

2021 Salmon Lake Race Rules

PART 1: DRIVER QUALIFICATION

1.1 No musher under 18 years of age will be allowed to compete without the approval of the NKC Board of Directors. All mushers must be current Nome Kennel Club Members.

There must be at least three entrants or the race will be cancelled.

The Race Marshall may refuse the entry of any musher at the drawing or before the race if, in the opinion of the judges or marshal, the condition of the driver and/or their equipment constitutes a hazard and/or delaying factor to themselves or other entrants in the race.

If the ambient temperature is colder than -30F ambient or -35F with wind-chill, or if there are sustained wind speeds greater than 30 mph the race will be postponed until conditions moderate. If conditions do not moderate within 24 hours, the race will be cancelled. Final decision is up to the Race Marshall.

PART 2: CONDITIONS FOR RACING

Each musher must understand the race rules.

Each musher must present proof that each dog has current vaccinations: rabies vaccine within the past three years IF 3-year is stated on the vaccination certificate, and a 5-way (Parvo) combination vaccine within the past year. No nursing dogs or dogs who have given birth to pups within six weeks of the race start will be allowed to run.

Each team must have a sled or toboggan with a brush bow, operating foot brake, and hook. Mandatory gear includes the musher booklet, ax, winter sleeping bag, dog cooker, 4 booties per dog, cable or chain drop lines for dropped dogs, 8 lbs of emergency dog food.

The maximum number of dogs to start with is 12 dogs; the minimum is 5 dogs.

Mushers must register with NKC by Wednesday, Feb. 24 and pay an entry fee of \$100.

PART 3: RACE RULES

Race start is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at the city of Nome snow-dump facility. Teams will leave at a mass start. The race goes to Salmon Lake and back, with a restart on Sunday, 8 a.m. Fastest team from Saturday goes out last on Sunday, slowest team from Saturday goes out first on Sunday. Restart is in two minute intervals on Sunday.

Food drops: One 50-lb max bag each. NKC will provide each team with 6 cans total of HEET at Madden Camp. Each team will receive one bale of straw at Salmon Lake.

Entry fee is \$100 per team.

Dog drops: Each team may drop a maximum of 2 dogs, with the first dog without a fee, the second dog with a \$50 fee.

No force may be used to control dogs in the race, at the starting line, or in the holding area. Beating or abuse of a dog must be distinguished from cuffing or appropriate discipline of a dog. No whips are allowed. The following kinds of force will be cause for immediate disqualification:

- Kicking a dog
- Striking a dog with any rigid object
- Beating a dog in any form, including picking up and throwing a dog to the ground.

A musher will be responsible for their team in the event any dog in their team becomes aggressive and causes damage to another team. The musher determined by official ruling to have the aggressive dog will be responsible for financial compensation of all medical and transportation expenses to repair all damages caused by their animal. If the musher does not comply with this ruling, they will be banned from all NKC races in the future.

PART 4. PASSING

4.1 The intent of this rule is to provide for the safe and efficient passage of an overtaken team. When one team shall overtake another, the lead dogs being within fifty feet (50), the team behind shall have the immediate right-of-way upon demand.

The overtaken team must provide a clear trail within the confines of the groomed trail for the passing team to travel safely.

4.2 Actions that prevent or impede a pass are prohibited.

The overtaken team may request and receive the right-of-way as above after 4 minutes or 1 mile, or if the concerned drivers are in agreement, at lesser time and mileage. A passing driver with a tangled team may require the following driver to wait no longer than 1 minute. Teams following shall maintain an interval sufficient so not to interfere with the driver of the team in front.

4.3 The first part of the lead dog that crosses the finish line will mark the racer's finish time. Every person entering or driving a team in the race will be required to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike, fair and honorable manner, under penalty of forfeiture of prize, racing privileges or other penalties in NKC races at the Race Marshall's discretion.

There will be no outside assistance of any kind permitted on the race. This is any assistance on the trail including but not limited to pacing or perceived pacing using a snow machine or other motorized vehicle, communications concerning the location of other mushers and other assistance as defined by the Race Judge. In emergencies, others can assist in situations such as where a team and driver are separated, dogs separated from the gangline, teams at road crossings to assure the safety of team and driver. Such emergency situations aren't grounds for disqualification.

PART 5: RACE OFFICIALS, PURSE, PENALTIES AND APPEALS

There will be a Race Marshal, Judge and Timekeeper. All officials of the race will be identified at the start. The Race Marshal or designee will be present at the start and finish line for all official starters and finishers of the race.

Any protests of the race results or other race-related issues by a musher must be made by said musher within 24 hours of the finish of the race.

Total purse is \$3,000.

1st place 31% of total purse, 2nd 23%, 3rd 18%, 4th 13%, 5th 5%, 6th 2%, 7th 2%, 8th 2%, 9th 2%, and 10th 2%. If less than ten teams finish the race the unused portion of the purse will be divided evenly among the qualified finishers.

Any changes to these rules will be posted.

No man's land starts at the top of Gold Hill and extends to the finish line.

PART 6: COVID rules

6.1 Participants need to adhere to current federal, state and City of Nome guidelines. Mushers are advised to bring their own tents because of social distancing. Outdoor events are considered low risk for transmission of COVID-19 by the CDC. Race participants will be required to wear masks while in the start and finish chute. They can remove their face covering after starting the race. Volunteers and spectators will be asked to practice social distancing, wear masks, and respect the health and safety of others.