

2010 Taiga 300 Rules

Entries: The Taiga 300 is sponsored and operated by the Gin Gin 200 Race Organization. The entry fee for the Taiga shall be \$300. All entrants must be members of the Gin Gin 200 Race Organization. The annual membership fee is \$15. (your total entry will be \$315) Receipt of the entry fee and a signed entry form will constitute drivers agreement and compliance with race rules and conditions set forth. Entries will be accepted until the beginning of the drivers meeting. The drivers meeting will be held at 8:00 am Monday, March 29, 2010 at Wolverine Lodge on Lake Louise.

Start/Race Format/Finish: Race start will be at 11:00 am. March 29. There will be a mass start if snow conditions permit, otherwise starting will be at 2 minute intervals. Mandatory layovers will be at Wolverine Lodge—6 hours, Maclaren Lodge—8 hours, and again at Maclaren Lodge for 4 hours. The race will be approximately 310 miles in length in segments of 60, 110, 30, and 110 miles. No planned help is allowed at any time during the race.

Food Drops: Food drops must be bagged and left in a designated place at Wolverine Lodge by 10:00 am. March 29. Drivers are responsible for providing their own straw at the Wolverine checkpoint. There will be **no food drop at the Maclaren checkpoint**. Drivers must haul their own supplies to Maclaren but need not haul them on the loop out from Maclaren. Straw will be provided at the Maclaren stop.

Purse: The purse will pay 5 places consisting of 55% of entry fees collected, plus any additional sponsorship. 1st; 30%, 2nd; 25%, 3rd; 20%. 4th; 15%, and 5th; 10%

Dogs:

All dogs must be current with rabies, distemper and Parvo vaccinations.

12-dog maximum, 8-dog minimum. Teams must finish with 7 dogs on the line.

Dogs may be dropped at any checkpoint; there will be a \$50 drop fee for dogs dropped at the Maclaren checkpoint. Dropped dogs may be picked up at Wolverine.

Dogs dropped at the Wolverine checkpoint are the responsibility of the musher.

Dogs may not run loose or be led behind the sled.

Dogs carried in the sled must be secured and covered.

Inhumane treatment of dogs will result in disqualification, penalty, or withdrawal. Inadequate dog care may result in withdrawal.

Whips or jinglers will not be permitted.

The same dogs must be used throughout the race. Dog deaths for any reason other than a vehicular accident or a moose incident will precipitate withdrawal from the Taiga 300.

No products that mask signs of injury will be permitted. No injectibles. The drug policies of the Yukon Quest will be followed.

Gear and Procedure: One sled is to be used throughout the race; the driver will be responsible for all repairs. Drivers may receive assistance with repairs at checkpoints with approval of the Race Marshall.

Sleds need be equipped with a working brake and brush bow.

Mandatory gear shall include; snowshoes with a minimum area of 250 sq. inches, axe with a overall length not less than 22", a cold weather sleeping bag and 8 booties per dog.—leaving the checkpoint. A cooker capable of melting snow and 2 good headlamps are strongly suggested.

There will be 30 minute time penalty assessed for missing mandatory gear, assessed at the next mandatory layover or the finish, whichever applies.

Littering will result in a one hour time penalty.

Drivers must sign in and out of all checkpoints.

Layover time begins after completion of the mandatory gear check.

Drivers must keep their teams clear of the trail when resting or snacking.

Standard passing procedures will apply. No Man's Land will be Lake Louise on the return leg.

Race Officials/Scratches/Protests; The race Marshal will be in charge of all aspects of the race from the time of the drivers meeting until the completion of the awards presentation. Decisions of the Race Marshal, Judges and Officials will be final.

Drivers may protest any decisions made by the Race Organization and /or report rules violations in writing to the Race Marshal at any time up until the beginning of the awards presentation. Drivers will have the opportunity to personally present and discuss any claims or violations with the Race Marshal.

Drivers wishing to scratch should notify a race official at the nearest checkpoint.

Sportsmanship is paramount. Drivers and handlers are expected to be courteous at all times. This race is designed to be fun; please conduct yourself accordingly.....

These rules are intended to guide the Race Marshal and race organization throughout the running of the Taiga 300. The Race Marshal and organization has the right to make non-rule on the spot decisions, regarding all aspects of this race, deemed to be for the good of the race and it's participants.