



RALLY RULES

14th May 2010

WORKING RALLY RULES

Eligibility of Dogs and Drivers

1. Any dog participating in a working rally organised by the Alaskan Malamute Working Association must be a pure bred sled dog and be registered with the Kennel Club to that effect, or have a rescue number issued by the Official Breed Club for that breed (sled dog breeds only).
2. It is the responsibility of the dog owners to make sure that their dogs are sufficiently trained and conditioned and that they post no hazard to the health or welfare of themselves or other dogs participating in the event.
3. An entry to the rally must be submitted before the start of the rally, subject to the entry deadline as set out by the organisers.
4. A rally may be cancelled at any stage at the discretion of the event organiser **and** the AMWA committee.
5. A refund may be given if an event is cancelled once all irretrievable overheads have been met.
6. Dogs undertaking any rally **must** be 12 months of age on or by the date of the rally. Exception may be made for novelty classes.
7. No dog may take part in more than one class or team during any one day.

Exception: Junior and scooter classification not exceeding one mile

Exceptions may be made to accommodate a multi- stage event with distance and weather taken into account, with a minimum rest period of eight hours.

A dog that is running in a multi-stage event will not be able to compete in a junior and scooter class

8. A dog or team proven a hazard to other dog teams or drivers/handlers shall be disqualified from the event by the event organiser/committee
9. Any dog or team coming to the starting point being, in the opinion of the rally organisers, unfit or incapable of completing the course/event will be disqualified.
10. Any dog or team disqualified in any heat of a rally shall not be eligible to compete in the remainder of the rally.
11. All drivers must be 18 years or over except for junior/novelty classes. Drivers between 16 and 18 wishing to enter adult classes **must** have been granted adult AMWA membership prior to the event.

12. Any driver/handler who displays poor sportsmanship or abuses his/her dogs shall be disqualified by the event organiser/committee and risks expulsion from the Association.
13. The driver starting a team in the first heat of a rally shall drive that team throughout the rally.
14. A change in driver can only be made as a result of illness or accident to the authorised entrant and must have the approval of the event organiser.
15. Any driver disqualified in any heat is not eligible to continue in the remainder of the event.
16. The owner, driver or handler who has been disqualified may subsequently appeal to the event organiser/ AMWA committee using the AMWA appeals/complaints procedure.
17. The Association strongly advise all competitors to wear head protection, not to do so is at the individuals risk.

Junior Entries

18. Any Junior entering a specially organised event under J2 must have adult supervision AT ALL TIMES this may include the use of a bicycle, running alongside or accompanying on rig. Both J1 and J2 classes will have marshals within sight of all points of the course.
19. Recognised, secured head protection to be worn by all Junior competitors.

Classes for Rallies

M1	1 x Alaskan Malamute
M2	2 x Alaskan Malamute
MS	3 + Alaskan Malamute only
ASFDC	Mix sled dog teams (Any sled/freight dog combination) 2-3 Dog, Must consist of at least 1 freighting breed.
ES	2 Dog Siberian Husky
DS	2-3 Dog Siberian Husky
CS	3-4 Dog Siberian Husky
BS	4-6 Dog Siberian Husky
S1	Scooter (1 dog only)
J1	Junior 12 - 18 years
J2	Junior 8 - 11 years
DV	Veteran (over 7 years of age)

Disease

20. No dog, equipment or clothing shall be brought from a kennel where ANY contagious disease exists.
21. Should an event veterinarian diagnose any dog present in the rally to have a contagious disease, the team shall be disqualified immediately and asked to leave the rally area.

Medications

22. Prohibited medications are all those deemed harmful to the dogs or to the sport, including stimulants, depressants, anaesthetics and analgesics.
23. If any dog is suspected of being under the influence of any prohibited medication, the event organisers reserve the right to have the dog examined and tested by qualified personnel, and if positive, the dog, driver and owner will suffer automatic disqualification for the whole of that season plus any other penalty deemed appropriate (and will cover all veterinary costs).
24. If any owner or Driver/Musher refuses to allow a sample to be collected in his/her presence from a dog, that team will be disqualified from that event. Any further penalty served will be deemed as appropriate.

Equipment

25. All drivers and equipment shall be available for inspection by the appointed scrutinizers at the time set by the event organiser(s).
26. Drivers and equipment may be required for inspection after each run or heat.
27. Each driver will ensure the proper safety and fit of harness and collars prior to the rally. These may be subject to scrutiny during the pre-rally checks.
28. Lines and connections will be checked by the scrutinisers.
29. All connections from lines to harness, collar and rig/sled must be capable of quick and easy detachment. Correct functioning of these attachments may be checked.
30. All teams must have a snub line attached to the gang line as one continuous line between the rear of the team and the point where it is attached to the rig/sled.
31. Snub line must be attached to the rig securely by a knot or loop to the frame.
32. The snub line must be of sufficient length to enable the release from static object (eg gatepost or tree) by driver while standing on and in control of rig/sled.
33. All lines must be free of frays and excess wear
34. Shock absorber must have safety line.
35. Rigs will be checked before each rally by the appointed scrutinisers.

36. Rigs must not be fitted with any device to assist propulsion.
37. Rigs must have three or four wheels and be free standing.
38. Rigs must have an adequate braking system. Rear wheels must lock, and remain locked, when brakes are applied by the driver standing in the normal position and with motive power supplied by either pushing or pulling the rig by the scrutinizers.
39. Rigs must be equipped with a manual steering mechanism capable of operation by the driver from the normal driving position.
40. All rigs must be fitted with a brushbow. This must cover the entire width of the rig and must be created in a way as to avoid any sharp projection. If the brushbow is not wider than the rear wheels then deflectors must be fitted to cover any protruding parts and made of inflexible material.
41. Brushbows must not be less than 8" nor more than 18" from the ground. All brushbows must be manufactured from inflexible materials.
42. Rigs must not exceed 150 cm. (60") in overall width.
43. No part of the rig shall protrude in front of the brushbow, including the gangline attachments.
44. All four wheeled rigs must be fitted with a tubular front bumper, the length of which shall equal at least the full width of the rig. The ends of the bumper must be rounded so as not to present a hazard. No part of the rig shall protrude in front of the bumper, including gangline attachments. The front wheels must also be protected by additional deflectors which must be secured either side of each wheel. Further additional deflectors must be fitted around any protruding part, fabricated in such a way as to avoid the creation of any sharp projection. Bumpers must be not less than 20 cm. (8") nor more than 45 cm. (18") from the ground. All bumpers/deflectors must be manufactured from inflexible material

Sleds

- 43 Sleds will be checked before each rally by the appointed scrutinizers.
- 44 Sleds must be fitted with a brushbow/modern sleds are shaped accordingly (not square fronted).
- 45 Sleds must have an adequate braking system, e.g. claw brake or drag mat.

Dogs

- 46 All dogs must be properly harnessed in the team and be fastened by a neck line (except single lead dogs).
- 47 Fan lines are not permitted

- 48 Any team falling behind the required minimum of fit dogs for the class entered must retire. If this reduction in number of fit dogs occurs on the trail because of injury or sickness, then no attempt should be made to complete the course
- 49 All dogs starting any heat must complete that heat whether running or being carried in the bag other than Rule 71 below.
- 50 In the event of an emergency, drivers must use their discretion as to whether to proceed with the depleted team to the finish or whether to alert a passing driver or contact a marshal or spectator to seek assistance (disqualification applies)
- 51 After the first heat, a driver may drop any dog they wish from subsequent heat(s), subject always to the minimum specified

Accessories

- 52 Bags capable of carrying a dog must be carried (for any team over two dogs) for sleds or rigs.
- 53 Muzzles, full choke collars, whips or other similar devices are strictly prohibited.
- 54 Spiked or metal studded footwear is prohibited.
- 55 A numbered bib will be provided by the event organisers. The driver must display this number on his person whilst competing.

Course Procedure – Driving a Team - Conduct

- 56 A driver may ride, scoot or run as and when he wishes Physical and verbal abuse of dogs is strictly prohibited.
- 57 A driver shall not interfere with a competing team.
- 58 Carrying a passenger at any time in the rally is prohibited (except in J2 class if desired).

Trail/Course Set Up

- 59 The trail should be of a suitable surface, avoiding concrete, tarmac or sharp gravel wherever possible to avoid damage to dogs feet.
- 60 Single colour markers will be used to mark the course. For a night rally these will be reflective.
- Right turn – red marker on the right (25-50ft) before turn
 - Left turn – red marker on the left (25-50ft) before turn
 - Straight on – blue marker

- Hazard/caution – yellow marker
- 61 'No Right of Way' Markers will be used to indicate that it is safe to overtake and run side by side. This will usually be placed near to the finish line or end of a 'Row' part of the trail.

Starting Procedure

- 62 The starting positions for the rally will be determined by a draw held prior to the event by the organisers.
- 63 The order may, at the opinion of the event organisers, be changed to accommodate rig/sled loans.
- 64 The driver is responsible for ensuring that their team is securely snubbed at the start line.
- 65 The starting point of the team shall be the front of the brushbow.
- 66 Start time shall be the originally scheduled time of departure.
- 67 A late starting team shall not be allowed to start until the last team entered in its class has started (if time permits)
- 68 If more than one team is declared late, those teams shall re-start in their originally scheduled starting order (if time permitted)
- 69 If a team is late for its second scheduled start time for any heat, that team shall be disqualified.
- 70 A team not clearing the start position within 30 seconds of its start time must retire and await instruction from the event organisers.
- 71 A team not clearing the starting chute within 60 seconds of its scheduled starting time will be disqualified. Chute will be 50ft

Outside Assistance

- 72 All teams may receive assistance from officials stationed at designated points along the trail. All drivers will be notified of permissible assistance at the musher's meeting.
- 73 An individual team may receive assistance from anyone if the team has become unmanageable.
- 74 Assistance shall be limited to holding the rig/sled, except in the case of a loose team.
- 75 In the absence of a driver, the team may be held or snubbed until the driver arrives.
- 76 No person is allowed to assist a team by wilfully pacing it.

Loose Teams

77 Both team and driver must cover the entire course without unauthorised assistance.

78 A loose team interfering with other teams will be disqualified.