



2012 Iron Dog® Trail (Trail) Class Official Race Rules

7100 Old Seward Highway, Unit C
Anchorage, AK 99518
Ph. (907) 563-4414
Fax (907) 563-4080

Web www.irondog.org

Email rules@irondog.org

NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF SAFETY SHALL RESULT FROM PUBLICATION OF OR COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS IN THIS PUBLICATION. THEY ARE INTENDED AS A GUIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE SPORT, AND ARE IN NO WAY A GUARANTEE AGAINST INJURY OR DEATH TO SPECTATORS OR PARTICIPANTS

Iron Dog®, Inc. is dedicated to providing a reliable, consistent, safe and honorable cross-country snowmobile race and recreational ride in Alaska. Trail Class teams include two (2) or more persons and each person must have their own snowmobile. These participants will brave subzero cold, bad visibility, and deep snow to push their snowmobiles and bodies to the limits to reach the finish line. It is the World's Longest, Toughest Snowmobile race and recreational ride, and it is a true test of human and equipment endurance. All participants will treat race officials with respect and recognize their decisions as final at all times.

Upon submitting completed entry forms and payment to Iron Dog®, Inc., the applicant acknowledges that they have received, read and understood without question the Iron Dog® event rules and regulations applied to the class that they will participate in. Participants accept and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Iron Dog® event regulations.

Each participant acknowledges that: Iron Dog® has limited resources; is dependent on donors for a significant portion of its funding; functions with limited employed staff and hundreds of volunteers under only limited control of Iron Dog®; and must organize the event in some of the most remote and uninhabited locations in Alaska in the most severe weather conditions. Under these circumstances, Iron Dog® cannot and does not commit to perform obligations or responsibilities of any kind.

Iron Dog® disclaims all obligations and responsibilities of every kind and nature. While Iron Dog® will attempt to perform all tasks it undertakes with reasonable care and effort, as determined in its sole and absolute discretion, it shall owe no duty of any kind or nature to participants and it shall perform only such acts it deems necessary at its sole and absolute discretion. Participants shall have no claims, demands, suits or actions ("claims") of any kind or nature against Iron Dog®, its agents, servants, employees, directors, officers, contractors or volunteers, regardless of whether any such claim is in the nature of contract, tort or other type of claim, and regardless of whether any such claim is for injury or damage to person or property, except only if, and to the extent that, the claimant demonstrates, by clear and convincing evidence, that any such claim arises solely, directly and proximately from the intentional and willful wrongdoing by the Iron Dog® Board of Directors or by employed Iron Dog® staff.

Each participant agrees, by participating in any Iron Dog®, Inc. Event, to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless Iron Dog®, Inc. its agents, servants, employees, directors, officers, contractors and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, specifically including claims by third parties, except only if, and to the extent that, the claimant demonstrates, by clear and convincing evidence, that any such claim arises solely, directly and proximately from the intentional and willful wrongdoing by the Iron Dog® Board of Directors or by employed Iron Dog® staff.

The disclaimers, the limit on claims, and the agreement to release, indemnity, defend and hold harmless set forth herein shall apply to every act and omission of Iron Dog®, Inc. its agents, servants, employees, directors, officers, contractors and volunteers, including, by way of example only, acts and omissions in planning, organizing, facilitating, staging, conducting, and judging the race and other Iron Dog®, Inc. events, and shall survive conclusion of the race and termination of the relationship between Iron Dog®, Inc. and participant. Each participant accepts and assumes all risks in any way arising from, related to, or connected with participation in any Iron Dog®, Inc. event and each participant is encouraged to obtain and maintain appropriate insurance covering all such risks.

1. REGISTRATION AND ENTRY

- 1.1. Waiver Forms are mandatory for all personnel in non-spectators areas (Paddock, staging and track).
- 1.2. Entry, Medical Release, Liability Waiver & Indemnity Agreement and Participant Biography forms must be completed in full in order to participate. Certified copies of C.D.L. and or pilot's medical examination certificates that are current throughout the race event are acceptable.
- 1.3. Each participant must provide a current physical exam by a certified medical physician as stated in the entry forms. Certified copies of C.D.L. and or pilot's medical examination certificates or a comparable medical exam (with approval) that is current throughout the race event are acceptable.
- 1.4. Current Head-Shot Digital Color Photos are to be submitted with entry forms and are required in order to participate.
- 1.5. No refunds of entry or other fees will be made after registration is closed, unless an event is cancelled or rescheduled by a ruling from the board of directors. Refunds during registration period will be processed with a 20% processing fee. Registration begins September 16th and ends November 30th.
- 1.6. All participants must be current members of Iron Dog®, Inc.
- 1.7. Participants must declare their class upon entry: Pro or Trail Class. Pro Class participants may opt to participate in the Trail Class prior close of registration or during the event they may change their class status or accompany an existing trail class team. Entry fees will not be refunded for class status change after close of registration, November 15th. Pro Class participants compete for prize money and trophies. Trail Class teams ride for the adventure, completion award and may participate in the World's Longest Snowmobile Poker Run.
- 1.8. No participant under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to compete in the Pro Class. Participants of the age 16 and 17 may enter in the Trail Class provided their team member is a parent or guardian.
- 1.9. Participants are encouraged to obtain personal and accident insurance.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

In the spirit of good sportsmanship and the Iron Dog®, all participants must adhere to the following:

- 2.1. All participants agree that the Trail Class is non-competitive and that racing and driving in a dangerous manner will not be accepted.
- 2.2. All participants must obey all local, state, and federal laws.
- 2.3. Participants and race officials will conduct themselves in a prudent and respectful manner at all times.
- 2.4. Participants working on snowmobiles during the event must allow a path for other event participants and their snowmobiles.
- 2.5. Participants will not block the access into or out of the checkpoint and/or impound areas.
- 2.6. No fighting, vulgarity, derogatory or offensive language will be tolerated.
- 2.7. Littering and or polluting on the trail will not be tolerated.
- 2.8. Negative publicity from any participant will not be tolerated.

- 2.9. Trail Class teams shall be aware of all race teams approaching from the rear and overtaking. Actions will be taken as to not impede a race team.
- 2.10. Trail Class teams will defer to any Pro Class teams at all checkpoints.
- 2.11. All Trail Class teams must maintain sufficient pace to arrive at the “milestone” checkpoints by the dates noted. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a team’s disqualification. Disqualified teams will not be authorized to continue as Iron Dog® participants.

3. INTOXICATING BEVERAGES & DRUGS

- 3.1. Drinking of intoxicating beverages is strictly forbidden by any participant. Anyone showing evidence of having used an intoxicating beverage must leave the premises (specifically pit, paddock (staging area), warm up area, tear down and race track) immediately and be subject to disciplinary action. This shall be in effect during the Safety Inspection Festival and at the Race Start through the final inspection of snowmobiles at the Race Finish.
- 3.2. Possession or use of illegal drugs or drug substances, as defined below, is prohibited in any form, by any participant, on the race facility, or in any area considered to be used in the operation of the race facility, such as parking lots or leased properties.
- 3.3. Illegal drugs are these substances defined and prohibited by state/provincial and/or federal law.
- 3.4. Any person found to be in possession or under the influence of an illegal drug or drug substance on race facility property, as defined above, or any person who is arrested by duly constituted authorities and charged with possession and/or use of illegal drugs or drug substance or any person who is formally charged by a court of law with illegal drug violations, shall be subject to suspension from competition and eviction from the race facility, and denial of further entry to the race facility for a period determined by the disciplinary committee.
- 3.5. If a participant is using prescription drugs on advice of a physician, such use must be reported to the Race Director prior to the participant's entry into any Iron Dog® activities. Failure to notify will subject the participant to penalties as prescribed above.
- 3.6. A participant is any person taking part in any event sanctioned by or affiliated with the Iron Dog® in any form, including but not restricted to participants, snowmobile owners, mechanics, crew members, sponsors, track officials, pit area personnel, manufacturers and press representatives. All such persons shall be considered public figures that have by their own choice become involved in the snowmobile racing events, with the full understanding that he or she must abide by the rules and regulations established and published by the Iron Dog®. All participants are considered to be responsible for their personal conduct.

4. PARTICIPANT PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

It is the responsibility of the participant to select protective equipment that will conform to Iron Dog® and ISR guidelines and provide adequate protection. Even though race rules committees and ISR develop guidelines, Iron Dog® and ISR do not endorse or guarantee specific products or manufacturers of protective equipment. Participants must rely on their own judgment in the selection of helmets and other apparel for protection and durability.

- 4.1. Regardless of apparel passing prior inspections compliance must be maintained throughout event.
- 4.2. Full coverage helmets are mandatory (at minimum Open Face Helmet).
 - 4.2.1. **Helmet padding and shell must remain in as-manufactured condition, with no modifications and meet SNELL 2005, European Standard ECE 22.05 or newer standards according to the current ISR guidelines.**
 - 4.2.2. The helmet must be securely fastened at all times.
- 4.3. It is mandatory that the driver's helmet must be a minimum of seventy five percent (75%) blaze orange (RGB Color mix 255, 102, 0)
- 4.4. The Iron Dog® will provide blaze orange race bibs.
- 4.5. Adequate Arctic Clothing including face mask and gloves.
- 4.6. Arctic boots able to provide protection to -30 degrees below zero. Boots must also be water resistance. Bunny Boots are acceptable.
- 4.7. Eye protection is mandatory during the event. The use of goggles and or face shields is required. If corrective lenses are required to drive a motor vehicle, it will be required for event participation.
- 4.8. The use of upper body protection equipment is mandatory. The upper body protection must cover all body areas shown in illustration below. It will protect the driver in mid-body and back areas and be capable of resisting penetration and dissipating force of impacts while absorbing the shock of most blows. Trail Class riders may use a motocross vest.
- 4.9. Shin and knee guards are highly recommended. Shin and knee guards will be worn on both legs. The shin guard must extend from the instep to above the kneecap and be constructed of an impenetrable material.
- 4.10. Elbow pads are highly recommended in all forms of racing.
- 4.11. Neck bracing recommended in all forms of racing.



5. MANDATORY SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT

Survival Equipment as described herein will be inspected prior to the start of the event, in Nome, and at the Finish Line, and or at the discretion of the Race Director team at any time during the event. In addition to the noted Participant Protective Gear requirements, each team is required to carry the following: (Note: per person means that these items must be carried by each participant.)

- 5.1. One sleeping bag per person; certified capable of providing protection to -20 degrees Fahrenheit; must cover participant head to toe and insulating fill equally distributed throughout the bag. The sleeping bag cannot be altered. Must be able to fully zip with participant inside.
 - 5.1.1. **One (bivouac) rip-stop nylon bivy bag per person, REI item #794292 or equivalent.**
- 5.2. All participants must have adequate arctic protective clothing and layers with spare layers that include: moisture wicking socks, upper and lower thermals.
- 5.3. Spare set of face and eye protection per person.
- 5.4. One First Aid Kit per team must meet ANSI minimized standards.
- 5.5. One Global Positioning System (GPS) or Map & Compass set per person.
- 5.6. One hatchet or saw per team.

- 5.7. Fire starting materials (matches, lighters) in sufficient quantity and carried in waterproof containers.
- 5.8. Arctic stove with sufficient fuel reserves per team. (Arctic Stove definition: A stove that will burn or operate at subzero temperatures and or windy conditions.)
- 5.9. Pan or cup to make and boil water with a minimum 1 pint capacity. (1 per team)
- 5.10. Sufficient (emergency use only) reserve food with a minimum of 2,000 calories per person (provide certification on the unopened labels).
- 5.11. Three aerial signal flares per person.
- 5.12. 25 feet of 1,200 lbs. test rope or stronger rope per team.
- 5.13. One flashlight per person. (with spare batteries)
- 5.14. One drive belt per person and sufficient tools to make in-field repairs.
- 5.15. All clothing and food will be in sealable water-proof containers.
- 5.16. Each participant will certify upon signing the Safety Inspection Form, compliance of the mandatory equipment.

6. RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

(Participants are encouraged to test all equipment before use.)

- 6.1. Snow shovel.
- 6.2. Maps and compasses for redundant navigation aids.
- 6.3. Spare Batteries that work well in cold conditions for all equipment.
- 6.4. Gauntlets.

7. GPS TRACKING DEVICES

- 7.1. Iron Dog® reserves the right to require each Team to install a GPS Tracking Unit on one team snowmobile. Participants must install units as requested.
- 7.2. Iron Dog will not be responsible to aid teams that use the “Help” signal on personal tracking devices. Participants that are in danger and require help should use their emergency “911” signal on their tracker.
- 7.3. GPS monies deposited at the time of entry will be returned to participants when the GPS unit and accessories have been returned.
- 7.4. Participants may be liable for replacement costs on lost or intentionally damaged GPS units.
- 7.5. The following Race Flags can be expected during the race: Green Flag, Start; Yellow Flag, Slow down and hold position; Red Flag, Stop Racing; and, Checker Flag, Finish.
- 7.6. The Mandatory Driver’s Meeting(s) must be attended by ALL participants.
- 7.7. Iron Dog® reserves the right to refuse entry to or withdraw any team for any reason.
- 7.8. Iron Dog® reserves the right to alter or cancel the event at any time.
- 7.9. In no way whatsoever shall any participant, volunteer, or race official present negative publicity in any form to the media or the public. The Executive Director of Iron Dog® shall coordinate all media relations.
- 7.10. Iron Dog® officials, or its designee, may record by photographing or videotaping any participant and their snowmobile and gear during the race event at any time.
- 7.11. All scratches must be reported at the nearest checkpoint as soon as possible.

8. STARTING PROCEDURES

- 8.1. The Trail Class mandatory meeting will begin at 9:00am with the departure to follow on the Friday immediately preceding the Pro Class race start at Big Lake, Alaska. Teams will be released one team at a time.

9. TRAIL RIDE OFFICIALS

- 9.1. The officials charged with the conduct of the Trail Class ride will consist of the Race Director team and possibly designated trail sweeps. These officials will supervise the ride.
- 9.2. The officials have the authority to judge the long distance trail ride abilities of participants and take appropriate action to insure the safety of the trail ride.
- 9.3. The officials shall have the authority to determine structural integrity of snowmobiles utilized in the Trail Class.

10. CHECKPOINTS, LAYOVERS AND THEIR OPERATION

- 10.1. All participants will reduce their pace to a safe speed as they approach and proceed through all checkpoints.
- 10.2. Trail Class teams should plan to reach the following Checkpoints or beyond by the date noted:

February 18	Big Lake to Puntilla	(151 miles)
February 19	Puntilla to McGrath	(201 miles)
February 20	McGrath to Ruby	(234 miles)
February 21	Ruby to Unalakleet	(245 miles)
February 22	Unalakleet to Nome (Finish Banquet)	(267 miles)

- 10.3. Trail Class teams are required to reach Nome by 6:00pm (February 23, 2012) for the Finish Banquet.
- 10.4. Trail Class teams must depart checkpoints by 9:00am to assure maximum daylight travel.
- 10.5. All teams must sign in and out of all checkpoints. In the event that there are no checkpoint officials present, the teams must contact Race Headquarters after arriving and before leaving a checkpoint.

11. TRAIL CLASS COURSE

- 11.1. The race course shall consist of any route between official checkpoints.
- 11.2. All participants are reminded that unless otherwise marked the race course is a public use trail and is not protected. Other trail users and or animals can be expected running against and with the race direction. All other trail users, including sled dog teams have the right-of-way at all times. Participants are responsible to conduct themselves in a positive manner to assure continued use of the Historic Iditarod Trail.
- 11.3. Between Skwentna and Rainy Pass - the Skwentna River is off limits.
- 11.4. Between Puntilla and Rohn River, participants must go through Ptarmigan Pass - Rainy Pass is off limits.
- 11.5. Between Nikolai and Rohn River, participants must travel across the Farewell Burn.
- 11.6. The South Fork of the Kuskokwim River after Rohn is off limits.

- 11.7. Participants should be aware that private property exists in many areas along the route. Deliberate crossing and infringement on private property will not be tolerated.
- 11.8. Due to the ongoing negotiations with the Bureau of Land Management and other agencies, race routes and rules may be changed. Participants will be notified on or before the driver's meeting should this occur.
- 11.9. Teams will not travel on public roads unless otherwise marked/cleared to do so.

12.GAS STOPS AND FUELING

- 12.1. Only checkpoints are designated gas stops.
- 12.2. Fuel, 2-cycle oil and isopropyl (when available) will be supplied at each checkpoint.
- 12.3. All lids must be put back on all containers and left upright.
- 12.4. **FUELING PROCEDURES: Racers are entirely responsible for maintaining the flow of fuel into their tanks by holding the dispensing nozzle.**
 - 12.4.1. **Fueling and ONLY fueling is permitted in the designated fueling area.**
 - 12.4.2. **Snowmobile hood and side panels must stay closed and engines will remain running during the refueling operation.**
 - 12.4.3. **All other maintenance operations, including refilling the oil injection tank must be conducted at least 20 feet (approximately two snowmobile lengths) away from the designated fueling area in a location that does not impede the movement of other racers.**
- 12.5. Deliberate dumping or spilling of fuel, oil, antifreeze, isopropyl or any environmentally harmful substance will be considered polluting and will not be tolerated.
- 12.6. Checkpoints, gas stops and layovers with approximate mileage are as follows:

Wasilla to Big Lake	Trailer	10	Recommended layover by date
Big Lake to Skwentna	CGL	79	
Skwentna to Puntilla	Milestone, CGL	72	Feb 17th - 151 miles
Puntilla to Rohn	CG	75	
Rohn to Nikolai	CG	74	
Nikolai to McGrath	Milestone, CGL	52	Feb 18th - 201 miles
McGrath to Ophir	CG	63	
Ophir to Poorman	CG	99	
Poorman to Ruby	Milestone, CGL	72	Feb 19th - 234 miles
Ruby to Galena	CGL	52	
Galena to Kaltag	CGL	98	
Kaltag to Unalakleet	CGL	95	Feb 20th - 245 miles
Unalakleet to Shaktoolik	CG	41	
Shaktoolik to Koyuk*	CGL	57	
Koyuk to White Mountain	CGL	94	
White Mountain to Nome	Milestone	75	Feb 23rd - 267 miles
Total Mileage		<u>1,108</u>	

(**Bold**)=C=Checkpoint, G=Gas, L=Layover All Mileage is Approximate, route between check points may vary year to year. *Shaktoolik to Koyuk is 50 miles and runs across the Koyuk Bay. The distance around the bay is approximately 70 miles.

13. SNOWMOBILE DESCRIPTION

- 13.1. Snowmobile engines, exhaust systems, and intake systems are to be stock (except as noted below).
- 13.2. Brakes, head lights, tail and brake lights (a minimum of 2" x 4"), snow flaps, and clutch guards must be in a safe and operational condition when leaving each checkpoint. A working helmet light with a tail/break light feature will suffice for lights until the main system is repaired.
- 13.3. Broken windshields must be made safe or replaced.
- 13.4. All snowmobiles must have carbide runners and studded tracks (a minimum of 2-studs or traction screws per track bar).
- 13.5. Each snowmobile must have a current snowmobile registration sticker from any state visible on their snowmobile.