77.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

 - 77.1.1 **4-Dog Junior rig (DR4J):** A limited Four-Dog Junior rig shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age (Note 1).
 - 77.1.2 **4-Dog rig (DR4):** A limited Four-Dog rig shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
 - 77.1.3 **6-Dog rig (DR6):** A limited Six-Dog rig shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
 - 77.1.4 **8-Dog rig (DR8):** A limited Eight-Dog rig shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs and not less than five (5) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 77.2 Equipment
 - 77.2.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
 - 77.2.2 All dogs shall be fastened to the tug line by a neck line and a tail line. Lead dogs shall run with a neckline.
 - 77.2.3 The rig in 4-Dog class may either have three (3) or four (4) wheels. The 4-wheeled rig shall be used in DR6 and DR8 classes, except when it is mentioned in the race invitation that 3-wheelers are allowed in other than the 4-dog classes. The minimum wheels diameter shall be 12 inches (30 cm).
All rigs shall be equipped with:
 - 77.2.3.1 An efficient brake on the back wheels. Having brakes in the front wheels is recommended.
 - 77.2.3.2 A locking brake (handbrake) which can be blocked.
 - 77.2.3.3 Sufficient drop chains or cables to tether dogs at the dropping check points.

- 77.2.3.4 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended (Note 2).
- 75.2.3.5 [Studded tires are not allowed on rigs](#)
- 77.2.4 The following weights are recommended minimums for rigs:
 - 4-Dog class: 25 kg
 - 6-Dog class: 35 kg
 - 8-Dog class: 45 kg
 Independent from the above-mentioned weights, rigs shall be well and safely constructed, adapted to the number of dogs in the team, be stable and shall, as much as possible, guarantee the safety of dogs and drivers.
- 77.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules
 - 77.3.1 The front wheel(s) shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 77.3.2 The driver may ride the rig, pedal or run as wished.
 - 77.3.3 The driver shall not pace the dogs by running ahead or force the dog to run in any way.
 - 77.3.4 Dog drop check points shall be provided at least every 3 km and may be combined with normal check points. They shall be equipped with a stake-out and water. Dogs dropped at check points shall not be allowed to start in succeeding heats. If no possibilities are provided to drop dogs and a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat. For safety reasons, the transport of a dog on the rig is strictly forbidden in all classes.
 - 77.3.5 During the overtaking procedure the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the overtaken team is obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down. On the command "STOP," the overtaken team is obliged to stop movement forward. § 23 of Chapter One, III Trail Rules applies.
 - 77.3.6 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

VI. RELAY

78. Relay

- 78.1 The Dryland Relay is a one-day competition and consists of minimum 2 legs.
- 78.2 The Relay may be:
 - 78.2.1 Canicross Relay: Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors.
 - 78.2.2 Mixed Relay: The Relay legs are canicross and bikejöring or scooter. The bikejöring or scooter must be the last leg only. Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors (only for the canicross team member(s)).
 - 78.2.3 Separate relay competition may be organized for men, women and juniors.
- 78.3 Each participant and each dog shall run the trail only once. After the finish line, the participant changes over to the next participant in the relay team, who may then start.
- 78.4 The relay team that reaches the finish line first after all legs is the winner of the relay competition.
- 78.5 Relay Team
 - 78.5.1 The participants in a relay team shall be representatives of the same organization or country. At the option of the race giving organization, a mixed team of organizations or countries may be allowed, but these teams are not part of the official result list.
 - 78.5.2 Only one-dog teams are allowed in relay races.
- 78.6 Relay Entries
 - 78.6.1 The name of the participants in each relay team and the order in which they start shall be handed over to the race office at least 60 minutes before the start or any other time schedule defined by the organization.
- 78.7 Areas for Start, Change-Over and Finish in Relay Race
 - 78.7.1 Starting, change-over and finish area do not have to be the same location.

- 78.7.2 Starting area:
 - 78.7.2.1 The starting area will be the same as for a canicross mass start.
 - 78.7.2.2 The length of the starting tracks should be at least 50 meters and shall end at a marked line.
- 78.7.3 Relay Change-Over Area
 - 78.7.3.1 The change-over area should be a marked area, length approximately 10-30 meters, width approximately 10 meters.
It is an advantage that the change-over area is made at an angle to the incoming trail, to avoid the incoming trail's being in the same direction as the outgoing trail.
 - 78.7.3.2 The change-over area begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
- 78.8 Relay Starting Procedure
 - 78.8.1 All participants of the first leg start at the same time.
 - 78.8.2 The participant and the dog stay before the starting line.
 - 78.8.3 The team assistants shall leave the Starting area by 30 seconds before the start.
 - 78.8.4 The participant has to hold the dog by the harness until the start signal.
 - 78.8.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one flag.
 - 78.8.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
 - 78.8.7 Starting order is given in the following way:
 - 78.8.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
 - 78.8.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag over the head.
 - 78.8.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are positioned with the flag in a horizontal position.
 - 78.8.7.4 "Go," the starter's arm with the flags are rapidly lowered.
- 78.9 Relay Starting Restrictions.
 - 81.9.1 If a participant starts too early, he/she shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 78.10 Relay Change-Over Procedure
 - 78.10.1 A race official shall give a signal (e.g. the speaker announcing the starting number) to every team leader when an incoming team is not less than 500 meters from the change-over area.
 - 78.10.2 The signal has to be clear for the team leaders, who shall be located along the change-over area.
 - 78.10.3 An incoming participant shall release the dog as soon as the dog has passed the finish line and personally hand over the dog to the team assistant. The dog shall not be let loose at any time. The team assistant should take care of the dog.
 - 78.10.4 The change-over cannot take place until the dog of the incoming team member is held by the assistant.
 - 78.10.5 The participant continues into the change-over area and touches the next participant of his/her team with his/her hand.
 - 78.10.6 The change-over shall take place within the change-over area. A race official shall control the change-over.
 - 78.10.7 The assistant in the change-over area for outgoing participants is allowed only for the bikejoring or scooter leg. Assistants shall not hamper other outgoing participants.
- 78.11 The Trail of the Relay Race
 - 78.11.1 The entire trail should be, and the last 150 meters shall be, sufficiently wide for two bikejoring participants (minimum 6 meters).
- 78.12 Relay Timing
 - 78.12.1 Time is measured from the starting order "Go" until the last participant of the team reaches the finish line.
 - 78.12.2 Time is also measured the moment each individual participant passes the finish line.

VII. DISTANCES

79. The distances: See Race Procedures §98.

VIII. TEMPERATURES

80. Temperatures: See Race Procedures §57 through 59.6.

IX. AGES OF DOGS

81. Ages of Dogs

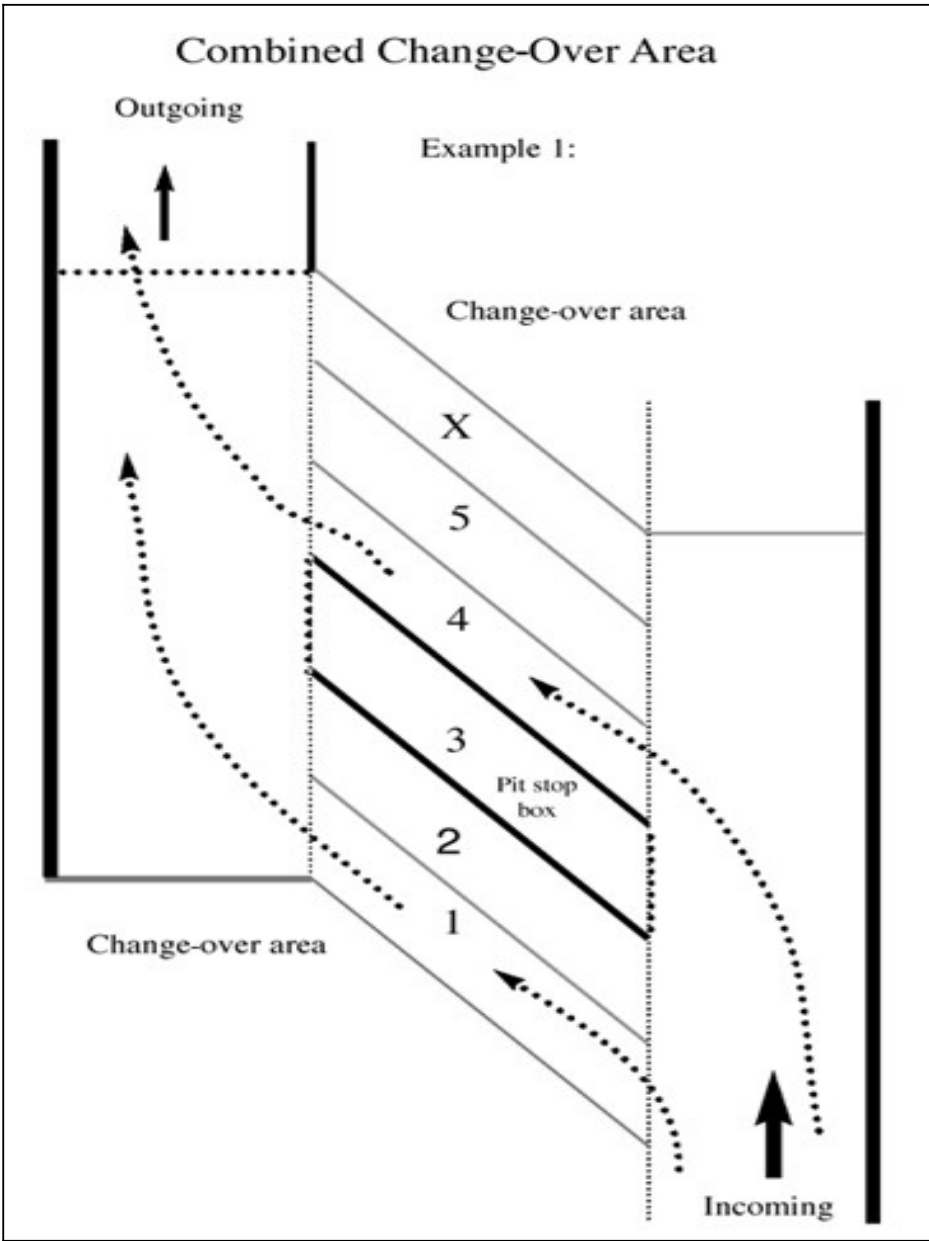
The dogs shall be at least 12 months old on the first day of the competition in the Canicross, scooter and Rig classes and at least 18 months old in Bikejöring.

Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

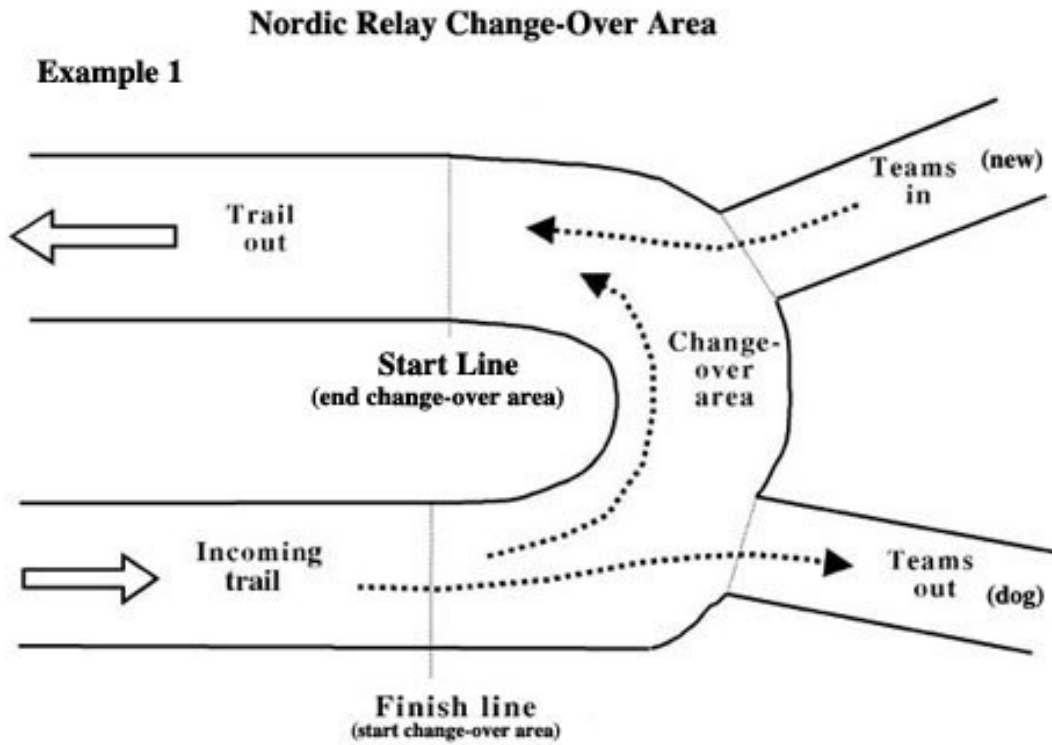
Note 2: The helmet must be approved for bicycle, motorcycle or ski competitions.

APPENDIX

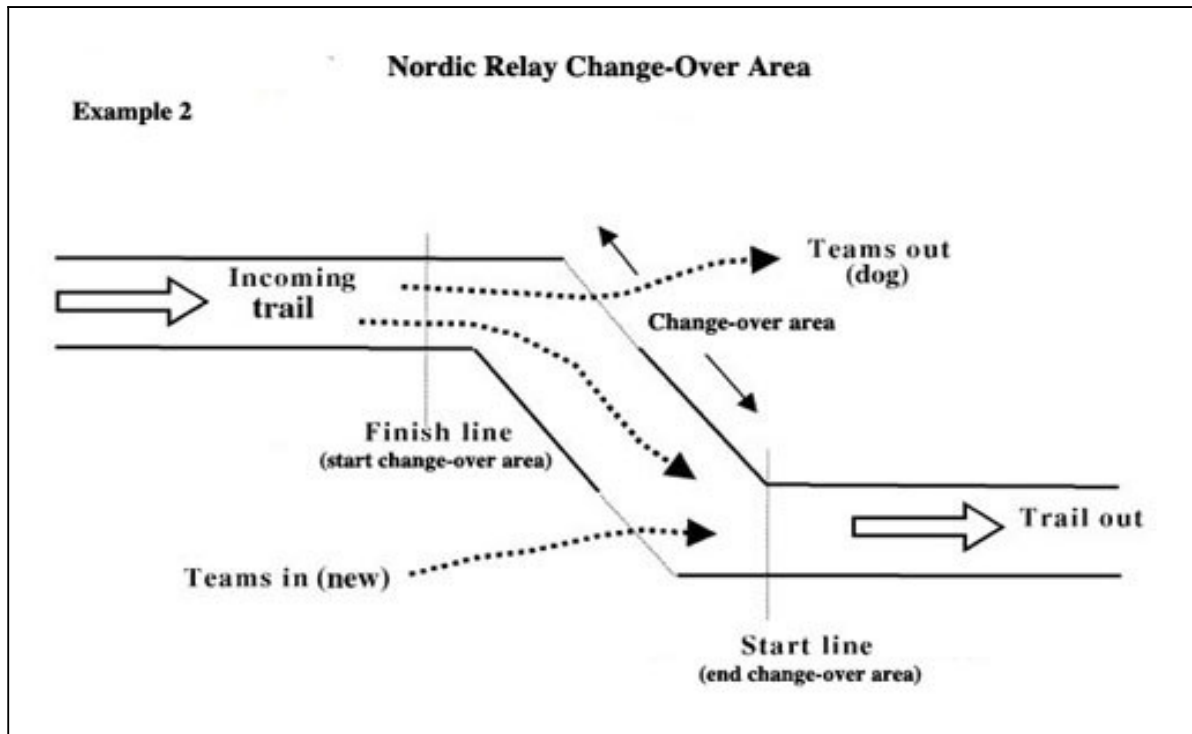
I. Nordic Combined Change-Over Area



II. Nordic Relay Change-Over Area, Example 1



III. Nordic Relay Change-Over Area, Example 2



IV. Nordic Pulka Weight Charts

1 + 2 Dog Team

dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka
14	10.0	26	18.5	38	27.0	49	34.5	61	43.0	73	51.5
15	10.5	27	19.0	39	27.5	50	35.0	62	43.5	74	52.0
16	11.5	28	20.0	39	27.5	51	36.0	63	44.5	75	52.5
17	12.0	29	20.5	40	28.0	52	36.5	64	45.0	76	53.5
18	13.0	30	21.0	41	29.0	53	37.5	65	45.5	77	54.0
19	13.5	31	22.0	42	29.5	54	38.0	66	46.5	78	55.0
20	14.0	32	22.5	43	30.5	55	38.5	67	47.0	79	55.5
21	15.0	33	23.5	44	31.0	56	39.5	68	48.0	80	56.0
22	15.5	34	24.0	45	31.5	57	40.0	69	48.5	81	57.0
23	16.5	35	24.5	46	32.5	58	41.0	70	49.0		
24	17.0	36	25.0	47	33.0	59	41.5	71	50.0		
25	17.5	37	26.0	48	34.0	60	42.0	72	50.5		

3-Dog Team

dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka
45	27.0	57	34.5	69	41.5	81	49.0	93	56.0	105	63.0	117	70.5
46	28.0	58	35.0	70	42.0	82	49.5	94	56.5	106	64.0	118	71.0
47	28.5	59	35.5	71	43.0	83	50.0	95	57.0	107	64.5	119	71.5
48	29.0	60	36.0	72	43.5	84	50.5	96	58.0	108	65.0	120	72.0
49	29.5	61	37.0	73	44.0	85	51.0	97	58.5	109	65.5	121	73.0
50	30.0	62	37.5	74	44.5	86	52.0	98	59.0	110	66.0	122	73.5
51	31.0	63	38.0	75	45.0	87	52.5	99	59.5	111	67.0	123	74.0
52	31.5	64	38.5	76	46.0	88	53.0	100	60.0	112	67.5	124	74.5
53	32.0	65	39.0	77	46.5	89	53.5	101	61.0	113	68.0		
54	32.5	66	40.0	78	47.0	90	54.0	102	61.5	114	68.5		
55	33.0	67	40.5	79	47.5	91	55.0	103	62.0	115	69.0		
56	34.0	68	41.0	80	48.0	92	55.5	104	62.5	116	70.0		

4-Dog Team

dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka	dog (s)	pulka
61	30.5	81	40.5	93	46.5	97	48.5	113	56.5	129	64.5	149	74.5	169	84.5
62	31.0	82	41.0	94	47.0	98	49.0	114	57.0	130	65.0	150	75.0	170	85.0
63	31.5	83	41.5	95	47.5	99	49.5	115	57.5	131	65.5	151	75.5	171	85.5
64	32.0	84	42.0	96	48.0	100	50.0	116	58.0	132	66.0	152	76.0	172	86.0
65	32.5	77	38.5	89	44.5	101	50.5	117	58.5	133	66.5	153	76.5	173	86.5
66	33.0	78	38.0	90	45.0	102	51.0	118	59.0	134	67.0	154	77.0	174	87.0
67	33.5	79	39.5	91	45.5	103	51.5	119	59.5	135	67.5	155	77.5	175	87.5
68	34.0	80	40.0	92	46.0	104	52.0	120	60.0	136	68.0	156	78.0	176	88.0
69	34.5	81	40.5	93	46.5	105	52.5	117	58.5	137	68.5	157	78.5	177	88.5
70	35.0	82	41.0	94	47.0	106	53.0	118	59.0	138	69.0	158	79.0	178	89.0
71	35.5	83	41.5	95	47.5	107	53.5	119	59.5	139	69.5	159	79.5	179	89.5
72	36.0	84	42.0	96	48.0	108	54.0	120	60.0	140	70.0	160	80.0	180	90.0
73	36.5	85	42.5	97	48.5	105	52.5	121	60.5	141	70.5	161	80.5		
74	37.0	86	43.0	98	49.0	106	53.0	122	61.0	142	71.0	162	81.0		
75	37.5	87	43.5	99	49.5	107	53.5	123	61.5	143	71.5	163	81.5		
76	38.0	88	44.0	100	50.0	108	54.0	124	62.0	144	72.0	164	82.0		
77	38.5	89	44.5	101	50.5	109	54.5	125	62.5	145	72.5	165	82.5		
78	38.0	90	45.0	102	51.0	110	55.0	126	63.0	146	73.0	166	83.0		
79	39.5	91	45.5	103	51.5	111	55.5	127	63.5	147	73.5	167	83.5		
80	40.0	92	46.0	104	52.0	112	56.0	128	64.0	148	74.0	168	84.0		

V. Protest form

IFSS Race Protest Form

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic	Distance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)	Bib Number
Describe the action(s) or incident	
Witnesses	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date	Time
------	------

Team Leader's Name	Country
Leader's Mobile Phone Number	

Signature of Protester
Signature of Race Marshall

**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.
Race Rules Part A
Nome Style Sprint classes**



(Extracts from the "Race Rules all classes")

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Definitions

- CHECK POINT:** A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- DRIVER:** A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
- EVENT:** A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
- HANDLER:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- HEAT:** A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
- OFFICIAL:** A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:** The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).
- RACE:** A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.
- RACE AREA:** All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- RACE JUDGE:** Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.

- RACE JURY:The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
- RACE MARSHAL (RM):The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
- SLED:The vehicle driven by the contestant and pulled by his/her dog team during the competition.
- STARTING CHUTE:A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
- SHALL:Shall be construed as being imperative.
- SHOULD:Shall be construed as advisory.
- MAY:Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.

1.2. Claim

- 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co-sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor’s sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.
- 1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

- 2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.

- 2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.
- 2.3 Age of competitors:
 - 2.3.1 In Nome style Sprint classes, (including sprint stage events) the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.1.1 Senior classes: 16 years and above
 - 2.3.1.2 Junior classes: 14 to and including 16 years (A 16 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class).
 - 2.3.1.3 N.A.
 - 2.3.2 N.A.
 - 2.3.3 N.A.
 - 2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of Sprint and Nordic style races. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.
- 2.6 N.A.
- 3. Dogs
 - 3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.
 - 3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
 - 3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
 - 3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2).
 - 3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least twelve (12) months old. However, in certain classes a minimum age of 18 months is dictated.
 - 3.5.1 N.A.
 - 3.5.2 Sprint: 18 months in the Unlimited class, 12 months in the other classes.
 - 3.5.3 N.A.
 - 3.5.4 N.A.
 - 3.6 Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day unless that other class is a skijoring relay.
 - 3.7 Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.
- 4. Disease
 - 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
 - 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.
- 5. Identification
 - 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.
 - 5.2. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats or, in case the marking is performed via chipping, the responsible official shall make a note on the applicable chip list.

6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers
 - 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing
IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.
 - 6.2. At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.
7. Equipment
 - 7.1. Inspection
 - 7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.2. N.A.
 - 7.1.1.3. N.A.
 - 7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.
 - 7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.
 - 7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.
8. Other Equipment.
 - 8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.
 - 8.2. Whips are forbidden.
 - 8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.
 - 8.4. The competitor should not be wearing shoes that could be dangerous for dogs. Shoes with **hardened spikes or studs of any material** are strictly forbidden.
9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)
An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

10. Drawing
 - 10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.
 - 10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.
 - 10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.
11. Single Start Race
 - 11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.
 - 11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
 - 11.3. In races of more than two heats,

- 11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
- 11.3.2. At the option of the organizer, in distance races (including distance stage races), the starting positions may be determined by the reverse of the elapsed time of the previous single heat (reverse start).

12. Dual Start Race

- 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
- 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
- 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.

13. Equal Times

- 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
- 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.
- 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.

14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start

- 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.
- 14.2. Mass start:
 - 14.2.1. All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line.
If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
 - 14.2.2. The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.
 - 14.2.3. There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.
 - 14.2.4. One assistant/ handler is allowed with 1-4 dogs and two with more than 4 dogs. The assistant(s) shall all stand on the **left side** of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall **stand stock still** and face the starting teams until all teams has passed.
 - 14.2.5. Start signal is given by the starter with **one or two flags** and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors
 - 14.2.6. The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
 - 14.2.7. Starting order is given in the following way:
 - 14.2.7.1. One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
 - 14.2.7.2. Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.
 - 14.2.7.3. Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.
 - 14.2.7.4. The rapidly lowering of starter's arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.
 - 14.2.8. If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
 - 14.2.9. A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.

- 14.2.10 N.A.
- 14.3 Pursuit start
 - 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.
 - 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors' times from the first race results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.
- 15. Starting Point and Time
 - 15.1 Starting Point
 - 15.1.1 In Nome Style, the brush bow of the sled should determine the starting point of the team.
 - 15.1.2 N.A.
 - 15.1.3 N.A.
 - 15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.
 - 15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.
 - 15.4 A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time or within half of the starting interval after the scheduled starting time shall be declared a late starting team, and shall receive a new starting time plus a time penalty of 3 (three) times the starting interval in its class.
 - 15.4.1 A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.
 - 15.4.2 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in the originally scheduled starting order.
 - 15.4.3 If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for any one heat, that team shall be disqualified.
- 16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.
- 17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.
- 18. Finish
 - 18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line.
Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.
 - 18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.
 - 18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
 - 18.5. Finishing zone, where the “no right of way” applies, shall be 800 meters long

III. TRAIL RULES

- 19. Following the Trail
 - 19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.
 - 19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.
- 20. Driving a Team
 - 20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.
 - 20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.
 - 20.3 Carrying a passenger at any time during the race shall be prohibited unless:
 - 20.3.1 Called for in the conditions of the race.

20.3.2 Giving a ride to a driver in an emergency situation.

21. Assistance on the Trail

- 21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.3 Handler and spectator assistance **is recommended to be limited to holding the sled, except** in case of a loose team or a team so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to itself, other teams or persons.
- 21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.

22. Loose Team and Dogs

- 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
- 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
- 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.
 - 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
 - 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
 - 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
- 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.

23. Right of Way

- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
- 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
 - 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
 - 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
- 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.
- 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.

23.4

24. Passing

- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the sled of the overtaken team.
- 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the sled to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team and, if demanded by the overtaking team driver, stopping and keeping the team from moving forward.
- 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one (1) minute in Unlimited and Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, one half (0.5) minute in all other classes.
- 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
 - 24.4.1 in Unlimited or Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, after less than four (4) minutes or 1600 meters.

- 24.4.2 in Limited Classes involving fewer than eight (8) dogs, after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
- 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:
 - 24.5.1 repairs gear or
 - 24.5.2 unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in a team to another position in the team or
 - 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled constitutes changing a dog's position in the team.
- 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
- 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the "no-right-of-way" Zone.
- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her/her discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

- 28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.
- 28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

- 29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.
- 29.2. Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

- 30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.

- 30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
 - 30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).
 - 30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
 - 30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.
31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.
32. Appeals Jury at World Championships
- 32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.
 - 32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.
 - 32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.
 - 32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.
 - 32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.
 - 32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.
 - 32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.
 - 32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.
33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships
- 33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.
34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision
- 34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.
 - 34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.
 - 34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

Special Rules for Nome style Sprint Classes

I. ENTRY RULES

35. Eligibility

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

35.1 Classes in Sprint races

- 35.1.1 An **Unlimited Class Team (SpU)** shall consist of not less than seven (7) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.2 A **Limited Ten-Dog Class Team (Sp10)** shall consist of no more than ten (10) dogs, not less than seven (7) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.3 A Limited **Eight-Dog Class Team (Sp8)** shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs, and not less than five (5) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.4 A Limited **Six-Dog Class Team (Sp6)** shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs, and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.5 A Limited **Four-Dog Class Team (Sp4)** shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs, and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.6 A Limited **Four-Dog Junior Class Team (Sp4J)** shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 35.1.7 After the first heat and each ensuing heat, a driver may voluntarily reduce the size of the team, subject to class minimums.
- 35.1.8 The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team that s/he determines is too large for the designated driver.

35.2 N.A.

35.3 Additional and optional rules:

- 35.3.1 At the option of the organization, each driver may have a rotation pool of dogs to choose from before each stage to meet the minimum/maximum requirements set for the class. The organization shall define the maximum number in the pool for each concerned class.
- 35.3.2 Each driver shall declare all the dogs included in his/her rotation pool. A driver may not exchange or add dogs once his/her pool of dogs has been declared and marked.
- 35.3.3 A race-giving organization may impose additional rules to meet requirements unique to local conditions.

36. Equipment

36.1 Harnesses and Lines

- 36.1.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- 36.1.2 All harnesses shall be well fitting and at least be padded around the neck and chest area. They shall be made from flexible fabrics.
- 36.1.3 All dogs shall be fastened to the tug line by a neck line and a tail line with the exception of the leader(s), who may run without a neck line.
- 36.1.4 A snub line may be carried on the sled but it shall not be used in any other manner than to tie down and hold the sled.
- 36.1.5 **Chain lines are strictly prohibited. All other lines shall not endanger the dogs' welfare and are subject to the approval of the Race Marshal (see §7.2).**

36.2. Sleds

- 36.2.1 A sled shall be capable of adequately carrying the driver and in case of emergency a passenger, and have a basket with a hard bottom of minimum surface of 40 cm x 50 cm capable of safely carrying a dog.
- 36.2.2 A sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, an adequate rubber braking pad fastened to the sled via a solid tip-up system, brushbow, one snow hook in Sp4 and Sp6 classes, two snow hooks in all other classes and an adequately ventilated dog bag.
- 36.2.3 Sleds may be replaced between heats/stages.
- 36.3 Helmets and other safety equipment
 - 36.3.1 For junior class participants, a helmet is mandatory. For all classes, helmets are strongly advised.
 - 36.3.2 The Race Organizer may mandate additional special rules for safety equipment.
- 36.4 Other equipment

At the option of the organizer, additional mandatory equipment may be dictated. The race invitation shall list the equipment.

II. TRAIL RULES

37. Driving a Team

- 37.1 A driver may ride the sled, pedal or run as wished.
- 37.2. All dogs starting the heat shall complete the entire course, either hitched in the team or carried on the sled.
- 37.3. A dog becoming unfit after departure shall be carried completely in the dog bag of the sled to the finish unless specific drop checkpoints have been prepared along the trail and announced.
 - 37.3.1. A dropped dog shall be fastened by a chain or cable to hold it in place until it is picked up by an authorized person.
 - 37.3.2. Dropped dogs shall be disqualified to compete in the remainder of the race, unless the driver dropped a pool dog or dogs, at his/her discretion and according to the requirements as per the rules. In this case, the driver, on his/her own discretion, may use dogs dropped by himself/herself again, provided the dogs are in good health. However, sick or injured dogs have to be reported to a race veterinarian.

CHAPTER THREE

38. through 72 N.A.

CHAPTER FOUR

73. through 81 N.A.

Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

Note 2: The helmet must be approved for bicycle, motorcycle or ski competitions.

Protest form

IFSS Race Protest Form

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic
Distance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)		Bib Number				
Describe the action(s) or incident						
				Witnesses		
				Name		Bib Number
				Signature		
				Name		Bib Number
Signature						

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date	Time
------	------

Team Leader's Name	Country
Leader's Mobile Phone Number	

Signature of Protester
Signature of Race Marshall

**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.
Race Rules Part B
Nome Style Distance classes**
(Extracts from the “Race Rules all classes”)



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Definitions

- CHECK POINT:** A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- DRIVER:**A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
- EVENT:**A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
- HANDLER:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- HEAT:**A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
- OFFICIAL:**A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:**The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).
- RACE:**A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.
- RACE AREA:**All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- RACE JUDGE:**Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of

- disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.
- RACE JURY:The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
- RACE MARSHAL (RM):The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
- SLED:The vehicle driven by the contestant and pulled by his/her dog team during the competition.
- STARTING CHUTE:A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
- SHALL:Shall be construed as being imperative.
- SHOULD:Shall be construed as advisory.
- MAY:Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.

1.2 Claim

- 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co-sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor’s sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.
- 1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

- 2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.
- 2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.
- 2.3 Age of competitors:
 - 2.3.1 N.A.
 - 2.3.2 N.A.
 - 2.3.3 In distance classes (including distance stage events) the minimum age for all competitors shall be eighteen (18) years.
 - 2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of Sprint and Nordic style races. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.
- 2.6 Drivers shall attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of the Distance races as well as any other meeting officially announced [in order to qualify to compete in the race](#). The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.

3. Dogs

- 3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.
- 3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2).
- 3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least twelve (12) months old. However, in certain classes a minimum age of 18 months is dictated.
 - 3.5.1 N.A.
 - 3.5.2 N.A.
 - 3.5.3 N.A.
 - 3.5.4 Distance classes: 18 months.
- 3.6 Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day.
- 3.7 Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.

4. Disease

- 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
- 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.

5. Identification

- 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.

- 5.2. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats or, in case the marking is performed via chipping, the responsible official shall make a note on the applicable chip list.
6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers
 - 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing
IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.
 - 6.2. At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.
7. Equipment
 - 7.1. Inspection
 - 7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.2. In distances races the teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area or any other place as announced by the Race Marshal at least thirty (30) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.3. When the control is completed, no equipment shall be removed from the sled without the Race Marshal's permission, and under supervision of same or of an authorized official.
 - 7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.
 - 7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.
 - 7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.
8. Other Equipment.
 - 8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.
 - 8.2. Whips are forbidden.
 - 8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.
 - 8.4. The competitor should not be wearing shoes that could be dangerous for dogs. Shoes with **hardened spikes or studs of any material** are strictly forbidden.
9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)
An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

10. Drawing
 - 10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.
 - 10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing

could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.

- 10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.
11. Single Start Race
 - 11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.
 - 11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
 - 11.3. In races of more than two heats,
 - 11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
 - 11.3.2. At the option of the organizer, in distance races (including distance stage races), the starting positions may be determined by the reverse of the elapsed time of the previous single heat (reverse start).
12. Dual Start Race
 - 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
 - 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
 - 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.
13. Equal Times
 - 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
 - 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.
 - 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.
14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start
 - 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.
 - 14.2. Mass start:
 - 14.2.1. All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line.
If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
 - 14.2.2. The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.
 - 14.2.3. There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.
 - 14.2.4. *Two assistants/ handlers are allowed. The assistants shall all stand on the left side of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall stand stock still and face the starting teams until all teams has passed.*
 - 14.2.5. Start signal is given by the starter with one or two flags and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors
 - 14.2.6. The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
 - 14.2.7. Starting order is given in the following way:

- 14.2.7.1 One minute before the start a sign “1” is shown.
- 14.2.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter’s arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.
- 14.2.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter’s arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.
- 14.2.7.4 The rapidly lowering of starter’s arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.
- 14.2.8 If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 14.2.9 A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.
- 14.2.10 Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring, scooter and rig classes.
- 14.3 Pursuit start
 - 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.
 - 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors’ times from the first race results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.
- 15. Starting Point and Time
 - 15.1 Starting Point
 - 15.1.1 In Nome Style, the brush bow of the sled should determine the starting point of the team.
 - 15.1.2 In Nordic Style and Canicross classes, the entire team, with the competitor holding his/her dogs by the collar or the harness, shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 15.1.3 In Dryland scooter, bikejoring and rig classes, the front wheel shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.
 - 15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.
 - 15.4 A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time or within half of the starting interval after the scheduled starting time shall be declared a late starting team, and shall receive a new starting time plus a time penalty of 3 (three) times the starting interval in its class. (Not applicable in Nordic Style, see §63).
 - 15.4.1 A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.
 - 15.4.2 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in the originally scheduled starting order.
 - 15.4.3 If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for any one heat, that team shall be disqualified.
- 16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.
- 17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.
- 18. Finish
 - 18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line.
Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.
 - 18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.

- 18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
- 18.5. Finishing zone, where the “no right of way” applies, shall be 800 meters long.

III. TRAIL RULES

19. Following the Trail

- 19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.
- 19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.

20. Driving a Team

- 20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.
- 20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.
- 20.3 Carrying a passenger at any time during the race shall be prohibited unless:
 - 20.3.1 Called for in the conditions of the race.
 - 20.3.2 Giving a ride to a driver in an emergency situation.

21. Assistance on the Trail

- 21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.3 Handler and spectator assistance **is recommended to be limited to holding the sled, except** in the case of a loose team, or a team so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to itself, other teams or persons.
- 21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.

22. Loose Team and Dogs

- 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
- 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
- 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.
 - 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
 - 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
 - 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
- 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.

23. Right of Way

- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
- 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
 - 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
 - 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
- 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.

- 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.
- 23.4
24. Passing
- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the sled of the overtaken team.
- 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the sled to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team and, if demanded by the overtaking team driver, stopping and keeping the team from moving forward.
- 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team's driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one (1) minute in Unlimited and Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, one half (0.5) minute in all other classes.
- 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
- 24.4.1 in Unlimited or Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, after less than four (4) minutes or 1600 meters.
- 24.4.2 in Limited Classes involving fewer than eight (8) dogs, after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
- 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:
- 24.5.1 repairs gear or
- 24.5.2 unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in a team to another position in the team or
- 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled constitutes changing a dog's position in the team.
- 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
- 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the "no-right-of-way" Zone.
- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which

the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.

- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her/his discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.

28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.

29.2 Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.

30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.

30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).

30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.

30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.

31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.

32. Appeals Jury at World Championships

32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.

32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.

32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.

32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.

32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.

- 32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.
- 32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.
- 32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.
- 33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships
 - 33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.
- 34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision
 - 34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.
 - 34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.
 - 34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

Special Rules for Nome style Distance Classes

I. ENTRY RULES

35. Eligibility

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 35.1 N.A.
- 35.2 Classes in Distance races
 - 35.2.1 A **6-dog Mid-Distance class Team (MD6)** shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.2 A **12-dog Mid-Distance class Team (MD12)** shall consist of not more than twelve (12) dogs and not less than eight (8) dogs in the first heat and not less than seven (7) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.3 A **Limited 8-dog Long Distance Class Team (LD8)** shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs and not less than six (6) dogs in the first heat and not less than five (5) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.4 An **Unlimited Long Distance Class (LDU) Team** shall consist of not less than eight (8) dogs in the first heat and not less than seven (7) dogs in any subsequent heat for competitors from 18 years of age (Note 1).
 - 35.2.5 Upon request from the organizer, the IFSS may determine a maximum number of dogs in an Unlimited Class Team. The race invitation shall inform of an eventual limitation.
- 35.3 Additional and optional rules:
 - 35.3.1 At the option of the organization, each driver may have a rotation pool of dogs to choose from before each stage to meet the minimum/maximum

requirements set for the class. The organization shall define the maximum number in the pool for each concerned class.

35.3.2 Each driver shall declare all the dogs included in his/her rotation pool. A driver may not exchange or add dogs once his/her pool of dogs has been declared and marked.

35.3.3 A race-giving organization may impose additional rules to meet requirements unique to local conditions.

36. Equipment

36.1 Harnesses and Lines

36.1.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.

36.1.2 All harnesses shall be well fitting and at least be padded around the neck and chest area. They shall be made from flexible fabrics.

36.1.3 All dogs shall be fastened to the tug line by a neck line and a tail line with the exception of the leader(s), who may run without a neck line.

36.1.4 A snub line may be carried on the sled but it shall not be used in any other manner than to tie down and hold the sled.

36.1.5 Chain lines are strictly prohibited. All other lines shall not endanger the dogs welfare and are subject to the approval of the Race Marshal (see §7.2).

36.2. Sleds

36.2.1 A sled shall be capable of adequately carrying the driver and in case of emergency a passenger, and have a basket with a hard bottom of minimum surface of 40 cm x 50 cm capable of safely carrying a dog.

36.2.2 A sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, an adequate rubber braking pad fastened to the sled via a solid tip-up system, brushbow, two snow hooks and an adequately ventilated dog bag.

36.2.3 Sleds may be replaced between heats/stages and at designated checkpoints (Distance races).

36.3 Helmets and other safety equipment

36.3.1 For all classes, helmets are strongly advised.

36.3.2 The Race Organizer may mandate additional special rules for safety equipment.

36.4 Other equipment

At the option of the organizer, additional mandatory equipment may be dictated. The race invitation shall list the equipment.

II. TRAIL RULES

37. Driving a Team

37.1 A driver may ride the sled, pedal or run as wished.

37.2. All dogs starting the heat shall complete the entire course, either hitched in the team or carried on the sled.

37.3. A dog becoming unfit after departure shall be carried completely in the dog bag of the sled to the finish unless specific drop checkpoints have been prepared along the trail and announced.

37.3.1. A dropped dog shall be fastened by a chain or cable to hold it in place until it is picked up by an authorized person.

37.3.2. Dropped dogs shall be disqualified to compete in the remainder of the race, unless the driver dropped a pool dog or dogs, at his/her discretion and according to the requirements as per the rules. In this case, the driver, on his/her own discretion, may use dogs dropped by himself/herself again, provided the dogs are in good health. However, sick or injured dogs have to be reported to a race veterinarian.

CHAPTER THREE

38. through 72 N.A.

CHAPTER FOUR

73. through 81 N.A.

Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

Note 2: The helmet must be approved for bicycle, motorcycle or ski competitions.

Protest form**IFSS Race Protest Form**

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic Distance
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)		Bib Number	
Describe the action(s) or incident			
Witnesses			
Name		Bib Number	
Signature			
Name		Bib Number	
Signature			

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date		Time	
Team Leader's Name		Country	
Leader's Mobile Phone Number			
Signature of Protester			

July 20, 2011

**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.
Race Rules Part C
Nordic Style Classes**



(Extracts from the “Race Rules all classes”)

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Definitions

- CHECK POINT:** A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- DRIVER:**A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
- EVENT:**A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
- HANDLER:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- HEAT:**A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.

- OFFICIAL:A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).
- PULKA: *The pulka or the Nordic sled (small sled with short runners and hand brake)*
- RACE:A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.
- RACE AREA:All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- RACE JUDGE:Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.
- RACE JURY:The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
- RACE MARSHAL (RM):The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
- STARTING CHUTE:A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.*
- SHALL:Shall be construed as being imperative.
- SHOULD:Shall be construed as advisory.
- MAY:Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.

1.2. Claim

- 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co-sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor’s sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents,

or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.

1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.

2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.

2.3 Age of competitors:

2.3.1 N.A.

2.3.2 In Nordic style sprint events, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:

2.3.2.1 Senior classes: 19 years and above

2.3.2.2 Junior classes: 17 to and including 20 years (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class. That decision will apply to all the Nordic style classes).

2.3.3 In distance classes (including distance stage events) the minimum age for all competitors shall be eighteen (18) years.

2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.

2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.

2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of Nordic style races. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.

2.6 N.A.

3. Dogs

3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.

3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.

3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.

3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2).

3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least twelve (12) months old. However, in certain classes a minimum age of 18 months is dictated.

3.5.1 N.A.

3.5.2 N.A.

3.5.3 Nordic Style: 18 months.

3.5.4 N.A.

3.6 Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day unless that other class is a skijoring relay.

3.7 Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.

4. Disease

- 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
- 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.
5. Identification
 - 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.
 - 5.2. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats or, in case the marking is performed via chipping, the responsible official shall make a note on the applicable chip list.
6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers
 - 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing
IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.
 - 6.2. At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.
7. Equipment
 - 7.1. Inspection
 - 7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.1.2. N.A.
 - 7.1.1.3. N.A.
 - 7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.
 - 7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.
 - 7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.
8. Other Equipment.
 - 8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.
 - 8.2. Whips are forbidden.
 - 8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.
 - 8.4. N.A.
9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)
An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

10. Drawing
 - 10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.
 - 10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing

- could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.
- 10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.
11. Single Start Race
- 11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.
- 11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
- 11.3. In races of more than two heats,
- 11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
- 11.3.2. At the option of the organizer, in distance races (including distance stage races), the starting positions may be determined by the reverse of the elapsed time of the previous single heat (reverse start).
12. Dual Start Race
- 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
- 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
- 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.
13. Equal Times
- 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
- 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.
- 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.
14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start
- 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.
- 14.2. Mass start:
- 14.2.1. All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line.
If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
- 14.2.2. The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.
- 14.2.3. There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.
- 14.2.4. One assistant/ handler is allowed. The assistant(s) shall all stand on the **left side** of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall **stand stock still** and face the starting teams until all teams has passed.
- 14.2.5. Start signal is given by the starter with one or two flags and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors
- 14.2.6. The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
- 14.2.7. Starting order is given in the following way:
- 14.2.7.1. One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.

- 14.2.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.
- 14.2.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.
- 14.2.7.4 The rapidly lowering of starter's arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.
- 14.2.8 If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 14.2.9 A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.
- 14.2.10 Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring, scooter and rig classes.
- 14.3 Pursuit start
 - 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.
 - 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors' times from the first race results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.
- 15. Starting Point and Time
 - 15.1 Starting Point
 - 15.1.1 N.A.
 - 15.1.2 In Nordic Style classes, the entire team, with the competitor holding his/her dogs by the collar or the harness, shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 15.1.3 N.A.
 - 15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.
 - 15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.
 - 15.4 N.A.
- 16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.
- 17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.
- 18. Finish
 - 18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line.
Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.
 - 18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.
 - 18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
 - 18.5. [Finishing zone, where the "no right of way" applies, shall be 150 meters long.](#)

III. TRAIL RULES

- 19. Following the Trail
 - 19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.
 - 19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.
- 20. Driving a Team
 - 20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.
 - 20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.

- 20.3 N.A.
21. Assistance on the Trail
- 21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.3 Handler and spectator assistance *is recommended to be limited to holding the pulka except* in the case of a loose team, or a team so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to themselves, other teams or persons.
- 21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.
22. Loose Team and Dogs
- 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
- 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
- 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.
- 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
- 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
- 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
- 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.
23. Right of Way
- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
- 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
- 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
- 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
- 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.
- 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.
- 23.4
24. Passing
- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the overtaken team.
- 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the team to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team.
- 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one half (0.5) minute.
- 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
- 24.4.1 N.A.
- 24.4.2 after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
- 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:

- 24.5.1 repairs gear or
- 24.5.2 unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in a team to another position in the team or
- 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled constitutes changing a dog's position in the team.
- 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
- 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the "no-right-of-way" Zone.
- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her/her discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

- 28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.
- 28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

- 29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.
- 29.2. Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

- 30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.
- 30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
- 30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).

- 30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
- 30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.
31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.
32. Appeals Jury at World Championships
- 32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.
- 32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.
- 32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.
- 32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.
- 32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.
- 32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.
- 32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.
- 32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.
33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships
- 33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.
34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision
- 34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.
- 34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.
- 34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

35. through 37. N.A.

CHAPTER THREE

NORDIC STYLE

Special rules for pulka classes, skijoring and Nordic relays

I. ENTRY RULES

38. At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following disciplines:
- 38.1 1-dog and 2-dog Skijoring
 - 38.2 1-dog and 1-4 dog Pulka
 - 38.3 Combined race with skijoring and pulka stages.
 - 38.4 Relay with all legs in pulka style, skijoring or mixed.
39. The classes (except relay) shall be divided by men and women if there are at least 5 participants in the class. In case there are less than 5 participants per class in the separate classes, men and women classes could be combined in one class.
40. In multiple dog class, the drivers may reduce their team if wanted. If the team is reduced, the driver may not add that dog back in subsequent stages (unless authorized otherwise by the Race Marshal or in supplementary regulations.). A participant is allowed to reduce the team only between stages.
41. The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team determined to be too large for the designated driver.

II. SKIJORING

42. A Skijoring team consists of a competitor, racing solely on skis and being connected to one or two harnessed dogs via a snub line.

43. Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 43.1 One Dog Class Skijoring Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMS1)
- 43.2 One Dog Class Skijoring Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWS1)
- 43.3 One Dog Class Skijoring Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (MNSJ)
- 43.4 One Dog Class Skijoring Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWSJ)
- 43.5 Two Dog Class Skijoring Men (minimum 1 dog, maximum 2 dogs) for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMS2)
- 43.6 Two Dog Class Skijoring Women (minimum 1 dog, maximum 2 dogs) for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWS2)
- 43.7 Children's classes with competitors being younger than per §2.1.3. and 2.1.4. may also be held with One-dog team only.

44. Equipment

- 44.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in a single file or in pairs and shall be attached to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber at all time.
- 44.2 The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). The belt shall have an open hook in order to make it easy to release the line, or a quick release connection (panic-snap).
- 44.3 It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line.
- 44.4 The length of the expanded snub line should be a minimum of 2.5 meters and a maximum of 3.5 meters.
- 44.5 A neckline shall be used in two-dog classes.
- 44.6 Only cross-country skis without steel edges or sharp tips and non-dangerous for the dog(s) may be used.
- 44.7 The equipment shall be available for inspection by the race officials before and after the race.

- 44.8 All entrants shall be responsible for seeing that their equipment meets the requirement of these rules.
45. Start, trail and finish rules.
(See the Common rules for Nordic races: § VI. Start Rules; §VII. Trail Rules; §VIII. Finish rules)

III. PULKA

46. A Pulka team consists of a competitor, racing solely on skis and being connected with a pulka pulled by harnessed dog(s).
47. Classes
At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:
- 47.1 One Dog Class Pulka Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMP1)
 - 47.2 One Dog Class Pulka Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWP1)
 - 47.3 One Dog Class Pulka Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NMPJ)
 - 47.4 One Dog Class Pulka Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWPJ)
 - 47.5 One-Four Dog Class Pulka Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMP4)
 - 47.6 One-Four Dog Class Pulka Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWP4)
48. Equipment
- 48.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
 - 48.2 The pulka shall be:
 - 48.2.1 Connected with one or two solid shafts to the dog (s) closest to the pulka or sled (wheeldogs) so that it is not possible for the pulka or sled to overrun a harnessed dog(s).
 - 48.2.2 So constructed that the runners do not create any risk of harming the dog(s).
 - 48.2.3 Equipped with the possibility of fastening the load securely;
 - 48.2.4 Equipped with a hand brake, if there are more than two dogs in the team;
 - 48.2.5 Equipped with a snub line with shock absorber.
 - 48.3. The total load to be carried shall be:
 - 48.3.1 For a one (1) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: weight of the dog (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.7. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.3.2 For a two (2) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.7. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.3.3 For a three (3) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.6. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.3.4 For a four (4) dog team the total load to be carried shall be: the gross weight of the dogs (adjusted upward to the nearest kilo) x 0.5. The Pulka weight is adjusted upward to the nearest half kilo.
 - 48.4 The load consists of: pulka, shafts, harness(es), lines and the additional weight.
 - 48.5 The additional weight shall be furnished by the participant him/herself.
 - 48.6 The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). The belt shall have an open hook in order to make it easy to release the line or a quick release connection (panic-snap).
 - 48.7 Only cross-country skis without steel edges or sharp tips and non dangerous for the dog(s) may be used.
 - 48.8 The equipment shall be available for inspection by the race officials before the race, and for inspection and pulka weight control after the race.
 - 48.9 All entrants shall be responsible for seeing that their equipment meets the requirement of these rules.
49. Start, trail and finish rules.

(See the Common rules for Nordic races: §VI. Start Rules; §VII. Trail Rules; §VIII. Finish rules)

IV. COMBINED RACE

50. Combined race is a Nordic style event consisting of one heat with pulka and one heat with skijoring, run by the same team.

51. Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

51.1 One Dog Class Combined Men for competitors from 19 years and above. (NMC)

51.2 One Dog Class Combined Women for competitors from 19 years and above. (NWC)

51.3. One Dog Class Combined Junior Men for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NMCJ)

51.4 One Dog Class Combined Junior Women for competitors from 17 to and including 20 years. (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class instead). (NWCJ)

52. Equipment

(See the Equipment Rules for Skijoring §44 and Pulka §48.)

53. Start, Trail and Finish rules

At the option of the Organizer the combined race may be held in two different variations:

53.1 Mass start and pit-stop

53.1.1 The start of the first heat is regulated by the Mass start Rules as per §64. After the first heat the competitors go directly into a pit-stop at the change over-area (see §54) and change to skijoring.

53.1.2 The total race time is the time from the start of the mass start until the participants cross the finish line after the second heat.

53.2 Pursuit race

53.2.1. After the first heat, the competitors have a rest. The duration of the rest is determined by the Organizer. Pursuit start Rule §65 defines the start order of the second heat.

53.2.2. The total race time is the sum of the results of the two heats.

53.3. Trail Rules (see the Common §VII: Trail Rules for Nordic races).

53.4. Finish Rules (see the Common §VIII: Finish Rules for Nordic races).

54. Combined Change-over Area (See drawing below for example)

54.1. The change-over area shall be a marked area, length approximately 20-50 meters, width approximately 15 meters. It begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.

54.2. The dog is to be held by the shaft or harness in the change-over area.

54.3 The participant shall change equipment from pulka to skijoring (or on the contrary) in his/her designated pit and leave all equipment in that pit.

54.4 It is not allowed for the participants to receive any help in the change-over area.

V. NORDIC RELAY

55. A relay race is a one-day competition, which involves relay teams of at least three participants.

56. At the option of the race giving organization, the relay will include stages of:

56.1 pulka only,

56.2 skijoring only,

56.3 mixed skijoring and pulka. In that case the race giving organization will specify in advance which legs of the relay will be run in each discipline.

57. Each participant runs the trail once. After the finish line the participant changes over to the next participant in the relay team, who may then start.

58. The relay team that reaches the finish line first after all stages is the winner of the relay competition.

59. Relay Team

59.1 The participants in a relay team shall in principle be representatives of the same organization or country. At the option of the race giving organization, a mixed team of organizations or countries may be allowed full participation, but they shall never be

awarded with titles and the corresponding prizes at IFSS World Championships.
Note: National organizations are, during their events, at all times free to decide on awarding mixed teams.

- 59.2 Only one-dog teams are allowed in relay races.
 - 59.3 Each Relay team may consist of men, women and juniors.
 - 59.4 Separate relay competition may be organized for men, women and juniors.
60. Relay Entries
- 60.1 The name of the participants in each relay team and the order in which they start shall be handed over to the race office at least 60 minutes before the start or otherwise as timely informed by the race marshal.
61. Areas for Start, Trail, Change-Over and Finish in Relay Race (See drawing below for example of change-over area)
- 61.1 Starting, change-over and finish area do not have to be the same location.
 - 61.2 Relay Starting area meets the requirements for the mass start area (see the Common Mass start Rules for Nordic Style §64).
 - 61.3 The Trail of the Relay Race meets the requirements for the common trail rules (see the Common Trail Rules for Nordic Style §VII).
 - 61.4 Relay Change-Over Area
 - 61.4.1 The change-over area shall be a marked area, length approximately 20-50 meters, width approximately 15 meters. It is to be preferred that the change over area is made at an angle to the incoming trail (see examples attached).
 - 61.4.2 The change-over area begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
 - 61.5 Change-over procedure
 - 61.5.1 A race official shall give a signal (e.g. the speaker announcing the starting number) to every team leader or assistant when an incoming team is approximately 1 km from the change-over area.
 - 61.5.2 The signal has to be clear for the team leaders or assistants, who shall be located at a special sector of the change-over area.
 - 61.5.3 An incoming participant shall release the dog as soon as the dog has passed the finish line.
 - 61.5.4 The team assistant should take charge of the dog.
 - 61.5.5 The participant continues into the change-over area and touches the next participant of his/her team with his/her hand.
 - 61.5.6 The change-over shall take place within the change-over area. A race official shall control the change-over.
 - 61.5.7 It is not allowed for participants to receive any help in the change-over area except as already provided for in §61.5.4 above.
 - 61.6 Relay Finish rules meet the requirements for the common Finish rules (see the Common Finish Rules for Nordic Style §VIII.).
62. Relay Timing
- 62.1. Time is measured from the starting order “Go” until the last participant of the team crosses the finish line.
 - 62.2. Time is also measured the moment each individual participant passes the finish line. Therefore, it is advised to equip relay teams with bibs, which mention, besides the team number, also the starting position of each individual team member (e.g. 1¹, 1² etc.)

VI. COMMON START RULES FOR NORDIC RACES

63. Individual Start Rules

- 63.1. Individual Start chute is a specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters length and 4 meters width.
- 63.2. The competitor and the dog(s) shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 63.3. The starting interval between the participants shall be 30 seconds or 1 minute.

- 63.4. If the team starts before the start signal is given, it will be called back for a proper start. This start will be allowed as soon as possible, but cannot take place within 10 seconds before or within 10 seconds after another team's scheduled start.
- 63.5. If the team is late to the start, it will be allowed to start whenever it is ready, except for ten seconds before or after another starting team
- 63.6. In both cases, the time shall be kept as if the team had started on time, but the starter shall make a note of the real starting time.
- 64. Mass start:
 - 64.1. See General rules §14.2 for Mass Start general rules with the following additional rule:
 - 64.2. The competitors must lead their dogs by the shackle or harness along the starting track and must keep skis and poles parallel.
 - 64.3. If a competitor does not hold his/her dog as instructed in §64.2, s/he shall get a warning. If, in this situation, another competitor had to stop or was delayed, the offender should be disqualified.
- 65. Pursuit start
 - 65.1. In the first heat of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is in accordance with race rule §63.above.
 - 65.2. The competitor and the dog(s) shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 65.3. See General rules §14.3 for Pursuit start general rules.

VII. COMMON TRAIL RULES FOR NORDIC RACES

- 66. The driver shall follow his/her dog(s) on skis
- 67. The driver is not allowed to pace the dog(s) by running ahead of the team.
- 68. Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden. Assisting the dog(s) by pulling or pushing the pulka or the sled is permitted. Assistance in watering or feeding dogs is permitted. The race Marshal shall designate specific spots on the trail where such help may be given.
- 69. During the overtaking procedure on the command "TRAIL," the overtaken team shall make way for the passing team by moving on behind the dog(s) on the same side of the trail, shall not be skating and shall keep the skis and poles parallel to the trail.
- 70. If a dog becomes unfit or stops advancing for any reason, the competitor is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 71. The trail for individual start should be 4 meters wide and the last 150m should be 6 meters wide. The trail for mass start should be 6 meters wide and the last 150m should be 8 meters wide.

VIII. COMMON FINISH CHUTE FOR NORDIC STYLES

- 72. A marker, placed 150 meters before the finish line defines the "no-right-of-way" finishing zone in which the Nordic style driver and his/her dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team. The passing procedure, as per §69 above is no longer applicable

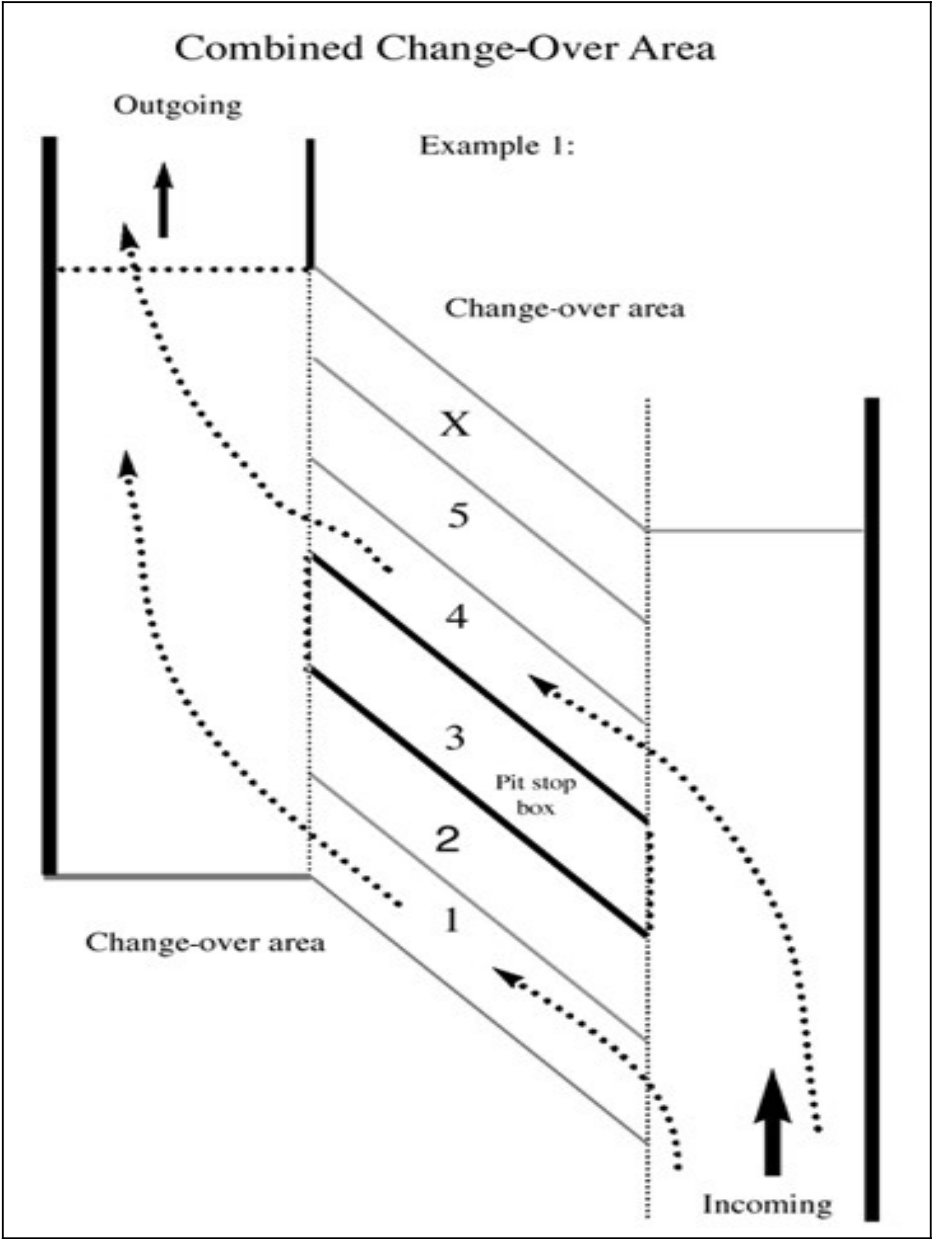
CHAPTER FOUR

73 through 81. N.A.

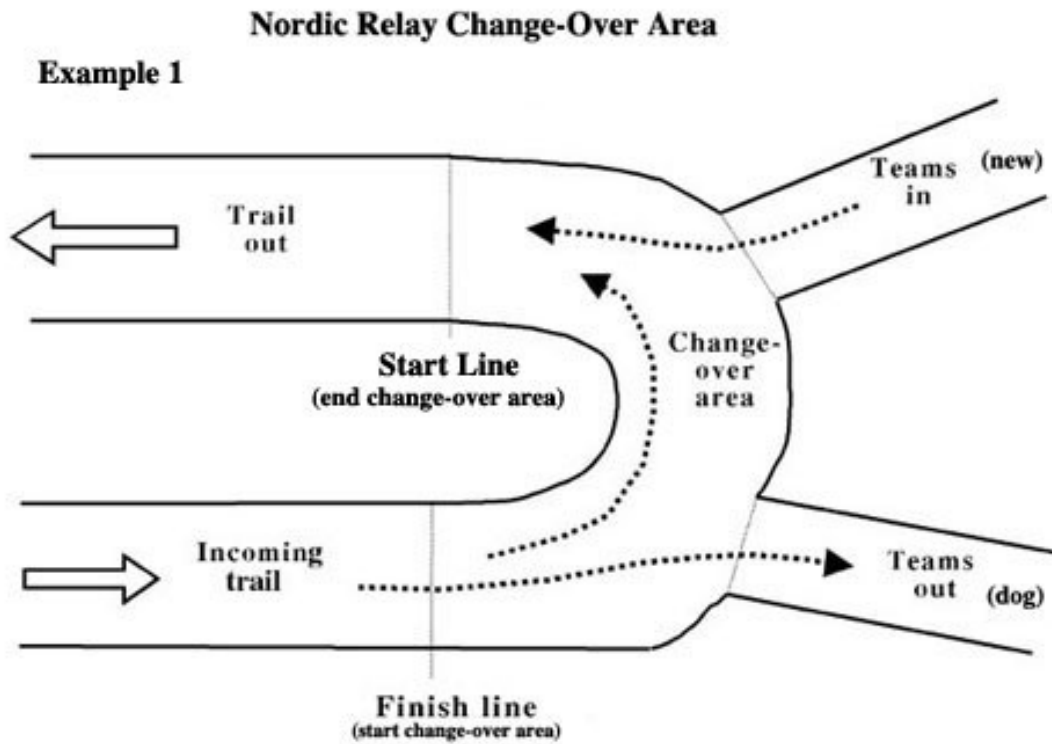
Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

APPENDIX

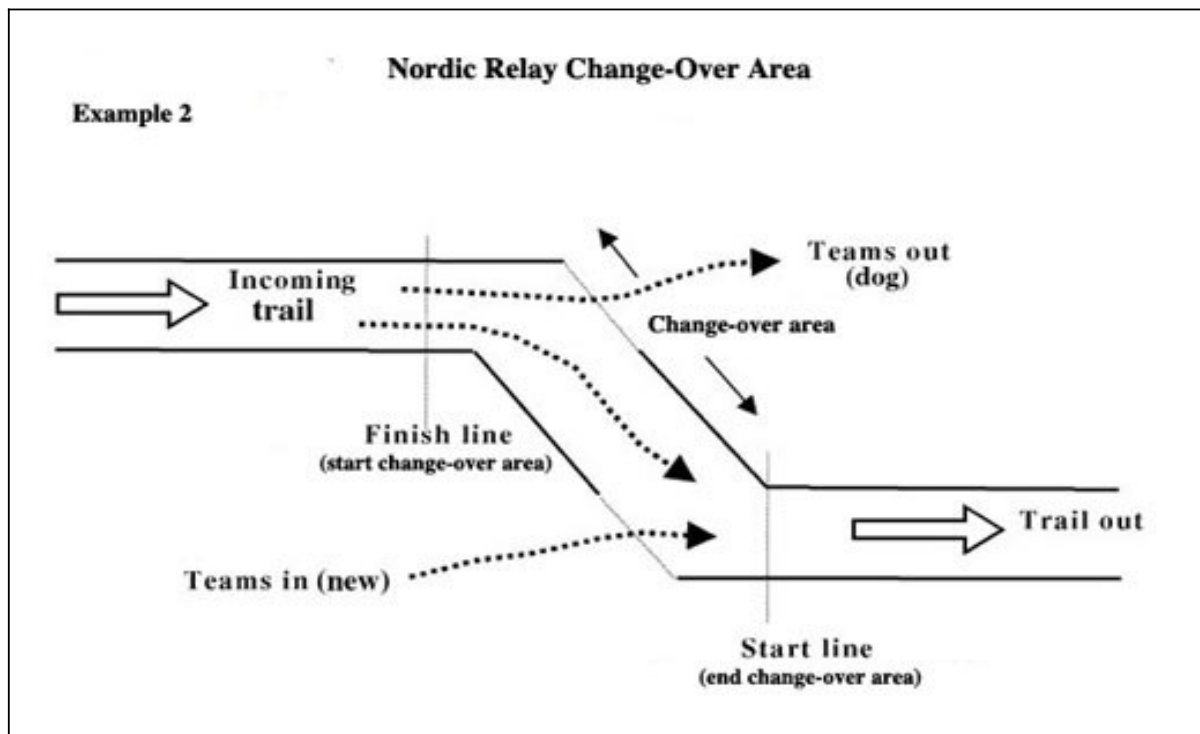
I. Nordic Combined Change-Over Area



II. Nordic Relay Change-Over Area, Example 1



III. Nordic Relay Change-Over Area, Example 2



IV. Nordic Pulka Weight Charts

1 + 2 Dog Team

dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka
14	10.0	26	18.5	38	27.0	49	34.5	61	43.0	73	51.5
15	10.5	27	19.0	39	27.5	50	35.0	62	43.5	74	52.0
16	11.5	28	20.0	39	27.5	51	36.0	63	44.5	75	52.5
17	12.0	29	20.5	40	28.0	52	36.5	64	45.0	76	53.5
18	13.0	30	21.0	41	29.0	53	37.5	65	45.5	77	54.0
19	13.5	31	22.0	42	29.5	54	38.0	66	46.5	78	55.0
20	14.0	32	22.5	43	30.5	55	38.5	67	47.0	79	55.5
21	15.0	33	23.5	44	31.0	56	39.5	68	48.0	80	56.0
22	15.5	34	24.0	45	31.5	57	40.0	69	48.5	81	57.0
23	16.5	35	24.5	46	32.5	58	41.0	70	49.0		
24	17.0	36	25.0	47	33.0	59	41.5	71	50.0		
25	17.5	37	26.0	48	34.0	60	42.0	72	50.5		

3-Dog Team

dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka
45	27.0	57	34.5	69	41.5	81	49.0	93	56.0	105	63.0	117	70.5
46	28.0	58	35.0	70	42.0	82	49.5	94	56.5	106	64.0	118	71.0
47	28.5	59	35.5	71	43.0	83	50.0	95	57.0	107	64.5	119	71.5
48	29.0	60	36.0	72	43.5	84	50.5	96	58.0	108	65.0	120	72.0
49	29.5	61	37.0	73	44.0	85	51.0	97	58.5	109	65.5	121	73.0
50	30.0	62	37.5	74	44.5	86	52.0	98	59.0	110	66.0	122	73.5
51	31.0	63	38.0	75	45.0	87	52.5	99	59.5	111	67.0	123	74.0
52	31.5	64	38.5	76	46.0	88	53.0	100	60.0	112	67.5	124	74.5
53	32.0	65	39.0	77	46.5	89	53.5	101	61.0	113	68.0		
54	32.5	66	40.0	78	47.0	90	54.0	102	61.5	114	68.5		
55	33.0	67	40.5	79	47.5	91	55.0	103	62.0	115	69.0		
56	34.0	68	41.0	80	48.0	92	55.5	104	62.5	116	70.0		

4-Dog Team

dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka	dog(s)	pulka
61	30.5	81	40.5	93	46.5	97	48.5	113	56.5	129	64.5	149	74.5	169	84.5
62	31.0	82	41.0	94	47.0	98	49.0	114	57.0	130	65.0	150	75.0	170	85.0
63	31.5	83	41.5	95	47.5	99	49.5	115	57.5	131	65.5	151	75.5	171	85.5
64	32.0	84	42.0	96	48.0	100	50.0	116	58.0	132	66.0	152	76.0	172	86.0
65	32.5	77	38.5	89	44.5	101	50.5	117	58.5	133	66.5	153	76.5	173	86.5
66	33.0	78	38.0	90	45.0	102	51.0	118	59.0	134	67.0	154	77.0	174	87.0
67	33.5	79	39.5	91	45.5	103	51.5	119	59.5	135	67.5	155	77.5	175	87.5
68	34.0	80	40.0	92	46.0	104	52.0	120	60.0	136	68.0	156	78.0	176	88.0
69	34.5	81	40.5	93	46.5	105	52.5	117	58.5	137	68.5	157	78.5	177	88.5
70	35.0	82	41.0	94	47.0	106	53.0	118	59.0	138	69.0	158	79.0	178	89.0
71	35.5	83	41.5	95	47.5	107	53.5	119	59.5	139	69.5	159	79.5	179	89.5
72	36.0	84	42.0	96	48.0	108	54.0	120	60.0	140	70.0	160	80.0	180	90.0
73	36.5	85	42.5	97	48.5	105	52.5	121	60.5	141	70.5	161	80.5		
74	37.0	86	43.0	98	49.0	106	53.0	122	61.0	142	71.0	162	81.0		
75	37.5	87	43.5	99	49.5	107	53.5	123	61.5	143	71.5	163	81.5		
76	38.0	88	44.0	100	50.0	108	54.0	124	62.0	144	72.0	164	82.0		
77	38.5	89	44.5	101	50.5	109	54.5	125	62.5	145	72.5	165	82.5		
78	38.0	90	45.0	102	51.0	110	55.0	126	63.0	146	73.0	166	83.0		
79	39.5	91	45.5	103	51.5	111	55.5	127	63.5	147	73.5	167	83.5		
80	40.0	92	46.0	104	52.0	112	56.0	128	64.0	148	74.0	168	84.0		

V. Protest form

IFSS Race Protest Form

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic
Distance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)	Bib Number
Describe the action(s) or incident	

Witnesses	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date	Time
------	------

Team Leader's Name	Country
Leader's Mobile Phone Number	

Signature of Protester
Signature of Race Marshall

**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.
Race Rules Part D
Canicross and Bikejoring Classes**



(Extracts from the “Race Rules all classes”)

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Definitions

- CHECK POINT:** A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- DRIVER:**A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
- EVENT:**A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
- HANDLER:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- HEAT:**A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
- OFFICIAL:**A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:**The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).

- RACE:A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.
- RACE AREA:All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- RACE JUDGE:Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.
- RACE JURY:The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
- RACE MARSHAL (RM):The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
- STARTING CHUTE:A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
- SHALL:Shall be construed as being imperative.
- SHOULD:Shall be construed as advisory.
- MAY:Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.

1.2 Claim

- 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co-sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor’s sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.
- 1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and

information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

- 2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.
- 2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.
- 2.3 Age of competitors:
 - 2.3.1 In Dryland classes, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.1.1 Senior classes: 16 years and above for Bikejoring classes, 21 and above for Canicross classes.
 - 2.3.1.2 Junior classes: 14 to and including 20 years for Canicross only.
 - 2.3.1.3 Veteran class (Canicross and Bikejoring only): 40 years and above. Canicross and Bikejoring veteran competitors may request to compete in the corresponding senior class.
 - 2.3.2 N.A.
 - 2.3.3 N.A.
 - 2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of the race. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.
- 2.6 N.A.

3. Dogs

- 3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.
- 3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2) (Not applicable to Canicross classes).
- 3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least 18 months in the Bikejoring, 12 months in the other classes.
- 3.6. Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day unless that other class is a canicross.
- 3.7. Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.

4. Disease

- 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
- 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.

5. Identification

- 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.
- 5.2. N.A.

6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers

- 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing

IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.

- 6.2 At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.

7. Equipment

7.1. Inspection

7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.

7.1.1.2 N.A.

7.1.1.3 N.A.

7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.

7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.

7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.

- 7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.

8. Other Equipment.

8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.

8.2. Whips are forbidden.

8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.

8.4. The competitor should not be wearing shoes that could be dangerous for dogs. Shoes with **hardened spikes or studs of any material** are strictly forbidden.

9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)

An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

10. Drawing

10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.

10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.

10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.

11. Single Start Race

11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.

11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.

11.3. In races of more than two heats,

11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.

11.3.2 N.A.

12. Dual Start Race

- 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
- 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
- 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.

13. Equal Times

- 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
- 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.
- 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.

14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start

- 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.
- 14.2. Mass start:
 - 14.2.1 All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line.
If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
 - 14.2.2 The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.
 - 14.2.3 There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.
 - 14.2.4 *One assistant/ handler is allowed. The assistant(s) shall all stand on the left side of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall stand stock still and face the starting teams until all teams have passed.*
 - 14.2.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one or two flags and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors
 - 14.2.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
 - 14.2.7 Starting order is given in the following way:
 - 14.2.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
 - 14.2.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.
 - 14.2.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.
 - 14.2.7.4 The rapidly lowering of starter's arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.
 - 14.2.8 If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
 - 14.2.9 A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.
 - 14.2.10 Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring classes.
- 14.3 Pursuit start
 - 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.
 - 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors' times from the first heat results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.

15. Starting Point and Time

15.1 Starting Point

15.1.1 N.A.

15.1.2 In Canicross classes, the entire team, with the competitor holding his/her dogs by the collar or the harness, shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.

15.1.3 In Bikejoring classes, the front wheel shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.

15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.

15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.

15.4 A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time or within half of the starting interval after the scheduled starting time shall be declared a late starting team, and shall receive a new starting time plus a time penalty of 3 (three) times the starting interval in its class.

15.4.1 A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.

15.4.2 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in the originally scheduled starting order.

15.4.3 If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for any one heat, that team shall be disqualified.

16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.

17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.

18. Finish

18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line.

Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.

18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.

18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.

18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.

18.5. [Finishing zone, where the “no right of way” applies, shall be 800 meters long \(150 m for Canicross\).](#)

III. TRAIL RULES

19. Following the Trail

19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.

19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.

20. Driving a Team

20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.

20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.

20.3 N.A.

21. Assistance on the Trail

21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.

21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.

21.3 Handler and spectator assistance [is recommended to be limited to holding the bike. Depending on the circumstances competitors may ask to hold the dog\(s\)](#)

21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.

22. Loose Team and Dogs

- 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
- 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
- 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.
 - 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
 - 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
 - 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
- 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.

23. Right of Way

- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
- 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
 - 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
 - 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
- 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.
- 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.

24. Passing

- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the overtaken team.
- 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the bike to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team.
- 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one half (0.5) minute.
- 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
 - 24.4.1 N.A.
 - 24.4.2 after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
 - 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:
 - 24.5.1 repairs gear or
 - 24.5.2 N.A.
 - 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed.
- 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
- 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the “no-right-of-way” Zone.
- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her/her discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

- 28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.
- 28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

- 29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.
- 29.2 Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

- 30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.
- 30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
- 30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).
- 30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
- 30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.

31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.

32. Appeals Jury at World Championships

- 32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.

- 32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.
- 32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.
- 32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.
- 32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.
- 32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.
- 32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.
- 32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.
33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships
- 33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.
34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision
- 34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.
- 34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.
- 34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

35 through 37 N.A.

CHAPTER THREE

38 through 72 N.A.

CHAPTER FOUR DRYLAND STYLE

I. ENTRY RULES

73. Entry Rules

- 73.1 At the option of the race-giving organization, competitions may be held in the following disciplines:
- 73.1.1 Canicross,
- 73.1.2 Bikejöring one dog,
- 73.1.3 N.A.
- 73.1.4 N.A.
- 73.1.5 Relay in canicross and/or bikejöring.
- 73.2 N.A.

- 73.3 N.A.
73.4 Any dog having raced in one class of a dryland race shall not be eligible to race in a second class on the same day, unless the second class is canicross.

II. CANICROSS

74. Canicross

A Canicross team consists of a competitor, racing solely on foot, and one dog.

74.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 74.1.1 Canicross junior men 1 (DCMJ1) and Canicross Junior women 1 (DCWJ1) for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age, and Canicross junior men 2 (DCMJ2) and Canicross Junior women 2 (DCWJ2) for competitors from 17 until and including 20 years of age (Note 1).
- 74.1.2 Canicross senior men (DCM) and Canicross senior women (DCW) for competitors from 21 until and including 39 years of age and older (Note 1).
- 74.1.3 Canicross veteran men (DCMV) and Canicross veteran women (DCWV) for competitors from 40 years of age and older (Note 1). A competitor shall not run in both senior and veteran classes during the same event.
- 74.1.4 Relay competitions with women and men teams for competitors from 14 years of age.
- 74.1.5 Children classes with competitors being younger than per §74.1.1 above may also be held.

74.2 Equipment

- 74.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber at all time. The snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line. The expanded snub line shouldn't be less than 2 meters and shouldn't exceed 3 meters in length.

74.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules

- 74.3.1 The competitor and the dog shall wait behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 74.3.2 The driver shall not pace the dogs by running ahead of or force the dog to run in any way.
- 74.3.3 Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden.
- 74.3.4 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the competitor is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 74.3.5 During the overtaking procedure, the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down.
- 74.3.6 If a mass start is organized, all the competitors of the same class shall wait together behind the starting line holding their dog by the collar or the harness. If they cannot all stay on one line, they shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.
- 74.3.7 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

III. BIKEJÖRING

75. Bikejöring One Dog

A Bikejöring one dog team consists of a driver pedalling a bicycle and one dog.

75.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 75.1.1 Bikejöring senior men (DBM) and Bikejöring senior women (DBW) for competitors from 16 until and including 39 years of age and older (Note 1).
- 75.1.2 Bikejöring veteran men (DBMV) and Bikejöring veteran women (DBWV) for competitors from 40 years of age (Note 1). A competitor shall not run in both senior and veteran classes during the same event.
- 75.2 Equipment
 - 75.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the bicycle or to the driver by a snub line with shock absorber not less than 2.5 meters expanded and not exceeding 3 meters in length expanded in front of the bike. If the line is attached to the driver, it should be by a hip belt (at least 7 cm wide over the spine). It is prohibited to have any form of metal hook or ring at the driver's end of the line.
 - 75.2.2 The bicycle shall be equipped with an efficient brake on each wheel.
 - 75.2.3 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended.
 - 75.2.4 [Studded tires are not allowed on bikes](#)
- 75.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules
 - 75.3.1 The front wheel of the bicycle shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 75.3.2 The driver shall not pace the dog by driving ahead.
 - 75.3.3 Pulling the dog or forcing the dog to move forward by any means is strictly forbidden.
 - 75.3.4 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat.
 - 75.3.5 During the overtaking procedure, the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and stop pedaling.
 - 75.3.6 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

IV. SCOOTER

76 N.A.

V. RIG CLASSES

77 N.A.

VI. RELAY

78. Relay

- 78.1 The Dryland Relay is a one-day competition and consists of minimum 2 legs.
- 78.2 The Relay may be:
 - 78.2.1 Canicross Relay: Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors.
 - 78.2.2 Mixed Relay: The Relay legs are canicross and bikejöring or scooter. The bikejöring or scooter must be the last leg only. Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors (only for the canicross team member(s)).
 - 78.2.3 Separate relay competition may be organized for men, women and juniors.
- 78.3 Each participant and each dog shall run the trail only once. After the finish line, the participant changes over to the next participant in the relay team, who may then start.
- 78.4 The relay team that reaches the finish line first after all legs is the winner of the relay competition.
- 78.5 Relay Team
 - 78.5.1 The participants in a relay team shall be representatives of the same organization or country. At the option of the race giving organization, a mixed team of organizations or countries may be allowed, but these teams are not part of the official result list.

- 78.5.2 Only one-dog teams are allowed in relay races.
- 78.6 Relay Entries
 - 78.6.1 The name of the participants in each relay team and the order in which they start shall be handed over to the race office at least 60 minutes before the start or any other time schedule defined by the organization.
- 78.7 Areas for Start, Change-Over and Finish in Relay Race
 - 78.7.1 Starting, change-over and finish area do not have to be the same location.
 - 78.7.2 Starting area:
 - 78.7.2.1 The starting area will be the same as for a canicross mass start.
 - 78.7.2.2 The length of the starting tracks should be at least 50 meters and shall end at a marked line.
 - 78.7.3 Relay Change-Over Area
 - 78.7.3.1 The change-over area should be a marked area, length approximately 10-30 meters, width approximately 10 meters. It is an advantage that the change-over area is made at an angle to the incoming trail, to avoid the incoming trail's being in the same direction as the outgoing trail.
 - 78.7.3.2 The change-over area begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
- 78.8 Relay Starting Procedure
 - 78.8.1 All participants of the first leg start at the same time.
 - 78.8.2 The participant and the dog stay before the starting line.
 - 78.8.3 The team assistants shall leave the Starting area by 30 seconds before the start.
 - 78.8.4 The participant has to hold the dog by the harness until the start signal.
 - 78.8.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one flag.
 - 78.8.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
 - 78.8.7 Starting order is given in the following way:
 - 78.8.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
 - 78.8.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag over the head.
 - 78.8.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are positioned with the flag in a horizontal position.
 - 78.8.7.4 "Go," the starter's arm with the flags are rapidly lowered.
- 78.9 Relay Starting Restrictions.
 - 81.9.1 If a participant starts too early, he/she shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 78.10 Relay Change-Over Procedure
 - 78.10.1 A race official shall give a signal (e.g. the speaker announcing the starting number) to every team leader when an incoming team is not less than 500 meters from the change-over area.
 - 78.10.2 The signal has to be clear for the team leaders, who shall be located along the change-over area.
 - 78.10.3 An incoming participant shall release the dog as soon as the dog has passed the finish line and personally hand over the dog to the team assistant. The dog shall not be let loose at any time. The team assistant should take care of the dog.
 - 78.10.4 The change-over cannot take place until the dog of the incoming team member is held by the assistant.
 - 78.10.5 The participant continues into the change-over area and touches the next participant of his/her team with his/her hand.
 - 78.10.6 The change-over shall take place within the change-over area. A race official shall control the change-over.
 - 78.10.7 The assistant in the change-over area for outgoing participants is allowed only for the bikejoring or scooter leg. Assistants shall not hamper other outgoing participants.

- 78.11 The Trail of the Relay Race
 - 78.11.1 The entire trail should be, and the last 150 meters shall be, sufficiently wide for two bikejöring participants (minimum 6 meters).
- 78.12 Relay Timing
 - 78.12.1 Time is measured from the starting order “Go” until the last participant of the team reaches the finish line.
 - 78.12.2 Time is also measured the moment each individual participant passes the finish line.

VII. DISTANCES

79. The distances: See Race Procedures §98.

VIII. TEMPERATURES

80. Temperatures: See Race Procedures §57 through 59.6.

IX. AGES OF DOGS

81. Ages of Dogs

The dogs shall be at least 12 months old on the first day of the competition in the Canicross, scooter and Rig classes and at least 18 months old in Bikejöring.

Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

Note 2: The helmet must be approved for bicycle, motorcycle or ski competitions.

ANNEX

IFSS Race Protest Form

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic
Distance			

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)		Bib Number	
Describe the action(s) or incident			
Witnesses			
Name		Bib Number	
Signature			
Name		Bib Number	
Signature			

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date	Time
------	------

Team Leader's Name	Country
Leader's Mobile Phone Number	

Signature of Protester
Signature of Race Marshall

**International Federation of
Sleddog Sports, Inc.
Race Rules Part E
Scooter and Rig Classes**



(Extracts from the “Race Rules all classes”)

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Definitions

- CHECK POINT:** A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- DRIVER:**A person who drives a dog team entered in the race.
- EVENT:**A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several classes.
- HANDLER:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- HEAT:**A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
- OFFICIAL:**A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZER:**The organization/organizer in charge of running the event: the race-giving organization/organizer (RGO).
- RACE:**A competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats.

- RACE AREA:All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- RACE JUDGE:Rules Enforcing Officer, has the same authority as the Race Marshal / Chief Judge, except in the question of disqualification. References to the Race Marshal in these Rules shall also apply for the Race Judge(s), when appropriate.
- RACE JURY:The Race Jury includes the Race Marshal, the Race Judges and any other official the Race Marshal may wish to include.
- RACE MARSHAL (RM):The Chief Judge, i.e. the person who shall have supreme authority at an event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
- STARTING CHUTE:A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
- SHALL:Shall be construed as being imperative.
- SHOULD:Shall be construed as advisory.
- MAY:Shall be construed as being permissive.

In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the words “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s)”; and the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER ONE (General Rules)

(Applies to all styles and classes)

Note: In case of discrepancy between general rules and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1 An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.2 The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3 A liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.4 Entry for minor driver (usually below 18 years old) shall be co-signed by parents or guardians. With their signature they declare that they are of opinion that the minor driver is capable to participate in the total event and to safely cover the trail in the applicable class as established by the organizer. Consequently, their signature is a waiver through which they hold the organizer harmless regarding any claim, liability, any other expenses or accusations relative to the fact that the driver concerned is not an adult.

1.2 Claim

- 1.2.1 The competitor shall hold the organizer(s), judges, officials, sponsors, co-sponsors and other contributors to the organizer, (as distinguished from the individual competitor’s sponsor) harmless from any claim or demand, based on any alleged action or non-action by the competitor, his/her dogs, agents, or others acting on his/her behalf. The competitor shall also release the organizer, judges, officials, competition sponsors, their agents and employees from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the competitor, his/her dogs, or property, including but not limited to lost or dropped dogs and misplaced food and supplies.
- 1.2.2 Furthermore, the organizer has the unqualified and unrestricted authority with regards to pictures and the gathering of information on the competition and all participants involved, as well as to the use of such pictures and information for advertising, public relations or any other publicity purpose related to the competition.

2. Drivers

- 2.1 The driver starting a team in the first heat of a race shall drive that team throughout the race.
- 2.2 A change in driver can only be made once and only as the result of illness or injury to the authorized entrant and must have the approval of the Race Marshal. The substitute driver shall drive the team throughout the race.
- 2.3 Age of competitors:
 - 2.3.1 In Dryland classes, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.1.1 Senior classes: 16 years and above
 - 2.3.1.2 Junior classes: 14 to and including 16 years (A 16 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class).
 - 2.3.1.3 N.A.
 - 2.3.2 N.A.
 - 2.3.3 N.A.
 - 2.3.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 2.4 Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
- 2.5 Drivers should attend the drivers' meeting held prior to the start of the race. The Race Marshal may waive this rule if a competitor is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. However, in this case, the driver is responsible for obtaining a briefing from officials prior to the start of the competition.
- 2.6 N.A.
3. Dogs
 - 3.1. Any team or dog coming to the starting line which, in the opinion of the Race Marshal, is unfit or incapable of safely completing the trail, shall be disqualified.
 - 3.2. Any team or dog not starting the first heat of the race shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
 - 3.3. Any team or dog disqualified in any heat of the race is in no case eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.
 - 3.4. Eligibility of dogs is not restricted to certain breeds. Providing there are in a class at least five (5) teams starting the first heat of the race, the RGO may divide each class between Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) teams and other teams and even separate Registered Siberian Husky teams (RNB1) from other RNB teams (RNB2).
 - 3.5. Dogs participating in a race must be at least twelve (12) months old.
 - 3.6. Any dog having raced in one class of a race shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day unless that other class is a skijoring relay or canicross.
 - 3.7. Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination by a race veterinarian in order to be allowed to start.
4. Disease
 - 4.1 No dog or equipment shall be brought from a kennel where rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, or any other contagious disease exists.
 - 4.2 If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that team shall be disqualified and shall immediately leave the race area.
5. Identification
 - 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race.
 - 5.2. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats or, in case the marking is performed via chipping, the responsible official shall make a note on the applicable chip list.
6. Medications administered to Dogs and Drivers
 - 6.1. Prohibited Drugs and Drug Testing
IFSS Doping Rules, IFSS Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control and the IFSS List of Forbidden Substances and Methods for Dogs shall apply.
 - 6.2. At races, no one is allowed to perform any medical treatment to the dogs without authorization by the official race veterinarian.

7. Equipment

7.1. Inspection

7.1.1.1. Drivers, teams and equipment shall be available for inspection in the stake-out or vehicle holding area at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled time of departure.

7.1.1.2 N.A.

7.1.1.3 N.A.

7.1.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.

7.1.3. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.

7.1.4. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.

7.2. All equipment is subject to the approval of the Race Marshal. However, the competitors themselves are responsible that their equipment meets the requirements as per the rules and regulations.

8. Other Equipment.

8.1. A muzzle or a collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.

8.2. Whips are forbidden.

8.3. A racing number for each driver shall be provided by the race-giving organization. The driver shall display this number on his/her person throughout the race, unless otherwise authorized by the RM.

8.4. The competitor should not be wearing shoes that could be dangerous for dogs. Shoes with [hardened spikes or studs of any material](#) are strictly forbidden.

9. Finish Time Disqualification (Optional)

An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating for which classes it shall apply.

II. START-FINISH RULES

10. Drawing

10.1. In races with single or dual starts, the starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer. Unless specifically defined in the rules and regulations or other applicable documents, the organizer is free to decide in which way the drawing shall be performed and if drivers shall attend or be represented.

10.2. In case the organizer decides that drivers or team leaders shall attend the drawing, the drivers, their team leader or designated proxy of each team may draw their own starting position. In their absence, the starting position may be drawn by the Race Marshal or his/her representative. If the drivers or the team leaders agree, the drawing could also be performed via an at-random computer method, with, per class, a team leader or a driver pushing the button.

10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries shall be added in order of receipt.

11. Single Start Race

11.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.

11.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times, with the fastest teams starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.

11.3. In races of more than two heats,

11.3.1. The elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.

11.3.2. At the option of the organizer, in distance races (including distance stage races), the starting positions may be determined by the reverse of the elapsed time of the previous single heat (reverse start).

12. Dual Start Race

- 12.1. The first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
- 12.2. The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times.
- 12.3. In races of more than two heats, the elapsed time of the previous single heat will determine the groupings and starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.

13. Equal Times

- 13.1. If the elapsed time of two teams is identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
- 13.2. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.
- 13.3. The purse for the tied place and the next lower place(s) shall be combined and divided equally among those teams tied for that place.

14. Mass Start and Pursuit Start

- 14.1. At the option of the organizer, mass start or pursuit start may be organized for specific classes and/or specific heats.

14.2. Mass start:

- 14.2.1 All participants of the same class start at the same time on the same starting line.

If they cannot all stay on one line, the Race Marshal shall set more lines as required. Seeded competitors, if any, shall stay on the first line(s) ahead of the non-seeded competitors.

- 14.2.2 The starting area shall have one starting track per team. The distance between the starting tracks should be approximately 2 meters. The length of the starting tracks should be approximately 80 meters and shall end at a marked line.

- 14.2.3 There shall be at least 10 meters between each starting line, distance to be adapted to the size of the teams.

- 14.2.4 One assistant/ handler is allowed with 1-4 dogs and two with more than 4 dogs. The assistant(s) shall all stand on the **left side** of the team. At the moment of the start, these assistants shall **stand stock still** and face the starting teams until all teams has passed.

- 14.2.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one or two flags and a marker showing a big 1(one). The size and the colors of the marker shall be as such, that the figure 1 is clearly visible for all competitors

- 14.2.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.

- 14.2.7 Starting order is given in the following way:

- 14.2.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.

- 14.2.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) over the head.

- 14.2.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag(s) in a horizontal position.

- 14.2.7.4 The rapidly lowering of starter's arm with the flag(s) is the start signal.

- 14.2.8 If a team starts too early, it shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.

- 14.2.9 A race judge is responsible for checking the violations. There shall be at least two race officials to check the starting line and at least two at the end of the starting chute tracks.

- 14.2.10 Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring, scooter and rig classes.

14.3 Pursuit start

- 14.3.1 In the first race of the pursuit competition, the starting procedure is the single start procedure.

- 14.3.2 In the second heat of the pursuit competition, the winner of the first heat starts first, the second ranked starts next, etc. The starting intervals are the same as the differences between the competitors' times from the first race results, rounded off upwards to whole seconds.

15. Starting Point and Time
 - 15.1 Starting Point
 - 15.1.1 N.A.
 - 15.1.2 N.A.
 - 15.1.3 In scooter and rig classes, the front wheel shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay behind the starting line until the start signal has been given.
 - 15.2 Before the start, the starting team should come to a complete stop at the starting point defined in rule §15.1.
 - 15.3 Trail time for all teams shall begin at the scheduled time of departure.
 - 15.4 A team that fails to be in the starting position at its scheduled starting time or within half of the starting interval after the scheduled starting time shall be declared a late starting team, and shall receive a new starting time plus a time penalty of 3 (three) times the starting interval in its class.
 - 15.4.1 A late-starting team shall not be allowed to start until after the last team entered in its class has started, and after the prescribed starting interval.
 - 15.4.2 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall start in the originally scheduled starting order.
 - 15.4.3 If a team is late to the starting line for its second scheduled time of departure for any one heat, that team shall be disqualified.
16. A team not clearing the Starting Chute (minimum distance, 30 meters) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.
17. Unless otherwise specified by the Race Marshal, assistance in the Starting Chute shall be allowed.
18. Finish
 - 18.1 A team shall have finished the heat when the first dog on the team crosses the finish line.
Other timing methods are allowed, but only if **all drivers or team leaders are officially informed** on the applicable method **before the first start of the race**.
 - 18.2. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.3. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.
 - 18.4. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
 - 18.5. Finishing zone, where the “no right of way” applies, shall be 800 meters long (150 m for Nordic style classes and Canicross).

III. TRAIL RULES

19. Following the Trail
 - 19.1 A team and driver shall run the full course as established by the race-giving organization.
 - 19.2 If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.
20. Driving a Team
 - 20.1 Any driver accepting a ride during the race on any vehicle other than his/her own means of transportation, shall be disqualified, unless in case of a loose team or dog.
 - 20.2 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.
 - 20.3 Carrying a passenger at any time during the race shall be prohibited unless:
 - 20.3.1 Called for in the conditions of the race.
 - 20.3.2 Giving a ride to a driver in an emergency situation.
21. Assistance on the Trail
 - 21.1 All teams may receive similar assistance of any type from officials stationed at designated points along the trail as authorized by the Race Marshal.
 - 21.2 Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
 - 21.3 Handler and spectator assistance *is recommended to be limited to holding the sled, except in dryland, where depending on the circumstances musher may ask to hold the*

- dogs, and in the case of a loose team, or a team so unmanageable as to create a clear and present danger to themselves, other teams or persons.
- 21.4 No one shall assist a team by willfully pacing it.
22. Loose Team and Dogs
- 22.1 All drivers must assume that a loose team or dog is an endangered team or dog.
- 22.2 A loose team or dog(s) shall not delay or interfere with another team.
- 22.3 The driver of a loose team shall overtake his/her team by the quickest means available to ensure the safety of the loose team.
- 22.3.1 In the event that the driver cannot quickly and safely recover his/her team, the driver must accept assistance, including a ride when available, to recover his/her team. Failure to accept available assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team. The Race Marshal shall determine if a driver is to be disqualified.
- 22.3.2 Any person(s) is (are) encouraged to stop and hold a loose team.
- 22.3.3 All assistance must be reported to the race marshal directly after crossing the finish line. The Race Marshal decides if the team shall be penalized.
- 22.4 A loose team or dog may resume the trail without penalty provided the team/dog has completed the entire trail and the driver has received only authorized outside assistance.
23. Right of Way
- 23.1 In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and whenever two trails join together, the team with the lead dog farthest ahead shall have the right of way.
- 23.2 When teams are passing in opposite directions on a single trail:
- 23.2.1. The team travelling downhill shall have the right of way.
- 23.2.2. On level terrain, the Race Marshal shall determine and announce, prior to the start of the race, whether the incoming or outgoing team has the right of way.
- 23.3 In the “no-right-of-way” finishing zone, no team shall have the right of way over a finishing team.
- 23.4 During a heat starting with a pursuit start or a mass start, no team shall have the right of way during the entire heat. However, no team shall prevent another team from passing by blocking the trail, or interfering with the dog(s) of a passing team.
- 23.4
24. Passing
- 24.1 When one team driver intends to pass another team, the passing team driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 15 meters of the sled of the overtaken team.
- 24.2 The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the scooter or the rig to one side of the trail, slowing his/her team and, if demanded by the overtaking team driver, stopping and keeping the team from moving forward. Stopping is not required in scooter classes (see Chapter Four, § 76.3.4)
- 24.3 If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched up in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle and tighten lines, that team’s driver may require the overtaken team driver to remain stopped for up to one (1) minute in Unlimited and Limited Classes involving eight (8) or more dogs, one half (0.5) minute in all other classes.
- 24.4 Once a team has been passed, that team shall not repass, so long as the driver in front is making an effort to keep his/her team moving forward until,
- 24.4.1 in Rig Classes involving eight (8) dogs, after less than four (4) minutes or 1600 meters.
- 24.4.2 in classes involving fewer than eight (8) dogs, after no less than two (2) minutes or 800 meters.
- 24.4.3 at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
- 24.5 After a pass has been completed, a team driver that has been passed need not hold his/her team while the other driver:
- 24.5.1 repairs gear or
- 24.5.2 unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in a team to another position in the team or

- 24.5.3 goes off the race trail before the above mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled constitutes changing a dog's position in the team.
- 24.6 A driver coming upon two or more teams stopped together may pass all such teams after making sure that the passing does not cause any danger for the overtaken teams. The stopped drivers shall make every effort to clear the trail for the moving team(s).
- 24.7 Teams following each other shall maintain an interval of not less than one team length, except when passing or in the "no-right-of-way" Zone.
- 24.8 When a team is overtaken in the No-right-of-way Zone, that team does not have to stop and yield the trail.
- 24.9 No driver shall interfere with a competing team.

IV. CONDUCT

25. Responsibility and Sportsmanship

- 25.1 All drivers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their designated handler, and themselves whenever in the race area or on the trail.
- 25.2 Common sense and good sportsmanship shall prevail. If the Race Marshal determines that a driver's, handler's or team's conduct at any time in the race area or on the trail is detrimental to the sport/race, that team shall be disqualified.

26. Abuse of Dogs

- 26.1 Abuse of dogs, with or without an implement, shall be prohibited. If a driver, in the opinion of the Race Marshal abuses a dog, that driver shall be disqualified.

V. RULES VIOLATIONS

27. Reports by Race Officials

- 27.1 Race officials shall report over rule violations to the Race Marshal verbally, in person or by means of communication, immediately or directly following the heat in which the violation occurred. All verbal reports shall be followed by a written report, given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 27.2 The Race Marshal shall act, at his/her/her discretion, on any overt violations witnessed and reported by race officials. The Race Marshal shall inform the reporting official(s) on his/her decision and possible further action.

28. Reports by Race Contestants

- 28.1 Drivers wishing to report an alleged violation of the rules by another contestant shall notify the Race Marshal or the Race Marshal's representative immediately following the heat in which the incident occurred. Notification may be verbal.
- 28.2 All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report ([see example of a protest form in appendix](#)), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant's heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

29. Protests and Hearings

- 29.1 Any driver implicated in a report of an alleged violation of the rules will be notified of the protest by the Race Marshal and provided access to copies of the written protests as soon as they become available but in all cases before any hearings are conducted.
- 29.2 Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.

30. Disciplinary Action.

- 30.1 For violation of any IFSS Regulation, the Race Marshal shall either issue a verbal reprimand, a warning or disqualify the driver and team from the race.
- 30.2 No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
- 30.3 Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).
- 30.4 Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
- 30.5 In the case of drug testing, the above time schedule does not apply to allow for laboratory findings and hearings, should the latter become necessary. No

disqualification or other action will be taken against any contestant for alleged drug infractions pending the results of said tests.

31. The decisions of the Race Marshal shall be final unless promptly appealed to the Appeals Jury if implemented (see 32 and 33 below) in cases concerning a contestant's further participation in the event.

32. Appeals Jury at World Championships

32.1 Any decision of the Race Marshal affecting a contestant's participation in the event may be appealed to the IFSS Appeals Jury. Such appeal must be made as soon as practical following the official rendering of the decision. The appeal must be in writing in the English language and shall state the alleged infraction, the decision reached, the penalty imposed and what the contestant believes to be incorrect or unfair.

32.2 In World Championship events, the Appeals Jury shall consist of either three or five members depending on the number of IFSS officials assigned to take part (either one or two officials, appointed by the IFSS President) on the jury. The other members of the jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the jury by the other national team leaders.

32.2.1 If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.

32.2.2 If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.

32.2.3 The two national team leaders receiving the next highest amounts of votes cast after those elected will serve as alternates in case one or more of the team leaders on the jury are required to decline their appointment due to a potential conflict of interest in any specific appeal.

32.2.4 The team leader members shall be elected by a secret vote of all team leaders. All team leaders are in principle eligible and no nominations will be held prior to the voting. All team leaders will receive a ballot with a place for either two or three names to be filled in. Team leaders may vote for themselves but may only cast one vote for any single name. The team leaders with the highest number of votes will fill the positions on the jury followed by the alternate positions.

32.2.5 The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.

32.3 Any appeal from a decision of the Appeals Jury during a World Championship must be made directly to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. There will be no stay of the decision of the Appeals Jury pending any appeal to the International Court of Arbitration for Sports.

33. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships

33.1 In events other than the World Championships, it is left to the choice of the organizer whether or not to implement a similar Appeals Jury. In last instance, the decision may be appealed via the applicable governing body of the member organization.

34. Appeals Jury investigation and decision

34.1 The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.

34.2 The jury will render a decision following secret deliberations. They may affirm, overturn or modify the decision of the Race Marshal in any way necessary to achieve a correct and just outcome.

34.3 The jury will announce its decision as soon as possible so as not to interfere with the subsequent heats of the affected class.

CHAPTER TWO

35 through 37 N.A.

CHAPTER THREE

38 through 72 N.A.

CHAPTER FOUR DRYLAND STYLE

I. ENTRY RULES

73. Entry Rules

- 73.1 At the option of the race-giving organization, competitions may be held in the following disciplines:
 - 73.1.1 N.A.
 - 73.1.2 N.A.
 - 73.1.3 1 and 2-dog Scooter,
 - 73.1.4 4-, 6-, 8-dog Rig
 - 73.1.5 N.A.
- 73.2 In multiple dog class for races over two or more stages, the drivers may reduce their team if wanted within the limits defined in §61 below. If the team is reduced, the driver may not add that dog back in subsequent stages. A participant is allowed to reduce the team only between stages or at designated dog drop points.
- 73.3 The Race Marshal may reduce the size of any team determined to be too large for the designated driver.
- 73.4 Any dog having raced in one class of a dryland race shall not be eligible to race in a second class on the same day, unless the second class is canicross.

II. CANICROSS

74. N.A.

III. BIKEJÖRING

75. N.A.

IV. SCOOTER

76. Scooter

76.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 76.1.1 Scooter one dog junior (DS1J) for competitors 14-16 years, and Scooter one dog (DS1) for competitors 16 years and older (Note 1).
 - 76.1.2 Providing that there are enough competitors for both categories, Scooter one dog class shall be divided into men (DSM1) and women (DSW1) categories.
 - 76.1.3 Scooter 2 dogs (DS2) for competitors 16 years and older (Note 1).
 - 76.1.4 A Scooter team consists of a driver riding a two-wheeled scooter-type vehicle pulled by one or two dogs.
 - 76.1.5 Bicycles without pedal mechanisms and bicycles with the pedal mechanisms blocked will be allowed.
 - 76.1.6 Light three-wheeled rigs will be allowed in the Scooter 2-dog class.
- #### 76.2 Equipment
- 76.2.1 The dog shall be attached to the scooter by a snub line with shock absorber not less than 2.5 meters expanded and not exceeding 3 meters in length expanded in front of the scooter.
 - 76.2.2 A neckline shall be used in two-dog classes
 - 76.2.3 The scooter shall be equipped with an efficient brake on each wheel.
 - 76.2.4 The minimum wheels diameter shall be 12 inches (30 cm).
 - 76.2.5 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended.
 - 76.2.6 Studded tires are not allowed on scooters
- #### 76.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules
- 76.3.1 The front wheel of the scooter shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.

- 76.3.2 The driver shall ride the scooter behind his/her dogs.
- 76.3.3 If a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat.
- 76.3.4 During the overtaking procedure the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the participant and the dog are obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down.
- 76.3.5 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

V. RIG CLASSES

77. Rig Classes

77.1 Classes

At the option of the race giving organization, competitions may be held in the following classes:

- 77.1.1 **4-Dog Junior rig (DR4J):** A limited Four-Dog Junior rig shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 77.1.2 **4-Dog rig (DR4):** A limited Four-Dog rig shall consist of not more than four (4) dogs and not less than three (3) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 77.1.3 **6-Dog rig (DR6):** A limited Six-Dog rig shall consist of not more than six (6) dogs and not less than four (4) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).
- 77.1.4 **8-Dog rig (DR8):** A limited Eight-Dog rig shall consist of not more than eight (8) dogs and not less than five (5) dogs for competitors from 16 years of age (Note 1).

77.2 Equipment

- 77.2.1 All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- 77.2.2 All dogs shall be fastened to the tug line by a neck line and a tail line. Lead dogs shall run with a neckline.
- 77.2.3 The rig in 4-Dog class may either have three (3) or four (4) wheels. The 4-wheeled rig shall be used in DR6 and DR8 classes, except when it is mentioned in the race invitation that 3-wheelers are allowed in other than the 4-dog classes. The minimum wheels diameter shall be 12 inches (30 cm).
All rigs shall be equipped with:
 - 77.2.3.1 An efficient brake on the back wheels. Having brakes in the front wheels is recommended.
 - 77.2.3.2 A locking brake (handbrake) which can be blocked.
 - 77.2.3.3 Sufficient drop chains or cables to tether dogs at the dropping check points.
 - 77.2.3.4 All drivers must wear a helmet approved by a national test registry. Wearing gloves is recommended (Note 2).
 - 75.2.3.5 Studded tires are not allowed on rigs.

- 77.2.4 The following weights are recommended minimums for rigs:
4-Dog class: 25 kg
6-Dog class: 35 kg
8-Dog class: 45 kg
Independent from the above-mentioned weights, rigs shall be well and safely constructed, adapted to the number of dogs in the team, be stable and shall, as much as possible, guarantee the safety of dogs and drivers.

77.3 Start, Trail and Finish Rules

- 77.3.1 The front wheel(s) shall determine the starting point of the team and shall stay before the starting line until the start signal has been given.
- 77.3.2 The driver may ride the rig, pedal or run as wished.
- 77.3.3 The driver shall not pace the dogs by running ahead or force the dog to run in any way.

- 77.3.4 Dog drop check points shall be provided at least every 3 km and may be combined with normal check points. They shall be equipped with a stake-out and water. Dogs dropped at check points shall not be allowed to start in succeeding heats. If no possibilities are provided to drop dogs and a dog becomes unfit or refuses to advance for any reason, the driver is not permitted to finish the heat. For safety reasons, the transport of a dog on the rig is strictly forbidden in all classes.
- 77.3.5 During the overtaking procedure the overtaken team shall make unimpeded way for the passing team. On the command "TRAIL," the overtaken team is obliged to hold the same side of the trail and slow down. On the command "STOP," the overtaken team is obligated to stop movement forward. § 23 of Chapter One, III Trail Rules applies.
- 77.3.6 Finish rules: See Race Rules, Chapter One, II.18.

VI. RELAY

78. Relay

- 78.1 The Dryland Relay is a one-day competition and consists of minimum 2 legs.
- 78.2 The Relay may be:
 - 78.2.1 Canicross Relay: Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors.
 - 78.2.2 Mixed Relay: The Relay legs are canicross and bikejöring or scooter. The bikejöring or scooter must be the last leg only. Each Relay team may consist of men and women, seniors and juniors (only for the canicross team member(s)).
 - 78.2.3 Separate relay competition may be organized for men, women and juniors.
- 78.3 Each participant and each dog shall run the trail only once. After the finish line, the participant changes over to the next participant in the relay team, who may then start.
- 78.4 The relay team that reaches the finish line first after all legs is the winner of the relay competition.
- 78.5 Relay Team
 - 78.5.1 The participants in a relay team shall be representatives of the same organization or country. At the option of the race giving organization, a mixed team of organizations or countries may be allowed, but these teams are not part of the official result list.
 - 78.5.2 Only one-dog teams are allowed in relay races.
- 78.6 Relay Entries
 - 78.6.1 The name of the participants in each relay team and the order in which they start shall be handed over to the race office at least 60 minutes before the start or any other time schedule defined by the organization.
- 78.7 Areas for Start, Change-Over and Finish in Relay Race
 - 78.7.1 Starting, change-over and finish area do not have to be the same location.
 - 78.7.2 Starting area:
 - 78.7.2.1 The starting area will be the same as for a canicross mass start.
 - 78.7.2.2 The length of the starting tracks should be at least 50 meters and shall end at a marked line.
 - 78.7.3 Relay Change-Over Area
 - 78.7.3.1 The change-over area should be a marked area, length approximately 10-30 meters, width approximately 10 meters. It is an advantage that the change-over area is made at an angle to the incoming trail, to avoid the incoming trail's being in the same direction as the outgoing trail.
 - 78.7.3.2 The change-over area begins at the finish line and ends at a marked line across the trail.
- 78.8 Relay Starting Procedure
 - 78.8.1 All participants of the first leg start at the same time.
 - 78.8.2 The participant and the dog stay before the starting line.

- 78.8.3 The team assistants shall leave the Starting area by 30 seconds before the start.
- 78.8.4 The participant has to hold the dog by the harness until the start signal.
- 78.8.5 Start signal is given by the starter with one flag.
- 78.8.6 The starter stands in front of the starting area so that all starting participants are able to see the starter.
- 78.8.7 Starting order is given in the following way:
 - 78.8.7.1 One minute before the start a sign "1" is shown.
 - 78.8.7.2 Thirty (30) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are to be positioned with the flag over the head.
 - 78.8.7.3 Fifteen (15) seconds before the start, the starter's arm are positioned with the flag in a horizontal position.
 - 78.8.7.4 "Go," the starter's arm with the flags are rapidly lowered.
- 78.9 Relay Starting Restrictions.
 - 81.9.1 If a participant starts too early, he/she shall get a time penalty of 30 seconds.
- 78.10 Relay Change-Over Procedure
 - 78.10.1 A race official shall give a signal (e.g. the speaker announcing the starting number) to every team leader when an incoming team is not less than 500 meters from the change-over area.
 - 78.10.2 The signal has to be clear for the team leaders, who shall be located along the change-over area.
 - 78.10.3 An incoming participant shall release the dog as soon as the dog has passed the finish line and personally hand over the dog to the team assistant. The dog shall not be let loose at any time. The team assistant should take care of the dog.
 - 78.10.4 The change-over cannot take place until the dog of the incoming team member is held by the assistant.
 - 78.10.5 The participant continues into the change-over area and touches the next participant of his/her team with his/her hand.
 - 78.10.6 The change-over shall take place within the change-over area. A race official shall control the change-over.
 - 78.10.7 The assistant in the change-over area for outgoing participants is allowed only for the bikejoring or scooter leg. Assistants shall not hamper other outgoing participants.
- 78.11 The Trail of the Relay Race
 - 78.11.1 The entire trail should be, and the last 150 meters shall be, sufficiently wide for two bikejoring participants (minimum 6 meters).
- 78.12 Relay Timing
 - 78.12.1 Time is measured from the starting order "Go" until the last participant of the team reaches the finish line.
 - 78.12.2 Time is also measured the moment each individual participant passes the finish line.

VII. DISTANCES

79. The distances: See Race Procedures §98.

VIII. TEMPERATURES

80. Temperatures: See Race Procedures §57 through 59.6.

IX. AGES OF DOGS

81. Ages of Dogs

The dogs shall be at least 12 months old on the first day of the competition in the Canicross, scooter and Rig classes and at least 18 months old in Bikejoring.

Note 1: The age of a competitor is considered the same during a racing season. It is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season.

Note 2: The helmet must be approved for bicycle, motorcycle or ski competitions.

IFSS Race Protest Form

Name of Competition		Date of Competition	
Place of Competition (City, Province, Country)			
Name		Bib Number	
Postal Address			
City, Province		Country	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic
Distance			

Protest Against: (Name or Entity)	Bib Number
Describe the action(s) or incident	

Witnesses	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	
Name	Bib Number
Signature	

This form must be handed to the Race Marshall within one hour after the protester has finished.

Date	Time
------	------

Team Leader's Name	Country
Leader's Mobile Phone Number	

Signature of Protester
Signature of Race Marshall

July 20, 2011

International Federation of Sleddog Sports, Inc. Race Procedures



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A. GENERAL

A.I. General Provisions

- 1.1 This Rule shall apply in all races governed by IFSS Race Regulations, in order to foster the use of uniform rules and race procedures and facilitate races of superior conditions and uniform quality. Only options and amendments approved of by the IFSS shall be allowed.
- 1.2 The definitions and descriptions in this Rule shall also apply for other IFSS Regulations, when appropriate.
- 1.3 In this Rule and other IFSS Regulations, where appropriate, the word “Competitor,” “Contestant,” “Driver,” etc. shall include “the competitor and/or his/her dog(s),” and the singular shall include the plural.

1.4 In case of discrepancy between general and special rules, the special rules shall prevail.

A.II. Definitions

- 2.1 **Age:** The age of a competitor is regarded to be the same during the whole season and is the age the competitor reaches on the 31 December following the end of the racing season. The age of a dog is the age it reaches the day before the beginning of the competition it is entering.
- 2.2 **Check point:** clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.
- 2.3 **Event:** A meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in an event which may involve several classes. It includes technical meetings scheduled for the contestants to attend (i.e., competitors meetings, team leaders meetings, award ceremonies, other meetings called for by the Race Marshal).
- 2.4 **Guidelines:** A rule or set of rules which are not mandatory but highly recommended.
- 2.5 **Handler:** A person authorized by the Race Marshal assisting teams at start, after finish and at other locations.
- 2.6 **Heat:** A completion of the trail, or a part of same, after which the ongoing timing is discontinued.
- 2.7 **Finish Zone:** A specified stretch of the trail toward the finish line, minimum 800 meters, where special rules for passing apply (see §89 for Nordic Style and Canicross).
- 2.8 **May:** Shall be construed as being permissive.
- 2.9 **Official:** A person appointed by the organizer or the Rules Enforcing Officers, authorized to perform, within prescribed limits, to act on their behalf.
- 2.10 **Organization/Organizer:** The race-giving organization in charge of running the event.
- 2.11 **Pulka:** The pulka or the Nordic sled (small sled with short runners and hand brake)
- 2.12 **Race:** A competition in a specified class which may be comprised of one or more heats.
- 2.13 **Race Area:** All designated parking areas, spectator areas, team holding areas, start/finish chutes, officiating areas and the trail areas.
- 2.14 **Season:** The racing season, the period within which all competitions shall be commenced and concluded, in principle from July until June of the following year in the northern hemisphere and from November until October of the following year in the southern hemisphere. However, organizers and technical organizers shall realize that local conditions (e.g., temperature, humidity etc.) may shorten this period in favor of the well being of the dogs.
- 2.15 **Shall:** Shall be construed as being imperative.
- 2.16 **Should:** Shall be construed as being principally imperative, but special circumstances may speak for departing from it.
- 2.17 **Sled:** The vehicle driven by the contestant and pulled by his dog team during the competition also includes a pulka, when appropriate.
- 2.18 **Sled dog:** A sled dog is a dog, irrespective of the breed or type, capable of being harnessed and of competing in one of the classes listed in the IFSS Regulations without a potential, beforehand, to be calculated risk, of harming the dog's well-being.
- 2.19 **Stake-Out Area:** A specially defined area where dogs of participating teams shall be kept when not competing.
- 2.20 **Starting Chute:** A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters, and 4 meters wide, where help is allowed.
- 2.21 **Technical Organizer:** A body which, upon an agreement with the organizer, has assumed responsibility
- 2.22 **Vehicle Holding Area:** A specially defined area where the participants' vehicles shall be parked in case this cannot be combined with the stake out area.

A. III. Administration

3. The appointment of a technical organizer does not give the organization the right to disclaim responsibility for any parts of the event (see, however, the special provisions for the World Championships).
4. The organizer shall be responsible for an adequate number of officials in order to run the event properly.

5. Officials shall be appointed and exercise their assignments according to the IFSS Officials Regulations.
6. Organizations shall see to it that their appointed officials are made familiar with their assignments and the regulations pertaining to the event.
7. The organizer shall supply a liability insurance for the event.

B. RULES ENFORCEMENT

B.I. Rules Enforcing Officers

8. Race Judges are the Rules Enforcing Officers at an event. Rules Enforcing Officers shall be appointed and exercise their assignments according to the IFSS Officials Regulations.
9. A Race Judge should have an IFSS Race Judge License but shall have at least a Race Judge License from an IFSS recognized body.
10. Two of the Race Judges shall be appointed Race Marshal and Chief Judge, respectively. The Race Marshal shall have the ultimate authority, and the ultimate responsibility, at the event. The Race Marshal is the only official who can decide upon a disqualification.
11. All Race Judges shall have the full authority to enforce all Race Regulations, within the prescribed limits.
12. References to the Race Marshal in IFSS Regulations also apply for Race Judges, when appropriate.
13. A Race Judge may delegate parts of his/her authority to designated officials, except the authority to impose penal measures.
14. No Rules Enforcing Officer may be a participant of the event.

B.II. Race Jury and Appeals Jury (see also Race Rules 27 through 32)

15. The Race Judges shall constitute the Race Jury of the event. The Race Marshal shall be the Race Jury's chairperson.
16. The Race Jury shall be summoned by its chairperson...
 - 16.1. when requested by one of its members,
 - 16.2. for a hearing,
 - 16.3. for reviewing a rules violation which might lead to a disqualification.
17. The Race Jury decides whether its deliberations shall be held in a closed session or not.
18. The Race Jury shall decide on the eventual choice of penal measures in all cases laid before it. The Race Jury's chairperson shall have a casting vote in case of a tie. In the question of a disqualification, the chairperson may vote differently with his/her casting vote.
 - 18.1 In World Championships, the Appeals Jury may be appealed to by a team leader when a decision of the Race Marshal is affecting the participation of a contestant in the event.
 - 18.2 The Appeals Jury shall consist of three or five members depending on the number of officials assigned to take part (either one or two appointed by the IFSS President) on the Appeals Jury. The other members of the Appeals Jury will be national team leaders elected to serve on the Appeals Jury by the other team leaders.

B.III. Penal Measures

19. The penal measure for any violation of the IFSS Race Rules shall either be a reprimand, a warning, disqualification or a time penalty whenever specifically provided for in the IFSS Race Rules.
20. When a Rules Enforcing Officer finds that a rules violation has occurred, s/he shall either impose a penal reaction or report the incident and request a hearing.
21. Warnings and disqualifications shall be issued in the result list. All disciplinary actions shall be mentioned in the Race Marshal's report, with reference to the violated provision.
22. If the violated race regulation does not mandate any unconditional reaction, the choice of penal measures shall be made according to the following:
 - 22.1 *Reprimand*: for a minor rules infraction with no consequences for any participant, and being the contestant's first offence in the event.
 - 22.2 *Warning*: for a minor or negligent infraction of the race regulations, which does not give the contestant any significant advantage and entails no significant disadvantage to his/her fellow contestants, and is not deemed detrimental to the sport.

- 22.3 *Disqualification:*
 - 22.3.1 when the contestant intentionally, or by gross negligence, violates the race regulations, and this has given him/her an advantage, or any of his/her fellow contestants a disadvantage,
 - 22.3.2 in case of a recurrence, when the contestant has already been given a warning or reprimand for the same or similar offence,
 - 22.3.3 in case of repeated offenses, showing that the contestant is not capable of, or willing to, pay heed to the race regulations.
 - 22.3.4 in case of dog abuse with or without implement.
 - 22.3.5 Time disqualification: An eventual time disqualification shall be noted on the entry form, or in the invitation, indicating the factor and for which classes it shall apply. If a time disqualification rule applies and the prescribed limit is exceeded, that team shall not be allowed to compete in subsequent heats.
- 23. Other Penal Procedures
 - 23.1 The violator shall be given a short written notice. A reprimand may be verbal.
 - 23.2 Contestants subject to a penal reaction from any Rules Enforcing Officer may appeal, i.e. request a hearing before the Race Jury.
 - 23.3 Contestants subject to a disqualification from the Race Jury may appeal, i.e. request a hearing before the Appeals Jury.

C. ELIGIBILITY

C.I. Entries

- 24. The race shall be open to entries from members of all IFSS recognized member federations, except those refused by the organizer for just cause. Organizers are entitled to open their races to drivers from non-IFSS member organizations if they feel it to be benefiting the sports and/or IFSS. Participants to the IFSS World Championships shall be nominated by their respective national IFSS member federations.
- 25. An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organizer.
- 26. Age of Competitors
 - 26.1 In Nome style **Sprint classes**, (including sprint stage events), and in **Dryland classes**, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 26.1.1 Senior classes: 16 years and above
 - 26.1.2 Junior classes: 14 to and including 16 years (A 16 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class. That decision will apply to all the Nome style classes.)
 - 26.1.3 Veteran class (Canicross and Bikejoring only): 40 years and above – Canicross veteran and Bikejoring veteran competitors may request to compete in the corresponding senior class.
 - 26.2 In **Nordic style** sprint events, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 26.2.1 Senior classes: 19 years and above
 - 26.2.2 Junior classes: 17 to and including 20 years (A 19 or 20 year-old competitor may choose to run in the senior class. That decision will apply to all the Nordic style classes).
 - 26.3 In **distance classes** (including distance stage events) the minimum age for all competitors shall be eighteen (18) years.
 - 26.4 Special rules for the different styles may define further age requirements or limitations or modify the age limits to meet the local practice.
- 27. Handicapped drivers shall be encouraged to participate. However their participation shall not hinder or endanger other competitors or dogs, including the dog(s) of the handicapped competitor. The RM shall decide on possible participation of the handicapped driver and, if required, a helper, and always inspect the equipment. The overall safety for the handicapped driver and his/her dog(s) shall prevail. If the RM feels that it would benefit the handicapped driver and the total race to start the handicapped team as last

in the class, s/he has the right to do so in all heats of the race, taking into account that the team shall be ranked according to its total results.

Note: It is also possible to start the handicapped team a certain time before the first team, but then, there is always the risk on hindering overtaking teams in case of problems, and the handicapped driver may feel he/she is more or less racing outside the field. If starting last, he/she has always the chance to overtake one or more teams.

C.II. Dogs

28. Dogs may be required to undergo a physical examination prior to the start of the race by a Race Veterinarian, in order to be allowed to start.
29. The Race Marshal may disallow entry of any driver, team or dog for just cause.
30. Eligibility of dogs shall not be restricted to certain breeds.
31. Minimum age of the dogs:
 - 31.1 Dryland: 18 months in the Bikejoring classes, 12 months in the other classes
 - 31.2 Sprint: 18 months in the Unlimited class, 12 months in the other classes.
 - 31.3 Nordic Style: 18 months.
 - 31.4 Distance classes: 18 months.
32. Any dog having raced in one class of an event shall not be eligible to race in another class on the same day, unless the second class is canicross or canicross relay.

C.III. Disease

33. Race veterinarians are present throughout the race to monitor the health and welfare of all dogs, advise drivers in caring for their dogs' medical needs, and provide veterinary treatment for dropped dogs, if necessary.
34. The race veterinarian in conjunction with the Race Marshal or race judge may rule a dog(s) unfit to start or continue in the race and to remove the dog(s) from the race for medical or other reasons. If the Race Veterinarian diagnoses any dog present in the race area to have a contagious disease, that dog shall be disqualified and the competitor shall immediately leave the race site with all his/her dogs.
35. All dogs participating in a race shall be vaccinated according to the IFSS Animal Welfare Committee's recommendations. The IFSS Chief Veterinarian has, by recommendation as of April 16, 2007, suggested that the mandatory vaccinations shall be: Rabies Virus, Canine Parvovirus, Distemper and Canine Kennel Cough Complex (bordetella parainfluenza virus, canine adenovirus 2). All dogs should be vaccinated within 12 months in all cases and more than 21 days before the race in the case of prime vaccination. Vaccinations need to be done in accordance with regulations of the host country in which the race is taking place.

C.IV. Temperatures at Dryland races – Guidelines

36. At dryland races there shall be a thermometer and a hygrometer in the starting area. They shall be readily visible, placed in the shade, at 50 centimeters (20 inches) above ground level.
37. The minimum and maximum temperatures and humidity shall be noted during the entire race.
38. Given the minima and maxima, trail conditions and local circumstances (e.g. humidity), the following guidelines are available for decisions to be taken by the race giving organization and the race marshal for the well-being of the dogs:
 - 38.1 Temperatures below 18°C for Canicross and 16°C for all other classes and with a humidity below 85 %: normal competition.
 - 38.2 Temperatures above 16°C, but below 18°C: the distances shall not exceed the minimums given in §98 below. This maximum temperature is set at 22°C for Bikejoring classes and at 25°C for Canicross classes.
 - 38.3 Temperatures above 18°C, but below 22°C: the distance shall not exceed 1.5 kilometers for demonstration purpose only except for Bikejoring and Canicross (see §58.2 above).
 - 38.4 Temperatures above 22°C: no team shall be harnessed except for Canicross (see §58.2 above)

- 38.5 If the temperature reaches 18°C, the race marshal shall call a meeting with the race veterinarian(s) in order to decide upon whether the race shall be delayed or cancelled. The veterinarian's opinion shall be preponderant in case of different opinions. Animal welfare shall always be the major deciding factor.
- 38.6 Depending on the race trail (i.e. large section under the sun) or other facts, the Race Marshal may impose shorter distances or other measures if this is favoring the sports, even if the maximum temperatures above are not reached.

C.V. Temperatures at snow races – Guidelines

39. In the event of extreme low temperatures, the jury together with the Organizing Committee and the team leaders shall decide if the race should be cancelled, have a delay on the starting time or reduce the race distance. Any National Federation standards must be considered in making the final decision.

D. START AND FINISH RULES

D.I. Identification

40. In a race of more than one heat, each dog shall be marked for identification prior to the start of the first heat of the race. In case of microchip identification, the list of chip numbers shall be provided to the Race Marshal or his/her delegate as instructed by the Race Marshal or the race organizer.
41. Dogs dropped from teams after the first heat of a race involving more than two (2) heats, shall be marked a second time to indicate their disqualification to run in subsequent heats either via direct dog marking or via a note on the team chip list.
42. The contestants themselves are responsible for seeing to it that their team dogs are marked as prescribed prior to the start of the race.

D.II. Starting Intervals

43. The starting intervals should be
- 43.1 one half (.) or one (1) minute in **Nordic** classes, canicross, bikejoring.
 - 43.2 one (1) or two (2) minutes in limited classes involving eight dogs or less, Scooter 1 and 2 dogs.
 - 43.3 two (2) or three (3) minutes in classes involving ten dogs or more.
44. Interval Options
- 44.1 The organizer may decide to use the longer starting interval in the first heat, and the shorter interval in the ensuing heat(s).
 - 44.2 At the option of the race-giving organization, the drivers may all start at the same time (mass start).
45. Trail time for all teams shall begin at the originally scheduled time of departure, except for a late starting team, for which trail time begins at the same time of actual departure; however the team will be penalized with a time penalty of three (3) times the starting interval in its class.

D.III. Starting Order

46. The starting positions for the first heat of a race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the organizer.
47. The order of the drawing shall not be changed, either by addition or substitution. Late entries, if accepted by the organizer, shall be added in order of receipt.
48. The drawing may, at the option of the organizer, be modified by seeding in accordance with a formula established by the organizer, subject to the approval of the IFSS.
49. In Single Start Races, the first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Number 1 starting first, Number 2 starting second, etc.
50. After the first heat, the starting positions shall be determined by the total elapsed time of the previous heat(s), with the fastest team starting first, the second fastest team starting second, etc.
- 50.1 At the option of the organizer and when notified in the invitation or on the entry form, the elapsed time of the previous single heat shall determine the starting positions.
 - 50.2 At the option of the organizer, the starting intervals of the last day of a race may be identical to the differences in the total elapsed times of the participants, so that the order in which the participants are crossing the finish line also will reflect their finishing positions.

- 50.3 At the option of the organizer, the competitors may all start at the same time (mass start). If the race includes seeded competitors they will start in the front line(s), the non-seeded competitors being on line(s) behind the seeded competitors.
- 50.4 At the option of the organizer, the starting position of the second and succeeding heats may be reversed with respect to the result of the previous heat (reverse start).
51. In Dual Start Races, the first day's starting positions shall be determined by the draw with Numbers 1 and 2 starting together first, Numbers 3 and 4 starting together second, etc.
52. If the total elapsed times of two teams are identical, the order of start for those teams shall be the reverse order in which they started in the preceding heat.
53. When a team starts too early according to its scheduled time of departure, and neither the driver nor any of his/her designated handlers has initiated this, either by intention or negligence, that team's starting time shall be adjusted accordingly.

D.IV. Relays

54. A relay is a competition between relay teams comprised of at least three dog teams running the same trail in sequence. No driver or dog shall complete more than one heat.
55. The relay start shall be a mass start. The first heat drivers of the relay teams shall start side-by-side on the starting line.
56. In relay events, Number 1 shall start in the center position of the Starting Line, Number 2 shall have the position to the right of Number 1, Number 3 shall have the position to the left of Number 1, etc.
57. The Starting Chute should preferably be so wide as to allow for all first heat drivers to start side by side. If this is not possible, subsequent starting teams shall start on a secondary Starting Line **at least 5 (five) meters** behind the starting line according to the same system as under Section 56. If seeding is performed, no seeded group shall be larger than the maximum number of teams **in the first starting line**.
58. The Relay Starting Chute should be as wide as the starting area for a distance of minimum one hundred (100) meters (30 m for Canicross relay), and narrowing to the normal lane width over a distance of a minimum additional one hundred (100) meters (30 m for Canicross relay).
59. The Exchange Chute shall cover a distance from the Finish Line on the outgoing trail of minimum thirty (30) meters, and shall, as a minimum, be ten (10) meters wide. In Pulka Style events, the Exchange Chute should have an angle of 45 to 90 degrees on the Finish Line.

D.V. Rating

60. A class is rated separately only if there are at least five (5) teams starting in the first heat of that class.

D.VI. Final Positions

61. The team with the fastest total time of its class shall be declared the winner of that class.
62. Teams with equal times for the entire race shall be awarded the higher finishing position.

E. THE TRAIL

E.I. Trail requirements

63. The trail shall be safe for dogs and drivers. When laying out the trail, special attention shall be shown on turns and downhill stretches. The entire trail shall be constructed with consideration to the fastest and biggest teams expected to participate.
64. The trail should not cross itself. Teams may follow the same trail a second time. In that case, the route shall not go through the start or finish area on the repeat traverse. If it is unavoidable that the teams must follow the same trail more than twice, the organizer is responsible to announce this prior to the race in the race invitation. The deviation from this rule is allowable only due to unpredictable circumstances.
65. Trails shall, to the optimal extent possible, be broadly constructed to facilitate passing.
66. There should be sufficient space between the lanes so that teams are unable to distract each other.
67. Trails should be shielded from parking lots and parked cars.

68. Trails should not cross a traffic-laden road on the same level. However, if this cannot be avoided, there shall be a prior permission to block off the road during the competition. Dependable control shall be on hand and the trail should cross the road in a 90 degree angle;
69. In Nome Style Sprint Races, the trail shall be designed so that speed is prioritized in every way.
70. The Starting Chute shall be at least 30 meters long and be so organized that a team can be entirely removed from the trail.
71. The Finishing Zone shall be at least 800 meters long (150 m for Nordic style classes and Canicross), wide enough for passing and with no sharp turns.
72. The starting and finish lines shall be clearly defined.
73. Trails for Nordic Style shall, whenever possible, be different from that of Nome Style.
74. Nordic Style trails should be laid out in hilly terrain with special attention so that the trail also shall be a test of the contestant's skiing skills. It should be wide enough for two skiers to skate side by side in the Finishing Zone and for a skating skier to overtake a competitor on parallel skis on the rest of the trail.
75. In Dryland races, watering points shall be provided at least every 3 km along the trails, so that the dogs may be watered and cooled.
76. **Distance Races**
 - 76.1 If weather conditions, in the opinion of the RM/or the organizer, dictate that the race cannot be run according to the basic criteria for the sport, the race may be postponed. If conditions as mentioned occur after the start, the race may be temporarily "frozen". This shall be done at a check-point or ahead of the location of the first driver. All drivers shall be held back for an identical period of time.
 - 76.2 The organizer and RM shall, without unnecessary delay, inform all drivers of decisions, and reasons for same, made according to 76.1.
 - 76.3 **Mandatory stops**
 - 76.3.1 Races with a total distance of 300 to 600 km shall at least have a total of 8 hrs mandatory stops, to be distributed at the local organizer's discretion.
 - 76.3.2 Races with a total distance of more than 600 km shall at least have a total of 12 hrs mandatory stops, to be distributed at the local organizer's discretion.

E.II. Trail distances

77. Sprint and Nordic style Races.

- 77.1 Heat distances need not be identical each day of an event, but the shortest trails shall be run first. Subsequent days' heat distances shall not exceed one hundred and fifty (150)% of the first day's trail length. The shortest and longest possible distances for each heat will be indicated on the invitation.
- 77.2 **Minimum Trail Distances:**
 - Unlimited Class:** 20 km (12.5 miles). Recommendation: 20 km (12.5 miles) up to the last full weekend in January, and 24 km (15 miles) thereafter.
 - Eight/Ten-Dog Class:** 14 km (9 miles). Recommendation: 14 km (9 miles) up to the last full weekend in January and 16 km (10 miles) thereafter.
 - Six-Dog Class:** 9 km (6 miles). Recommendation: 9 km (6 miles) up to the last full weekend in January and 12 km (7.5 miles) thereafter.
 - Four-Dog Class:** 6 km (4 miles). Recommendation: 6 km (4 miles) up to the last full weekend in January and 8 km (5 miles) thereafter.
 - Nordic Style:** 5 to 25 km (3.1 to 15.6 miles) for the women and 10 to 25 km (6.2 to 15.6 miles) for the men.
 - Relays:** Each heat: a minimum of five (5) km (3.1 miles).
- 77.3 If special circumstances dictate that the length of the trail be decreased, the decrease shall never be more than 25% in any class.

78. Distance Races

For all classes:

Mid-Distance: Between 80 and 250 km (50 and 156 miles) with, in principle, an average of at least 40 km (25 miles)/stage for multi-stage races.

Long-Distance: More than 250 km (156 miles) with, in principle, an average of at least 80 km (50 miles)/stage for multi-stage races.

79. **Dryland races: Distances (per heat or stage)**

- 79.1 Canicross seniors and veterans: minimum 2 km, maximum 8 km (1.2 to 5 miles)
- 79.2 Canicross juniors: minimum 1 km, maximum 4 km (0.6 to 2.5 miles)
- 79.3 Relay (each leg): minimum 0.5 km, maximum 4 km (0.3 to 2.5 miles)
- 79.4 1-dog Bikejoring class: minimum of 2 km, maximum of 10 km (1.2 to 6.2 miles)
- 79.5 1-dog Scooter class: minimum of 2 km, maximum of 8 km (1.2 to 5 miles)
- 79.6 2-dog Scooter class: minimum of 2 km, maximum of 8 km (1.2 to 5 miles)
- 79.7 4-dog Rig class: minimum of 4 km, maximum of 8 km (2.5 to 5 miles)
- 79.8 6-dog Rig class: minimum of 5 km, maximum of 10 km (3.1 to 6.2 miles)
- 79.9 8-dog Rig class: minimum of 5 km, maximum of 12 km (3.1 to 7.5 miles)

E.III. Check points and rest stops

80. Camps and rest stops

- 80.1 Litter shall not be left in or along the trail, but be carried to finish, check-points or a deposit along the trail as determined by the organizer.
- 80.2 Camps and rest stops shall be established well off the trail. Dogs and equipment shall not be left on the trail and the driver shall not stay in the trail more than necessary.
- 80.3 Check-points, camps and rest stops shall be cleaned and tidied up before departure.

81. Check-points

- 81.1 Drivers shall report at check-points before proceeding.
- 81.2 In the event of an unmanned check-point, and if the organizer has given no advise as to such an event, the driver, if possible, shall see to it that it may later be established that he/she has been at the check-point, and advise officials at the next manned check-point of his/her actions.
- 81.3 Dropped dogs
 - 81.3.1 Dogs taken out of the team shall only be dropped at designated check-points.
 - 81.3.2 Dropped dogs shall be tagged with:
 - The driver's name and bib number.
 - The reason for dropping the dog
 - 81.3.3 Dropped dogs shall be leashed with a chain, or similar, until they are picked up.
- 81.4 Detaining or Removal of Team
 - 81.4.1 The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian may detain a team in order to repair or replace equipment deemed unsafe for the driver and/or his/her dogs.
 - 81.4.2 The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian may detain a team deemed temporarily unfit to proceed.
 - 81.4.3 The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian may remove a team or dogs deemed unfit to complete the competition.
- 81.5 When a driver arrives at a check-point with less than the required number of dogs in the team, that team shall be disqualified. The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian shall determine if and to what extent the team may proceed.
- 81.6 Offers for accommodation, et cetera, for dogs and drivers at check-points shall be identical for all participants.
- 81.7 Supplies
 - 81.7.1 At the option of the organizer, participants may, before the race, leave supplies at check-points.
 - 81.7.2 The organizer determines at which check-points supplies may be deposited, and the routines for same.
 - 81.7.3 The above provisions do not have any effects on the requirements for mandatory

- equipment to be carried on the sled.
- 81.7.4 A race may require different mandatory equipment. This shall be listed in special rules for the race.

F. TRAIL MARKING

F.I. General

82. The trail shall be marked with a sufficient number of clearly visible markers, so placed that there will be no doubt for the driver where to go.
83. All Trail Markers shall be at least 25 cm in diameter or length per side.
84. Only one side of the sign shall be colored to indicate the proper direction of travel.
85. Trail markers shall be placed about one (1) meter beyond the edge of the trail, and from 60 to 120 cm above the surface of the trail.
86. All markers shall be visible as far ahead as possible and at least 50 m.
87. Markers applicable for a certain class, or certain classes, only, shall be marked with the class(es)' identification or with the trail distance of the concerned class(es) by white letters in the centre of the marker. Information on elapsed distance shall be indicated by a black number on a white sign directly above a blue marker on the same stake. The classes identification shall be easily seen and read by the sportsmen/women. The identification shall be explained at the musher meeting prior the race.
88. Information on remaining distance shall be indicated by a black negative number on a white sign directly below a blue marker on the same stake.
89. Markers shall not be so placed, or made of such a material, that they might constitute a danger for dogs or drivers.

F.II. Red Markers (Turn markers, preferably of round shape).

90. Red Markers shall be used at all intersections and crossings involving turns. The markers shall be placed about 20 meters ahead of the point in question at the same side of the trail as to which the teams shall turn.
91. The same procedure shall also be applied for all blind turns on the trail.

F.III. Blue Markers (Straight ahead or Confirmation markers, preferably of square shape).

92. Blue markers may be placed on either side of the trail.
93. Blue markers used to indicate the correct trail after a crossing or turn shall be placed about 20 m beyond, and should be visible when approaching, the point in question.
94. Blue markers **shall** be used:
 - 94.1 at intersections or crossings when the trail is going straight through. The sign shall be placed about 20 meters ahead of the intersection.
 - 94.2 beyond turns, which apply only to a certain class, or certain classes. Such blue markers shall have the same class identification as the red turn marker.
95. Blue markers **should** be used:
 - 95.1 beyond all intersections, turns or blind corners, which are marked with a red marker.
 - 95.2 every full kilometer along the entire trail. At least every five (5) kilometers they should be marked with the elapsed or remaining distance.

F.IV. Yellow Markers (Caution markers, preferably of triangle shape).

96. Yellow markers may be placed on either side of the trail. Yellow markers indicate portions of the trail, where slow, cautious passage is recommended, e.g. steep downhill, really sharp turns, icy spots. Yellow markers shall be placed about 20 meters ahead of the caution area.
97. If the caution area covers a length of the trail, two yellow markers shall be placed on the same stake at the beginning of the caution area. The end of the caution area shall be indicated with one yellow marker with a diagonal red or black cross.
98. All yellow markers shall be presented and explained at the Team Captain and/or drivers Meeting and they shall be indicated on the trail map.

F.V. Checkpoint Markers

99. Checkpoints shall be indicated with rectangular white signs with black letters.

F.VI. Other Markers

100. The end of the Starting Chute shall be indicated by markers on both sides of the trail.
101. A white marker shall be placed at the start of the Finishing Chute with the distance remaining (usually 150 m for Nordic style classes and Canicross and 800 m for all other classes before the finish line) to indicate the beginning of the “No-right-of-way” zone.
102. Portions of the trail, where the correct trail is not clearly visible, may be marked with additional markings. Such additional marking shall never be considered a replacement for ordinary marking according to this Rule.
103. Marking for night heats. In addition to the trail marking described above, each marker should be equipped with light-reflecting material (minimum 25 cm²).

F.VII. Trail Blocking.

104. At trail crossings considered so difficult that even good teams may have problems, blockings shall be used in addition to marking.
105. A blocking shall appear as a physical hindrance for the dogs but shall not constitute any danger for dogs, drivers or equipment.
106. At trail crossings where different classes shall follow different trails, there shall be a Trail Steward, performing the necessary changes of the blockings after each class and, as necessary, directing/assisting teams to the correct trail.
107. The presence of a blocking or a Trail Steward does not allow for ordinary marking to be omitted.