

2021 Bun Run Race Rules

Two Rivers Dog Mushers Association (TRDMA)

(Updated October 27, 2020)

Date of Race: The 2021 Bun Run Sled Dog Race will be held on Saturday March 13, 2021.

The Bun Run is an approximate 15-mile fun run for small teams and a driver with a rider in the basket.

Location of Race: Start will be at 24 Mile Java in Pleasant Valley, Alaska at Mile 24 Chena Hot Springs Road (CHSR). Finish will be at Larae's Bread, Pies and Espresso at Mile 10 CHSR.

Qualifications: Drivers do not have to be members of TRDMA, but if you become a member, you can participate in longer races. Drivers must be at least 18 years of age by the start of the race. Exceptions for Juniors can be made by the Race Marshal and with one recommendation from an experienced musher with TRDMA Board approval. No one convicted of animal abuse or neglect will be eligible to enter the race, TRDMA may honor censure by any other sled dog racing organization.

Registration and Entry Fee: Entry fee for members is \$20 and \$25 for non-members. Day of race sign-ups will be allowed. Registration will be online at the website <http://trdma.info> with online payment via credit or debit card, closing at midnight Monday March 8, 2021. In person sign ups on race day will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday March 13, 2021.

Refunds: Entry fees paid by a driver not allotted a starting spot will be refunded. Drivers that withdraw will forfeit their entire entry fee. Substitutions by mushers associated with the same kennel will be permitted.

Limit of Entries: none

Basket Rider: Each driver may have one person riding in the sled basket. Riders must be at least 12 years of age. The rider must be wearing appropriate winter gear for a 15-mile dog sled ride. Drivers will not be penalized if they do not have a rider.

Race Cancellation: If temperature at 24 Mile Java is colder than -35 F at 9:00 am Saturday March 13, the race will be postponed or canceled at the discretion of the race officials. After the race has started, it will continue regardless of temperatures.

Day of Race Schedule: Saturday March 13, 2021 at 24 Mile Java.

- 9:00-10:00 am: Racers need to check in and present proof of vaccination records. All dogs must be current for rabies, distemper, and parvo. Copies of rabies certificates and purchase receipts for the other vaccinations are acceptable proof. Start positions will be determined by order of check in. Drivers are allowed to request positions upon check in, if not already taken by another driver.

- 10:00 am: Mandatory Drivers meeting. The trail and race rules will be reviewed. Attendance at the drivers meeting is required, any driver not in attendance may be subject to penalty or disqualification.
- 11:00 am: Race starts. There will be an initial driver/sweeper that leaves first to lead the race.

Start Intervals: Teams will leave at two-minute intervals. Any team that cannot leave the start line within one minute of its designated time will be required to start two minutes after the scheduled departure of the final team. Any team that cannot leave the starting line within 30 minutes of the last team's scheduled departure will be disqualified.

Number of Dogs: Drivers must start the race with no fewer than 6 dogs and not more than 10 dogs.

Race Winnings: First, second, and third place winners will receive \$30, \$20, and \$10 gift cards, respectively, to Cold Spot Feed Store. All drivers and riders will receive a Bun Voucher for a free cinnamon bun at the end of the race at Larae's Bread, Pies and Espresso.

Mandatory Gear: Mandatory gear will be checked at the race start. A team missing mandatory gear will not be able to leave the start line or officially check into the finish.

- Sled equipped with a standard brake, no attached caboose or trailer
- Cold weather sleeping bag
- Hand ax with an overall length of at least 22 inches
- Headlamp
- Snow hook
- Assigned starting bib, which must be visible at all times

Mistreatment of Dogs is Prohibited: Mistreatment of dogs will cause immediate disqualification. Such an action will also be reported to all major race organizations. Signal whips and dogs requiring muzzles are not permitted. The Race Marshall will have absolute authority over this matter.

Drugs: Injectable, oral, or topical drugs are prohibited. Drugs that may suppress the signs of illness or injury may not be used, put in drop bags, or carried in the sled.

Expired Dogs: Any dog that expires during the race for any reason must be taken to the next checkpoint or returned to the checkpoint last passed (e.g. the start or finish) and reported immediately to race officials. The death of any dog may result in the withdrawal or disqualification of the driver, and/or possible prohibition from entering future TRDMA races. The Race Marshall and Race Veterinarian may require a necropsy be conducted on the expired dog at the expense of the owner/driver.

Following the Trail: All teams must follow the trail as marked. Deviations/shorter routes will be assessed a time penalty. Every effort will be made to keep trail markers in place, but TRDMA cannot be responsible for acts of nature or malicious acts. Two stakes on the side of the trail indicates an upcoming turn on that side of the trail; e.g. a left turn will have two markers side-by-side on the left-hand side of the trail; a right-hand turn will have two markers on the right. Intersections that are to be traveled straight through will have a single marker on the right and left side of the trail.

Calling Trail: Respect your fellow racers. If you are being overtaken by another team within 50 feet of your team and the driver is calling trail you must stop your team. This means stop. Do not just lightly touch your brake. It is your responsibility to ensure your team isn't interfering with the other team while passing and to have your sled pulled over as far as you can out of the way. The passed team must remain behind at least 5 minutes before asking for the trail right-of-way to re-pass.

Keep the Trail Clear: Drivers resting their team must keep the trail clear of dogs, food, and gear at all times as to not obstruct the trail for other mushers.

Littering is Prohibited: A minimum 30-minute time penalty will be assessed for littering on the trail. Be respectful to our trails and dogs. Some dogs like to eat candy wrappers and other waste tossed onto the trail. Dog booties and excessive amounts of dog food left on the trail are considered littering. Excessive dog food left on the trail is also considered tampering with another team's race.

Tampering: Tampering with another driver's dogs, food truck, trailer, dog box, or gear will result in disqualification from the race and possibly exclusion from future races. The above are examples and tampering is not limited to those alone. Drivers are responsible for the actions of their handlers, friends and associates.

Outside Assistance: Because this is a fun run, outside assistance is permitted.

Withdrawal from the Race: A driver who would like to withdraw may do so at the start or finish. If the driver lives in the local area and feels their team cannot make it to the finish line, please let officials know as soon as possible that you have chosen to drive your team home. If you choose to scratch alongside the road to be picked up by your handler you must also let race officials know as soon as possible that you have withdrawn from the race.

Good Sportsmanship: Drivers shall conduct themselves in a courteous and honorable manner at all times. Officials, media, volunteers, and fans are all equal participants in the race and it is the driver's responsibility to maintain a good rapport with them at all times.