



## SDAS RACE RULES

**Note: the SDAS Race Rules, as detailed below, are not applicable for all National Championship, World Cup and IFSS Qualifying events - SDAS will adopt IFSS Race Rules & Procedures for such events.**

### 1. THE COURSE.

a) The course shall be clearly marked out with sufficient highly visible markers.

b) All Trail Markers shall be at least 25 cm in diameter or length per side.

Only one side of the sign shall be coloured to indicate the proper direction of travel.

c) Markers:-

**Right Turn** - **Red Circular Marker** on right preferably 7.5-15m before turn.

**Left Turn** - **Red Circular Marker** on left preferably 7.5-15m before turn.

**Straight Ahead / Confirmation Marker** - **Blue Square Marker** Blue markers **should** be used: beyond all intersections, turns or blind corners, which are marked with a red marker.

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

**Caution** - **Yellow Triangle Marker** 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 20 meters ahead of the caution area.

**Marshal Checkpoints** - shall be indicated with rectangular **white** signs with black letter **M**.

**A white marker** shall be placed at the start of the Finishing Chute with the distance remaining (usually 800 m for all classes before the finish line) to indicate the beginning of the "No-right-of-way" zone.

The end of the Starting Chute shall be indicated by markers on both sides of the trail.

For Night Events the Markers will be reflective Event organizer will advise.

d) The course should be of suitable surface, avoiding where possible such surfaces as concrete, tarmac, sharp gravel or other material likely to damage the feet of the dogs, except at necessary road crossings.

e) It is each individual driver's responsibility to ensure by whatever means necessary that the designated course is safe and suitable for their team, bearing in mind its size and speed and their

own level of skill and experience and the prevailing weather conditions at the time.

f) The course will be available for inspection by all mushers prior to the event at the race organizers discretion. No competing dogs will be allowed on the marked course (in whole or part) except during the mushers designated heat.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS, DRIVERS & PASSENGERS.

a) Drivers of a team must be fully paid up members of SDAS at the time of the event, except in the case of the National Championships, IFSS qualifying races and such like, whereby an additional fee will be charged to non-members. Drivers of a team must also have their own third party liability insurance for their particular class or activity and produce proof to the organizer if requested.

b) The race organizer may not reject any entries submitted, unless they have a valid reason for this action, which is backed up by a current SDAS committee member.

c) **No dog, equipment or clothing** shall be bought to an event from a kennel where any contagious disease exists or has existed within the previous three weeks. Any breach of this rule will result in disqualification and immediate removal from the event site.

d) No dog may be replaced during the period of a Race. In a race of more than one heat, the race organizer may mark dogs for the purpose of identification.

e) Any team, dog or driver coming to the event and being, in the opinion of the event organizer or current SDAS committee member/s, unfit or incapable of completing the course in a safe and satisfactory manner, will be -

1. Asked to reduce their team size.

2. Remove dog in question from team.

3. Given the opportunity to enter a different smaller class size.

The race organizer or committee member/s must have a valid reason for asking for this which is backed up by another current committee member/s.

f) All drivers must be 16 years of age, or over, on the first day of the event - except for Junior Classes. Drivers between 16 & 18 years will be required to be full members of SDAS before competing in events other than junior classes.

g) The driver starting in the first heat of an event must be the driver of that team throughout the entire event

***h) Registered purebred sled dogs ( as defined in item 3 of the Club's constitution and code of Ethics) i.e. Siberian Husky, Alaskan Malamute, Canadian Eskimo/Greenland Dogs, Samoyed and those dogs that comply with the 'Open Sled dogs' classification can be entered into SDAS events.***

i) No Dogs less than twelve months old on the first day of the event will be accepted for entry other than the recreational class.

**j) Kennel club registered names and number or *Microchip number for Open Sled Dogs* and Date of Birth of dogs must be given on the Entry form.** It is acceptable to provide a full kennel list without being class specific.

k) Passengers will only be allowed at the individual race organizers discretion. Minimum age for passengers shall be 16 years of age. Passengers must wear a safety helmet which shows the BSI kite mark, Gloves are recommended.

***l) Dogs which are not KC Registered Sled dog breeds ( as Defined in item 3 of the clubs Objectives within the Constitution and Code of Ethics), wishing to compete at SDAS events, should be micro-chipped as means of identification. SDAS may use a micro-chip scanner to confirm dog identity at events.***

### 3. MEDICATION.

a) Prohibited medications are all those deemed harmful to the dogs, humans or to the Sport, including stimulants, depressants, anesthetics and analgesics. Please follow link to see Procedures SDAS follows regarding antidoping:

[http://www.draghundsport.se/upload/dokument/Antidoping/IFSS\\_antidopingrules\\_dogs\\_code\\_2009\\_01012011.pdf](http://www.draghundsport.se/upload/dokument/Antidoping/IFSS_antidopingrules_dogs_code_2009_01012011.pdf)

[http://www.draghundsport.se/upload/dokument/Antidoping/IFSS\\_antidopingrules\\_humans\\_code\\_2009\\_01012010.pdf](http://www.draghundsport.se/upload/dokument/Antidoping/IFSS_antidopingrules_humans_code_2009_01012010.pdf)

b) **If a dog or competitor** is suspected of being under the influence of any prohibited medication, The Sled dog Association of Scotland reserves the right to have the dog examined and tested by a qualified veterinarian and if found positive, the driver, owner and team will suffer automatic disqualification plus any further penalty at the discretion of the committee of SDAS.

c) Veterinary inspection of any dog entered may be required at the discretion of the Event organizer and one current SDAS committee member.

### 4. EQUIPMENT

#### (Rig/Sled Classes)

a) The responsibility for the condition, safety and suitability of all dogs and equipment rests solely with the Driver and /or Owner.

b) All connections from lines to harness, collar and rig/sled must be capable of quick and easy detachment. Correct functioning of these attachments may be checked.

c) All teams must have a snub line attached to the gangline between the rear of the team and point where it is attached to the rig/sled. This snub line must be of a length that is long enough to enable release from a static object (e.g. gate post or tree) by the driver whilst on, and in control of the rig/sled.

d) All lines must be free of frays and excess wear.

e) Shock absorbers, when utilized, must have a safety line.

f) Rigs must not be fitted with any device to assist propulsion.

g) removed

h) Rigs must have an adequate braking system capable of stopping the rig when the brakes are applied by the driver, standing in the normal driving position and with motive power provided by either pushing or pulling of the rig by an assistant. ***For A class, rigs must have all wheels braking.***

i) Rigs must be equipped with a manual steering mechanism, capable of operation by the driver from the normal driving position.

j) Rigs must not exceed 150cm (60") in overall width.

k) All rigs must be fitted with a brushbow. No part of the rig shall protrude in front of the brushbow, including gangline attachments. If this does not cover the entire width of the rig, additional deflectors must be fitted around any protruding part, fabricated in such a way as to avoid the creation of any sharp projection. Brushbow must be not less than 20cm or more than 45cm from the ground. All brushbow/deflectors must be manufactured from inflexible material.

l) There should be no excessive play in wheel bearings or headset bearings.

m) A sled shall be capable of adequately carrying the driver and in case of emergency a Passenger, and have a basket with a hard bottom capable of safely carrying a dog.

n) A sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, an adequate rubber braking pad fastened to the sled via a solid tip-up system, brushbow, Snow Hook or snub line (as per rig) and an adequately ventilated dog bag.

- o) No wet acid batteries must be carried.
- p) Back up lights must be carried during night races.
- q) Muzzles, full choke collars, whip's or other similar devices are strictly prohibited.
- r) Bib Numbers will be provided by the club for each competitor. Bib Number request can be made to the committee for a donation. Competitors can provide their own Bibs so long as number is clearly visible to finish timer.
- s) All drivers must wear a safety helmet which shows the BSI kite mark. Wearing of gloves is optional.

**(Bikejoring Class)**

- a) A Bikejoring team will consist of a driver pedalling a bicycle and one dog.
- b) The dogs harness shall not allow the dog to escape.
- c) The dog shall be attached to the bicycle by a snub line with shock absorber at all time. This snub line shall be attached to the bicycle and shall not exceed 3 meters long.
- d) The bicycle shall be fitted with adequate brakes on each wheel.
- e) All drivers must wear a safety helmet which shows BSI kite mark. Wearing of gloves is optional.

**(Scooter class)**

*A trial of a separate 2-dog scooter championship class - ES & ES2 - will take place in the 2013/14 race season.*

- a) A scooter team will consist of a driver riding a two wheeled scooter being pulled by one *or two dogs*.

Bicycles with the pedal mechanisms blocked or removed will be allowed providing they meet the relevant safety requirements.

- b) The dogs' harness shall not allow the dog to escape.
- c) The dog shall be attached to the Scooter by a snub line with shock absorber at all time. This snub line shall be attached to the bicycle and shall not exceed 3 meters long.
- d) The *scooter* shall be fitted with adequate brakes on each wheel.
- e) All drivers must wear a safety helmet which shows BSI kite mark. Wearing of gloves is optional.

**(Canicross Classes)**

- a) A Canicross team shall consist of a driver and one dog racing solely on foot.

SDAS offers Canicross classes in the categories of Male and Female.

*A Trial of Junior canicross championship classes in the J1 and J2 age classifications will take place in the 2013/14 race season*

- b) The dogs harness shall not allow the dog to escape.
- c) The dog shall be attached to the by a snub line with shock absorber at all time. This snub line shall be attached to the driver by a hip belt (at least 7cm wide over the spine). The snub line shall not exceed 2.5 meters in length.
- d) The runner shall not wear shoes that could be dangerous for dogs.

**5. PROCEDURES**

- a) Starting position and time for each team shall be determined by drawing, seeding, or any other method as determined by the individual race organizer.
- b) The format of the starting times for the second heat (where applicable) will be determined by the finishing times from the first heat with the fastest out first and so on.
- c) A team must come to a complete stop at the start line with the driver ensuring that their team is securely snubbed or otherwise held.
- d) A team crossing the start line 5 seconds or less in advance of the official starting time will receive a 15 second penalty, In case of greater violation; a 60 second penalty will result. In the

event of a premature start, enabling the team to be returned to the start line to comply with the official start time then that team may restart without penalty.

e) The starting point of the team shall be the front of the brushbow.

f) The start time of the team shall begin when such team is scheduled to leave the start line.

g) Teams failing to leave the start line on time or within half of the starting interval for any heat will not be allowed to start until the last scheduled team of the class has left. If more than one team should start late each shall start in the order scheduled. Late starters will receive a new starting time plus a penalty of 3 times the starting interval in its class.

h) A team not clearing the designated start chute (minimum distance 30m) prior to the scheduled start of the next team may be disqualified.

i) When the Temperature rises above 10 degrees at any time during the course of the event (when taken in the shade at or near the start line) the event shall be reviewed by the race organiser and may be stopped, or trails shortened where practicable. The race organiser may, however, if he or she feels that the temperature/humidity combination is too high, review the event before this level is reached.

Temperatures will be monitored during the course of the race.

j) A driver may ride, scoot or run, but not in front of the team when they wish.

k) Physical and verbal abuse of the dogs is strictly prohibited at the event site and may lead to disqualification from that event.

l) Willful interference by a driver with other competing teams in any way is prohibited. Teams experiencing difficulty must make every effort not to impede other drivers.

## 6. CLASSIFICATIONS

A Class - No more than 8 dogs, no less than 5 (*may be 3 or 4 wheeled rigs, must be all wheels braking*)

B Class - No more than 6 dogs, no less than 4

B2 Class - No more than 6 dogs, no less than 4 (one Siberian only)

C Class - No more than 4 dogs, no less than 3

C2 Class - No more than 4 dogs, no less than 3 (one Siberian only)

D Class - No more than 3 dogs, no less than 2

*D2 class- No more than 3 dogs, no less than 2 (one Siberian only)*

*E Class - 2 dogs, Rigs only,*

*E2 Class - 2 Freight breed dogs, Rigs only.*

*ES Class - 2 dogs, Scooters only (Trial for 2013/14 season)*

*ES2 Class - 2 Freight dogs, Scooters only (Trial for 2013/14 season)*

F Class - Bikejor Open/Registered/Freight

F Class - Scooter Open/Registered/Freight

F Class - Canicross Male

F Class - Canicross Female

R Class - Recreational, non-timed (max 8 dogs)

### *Junior Classes*

*J1 Class - 8 - 11 year old, 1 dog, rigs only.*

*J1Canicross Class - 8-11 years 1 dog Canicross (Trial for 2013/14 season)*

*J2 Class - 12 - 15 year old, 1 dog, rigs only.*

*J2Canicross Class - 12 - 15 year old 1 dog Canicross (Trial for 2013/14 season)*

*J3 Class - 12 - 15 year old, 2 dogs, rigs only.*

Registered & Open dogs will be run separately.

## 7. DOGS

- a) All dogs must be, properly harnessed in the team and all dogs must be fastened by a neckline. Exception: Lead dogs may run without a neckline.
- b) Any dog suffering injury or becoming unfit to run during competition may be dropped at the nearest marshal point, with the remainder of the team able to complete the race without penalty provided that the requirements of **Rule 6** are satisfied. Drivers must carry sufficient drop chains or cables to tether dogs at the dropping check points.  
Dropped dogs will be recovered at the end of the class by the race officials.  
Where no marshal point is available, no dog should be tethered and left unaccompanied. The competitor should snub their team at the soonest opportunity and await recovery by race officials at the end of the current class. The competitor will be disqualified for that day's heat.  
NOTE: The introduction of these revised rules allows the carriage and use of a dog bag to be at the driver's discretion rather than a formal requirement as in previous seasons
- c) After the first heat, a driver may drop any dog they wish from subsequent heat(s), subject to the minimum specified. See Rule 6.
- d) A dog may not take part in more than one class or team during any one day other than scheduled junior events.
- e) **All dogs must be kept on leads at all times at race sites. Flagrant breach of this rule will result in immediate disqualification from the event.**

## 8. PASSENGERS

- a) The passenger must not assist in the running of the team except in the case of the team becoming unmanageable.

## 9. FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

- a) A team and driver must follow the full course as laid out by the race organizer and as described at the mushers meeting.
- b) If a team does leave the designated trail, the driver must return the team to the point at which they left the trail. A team and driver meeting this condition may then continue the course without penalty.
- c) Both team and driver must cover the entire course without unauthorized assistance.
- d) Authorized assistants (i.e. Trail Marshals) are only authorized to hold the rig and not at anytime handle the team of dogs
- e) All teams may receive assistance from anyone only if that team becomes unmanageable
- f) An individual Team may receive assistance from anyone only if that Team becomes unmanageable.
- g) **No Person is allowed to assist a team by willfully pacing it.**
- h) A loose team interfering with other teams will be disqualified.
- i) A Team not leaving the Start Line within 30 seconds of their designated start time must retire from the Start Area and await instruction from the Race Organizer or his appointed Start Marshall. **See Rule 5g**
- j) On a hill, the Team travelling downhill has Right of Way.
- k) On level ground, the Race Organizer shall determine if the outgoing or incoming team shall have right of way and this will be specified at the Musher's meeting.

- l) No incoming team shall have right of way over another incoming team from a point to be established by the Race Organizer, but within 800m (0.5ml) of the Finish Line.
- m) An overtaking team has right of way over the preceding team when the overtaking team comes within 15m (50ft) of the team ahead.
- n) Under these conditions, the overtaking team driver **shall** call "TRAIL". Upon hearing this call, the preceding driver must make way for the overtaking team, bringing their team to a full stop, if requested, up to a maximum of 30 seconds where practical. See Rule 5k.
- o) The over taken team may request and receive the right of way to re-pass after 30 seconds.
- p) An overtaken team shall maintain such an interval so as not to be a distraction to the preceding team.
- q) The finishing point of a team shall be when the lead dog crosses the finish line designated by the Race organizer.
- r) Drivers must be in physical contact with their rig/sled, bike/scooter when crossing the finishing line.

## 10. CONDUCT

- a) Drivers are responsible for the conduct of their dogs and handlers before, during and after the event.
- b) If the Race Organizer and one current SDAS committee member determines that drivers', handlers' or teams' conduct at any time in the event is detrimental to the sport, they will be disqualified
- c) **Mating of bitches is forbidden at race sites.**
- d) **Puppies will not be allowed at events unless they are fully inoculated. Persons bringing puppies to an event site without correct papers will be asked to leave.**
- e) **Puppies will not be offered for sale at an event site.**
- f) Physical or verbal abuse by any person of any person at any part of the event site is forbidden.

## 11. PROTESTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- a) Any person(s) wishing to protest a violation of the rules must do so immediately following the heat or run in which the alleged violation occurred. The protest may be verbal.
- b) Any verbal protest must be confirmed in writing to the Event Organizer within one hour after the end of the event or heat, whichever is first. With a fee of £5 (refundable if protest is upheld.)
- c) In the event of any protest or report of an alleged rule violation, the concerned parties may demand a hearing. Such hearings must be granted and organized by the Race Organizer and the Committee of the SDAS at the earliest convenient time.
- d) For any violation of the foregoing rules, the Race Organizer, with or without the recommendation of any judge or protest committee, may impose a warning to, or disqualify, any driver at his discretion from that event.
- e) In the event of a protest being registered against a competing Race Organiser, then any decision must be confirmed or reversed by the committee of the SDAS at their next meeting following, the protest.
- f) In all other respects, the decision of the Race Organiser and/or committee is final.

## 12. SDAS CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SYSTEM

A points system will operate. Points will be awarded in each class as follows:

Position	Number of points	Position	Number of points
1st	66	11th	14
2 <sup>nd</sup>	57	12th	12
3 <sup>rd</sup>	49	13th	10
4 <sup>th</sup>	42	14th	8
5 <sup>th</sup>	36	15th	6
6th	31	16th	5
7th	27	17th	4
8 <sup>th</sup>	23	18th	3
9th	20	19th	2
10th	17	20th and thereafter	1

- a) All points for a class Championship must have been attained in that class only. *(note: Championship points will not be awarded at all National Championship, World Cup and IFSS Qualifying events)*
- b) In scheduled multi-day events, only the final placing will count for points. Where only one heat of a scheduled two day event has been possible then that heat shall stand for the results to be calculated for that event and championship points awarded accordingly.
- c) In the event of a tied points championship total then the tied position will be shared i.e. Tied Championship 1st position - the winners will share the trophy for the year.
- d) Discard System - depending on the number of Championship events held, only your top results will be recorded *i.e. if 8 events are held then only 6 sets of results will be counted.*
  - i) *Run up to 5 championship events and 1 event can be discarded*
  - ii) *Run 6 or more championship events and 2 events can be discarded*
- e) *Removed.*