



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Author (s)	Revision Notes	Committee Approved (Date)
1.05	2013	Andrew Gersbach	Adopted from IFSS rules 23 rd July 2013 with Australian context added.	
1.06	24APR14	Darren Scragg	Inserted note under Chapter 1, in reference to RGOs ability to alter rules. Inserted RM ability to grant permission for competitors younger than specified age brackets to compete for sub clauses 74.1 and 75.1.2.	24 th April 2014
1.07	02MAY14	Darren Scragg	Inserted race procedures which were not attached to v1.06. Deleted reference to separate male and female classes and combined. Changed penalty for late starters under clause 15.1 to a set penalty of 30 seconds per every km of race distance. Changed wording in clause 18.1 so that team is declared finished when front wheel crosses the line as opposed to first dog of team. Changed wording in equipment section of clause 74, 75 and 76 so that the lengths of snub/shock line are recommended. However Race Marshall can disallow use of these items if deemed unsafe. Added 3 Dog Rig Class to clause 77.1. Changed minimum age of 3 and 4 Dog Rig class from 14 to 16 in clause 77.1. However 14 – 16 year of age can compete in Senior class with appropriate approvals. Changed word “offered” to “recommended” for Rig weights under sub clause 77.2.4.	10 th June 2014 - National Council Meeting (unanimously carried.)



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1.08	08FEB15	Darren Scragg	<p>The following changes were originally proposed by WASSA as addendums for WASSA races but have adopted into the full ASSA Race rules.</p> <p>Clause 8.1 – added words which allows for muzzles to be permitted at the discretion of the Race Marshall and Vet. Full chokes remain prohibited.</p> <p>Clause 10.5 – decreased the minimum teams from 5 – 3.</p> <p>Clause 22.3.2 – added “where safe to do so.”</p> <p>Clause 24.4 – changed related sub clauses by decreasing time and distances for repassing.</p> <p>76.2.4 – removed word “rim”.</p> <p>Other Change</p> <p>Clause 77.2.2 – Shock absorbers are now recommended for Rig classes but not compulsory.</p>	8 th February 2015 National Council Meeting (unanimously carried.)
1.09	29JAN16		<p>Inserted terms Frivolous, Malicious and Vexatious into the definitions.</p> <p>Clause 3.6.1 - added allowing Race Marshall to disallow dog from running in Canicross as a second class if concerned for dog.</p> <p>Clause 19.2.1 and 19.2.2 – added for extra detail in how a team who leaves the trail should re-enter the trail.</p> <p>Clause 25.1 – added to outline penalty if Race Officials including volunteers are treated poorly by driver/s.</p> <p>Clause 27 Dog Behaviours – added to outline action taken for certain grade offences.</p> <p>Annex A.1 – clause 1.2 added stating that Race Marshall must submit a Race Report for Point Score events.</p> <p>Annex A.IV Determination of Complaint – outlines process taken for complaint determination.</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Race Marshall Race Report format.</p>	Passed via majority email approval February 2016.
1.10	19APR16		<p>Clause 8.5 - inserted as amended muzzle rule based upon majority feedback from ASSA RGO / Club responses.</p> <p>Clause 11.4 – inserted new clause which stipulates minimum rest time between heats of the same class. Based upon majority feedback from ASSA RGO / Club responses.</p>	Feedback from RGO / Clubs was conferred by and passed unanimously at ASSA Committee meeting 17 th April 2016.
1.11	30JUN16		<p>Clause 74.2.1 – changed words to allow for metal attachments that are considered safe for Canicross.</p> <p>Clauses 75.2.4 (Bikejoring), 76.2.5 (Scooter), 77.2.4.5 (Rig) – Bans open blades to be used as cutters from 1st April 2017. Side cutters to be used for cable lines and parachute cutters (or equivalent) for material lines. Cutters to be compulsory for Bikejoring from 1st April 2017.</p> <p>Clauses 75.2.6 (Bikejoring), 76.2.8 (Scooter), 77.2.4.8 (Rig) – handle bar plugs are recommended and become compulsory from 1st April 2017.</p> <p>Clause 77.3.4 – Dogs may now be transported on Rigs if can be performed safely. Rig Bags can be used if they are ventilated and dog's head is not covered.</p> <p>Appendix D.II.3 Distances for Dry Land races now become recommended and can be shortened by RGO and or RM based on climatic conditions.</p>	All bar Appendix D.II.3 and Goldseekers amendments passed unanimously at June ASSA meeting. Rig Bag rule was based on feedback received from RGO / Clubs who responded. Goldseekers passed by email on 23 rd June 2016 and D.II.3 passed via email on 30JUN16.



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			Attachment 2 – Goldseekers RGO amendments.	
1.12	07OCT16 24MAR17	Todd McGuire Darren Scragg	<p>Included new Helmet Rule to ensure compliance with up to date Australian Standards. Reference is updated within document.</p> <p>Definitions – changed Age and Nordic breed definitions consistent with IFSS rules.</p> <p>General Provisions – inserted new sub clause 1.1.1 to formalize RGO's ability to host other classes such as Novice and Touring etc.</p> <p>Drivers – introduced new clause 2.4 which states a competitor cannot run in Juniors and Seniors at same event.</p> <p>Dogs – Clause 3.4 - changed eligibility of 5 teams for IFSS World Cup consistent with IFSS rules.</p> <p>Dogs - clause 3.5 – changed minimum of age of dogs to 12 months for all classes.</p> <p>Annex B. Temperatures – redrafted temperature rules and introduced Apparent Temperature chart to accurately measure the relationship between actual temp and relative humidity (refer Appendix 1.) Temp rules are stricter than IFSS.</p> <p>Attachment 1 – SASDC race rule amendments.</p> <p>Changed term Nordic style to Ski-Dogs and Nome Style to Sled consistent with IFSS terminology.</p> <p>Attachment 2 – Goldseekers additional rule amendments.</p>	Approved by email unanimously by ASSA Committee on 17 th May 2017. (Followed consultation process with RGOs.)
1.13	27MAR2018	David Dyer	<p>Drivers – introduced new clause 2.4.1 replacing old rule 2.4.1 which states a competitor can run in Juniors and Seniors at same event with proper permissions.</p> <p>Drivers – introduced new clause 2.4.2 stating that there must be a Guardian present when discussing issues with a junior</p>	Approved unanimously Committee on 27th Feb 2017.
1.14	29/07/2018	David Dyer	Drivers - 2.3.1.4. altered to remove specific ages to allow clubs to make decisions on Juniors capability.	Approved -Majority Committee 29/07/2018



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DEFINITIONS

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 31st December following the end of the racing season. The age of a dog is the age it reaches on the first day of the competition of the specific race it is entered into.

CHECK POINT: A clearly defined and marked area adjacent to the trail, where drivers and officials only are admitted.

CONTROL AREA: A specially defined area before the start and after the finish where only authorized persons are allowed, unless otherwise authorized by the Race Marshal.

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.

FINISH ZONE: A specified stretch of the trail toward the finish line, minimum 800 meters, where special rules for passing apply (see clause 89 for Ski-Dogs and Canicross).

FRIVOLOUS: Not serious or sensible in content, attitude or behaviour.

GUIDELINES: A rule or set of rules which are not mandatory but highly recommended.

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.

MALICIOUS: Motivated by wrongful, vicious or mischievous purposes.

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(if present) 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.

REGISTERED NORDIC BREED (RNB): Dogs of the acknowledged sleddog-breeds (Siberian Husky, Alaskan Malamute, Samoyed, Greenland-Dog that hold a document/pedigree that was issued by one of the following breeding associations: F.C.I. (Fédération Cynologique Internationale), CKC (Canadian Kennel Club), AKC (American Kennel Club) or KC (British Kennel Club), ANKC (Australian National Kennel Council).

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 favour of the wellbeing of the dogs.



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SLED / RIG / SCOOTER: The vehicle driven by the contestant and pulled by his/her dog team during the competition, also includes a pulka when appropriate.

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.

STAKE-OUT AREA: A specially defined area where dogs of participating teams shall be kept when not competing.

STARTING CHUTE: A specified stretch of the trail from the starting line, minimum 30 meters long and 3 meters wide, where help is allowed.

TECHNICAL ORGANIZER: A body which, upon an agreement and in close co-operation with the organizer, has assumed responsibility.

VEHICLE HOLDING AREA: A specially defined.

VEXATIOUS: Instituted without sufficient grounds, especially as to cause annoyance to the defendant.

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)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 These rules serve as a minimum standard. RGOs (affiliated clubs) may change the rules to suit their specific requirements so as long as those changes do not have adverse effects on health, safety and welfare on dogs, drivers and handlers. Please submit your amendments for consideration and notation by ASSA. Amendments will be marked as Annexure 1, 2 and so on at the rear of the main document (under attachments) so as to make RGO specific amendments available to the wider community. In the event of a dispute over a rule change (between Council and RGO), independent adjudication can be setup no rule or rule change can take precedence over laws of the land (National or State laws) and in the case where health, safety and welfare on dogs, drivers and handlers is called in to question a health professional (Vet, or medical professional as appropriate) must be included.

1.1.1 Further to the classes defined within these rules, RGOs at their discretion may host Novice, Touring, Veteran (dog), Puppy and PeeWee, Junior Challenge classes as well as 100m dash / sprint events. ASSA will not recognise these classes for the purposes of Point Score and as such RGOs are permitted to define their own entry and eligibility criteria so as long as the equipment and safety related rules within this document are applied. Clubs should seek Vet advice in relation to a puppy's age and eligibility to run in puppy classes.

1.2 The definitions and descriptions in this Rule shall also apply for other ASSA Regulations, when appropriate.

1.3 In this Rule and other ASSA 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.



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I. ENTRY RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1. Entries

- 1.1.1. The race shall be open to entries from members of all ASSA members. Organizers are entitled to open their races to drivers from non-ASSA affiliated RGOs if they feel it to be benefiting the sports and/or ASSA. Participants to the IFSS World Championships shall be nominated ASSA.
- 1.1.2. The organization may reject any entry for just cause.
- 1.1.3. An entry for a race shall be submitted prior to the start of the race, subject to entry deadlines as determined by the organization.
- 1.1.4. Liability insurance is mandatory for drivers and handlers covering the risks of sled dog racing and all consequences.
- 1.1.5. 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.
- 1.1.6. A driver who is a person with a disability shall be encouraged to participate. However their participation shall not hinder or endanger other competitors or dogs, including the person with a disability dog(s) of the competitor. The RM shall decide on possible participation of the driver and, if required, a helper, and always inspect the equipment. The overall safety for the driver who is a person with a disability and his/her dog(s) shall prevail. If the RM feels that it would benefit the driver who is a person with a disability and the total race to start the person with a disability's 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.
- 1.1.7. Note: It is also possible to start the person with a disability's 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 driver who is a person with a disability 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.

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.
- 1.2.3. In the event of a claim against the organization the claimant is responsible for payment of the Insurance excess.



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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 remainder of 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: 10 to and including 16 years.
 - 2.3.1.3. Peewee mushers aged 0 - 8 years are uninsured competitors and must run assisted by a guardian. Peewee mushers 8 - 10 may run assisted by an adult or unassisted.
 - 2.3.1.4. A junior may run in the senior class subject to the approval of the Race Marshall, RGO and parent's consent. The ASSA junior approval form must be completed for each event.
 - 2.3.1.5. The final decision as to the capability or suitability of a Junior to run in this class, is that of the Race Marshall. The Race Marshall must discuss the entry with the Juniors guardian, the RGO and or in consultation with the Junior mushers diary.
 - 2.3.2. In Ski-Dogs sprint events, the minimum and maximum ages shall be:
 - 2.3.2.1. Senior classes: 18 years and above
 - 2.3.2.2. Junior classes: 16 and 17 years
 - 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. A Junior competitor may run in both junior and senior classes during the same event with the permission of both the Race Marshal and the RGO, and by agreement with the guardian. Note it cannot be with the same dog.
 - 2.4.1. For a junior to move up to an open class race the expectations are as follows
 - 2.4.1.2 That the RGO are in agreement and are comfortable that the Junior in question will be safe and able to handle the dog(s) in question, and not be a hindrance to other mushers in the class
 - 2.4.1.2 That the RM is in agreement and are comfortable that the Junior in question will be safe and able to handle the dog(s) in question, and not be a hindrance to other mushers in the class
 - 2.4.1.2 That the Junior has completed a full season in the preceding class without issue before moving up and that they should have this full season entered in their log book for verification by the RGO
This means at least a full season in Junior before moving to 1 dog open, then a full season in 1 dog open before moving to 2 dog open etc.
- 2.5. Any driver disqualified in any heat of the race is not eligible to compete in the remainder of the race.



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- 2.6. 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.
- 2.7. 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.
- 2.8. Drivers shall not hinder- or endanger the welfare of their dogs, the progress of the event or discredit the sled dog sports. Offenders shall be disqualified.
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. At the discretion of the RGO individual breeds may be awarded if deemed appropriate. 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) for the purpose of IFSS World Cup Points.
 - 3.5. Minimum age of the dogs:
 - 3.5.1. Dryland: 12 months in the Rig / Scooter / Bikejoring / Canicross/ Touring/ Novice classes,.
 - 3.5.2. Sled Sprint: 12 months.
 - 3.5.3. Ski Dogs: 12 months.
 - 3.5.4. Distance classes: 12 months.
 - 3.5.4.1. 12 months is considered reached at a dog's 1st birthday.
 - 3.6. Subject to 3.6.1 below, 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 canicross or peewee.
 - 3.6.1 The Race Marshal may disallow a dog to be run in Canicross or Peewee if the Race Marshal has concerns of the health or welfare of that dog following it running in a previous class on that 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 home, kennel or other such dwelling where 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.
 - 4.3. Race veterinarians or qualified veterinary nurse 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.



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- 4.4. 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.
- 4.5. 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: Canine Parvovirus, Distemper and Canine Kennel Cough Complex (bordetella parainfluenza virus, canine adenovirus 2). It is recommended that all dogs should be vaccinated within 12 months (but no greater timeframe than that recommended by the Australian Veterinary Association [AVA]) 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. Vaccination certificate numbers may be requested on entry forms or in subsequent correspondence from the RGO up to 21 days prior to the commencement of that RGO's event.
5. Identification
 - 5.1. In races of more than one heat, each dog may 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
 - 6.2. IFSS Anti-Doping Rules and regulations shall apply. It includes the WADA regulations for athletes and the specific IFSS Regulations for dogs. (see www.sleddogsport.net)
 - 6.3. 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. 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 unless otherwise announced by the Race Marshal.
 - 7.1.2. 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.
 - 7.1.3. When the control is completed, no equipment shall be removed from the sled without the Race Marshals permission, and under supervision of same or of an authorized official.
 - 7.2. A team in harness shall not be required to stand for inspection longer than six (6) minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
 - 7.2.1. Inspection shall take place in an area that does not interfere with starting and finishing teams.
 - 7.2.2. A team shall be available for inspection after each heat at the request of the Race Marshal or the designated Race Judge.
 - 7.3. 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 collar that can be hooked as a full choke shall be prohibited.



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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 1mm height maximum are allowed.

8.5. A muzzle may only be permitted when it is approved by:

8.5.1. The RGO (club) and;

8.5.2. The Race Marshal – who must take into consideration the reason for the use of a muzzle; and

8.5.3. The Race Vet – who must ensure there is no restriction on the dogs ability to breath and keep cool throughout the race. In the event there is no Race Vet present, the use of a muzzle will not be allowed regardless of the approval of the RGO and Race Marshall.

8.5.4. A knowingly aggressive dog will not be allowed to enter the race, whether it be muzzled or not. In such circumstances, the driver should be instructed to seek behavioural correction before entering any further events. This should be noted on the ASSA Race Marshal Report Form (see Appendix 2).

8.5.5. A time in which a muzzle may be appropriate if for a dog returning from a 1st offence, Grade 2 Suspension, or final offence, Grade 3 Suspension as per rule 27, Dog Behaviour.

8.5.5.1. A dog that commits an offence as listed in Rule 27 (Dog Behaviour) that is muzzled, will be subject to the same penalties as if it were not muzzled. (Just to reinforce a muzzle does not preclude a dog from aggression rules.)

8.5.6. An individual dog may only be permitted to be run with a muzzle on 2 individual occasions. Dog names will be registered with the Race Marshal who will submit to ASSA in the Race Marshall report.

8.5.7. Despite sub clauses 8.5.1 – 8.5.6 above, a muzzle will not be permitted where the individual race has been assigned IFSS World Cup accreditation or is an IFSS World or Continental Championship event.

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. RGO's are responsible for their own calculations to determine the cut off time.

II. START-FINISH RULES (See also Annex C)

10. Drawing and Rating

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 Race Marshal or his/her representative may draw the starting position. 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. Seeding is acceptable.

10.3. The order of the draw shall not be changed, however late entries shall be added to the draw at the discretion of the RGO.

10.4. 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 ASSA.

10.5. A class is rated separately only if there are at least three (3) teams starting in the first heat of that class.



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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).

11.4. Rest Time Between Heats of the Same Class

11.4.1. Time between heats of the same class will be at the discretion of the Race Marshal and Race Vet but there must be a minimum time period of 6 hours. For clarity the minimum 6 hour period is the time between the end of the first heat (time of the last team to finish) and start of next heat.

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 and / or awards 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.

14.2.2. 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.

14.2.3. 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.

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

14.2.5. 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.



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

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

14.2.8. Starting order is given in the following way:

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

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

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

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

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

14.2.10. 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.

14.2.11. Mass start is not recommended in bikejoring, scooter and rig classes because of the potential risks for dogs and drivers by the equipment and moving parts / wheels.

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 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.

15.1.2. 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 clause 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.

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.

15.4.1.1. The late starting team's original scheduled starting time will not commence as per the starting order.

15.4.1.2. The late team's new start time will commence once they have started at the end of the field. However, they will receive a penalty of 30 seconds per every kilometer (rounded to the nearest half kilometer) of the race distance. For example a 2km race will result in 1 minute penalty for a late starter (2km x 30 seconds). A 6.6km race will result in a 3.5 minute penalty (6.5km [roundest to nearest half km] x 30 seconds)

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



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- 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.
- 15.5 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.
- 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 front wheel (for scooter, rig or Bikejöring class) or person (for canicross class) crosses the finish line. The dog must finish ahead of the scooter, rig or bicycle.
 - 18.2. 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.
 - 18.3. If a loose team crosses the finish line ahead of its driver, that team shall have finished when the driver reaches the finish line.
 - 18.4. When a dual starting chute is used as a finishing chute, a team may return on either trail.
 - 18.5. The team with the fastest total time of its class shall be declared the winner of that class.
 - 18.6. In case of equal timing whatever the positions of the dogs are the two competitors are tie.
 - 18.7. Finishing zone, where the "no right of way" applies, shall be 500 meters long (150 m for Ski-Dogs classes and Canicross).

III. TRAIL RULES (see also Annex D and E)

- 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.
 - 19.2.1. When returning to the trail, the driver should do so by the shortest possible path.
 - 19.2.2. Should the team that is returning to the trail do so at the same another team is at the same point, then the team returning to the trail should not impede the other team and give them right of way.
- 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



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- 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. Only in case of a loose team or a team which is in clear and present danger to itself, to other teams or to persons, are officials and spectators allowed to take immediate action to secure the safety of the team. In all other cases, officials shall only act upon request of the driver for assistance, which is limited to controlling the dog(s) or to hold the sled/rig. The driver shall stop the team, clearly indicate which assistance is requested, and behave properly towards the officials.
- 21.2. Drivers running in the same heat may assist each other in any manner authorized by the Race Marshal.
- 21.3. No one shall assist a team by wilfully 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 where safe to do so.
- 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 sled/gig/scooter of the overtaken team.
- 24.2. The overtaken team driver shall make way for the passing team by steering the sled/gig/scooter 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 should be seen as a last resort and should only be requested to avoid dog aggression.
- 24.2.1. Should there be aggression on the trail it must be reported.



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- 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. This rule does not apply to Canicross and Bikejoring 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 Classes involving three (3) dogs or more, after less than one (1) minute or 400 meters.
 - 24.4.2. in classes involving two(2) dogs or less, after no less than 30 seconds (1/2 minute) or 200 meters.
 - 24.4.3. at any lesser intervals whenever both drivers are in agreement.
 - 24.4.4. Rule 24.4 does not apply to Canicross and Bikejoring classes.
- 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.
 - 24.5.4. For Canicross and Bikejoring holding is not required unless the passing resulted in animal welfare problems or a crash of the driver.
- 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. Responsibilities 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. Drivers must treat all Race Officials, including volunteers such as Track Marshals with respect. Any abuse of such Race Officials will result in a 2 minute time penalty through to disqualification.
- 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.
- 25.3. In principle loose dogs are not allowed at the race area. However, the Race Marshal has the right to waive this rule if he is convinced that it is in the interests of the teams, and that drivers are in full control of their dogs. The latter meaning, that the loose dogs will not bother other dogs, the stakeout area, or equipment of participants or others.
- 25.4. In case the Race Marshal finds reason to waive the rule, he shall discuss the matter with the organizer and, if agreed upon, inform the drivers at the first drivers meeting, along with other possible supplementary regulations.
- 25.5. If a driver or his dog(s) infringes this rule, the driver shall be penalized with, at least, a warning.



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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.

27. Dog Behaviour

In the interests of all competitors, ASSA will provide considered, consistent, fair but effective penalties for offences described in the table below. The offences below may cover many, but not all, incidents that can occur on the trail and may not be all inclusive. However, it is hoped that incidents that are not mentioned can be placed within one of the grades by the Race Marshal and race tribunal and dealt with appropriately.

Grade of Offence	Example of Offence	Penalty
Grade 1	Dog(s) biting / attacking a human with no provocation or extenuating circumstances.	Offending dog(s) disqualified from race and banned for life.
Grade 2	Dog(s) biting / fighting another team. Dog(s) showing excessive aggression to handlers, race officials, or spectators. (This rule does not penalise excessive excitement / accidental contact etc)	<u>First offence:</u> Disqualified from race and suspension of dog(s) from further races until written positive behavioural assessment from a qualified dog behaviourist received by ASSA. <u>Subsequent offence:</u> Disqualified from race and offending dog(s) banned for life.
Grade 3	Dog(s) attempting to bite another team. Dog(s) moving over and aggressively challenging another team.	<u>First Offence:</u> Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time. <u>Second offence:</u> 1 race suspension of offending dog(s). <u>Subsequent offence:</u> Suspension of dog(s) until written positive behavioural assessment from a qualified dog behaviourist received by ASSA
Grade 4	Dog(s) growling at another team / any Human Dog(s) moving over and blocking another team Dog(s) coming back to another team after passing Dog(s) showing excessive aggression to each other within a team	<u>First offence:</u> Warning Driver education Time addition of 30 seconds to 1 minute to heat time <u>Second Offence:</u> Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time <u>Subsequent offence:</u> Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time, plus
Grade 5b	Dog(s) moving over towards another team.	<u>First Offence:</u>



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	<p>Dog(s) slowing to stay with another team when passing.</p> <p>NOTE: This grade applies when the behaviour results in a detrimental race outcome for the affected team.</p>	<p>Warning Driver education</p> <p><u>Second and Subsequent offence:</u> Time addition of 30 seconds to 1 Minute to heat time</p>
Grade 5a	<p>Dog(s) moving over towards another team.</p> <p>Dog(s) slowing to stay with another team when passing.</p> <p>NOTE: This grade applies when the behaviour does not results in a detrimental race outcome for the affected team.</p>	<p><u>All Offences:</u> Warning Driver education</p>

V. RULES VIOLATIONS (see also Annex A)

28. Reports by Race Officials

- 28.1. Race officials shall report 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 (See Appendix 1 – Protest Form), given to the Race Marshal in principle within one (1) hour of the completion of the concerned heats.
- 28.2. 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.
- 28.3. When a Rules Enforcing Officer finds that a rules violation has occurred, s/he shall impose a penal reaction and report the incident to the RM who may also request a “hearing”.

29. Reports by Race Contestants

- 29.1. 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.
- 29.2. All verbal reports shall be followed with a written report (see example of a protest form in appendix 1), given to the Race Marshal within one (1) hour of the completion of the participant’s heat in which the alleged violation occurred.

30. Protests and Hearings

- 30.1. 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.
- 30.2. Said hearing shall be conducted by the Race Marshal.
- 30.3. Contestants subject to a penal reaction from any Rules Enforcing Officer may appeal, i.e. request a hearing before the Race Jury.

31. Disciplinary Action.

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



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- 31.2. No other disciplinary action shall be imposed, unless specifically defined in the Race Rules or Race Procedures.
- 31.3. Decisions shall be announced as promptly as practical but no later than four (4) hours prior to the start of any ensuing heat(s).
- 31.4. Any disciplinary action following the final heat of the race shall be acted upon prior to the awards ceremony.
- 31.5. 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.
- 31.6. 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.
- 32. 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.
- 33. Appeals Jury at World Championships
 - 33.1. 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.
 - 33.2. 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.
 - 33.2.1. If two IFSS officials are appointed, then three team leaders will be elected.
 - 33.2.2. If only one IFSS official is appointed, then only two national team leaders will be elected.
 - 33.2.3. 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.
 - 33.2.4. 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.
 - 33.2.5. The President shall designate which IFSS official is to serve as the chair of the Appeals Jury.
 - 33.3. 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.
- 34. Appeals Jury at events other than World Championships
 - 34.1. 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.
- 35. Appeals Jury investigation and decision
 - 35.1. The jury shall conduct a new and independent investigation into the allegations.
 - 35.2. 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.



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

VI. ANIMAL WELFARE RULES

36. 36. Supplementary to the various animal welfare measures as per the rules and procedures, the following rules apply:

36.1. All drivers shall guarantee- and be responsible for- the welfare of their dogs

36.2. Rule offences shall be corrected immediately, with the race rule 26.1 being decisive (dog abuse = disqualification). RGOs and RMs shall not hesitate to report serious offenders to a higher level.

37. Means of transportation.

37.1. All means of transportation for dogs shall guarantee protection against the weather (temperature, wind, rain etc.) as well as against exhaust gasses.

37.2. In case of the transport of one or two dogs without a box, the dogs shall never be transported loose and never be fastened via a line to the collar. For the safety of dogs always dog boxes are to be preferred.

37.3. A sufficient supply of fresh air and a good air circulation shall be present.

38. Dog Boxes

38.1. In case of more than 2 dogs, the animals shall be transported in boxes. These shall be well- and safely constructed, preventing escape and / or injury of the dogs

38.2. Since dogs vary in size, the dimensions of the boxes are not strictly laid down. However for safety reasons boxes shall be neither too small nor too large. The box shall be large enough for the dog(s) to stretch out, stand up, turn around and to curl up.

38.3. In case countries do have official, specific regulations for dog boxes, the RGO shall, in case of an international event, publish the eventual deviating regulations in the race invitation.

38.4. The boxes shall be clean and dry. If hay or straw is used it shall be fresh. If other material is used it shall be as such as it cannot harm the dogs.

38.5. Inside the boxes, the dogs shall not be chained.

38.6. Dogs in their boxes shall never be unattended for a long period. If the driver / handler for some reason cannot meet this requirement, he / she shall make arrangements with somebody else (and leave a key)

39. 39. Stake-outs etc.

39.1. Stake out chains / cables, drop chains / cables and other tie on means shall be so constructed that comfort and some freedom of movement is guaranteed. It shall be possible for the individual dog to lie down.

39.2. The chain / cable at which the dog is fastened shall never be such long that they could create dangerous situations for the dogs like tangling with another dog or even suffocation.

39.3. All material shall be in good condition preventing possible injury. The ends of cable lines shall be wrapped to prevent injury because of unravelling of the ends.

39.4. Dogs at stake outs or on drop-out chains shall be attended.

39.5. Drivers / handlers shall keep the stake out / parking area clean, leave no food and dispose of the dog droppings or other waste in containers available for that purpose. If no such containers are foreseen, one should take the garbage for disposal at another suitable place not disturbing other persons.



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CHAPTER TWO

SPECIAL RULES FOR SLED SPRINT AND DISTANCE CLASSES – NA (Refer to IFSS Rules)

CHAPTER THREE

SPECIAL RULES FOR SKI DOGS– NA (Refer to IFSS Rules)

CHAPTER FOUR

SPECIAL RULES FOR DRYLAND STYLE

I. ENTRY RULES

73. Entry Rule

- 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. Bikejoring
 - 73.1.3. 1 and 2-dog Scooter,
 - 73.1.4. 3-, 4-, 6-, 8-dog Rig
 - 73.1.5. Relay in canicross and/or bikejoring.
- 73.2. In multiple dog class for races over two or more stages, the drivers may reduce their team if necessary within the limits defined in clause 77 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 (DCJ1) for competitors from 14 until and including 16 years of age.
- 74.1.2. Relay competitions with teams for competitors from 14 years of age.
- 74.1.3. Children classes with competitors being younger than per 74.1.1 above may also be held. Competitors may compete in this class from ages 10 – 14 years of age but must be granted permission by the race marshal, race giving organisation and junior's parent/legal guardian. These people must consider the ability of the competitor to compete in the class safely as well as the competitor's capability to safely control / handle the dog before permission is granted to compete.



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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). Any form of metal hook or ring that is used at either end of the snub line, or that connects to the belt which are considered dangerous by the Race Marshall (e.g. one which has a sharp or pointy end or may not be strong enough) will not be permitted. A load rated Carabiner or similar is recommended. The recommended expanded snub line shouldn't be less than 2 meters and shouldn't exceed 3 meters in length. The RM or RGO may disallow the use of Snub Line / shock absorber which are deemed to be unsafe 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 clause 18, Chapter 1.

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 adult (DBA) for competitors from 16 years of age and older (Note 1).

75.1.2. Bikejöring junior (DBJ) for competitors from 10 - 16 years of age (Note 1). However, competitors for this age bracket must be granted permission by the race marshal, race giving organisation and junior's parent/legal guardian. These people must consider the ability of the competitor to compete in the class safely as well as the competitor's capability to safely control / handle the dog before permission is granted to compete.

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 which is recommended 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. The RM or RGO may disallow the use of Snub Line / shock absorber which are deemed to be unsafe in length.

75.2.2. The bicycle shall be equipped with efficient braking.

75.2.3. All drivers must wear a helmet as described in Annex F. Wearing gloves is recommended.



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75.2.4. From 1st April 2017, a device must be carried that are suitable to cut through the lines that you are using. Side cutters must be carried for cable lines and Parachute cutters (or equivalent for) material / poly lines. Open knife blades will not be permitted from 1st April 2017.

75.2.5. Studded tires are not allowed on bikes.

75.2.6. It is recommended that Handlebars on Bicycles be plugged. Plugged handlebars will become compulsory from 1st April 2017.

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 clause 18, Chapter 1.

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 10-16 years, and Scooter one dog (DS1) for competitors

16 years and older subject to sub clause 2.3.1.4. (Note 1).

76.1.2. Scooter 2 dogs (DS2) for competitors 16 years and older (Note 1).

76.1.3. A Scooter team consists of a driver riding a two-wheeled scooter-type vehicle pulled by one or two dogs.

76.1.4. Bicycles without pedal mechanisms and bicycles with the pedal mechanisms blocked will be allowed.

76.1.5. 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 which is recommended not less than 1.8 meters expanded and not exceeding 2.1 meters in length expanded in front of the scooter. The RM or RGO may disallow the use of Snub Line / shock absorber which are deemed to be unsafe in length.

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 the rear wheel and it is recommended that a brake be fitted to the front.

76.2.4. The minimum wheel diameter shall be 40 cm (16 inches).



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76.2.5. A device must be carried that are suitable to cut through the lines that you are using. Side cutters must be carried for cable lines and Parachute cutters (or equivalent for) material / poly lines. Open knife blades will not be permitted from 1st April 2017.

76.2.6. All drivers must wear a helmet as described in Annex F. Wearing gloves is recommended.

76.2.7. Studded tires are not allowed on scooters.

76.2.8. It is recommended that Handlebars on Scooters be plugged. Plugged handlebars will become compulsory from 1st April 2017.

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. It is expected that the team being overtaken will take all measures necessary, including stopping to prevent impeding the passing team.

76.3.5. Finish rules: See clause 18, Chapter 1.

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. 3-Dog rig (DR3): A limited Three-Dog rig shall consist of not more than three (3) dogs and not less than two (2) dogs for competitors from 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. Shock absorbers suitable for the size of the team are recommended but not compulsory.

77.2.3. In Rig classes the rig may have either three (3) or four (4) wheels. The minimum wheels diameter shall be 16 inches (40 cm).

77.2.4. All rigs shall be equipped with:

77.2.4.1. An efficient brake on the back wheels. Having brakes in the front wheels is recommended.

77.2.4.2. A locking brake (handbrake) which can be blocked.

77.2.4.3. Sufficient drop chains or cables to tether dogs at the dropping check points.



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77.2.4.4. A snub line must be carried that is of sufficient length to secure the rig in the event of injury or equipment failure.

77.2.4.5. A device must be carried that are suitable to cut through the lines that you are using. Side cutters must be carried for cable lines and Parachute cutters (or equivalent for) material / poly lines. Open knife blades will not be permitted from 1st April 2017.

77.2.4.6. All drivers must wear a helmet as described in Annex F. Wearing gloves is recommended (Note 2).

77.2.4.7. Studded tires are not allowed on rigs.

77.2.4.8. It is recommended that Handlebars on Rigs be plugged. Plugged handlebars will become compulsory from 1st April 2017.

77.2.5. The following weights are recommended as weights for rigs:

3-Dog class: 25 kg

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 unless guiding the team through an obstacle or to lead the team back on to the trail.

77.3.4. Dog drop check points may 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, unless the dog can be safely transported in the Rig. For this reason it is mandatory to carry a snub line in all Rig classes. A Rig Bag can be used to transport a dog, but the bag must be ventilated and the dog's head must not be covered.

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. clause 23 of Chapter One, III Trail Rules applies.

77.3.6. Finish rules: See clause 18, Chapter 1.

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.



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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.

78.7.3.2. 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.

78.7.3.3. 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.



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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.

78.9.1. 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 Annex DII.

VIII. TEMPERATURES

80. Temperatures: See Annex B.

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 open classes.



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ANNEXS

A. RULES ENFORCEMENT

A.I. Rules Enforcing Officers

1. Race Marshals and Race Judges are the Rules Enforcing Officers at an event. Rules Enforcing Officers shall be appointed and exercise their assignments according to the ASSA Officials Regulations.
 - 1.2. Race Marshals must submit a General Race Report following within 7 days to ASSA after each ASSA National Point Score Race. A copy of the General Race Report can found at Appendix 2.
2. Where available a Race Judge should have an IFSS Race Judge License but shall have at least a Race Judge License from an IFSS recognized body.
3. Race Judges shall be appointed by the Race Marshal. 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.
4. All Race Judges shall have the full authority to enforce all Race Regulations, within the prescribed limits.
5. References to the Race Marshal in ASSA Regulations also apply for Race Judges, when appropriate.
6. A Race Judge may delegate parts of his/her authority to designated officials, except the authority to impose penal measures.

A.II. Race Jury and Appeals Jury (see also Race Rules 27 through 34)

1. The Race Judges or RGO shall constitute the Race Jury of the event. The Race Marshal shall be the Race Jury's chairperson.
2. The Race Jury shall be summoned by its chairperson.
 - 2.1. when requested by one of its members,
 - 2.2. for a hearing,
 - 2.3. for reviewing a rules violation which might lead to a disqualification.
3. The Race Jury decides whether its deliberations shall be held in a closed session or not.
4. 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.
 - 4.1. 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.

A.III. Penal Measures

1. The penal measure for any violation of the ASSA Race Rules shall either be a reprimand, a warning, disqualification or a time penalty whenever specifically provided for in the ASSA Race Rules.
2. 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.



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3. 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.
4. If the violated race regulation does not mandate any unconditional reaction, the choice of penal measures shall be made according to the following:
 - 4.1. *Reprimand*: for a minor rules infraction with no consequences for any participant, and being the contestant's first offence in the event.
 - 4.2. *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.
 - 4.3. *Disqualification*:
 - 4.3.1. 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,
 - 4.3.2. in case of a recurrence, when the contestant has already been given a warning or reprimand for the same or similar offence,
 - 4.3.3. in case of repeated offenses, showing that the contestant is not capable of, or willing to, pay heed to the race regulations.
 - 4.3.4. in case of dog abuse with or without implement.
 - 4.3.5. 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.
5. Other Penal Procedures
 - 5.1. The violator shall be given a short written notice. A reprimand may be verbal.
 - 5.2. Contestants subject to a penal reaction from any Rules Enforcing Officer may appeal, i.e. request a hearing before the Race Jury.
 - 5.3. Contestants subject to a disqualification from the Race Jury may appeal, i.e. request a hearing before the Appeals Jury.

A.IV. Determination of Complaint

1. Complaints will be determined based on the Balance of Probabilities. That is, for a complaint to be upheld it needs to be found on balance that the allegation is more likely to have occurred than had not occurred.
2. As such the Race Marshal needs to examine the evidence (such as complaint made, response to complaint, witness statements, video footage etc.) to determine if on balance the allegation can be proven.
3. There can be three (3) possible outcomes to an allegation:
 - 3.1 The allegation is proven – as such penal measures or other action as listed in the rules will be applied.
 - 3.2 The allegation is proven not to have occurred – no further action required however, the Race Marshal may need ensure the complaint was not frivolous or vexatious.
 - 3.2.1 If an allegation is determined to be either malicious, frivolous or vexatious, then the person who raised such a complaint will receive the same penalty as the complaint type being made. For example, if the original allegation was a of Grade 1 nature as per clause 27 and the complaint was found to be malicious, then the driver making the complaint will receive the Grade 1 penalty. This does not apply in circumstances where a complaint cannot be substantiated. (Refer to Definitions for meaning of malicious, frivolous or vexatious.)



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- 3.3 The allegation cannot be substantiated (that is the evidence can neither prove or disprove the allegation occurred) – no further action other than the incident is recorded.
4. Complaints must be made in writing (refer to rules 27 and 28).
5. The respondent driver to the complaint has a right to respond to the complaint. They may also bring a support person to any hearing. However, the support person is not to act an advocate for the driver.

B. TEMPERATURES

B.1. Temperatures at Dryland races – Guidelines

1. At dryland races there shall be a thermometer and a hygrometer in the starting area. They shall be easily visible and placed in the shade, at 50 centimeters (20 inches) above ground level.
2. The minimum and maximum temperatures and humidity shall be noted during the entire race.
3. Humidity effects actual temperature and the relationship between these two variables will be measured by Apparent Temperature. RGOs must use the Apparent Temperature Chart (in Appendix 1):
4. Given the minima and maxima, trail conditions and local circumstances these rules and Apparent Temperature Chart must be used to make decisions by the race giving organization and the race marshal for the well-being of the dogs.

4.1. Scooter and Rig Classes

- 4.1.1. Dogs shall not be harnessed when the actual temperature exceeds 15°C or at or above 15°C apparent temperature as per the red shaded area of the Rig / Scooter section of the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.1.2. It is recommended that distances are shortened when apparent temperature reaches between 10 – 14.5°C as per the yellow shaded area of the Rig / Scooter section of the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.1.3. Full distances are recommended for all temperatures within the green shaded area of the Rig / Scooter section on the Apparent temperature chart.

4.2. Bikejoring Class

- 4.2.1. Dogs shall not be harnessed when the actual temperature exceeds 18°C or at or above 18°C apparent temperature as per the red shaded area of the Canicross section of the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.2.2. It is recommended that distances are shortened when apparent temperature reaches between 15 – 17.5°C as per the yellow shaded area of the Bikejoring section of the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.2.3. Full distances are recommended for all temperatures within the green shaded area of the Bikejoring section on the Apparent temperature chart.

4.3. Canicross Class

- 4.3.1. Dogs shall not be harnessed when the actual temperature exceeds 22°C or at or above 22°C apparent temperature as per the red shaded area of the Canicross section on the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.3.2. It is recommended that distances are shortened when apparent temperature reaches between 18 – 21.5°C as per the yellow shaded area of the Canicross section of the Apparent temperature chart.
- 4.3.3. Full distances are recommended for all temperatures within the green shaded area of the Canicross section of the Apparent temperature chart.



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- 4.4. 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 favouring the sports, even if the maximum temperatures and or apparent temperatures etc above are not reached.

B.II. Temperatures at snow races – Guidelines

1. 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.

C. START AND FINISH RULES

C.I. Identification

1. In a race of more than one heat, each dog may 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.
2. If marking occurs 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.
3. The contestants themselves are responsible for seeing to it that their team dogs are marked as prescribed prior to the start of the race.

C.II. Starting Intervals

1. The starting intervals should be:
 - 1.1. one half (.) or one (1) minute in Nordic classes, canicross, bikejoring.
 - 1.2. one (1) or two (2) minutes in limited classes involving eight dogs or less, Scooter 1 and 2 dogs.
 - 1.3. two (2) or three (3) minutes in classes involving ten dogs or more.
 - 1.4. starting intervals can be used between 15 seconds and 5 minutes depending on requirements
2. Interval Options
 - 2.1. The organizer may decide to use the longer starting interval in the first heat, and the shorter interval in the ensuing heat(s).
 - 2.2. At the option of the race-giving organization, the drivers may all start at the same time (mass start).
3. 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.

C.III. Relays

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. In relay events, Number 1 shall start in the centre 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.
4. 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



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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.

5. 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).
6. 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.

C.IV. World Cup Rating

1. A class is rated as a qualifying class only if there are at least five (5) teams starting in the first heat of that class.

C.V. Final Positions

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

D. THE TRAIL

D.I. Trail requirements

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Trails shall, to the optimal extent possible, be broadly constructed to facilitate passing.
4. There should be sufficient space between the lanes so that teams are unable to distract each other.
5. Trails should be shielded from parking lots and parked cars.
6. 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;
7. In Sled Sprint Races, the trail shall be designed so that speed is prioritized in every way.
8. The Starting Chute shall be at least 30 meters long and be so organized that a team can be entirely removed from the trail.
9. The Finishing Zone shall be at least 500 meters long (150 m for Ski-Dogs classes and Canicross), wide enough for passing and with no sharp turns.
10. The starting and finish lines shall be clearly defined.
11. Trails for Ski-Dogs shall, whenever possible, be different from that of Sled.
12. Ski-Dogs 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.
13. In Dryland races, watering points may be provided at least every 3 km along the trails, so that the dogs may be watered and cooled.



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14. Distance races.

- 14.1. 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
- 14.2. The organizer and RM shall, without unnecessary delay, inform all drivers of decisions, and reasons for same, made according to 14.1.
- 14.3. Mandatory stops
 - 14.3.1. Races with a total distance of 20 to 70 km shall at least have a total of 3 hrs mandatory stops, to be distributed at the local organizer’s discretion.
 - 14.3.2. Races with a total distance of more than 70 km shall at least have a total of 6 hrs mandatory stops, to be distributed at the local organizer’s discretion.

D.II. Trail distances

1. Sled **Sprint and Ski-Dogs Races.**

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 **Minimum Trail Distances:**
 - Unlimited Class:** 8 km
 - Eight/Ten-Dog Class:** 6 km
 - Six-Dog Class:** 4 km
 - Four-Dog Class:** 3 km
 - Ski-Dogs:** 2km
 - Relays:** Each heat: a minimum of 2km.
- 1.3 If special circumstances dictate that the length of the trail be decreased, the decrease shall never be more than 25% in any class.

2. **Distance**

**Races For all
classes:**

Mid-Distance: Between 20 and 70km

Long-Distance: More than 70km

- 3. **Recommended Distances Dryland races (per heat or stage):** - An RGO or Race Marshall may set distances shorter than the recommended distances or reduce distances (that may have been previously advised for an event) subject to climatic conditions, track availability etc.
 - 3.1 Canicross seniors and veterans: minimum 2 km, maximum 8 km
 - 3.2 Canicross juniors: minimum 1 km, maximum 4 km
 - 3.3 Relay (each leg): minimum 0.5 km, maximum 4 km
 - 3.4 1/2-dog Bikejoring class: minimum of 2 km, maximum of 8 km
 - 3.5 1-dog Scooter class: minimum of 2 km, maximum of 5 km
 - 3.6 2-dog Scooter class: minimum of 3 km, maximum of 8 km
 - 3.7 3-dog Rig class: minimum of 3 km, maximum of 8 km



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- 3.8 4-dog Rig class: minimum of 5 km, maximum of 10 km
- 3.9 6-dog Rig class: minimum of 5 km, maximum of 10 km
- 3.10 8-dog Rig class: minimum of 6 km, maximum of 12 km

D.III. Check points and rest stops

1. Camps and rest stops

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 Check-points, camps and rest stops shall be cleaned and tidied up before departure.

2. Check-points

- 2.1 Drivers shall report at check-points before proceeding.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 Dropped dogs
 - 2.3.1 Dogs taken out of the team shall only be dropped at designated check-points.
 - 2.3.2 Dropped dogs shall be tagged with:
 - The driver's name and bib number.
 - The reason for dropping the dog
 - 2.3.3 Dropped dogs shall be leashed with a chain, or similar, until they are picked up.
- 2.4
 - 2.4.1 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 dogs.
 - 2.4.2 The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian may detain a team deemed temporarily unfit to proceed.
 - 2.4.3 The Race Marshal, an authorized official or race veterinarian may remove a team or dogs deemed unfit to complete the competition.
- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 Offers for accommodation/assistance, et cetera, for dogs and drivers at check-points shall be identical for all participants.
- 2.7 Supplies
 - 2.7.1 At the option of the organizer, participants may, before the race, leave supplies at check-points.
 - 2.7.2 The organizer determines at which check-points supplies may be deposited, and the routines for same.
 - 2.7.3 The above provisions do not have any effects on the requirements for mandatory equipment to be carried on the sled.



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- 2.7.4 A race may require different mandatory equipment. This shall be listed in special rules for the race.

E. TRAIL MARKING

E.I. General

1. 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.
2. All Trail Markers shall be at least 25 cm in diameter or length per side.
3. Only one side of the sign shall be coloured to indicate the proper direction of travel.
4. Trail markers shall be placed about one (1) meter beyond the edge of the trail, and from 100 to 160 cm above the surface of the trail.
5. All markers shall be visible as far ahead as practical and at least 30m.
6. 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) in the centre of the marker. Where applicable 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.
7. 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.
8. Markers shall not be so placed, or made of such a material, that they might constitute a danger for dogs or drivers.

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

1. Red Markers shall be used at all intersections and crossings involving turns. The markers shall be placed 5 to 20m meters ahead of the point in question at the same side of the trail as to which the teams shall turn.
2. The same procedure shall also be applied for all blind turns on the trail.

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

1. Blue markers may be placed on either side of the trail.
2. Blue markers used to indicate the correct trail after a crossing or turn shall be placed about 10 to 20m beyond, and should be visible when approaching, the point in question.
3. Blue markers **shall** be used:
 - 3.1 at intersections or crossings when the trail is going straight through. The sign shall be placed about 10 to 20 meters ahead of the intersection.
 - 3.2 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.
4. Blue markers **should** be used:
 - 4.1 beyond all intersections, turns or blind corners, which are marked with a red marker.



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- 4.2 every full kilometer along the entire trail. At least every five (5) kilometres they should be marked with the elapsed or remaining distance.

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

1. 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 10 to 20 meters ahead of the caution area.
2. 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.
3. All yellow markers shall be presented and explained at the drivers Meeting and they shall be indicated on the trail map.

E.V. Alternate trail markers

1. Alternate trail markers may be used i.e. 5 markers corner method. Should an alternate method be used it must be demonstrated at the drivers meeting prior to commencement of the race.

E.VI. Other Markers

1. The end of the Starting Chute shall be indicated by markers on both sides of the trail.
2. A white marker shall be placed at the start of the Finishing Chute with the distance remaining (usually 150 m for Ski-Dogs classes and Canicross and 500 m for all other classes before the finish line) to indicate the beginning of the "No-right-of-way" zone.
3. 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.
4. Marking for night heats. In addition to the trail marking described above, each marker should be equipped with light-reflecting material (minimum 25 cm²).

E.VII. Trail Blocking.

1. At trail crossings considered so difficult that even good teams may have problems, blockings shall be used in addition to marking.
2. A blocking shall appear as a physical hindrance for the dogs but shall not constitute any danger for dogs, drivers or equipment.
3. 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.
4. The presence of a blocking or a Trail Steward does not allow for ordinary marking to be omitted.

E.VIII. Trail Closed.

1. Trail Closed sign must be displayed indicating that the official race period has closed and that by entering onto the trail you do so at your own risk without liability to the RGO or ASSA.
 - 1.1 This may be because the RGO has decided that the trail is dangerous
 - 1.2 It may be because the RGO has ceased racing due to high temperatures.
 - 1.3 It should be noted that there may not be a vet present at this time.

F. HELMETS



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1. All drivers must wear a properly secured helmet, complying with at least one of the standards listed below, at all times during competition or training at any event held by ASSA or an ASSA Affiliated club. The helmet must have the required standards sticker or marking on the inside of the helmet.

Note: Cycling helmets and snow sports helmets have different standards, and there is no Australian standard for snow sports helmets, so ensure that you have the correct standard for the type of helmet.

2. Standards for Bicycle Helmets:

- 2.1. - DOT / CPSC - American Standard
- 2.2. - SNELL B-90 or SNELL B-95 - Independent foundation
- 2.3. - AS NZS 2063 - Australian & New Zealand standard
- 2.4. - EN1078 - European CEN standard

3. Standards for Snow Sports Helmets:

- 3.1. - ASTM F2040 - American standard for snow sports helmets.
- 3.2. - EN1077 - European CEN standard - can be either Class A or Class B.

4. It is recommended that you change helmets every 5 years.
5. Helmets are considered one use only, if you have an accident or your helmet becomes damaged in any way, it should be discarded immediately and replaced.



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures



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APPENDIX 2: Protest Form (Can be downloaded from: <http://assa.dog/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ASSA-Protest-Form.pdf>)

ASSA Race Protest Form

Name of Competition:		Date of Competition:	
RGO / Club:			
Name:		Bib Number:	
Postal Address:			
City:		Country:	
Phone Number (mobile)		Phone Number (Landline)	
Class:	Indicate (check):		
	Dryland	Sled Sprint	Nordic

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:
--------------	--------------

Signature of Protester:
Signature of Race Marshall:



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

APPENDIX 3: Race Marshall report Form (Can be downloaded from:
<http://assa.dog/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ASSA-Race-Marshall-Report-Form.pdf>)



Race Marshall Report^{*(1)}

Event:

RGO / Club:

Race Site:

Dates of Event:

Time Event Commenced:

Concluded:

Overall Race Effectiveness:

Elements That Went Well:

Areas for Improvement:



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

ATTACHMENTS RGO RACE AMENDMENTS

Attachment One – Amendment for races hosted by the South Australian Sled Dog Club (SASDC)



SASDC AMENDMENTS TO ASSA RACE RULES: For inclusion in SASDC Constitution , November 2013

General:

1): REF: “ELIGIBILITY”: DOGS: 3E:

“ Only Dogs over 12 months of age are eligible to run in Novice, Touring, Bikejoring 1,2,4,and 6 dog class”. “ Only Dogs over 9 months of age are eligible to run in Canicross and PeeWee class”.

“ Only Dogs over 7 years are eligible to run in Veteran 1 and 2 dog class – 75% of Veteran 4 dog class team must be over 7 years old”.

2): REF: “START AND FINISH RULES”: FINISH: 6A:

“A team shall have finished the heat when the front tyre of the vehicle used crosses the finish line”.

3): REF: “TRAIL RULES”: PASSING: 6A:

“When a team’s driver intends to pass another team, the “TRAIL ON YOUR LEFT” or “TRAIL ON YOUR RIGHT” warning must be clearly and loudly communicated to the driver of the team about to be overtaken”.

4) REF: “TRAIL RULES”: PASSING: 6B:

1): “The driver of team being overtaken must acknowledge the warning given by the overtaking driver by steering to opposite side of the track nominated by the passing driver. For example, a “TRAIL ON THE LEFT” warning means the driver of the team being passed should move as far as possible to the right side of the track.”

2): The driver of the team being overtaken is required to slow his/her team to make the passing manoeuvre safer and easier. However, the team being passed is not required to stop his/her team”.



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

Smoking Policy:

Smoking will not be permitted:

- Within 30 metres of start and finish chutes
- Within 30 metres of SASDC official tent
- By track stewards on the track during the running of a heat

Bike-joring:

SASDC Rules to follow those concerning Bike-joring under the International Federation of Sled Dog Sports (IFSS) rules.

Race Progression: (To be run in conjunction with SASDC Temperature Rules:

1: A): If the temperature is above fifteen (15) degrees Celsius, at the drivers meeting factoring in humidity and ASSA guidelines, the race co-ordinator can defer the race start for a maximum of two (2) hours from the advertised time of the drivers meeting.

1: B): If the temperature is not below fifteen (15) degrees Celsius at the conclusion of the two (2) hour period, factoring in humidity and ASSA guidelines, the heat will be declared cancelled.

2: A): If the temperature is below fifteen (15) degrees Celsius at the conclusion of the drivers meeting, racing must commence within twenty (20) minutes.

2: B): The target time between heats will be a maximum of twenty (20) minutes unless:

- There is an emergency situation that needs to be attended to
- There is a vehicle breakdown
- The timekeeper(s) are not ready
- There is a dangerous situation on the track that needs to be repaired
- Extreme weather conditions such as heavy rain, gale force winds, lightening, and so on are experienced within the twenty (20) minute time frame.

2: C): Waiting for colder temperatures is **not** a reason to change the time frame between heats from a maximum of twenty (20) minutes.

2: D): If the twenty (20) minute time frame between heats needs to be exceeded for any of the reasons in Race Progression 2: B), **all** competitors must be made aware of the delay and when the heat will commence.

Veteran Rules:

1): The minimum age for a veteran dog is seven years – Vet vaccination certificate with date of birth will be required to be produced to race officials on day of first leg of race.

- 2): Classes:
- **Veteran 1 Dog** (Runs the novice and junior track).
 - **Veteran 2 Dog** (Runs the Open 1 dog track).
 - **Veteran 4 Dog** (Runs the Open 2 dog track).



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

- 75% of a 4 dog team must be veteran.

3): A): Veteran entrants will start at the rear of the field for the first leg of the race, according to a random bib draw for each veteran class except - Veteran 1 Dog starts before Junior and Novice.

3): B): For the second leg, Veteran entrants will be mixed into the field of Novice, Junior, and 1 Dog Touring according to their First Heat time.

4): The rules governing the veteran races are the ASSA race rules, with the SASDC amendments.

Novice Rules:

- 1: The definition of a novice can be applied to either the driver of the dog.
- 2: When a novice driver places in the top three for the third time, he or she will no longer be eligible to be recognised in the official results, nor to receive prizes such as dog food or ribbons.
- 3: A driver who has placed in the top three for the third time is still eligible to run in the Novice Class, if he or she is happy to compete knowing prizes will not be awarded.

Rules concerning the Race Tribunal and Issue Resolution:

1): For each heat of each race:

- The SASDC race coordinator will appoint a start marshal and race tribunal of three SASDC members avoiding conflicts of interest at all times.
- The names of the start marshal and race tribunal will appear on the race log.
- The start marshal and the members of the race tribunal will not be competitors, related to or partners of any of the competitors participating in events in which they are officiating.

2): Issues can be brought to the attention of the race tribunal by the start marshal, mushers, stewards, committee members, spectators, or club members by lodging an Incident Report Form with the Race Coordinator or Race Marshal – there is no lodgement fee. Forms are available from the Race Coordinator, Race Marshal, and officials at the Club administration tent.

3): Issues must be brought to the attention of the Race Coordinator or Race Marshal on the day the issue or incident occurs.

4): The race tribunal can deal with Issues:

- Only if the incident report form is presented correctly filled out.
- On completion of the day's racing.

5): The Operation of the Race Tribunal:

- The Race Tribunal will hear verbal submissions from the person who lodges the Incident Report Form, the person the incident report is lodged against, and any witnesses to the incident. The Race Coordinator will take notes and guide the tribunal on operational matters only. If a Race Marshal has been appointed, he/she will also be present.



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

- Once the verbal submissions are completed, the Race Tribunal will discuss the submissions with the Race Coordinator (and Race Marshal if applicable) as to the three decisions required:

- Did the incident take place?
- If so, which rule (or rules) was (or were) broken?
- What is the appropriate or applicable penalty?

The Race Coordinator (and Race Marshal) should not influence the Race Tribunal in making its' decision, and should leave the Tribunal at this point.

- The Race Tribunal can further discuss the incident, and then vote on the three decisions. The time limit on this procedure will be fifteen (15) minutes.

- The decision will be conveyed to the Race Coordinator who will write the decision down on the Incident Report Form, with the three Tribunal members signing the form.

5): The Operation of the Race Tribunal (CON):

- If the incident has been proved as a breach of ASSA or SASDC rules, the Race Coordinator will check the SASDC Incident File for previous incidents involving the guilty party, applying the appropriate penalty if required.

- The Race Coordinator will then convey the Race Tribunal decision to the interested parties.

- The Incident Report Form and the Incident Decision Form will be filed in the SASDC Incident File.

- An appeal on the Race Tribunal Decision is possible to the SASDC Committee, but must be filed with the Race Coordinator by email or written statement within 24 hours of the Race Tribunal Decision being made.

6): The decision of the SASDC committee is final.

7): All issues, incidents, and decisions made by the race tribunal or SASDC committee will appear on the race report.

SASDC Dog Behavioural Guidelines:

In the interests of all competitors, the SASDC would like to provide considered, consistent, fair but effective penalties for offences that contravene the SASDC Dog Behavioural guidelines.

The guidelines cover many, but not all, incidents that can occur on the track and are not meant to be all inclusive. However, it is hoped that incidents that are not mentioned can be placed within one of the grades by the race co-ordinator/race marshal and race tribunal and dealt with appropriately.

Grade 5:

Incident:

- Dog(s) moving over towards another team
- Dog(s) slowing to stay with another team when passing



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

Penalty:

First Offence:

- Warning
- Driver education
- Subsequent offence:
 - Time addition of 30 seconds to 1 Minute to heat time

Grade 4:

Incident:

- Dog(s) growling at another team / any Human
- Dog(s) moving over and blocking another team
- Dog(s) coming back to another team after passing
- Dog(s) showing excessive aggression to each other within a team

Penalty:

First offence:

- Warning
- Driver education
- Time addition of 30 seconds to 1 minute to heat time

Second Offence:

- Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time

Subsequent offence:

- Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time, plus Fine of \$20.00

Grade 3:

Incident:

- Dog(s) attempting to bite another team
- Dog(s) moving over and aggressively challenging another team

Penalty:

First Offence:

- Time addition of 2 minutes to 5 minutes to heat time

Second offence:

- 1 race suspension of offending dog(s)
- Subsequent offence:
 - Suspension of dog(s) until written positive behavioural assessment from a qualified dog behaviourist* received by SASDC

Grade 2:

Incident:

- Dog(s) biting / fighting another team
- Dog(s) showing excessive aggression to handlers, race officials, or spectators (This rule does not penalise excessive excitement / accidental contact etc).

Penalty:

First offence:

- Suspension of dog(s) until written positive behavioural assessment from a qualified dog behaviourist* received by SASDC



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

- Offending dog(s) banned for life

Grade 1:

Incident:

- Dog(s) biting / attacking a human with no provocation or extenuating circumstances

Penalty:

- Offending dog(s) banned for life

*Qualified Dog Behaviourist can be a certified dog trainer, such as a Delta Dog Trainer eg– Vicki Burton and Alexis Davison.

SASDC Temperature Rules.

1);

A: A thermometer (preferably a weather station) must be placed in the shade as near as possible to the start chute.

B: The temperature will be monitored by the start steward responsible for the countdown of teams leaving the start chute.

C: Racing can only commence if the temperature is below 15 degrees.

D: If the temperature exceeds 15 degrees before all teams have left the start chute, the heat will be cancelled – no further teams will start, and no times will count.

2);

A: The temperature will be checked by the start steward ten minutes before the start of each heat.

B: If the temperature exceeds 10 degrees, the distance of the heat will be shortened in the following manner:

- 6/4 dog to run the 2 dog track.
- 3/2 dog to run the 1 dog track.
- 1 dog to run the novice track.
- Novice to run a shortened track that does not exceed 1.5km if possible.

C: The start steward will advise the track steward that the temperature has exceeded 10 degrees so that the tracks can be reset.

D: The start steward will advise the timekeepers of the distance change.

E: Using the loud hailer or pa system, the start steward will advise the mushers and handlers of the distance change.



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Social Media Policy.

As a club SASDC – aim to use social media to enhance and promote professional animal and human behaviour at all SASDC Affiliated sled dog races and events. Members & competitors will uphold the values of the Club by acting with honesty, integrity, courtesy and professionalism and shall not post comments via social media that is discriminatory, defamatory, harassing or encourage law breaking against the club, officials, other members, competitors and sponsors.

Any person who is found to have been contravened the above shall be subject to an enquiry by the SASDC committee to explain and justify their actions.

Penalty – as SASDC committee sees fit including up to an annual ban from all club events.



ASSA Race Rules and Procedures

Attachment Two – Amendment for races hosted by the Goldseekers RGO



GOLDSEEKERS SLED DOG CLUB

ASSA AMENDMENTS

2. CLASSES

- (a) Class of drivers
 - (iv) Veterans – Adult driver with all dogs in team older than 7 years.
 - (v) Touring – Fun class for inexperienced mushers or non - competitive dogs.
 - (vii) Novice – Drivers competing in their first year.

3. DOGS

- (a) Only dogs still competing in the current heat shall be permitted in the vicinity of the start or finish area.
- (b) All dogs attending a race meeting, competing or not, shall be properly restrained at all times, (tethered or kept on a lead). At no time shall a dog be permitted to run free.

14. RIGS

- (a) A rig may have three or four wheels, an effective braking system, manual steering and be capable of being driven and controlled by a single driver.
- (b) Recommended minimum weights:-
 - a. 4 dog – 25kgs, 6 dog – 35kgs
 - 8 dog – 45kgs

Independent from the above mentioned weights, rigs shall be well and safely constructed, adapted to the number of dogs in a team, and as much as possible, guarantee the safety of the dogs and drivers.

18. START POSITION- SINGLE START

- (a) The second heat may be deemed to run as a reverse start in which the slowest team from day one will then leave first followed by the second slowest etc. The starting order will be made known to competitors at the drivers meeting.

19. DUAL START

- a) 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.
- b) The second day's starting positions shall be determined by the first day's times. The finishing list will be divided into two groups, with the fastest in the fastest group starting with the fastest team in the slower group, followed by the second fastest teams in each group, etc.
- c) In races of more than two heats the total elapsed time of the previous heats will determine the groupings and the starting positions, with the fastest teams in each group starting first, etc.
- d) In a dual start, at the end of the chute, and A dog becoming unfit after departure shall be carried on the rig.



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24. FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

- (a) A team and driver shall run the entire course as established by the Goldseekers Committee.
- (b) If a team leaves the trail, the driver shall return the team to the point at which they left the trail.
- (c) The trail shall be marked in the following manner.
 - (i) A right turn shall be indicated by a **red** marker on the right side of the trail
 - (ii) A left turn shall be indicated by a **red** marker on the left side of the trail.
 - (iii) Straight ahead shall be indicated by **blue** markers.
 - (iv) Caution shall be indicated by **yellow** or **orange** markers.
 - (v) The "End of the Starting Chute" (minimum length 30 metres) shall be indicated by markers on both sides of the trail.
 - (vi) A "1/2 Kilometre" marker shall be placed half a kilometre from the finish line to indicate the start of the "No Right of Way Zone" unless trail conditions dictate otherwise.
 - (vii) Bunting shall only be used in areas of the trail that are deemed dangerous by the Track Marshal and/or Race Marshal.

SCOOTER

- (c) Shall have an effective brake on either the front or back wheel or both.

LATE STARTING TEAM

- (a) A team not in its scheduled position in the starting order as the team in front commences the 5 second count down will be declared a late starting team. To remove any doubt, the first team in any given heat must be at the start line at the time directed by the Race Marshal, which shall be no less than the period of time equal to the starting interval before the scheduled start time.

ASSISTANCE ON THE TRAIL

- (b) Any assistance on the trail from handlers, spectators or official that alters a drivers finishing time and race position may incur a time penalty. Assistance will only be given when clearly & respectfully asked by the driver.
- (c) The maximum penalty being one minute per kilometer (rounded to the nearest half kilometer) of the race distance.

FINISHING

- (d) If a team competing in the main classes (1,2,3,4,6 & 8 dog class) finishes with a time that exceeds 2.5 times the average of the 1st to 3rd place competitors, of that class, without extenuating circumstances the Race Marshal may elect to disqualify or transfer that entry to touring class.