



Race Veterinarians Tasks and Duties
January 23 to February 2, 2017



CHAIN OF COMMAND

The Head Veterinarian will report directly to the Race Marshall, Nils Finsrud. Other race veterinarians will report to the Head Veterinarian, TBD. Veterinarian Technicians and other helpers will report to their supervising Veterinarian.

DURING THE RACE EVENT

Duties of the veterinarian team during the race event are as follows.

1. Be available for dog assessment on request of an official and advise on its fitness to run the race.
2. Be available to treat emergencies
3. Bring to official's attention any concerns regarding animal's health or welfare (see **Note 1**)
4. Monitor with race officials the weather conditions for competition as per IFSS race rules regarding safe temperature and humidity levels. The Race Marshall is ultimately responsible for assuring the temperature is monitored and for the final decisions regarding the races. Veterinarians are to be consulted. (see **Note 2**)

Note 1: Particularities that may be noted about harness racing dogs

- Sprint race dogs may appear thinner than the average pet. The dogs competing are trained athletes and should be light weight and muscular.
- In the excitement of the event some dogs may express behaviours that could be misinterpreted as signs of distress. Shaking, shyness, excessive barking may be normal in the race environment.

Note 2: Excerpt from the IFSS Race Rules page 35, **Appendix #1**.

B . IV Extreme Low Temperatures at snow races – Guidelines

24. 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.

VET CHECKS

The veterinarian's following tasks can be accomplished with the assistance of a supporting team.

1. "Vet checks" are scheduled for Monday, January 23, Thursday, January 26 and *Sunday, January 29 starting at 11:00 am.
2. Exceptionally some "Vet checks" will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, Friday, January 27 and Monday, *January 30, with times to be determined by the final schedule closer to the date as well as the availability of the veterinarian team.
*Vet checks on January 29 and 30 will be conducted in the dog yard not the vet station.
3. Authorization of the Veterinary Medication Form 1 for Controlled Substances and the Veterinary Medication Form 2 for use of Thyroid Hormone Supplements in accordance with IFSS anti-doping rules. (When applicable) (See **Note 3**)
4. Basic visual examination, and assessment of any animal welfare concern. (See **Note 4**)

Note 3: For reference regarding Veterinary Medication Forms

- Treatment with Controlled Medication Substances – <http://www.sleddogsport.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/DOPING-CONTROL-DOGS-Regulations-of-Controlled-Medications-Rev.-Jan.-1st-2015.pdf>
- Guide to Supplements & Medications – <http://www.sleddogsport.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/DOPING-CONTROL-DOGS-VETERINARY-FORM-1-Rev.-Jan.-1st-2015.pdf>
- Veterinarian Medication Form 2 – Request for Authorization to Use Thyroid Hormone Supplement - <http://www.sleddogsport.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/DOPING-CONTROL-DOGS-VETERINARY-FORM-2-Rev.-Jan.-1st-2015.pdf>

All dogs being treated with controlled medications must have a “Veterinary Medication Form” that will have been previously filled and signed by the veterinarian who is treating the dog(s) and supplied by the racer. The Head Veterinarian is required to authorize all Veterinary Medication Forms prior to the start of the race event.

Note 4: Excerpt from the IFSS Race Rules page 35, **Appendix #1.**

B . II Disease

18. 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.
19. The race veterinarian, in conjunction with the Race Marshal or race judge, may rule any dog is unfit to start or continue in the race, and 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.
20. “Vaccinations need to be done in accordance with regulations of the host country in which the race is taking place. (See **Note 5**)”

Note 5: Excerpt from the Canadian Food Inspection website more specifically webpage Importing or Travelling with a Domestic Dog. <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/imports/policies/live-animals/pets/dogs/eng/1331876172009/1331876307796>

Dogs may enter Canada if they are accompanied by rabies certification, which means they must have: a rabies vaccination certificate OR a veterinary certificate. Canada is not rabies free. Rabies vaccinations are recommended for dogs three months or more coming to Canada.

SCHEDULING VETERINARIANS

A Head Veterinarian is needed on site daily to oversee/coordinate all the above tasks. As well as before the event to review Veterinary Medication Forms.

Additional veterinarians are needed every day of the event. Each veterinarian interested in helping is welcomed to do so for the whole duration of the event or may only be available certain days. The Project Manager will adjust the responsibility schedules accordingly.

January 23, 26 and 29, 2017

- Each team will be scheduled to have its dogs and paperwork verified starting at 11:00 am
- Schedules will be provided to the veterinarians and their teams

Race Days, January 24 to February 1, 2017

- Races are on going starting at 8:00 am until 4:00 - 5:00 pm with the exception of the last three days of competition when we will be hosting a 3-day continuous Long Distance Race.
- **Long Distance Race** will require 3 veterinarians, possibly each with 1 or 2 veterinarian technicians/veterinarian in training, at three separate checkpoints along the course. These veterinarians will be required to stay overnight, ideally for 2 nights.
- The Veterinarians may be tasked before and after the races if any concerns regarding the well being of dogs arises.
- Officials meetings will be scheduled each day before and after the races.
- See **Appendix 2** for the tentative schedule. Events time to be determined at a later date.

COMPENSATION

1. Material expenses for required gauze, bandages, etc... will be covered by Haliburton Forest. Head vet will organize what is needed, purchase and supply Project Manager with an invoice.
2. Any medications administered will be the responsibility of the individual owner/racer.
3. Shared accommodations will be provided to veterinarians and veterinarian technicians at a maximum of 4 per night at Base Camp.
4. Long Distance Race: Checkpoints include very rustic shelter cabins with little to no insulation. Comparable to winter camping in a prospector tent. Each cabin will be equipped with a wood stove for heat, beds, camp stove to boil water and heat up food as well as an outhouse.

CONTACT

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