



**CopperDog 150/80/30/15**  
**2023 Race Rules**

Updated 10/11/2022

Version 1

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## ***March 3rd - March 5th, 2023***

### **1) CopperDog 150 / CopperDog 80 / CopperDog 30 / CopperDog 15**

The **CopperDog 150 (CD150)** is a 128-mile (approx.), 10-dog/10-dog pool, 3-stage professional race open to dog mushers that meet the entry requirements set forth by the CopperDog Board of Directors.

The **CopperDog 80 (CD80)** is a 85-mile (approx.), 8-dog/8-dog pool, 2-stage professional race open to dog mushers that meet the entry requirements set forth by the CopperDog Board of Directors.

The **CopperDog 30 (CD30)** is a 30-mile (approx.), 6-dog/6-dog pool, 1 stage recreational race open to dog mushers that meet the entry requirements set forth by the CopperDog Board of Directors.

The **CopperDog 15 (CD15)** is a 16-mile (approx.), 6-dog, 1-stage recreational race open to dog mushers that meet the entry requirements set forth by the CopperDog Board of Directors.

The intent of these rules and regulations are to ensure safe, friendly, and fair competition. The CopperDog Race Officials are responsible for interpreting the rules to ensure that intent. CopperDog has removed the COVID-19 plan from the 2023 race. Should the race organization be required to implement any Health Department indicated plans, those plans will be published as required. If any musher, race organization participant, volunteer, or local business has COVID requirements in place, mushers and teams will be expected to follow those protocols.

### **2) Overview – Race Officials**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** – The governing body of the CopperDog 150 races responsible for all aspects of planning and execution of the event. The Board of Directors has absolute authority over all aspects of the CopperDog events.

**RACE DIRECTOR** – Is responsible for planning, promoting, managing, and timely execution of all technical aspects of the race; responsible for overall event operation and safety.

**RACE MARSHAL** – Is responsible for the enforcement of CD150 race rules in a manner that provides all participants with fair and unbiased competition; oversees the Race Judge(s); has final authority, except where overruled by the Board of Directors, on all aspects of the race from the mandatory drivers meeting through the awards ceremony.

**RACE JUDGE** – Works under the direction of the Race Marshal and is responsible for the enforcement of CD150 race rules and provides all participants with fair and unbiased competition.

**CHIEF VETERINARIAN(S)** – Oversees the health and safety of all dogs entered in the race; in charge of all dog health and safety issues from the first mandatory vet check until the awards banquet (and, in the case of drug

testing or necropsy issues, until those issues are resolved); has final authority on all matters of dog care and treatment; oversees the Race Veterinarians.

**RACE VETERINARIANS** – Work under the direction of the Chief Veterinarian(s) on all aspects of dog care, safety, and health. Race veterinarians may recommend withdrawing a dog or team for health reasons at any time during the race.

**TRAIL BOSS** – Will prepare, maintain, and sign the race trail; advises Race Director, Race Marshall, and Chief Veterinarian on changing trail conditions; have input into all matters relating to the trail.

### 3) Entry Fees (U.S. Funds)

The entry fee for the **CopperDog 150** is (entry fee include a commemorative CopperDog item):

**\$390** for entries received by **February 27, 2023**.

**No entry accepted after 11:59PM, February 27, 2023.**

The entry fee for the **CopperDog 80** is (entry fee includes a commemorative CopperDog item):

**\$290** for entries received by **February 27, 2023**.

**No entry accepted after 11:59PM, February 27, 2023.**

The entry fee for the **CopperDog 30** is (entry fee includes a commemorative CopperDog item):

**\$190** for entries received by **February 27, 2023**.

**No entry accepted after 11:59PM, February 27, 2023.**

The entry fee for the **CopperDog 15** is (entry fee include a commemorative CopperDog Item):

**\$90** for entries received by **February 27, 2023**.

**No entry accepted after 11:59PM, February 27, 2023.**

### 4) Withdraw and Refunds:

Refunds are typically issued within two weeks of notification to withdraw.

- Withdraw before **January 31st, 2023** and received a **100%** refund of the registration fee.
- Withdraw between **February 1st and 20th, 2023** and receive a **50%** refund of the registration fee.
- **No refunds** will be issued to entrants who withdraw after **February 20th, 2023**.

### 5) Race Changes

Mushers entered in either the **CopperDog 150**, **CopperDog 80**, **CopperDog 30**, or the **CopperDog 15** may request a one-time option to switch races, withdrawing from one and posting a new entry for the other race. This

one-time switch may be done until the last date for entry, however a place on the race roster is not guaranteed. A musher switching from one race to the other is considered a new entry and will be placed at the end of the race roster for the desired race, or at the end of the waiting list (if applicable).

The entry fee for the race being entered applies as of the date of the switch. One-Hundred percent (100%) of the original paid entry fee may be applied to the new race entry fee. If the musher is unable to run the race because of being on a waiting list (i.e., the roster was full when the musher opted to switch races), the Musher receives a refund using the date of change as the basis for withdrawal in accordance with the above mentioned refund policy.

## 6) Race Entry

The CopperDog Board reserves the right to reject any entry for just cause.

Maximum of **2 (two)** teams allowed to register in any race format with a maximum of **3 (three)** teams across all race formats from each kennel may register.

The **CopperDog 150** will be limited to **20 (twenty)** mushers (subject to minor changes by Board approval).

The **CopperDog 80** will be limited to **20 (twenty)** mushers (subject to minor changes by Board approval).

The **CopperDog 30** will be limited to **20 (twenty)** mushers (subject to minor changes by Board approval).

The **CopperDog 15** will be limited to **20 (twenty)** mushers (subject to minor changes by Board approval).

## 7) Bib Draw

The CopperDog Board is responsible for the bib draw and will conduct the bib draw prior to the mushers meeting. Bib numbers will be drawn in rounds.

**Round 1** will be for mushers who registered for the race before or on **December 15, 2022** from a pool of bib numbers equal in size to the number of mushers who qualify for the first round bib draw. Lowest numbered bib numbers will be pooled.

**Round 2** will be for mushers who registered for the race before or on **February 15, 2023** from a pool of bib numbers equal in size to the number of mushers who qualify for the second round bib draw. Lowest numbered bib numbers of the bib numbers that have not been issued will be pooled.

**CD150, CD80, CD30, & CD15** Bib numbers will be given to mushers at Registration on Friday and Saturday. (Friday for CD150, 80, & 30 / Saturday for CD15) CopperDog Board will resolve any issues involving the bib draw.

## 8) Mushers

All mushers entering the **CD150** must have competed in an event with a minimum of **40 miles** of continuous running within the past three seasons. A waiver may be requested.

Mushers under the age of 18 (eighteen) may participate with approval of the CD150 Race Director and/or the Race Marshal, and a waiver of liability signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Only one musher per team is permitted and no substitutions will be allowed after the team starts the race.

Substitution of mushers will be allowed up to the beginning of the Friday's mandatory mushers' meeting with the approval of the CD150 Race Director, or at any time before the team starts the race with approval of the Race Marshal.

All mushers in **CD150, CD80, CD30, & CD15** will read and sign the electronic musher meeting prior to registration and vet checks prior to **Friday March 3, 2023**.

**MUSHER MEETINGS:** CD150, CD80, and CD30 mushers will also meet under the Calumet Start Chute at **approximately 5:30 PM (EST) Friday March 3th, 2023**. Time will be finalized and communicated prior to race weekend. Additional race specific musher meetings are listed below.

**CD150** - musher meeting **4:30 PM (EST) Saturday March 4th, 2023** - or as soon as race officials are free after the conclusion of racing at the Copper Harbor Community Center. **7:00 AM (EST) Sunday March 5th, 2023** unless deemed unnecessary by Race Officials. Musher discussion to be held immediately following award presentations. Only the mushers may participate in discussions held at the meeting following the awards. This meeting is intended to allow open and respectful discussion within the musher group without interference or immediate feedback from the race organization.

**CD80** - In addition to the pre-start meeting, if a race official determines a musher meeting is needed, we will meet prior to the restart on **Saturday March 4th** at the start line. This meeting (if needed) will be communicated to all mushers. Lastly, Musher discussion to be held immediately following award presentations. Only the mushers may participate in discussions held at the meeting following the awards. This meeting is intended to allow open and respectful discussion within the musher group without interference or immediate feedback from the race organization.

**CD30** - In addition to the pre-start meeting, Musher discussion to be held immediately following award presentations. Only the mushers may participate in discussions held at the meeting following the awards. This meeting is intended to allow open and respectful discussion within the musher group without interference or immediate feedback from the race organization.

**CD15** - There will be a mandatory meeting for all CD15 Mushers at the start gate in Copper Harbor at **approximately 1:30 PM (EST)**. **If the meeting time changes, mushers will be notified at registration Saturday morning**. In addition to the pre-start meeting, Musher discussion will be held immediately following award presentations. Only the mushers may participate in discussions held at the meeting following the awards. This

meeting is intended to allow open and respectful discussion within the musher group without interference or immediate feedback from the race organization.

Missing the second roll call at the meeting, taken **10 (ten) minutes** after the first roll call has been completed, may, at the discretion of the Race Marshal, mean disqualification. A penalty of **\$100** may be assessed for missing the second roll call.

Musher representatives will be selected at the 1st musher meetings to serve on an appeals jury if needed. There will be one representative and one alternate selected from among the entrants for each race.

### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Participants, handlers and team members shall refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct, including improper use of language or conduct directed towards Race Officials, Volunteers, Fans, and other mushers. Violations of this nature may result in a time penalty, monetary fine, and/or disqualification from the race.

## **9) Dogs**

Each **CD150 team** must start the race out of Calumet with a minimum of **8 (eight)** dogs and finish with a minimum of **7 (seven)** dogs hooked inline into Eagle Harbor. Each team must leave the Eagle Harbor checkpoint with a minimum of **7 (seven)** dogs in line and finish with no less than **6 (six)** dogs in line into Copper Harbor. Each team must leave the Copper Harbor checkpoint with a minimum of **7 (seven)** dogs hooked inline and finish with no less than **6 (six)** dogs hooked inline into Eagle Harbor. The CopperDog150 is a 10-dog race with a 10-dog pool. Mushers may choose to start with 8 dogs on Stage 1 and move up to 10 dogs for stage 2 and 3. Mushers must adhere to the minimum number of dogs' inline for each start and finish.

All dogs not in the 10 dog pool must be marked out prior to race start. Dogs dropped at any checkpoint will be marked out. It is the musher's responsibility to make sure that any dogs not continuing the race are marked out by event veterinarians.

Each **CD80 team** must start the race out of Calumet with a minimum of **7 (seven)** dogs and a maximum of **8 (eight)** in line and finish with a minimum of **6 (six)** dogs hooked inline into Eagle Harbor. Each team must leave the Eagle Harbor checkpoint with a minimum of **6 (six)** dogs hooked in line and finish with no less than **5 (five)** hooked inline into Copper Harbor. The CopperDog 80 is a 8-dog race with a 8-dog pool.

All dogs not in the 8-dog pool must be marked out prior to race start. Dogs dropped at any checkpoint will be marked out. It is the musher's responsibility to make sure that any dogs not continuing the race are marked out by event veterinarians.

Each **CD30 team** must start the race out of Calumet with a minimum of **5 (five)** dogs and a maximum of **6 (six)** in line and finish with a minimum of **4 (four)** dogs hooked inline into Eagle Harbor. The CopperDog 30 is a 6-dog race with a 6-dog pool.

All dogs not in the 6-dog pool must be marked out prior to race start.



Each **CD15 team** must start the race out of Copper Harbor with a minimum of **5 (five)** dogs in line and finish with a minimum of **4 (four)** dogs hooked in line into Copper Harbor.

## **10) Mandatory Veterinary Exam**

All dogs participating in the **CD150, CD80 CD30, and CD15** must undergo a physical examination by one of the veterinarians. Only dogs found to be in good health and fit to compete will be permitted to run in the race.

All dogs entered in the race must be current with vaccinations for parvovirus, distemper and rabies. Proof of valid rabies vaccination from the musher's state of residence signed and dated at least two weeks prior to the race by a licensed veterinarian is required. Dogs coming from Alaska having valid certificates by Lay Vaccinators will be accepted. Proof of purchase for valid vaccines for other vaccinations must be submitted for inspection. Proof of distemper and parvovirus must come from a Veterinarian OR administered by owner or driver; records must include type of vaccine, proof of purchase (i.e., receipt) and the date of vaccination in writing for each dog. Race veterinarians will not vaccinate dogs during the Vet Check.

Teams in the **CD150, 10-dog race/10-dog pool** may have a maximum of 10 dogs checked by veterinarians.

All 10 dogs checked by the veterinarian will be marked or tagged for identification along the race route. After the start of the race no marked out dogs will be permitted to race. Any dog riding in the musher's vehicle and not participating in the teams' ten dog pool must be "marked out" by a race veterinarian prior to leaving the start area.

Teams in the **CD80, 8-dog race/8-dog pool** may have a maximum of eight dogs checked by veterinarians.

All 8 dogs checked by the veterinarian will be marked or tagged for identification along the race route. After the start of the race no marked out dogs will be permitted to race. Any dog riding in the musher's vehicle and not participating in the teams' ten dog pool must be "marked out" by a race veterinarian prior to leaving the start area.

Teams in the **CD30, 6-dog race/6-dog pool** may have a maximum of six dogs checked by veterinarians.

All 8 dogs checked by the veterinarian will be marked or tagged for identification along the race route. After the start of the race no marked out dogs will be permitted to race. Any dog riding in the musher's vehicle and not participating in the teams' ten dog pool must be "marked out" by a race veterinarian prior to leaving the start area.

Teams in the **CD15, 6-dog race** may have a maximum of six dogs checked by veterinarians.

All six dogs checked by the veterinarian will be marked or tagged for identification along the race route. After the start of the race no marked out dogs will be permitted to race. Any dog riding in the musher's vehicle and not participating in the teams' 10-dog pool must be "marked out" by a race veterinarian prior to leaving the start area.

Teams must sign up for assigned Vet Check slots prior to the start of race weekend. Vet Checks for **CD150, CD80, and CD30** will be **Friday March 3th** prior to the race, Vet Checks for the **CD15** will be on **Saturday morning March 4th (unless requested for Friday March 3rd (shared rigs, etc))**.

### Veterinary Guidelines

No injectable, oral, or topical drug which may suppress the signs of illness or injury may be used on a dog. Musers may not inject any substance into their dogs. No other drugs or artificial means may be used to drive a dog or cause a dog to perform or attempt to perform beyond its natural ability.

Musers may administer the following compounds to their dogs orally without veterinary consent: Vitamins, minerals, electrolytes, enzymes, probiotics, and any dietary supplements marked as such, provided that these compounds are maintained in their original containers with labels indicating their contents.

The administration of any substance to a dog orally, by syringe, by needle, or similar device (basting) by a musher is prohibited.

The use of topical corticosteroids is limited to use on the paw/pad. The only corticosteroid containing topical products permitted for this race will be those dispensed by the race veterinarians.

The use of megestrol acetate (ovaban) and mibolerone (cheque drops) as an estrus suppressant is permitted in intact females that have not had an ovariohysterectomy.

Personal prescriptions written for and carried by the mushers may not be used on the dogs.

Race veterinarians may utilize any of the below listed drugs or other prohibited drugs necessary to maintain a dog's health, however, such dogs will be withdrawn from the race. The use of local or general anesthetics will not be allowed in any form unless the dog is withdrawn from the race. The use of any other drug not included on this list and deemed necessary for the health of the dog by the musher's veterinarian will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Chief Veterinarian(s).

#### *Prohibited drugs:*

Anabolic steroids

Analgesics (pain relievers) both prescriptive and non prescriptive.

Anti-inflammatory drugs, including but not limited to:

- o Corticosteroids (the exception is the use on feet)
- o Non steroidal Anti-inflammatories (NSAIDS)
- o Salicylates
- o DMSO
- o Antiprostaglandins

Anesthetics

Central nervous system stimulants

Antihistamines  
Bronchodilators  
Cough suppressants  
Diuretics  
Injectable anticholinergics  
Muscle relaxants  
Tranquilizers and Opiates

The CopperDog Board of Directors reserves the right to collect blood and/or urine samples, at the discretion of the Chief Veterinarian(s), at random any time commencing from the official Vet Check to the beginning of the awards ceremony of the respective race.

The musher or handler designated by the musher must assist the 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 drugs were administered to the dog.

If in violation of this rule, musher will be disqualified and a penalty will be determined by the Race Officials.

#### *Monitoring Criteria*

Using ISDVMA guidelines, the following vital signs are indicators of health problems, which would require the withdrawal of a dog from the race:

7% - 8% dehydration.

Heart rate 120 beats per minute or higher after 30 – 60 minutes of rest with or without a prolonged capillary refill time.

Body temperature greater than 103 F after one hour of rest.

Lung sounds with evidence of edema, rales, or cough.

Hypothermia: a body temperature less than 99 °F (37.2 °C).

Non-responsive diarrhea with blood associated with weight loss or dehydration.

Severe lameness, especially of the shoulder.

Seizures.

Brown or red urine.

Chiropractic manipulation, Acupuncture, and Therapeutic Laser are recognized veterinary treatment modalities and, as such, their use during the CopperDog 150 is under the jurisdiction of the Chief Race Veterinarian(s). Because it is impractical for the race veterinary team to ensure these treatment modalities would be uniformly available to all competitors, their use will be prohibited from the pre-race veterinary exam to the end of the race. If, after consulting with the Chief Race Veterinarian(s), a competitor feels their dog needs to be treated with one of these modalities, a decision may be made to allow the use of that dog, but that dog must be dropped from the race.

The death of any dog may result in the disqualification of the musher and/or prohibition from participating in future CopperDog events. Any dog that expires during the race for any reason must be taken to the next or previous checkpoint. The musher shall notify the nearest Race Official at first opportunity. If a Race Official is not available, the nearest Race Veterinarian shall be notified. At the discretion of the Chief Veterinarian(s) a necropsy may be required. If required this shall be performed by a licensed Veterinary Pathologist or Veterinarian.

## 11) Equipment

**All harnesses must be padded** around the neck and chest areas and have **reflective tape or material**.

All ganglines must be arranged for single or double file disposition.

A sled must be equipped with a working brake bolted to the sled, a brush bow and snow hook.

A sled/dog bag capable of safely restraining a struggling or injured dog must be on the sled.

Any sticks or poleing devices (e.g., ski poles) must have at least 8" of reflective tape or material.

## 12) Mandatory Gear

**For CD150, CD80, CD30, & CD15 (items marked ‘\*’)**

- \* Race Bibs (must be worn by musher with number and sponsor visible at all times while on the trail).
- \* Musher's veterinary log book.
- \* Snub lines at race starts where available.
- \* Snub line for starts at checkpoints.
- \* If using a cable gangline, cable-cutters capable of cutting gangline (not a Leatherman or similar utility knife).
- Dog harnesses with reflective material or tape.
- Two (2) complete working headlamps.
- \* Sleeping bag with an arctic rating of 0 °F (-17.8 °C) or colder.
- \* Four booties, one set, per dog.
- \* A musher-determined portion of food per dog (when leaving start and each checkpoint).
- One day's ration of food for the musher leaving each start and each checkpoint.
- \* Knife (recommended in an easily accessible location).
- \* First aid kit (for musher and dogs) including Ace bandages and pressure dressings for severe bleeding
- \* Compass.
- \* Waterproof matches or a lighter.
- A musher's headlamp must remain on at all times after dusk.**
- A red blinking light on a lead dog is mandatory during hours of darkness.**

\* Promotional materials, as determined by the executive director and race director including sled banners.  
Snowshoes (optional).

### **13) Acceptable/Prohibited Equipment**

Acceptable Equipment:

- MP3 Player
- CD Player
- Standard AM/FM Radio
- Cameras
- Video Recorders
- GPS equipment
- Cell Phones (without phone/two-way radio capabilities)

Prohibited Equipment:

- No two-way radios

Any musher found with prohibited equipment during the race will be penalized.

### **14) Officiating**

#### **Race Officials**

**Race Marshal** has the following responsibilities:

- In charge of all aspects of the race from the Friday's mandatory mushers' meeting through the Awards ceremony
- Final authority and interpretation of all rules
- Final determination for alteration of race, start location, and race route changes
- Final determinations of winners and placing

The **Race Judge(s)** shall act in concert with the Race Marshal and will hold authority within their specific locations as assigned by the Race Marshal.

The **Chief Veterinarian(s)** shall have final authority over the disposition of any dogs for medical reasons.

The **Race Marshal** and **Race Judges** shall consult with the **Chief Veterinarian(s)** regarding any determinations of disqualification of any dogs or teams in regards to dog welfare.

The **Race Marshal** and **Race Judges** shall consult with the **Trail Boss** regarding any determinations of issues involving the race trail.

The **Race Veterinarians** are Consulting Specialists to the race and have the right to examine any dog at any checkpoint during the race. In addition to the pre-race vet check, they will be available throughout the race for consultations, first aid, and major medical situations. Their recommendations to disallow entry or remove a dog or team from the race may occur at any time during the race and will go directly to the Chief Veterinarian(s), who, in conjunction with the Race Marshal, will make the final decision. In the absence of the Chief Veterinarian(s), the concurrence of two or more veterinarians in consultation with a Judge may result in disallowing entry, removal, or holding of a dog or team from the race.

The **Executive Director, Race Director, Assistant Race Director, Chief Timer, Race Judge(s), Race Veterinarians, Trail Boss** and other appointed officials each have immediate authority in their specific area of responsibility and will act as consultants to the **Race Marshal, who has ultimate responsibility for final decision making.**

## **15) Musher's Responsibilities**

Mushers are responsible for the conduct of their dogs, handlers and representatives before, during and after the race.

The musher is required to report all violations of race rules and regulations to the Race Marshal, a Race Judge, or if no Judge is available they may report to a Race Official (who in turn will notify a Race Judge or the Race Marshal). Forms for reporting violations will be available at every checkpoint.

Any musher who knowingly fails to comply with race rules and regulations as stated herein will face disqualification, monetary penalty, or time penalty depending on the nature of the violation as determined by the Race Marshal.

A musher withdrawing from the race either between checkpoints or at any checkpoint for any reason must immediately notify a Race Official. Failure to do so may result in a one-year disqualification.

It is the musher's responsibility to make sure that any dogs not starting or continuing the race are marked out by event veterinarians.

**Mushers must return the follow race materials at the conclusion of the race:**

**Sponsor Sled-Banner with bib number written on it and musher's signature  
(Sled banners are returned to sponsors as keepsakes)**

**Mushers may retain (keep and take home) the following race materials at the conclusion of the race: Race Bib**

## **Penalties, disqualification, and protest procedure**

### **Penalties and Disqualification**

Rule infractions may result in an issuance of warnings, monetary penalties, time penalties, censure, or disqualification. Warnings may be issued by any Race Judge. Monetary penalties and time penalties require the agreement of at least one Race Judge and the Race Marshal. Disqualifications require a unanimous decision of Race Judges as well as the Race Marshal. The Chief Veterinarian(s) will be included in all decisions involving dog treatment and welfare.

Warnings may be issued for first time minor infractions.

Monetary penalties may be imposed up to \$500.00 for each violation. Such penalties may be deducted from prize money. A musher with unpaid fines may not enter future CD150 races until such fines are paid.

### **Censure**

The CopperDog Board of Directors, following completion of the race and upon recommendation of the Race Marshal and/or Chief Veterinarian may censure a musher. A censure may include a warning, either in public or private, and may eliminate the musher from future races.

### **Disqualifications**

Mushers may be disqualified for any infractions, including but not limited to physical abuse of a dog, cheating, or deliberate rule infractions which give a musher an unfair advantage over another musher.

A musher will be allowed to continue racing while a decision is being made, except in cases involving cruel or inhumane treatment of dogs.

Any musher who violates any local, state or federal law while competing in this race may be disqualified from future races if convicted.

Disqualification will result in the forfeiture of all race placements and monetary awards.

Each musher shall provide and sign any and all documents requested by the CopperDog Board of Directors prior to entering the race. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

### **Protests**

Any musher wishing to lodge a protest must do so verbally at the first checkpoint following the occurrence of the act or situation to be considered.

All protests shall be lodged with the Race Marshal or a Race Judge only and shall not be discussed with any other persons, including spectators or media.

Protests will be decided by the Race Marshal and Race Judges no later than 1 (one) hour before the Awards banquet.

### ***CopperDog 150 Protests***

Following the verbal notification, a written protest must be submitted immediately following the race stage where the action occurred in Eagle Harbor, Copper Harbor, or the race finish in Eagle Harbor. Protests must be submitted within 1 (one) hour of musher's entering a checkpoint of finishing the race.

### ***CopperDog 80 Protests***

Following the verbal notification, a written protest must be submitted within 1 (one) hour of the musher's finish of the current stage - in Eagle Harbor or at the finish in Copper Harbor.

### ***CopperDog 30 Protests***

Following the verbal notification, a written protest must be submitted within 1 (one) hour of the musher's finish of the current stage, at the finish in Eagle Harbor.

### ***CopperDog 15 Protests***

Following the verbal notification, a written protest must be submitted within 1 (one) hour of the musher's finish of the race stage at the finish in Copper Harbor.

## **Appeals**

A musher may appeal any decision made by the Race Officials (Race Marshal, Race Judge(s), and Race Veterinarians) by submitting a written request to the Race Marshal for a hearing and resolution prior to the Awards Banquet.

If the appeal pertains to a Judging decision, then the Race Marshal will present information as to the reason for the decision and the Musher will present information in his/her defense. Both sides may bring a witness or witnesses that can corroborate their story. Witnesses are limited to Race Judge, Race Veterinarians, Race Officials, race volunteers, or race mushers that have firsthand information concerning the situation being considered. A jury consisted of the Chief Veterinarian(s), Race Director (or Assistant Race Director or CopperDog Board member), and the Musher Representative (selected by the mushers at the musher meeting) will render a majority decision. Note: if the musher representative is unable to serve, the alternate will be called upon to serve.

If the appeal pertains to a Veterinary decision, then the Chief Veterinarian(s) will present information as to the reason for the decision and the Musher will present information in his/her defense. Both sides may bring a witness or witnesses that can corroborate their story. Witnesses are limited to Race Judge, Race Veterinarians, Race Officials, race volunteers, or race mushers that have firsthand information concerning the situation being considered. A jury comprised of the Race Marshall, Race Director (or Assistant Race Director or CopperDog Board member), and the Musher Representative (selected by the mushers at the musher meeting) will render a majority decision. Note that if the musher representative is unable to serve, the alternate will be called upon to serve.



## 16) The Race

### Start/Finish

At the race start, all mushers, handlers, and team trucks must be in the official mushers' parking area at a specific time and location to be announced at the Friday mushers' meeting.

All **CD150, CD80, & CD30** teams will do a "Snub Line" start at the start of the race in Calumet. CD150 and CD80 will do snub line start where available at Checkpoints. Not all checkpoints have the ability to set up snub lines. (See **Attachment 1**).

All **CD150** teams will have their bags checked before the Friday Calumet Start, at the Saturday Copper Harbor finish, and at the Eagle Harbor Finish.

All **CD80** teams will have their bags checked before the Calumet Start and at the Copper Harbor Finish.

All **CD30** teams will have their bags checked before the Calumet Start and at the Eagle Harbor Finish.

All **CD15** teams will have their bags checked before the Copper Harbor Start and at the Copper Harbor finish.

### Start Timing

Mushers are assigned pickup times in advance by race officials. A race volunteer will remind each team of their pickup time at 15 minutes prior to that pickup time. Mushers must have their teams hooked up and ready to go at their pickup time. Volunteer handlers are available to help move dog teams to the starting gate.

If a musher has missed their pick up time and is not ready to go by two (2) minutes before their starting time, the musher will be assessed a penalty decided by the Race Marshal. The team in question may be moved to start the race after the last team has left the chute in their class. If this happens with two or more teams, they will leave at two-minute intervals in the order that they were originally scheduled to leave.

If a musher has missed their pick up time, but is able to make it to the starting chute within 1 minute past their scheduled departure time, they will be started at the race's first available convenience. Each situation will be reviewed by the Race Marshall and a penalty may be assessed.

If a musher happens to leave early from the starting gate their start time will be the time they were scheduled to depart.

If the **race is at fault** for not delivering a musher to the starting chute on time, or the musher is brought up out of order **by the race**, the musher will depart the starting chute at the first opportunity while ensuring the least amount of interference of other starting teams. The recorded time will be the actual time the musher left the chute. A team arriving late to the starting gate will not be allowed to interfere with the start of teams who arrive on time.

Subject to compliance with all race rules, regulations and determinations of the Race Marshal, a team finish time, as well as the time into each checkpoint, is measured when the nose of the lead dog crosses the finish line.

Should any of the mandatory gear be missing a penalty may be assessed for each item missing. Expendable or consumable gear (e.g. booties, food) need not be present on arrival at a checkpoint or at the finish.

## **Checkpoints**

Each musher must sign in and out personally from each checkpoint.

All **CD150** teams must submit to a mandatory Vet Check at the Copper Harbor checkpoint upon finishing **Saturday March 4th, 2023**. It is the musher's responsibility to locate a veterinarian or race official to schedule the vet check. The musher must have the dogs checked 45 minutes after arrival at the checkpoint. The musher must not box dogs until vet checks on their team have been completed. The vet checks will be assigned as teams arrive at the finish line, with the exception of a team needing immediate veterinarian attention. Having a dog pass the vet check in the checkpoint does not automatically guarantee that the dog will not be removed from the team before departure should the dog's physical condition deteriorate or a previously undiagnosed injury be diagnosed before the team has left the checkpoint.

All **CD80** teams must submit to a mandatory Vet Check at the Eagle Harbor checkpoint upon finishing **Friday March 3th, 2023**. It is the musher's responsibility to locate a veterinarian or race official to schedule the vet check. The musher must have the dogs checked 45 minutes after arrival at the checkpoint. The musher must not box dogs until vet checks on their team have been completed. The vet checks will be assigned as teams arrive at the finish line, with the exception of a team needing immediate veterinarian attention. Having a dog pass the vet check in the checkpoint does not automatically guarantee that the dog will not be removed from the team before departure should the dog's physical condition deteriorate or a previously undiagnosed injury be diagnosed before the team has left the checkpoint.

All **CD30** teams may request assistance or a check from a vet at the Eagle Harbor finish as needed.

All **CD15** teams must submit to a mandatory Vet Check at the Copper Harbor Checkpoint prior to the start on **Saturday March 4th, 2023**.

Dogs may be dropped from a team only at official checkpoints.

Any musher leaving his/her team at an assisted checkpoint must do so only if a handler is available to supervise the team.

Accommodations (space for bedding down dogs, restrooms, parking space, etc.) will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Efforts will be made to give mushers every advantage in this regard, but no guarantees are tendered.

Most checkpoints will have running water available; the CD150 Race Organization will try to make arrangements in this regard. Each musher and his/her handler(s) are responsible for having the necessary food and water buckets at the checkpoints.

No **CD150, CD80, CD30, or CD15** handlers or trucks should be along the trail at any point. Handlers proceed directly to the next checkpoint.

A fine of up to \$100.00 may be assessed against any team not cleaning up their site before leaving each checkpoint.

### **Outside Assistance**

No outside assistance other than that planned by the race giving organization is permitted between checkpoints. Exceptions may be made under emergency conditions as determined by the Race Marshal or a Race Judge.

Mushers may aid each other in appropriate ways under emergency conditions.

Outside assistance with repairs to broken or destroyed equipment may be allowed under the supervision of the Race Marshal or a Race Judge.

Mushers may receive assistance in cases of uncontrolled or lost dog teams. Outside assistance must be accepted if a musher has lost complete control of a team; this includes motorized assistance. The Race Marshal or a Race Judge must be notified of such a circumstance and will rule on its validity.

A musher may not receive assistance from any motorized vehicle between checkpoints except in the case of a medical emergency or a lost team. Pacing with a vehicle is prohibited. Dog trucks and/or handlers are allowed only at official assisted checkpoint drops unless helping a team that has officially scratched from the race.

### **Handling and treatment of Dogs**

The cruel and/or inhumane treatment of dogs by any musher or handler as determined by the Race Officials is strictly prohibited.

In the event a team gets away from the musher, it will not be disqualified if the musher regains control provided they have not left the racecourse. If the team and the musher have left the racecourse, they must re-enter the course at the point they left it.

All dogs on a team must be in harness and attached to the sled. No loose leaders will be permitted. A musher must make every effort to secure a dog which becomes loose accidentally. Dogs not in the team gangline must be restrained in the sled basket at all times during the course of the race.

It is the musher's responsibility to check for traffic at road crossings on the racecourse. CopperDog Board of Directors will attempt to secure road crossings, but final safety is the musher's responsibility.

Two or more teams may not be tied together except to assist a musher at some single location along the race route. Mushers involved in such a situation must notify a race judge at the next checkpoint along the trail. No penalty will be assessed if a musher is aiding another race participant in danger for his/her life.

A musher may have another team haul his/her dogs only if they agree and if the musher is hauling two or more dogs already.

Any dog expired on the trail must be covered and transported in the sled to a checkpoint. The musher may transport the dog either to the checkpoint just passed or the upcoming one. Once at the checkpoint the musher must notify a race official with the protocol discussed at Friday's mushers' meeting. The musher must then complete a report and present it to the Chief Veterinarian(s). All expired dogs will be necropsied by the Chief Veterinarian(s) per ISDVMA guidelines. Tissue samples will be submitted for veterinary pathologist examination as deemed necessary.

Forced rehydration of a dog is the responsibility of Race Veterinarians only. Any dog entering a checkpoint requiring emergency or forced rehydration must be dropped from the team and placed under medical supervision.

### **The Race Course**

Teams must stay on the race course. If the team and the musher have left the race course, they must re-enter the course at the point they left it.

When overtaking another team, the musher must call "TRAIL" if/when he or she wants the overtaken musher to relinquish the trail. The slower team must relinquish the trail immediately when "TRAIL" is called and assist the passing team if necessary. Sticks and other poling aids cannot be used within 100 feet (either behind or in front) of another team and must be stowed when a musher calls for trail. When neither team is able to pull away from the other, the mushers shall agree mutually on the appropriate team to lead out. Penalties will be assessed if this procedure is not followed.

No Man's Land starts one (1) mile from the finish line and will be well marked. Mushers will no longer have the option to call "TRAIL" nor will mushers be required to relinquish the trail. Sticks and other poling aids must be stowed in No Man's Land.

All race participants must abide by state and federal laws governing the transportation and use of firearms and the killing of game and nongame wildlife. In the event a musher kills a game animal protecting his life or that of his dogs, the musher must field dress the animal and then report the incident to a race judge at the next checkpoint. The CD150 Race Organization will take responsibility for recovering the animal.

Mushers breaking along the trail are required to ensure that the racecourse is clear of all dogs and gear.

The race will continue under all but the most severe of weather conditions. Mushers must come prepared to contend with cold, wind, storm conditions, and bare sections of trail. In the event of questionable trail conditions, the Board of Directors will make the decision to postpone or cancel the race no later than the

Wednesday of race week. After the start of the mushers' meeting, the Race Marshal will assume all responsibility for any further postponement or alteration of start/finish locations.

The primary consideration will be the safety and well-being of the dogs and mushers, not the comfort of the musher.

Mushers observing littering on the trail are encouraged to report it. A musher may be fined up to \$100 for intentional littering. A time penalty may also be imposed at the discretion of the Race Marshall.

Any team that does not demonstrate satisfactory forward progress (is "late" into a crossing) may be disqualified by the Race Marshall or a Race Judge. As the first team reaches each crossing a "best time" is recorded for that crossing. All subsequent teams must have a time that is at least 65% of the fastest time (specific to each race, there is a fastest time for the 150 and one for the 80). A team's progress is evaluated by considering their departure time and the best team time at any crossing. Each team will therefore have a "deadline" for reaching each crossing. Any teams arriving after their "deadline" may be disqualified by the Race Marshall or a Race Judge.

### **Unsafe Conditions**

Should the Race Marshall determines that an emergency event, an unsafe situation, or unsafe conditions, including weather or trail conditions, may affect the race, the Race Marshall may 1) reroute, shorten, or cancel any stage of the race; 2) stop a team or teams from competing 3) cancel the event and not restart the race and/or 4) stop the race until an emergency situation is resolved (**See Attachment 2**). Should a situation occur where the Race Marshall makes such a change, each team's overall finishing position will be determined by each team's overall accumulated trail time.

## **17) Claims**

Each musher agrees to hold the CopperDog Board of Directors, the race sponsors and other contributors (as distinguished from individual sponsors of mushers and teams) harmless from any claim or demand based upon any alleged action or inaction by the musher, his/her dogs or others acting on his/her behalf.

The CopperDog Board of Directors claims unconditional authority to allow race sponsors to film, photograph or otherwise collect and document information about the race and race participants for use in advertising, public relations or other publicity purposes.

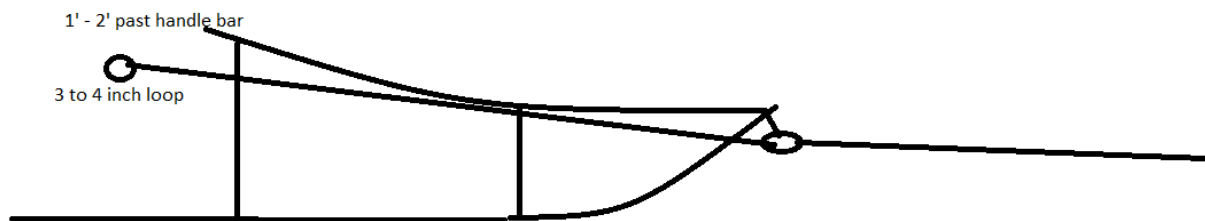
Each musher shall sign any and all documents as may be requested by the CopperDog race to accept the foregoing statements and conditions. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. All documents will be presented to the musher at Registration or will be included in the musher entry packet.

## **Attachment 1**

### ***Snubline Start***

For safety of the dogs, musher, and volunteers at the start line, a snubline will be used for all the checkpoint starts. There will be no chain for snow hooks.

Snub lines shall extend at least one (1) foot but no longer than two (2) feet beyond the handle bar. Loop should be approximately three (3) to four (4) inches in diameter. No metal rings. Snub line can be adjustable to run off either the right or left side of the sled, but there will be a line on the right and left of the start line to connect to the snubline from the sled.



## **Attachment 2**

### ***Race stop for violence/Trail emergency policy***

The CopperDog race organization strives to have a safe race for all participants, volunteers, and officials. A non-race related trail emergency, or a race related violent incident must be considered. To that end, the following will be the procedure if an emergency situation creates an unsafe situation for mushers to continue forward on the trail.

If a trail emergency is reported, the Race Marshall will determine whether the emergency warrants mushers behind the emergency to be stopped in place. If that decision is made, mushers will be stopped at the crossing prior to the trail emergency and held there. All mushers ahead of the trail emergency will continue normally to the next checkpoint. The following steps will happen next:

- The appropriate emergency agency will be immediately notified of the location of the emergency and the best location information available.
- The Race Marshall and/or a Race Judge will proceed immediately to that crossing.
- The timer at that crossing will note the time and bib number at which a musher is stopped.
- Mushers may receive assistance if requested while their team stopped.
- The Race Marshall and Race Director with assistance from the Chair of the Board, will determine when the trail is safe for the mushers to continue.
- The timer at that crossing will note the time and bib number at which a musher is started again.
- Mushers will restart from the crossing in 2 minute intervals in the order in which they arrived at the crossing.
- The Race Marshall will compile the stop times and convey them to the Chief Timer in person or via radio.
- The amount of time stopped for each musher will be deducted from the total time for that race segment.