

RACE RULES LEKKAROD 2025

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1. The race

1.1. General information

The Lekkarod 2025 is a stage race between March 15 and March 23 in the ski resorts of Devoluy, Saint François Lonchamps, Bessans and Bonneval Sur Arc.

The registered competitors shall be present throughout the 8 days of the Lekkarod race. It is mandatory to attend the bibs distribution, the mushers/skijorers meetings and the awards ceremony.

The Lekkarod 2025 Race Rules complement the IFSS Race Rules applying to the event. In case of contradiction between the Lekkarod rules and the IFSS rules, the Lekkarod rules shall prevail.

The official languages are French and English.

1.2. Race program

The Lekkarod race 2025 will take place between 15 March 2025 and 23 March 2025 divided in 8 Stages on 3 different sites.

Details of the stages will be provided at a later date. The average length of the stages will be between 20 and 45 km depending on the profile and the class.

1.3. Registrations

Three classes are open for registration for the race Lekkarod 2025:

- 12-dog class consisting of 12 dogs maximum and 8 dogs minimum on the first stage and 7 dogs minimum on the following stages for competitors at least 18 years old except exemption with upgrade examined by the race committee during registration. This maximum of 12 dogs will be chosen among a pool of 14 dogs.
- 6-dogs class consisting of 6 dogs and 5 dogs minimum will be chosen among a pool of 9 dogs.
- A skijoring class with one or two dog chosen among a pool of 2 dogs.
- A "Tandem" class in Bessans for competitors at least 18 years old, one of whom can be handicapped, with maximum 6 dogs and minimum 5 dogs. This maximum of 6 dogs will be chosen among a pool of 8 dogs.

To register, the musher / skijorer must be born no later than March 15, 2007. Competitors under the age of 18 on the day of the start of the race must accompany their registration request with parental authorization.

Liability insurance is compulsory for competitors and their helpers covering the risks of sled races and their consequences.

The competitors wishing to enter the 2025 edition of Lekkarod shall register on the website www.lekkarod.com tab "inscription" to be filled and returned before December 31 2024.

This does not mean that they will be automatically entered. The Lekkarod race management will select a number of participants based on their record and/or sport skills. The number of entered teams and ski joerers will not exceed 50. A confirmation of the registration will be sent to the selected teams after December 15, 2024. The registration will be finally validated after the musher's/handler's confirmation with his/her registration form, the payment of his/her entry fee as well as the additional meals (if any) and the complementary documents (Chip list of all the dog on the race site, a portrait photo of the musher and of his/her team, etc.) have been received.

Entry fee is for sled teams:

- 420 € until 15/12/2024 (€ 400 for licensees from IFSS affiliated federations)
- 520 € from 16/12/2024 to 31/12/2024 (500 € for licensees of IFSS affiliated federations)

It includes 8 meals for the musher and two handlers for the whole race. Lodging of the competitors and of their handlers is not included. Additional meals can be purchased for additional helpers (20 €/meal/additional handler).

Entry fee is for skijorers:

- 220 € until 15 December 2024 (€ 200 for licensees from IFSS affiliated federations)
- 270 € between 16 December 2024 and 31/12/ 2024. (€ 250 for licensees from IFSS affiliated federations)

It includes 8 meals for the skijorer for the whole race. Lodging of the competitors is not included. Additional meals can be purchased for additional helpers (20 €/meal/additional handler).

The competitors shall be holding a valid competition driver license delivered by the FFST, the FFPTC, a WSA club or an IFSS club. For the non French competitors not licensed by the FFST, a

medical certificate for sport activities shall be required (Legal obligation for sport competitions in France).

To date and depending on changes in regulations, a health pass will be requested from each competitor and accompanying them on arrival at the site of the first stage.

1.4. Parking and stake out

Parking shall be available at least 6 hours before the start of each stage. The organization of the vehicles on the stake-out will be done by organization personnel. The competitors are requested to strictly apply these indications. **Only one vehicle or one vehicle with trailer per team will be allowed on the parking area.**

Other vehicles shall not be allowed on the parking or stake-out on pain of sanction.

Water will be available on each stake-out. The location of the water tap will be provided to the competitors upon arrival. Bails of straw will be available for each team.

On the stake-out and on the parking the dogs shall be kept on a leash or by the collar when there are not harnessed in the team or maintained in a closed placed (corralling). It is the responsibility of each competitor to leave the used space free of any litter after the race.

Penalties shall be issued if this rule is not respected.

2. The dogs

2.1. General information

The race is open to all dogs registered or not, as long as their physical condition allows them to enter the competition. The dogs shall be at least 18 months old the first day of the race. The dogs shall be identified by a micro chip (standard ISO 11785).

They shall be in good health to enter the competition.

2.2. Number of dogs per competitor

- The pool of dogs to enter the race is 14 dogs in the 12-dog class.
- The pool of dogs to enter the race is 9 dogs in the 6-dog class.
- The pool of dogs to enter the race is 2 dogs in the skijoring class.
- A list of maximum 16 pre-selected dogs shall be supplied to the organization 6 weeks before the start (list of pre-selected dogs that the organization must provide to the French authorities (annex 2)). That list shall also include the other dogs accompanying the competitor (handler's dogs, retired dogs, etc.). No puppy of less than 3 months old (3 months and 21 days for foreign dogs) or dogs showing signs of contagious disease shall be accepted on the race site.
- All dogs at the event shall be controlled during the initial veterinary check before the race on Friday 15 March 2023.

- At the latest 30 minutes after the first musher meeting on Friday, the final pool of 14 dogs for the 12-dog class, of 9 dogs for the 6-dog class and of 2 dogs for the skijoring class shall be confirmed to the chief veterinarian.

- For each stage, the number of dogs selected in the pool corresponding to the selected class (see § 1.3 of these rules) will be allowed to start. A start list indicating the identification of the harnessed dogs shall be provided before the start of the stage (within 30 minutes after the stage musher meeting). A check may be performed within 5 minutes before the start of the competitor or in the finish area.

A team may be disqualified if the number of dogs in the team is lower than the minimum requested in § 1.3 of these rules.

2.3. Veterinary check

The dogs are under the jurisdiction and the care of the Chief Veterinarian and his team from the time they pass the pre-race control, until one (1) hour after the finish of the last stage or the withdrawal of the team.

A mandatory veterinary check will be performed starting on Friday 14 March at 09.00 on the stake-out. It includes an administrative control (European passport, vaccination) and a clinical control.

The administrative control may be performed by a veterinarian external to the race (sanitary veterinarian) upon request from the French authorities. All the dogs on site shall be identified by a micro chip (International standard ISO 11785), have a European passport and be correctly vaccinated against rabies. Additional documents are necessary for non French teams (see § 2.4).

All health problems requiring a treatment in the 30 days prior to the race shall be reported at the latest at the time of the pre-race veterinary check.

The mandatory vaccinations are :

- Distemper disease,
- Rubarth hepatitis,
- Leptospirosis,
- Parvovirus,
- Rabies.
- Kennel cough (parainfluenza and bordetella), in particular when using an intra-nose vaccine less than 6 months between the vaccination and the beginning of the race, is highly recommended.
- Treatment against worms during the 3 months prior to the race with a wide spectrum treatment is mandatory (date, product used available during the vet control)

The last vaccination shall be older than 30 days before the race if it is a first vaccination.

2.4. Teams from outside France

In order to import dogs from a foreign country, some additional administrative requirements shall be fulfilled. In case of doubt, the competitor should contact the race chief veterinarian (christophe.pflieger@gmail.com) at least one month before the start of the race, in order to check that the import documents are in accordance with the French law.

In order to import dogs from a European Union country, it is necessary to hold a sanitary certificate delivered by the veterinary services of the country of origin (including a certificate of good health delivered less than 10 days before the date of crossing the French border) – Model annex IV, part 1 of the regulation n°577/2013 dated 28 June 2013.

In order to import dogs from a country outside the EU, it is required to hold:

- rabies antibody neutralizing title test for each dog (except from exempt countries such as Norway or Russia);

- A sanitary certificate delivered by the veterinary services of the country of origin (including a certificate of good health delivered less than 10 days before the date of crossing the French border) – Model annex IV, part 1 of the regulation n°577/2013 dated 28 June 2013.

The race organization shall not be held responsible of any dispute with the official sanitary veterinarian regarding the lack of validity of these import documents. The decision to authorize the team on the French territory depends on the validation of these documents by the sanitary authorities in agreement with the laws applying in France.

2.5. Ground transport

The national regulations define the requirements for transporting domestic carnivores in France. The French veterinary services can perform controls to check that these standards regarding the transportation of animals are adhered to and that the transport authorizations for the teams are in hand. The competitor is responsible for complying with these transport vehicle rules. In no case the race organization can be held responsible for penalties applied by the veterinary services in case of not abiding by these rules.

2.6. Daily care

It is the responsibility of each competitor to bring enough water and food daily. Feeding and watering shall never be forced. It is highly recommended to get in touch with the veterinarian team in case of doubt about a dog, in order to insure the good health of the dogs. The mushers and their handlers, the skijorers shall be easily reachable during the whole time of the event, day and night. No dog shall be left unattended.

2.7. Treating the dogs during the race

No medical treatment is authorized during the race without consulting the chief veterinarian. It is advisable to inform the veterinarian team during the initial vet check of products used to help dog's recovery in order to check that these products can be used and respect the anti-doping regulations.

2.8. Temporary or permanent Drop

A temporary drop is possible for dogs participating in the race if a minor injury justifies the removal of the dog from the team during 24 hours.

A permanent drop may concern an injured dog which cannot start anymore during the competition.

2.9. Animal doping

Anti-doping controls may be organized at any time by the organization, the AFLD (French anti-doping agency) or the IFSS. The regulations regarding animal doping in France are included in French order dated 2 May 2011 regarding substances and methods listed in article L. 241-2 of the French sport code.

2.10. Inhuman and cruel treatments

No inhuman or cruel treatment by action or lack of action generating pain or suffering to a dog will be tolerated. Equipment used for the dogs shall not be the source of pain or discomfort.

Not adhering to this rule shall lead to a disqualification.

If the musher's responsibility of the mistreatment of the dog is demonstrated, he/she shall be excluded from the race immediately.

2.11. Escaped dog

Escaped dog shall be immediately reported to the organization with its electronic identification, in order to inform the police and the local veterinarians as soon as possible. The musher (or the person designated by him/her to hold the dog) is responsible to control his/her dog. A competitor with an escaped dog may not be allowed to start the following stage.

2.12. Dead dog

Any dog that dies during the race for any reason shall be brought back to the check point and a race official shall be informed upon arrival. The chief veterinarian (or his/her delegate) shall wait for the concerned team after the finish line in order to collect the dog's body. An autopsy shall be carried out by a veterinarian designated by the organization on all died dogs. If the responsibility of the musher for the dog's death is demonstrated, he/she shall immediately be excluded from the race and it may lead to further proceedings by the national federation, the international federation and/or a legal court.

3. Event planning, equipment and behavior during the race

3.1. Competitor's bibs

For the mushers :

The organization shall provide to each competitor three bibs before the start of the race (1 musher bib and 2 handler bibs). The bib shall be worn on the right side on top of the clothes. Wearing the bib is mandatory during the musher meetings, during the stage and during the official ceremonies.

The handlers shall also have bibs. It is mandatory for the handlers to wear their bibs on the start and finish lines, on the stake-out and during the official ceremonies.

For the skijorers :

The organization shall provide to each skijorer a bib before the start of the race. The bib shall be worn on the right side on top of the clothes. Wearing the bib is mandatory during the musher meetings, during the stage and during the official ceremonies.

3.2. Information for the mushers

The musher meeting shall take place at the latest one hour before the start of each stage. The mushers shall attend the musher meeting.

3.3. Stages

The length of the race stages is defined in the race description. Nevertheless, these distances may be reduced if the meteorological conditions dictate (outside temperature above 5°C at the start, lack of snow). Reducing the length of a stage shall not lead to its cancellation whatever the reduction is.

3.4. Teams

For sled teams:

All the dogs shall be harnessed in single or double line (tandem hitch with a central tow line). All the dogs shall be hitched to the central line with at least a tug line. The neck line is mandatory.

For the race, all the dogs of the team shall be hitched before entering the starting area. That number may be reduced by the race jury if the conditions dictate.

For skijoring teams:

The dog (s) shall be attached to the skier by a line with shock absorber at all time. The line shall be attached to the skier by a hip belt at least 7 cm wide over the spine or any other harness type equipment. The belt shall have an open hook in order to make it easy to release the line or a quick release connection (panic snap). The line, in its expended position, shall measure between 2 and 3 meters and should not have a metal part at the skier's end. The amount of dogs authorized for a stage will be decided by the race marshall depending on race conditions and trail.

3.5. Start and finish

The starting order of the first day shall be defined by a draw during the bib distribution ceremony. For the following stages with individual starts, the starting order shall be reversed with respect to the general result list. In case of mass start, if it is necessary to have more than one group, the order of the groups shall be reversed with respect to the general result list.

For the sled teams:

-At the start: the musher shall be at the start line, the front of the sled (brush bow) shall determine the starting point of the teams.

For the skijorers:

The whole team, the skier holding the dog by the collar or by the harness, shall be before the start line until the start signal has been given.

-The right to go shall be given by a time keeper after counting down the last 10 seconds before the start time. In case of individual starts, the absence of a musher or skijorer on the start line at his/her scheduled start time or within the first half of the interval from the next start (late start) shall be sanctioned by a 15 minutes time penalty and a new start time in the last position. A new late start shall result in a disqualification.

In case of a mass start, the absence of a musher or skijorer on the start line at his/her scheduled start time shall be sanctioned by a 15 minutes time penalty and a new start time two minutes after the mass start. A new late start shall result in a disqualification.

In both case the competition time shall start at the new scheduled start time. The time penalty shall be added to the competition time.

Finish : The finish line shall be considered as crossed when all the dogs and the musher or skijorer have passed over the line.

3.6. Mandatory equipment

For the sled team:

The sled shall have two sides supplied by the organization and correctly installed so they cannot be easily removed or torn.

The mushers shall carry on themselves:

- Their personal ARVA (Avalanche victim research equipment) with standard 457 KHz. When the musher is racing the ARVA shall always be worn under the cloths. The proper functioning of the ARVAs shall be controlled at each start and may be controlled other times. Only mushers with ARVA functioning correctly on the start line shall be allowed to start.
- A knife with folding blade,
- Two distress hand lights or a kit of a distress mini rocket
- At the beginning of each stage the dogs shall wear harnesses in good condition and adapted to the size of the dogs. It is advised to use harnesses padded around the neck and on the shoulders.

The **sled** shall have a basket with a useable bottom allowing transportation of one or more dogs (injured, tired, etc.). If a minimum comfort of the animals is not provided, the musher will be penalized. The musher shall bring a rucksack in which he/she will be able to put the mandatory equipment to clear space to carry dogs in the sled bag.

For the safety of the competitor and of the dogs, **the sled** shall be equipped with:

- A safety line to tie and hold the sled; the line shall not drag behind the sled when it is progressing.
- A basket with a hard bottom and a sled bag of the same size capable of carrying tired or injured dogs as well as carrying equipment and food.
- A brake and a rubber braking pad (wide with solid tip-up system), a brush-bow and two snow hooks;
- A ventilated dog bag with holes or a net of a minimum surface of 600 cm²; If the size of the bag does not allow to transport all the dogs removed from the team, the musher shall withdraw from the stage and ask the organization for help to reach the finish area.
- An outside pocket which can be fastened to carry the GPS box.

The musher shall carry **on or in the sled**, at all time, the following equipment:

- A snow shovel
- A snow probe
- A first aid kit for dogs and humans including : 5 compresses, a crepe ribbon roll, an adhesive ribbon roll, short scissors, a 5ml dose of disinfectant, a surviving blanket, 2 bandages, 2 sugar lumps ;
- Two head lamps with a spare bulb and spare batteries (One can be worn by the musher during the night stages) ;
- For the dogs : minimum 100 g of snack per dog on the start line ;
- 4 bootees per dog (on the dogs or in the sled) ;
- The telecommunication and safety equipment provided by the organization (GPS tracker ...) ;
- A stake-out line to secure the entire team without tying it to the sled ;
- Reflectors on the sled stanchions ;
- Reflecting or illuminated collars and/or reflecting or illuminated harnesses on the lead dogs.

For the skijorers:

The skijorer shall be attached to the dog by a line with shock absorber. The line, measured in its extended position from the back of the dog to the skier's belt, shall be between 2 and 3 meters long.

The skijorers shall carry on themselves:

- Their personal ARVA (Avalanche victim research equipment) with standard 457 KHz. When the musher is racing the ARVA shall always be worn under the cloths. The proper functioning of the ARVAs shall be controlled at each start and may be controlled other times. Only mushers with ARVA functioning correctly on the start line shall be allowed to start.
- A knife with folding blade,
- Two distress hand lights or a kit of a distress mini rocket
- At the beginning of each stage the dogs shall wear harnesses in good condition and adapted to the size of the dogs. It is advised to use harnesses padded around the neck and on the shoulders.

The skijorer shall carry **on him/herself or in a bag**, at all time, the following equipment:

- The GPS box which may be supplied by the organizer
- A first aid kit for dogs and humans including : 5 compresses, a crepe ribbon roll, an adhesive ribbon roll, short scissors, a 5ml dose of disinfectant, a survival blanket, 2 bandages, 2 sugar lumps ;
- Two head lamps with a spare bulb and spare batteries (One can be worn by the musher during the night stages) ;
- For the dog : minimum 100 g of snack on the start line ;
- 4 bootees (on the dogs or on the skijorer) ;
- The telecommunication and safety equipment provided by the organization (GPS tracker ...) ;
- A line which can be used as a leash;
- Reflectors on the sled stanchions ;
- Not mandatory but recommended in case the dog get loose, a reflecting or illuminated collar and/or reflecting or illuminated harness.

We recommand that both mushers and ski joerers hace an app on their smartphone registering their track, in case of post race protest, as for exemples:

- Visorando
- AllTrails Rando
- Komoot
- Runtastic
- Outdoor Activ
- Adidas Running

3.7. Unmanageable teams, team without musher and lost dog

Outside help will be authorized if a team is unmanageable or without its musher/skijorer.

The musher/skijorer can retrieve his/her team, on foot, with the help of another musher/skijorer or of a motorized vehicle. If the team is retrieved, it is authorized to carry on with the race. Nevertheless, any assistance shall be reported to a race official at the end of the stage at the latest. The race judge may decide of a time penalty.

In the case of a dog getting loose during a stage, for whatever reason, and that cannot be retrieved, the musher/skijorer can complete the stage if he/she considers it is impossible to retrieve the dog, but he/she may be disqualified.

3.8. Good Samaritan rule

A musher/skijorer can be penalized for not helping another musher/skijorer in an emergency situation (legally: not assisting a person in danger). The incidents shall be reported to a race official at the next check point.

3.9. Interference

A musher/skijorer shall not touch the dogs, the food or the equipment of another musher/skijorer or shall not interfere one way or another in the progress of another team.

3.10. Parking of the team during a stage

The musher/skijorer shall choose a stopping area at least three (3) meters away from the trail in order not to bother other progressing teams, for example during snacking of the dogs. A musher/skijorer who needs to stop temporarily shall not hinder another progressing team.

3.11. Passing

Passing a sled team :

When a sled or skijoring team comes less than 15 meters behind a sled team, the musher/skijorer can ask to overtake by saying « TRAIL ». The musher in front shall stop his/her dogs and hold them as best as he/she can during one minute maximum or until the other team has passed. The overtaken team shall stay at least 15 meters behind during at least 15 minutes before eventually being allowed to ask to overtake. If the overtaking team gets tangled during passing the driver of the team can ask the overtaken team to stop during one minute maximum.

Passing a skijoring team :

When a sled or skijoring team comes less than 15 meters behind a skijoring team, the musher/skijorer can ask to overtake by saying « TRAIL ». The skijorer in front shall move to one side of the trail with his/her dog, keep his/her skis parallel and his/her poles along the body during one minute maximum or until the other team has passed. The overtaken skijoring team shall stay at least 15 meters behind during at least 15 minutes before eventually being allowed to ask to overtake. If the overtaking team gets tangled during passing the driver of the team can ask the overtaken skijoring team to stop during one minute maximum.

3.12. General team behavior (musher, handlers and skijorers)

Each team shall have a civilized conduct and shall act in a sportive manner during the race. The mushers/Skijorers are responsible for the behavior of their dogs and of the handlers during the whole race.

The musher/skijorer may be penalized if he/she and/or his/her handlers do not respect the instructions of « daily life » from the staff, in particular regarding the organization of the parking, the convoys, the meals.

We remind you that Lekkarod Association is made up of volunteers exclusively who use their spare time or vacation time to organize this event. We shall appreciate that you provide due respect to the work of these volunteers as well as of the resorts personnel. When instructions are given, for example for parking and arrangement of the stake-out, we ask you to follow them. Please note that from this edition of Lekkarod 2023 on, not following these instructions shall lead first to a verbal warning without penalty and immediate implementation of the instructions and, for a second occurrence, to a disqualification. This applies to the mushers, the handlers and the skijorers.

3.13. Litter

No litter shall be left on the trail, at the mandatory stops, night camps or check points, unless specifically organized and announced by the organization.

3.14. Use of alcohol and drugs

The use by the mushers/skijorers of drugs forbidden by the French law on sport (WADA/AMA list) or the excessive use of alcohol as defined in the French car driving regulations is forbidden. The organization may perform unscheduled controls. Unexpected controls may also be performed by the official French anti-doping organization. Mushers/skijorers may be requested to provide urine and/or blood samples at any time from the start of the race until one (1) hour after the end of the race.

3.15. Given time for a stage no completed

A musher/skijorer may not complete a stage or ask not to run a stage. He may be authorized to continue the race if his/her temporary withdrawal is approved by the organization. In that case a fixed time will apply equal to 150 % of the slowest team of the stage of his/her class.

3.16. Time barrier

For safety or organizational reasons, time limits may be imposed to the competitors on some portions of the trail. These times shall be indicated during the briefing prior to the stage. If the competitor has not reached the check point before that time barrier, he/she will be stopped by a member of the organization and rule 3.15 above shall apply. For the general result list he/she will be ranked behind the mushers/skijorers who have completed all the stages.

3.17. Race incidents

In case of race incidents which may affect the progress of the race, the race jury may, at any time, decide either to modify the course of the race, or temporarily hold the progress of the stage, or consider the stage as not run and cancel the results, or cancel a part of the stage and

organize a new start near the place of the incident, or keep the results obtained, or give a new start taking into account the time differences at the time of the incident.

The cancellation of the stage shall be announced at the end of the stage only. No information shall be provided during the stage except if it is not timed.

3.18. Communication

Except in case of immediate danger, the mushers/skijorers and their staff are not allowed to contact the race management by mobile phone during the course of the stages.

3.19. Ranking

Every day, there will be a podium of the stage.

After the last stage, a final podium will take place on 23 March 2025 at the closing ceremony. The final result list shall take into account the total number of stages raced and the total time of the race.

A ranking of the registered Nordic breed teams may be considered.

The mushers/skijorers shall attend the daily results and the final results ceremonies.

4. Penalties

4.1. Officials and protests

Race Jury :

The Race Director, the race judges, the chief veterinarian and some staff members are the officials of the event and are responsible to insure the enforcement of the competition rules. They constitute the race jury. The Race Director's decision is final.

Protest :

A competitor may file a protest regarding the alleged violation of the spirit of this regulation by another competitor. This report shall be done verbally immediately upon arrival in order to be valid. The protest shall be confirmed in writing within one (1) hour after he/she has crossed the finish line.

4.2. Warning

Written warnings may be given for minor infractions or a first infraction.

4.3. Censure

The organization can, after the end of the race, sanction a musher with a censure. That censure may include a warning, public or private, and may ban the musher from future races. A written warning, a fine or a disqualification is required before a censure is delivered. A disqualification followed by a censure shall automatically sanction the violation of the anti-doping rules for dogs and mushers/skijorers as well as inhumane or cruel treatments.

4.4. Time penalties

Time penalties may be imposed up to a maximum of two hours per rule violation except for those listed in the regulations.

4.5. Missing equipment

In case of missing equipment, the race jury shall apply the following penalties:

- 1st oversight : 5 min penalty,

- 2nd oversight : 15 min,
- 3rd oversight : 30 min,
- 4th oversight : 45 min,
- 5th oversight and following ones: 1h.

The musher/skijorer shall be disqualified if the missing equipment is the ARVA.

4.6. Disqualification

A musher/skijorer may be disqualified if:

- He/she has not crossed the finish line of more than two stages (withdrawal, out of time limit and/or not at the start) ;
- He/she completes two consecutive stages in a time greater than 150 % of the best team of the stage in his/her class (best time of the best registered Nordic breed team for a musher driving a registered Nordic team).
- His/her behavior or his/her handlers' behavior is detrimental to the sport, following a written warning.

A musher/skijorer shall be disqualified if:

- He/she has not respected the rules regarding the mistreatment of a dog or has cheated or has deliberately violated a rule in order to obtain an unfair advantage over other mushers/skijorers. The musher/skijorer will have the possibility to explain his/her case to each of the race jury members before the decision is taken ;

4.7. Appeals

Mushers/skijorers can appeal decisions from race officials. The appeals concerning warning and disqualification shall be presented in writing (in English or in French) to a race judge within one hour following the decision. Appeals to censure shall be presented in writing to the organization within 7 days following the closing ceremony.

The appeals shall be reviewed during an informal hearing by an appeal committee designated by the organization and to be held before the start of the next stage.

5. Picture right and communication

5.1. Photos and videos

The organization has full authority to authorize photographs, films and collecting information about the race, the participants, their dogs and to use these information and pictures for information, public relations and publicity.

By entering the competition, the competitor authorizes the organization to take pictures and films. This authorization includes his/her dogs and the members of his/her staff (handlers) providing these pictures are directly related to the race and that they do not undermine his/her private life or his/her reputation. These pictures may be used by the organization for its own benefit or for its partners' benefit without any limitation of neither date nor territory or mean of recording.

5.2. Commercial brands logos

The sides of the sled are reserved for the organization that will supply side panels to cover them. It is the musher's responsibility to fasten the sled side covers provided by the organization, with the fastening system provided by the organization or with the musher's own system. It is forbidden to cover up an organization's sponsor.

The competitors will be free to wear the names and logos of their own sponsors on their cloths and on the sled (except on the sides of the sled).

On the dogs, the harnesses and the covers (or T-shirts on the shoulders) can show the brand of the musher's sponsors.

The competitor's vehicles can show the musher's personal sponsors. These names shall be fixed on the vehicles.

The competitor agrees with these regulations by signing this contract

Done at _____, on

Signature: