

2021 Copper Dog 150/25 COVID-19 Preparedness Plan



CopperDog is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers. To ensure we have a safe and healthy event, CopperDog has developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CopperDog officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our race, race planning workplace, and our race communities. ***That requires full cooperation among all race officials, contractors, volunteer workers and participating mushers.*** Only through this cooperative effort, can we establish and maintain the safety and health of all persons and dogs in our race.

Due to the rapidly changing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, this plan will be reviewed on a regular basis leading up to the race and any changes will be made, as necessary, to address the current conditions in Upper Michigan and our local communities. Both the CDC and the Michigan Department of Health policies and procedures will be reviewed on a consistent basis leading up to the race event.

The COVID-19 plan is administered by Doug Harrer, CopperDog Board Chair, who maintains the overall authority and responsibility for the plan. However, race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers are equally responsible for supporting, implementing, complying with, and providing recommendations to further improve all aspects of this COVID-19 plan. CopperDog race officials and volunteers have the CopperDog Board's full support in enforcing the provisions of this plan. Clear communication of the plan will be made available on the CopperDog website, and any questions regarding the plan can be directed to Doug Harrer via email (dougharrer@copperdog150.com) and any concerns or questions will be addressed.

Stakeholder Involvement in Creating the Plan

Our race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers are our most important assets. The CopperDog organization is serious about safety and health and protecting everyone involved in the race. Race official, contractor, volunteer and musher involvement are essential in developing and implementing our successful COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. We have involved other races in the Midwest, namely the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon, along with race officials, volunteers, and CopperDog Board members, in order to create a comprehensive plan to keep our participants, volunteers and our communities safe.

Topics Addressed in the Plan

CopperDog is a volunteer-based and volunteer-run organization. All volunteers will know of the COVID-19 plan and sign off on it before participating in race weekend and performing any duties associated with the race.

We will involve our race officials, contractors, volunteers, and past mushers in this process in the following ways:

- ensuring sick workers, volunteers, race participants and race officials stay home
- prompt identification and isolation of sick persons
- physical distancing – workers, participants, and volunteers must be at least six feet apart
- worker hygiene and source controls, including face coverings
- communications and training practices and protocol.

Other conditions and circumstances included in the industry guidance and addressed in the plan that are specific to our race include:

1. Traditionally, CopperDog is a spectator friendly event where thousands attend the start of the race in Calumet, MI. This year CopperDog will encourage spectators to watch the race virtually and stay home. This year's race will be involved between only two communities (Eagle Harbor and Copper Harbor). Both communities are amenable to having the race in their communities.
2. **CopperDog will enlist the assistance of local law enforcement should the need for crowd control arise or presence of non-compliant spectators become an issue.**
3. During the event, everyone in attendance will be required to wear face coverings AT ALL TIMES. This will be communicated in all pre-race communications to all mushers, handlers, volunteers, veterinarians, media, and race officials. Signs will be posted at all entrance locations and throughout the event locations.
4. Extra masks will be available at sign locations. All race officials will also be carrying extra masks to distribute as they circulate around the race location. Anyone claiming a mask exemption will be expected to limit their physical interactions with others and must wear a face shield in place of a mask.
5. All CopperDog event locations will be roped or fenced off with monitored gates to ensure that only allowed race participants enter. Access will be monitored by race officials and all permitted persons will have a pass on a lanyard arm band to signify that they can access the event.
6. Access to any indoor facilities will be strictly limited to a few race officials and veterinarians.
7. All mushers, handlers and volunteers will be required to use outdoor portable bathroom facilities which will be available at all race locations. Hand sanitizer will be provided in all portable bathroom facilities with signs reminding everyone to use it. Refill hand sanitizer will be present at all race locations and one race official will be tasked with ensuring that it is refilled before it runs out.
8. Every musher will receive a 2-ounce bottle of 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer solution.
9. The nature of a sled dog race is that the event is almost completely outdoors. Having all but a very few essential personnel outdoors, will limit the possibility of the transmission of COVID-19 or any other pathogen.
10. All persons at CopperDog will work in small teams to limit group interaction. Race veterinarians, officials, volunteers, and media will function in groups of **5 or less**, maintaining physical distance from other work groups and, as much as possible, from each other.
11. **When individuals are unable to maintain an adequate 6 feet distance, a face shield is also recommended in addition to a face mask.**
12. All sled dog teams will be parked at least 10 feet from the nearest sled dog team. Once a team has parked in a specific location, *no other team will be allowed to park in that location for the duration of the event*. The only persons that will be allowed to closely interact with each team at its parking location will be race veterinarians. When race veterinarians are present with the sled dog teams mushers and their handlers will keep at least 6 feet distance from them.
13. To help ensure that the total persons in attendance remains low in numbers, CopperDog will implement a new race schedule, separating the two race events.
14. Once all mushers from one event leave the race starting chute, their trucks and support teams should also leave the race starting area, if possible. Teams for the next event will then be allowed to enter. All teams will be parked in fresh parking locations, where no team has previously been parked.
15. For each race, the follow will be implemented:
 - a. A maximum of 25 will be allowed to participate in the CopperDog 150 race.
 - b. A maximum of 20 teams will be allowed to participate in the CopperDog 25 race.

The total attendance of mushing teams at CopperDog this year will be only 45 this year.

Ensure sick race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers stay home and prompt identification and isolation of sick persons

All CopperDog race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers will be encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The following policies and procedures are being implemented to assess health status prior to entering the workplace and for workers to report when they are sick or experiencing symptoms.

Screening and Assessment

- All participants will receive a self-assessment checklist to assess their health upon entering the premises.
- All race participants and personnel will be screened for temperature.
- Individuals or anyone in their immediate family (living in the same home) reporting any of the following symptom(s) will not be permitted into the race grounds or associated checkpoints and will be asked to return home:
 - **Direct contact with a known COVID-19 positive individual, including contact with a member of the same household**
 - **Close contact (within 6 feet) with a COVID-19 positive individual regardless of whether the individual was masked**
 - A fever (100.0 or higher) within the last 72 hours
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Shortness of breath
 - Chills; repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain, not related to a prior condition
 - Direct household contact with a person experiencing an undiagnosed cough and fever
 - Diarrhea and/or vomiting within the last 24 hours

Contact Tracing

Attendance of all race participants, race officials, volunteers and CopperDog personnel will be taken to ensure contact tracing can occur accurately as possible, should anyone attending the event later report COVID-19 symptoms and/or a COVID-19 positive test result. Any information gathered for contact tracing will be retained by CopperDog for a minimum of 14 days following the event. All information obtained will be maintained by CopperDog and will be kept confidential.

Illness Assessment

Any individual showing any signs or symptoms of illness while on site will be asked to go home immediately and contact their healthcare professional as soon as they are able. Attendance and contact information of CopperDog participants will be taken should the information be needed by healthcare professionals for tracking purposes. Again, this information will be kept confidential by the CopperDog organization. Back up race officials, contractors, and volunteers will be available for all race functions for CopperDog.

All mushers will be informed, with their race registration materials, that a full refund will be granted to anyone who must withdraw from the CopperDog race for COVID-19 related issues.

CopperDog will also implement a policy for informing race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers, should they be exposed to a person with COVID-19 during any and all CopperDog-related activities, along with guidelines for the appropriate required amount of time for quarantine. CopperDog will include language describing our policy in all race registration materials for race officials, volunteers, and mushers. All persons mentioned will be required to sign a COVID-19 Attestation Form confirming they have read and that they understand our policy.

In addition, a policy will be implemented to protect the privacy of race officials', contractors', volunteers', and mushers' health status and health information. Race Officials will all be trained on how to respond to all COVID-19 related reporting from others who are involved in the race. They are to receive that information privately and then inform the CopperDog Board Chair. Information will be given to the Michigan Department of Health, as needed.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required by everyone in attendance and compliance is mandatory. This will be communicated in a pre-race communication to all mushers, handlers, race officials, veterinarians, and race volunteers.

Extra masks will be available at signed locations. All race officials will also carry extra masks to distribute as they circulate around race locations. Race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and to avoid touching their face, particularly their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands.

Race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers are expected to dispose of tissues in provided trash receptacles and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward.

Musher Hygiene and Source Controls

Basic infection prevention measures are always encouraged at all CopperDog activities. All race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers are instructed to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially at the beginning and end of their race involvement, prior to any mealtimes and after using the restroom. All race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers are required to wash or sanitize their hands prior to or immediately upon arriving at all CopperDog-related activities. Hand-sanitizer dispensers (that use sanitizers of greater than 60% alcohol) will be at entrances to all CopperDog event locations so they can be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water, as long as hands are not visibly soiled.

Access to any indoor facilities will be strictly limited to a few race officials and veterinarians. All mushers, handlers and volunteers will be required to use outdoor portable bathroom facilities which will be available at all race locations. Hand sanitizer will be provided in all portable bathroom facilities with signs reminding

everyone to use it. Refill hand sanitizer will be present at all race locations and one race official will be tasked with ensuring that it is refilled before it runs out.

Portable bathroom facilities will have cleaning and disinfectant available with signage asking users to disinfect after each use.

Physical Distancing

All CopperDog race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers must be at least six feet apart.

Physical distancing of at least six feet will be implemented and maintained between race officials, contractors, volunteers, mushers, and handlers during all CopperDog-related activities through the following protocols:

1. Signage will remind people to respect 6-foot distancing expectations at all pre-race events.
2. Volunteers will provide verbal admonitions to those not following appropriate 6-foot distancing.
3. Participation will be limited in the 2021 race to allow for physical distancing.
4. Any common surfaces (a pen and clipboard for signatures, for instance) will be cleaned with alcohol wipes in between uses where possible. Sharing supplies should be avoided.
5. Prior to the start of the race, participants will be expected to sign off digitally regarding their awareness of the physical distancing expectations.
6. Prior to the start of the race, participants will be asked to stay home if they are sick. To reinforce this, CopperDog will offer a liberal refund policy for the 2021 race. This will include any musher who becomes ill with COVID-19 before the start of the race.
7. Musher vehicles will be parked at least 10 feet from one another to allow for dog movement and keep a good personal distance.
8. All mushers must have their own equipment to minimize any sharing of equipment or gear.
9. There will be an adequate supply of hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) for all participants.
10. Public garbage cans will be placed in such a manner as to allow people access from all sides.
11. During the musher meetings and bib draw, which will be held outdoors, people must maintain physical distancing expectations. Signage will be used every 10 feet to remind participants.
12. No tables or chairs will be set out for participants. They may bring their own chairs.
13. Portable toilets will be placed at least 6-feet apart.
14. ***Face masks will always be required at all race locations.***

All pre-race communications will also include these requirements. Musher and volunteer registration will include a check off to signify that the person has read and acknowledges these requirements.

Workplace building and ventilation protocol.

Operation of all facilities, which CopperDog uses during race activities, will meet Michigan Stay Safe workplace standards for necessary sanitation, assessment, and maintenance of building systems, including water, plumbing, electrical, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. All indoor facilities used during CopperDog will have their own approved Michigan COVID-19 Plan which meets all necessary workplace standards. For the 2021 CopperDog will make minimal use of all indoor facilities and

instead hold all major activities outside to minimize COVID-19 exposure. CopperDog will also request copies of all partner facilities' COVID-19 plans and will have those available for inspection. **Buildings included in this protocol will be:**

- **Calumet**
 - **Incredible Bank- Business will follow their COVID-19 Policy.**
- **Eagle Harbor**
 - **Eagle Harbor township building will have limited access with CopperDog Race personnel/staff.**
- **Copper Harbor**
 - **Copper Harbor Community Center will again have limited use by CopperDog Race personnel/staff.**

Workplace cleaning and disinfection protocol for all partnering facilities

All public and private facilities which CopperDog partners with for the 2021 race will have an approved Michigan COVID-19 Plan. These plans will ensure that regular practices of cleaning and disinfecting have been implemented, including a schedule for routine cleaning and disinfecting of work surfaces, equipment, tools and machinery, vehicles and areas in the work environment, including restrooms, break rooms, lunchrooms, meeting rooms, checkout stations and drop-off and pick-up locations. For all CopperDog partnering facilities, COVID-19 plans will demonstrate frequent cleaning and disinfecting is being conducted of high-touch areas, including phones, keyboards, touch screens, controls, door handles, elevator panels, railings, copy machines, credit card readers, delivery equipment, etc. For all CopperDog partner facilities, COVID-19 plans will demonstrate appropriate and effective cleaning and disinfecting supplies have been purchased and are available for use.

Communications and training practices and protocol

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan will be communicated to all race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers *prior to their arrival at any CopperDog Race location* and necessary training will be provided as needed. A pre-race training meeting will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the start of the race.

Historically, all CopperDog race volunteers receive volunteer training prior to the race. The location and time depend upon the type of position they are being trained for. Most volunteers receive training several days prior to the race because of the specific type of work they will be volunteering to do. Some volunteers will receive their training the morning of the race because of the simpler nature of their task.

ALL volunteers will have the CopperDog COVID-19 protocols as part of their training. Instructions will be communicated to all CopperDog race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers about protections and protocols, including:

- physical distancing protocols and practices.
- drop-off, pick-up, delivery, and general instore shopping.
- practices for hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- requirements regarding the use of face coverings and/or face-shields.
- All race officials, contractors, volunteers, and mushers will also be advised not to enter the workplace if they are experiencing symptoms or have contracted COVID-19.

Implementation of the Plan

CopperDog Race Officials are expected to monitor how effective the preparedness plan has been implemented. All CopperDog race officials, contractors, volunteers and mushers are to take an active role and collaborate in carrying out the various aspects of this plan, and update the protections, protocols, work-practices and training, as necessary.

This COVID-19 Plan will be presented to all required permitting entities with whom the race works with. It will be updated as necessary by Doug Harrer, CopperDog Board Chair, and the CopperDog Board of Directors.

The CopperDog organization realizes that circumstances are likely to change in some way. The CopperDog organization remains committed to adjusting the plan and its implementation, as needed, to provide a safe event possible, for all those who participate.

CopperDog 150 Organization
Doug Harrer, Board Chair