

RACE RULES FOR THE JANUARY 6, 2024 RACE

KNIK 200 JOE REDINGTON SR. MEMORIAL SLED DOG RACE

The Knik 200 Joe Redington Sr. Memorial Sled Dog Race was founded by, the late former owner of the Knik Bar, Sally Welch, in honor of the Father of the Iditarod. This 200 mile competitive race is a valuable training opportunity for musher and dog teams, as well as a qualifying race for the Iditarod and Yukon Quest.

1. The Knik race committee honors all censures from other Sled Dog Racing Organizations and will not accept entry of ANY person censured for animal cruelty or any unsportsman-like conduct that maligns the sport of dog mushing.
2. The Knik 100 & 200 Sled Dog race committee will follow all state mandated Covid guidelines or emergency declarations during the running of the races.
3. Both the Knik 100 Sled Dog race and the Knik 200 Sled dog race will begin and end at Knik Lake (weather permitting).
4. Vet Check of dogs will be held the morning of the race. Mushers are reminded to have rabies shot certificates for each dog.
5. A Mandatory Mushers meeting will be held at 6:00pm the night before the race at the Knik Broken Boat Bar.
6. All race entrants must be a member of the Knik Iditarod Trailblazers. Membership sign-up is a part of the race registration form.
7. To secure entry for the Knik 200, the Entry Fee and Race Registration, must be completed and received no later than **TEN (10)** Days prior to the Race start day. The Race Liability Waiver form must be completed and signed on or before race day. Mushers will be signed up based on the date and time these completed forms are received. If the number of mushers exceeds the capacity, a wait list will be maintained. A wait listed musher has 3 days to complete all forms after they are notified by the Knik Race Committee that they have been moved to the official race list.
8. Three (3) days prior to the scheduled race start, the Knik Race Committee will evaluate racing conditions and make a final decision to either continue, relocate, or cancel the race. If the race is canceled by the Knik Race committee, all mushers entered will receive a full refund with the exception of the Knik Iditarod Trailblazer membership fee.
9. All withdrawal notifications must be in writing via email to kniktrailblazers@gmail.com. A 50% refund of the entry fee will be provided if a musher withdraws after November 30. NO REFUND of the entry fee will be provided for a musher withdrawal after December 15th.

RACE RULES

10. A Musher must be 18 years of age **OR** If under the age of 18, they must provide proof of racing experience that includes the completion of 2 (two) Jr. Iditarod races or equivalent.
11. The entry fee for the Knik 200 is \$500. Membership in the Knik Iditarod Trailblazers is also required and separate from the entry fee. plus the Knik Iditarod Trailblazers membership fee. The field of mushers is limited to 40.
12. The purse for the race is still being determined. The purse will be announced at the Mushers Meeting: Friday January 5th, 4:00 PM at the Knik Broken Boat Bar.
13. The Knik 200 Sled Dog race will start at 10:00am January 6, 2024. All teams in the 200 race must be at the starting area by 8:00am for vet check and sled check.

14. The Race route will be Knik Lake to Eagke Quest/Deshka Landing (check Point, approx. 50 miles) and then back to Knik (Check Point and half way point, approx. 100 miles). A mandatory 6 hour layover at Knik is required where time adjustments will be made. The Musher will follow the same outgoing route back to Deshka Landing and then back to Knik Lake, the finish line. (Approximately 200 miles total)
15. Team size is limited to 14 dogs max and 10 dogs minimum to start the race. A team must have a minimum of 5 dogs pulling in harness at the finish.
16. Deshka Landing is a checkpoint but **NOT** a food drop for the 200 mile race. Musher may drop dogs **if their handler is there to accept possession of the dog**. If a veterinarian is available, the dropped dog is to get checked. Straw is **NOT** provided for the 200 mile racers at this check point.
17. Each musher is required to have a handler at the halfway point, the site of the mandatory layover. For the safety of the dog teams, the handler will be permitted to assist with arrival and departure of their teams. The Musher must maintain responsible control of their team and may not leave the checkpoint. Either the Musher or handler must be in close proximity of the dog team at all times. The Handler will be responsible for the care of their team's dropped dogs after the veterinarian checks the dogs. The Race Committee will NOT be caring for or holding the dropped dogs. The musher and/or the handler is responsible for the COMPLETE cleanup (straw, litter, etc) of the parking area. The cleanup is to be bagged. The Musher is not allowed to leave litter/trash along the trail. This will be strictly enforced. Time penalties will be handed down for infractions.
18. The Food Drop at the halfway point will be the responsibility of each individual musher. All food must be in a drop bag with the musher's name. The food, for the dogs, must be prepared by the musher. (A source for water will be discussed at the mushers meeting)
19. The Knik Race Committee does **NOT** provide any fuel/heat so Musher are advised to bring what they will need.
20. The Knik Race Committee will provide one (1) bale of straw per dog team at the halfway point.
21. **Mandatory Gear:**
 - Proper cold weather sleeping bag weighing a minimum of 5 lbs.
 - Ax, head to weigh a minimum of 1 ¾lbs, handle to be at least 22" long.
 - A headlamp and extra batteries.
 - One operational pair of snowshoes with bindings, each snowshoe to be at least 252 sq. inches in size.
 - Eight booties for each dog in the sled or in use.
 - Dog food, a minimum of 2 lbs per dog must be in the sled at all times.
 - One operational cooker and pot capable of boiling at least 3 gallons of water at one time.
 - Veterinarian notebook to be presented to the veterinarian at the checkpoints. (IF SUPPLIED BY RACE COMMITTEE).
 - An Adequate amount of fuel to heat 3 gallons of water to a boil.
 - Functional non-chafing harness for each dog in team and a functional neckline.
 - An insulated dog coat for each dog that can be used while running or resting.
22. Only one musher will be allowed per team and no substitution of mushers or dogs will be allowed during the race. Once mushers have drawn numbers for their starting positions, no substitution of team drivers will be allowed.
23. Only one sled may be used during the race and it must meet ITC rules. At the Race Marshal's discretion, a second sled may be substituted if the starting race sled is damaged beyond reasonable safe condition.
24. Ganglines must be in good working condition and capable of safely holding the number of dogs attached to it. If a gangline is poly/plastic, there must be a cabled center with no sharp metal exposed. If a cable is used, the musher must carry a functional cable cutter.

25. A minimum of one snow hook is required. Two snow hooks are recommended.
26. The dog harnesses must be functional, correctly sized, and padded around the neck with no worn out, rough, or possible chaffing areas, and have a total combined 12 inches of reflective tape or material per harness.
27. The Knik Race committee demands the musher and his/her handlers treat all dogs humanely at all times. The Race officials have the final say if a cruelty infraction occurred and how the violation will be penalized.
28. No injectable, oral, or topical drug or herbal supplement which may suppress the signs of illness or injury may be used on a dog. No drugs or other artificial means may be used to drive a dog or cause a dog to perform or attempt to perform beyond its natural ability. Race Veterinarians are the only personnel authorized to administer any kind of drugs (See ITC rules for a complete version and list of banned drugs.)
29. No outside assistance other than parking a dog team at the check points, assisting in cleaning up trash, and for a declared emergency will be permitted. A musher may receive outside assistance in cases of an uncontrolled or lost team; this includes the use of motorized vehicles. No dog can leave the stage rest area without the consent of the race veterinarian. Any dog that is removed from the stage rest area other than for approved veterinarian care will not be allowed to rejoin the racer's team.
30. Pacing in any form via outside assistance is prohibited.
31. The Knik 200 race may supply SPOT tracking devices to each musher. If supplied, it is mandatory that each musher carry this device, attached to the **TOP** of the sled bag, for the duration of the race.
32. The use of two way communication devices is now allowed. A musher may also carry a personal emergency locator beacon or satellite device but if it is accidentally activated, it will result in a mandatory self withdrawal from the race.
33. Rule infractions may result in an issuance of a warning, a time penalty, censure or race disqualification. Warnings may be issued by any Knik 200 Race Judge. Time penalties require the agreement of the Race Marshal. Disqualifications require the unanimous agreement of all Knik 200 race judges, the Race Marshal and the Race Manager. The Chief Veterinarian will be included in all decisions made based upon issues regarding the care, treatment and welfare of any dog participating in the race.
34. The Race Marshal has the authority to withdraw a team that is no longer choosing to make or capable of making a valid effort to compete. The Race Marshal also has the authority to withdraw a musher whose conduct, in the Race Marshal's judgment, constitutes a risk to either him/herself, his/her dogs, the dogs of other mushers or other persons.
35. If a team wishes to withdraw after starting the race and drive their race team home or to a location other than to a checkpoint, the driver must contact the Race Manager from the first available location in order to be withdrawn and not be disqualified. Failure to do so is a mandatory disqualification and a one year ban from the Knik 100 or 200.
36. The Race Marshal is charged with enforcing all rules and policies of the Knik 200 race from the beginning of the mandatory Mushers meeting until the close of the Awards Banquet or the last team crosses the finish line. The Race Marshal is the final authority in the interpretation of all the rules. If Race judges are appointed, they will work under the direction of the Race Marshal.
37. The Chief Veterinarian is assigned to ensure that the dogs that are participating in the races are healthy and treated humanely. He/she may at his/her discretion have other veterinarian assistants to assist in the performance of vet duties. The Chief Race Veterinarian has the authority to examine any/all dogs during the race and will be the final authority on matters pertaining to the health and well being of the dogs.

38. The Knik Race committee will establish, maintain, and mark the race trail as best as weather and conditions allow.
39. There will be numerous volunteers involved in the race. They are not race officials! Musher and handlers are to treat the volunteers with courtesy. Penalties may be handed out for violation for the courtesy rule.
40. Passing: When one team approaches to within 50 feet of another team, the trailing team shall have the immediate right-of-trail upon demand. The leading musher must stop his/her team and hold them to the best of their ability for a maximum of one minute or until the other team has passed, whichever occurs first. The passed team must trail the passing team for at least fifteen minutes before demanding the right-of-trail to pass.
41. A musher's race bib must be easily viewable at the start of the race and while the musher is crossing the finish line. At all other times during the race the race bib must be either worn or clearly displayed on the sled so the bib number is clearly visible.
42. Protests – Any musher may file a verbal protest but only at the current or next checkpoint or finish line if that is the first checkpoint following the occurrence of the act or situation to be reported. Protests will be accepted or denied by the Race Marshal no later than two hours before the awards banquet.
43. Personal Conduct: Commencing on the date of their individual signup through their completion of the Knik 200 or 100 race and continuing up to 45 days after the last musher to complete the Knik 200/100, mushers shall not make public statements or engage in any public conduct injurious to or in reckless disregard of the best interest of the Knik 200/100 sled dog race. Any injurious public posted wording of any kind about either race is not allowed. This includes but is not limited to Facebook, Twitter, personal blogs/websites, public website of any kind, digital media, as well as in interviews with news/media reporters. If a musher makes any injurious comments regarding the Knik races or race staff or personnel, upon the recommendation of the Race Marshal and/or Chief Veterinarian, the Race Manager reserves the right to censure that musher. A censorship may include a public or private warning, involuntary withdrawal for the race, and a ban of the musher from future Knik 200/100 races or a retroactive disqualification of the Musher.
44. "No Man's Land" will be the last road crossing "Malemute Run" which is approximately 1 mile from the finish line.
45. Awards Banquet - The Banquet will be held at the Knik Broken Boat Bar, the evening of the day after the start of the race, 6:00 PM time may be adjusted. The mushers dinner is included with the race entry fee. All others will need to pay a reasonable cost. (not yet determined)