

Northwest Sled Dog Association Championship Points System and Race Rules

Approved 8.11.18

SECTION I - CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SYSTEM

A. CHAMPIONSHIP SANCTIONED RACES

1. The Association’s racing season begins October 1st and concludes April 30th.
2. Classes and races to be used for Championship points shall be determined at the NWSDA July and August-general membership meetings, prior to the start of the racing season. No additional races or classes will be sanctioned after the August NWSDA general membership meeting.
3. In the event it is necessary to reschedule a Championship Points race, the rescheduled race will no longer be considered a Championship Points race and no Championship Points will be awarded to Drivers running in the rescheduled race. If the location of an event must be changed but the event will be held on the same dates as originally scheduled, Board approval must be obtained to keep Championship Points on the event.

B. DRIVER ELIGIBILITY

1. In order to qualify for Championship Points, a Driver must:
 - a) be an Association Member in Good Standing, and
 - b) must complete all of the race heats for a class at an event.
2. Drivers not completing all days scheduled for a single race will not receive any Championship Points for that race.
3. Drivers may compete for Championship Points in as many classes as they wish.
4. Individuals are allowed to run if they miss the first heat/day of an event if all officials and competitors are in agreement at the Driver’s Meeting. The class the individual will be allowed to run in will also be decided at the Driver’s Meeting. No Championship points will be awarded to the individual and the individual will be noted as running as an “Exhibitor” on the time sheets.
5. A family member cannot compete for Championship points for another family member, unless the other family member ran the first day/heat and is unable to run due to illness or injury.

C. CHAMPIONSHIP POINTING

1. The calculation for Championship Points will be based on the Pacific Northwest Championships point system:
 - a) For each sanctioned class in each race, the following calculation shall be used:

Total mileage run in all heats + number of teams that begin the first heat = total points available

Place	% of Assigned Points
1	100.00%
2	96.67%
3	93.33%
4	90.00%

5	86.67%
6	83.33%
7	80.00%
8	76.67%
9	73.33%
10	70.00%
11	66.67%
12	63.33%
13	60.00%
14	56.67%
15	53.33%
16	50.00%
17	46.67%
18	43.33%
19	40.00%
20	36.67%
21	33.33%
22	30.00%
23	26.67%
24	23.33%
25	20.00%
26	16.67%
27	13.33%
28	10.00%
29	6.67%
30	3.33%

There are no points for not finishing, being disqualified, etc.

- b) The total points from each race, sanctioned class, and Driver shall be combined for the season points total.
- 2. Points shall be awarded in a sanctioned class where a minimum of two entrants begin the first heat.
- 3. Classes can be combined if racing the same distance, but Association Championship Points will be calculated as if the classes were run separately.

D. TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- 1. All trophies and awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet will be financed from entry fees.
 - a) \$6.00 from each entry fee for Adult or Junior classes from each NWSDA race shall go toward Championship Awards
 - b) The Association will guarantee a minimum of \$500.00 for trophies and awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet.
- 2. All entry and award fees will be collected in US funds.

SECTION II - RACE RULES

A. APPLICABLE RACE RULES

1. International Sled Dog Racing Association (ISDRA) rules, in conjunction with these Northwest Sled Dog Association (NWDA) Race Rules, will apply at all Association races. If a conflict exists, NWSDA Race Rules shall govern. Adopted ISDRA rules include:
 - a) ISDRA Dryland Race Rules, amended October 2012.
 - b) ISDRA Speed Race Rules, amended October 2008.
 - c) ISDRA Skijoring Rules, amended June 2008.
2. The rules of the Race Giving Organization (RGO) will apply and be followed at all non-Association races where Championship Points can be earned.

B. ENTRIES AND DRAWING

1. Entries shall be received by the Saturday prior to the race, or as listed on the race entry.
2. The starting positions for the race shall be determined by a drawing held prior to the race at a time and place designated by the Race Manager.
 - a) The order of the draw shall be in the order in which entries were received. In the event more than one entry is received on one day, those entries that are hand delivered will be listed first, followed by online and mail entries. When more than one entry arrives by mail, the date of the postmark will determine their order. If entries are postmarked the same day, the order will be determined randomly.
 - b) The drawing for positions will be divided in half. The first half of the total mushers to enter will draw for the first half of the starting positions. The second half of the total mushers to enter will draw for the second half of the starting positions. In the event of an odd number of entries, the odd number will be included in the last half of the drawing.
3. The start order for the second or subsequent heats shall be determined by the first day's times with the first place team leaving first and the last place team leaving last.
 - a) At the discretion of the Race Marshal, in consideration of time and/or safety, heats may be determined with the last place team leaving first and the first place team leaving last.

C. DRIVERS

1. Any Driver who is fifteen (15) years old or older on or before October 1st of the current racing season year will compete in the Adult class(s).
2. Any Driver who is between the ages of nine (9) and not fifteen (15) years on or before October 1st of the current racing season year must compete in the Junior class(s). A Junior Driver may petition the Executive Board for a waiver and be allowed to compete in the Adult class(s).
3. Any Driver who has not reached nine (9) years of age on or before October 1st of the current racing season year must compete in the PeeWee class(s). PeeWee Drivers will only compete on snow and must be able to stand on the sled runners unassisted.
4. A Novice Musher(s) is defined as a Driver who is unknown to the Association and will be assumed to be an inexperienced Driver. The Race Marshal has the authority to determine whether the Novice Musher must compete in the Novice class or be allowed to compete in another class(s).

D. CLASSES

1. In addition to the ISDRA classes and team sizes, the following classes and team sizes will be allowed at NWSDA race events:

- a) Adult Classes

Mid Distance Class (dryland and snow races)	6 Dog
Maximum # of Dogs	6
Minimum # of Dogs	3

Mid Distance Class (dryland and snow races)	8 Dog
Maximum # of Dogs	8
Minimum # of Dogs	6

Mid Distance Class (dryland and snow races)	12 Dog
Maximum # of Dogs	12
Minimum # of Dogs	8

Distance Scooter / Bikejor Class	3 Dog
Maximum # of Dogs	3
Minimum # of Dogs	1

Fat Tire Bikejor Class (snow only)	2 Dog
Maximum # of Dogs	2
Minimum # of Dogs	1

Sprint Class (dryland and snow races)	Novice
Maximum # of Dogs	4
Minimum # of Dogs	1

- b) Pee Wee Classes (snow only)

Class	PEE WEE
Maximum # of Dogs	1
Minimum # of Dogs	1

E. EQUIPMENT

1. All teams with more than one (1) dog in lead shall have a leader neckline at all times.
2. For Dryland races, any team larger than two (2) dogs shall have a rig capable of safely carrying a struggling or incapacitated dog.

F. RACE OFFICIALS

1. All officials will be under the direction of the Race Marshal. The Race Manager for that particular race shall appoint the Race Marshal.
2. The Race Marshal, or an official designated by the Race Marshal, shall make a temperature and a humidity reading prior to the start of each class. The temperature and humidity readings will be noted on the scoreboard and announced prior to the start of each class.

3. A Race Manager(s) and Race Marshal(s) are allowed to compete in a race event, however, a) if there is a single Race Manager and a single Race Marshal, they are not allowed to compete in the same class, or b) if there are multiple Race Managers and/or multiple Race Marshals, they are allowed to compete in the same class, provided there is at least one Race Manager or one Race Marshal who is not competing in that class in order to render decisions for that class.
4. A Race Marshal cannot render any decisions regarding the class or classes they are entered to compete, in those cases, a Race Manager, or another Race Marshal, who is not competing in that class(es) will act as the Race Marshal for that class(es). In the event the Race Marshal withdraws from competing in a class, they are allowed to render decisions regarding that class.
5. All decisions of the Race Marshal are final. Any protest(s) to the Race Marshal's decision(s) must be submitted to the Association Secretary within thirty (30) days of the last day of the race. Only a competitor or official (including spotters) who officially participated in the event can file protests. Handlers, spectators, and Association members present at the site are specifically excluded from filing a protest. The information contained in the protest can only be used by the Board to make improvements or changes to future races.

G. MANAGEMENT AND HANDLING OF DOGS

1. Dogs may not compete in more than one class per day, except if reused in the PeeWee class.
2. Whenever a dog is reported to have been injured while at, or participating in an Association event, or if a dog returns from the trail not attached in a team,
 - a) If a Veterinarian is on-site, the Race Marshal shall immediately direct the Veterinarian to the dog(s) location(s).
 - b) If a Veterinarian is on-call, the Race Marshal shall determine if the musher, or owner, of the dog(s) would like to consult with a Veterinarian and ensure they are put in contact with the on-call Veterinarian.
3. In the event a dog expires while competing in an Association race or event, while at the site of an Association race or event, or between heats of an Association race or event, and determined to be as a result of abuse or negligence, will cause disqualification. The race marshal, or his/her appointed judges, or the official in charge of an event, will determine whether the Musher should continue or be disqualified.
4. It is left to the Race Marshal's discretion to determine if a dog being brought back in by a competitor, that is no longer a part of the competitor's team, should have been carried in a dog bag, and to determine what disciplinary action, if any, should be imposed.