

# 2026 MUSHER PACKET & RULES - UUU

## Race Itinerary

### **Feb 26 -**

4pm - 6pm: Vet Checks

Address: The Ledges Event Center 202 Park Rd., Coalville, UT 84017

7 pm: Musher Meeting/POTLUCK at The Ledges Event Center

### **Feb 27 -**

10am - 15 mile 6 dog race START

2 pm - 100 mile 10 dog race START

Address: Highway 150 Elizabeth pass road yurt parking lot

### **Feb 28 -**

4am - 7am: Projected finish time for 100 mile race

10am - 2nd leg for 15 mile 6 dog race

4pm - Banquet (for mushers and handlers)

Address: Don Pedros Mexican Restaurant

203 Bear River Dr, Evanston, WY 82930

**RACE FORMAT:**

**100 MILE RACE**

LEG 1: 36 MILES OUT AND BACK. YURT PARKING LOT TO MIRROR LAKE RANGER STATION AND BACK TO YURT PARKING LOT. (**BLUE TRAIL MARKERS**)

LEG 2: 40 MILES OUT AND BACK. YURT PARKING LOT TO BLACK FORK ELIZABETH PASS AND BACK TO YURT PARKING LOT. (**GREEN TRAIL MARKERS**)

LEG 3: 25 MILES OUT AND BACK. YURT PARKING LOT TO WHITNEY RANGER STATION AND BACK TO YURT PARKING LOT. (**RED TRAIL MARKERS**)

\*FLOATING SIX HOURS OF REST REQUIRED FOR 100 MILE RACE.

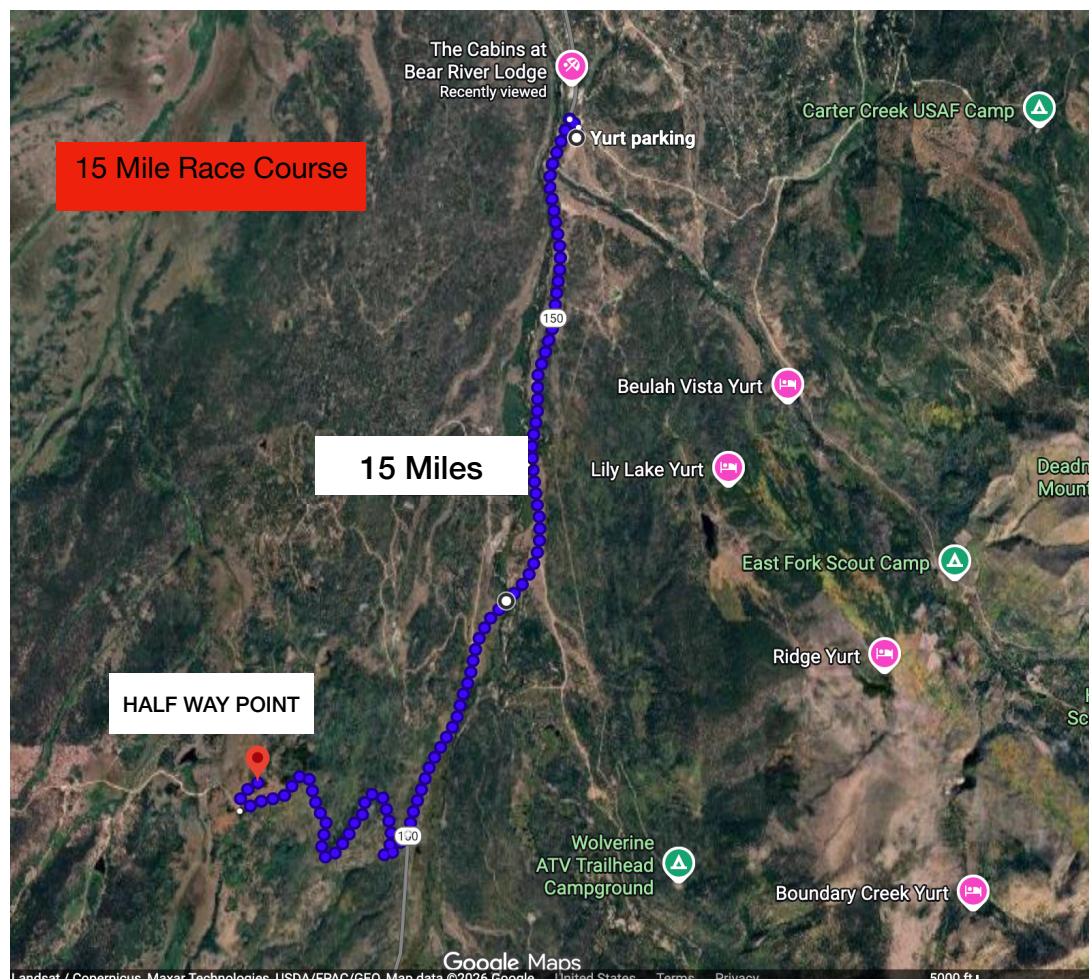
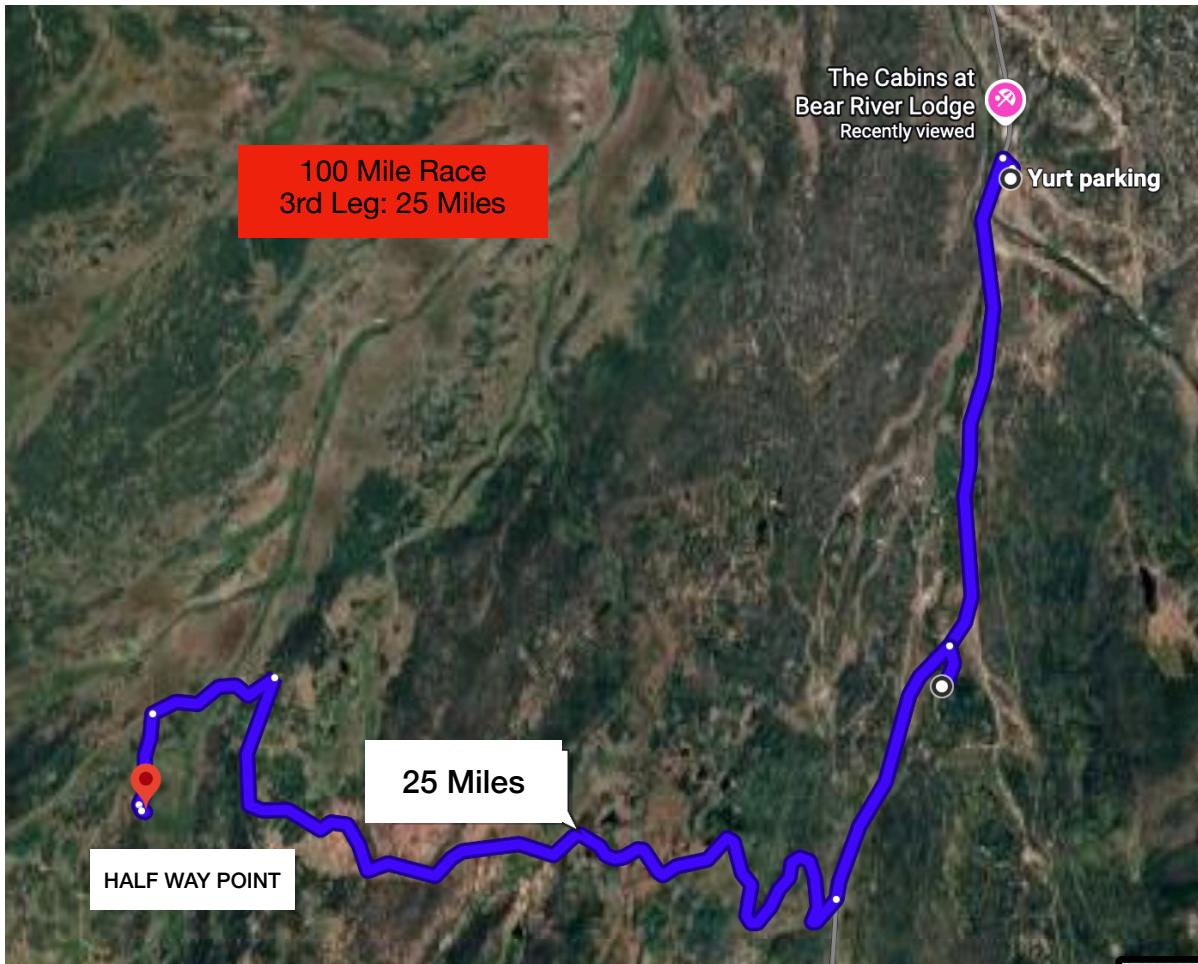
**15 MILE RACE:**

1ST AND 2ND RACE DAYS: 15 MILES OUT AND BACK. YURT PARKING LOT TO WHITNEY RANGER STATION AND BACK TO YURT PARKING LOT.  
(**RED TRAIL MARKERS**)

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race



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## **2026 Utah Uinta Ultimate (UUU) Race Rules**

### **SECTION 1: Entry, Pre-Race and Equipment**

#### **A. Entry Information**

1. Mid Distance Class Continuous, 100 miles, 10 dog maximum, 8 dog minimum.
2. Entry fees are non-refundable and cannot be rolled over to a future race. If a provisional team is not allowed to run due to the total team number limitation the entry fee will be refunded.
3. Receipt of the entry fee and entry form will constitute the musher's intent to enter the race and further acknowledges that the musher agrees to comply with each rule as stated. Entry forms are not complete and accepted until fees are paid.
4. Starting positions for the race will be determined by a drawing at the musher meeting.
5. UUU reserves the right to reject an entry.

#### **B. Musher and Handler**

1. There will be one musher per team. The musher starting at the beginning of the race shall drive the team throughout the entire race.
2. A musher must be a minimum of 18 years old.
3. An experienced musher of 16 or 17 may apply, in writing, to waive the minimum age rule. Application, made in letter form, must include number of years of experience, references from at least two veteran long distance mushers, and written consent from parent or guardian.
4. Mushers must make a sincere effort to continue the race in a timely manner, or they will be withdrawn at the Race Marshal's discretion. A musher whose conduct or abilities constitute an unreasonable risk of harm to themselves, to dogs, or to other persons may also be withdrawn.
5. Mushers are not required to bring a handler, but handler assistance is recommended.
6. All mushers must be responsible for their dropped dogs.
  - Handlers may assist with parking and departure of teams from the checkpoints.
  - In the event of a loose dog or canine conflict, anyone may assist.
  - UUU requests that handlers take possession of any dropped dogs from their team at or before the time their team leaves the checkpoint.
  - All dropped dogs will be examined first by a member of the veterinary team before being released to their handler.

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

- **Mushers/Handlers** are responsible for the cleanup of all areas used by their team during the race and must bag or pile straw as directed by checkpoint managers.

### **C. Musher's Meeting**

All mushers and their handlers must attend mandatory musher's meetings as listed in the schedule of events or musher packet. Late arrivals are subject to a time penalty.

### **D. Musher Conduct**

1. All mushers shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, their crew, and themselves when in the race staging area or on the trail.
2. Common sense, civil conduct, and good sportsmanship are expected. Race personnel and the veterinary team are all volunteers who make the race possible. Show them your appreciation. Abusive treatment of any person or animals is prohibited. If the Race Marshal determines that driver, handler, or team conduct at any time, on or off the trail, is detrimental to the race or the sport as a whole, that team may be disqualified.
3. The race course is on a public trail. Mushers do not have exclusive rights to the trail and should cooperate with other users when they are encountered.

### **E. Dogs**

1. It is the intent of this race, its officials, sponsors, and supporters that dog care be the most important aspect of the race.
2. The race **MANDATES** proper dog care and expects the musher to manage their team in such a way that does not push dogs beyond their limits.
3. Cruel and inhumane treatment is defined as any action or inaction that causes preventable pain or suffering to a dog. Cruel and/or inhumane treatment of dogs is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification and notification to other race organizations, both sprint and distance.
4. Any dog that expires on the trail, for any reason, must be carried in the sled, fully covered, to the next available race official. Any dog that expires on the trail, at the discretion of the Head Veterinarian, may be required to undergo a necropsy at the owner's expense. The death of any dog on the trail may, upon the consensus of the Head Veterinarian and the Race Marshal, result in the disqualification of the Musher.
5. A musher may not allow any of their dogs to be hauled by another team while on the trail. If a dog needs to be carried in the sled, it must be by the musher who's team it is entered with. There will be no loose dogs allowed. All dogs must be in the team or in the sled and no dogs shall be led behind the sled.
6. One hundred (100) mile race teams shall consist of not more than ten (10) dogs with the minimum number to start being eight (8). Minimum number of dogs in harness at the finish of the race is five (5). 8. If a dog becomes separated from a team, the musher must report it to

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

an official at their soonest opportunity and will not be permitted to continue until the dog is located and secured.

### **F. Veterinary Exams**

1. Veterinarians are present to provide advice and care. Their objective is to see that dogs remain healthy and able to continue.
2. Veterinarians will be available before and up to the end of the race to answer questions, provide exams as requested, and administer care as needed.
3. Each dog, prior to the race, will be examined by an UUU Veterinarian.
4. Musers may request veterinary assistance and examinations at any checkpoint.
5. If a dog requires a level of veterinary care that necessitates evacuation to a clinic, the musher will be responsible for any charges incurred at the clinic.

### **G. Vaccinations and Deworming**

1. All dogs entered in the race should have current parvo, distemper, Lepto (4 serovariants), and kennel cough (tracheobronchitis) vaccinations given within the 12 months prior to the race.
2. Rabies vaccinations **must** be current for the state of residence and be administered by a licensed Veterinarian.
3. We highly suggest but do not require the dogs to have been administered a deworming agent.
4. Musers must provide proof of rabies vaccinations accompanied by records for annual vaccinations and dewormers. Owners who self-vaccinate and deworm may show invoices, vial labels, or other evidence indicating purchase of vaccines and dewormer.

### **H. Drugs**

1. The intent of the rules concerning the use of any medications is that all competing dogs are racing in a state of acceptable normal health with natural ability.
2. No injectable, oral, or topical drug 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 beyond its natural ability. A musher may not use injections on their dogs.
3. The following drugs are prohibited:
  - A. Analgesics (prescriptive or non-prescriptive)
  - B. Anti-inflammatory drugs including but not limited to:
    - Corticosteroids (the use of corticosteroid ointment on the feet is allowed.)
    - Steroid preparations are detrimental if splits, wounds, or infection are present.
    - Non-steroidal agents (antiprostaglandins, Salicylates, etc.)

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

- C. DMSO--Central Nervous System Stimulants
- D. Cough Suppressants
- E. Anesthetics
- F. Diuretics
- G. Anabolic Steroids
- H. Muscle Relaxants
- I. Injectable Anticholinergics
- J. Antihistamines

4. Dogs are subject to the collection of urine or blood samples at the discretion of the Head Veterinarian at any point from the pre-race examination until two (2) hours after the teams cross the finish line. The musher or handler will remain with the dogs for two hours post race if urine or blood samples are requested. All samples will be sealed and signed for before the tests are considered complete. A musher or handler must assist the Race Veterinarian in collecting samples whenever requested. If blood or urine testing of a dog reveals any of the prohibited drugs in the dog, this rule has been violated regardless of when such a drug was administered to the dog. A positive test will result in disqualification of the Musher.

5. The use of Megestrol acetate (Ovaban) or Mibolerone (Cheque Drops) as an estrus suppression is permitted.

6. The practice of blood doping, i.e. Injection of whole blood, blood products or any blood substitutes is Prohibited.

7. Race Veterinarians may utilize any of the listed drugs or other prohibited drugs necessary to maintain a dog's health; however, such dogs will be withdrawn from the race.

### **XI. Equipment**

- 1. All harnesses shall be padded around the neck and chest areas.
- 2. Gang lines must be cable, cable-filled, or of chew-resistant material.
- 3. All dogs shall be harnessed in single or double file.
- 4. Some type of sled shall be drawn.
- 5. Sled shall be equipped with an adequate brake, brushbow, and snow hook.
- 6. A sled bag capable of safely restraining a struggling or severely injured dog is required. Sled and sled bag shall be large enough to contain all required equipment in addition to hauling an injured dog. If you have questions about this, contact the Race Marshal.
- 7. All dogs must have their name either written on their collars or attached to their collars in some fashion.

#### **J. Mandatory Gear in Sled**

1. Mandatory gear must be in the sled throughout the entire race. Gear will be checked at the start, mandatory layovers, and finish. Mandatory items are also subject to check at any checkpoint. Gear shall consist of:
  2.
    - a. Cold weather sleeping bag (100 mile racers only)
    - b. Two working headlamps. (100 mile teams only)
    - c. Cable cutters
    - d. Any promotional materials provided by the UUU
    - e. Vet book
    - f. Knife
    - g. One (1) full set of booties for each dog either on the sled or being worn by dogs
    - h. First-aid kit
    - i. Waterproof matches or lighter
    - j. Trail Map
    - k. GPS Tracker with SOS, which will be provided by UUU
    - l. 1 days ration for dogs and musher. 1/2 lb food per dog is required.
  3. A musher will not be permitted to leave a checkpoint without all mandatory gear items. In the event that an item is missing, the musher may source a replacement by any means or persons but will be subject to a time penalty of thirty (30) minutes for each item that is replaced.
  4. Mushers are permitted to carry personal electronic devices to include GPS units and cell phones.

#### **K. Mandatory Food**

1. Food for each dog on the team should be carried in the sled throughout the race. This food can be used for any planned trail feeding. Dog food must be in the sled departing each checkpoint.
2. Littering on the trail is prohibited.
3. Food rations for the musher must be carried on the sled.

### **SECTION II: The Race**

#### **A. Start**

4. All mushers and team trucks must be in the official Start parking area by the time specified at the musher meeting. Each participant's sled and mandatory equipment must be ready and available for inspection.
5. Handlers will be allowed to assist their team and musher at the start of the race.
6. Teams must be in the start chute no later than one (1) minute prior to their assigned start time, according to the official race time which shall be the time displayed on a cell phone at the start location.

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

7. Teams will start in 3 minute intervals. There will be no 'ghost musher' starting the race.
8. A team unable to leave at its specified time will depart after the last team leaves but will be deemed to have left at its scheduled time. Any musher who cannot leave the starting line within ten (10) minutes of the last team's departure may be disqualified at the Race Marshal's discretion.
9. Time differentials for the race will be adjusted at the last checkpoint for the 100 mile race.

### **B. Finish**

1. The nose of the first dog crossing the Finish line signals a team's official finish.
2. In the event the musher is not with the team when it finishes, the finish time will be officially recorded when the musher crosses the line after the team.

### **C. Checkpoint/Mandatory Layover**

1. Each musher must sign in and out of all checkpoints.
2. Upon entering a checkpoint, the number of dogs in harness and in the sled must match the number of dogs recorded when the musher departed from the previous checkpoint.
3. Mushers may rest at checkpoints as little or as long as they desire but not less than the required rest periods as outlined in this section. Regardless, teams must be making an honest effort to complete the course in a timely manner as compared to the rest of the field.
4. 100 MILE RACE: There is a mandatory six (6) hour floating rest. Times will be adjusted to correct for starting times at the final checkpoint.
5. The mandatory rest periods will be credited ONLY IN WHOLE HOUR INCREMENTS, and will be rounded down to the nearest hour. For instance, if a musher takes 2 hours and 45 minutes rest at a checkpoint, they will only be credited with 2 hours.
6. Rest time in addition to the SIX (6) hour mandatory rest will be counted on final race time.
- 7.
8. Mandatory rest will be recorded by officials at each checkpoint. **HOWEVER, MUSHERS WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING TRACK OF THEIR TOTAL REQUIRED REST DURING THE RACE.**
9. Each musher must leave each checkpoint with mandatory gear in sled. Equipment is subject to being checked by a race official at any time.
10. During the race, no outside assistance is allowed except for that offered by UUU. If a musher needs to source outside materials or tools for the purpose of repairing or replacing broken equipment, they may do so first by notifying a race official, and then by any means or persons--provided that the musher performs the actual repair.

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

11. Musers may help each other at the checkpoint camp spot on tasks other than direct dog care. Example: one musher may watch two teams while the other goes for water or assist in leaving their camp area.
12. Boisterous behavior on the part of any musher around other resting teams is strictly prohibited.

### **D. Running the Course**

1. The UUU is a guest on land of the United States Forest Service and private landowners. In light of this, mushers will conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and will at no time demand "rights" to the trail from other users external to the race.
2. The 100 Mile course consists of 3 legs: Leg Checkpoint Distance Miles (Race Miles). Leg 1 Bear River Services to Mirror Lake 36 miles (36). Leg 2 Bear River to Black's Fork 40 miles (76). Leg 3 Bear River to Whitney Ranger Station 25 miles (101).
3. Passing:
  - a. When overtaking another team the musher may call "trail." The overtaken team must relinquish the trail and assist the passing team when necessary.
  - b. When neither of two teams is able to pull away from the other, the mushers shall mutually decide on the appropriate team to lead out.
  - c. In a head-on passing situation the homeward bound team has the right-of-way and the outbound team must relinquish the trail. The exception is when the outbound team is moving downhill, in which case the downhill team has the right-of-way.
  - d. There shall be no calling of "trail" in No Man's Land. No Man's Land will be announced at the musher's meeting.

### 5. Lost Team

- a. In the case of a lost team, the team will not be disqualified if the musher regains control of the team, provided the team and musher complete the entire race trail.
- b. A musher may receive any assistance from anyone in recovering their team.
- c. All teams must follow the trail as marked. As long as the team and musher continue on the trail when separated, the musher may continue after regaining control.

### 6. Teams inadvertently leaving the course must regain the course at the point at which it was left.

### 7. Safety

- a. It is the musher's responsibility to check for traffic at road crossings.
- b. Be cautious when overtaking, encountering, or being overtaken by snow machines. Always use your headlamp to signal snow machines during night travel.
- c. In the case of an emergency or an unmanageable team, outside assistance may be accepted without penalty. All such incidents are to be reported by the musher to a race official at the next checkpoint.

### 8. Stopping on the Trail

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

a. When stopped on the trail, mushers must allow adequate room for teams to get past and assistance given if necessary. Every effort should be made to get completely off the trail while stopped.

b. If snacking, watering, or feeding between checkpoints, the team must be completely off the trail if at all possible. An honest effort should be made to keep the trail clean of food or debris. Pack out all garbage. Littering is prohibited. Straw left on the trail is not considered littering.

9. Race Bibs, if supplied, will be worn at the start, displayed when entering and leaving each checkpoint, and at the finish. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in time and/or monetary penalties.

10. Necklines are required on all dogs, including leaders, at the start, as well as entering and leaving each checkpoint.

11. Mushers wishing to scratch from the race may do so by notifying the Checker, Race Judge, or Race Marshal and signing an official scratch form. Mushers are responsible for retrieving personal gear. All dogs on a scratched team will be examined by a race vet.

12. Dogs may only be dropped at an official checkpoint. Dropped dog paperwork must be signed by the musher before leaving the checkpoint.

13. Handlers must take possession of any dropped dogs after the dog(s) are checked by a race vet.

### **E. Weather and Trail Conditions**

1. The race will continue under all but the most severe trail and weather conditions.

2. Postponement or cancellation of the race will be made no less than ten (10) days prior to the start of the race.

3. In the event of questionable trail conditions, the Race Marshal will decide which portion(s) of the trail will be altered.

4. The Race Marshal is responsible for alteration of starting and/or finishing locations.

## **SECTION III: Race Officials**

### **A. Race Marshal and Judges**

1. The Race Marshal and Judges are responsible for the enforcement of all UUU policies and race rules.

2. Race officials shall consult with the Head Veterinarian on all matters relating to dog care and treatment.

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

3. The Race Marshal is in charge of all aspects of the race from the vet checks/pre-race mushers' meeting to the awards presentation. The Race Marshal may impose, reduce, or waive monetary or time penalties.
4. The Race Marshal shall have the authority to withdraw a team that is out of the competition based on his/her progress down the trail. The Race Marshal also has the authority to withdraw a musher whose conduct, in the Race Marshal's sole and exclusive judgment, is unsportsmanlike or constitutes an unreasonable risk of harm to themselves, other persons, or dogs.
5. Failure of a musher to comply with the published rules may result in a monetary fine, time penalty, or disqualification. In the event a fine is imposed, applications to enter future UUU races will not be accepted until full payment is received by the UUU. Disqualified mushers will forfeit all placements. All decisions by the Race Marshal shall be final.

### **B. Head Veterinarian and Race Veterinarians**

1. The race veterinarians are present throughout the race to monitor the health and welfare of all dogs, advise mushers in caring for any dog's medical needs, and provide veterinary treatment for dropped dogs as necessary.
2. The Head Veterinarian, in conjunction with the Race Marshal, shall have authority to hold a dog or dogs at any checkpoint for medical reasons.
3. The decision to remove a dog, dogs, or a team from the race shall be the responsibility of the Head Veterinarian and checkpoint judge in conjunction with the Race Marshal.

### **SECTION IV: Protest and Hearing**

1. Protests must be submitted in writing to the Race Marshal or Race Judge within one (1) hour of the protester's race finish and shall not be discussed with spectators, media representatives, or the general public prior to a decision being handed down.
2. An official decision will be made by the Race Marshal following a hearing attended by all parties involved.

### **SECTION V: Awards Presentation**

It is the desire of UUU officials that all mushers finishing in the races be present at the awards ceremony, when possible.

### **SECTION VI: Claims**

1. Mushers are responsible for their own actions and the actions of their dogs and crew. Each musher agrees to release the sponsors, UUU and their agents, employees, contractors from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the musher, their dogs, property, or the property of their crew.

## The Utah Uinta Ultimate Dog Sled Race

2. UUU has the unqualified and unrestricted authority to authorize the race sponsor(s) to photograph and otherwise collect information about the race and all participants therein and to use such photographs and information for advertising, public relations, or other publicity purposes.
3. Every musher shall sign any and all documents as requested by UUU granting permission for the use of such photographs and information. These documents will be executed at the musher's meeting. Any musher who does not sign the documents requested by UUU officials will not be allowed to participate in the race.