

2021 Bogus Creek 150 Rules

The 2021 Bogus Creek 150 (hereinafter '150') is a 150-mile sled dog race starting and finishing in Bethel, Alaska. **As part of modifications to mitigate Covid-19 risks the race will not follow the traditional trail to Bogus Creek. Instead, mushers will race to a camp at the midway point that will be located in or near Bethel.**

All updates to these rules from the previous year are highlighted in RED.

- 1. The '150' begins at 12:00 PM (Noon) in Bethel on Saturday, January 23, 2021.**
2. Membership is required to participate in K300 purse races and available for a fee of \$100 which covers entry for all K300 races for the season, except the K300. There is no entry fee for the Bogus Creek 150. Teams may enter in the name of the owner, sponsors, racer, or any other name the entrant chooses. The racer must be designated at the time of entry. A substitute racer may replace the designated racer any time before the racers meeting. Substitutions after that time are subject to Race Marshal approval.
- 3. The 2021 '150' will begin with a mass start.**
- 4. No racers from outside the Y-K Delta region will be permitted to participate in the 2021 '150'.**
5. Racers must sign in with the official checker at each designated checkpoint and declare how many dogs will be dropped.
6. Racers must follow the marked and/or broken race trail. Leaving the marked and/or broken trail for the purpose of gaining a competitive advantage over other racers is not allowed.
7. A team finishes the race when the nose of any dog in the team crosses the finish line in Bethel.
- 8. Each racer must register for the 2021 '150' in advance. This can be done by completing the form available at www.k300.org or over the phone by calling the Race Manager at 545-3300. Racers are responsible for reviewing the rules and trail details made available at www.k300.org before the race and must also comply with the special Covid-19 protocols in place for all 2020-21 races. **Mushers must attend a pre-race meeting at 11:00 AM at the start line on Saturday, January 23rd**. Mushers may also be required to participate in a post-race meeting.**
- 9. Racers are asked to keep their handler crews as small as possible while ensuring they will be able to keep their teams under control at the starting point. Racers may only accept assistance from their handlers at the start, the Bethel Checkpoint and at the finish. Racer must wear any bib or banner provided by the Committee on their back at the start and finish line.**
10. Racers must begin the race with no fewer than 7 dogs and no more than 10 dogs and complete the race with no fewer than 5 dogs. At no time may a team travel with less than 5 dogs in harness and attached to the gang line. No dogs are to be added to a team after leaving the starting line.

11. All dogs are subject to a veterinary check at any time prior to, during, or after the race. Dogs not fit to begin or continue the race may be removed from the race at the discretion of the Race Veterinarian. The Race Veterinarian may also require a racer to delay his team at a checkpoint if the Veterinarian believes dogs in the team require additional rest. No injectable substances may be used on any dog at any point during the race.

12. Inhumane treatment of dogs is not permitted. Whips may not be carried or used during the race.

13. Racers may drop dogs from their team during the race, but dogs may be left only at **the Bethel checkpoint**. Racers may not sign in at a checkpoint unless all dogs in their team, which left the previous checkpoint, are present. Dropped dogs may not be put back in the team. The Race Committee will not provide transportation for any dropped dogs. Racers must make arrangements for transportation and care of dogs. Each racer must have a support crew consisting of at least one person, to be identified at the pre-race meeting. This support crew must be available on the trail to transport food, gear and dogs. The race committee will not be responsible for arranging for any such support.

14. Racers are responsible for the transportation of all dog food and gear. The committee will not be responsible for the transportation or storage of such food and gear. Racers may not utilize food from any other location along the trail except in an emergency situation. Use of such food in an emergency must be reported to a race official. Any food fed to dogs outside of the designated food drops must be hauled during the race by the dog team using the food.

15. Racers may not accept help in the care or feeding of their dogs, or the establishment of their camps at any point along the trail except at **the Bethel Checkpoint**. At that location, racers may have one or more handlers assisting in the care and feeding of dogs and the establishment of their camp.

16. Prize Money: The 2021 Total Purse is \$60,000 dispersed over 15 places. An exact breakdown of the payment can be found on the K300 website, www.k300.org.

17. The highest finishing rookie racer will receive recognition. A rookie is defined as any racer who has not competed in a race of 150 miles or longer prior to the 2021 Bogus Creek 150 race. Racers wishing to compete for the rookie award must identify themselves as rookies at the pre-race meeting.

18. Motorized vehicles may not lead, pace or follow teams unless at the direction of the race officials. The race officials include the Race Marshal, the Race Veterinarian, and any race judges. All officials will be identified to the racers at the pre-race meeting.

19. Each racer must carry as required equipment at all times a sleeping bag and an ax. In addition, each racer must start the race with four dog booties for each dog.

20. Each racer must execute a Release of Liability before entering the race. Each racer must show proof that dogs in his team have been vaccinated for rabies. It is recommended that all dogs also have distemper and parvo vaccinations before traveling to Bethel.

21. No racer under the age of 16 may enter the race, unless they have previously applied for and received approval based on their qualifications and experience from the Race Committee. Applications for such approval must be made prior to January 16, 2021.

22. Racers must take a 4-hour layover *only at the **midway checkpoint***. The layover begins when the racer signs in with the checker. The layover ends when the racer signs out. During the 4-hour mandatory layover each team is subject to any time adjustments that are required.

23. Bethel, the midway checkpoint, is the only official checkpoint for the 2021 '150'.

24. Any racer who becomes separated from his team may use whatever means are possible to recover this team. In order for a lost team to continue the race if it has left the trail, it must return to the trail at the point of departure and complete the entire race route. Should the team advance up the trail and later be recovered on the trail, the racer may continue the race without returning to the point where he became separated from his team.

25. When any team approaches to within 50 feet of another team, the team behind has the immediate right of way upon demand. The racer ahead must stop his dogs and hold them to the best of his ability for a maximum of one minute or until the other team has passed, whichever occurs first. The passed team must remain behind at least 15 minutes before demanding the trail. The passing rule does not apply in No Man's Land, which will be identified to racer at the race meeting.

26. All litter must be properly disposed of at checkpoint and may not be left along the trail.

27. Racers must conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner. Discussion about these rules or other aspects of the race must be conducted with race officials at an appropriate time and place. At all race functions, conduct detrimental to the Race Committee, its sponsors, or its volunteers is subject to penalty.

28. Any observed violations of the Race Rules must be reported to a race official within 12 hours of the time that the racer registering the protest crosses the finish line. Any decisions of race officials are final.

29. Racers who having out standing accounts with the K-300 will have their prize money adjusted accordingly.

30. Rule violations subject the violator to the following range of penalties:

1. Warning (oral or written)
2. Censure (public or private)
3. Monetary

4. Time delay
5. Disqualification
6. Ineligibility for future races.

Penalties 1 through 5 may be administered by race officials. Penalty 6 may be administered by the Race Committee.

The Race Committee urges each entrant in this year's race to fully prepare himself and his team for possible hazardous trail conditions Southwest Alaska is subject to high winds, low temperatures, and severe snowstorms during the month of January. Racers might also expect temperatures as high as 40 degrees with rain. Arctic style cold weather gear is recommended, including a heavy-duty sleeping bag with an outer bag or tarp to break the wind. A set of rain gear is also recommended. Daylight can be expected from 9:30a.m. to 6p.m. Part of the trail will be lightly traveled areas and racers who lose the trail must be prepared for survival in such an emergency situation. The trail will be extensively marked and the progress of racers will be closely monitored. However, weather conditions and other factors beyond the control of the Race Committee may prevent a racer from being helped in the event he is lost. Please plan accordingly.

The race will adhere to its schedule unless weather or trail conditions force a delay. If that should occur before the race start, the start could be delayed on a day-to-day basis. This has happened in the past, and racers will be given reasonable notice of such changes through race headquarters. Once the race has begun, such delays will be communicated through checkers and race officials on the trail. Any such delay would involve teams not being able to advance along the trail once notified of the delay. This procedure would be employed only at checkpoints. In addition to a delay, the race route may be altered either before or during the race if conditions require such a change. This could result in a longer or shorter race trail than advertised. One of the potential results would be a race that is stopped at a point short of the expected finish line, after teams have reached that location, if trail conditions do not allow the race to continue. In all of the above situations, the committee recognizes that changes would possibly affect the outcome of the race. Thus, such changes would not be made except in extraordinary circumstances. If such changes are required, the committee will make every effort to assure that dog care is not adversely affected by the change. The Kuskokwim 300 endeavors at all times to conduct a safe event that is fair for all competitors.

If you have questions about these Rules or other aspects of the race, contact the Race Committee at 545-3300 in Bethel or at Box 3001, Bethel, Alaska 99559.