

Board of Director: Proposed changes to race rules: 12/12/21  
Change to rule listed in Bold Blue, original text underlined  
Complete removal Bold Red

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## ALASKA DOG MUSHERS ASSOCIATION RACE RULES

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*Revised April 2015*

Nothing in these rules precludes the Association from conducting special events that are run under other rules.

### **A. DEFINITIONS**

*Driver:* the person who drives a dog team entered in a race. A driver is considered to be in the race from the time that driver has either drawn for a starting position or properly post entered, and shall be considered still in the race until the time frame for official decisions has elapsed.

*Event:* a meeting of contestants for the purpose of competing in one event which may involve several different classes.

*Heat:* a completion of the trail in any one class, once.

*Judge or Race Official:* rule-enforcing officer, appointed by the ~~From:Race~~  
Marshal to: Board of Directors.

*May:* shall be construed as being permissive.

*Race:* a competition in a specified class and may be comprised of one or more heats. A race is considered to begin when starting positions are drawn for, and ends when the time frame for official decisions has elapsed.

*Race Marshal:* the person who shall have responsibility for supervision of rule enforcement of the event.

*Shall:* shall be construed as being imperative.

*Should:* shall be construed as being advisory.

### **B. ENTRIES AND DRAWINGS**

1. Paid entry must be submitted by the deadline established for each race.
2. No driver under fifteen (15) years of age will be allowed to compete in any ADMA limited-class race. Any driver under eighteen (18) years of age will be required to submit written permission of his/her parent or guardian. No driver under eighteen (18) years of age will be allowed to compete in any open-class ADMA race, except that a driver under eighteen (18) shall be eligible to compete upon submission of written permission of his/her parent or guardian, and approval by a majority vote at an ADMA general membership meeting

3. Partnership and kennel entries will be permitted.
4. The person driving a team at the start of the first heat of the race will be the only person allowed to drive that team during the remaining heats of the race, with the exception that the driver may be replaced for a following heat upon the written order of a physician.
5. Any driver who, in the opinion of a majority of the race marshal and officials, will constitute a hazard may be barred from participation in the race.
6. The drawing for the first heat of a race shall establish the entrant's starting position for the first day of the race, and starting positions for the successive heats of these races will be according to order based on total elapsed time. Drawing for the starting order of the skijoring class shall be by category, 3-dog, 2-dog, and 1-dog. For multiple heat races, skijorers will leave the starting line in order of overall finish time, regardless of the number of dogs being run. In the event of tied total elapsed times, a flip of a coin will decide which of the teams goes out first. In this and the following rules, the term "heat" shall constitute one day of racing and the term "race" shall constitute the collection of heats run in that race.
7. Handicapping and seeding, in any form, will not be permitted in any championship race except that a driver may be required to start at the end of the field of entrants if, in the majority opinion of the race marshal and officials, the driver is so inexperienced in sled dog racing as to constitute a hazard and/or delaying factor to himself or to other entrants in the race.
8. Prior to the drawing, any driver may request to start at the end of the field, and may be granted permission for such a start at the discretion of the **From: Race Marshal to: Race Committee.**
9. No entry or number shall be transferable.
10. The Alaska Dog Musher's Association is not responsible for any accidents to a driver, handler, and/or team. Drivers may be required to sign a release at the time the official entry book is signed.

### **C. DOGS AND EQUIPMENT**

1. The safety and health of dogs entered in ADMA races is the club's first priority. All dogs entered must be in good health at the start of each heat. No dogs with obvious signs of debilitating sickness or injury will be allowed to race.
2. ADMA races are held under a variety of temperature and trail conditions, and drivers are expected to know the limitations of their dogs to safely compete under very cold or warm temperatures and on various trail surfaces. Dogs that lack the typical dense undercoat of Northern sled dogs, or that have frost-sensitive body parts, should wear protective clothing at temperatures appropriate for that dog.

3. If requested by a race official, a driver must allow any dog to be examined by the race veterinarian. On recommendation of the race veterinarian, the race marshal may withdraw a dog from the race.

4. Teams shall consist of the following numbers of dogs:

	Maximum	Minimu
Open	unlimited	5
Ten-dog	10	5
Eight-	8	5
Six-dog	6	4
Four-dog	4	2
Skijoring	3	1

5. A driver is not permitted to enter a heat with dogs different from those with which he/she started the previous heat of the race. Each dog in every team entered in the race shall, before each heat, be identified and marked by an official of the Alaska Dog Musher's Association.

6. Except for skijoring events, each entrant shall have the choice of his/her own sled. The sled must be equipped with an adequate foot brake, a snow hook, a dog bag for carrying a dog in safety, and a brush bow. For skijoring events, the team must be attached via harness and towline to the skijorer's belt in a safe and secure manner, leaving the skijorer's hands free of the line. In the interest of safety, there must be a quick point of detachment within arm's length of the skijorer. Metal edges are not allowed on skis.

7. No driver entered in the race shall use a loose leader during the race. Furthermore, drivers are required to use necklines on all dogs **Remove: except double leaders.)**

8. Dog and equipment rules shall be in force from the time a team crosses the starting line to begin a heat of a race until the time the team crosses the finish line of that heat.

#### **D. USE OF FOREIGN SUBSTANCES**

No foreign substances or substances at unusually high levels will be allowed, with specific exceptions for non-performance-enhancing medications used for therapeutic purposes. It is the intent of this rule to protect the integrity of sled dog racing and to guard the health of sled dogs.

1. No dog participating in an ADMA-sponsored race shall carry in its body any substance foreign to the dog or in a quantity unnaturally high except as hereafter provided.

2. All dogs participating in ADMA-sponsored races shall be subject to collection of urine and/or blood samples for testing. Failure to provide such a sample shall result in disqualification of the team and driver.

3. A finding by the ADMA-designated laboratory that a substance other than those specified in Section 5 is present in the test sample shall be *prima facie* evidence that such foreign substance was administered and carried in the body of the dog while participating in a race. Such a finding shall also be taken as *prima facie* evidence that the driver and his agents responsible for the care or custody of the dog(s) has/have been negligent in the handling or care of the dog(s).
4. Laboratory findings will be evaluated by the ADMA veterinary committee. A finding by the ADMA veterinary committee that a substance other than those specified in Section 5 was used in a dog or dogs from a particular team will result in disqualification from the race and forfeiture of prize money won. The driver will be prohibited from entering subsequent ADMA-sponsored races until all forfeited prize money is returned.
5. The following substances may be administered for therapeutic purposes: antibiotics (except procaine penicillin), parasiticides, nonsteroidal topical ointments, non-stimulating anticonvulsants, milbolerone for heat suppression purposes.
6. If a dog dies while participating in an ADMA-sponsored race, and a necropsy has been ordered, members of the ADMA veterinary committee and the race marshal shall be present while urine/blood samples are taken. Those samples will be taken, handled, and transported to the ADMA-designated laboratory in accordance with provisions of Section E of ADMA Race Procedures.

#### **E. CHECK-IN AND STARTING**

1. Each driver, or his/her authorized representative, must check in with the appropriate official prior to the scheduled check-in time of his/her respective race. All teams not properly checked in shall be disqualified from that heat. Check-in personnel shall not act as a driver's representative.
2. The brush bow of the sled or the tips of the skijorer's skis shall determine the starting point of the team. Trail time shall begin at the call of the timer.
3. The time for any driver failing to be at the starting line at his/her scheduled start time shall begin at the time set for his/her team to start, and the driver will not be allowed to start until a standard interval after the last team has left. If several teams start late, each shall start in the respective order in which they were originally scheduled to start, and the teams' times will start when they were originally scheduled to start.
4. An unlimited number of handlers may be used until the sled crosses the starting line. After the sled crosses the line, a driver may have only one self-appointed handler to assist the team out of the starting chute, if necessary.
5. A team failing to clear the starting chute within two minutes after its official start time shall be cleared from the trail and shall be disqualified from the race.

## F. ON THE TRAIL

1. All persons entering or driving a team in a race are required to conduct themselves in a fair, honorable and sportsmanlike manner.
2. Cruel and inhumane treatment of the dogs by any driver is strictly prohibited.
3. Every driver and dog team must follow and complete the official race course during each heat under penalty of disqualification from the race.
4. All trail maintenance, including packing, dragging, blocking side trails, brush and obstacle removal, and marking, will be done by the Alaska Dog Musers Association. Individual racers are not allowed to modify the course in any way before any heat, except under direct authorization of the **From: Race Marshal to: Race Committee.**

5. The official race course shall be marked as follows:

**Red marker:** indicates an upcoming turn to the respective side of the trail.

**Blue marker:** indicates the trail continues straight ahead.

**Yellow marker:** exercise caution ahead. These markers will be supplemented by printed signs when deemed necessary in order to allow each driver an equal chance to follow the prescribed course.

6. No team, other than an official entry, shall use the official race course or any part thereof until the race is declared officially over.
7. No pacing or trailing in any form shall be allowed.
8. Passing:
  - a. When one team intends to pass another team, the passing team's driver may request the right of way when the lead dog(s) come(s) within 50 feet of the overtaken team. The overtaken team shall make way for the passing team by steering to one side of the trail, slowing the team and, if demanded by the overtaking driver, stopping the team and keeping it from moving forward.
  - b. If the passing team becomes tangled or bunched in the course of the pass, to allow time to untangle lines, that team's driver may require the overtaken team to remain stopped for up to one minute in unlimited, 10-dog, and 8-dog teams, and up to one-half minute in all other classes.
  - c. 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: in unlimited or 10-dog or 8-dog classes, after four minutes or one mile; in all other classes, after two minutes or one-half mile; or lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.

- d. A team that has been passed need not hold his/her team if the passing team goes off the trail, or while the passing driver repairs gear or unhooks and transfers a dog or dogs from one position in the team to another position in the team before the above-mentioned distance or time interval has elapsed. Loading a dog in the sled basket constitutes changing a dog's position in the team.
  - e. When a team is overtaken in the finishing chute, that team does not have to yield the trail.
  - f. Skijorers need not come to a full stop but must slow, yield the trail by moving to the same side as their dogs, and give the immediate right-of-way upon demand. In the event that the skijor team passed shall hang on for two minutes or one half mile, **From: he/she to they** shall have the right to demand the trail again. Unless passing or in the finishing chute, a competitor must maintain a minimum distance of 20 feet between his/her dogs and the skijorer in front.
9. No driver shall interfere with a competing team.
  10. While competing in a race, a driver is not permitted to have any assistance in managing her/his team which it is in her/his power to prevent, with the following exceptions:
    - a. Each driver may have one self-appointed handler to assist the driver and team past the team's home kennel and/or any trail leading directly from the race course toward the home kennel. Names of such handlers and the points at which they will be stationed must be presented to the race marshal and officials in writing at least twenty-four hours in advance of the race. No such handlers may be used without the advance approval of the race marshal.
    - b. Race officials are authorized to lend assistance, if deemed necessary, to any entry at any point on the race trail.
    - c. The race marshal may appoint a sufficient number of handlers to assist teams, at the request of the driver, through difficult sections of the trail.
  11. A driver who loses his/her team must overtake the loose team by the quickest possible means, including a ride if available, to ensure the safety of the loose team. The driver shall not be penalized for accepting assistance to retrieve a loose team. Failure to accept assistance may result in disqualification of the driver of the loose team.
  12. Each team must return from every heat with the same dogs with which that heat is started. These dogs must either be in harness, attached to the towline, or in the sled. Any dog which collapses on the trail must be immediately placed in the sled. Any dog which is loaded in the sled for any reason must be placed inside the dog bag so that it cannot touch the ground and so that no part of it is

protruding from the sides, rear or bottom of the sled in a way that may cause injury to the dog. Failure to comply will result in disqualification. Any dog dropped from a heat cannot be entered in any of the following heats of the race. Any dog carried across the finish line in the basket cannot be entered in any of the following heats of the race unless the race marshal and race veterinarian agree the dog is fit to run.

13. Any driver quitting or disqualified from the race must clear the trail completely until all teams have returned to the finish line.
14. Any dog that dies during a race must be carried to the finish line and turned over to the race marshal. The **From:Race Marshal to: Race Committee** may require that a necropsy be performed. The results of the necropsy shall be transmitted to the proper officials in an expeditious manner.

## **G. FINISHING**

1. The finish time of each team shall be when the first dog reaches the finish line. In the event of a lost team finishing before the driver, the finish time will be when the driver crosses the line. Race officials may assist in the removal of teams to clear the finish line. Handlers must stay behind the finish line and may not touch any dog until that dog has crossed the finish line.
2. The driver who completes, without disqualification or forfeiture, the official race course in the least time will be declared the winner of the race.

## **H. RACE OFFICIALS**

1. Race officials shall consist of the race marshal, timekeepers, turnaround marshal, race veterinarian when present, and other persons appointed by the **From:Race Marshal to: Board of Directors**. These officials may choose as many assistants as may be necessary.
2. The race marshal and other officials shall have ultimate authority for enforcing race rules and procedures, and their majority vote may disqualify drivers for violations. **Remove: (All officials of the race are under the jurisdiction of the race marshal.)**
3. Any protests must be presented to an official in oral form within ten minutes after completion of each heat and must also be presented in writing within one hour after the finish of each heat. All protests will be considered and decided upon by not less than the majority vote of the race marshal and other officials.
4. All official race decisions other than drug-rule violations, or cases where a necropsy will be required, shall be made public not later than three hours before the start of the next heat of a race, or 24 hours after the finish of the final heat. Drug-rule violations will be determined by the ADMA veterinary committee.
5. The decisions of the **From:Race Marshal and officials to: Race Committee** shall be final.

**I. PENALTIES**

1. Teams disqualified from a heat may run in subsequent heats, at the end of the field, but may not collect any prize money.
2. Except as otherwise provided, any driver found guilty of violating provisions of the race rules shall be disqualified from the race, and will forfeit any prize money.
3. Additional penalties may be levied as follows, as determined by a unanimous vote of the race officials and race marshal:
  - a. Cruel and inhumane treatment: barred from racing for up to 5 years.
  - b. Entering dogs not run in previous heats: barred from racing for 2 years.

**J. MONETARY PURSE BREAKDOWNS**

- a. Challenge Series races **From:** will **to:** **may** pay 4 places as follows:

<i>plac</i>	<i>percenta</i>
1st	40
2nd	30
3rd	20
4th	10

- b. The Open North American Championship will pay 15 places, as follows:

<i>place</i>	<i>percenta</i>
1st	18.0
2nd	15.0
3rd	12.0
4th	10.0
5th	8.5
6th	7.25
7th	6.0
8th	5.0
9th	4.0
10th	3.0
11th	2.75
12th	2.5
13th	2.25
14th	2.0
15th	1.75

- c. All other championship races will pay 10 places, as follows:



<i>place</i>	<i>percentage</i>
1st	25.0
2nd	20.0
3rd	15.0
4th	10.0
5th	7.5
6th	5.5
7th	5.0
8th	4.5
9th	4.0
10th	3.5

d. For skijoring championships in which there are three subclasses, the purse payout will be based on subclass participation, with the highest participation (subclass A) receiving 50% of the purse, the second (subclass B) receiving 30% of the purse, and the third (subclass C) receiving 20% of the purse. The subclass A purse will be paid 40%, 30%, 20% and 10% to the top four finishers; the subclass B purse will be paid 50%, 30% and 20% to the top three finishers; and the subclass C purse will be paid 60% and 40% to the top two finishers. In the case that any subclasses have equal numbers of entrants, the purses for those subclasses will be combined and pay to 3 places (50%, 30% and 20%) within each subclass.

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## RACE PROCEDURES

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### A. SIGNUPS AND DRAWINGS

1. Each team must be signed up by the driver or his designee by the time and at the place announced by ADMA.
2. Fees must be paid at the time of signup as follows:

- a. Entry fees:

#### ***Challenge Series Races***

Race fees will be set by the board of directors and approved by a majority of the general membership present at a meeting prior to the first race. The board should announce changes in race fees at least 30 days prior to the first race.

#### ***Championship Races***

The skijoring and 4-dog classes will pay a fee of \$10 per day; the 6-dog class will pay \$15 per day; the 8-dog class will pay \$20 per day; and the 10-dog and open classes will pay \$25 per day; with a cap of \$50. Sanctioning fees may be assessed per driver in each class for all championship races.

#### ***All Races***

1% of the purse except for the Open North American, where it is \$200 or 1% of the purse, whichever is greater.

- b. ADMA may offer a Challenge Series race pass, which can be purchased for drivers or kennels to enter all Challenge Series races in a single class for the season. This pass must be bought at or prior to the draw for the second Challenge Series race. No refunds will be made for races that occur before the pass is purchased, for cancelled or postponed races, or for when the driver decides not to race.
  - c. Race fees are not refundable unless the race is cancelled.
3. A drawing shall establish the starting positions of teams from a random selection of numbers as follows:
    - a. Challenge Series races: no later than the Saturday immediately prior to the scheduled race date.
    - b. Championship races: at the time and place announced by ADMA.

4. Any team may request to go out at the end of the field. Such requests must be made at signup. If more than one team requests to go out at the end of the field, those teams will receive their starting positions as a separate group. **Addition: For championship races: A team must be approved by the race committee to go out at the end of the field prior to the draw**
5. Kennel entries must be handled as follows: single entries in each class may be entered by kennel name, and the driver must be declared at the time of check-in. Additional kennel entries in the same class must declare the driver(s) at the time of the draw.
6. Post entries will be allowed as follows:
  - a. In Challenge Series races post entries for skijor must be submitted by 11:00 a.m.; post entries for 4-dog must be submitted by 11:30 a.m.; post entries for 6-dog and mid-distance must be submitted by 12:00 p.m.; and post entries for 10-dog and open class must be submitted by 12:30 a.m. Post entries will pay an additional fee of \$5. Challenge Series races that are postponed after the draw, or that are rescheduled with less than one week's notice, may be post-entered at no additional charge.
  - b. Post entries will not be accepted for limited class championship races.
  - c. For Open class championship races, post entries must be submitted by 10 minutes prior to the draw for starting positions. Post entries will pay a fee of \$100 in addition to regular entry and trail fees.
7. The driver or designated representative must physically check in his/her team at the race site with the proper person at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of that race or heat.
8. Postponements:
  - a. Any race may be postponed due to unsafe trail conditions as determined by the **From:Race Marshal to: Race Committee.**
  - b. Challenge series races will be cancelled if the temperature at the Fairbanks International Airport is -20F Fahrenheit or below at 8:15 a.m. on the day of the race. The temperature reported by the National Weather Service, at the Fairbanks International Airport at cut off time, regardless of the time of the update, is considered the official airport temperature.
9. Cancellations:
  - a. Any race or heat may be cancelled by a majority vote of the board of directors and the **From:Race Marshal to: Race Committee.**
  - b. The finish order of teams in a race cancelled after one or more heats will be determined by the total elapsed time at cancellation.

## B. STARTING

1. Teams will leave the starting line at intervals which will be specified at the drawing or driver's meeting.
2. While on the race trail, each driver must wear a number corresponding to the number of his/her starting position. The bib must be worn from the time the team crosses the starting line until the team crosses the finish line.
3. In Challenge Series races, the skijor class will start at 11:30 a.m., 4-dog class will start at 12:00 a.m., and 6-dog or mid-distance class will start at 12:30 p.m. The 6-dog class will start at 12:45 p.m. if more than fifteen 4-dog teams enter. There will be an interval of 15 minutes between the start times of all other classes. If warranted by signups and acceptable to the race timers, intervals between start times may be increased.
4. The Gold Run and the Limited North American Championships will start at 11:00 a.m., and the Open North American Championship will start at 1:00 p.m., except where the number of teams entered necessitates an earlier start. The interval between classes for championship races will be 30 minutes. Starting times announced at drawings may be delayed due to post entries.
5. In the event of teams not checking in, the starting time of subsequent teams will be moved forward.
6. A start/finish chute shall be designated by the race marshal.

## C. RACE OFFICIALS

1. The race marshal shall be chosen by the board of directors.
2. **From:** Timekeepers and officials shall be appointed by the race marshal. **to: Appointment of the race committee (Timers, Judges, Veterinarian) shall be chosen by the board of directors**

## D. ETIQUETTE

1. Each driver is responsible for keeping the holding area clean.
2. Drivers should drive so as to minimize impacts to the trail, and are expected to report dangerous conditions to trail maintenance personnel.
3. If a dog bites another dog or driver from another team during a race, that dog may be disqualified at the discretion of the **From:Race Marshal to: Race Committee.**

## E. DRUG TESTING—GENERAL

1. A veterinary committee consisting of five ADMA members will be appointed by the ADMA Board of Directors. In the case of a conflict of interest, which includes a veterinary committee member having a team, individual dogs, or immediate family member as a driver in the race class in question, said person on the veterinary committee shall not participate in any

activities pertaining to

drug testing of that race class, including selection of drugs to be tested or analytical test method; dog teams or dogs to be tested; or sampling and transport of samples. Further, veterinary committee members with a conflict of interest shall not serve as recipients of drug testing results or participate in decision-making concerning any drug test results for that race class. In the event of a conflict of interest by a veterinary committee chairperson, an interim chairperson will be elected. The veterinary committee may also draft alternate members if needed to replace committee members with a conflict of interest for one or more races.

The members of the veterinary committee will elect a chairperson. The veterinary committee will:

- a. Estimate drug testing expenses for the current race schedule for budgeting purposes,
  - b. Determine the number of teams to be tested and how they are to be selected,
  - c. Appoint a race veterinarian,
  - d. Review drug testing results in consultation with the race veterinarian and decide if a hearing is needed,
  - e. Call for a hearing if necessary.
2. The ADMA Board of Directors and veterinary committee will approve which races will have drug testing and how many teams will be tested. If drug testing is to be done it will be announced prior to the drawing.
  3. Drivers will be notified by the race marshal at the race drawing that urine samples will be collected for drug testing. The race marshal will explain the procedures at the drivers' meeting.
  4. Drivers will be issued a drug declaration/agreement form by the race marshal at the drawing if urine is to be collected at that race. Each driver must list all medications administered during the current race season to dogs that will be run in his/her team during the race. This form must be handed in at check-in before the driver can be issued a bib.
  5. The veterinary committee has the right to test any and all dogs from each team selected for testing. The dogs must be running in the race in the driver's team that day. Dogs to be sampled will be picked by the urine collection team and will be marked so it can be verified that they are in the team.
  6. In addition to urine testing, the veterinary committee may also elect to take blood samples for drug testing from race teams according to a sample plan for a given race class or classes or from any team based on failure to acquire the necessary urine sample. Urine or blood testing may also be performed at the race marshal's request on any dog or team. Urine or blood will be collected after the last team has finished the heat.

7. The urine collection team will be supervised by the race veterinarian. All blood samples will be collected by a licensed veterinarian.
8. Collection and recording of samples:
  - a. The competitor with his/her dogs must report at least one hour before the start of the event so that the appropriate dogs may have urine collected.
  - b. Collection of urine will be performed at the selected competitors' dog trucks. Dogs must not be let out of their boxes until the urine collection team has arrived at the truck and is ready to collect samples. The veterinary committee shall select volunteers who will be stationed in the holding area for each race and who will remind drivers not to drop dogs until samples are taken. Any dogs dropped from a dog truck and allowed to urinate in advance of drug testing on a test day may be disqualified from running in the race by the race marshal, or may be blood-sampled following that day's race.
  - c. The competitor shall have fulfilled his/her duty to submit to the drug testing only after the requested number of his/her dogs to be used in the race have delivered the required volume. If within 30 minutes before the official start of a competitor the collection team has not collected the urine from a selected dog, the collection team must come back after the driver has run the heat of the race to collect the urine or a blood sample.
  - d. A minimum of 50 ml of urine and/or 18 ml of blood must be collected from each dog to be tested.
  - e. For each sample, the competitor will be allowed the choice of sampling containers from a number of clean unused containers.
  - f. The sample shall be collected, sealed, and labeled with indelible ink in the presence of the competitor.
  - g. The competitor will check to make sure that the code on each collection/shipping container is the same as that entered against the competitor's name on the drug testing form.
  - h. The signatures of the competitor and official of the urine collection team must appear on the drug testing form, confirming that the above procedures have been carried out and that the driver has read and agrees to abide by the rules.
9. Storage and disposal of samples:
  - a. Before packing for shipment, it will be confirmed that all samples taken are present and that the numbering is in accordance with the list of codes. This list of samples will constitute a chain of custody form. All individuals handling the shipping container must acknowledge receipt of

the container by signing the chain of custody form and will note whether the shipping container is sealed when receiving and transferring it.

b. Sealed samples for analysis shall be placed in a locked cooler. Only members of the veterinary committee and the laboratory shall be in possession of the combination. The samples for analysis shall be sent to the laboratory as soon after the end of the competition as possible.

c. The samples will not be opened during the time between when they are originally sealed at the collection site and when they are received by the lab. A lab official must acknowledge on the chain of custody form that the sealed shipping container and all samples were received with seals intact.

d. Portions of each sample not used in the first drug analysis will be held in the original sampling container under suitable storage conditions at the laboratory until:

1. the first result is negative

2. in a case where a foreign substance is detected, a confirmatory test has been completed and all hearings or legal action have been resolved.

#### 10. Communication of results and hearings

a. The results of the drug tests will be held in confidence until completion of any hearings.

b. The veterinary committee chairperson and one other member of the veterinary committee will be named as recipients of the drug testing results mailed by the analytical laboratory for each championship race. The results will be reviewed by the veterinary committee, the race veterinarian, and the race marshal to determine if possible drug rule infractions have occurred due to the presence of substances not allowed under Section D(5) of the ADMA race rules in the urine/blood of the competitor's dog(s).

c. If a substance is found that is not allowed under Section D(5) of the ADMA race rules, confirmatory analysis shall be requested by the veterinary committee.

d. Upon confirmation by the laboratory of a substance not allowed under Section D(5) of the ADMA race rules in a dog(s), the competitor must be informed by the veterinary committee chairperson that a rule infraction has possibly occurred.

e. The veterinary committee chairperson will arrange a hearing within 30 days between the competitor concerned and the drug review board, composed of the veterinary committee, the ADMA president, the race veterinarian (nonvoting), and the race marshal. The competitor will be allowed to explain how the substance was to be found in the dog(s). In all cases the competitor must represent himself/herself. Witnesses may also present testimony. Afterward, the



drug review board will meet in closed quarters to determine whether a drug rule infraction has occurred.

f. Veterinary committee or drug review board members who are under review for a possible drug rule violation must be removed from their position until the matter is resolved.

11. All competitors and their assistants shall cooperate with the race veterinarian, veterinary committee, and urine collection team, and shall conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner. Failure to cooperate with officials in any aspect of drug testing may result in disqualification of the team and driver.

## **F. AWARDS**

1. In each class, open, 10-dog, 6-dog, 4-dog, and skijoring (1-, 2-, and 3-dog), there will be a points system whereby a championship is awarded to the driver with the most points at the end of the race season, based on finishes in the Challenge Series races:

1st place	5 points
2nd place	4 points
3rd place	3 points
4th place	2 points
5th place	1 point
& lower	

In the case of a tie in accumulated points, the points champion will be determined by a tie-breaking procedure applied in the following order:

1. the entrant who has completed the most Challenge Series races;
2. the entrant with the most first-place finishes;
3. the entrant with the fastest average speed from all completed Challenge Series races.

Sportsman's class drivers are not eligible to receive points.

2. Challenge Series prize checks, trophies, or awards will be awarded after the race. Sportsman's class drivers will not be eligible to receive prize money.
3. North American Championship prize checks and trophies will be distributed at the North American Banquet, except as noted below.
4. Jeff Studdert awards will be distributed after the race. Challenge Series points championship trophies will be awarded at the Limited North American drawing. Other awards will be distributed as desired by the membership and race sponsors.

5. In any race in which drug testing is done, prize money will not be awarded until test results have been received and evaluated by the veterinary committee.
6. A projected schedule for receipt of drug-testing results and release of prize money will be given to participating drivers by the veterinary committee prior to the race. This schedule is for guidance to the driver and is nonbinding. The fact that purse money has been distributed prior to the issuance of a drug test laboratory report shall not be deemed a finding that no foreign substance has been administered, in violation of these rules, to the dog or dogs of the team driven by the person earning such prize money.
7. No individual inquiries will be answered by any veterinary committee member regarding the expected date of receipt of drug testing results or disbursement of prize money.
8. **Remove:** (No purse will be awarded in any class with fewer than four (4) entrants at the time check-in closes.)