

2013

Iditarod

MEDIA INFORMATION / TIPS

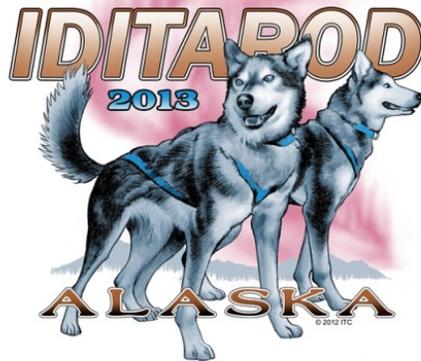


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General Race Information and 2013 Race Information – Musher Bios can be found in the

IDITAROD HISTORY – GENERAL INFO / 2013 RACE INFORMATION GUIDE

Found at www.iditarod.com under Press & Media

MEDIA BRIEFINGS**ANCHORAGE MEDIA BRIEFING**

Media Credential Applications Due by **FEBRUARY 22, 2013!**
 Applications can be found at www.iditarod.com – Resources – Press & Media – 2013 Application

Wednesday, February 27, 2013 @ 3:00 PM
MILLENNIUM ALASKAN HOTEL

- Pick up media credentials – this is the **ONLY** time you can pick up your credentials for Anchorage or Willow.
- Get information needed for covering the Start, Re-Start and trail.

Important: If you plan to take a laptop on the trail, please bring it to the media briefing where GCI technicians will be available to configure your laptop for use on the trail.

NOME MEDIA BRIEFING

Projected Finish Date - on or about March 13, 2013
MINI-CONVENTION CENTER

- **SEVERAL HOURS BEFORE THE PROJECTED FINISH**
- Information about activity at the finish line
- Distribution of finish line badges **(The same badges that have been used along the trail and in Anchorage will not allow media into the finish chute in Nome, Alaska.)**
- Signs will be posted in the Mini-Convention Center once the time and date of meeting has been determined.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

The Iditarod Trail Committee operates its primary race headquarters in Anchorage at the Millennium Hotel, 4800 Spenard Road. A headquarters also operates in Nome to make accurate information available at the end of the race.

You are invited to drop in to any headquarters location for the latest race information and to purchase Iditarod memorabilia.

General Information, Updates & Race Business..... (907) 248-MUSH(6874)
 (Anchorage Race Headquarters – Millennium Hotel Anchorage)

General Information & Updates..... (907) 443-MUSH(6874)
 (Nome Race Headquarters -- Mini-Convention Center)

Iditarod Communications Director, Erin McLarnon..... (907) 352-2215 or (907) 631-2989

IDITAROD RACE HEADQUARTERS

Room 1004, Millennium Hotel Anchorage – 4800 Spenard Road
 Open throughout the business day Monday, February 25 – Friday, March 1, 2013
 Open 24/7 from Saturday, March 2 – Monday, March 18, 2013
 General Phone Number – 907-248-6874

Mini Convention Center in Nome
 Opens Monday, March 11, 2013
 Open 24/7 through Sunday, March 17, 2013
 General Phone Number – (907)443-6874

ONLINE

www.iditarod.com

2013 IDITAROD SPONSORS**PRINCIPAL PARTNERS**

Donlin Gold
GCI
ExxonMobil
Anchorage Chrysler Dodge Jeep

LEAD DOG PARTNERS

Wells Fargo	Konica Minolta
Millennium Alaskan Hotel	Alaska Airlines
PenAir	Anchorage Daily News
Horizon Lines	Northern Air Cargo

TEAM DOG PARTNERS

Tidewater	Providence Alaska Medical Ctr.
LifeMed Alaska	Municipality of Anchorage
Coca-Cola Alaska	City of Nome
Bristol Bay Native Corporation	Allworx
Guggenheim Partners LLC	

WHEEL DOG PARTNERS

Alaska Serigraphics	Beacon/PAML
Alaska Brewing Company	Alaska Mining & Diving Supply
K&L Distributors	Alcan Signs
Waste Management	Golden Corral

PROTOCOL FOR MEDIA

Thank you to the Yukon Quest Media Guide for use!

All media **MUST** comply with these protocols for the safety, well-being, and fairness of both the dogs in the race as well as the musher. Media Credentials are **NOT** transferable and may be revoked for non-compliance. There is also a charge of \$100 for a lost Media Credential badge.

1. Media Credentials must be worn in all checkpoints and when in specified media areas, including photography zones, media internet access areas, and interview areas. Only camera crew and photographers may have access to photography zones.
2. A musher's right to privacy **MUST** be respected at all times. Do not intrude on a musher if he/she indicates they do not wish to be disturbed.
3. Veterinarians have a doctor – client/patient relationship with the musher and the dogs and because of that confidentiality, the veterinary team cannot answer any questions about a particular dog or team without the musher's consent. Individual veterinarians can talk to you about why they are participating in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race as Trail Veterinarians.
4. During any medical exam of the dogs and/or musher all media will be requested to leave the area. No photos allowed.
5. Do not help the mushers as there are strict rules against mushers receiving outside assistance.
6. Never touch the sled dogs without the musher's approval.
7. Dog teams always have the right-of-way, no exceptions!
8. Anchorage Ceremonial Start: there are Media Credentialed only photography areas on both sides of the starting chute on 4th Avenue between C St & D St. Those with Media Credentials are allowed in the musher staging area (E St. and back) until the last team has departed. However, you must stay out of the way of dog teams at all times. See map on page 16 of this guide.
9. Willow Re-Start: there is a Media Credentialed only photography area on one side of the starting chute on Willow Lake. Those with Media Credentials are allowed in the musher staging area until a specified time before teams begin leaving the Starting Line.
10. Checkpoints: All media must stay clear of a team upon its arrival into a checkpoint. Race Personnel require unhindered access to the musher and dog team. When the check-in process is completed, and the dogs have been taken care of, mushers can give consent to be interviewed.
11. Media are not permitted inside the dog parking/staging area (where dogs are fed and rested) or dog drop area without prior approval of the Race Judge or Race Marshal. Media in these areas must be escorted by the musher and/or Race Judge or Race Marshal. Dog Staging Areas and Drop Dog Areas are restricted to mushers and race personnel.
12. Media are permitted to take photos of mushers and dogs from outside the Dog Staging Area.

13. Media are expected to research and ensure they have appropriate escorts or expertise for trail travel. The Iditarod Trail Committee, Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and their affiliates are not responsible for your safety.
14. Snowmachines with paddle tracks may not be used on the trail under any circumstance. (See page 9 for more information about *Snowmaching the Iditarod Trail*.)
15. When dog teams are in sight, the snowmachine must exit the trail at a 90-degree angle and park a minimum of 10 feet (3 meters) from the trail. The engine must be turned off.
16. Aircraft must be at least 1,000 feet (400 meters) away from a dog team. An aircraft may never “buzz” a dog team. On the ground, aircraft must be well off the trail and the propeller must not be rotating when a dog team is in view.
17. Flash photography or the use of artificial lighting is only permissible in the immediate vicinity of the checkpoints.
18. Flash photography is forbidden on the trail unless arrangements have been made with the musher beforehand. Do not interrupt a musher on the trail to ask permission.
19. Mushers may register a protest against any media personnel considered detrimental or obstructive to their race effort. Current and future media credentials could be revoked/denied.
20. Cabins along the trail may be open to mushers and Race Personnel. Do not use these cabins without prior permission from the cabin owner. Just because Iditarod has permission to use things, does not mean you do!
21. Do not interrupt Race Communications Personnel. Race Communications Personnel cannot provide information other than what is available on the Iditarod website.
22. Food and equipment provided by the Iditarod are for Race Personnel ONLY.
23. Nome Finish: there is a media area on one side of the finishing chute on Front Street. After a musher has completed their mandatory check-in with Race Personnel, the musher may enter the media area for interviews.
24. Media who violate any of these rules risk having their current and possible future Media Credentials revoked.

TRAIL COMMUNICATIONS

IMPORTANT: Media access to communications methods varies from checkpoint to checkpoint.

While the Iditarod Trail Committee (ITC) does not have the ability to provide checkpoint internet access for the media between Anchorage and Nome, each year there are improvements in communities along the trail for public internet access. GCI, Inc., our official communications partner, has cellular coverage in many communities along the trail. Contact your local GCI representative to discuss cellular service availability and how it can be accessed.

ITC strongly advises journalists to have their laptop computers configured by GCI immediately following the Media Briefing on Wednesday, February 27th, at The Millennium Hotel, Anchorage, in the 3rd floor foyer in order to allow for greater success with internet connections when public internet access points are available along the trail. The Iditarod Trail Committee has wireless internet access available for media in Nome at Iditarod Race Headquarters in the Nome Mini Convention Center.

CHECKPOINT ETIQUETTE - IMPORTANT!

Please do not attempt any interviews with mushers at checkpoints until they have fed and strawed their dogs! This is a crucial time for each sled dog team, and members of the press are asked not to approach any musher until this process is completed. (This may take anywhere from 1/2 hour to an hour.)

2013 race rules require that mushers stay in a central location in every checkpoint, rather than scatter throughout the villages. There will be specific checkpoint areas in each checkpoint. Each area will have a designated mushers' sleeping area and we ask the cooperation of reporters, photographers and camera crews in not interrupting the mushers during their chosen rest times. Mushers will be available in other areas of the checkpoints for interviews and pictures.

Please understand that this is a race and the first priority for the mushers is the care of their dogs and their race. They will be much more apt to be cooperative if you cooperate with them from the beginning.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

The following is a list of recommendations for those of you traveling up the trail. The main thing to remember is that you are traveling through *RURAL ALASKA*, so come prepared to provide your OWN food and shelter.

We recommend you:

- Offer to pay if invited to sleep in village school or community hall.
- Offer to pay for food that may be offered by villagers.
- Consider purchasing the beautiful Native works of art while in villages.
- Take the time to find out about the many wonderful folks in the villages along the trail who will make great human interest stories.
- Remember and respect the cultural differences you experience along the trail.
- Help the local economy by patronizing local restaurants and grocery stores.
- Stop in and visit at local schools. (It's a great way to learn more about the village you're in, and the students enjoy the interaction.)
- Use a telephoto lens to get close up still and video shots.
- Ask for permission from musher to take pictures of dog teams.
- Wait for interviews until mushers have had time to feed their dogs and to rest.
- Look for official race information from the checkpoints. The Iditarod Trail Committee's Communications Director is available to answer any questions you might have. Call anytime at 907-631-2989

Please do not:

- Take alcohol to any of the village checkpoints. (It is against the law in most communities along the trail)
- Rely on someone else to take care of you, or avail yourself of the Iditarod food at checkpoint.
- Try to get lengthy interview as soon as musher pulls into checkpoint, or disturb a resting dog team.
- Let your story be influenced by "rumors." Please take time to contact a race official or the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Communications Director to verify the story you're working on.

PACKING FOR THE IDITAROD

Keeping pace with this event is a major challenge. This report will suggest a way to move efficiently in this unique environment.

Clothing choices and comfort are very important, but be aware that the logistics of traveling on the trail can be very labor intensive. Knowing how to pack and transport your gear to and from the airplane will save a tremendous amount of effort and will assist with everyone's logistics. Try packing so you can haul your gear in one trip. Here's how!

Baggage:

- One large duffel bag (preferably with 'U' shaped zipper)
- Daypack and/or fanny pack
- Camera bag
- Short plastic sled

Cinch sleeping bag and pad down between the handles of the duffel with snaps. Strap bundle down to the sled using bungees. Keep heavy clothing handy by snapping it under the bungees. This arrangement should be easy to drag around and stows well in an airplane. Rigid frame packs do not stow well in aircraft.

Clothing:

- Choose clothing that can all be worn together.
- Use layering in everything.
- Wear insulated boots such as "bunny boots" or open cell neoprene.
- Have a pair of "snow sneakers" for use in checkpoints.

40 above to 40 below selection (depending on combination):

- Polypropylene or cotton long underwear
- "Musher style" insulated hat
- Polar fleece shirt and pants
- Face mask
- Insulated scarf or cowl
- Windproof jacket and snow pants (bibs)
- Felt gloves with insulated over mitts
- Oversized heavy parka with hood

Other:

- Any good quality sleeping bag rated from -10 to -20 degrees
- Foam pad or Therma-Rest type mattress
- Avoid extra heavy duty weight bag unless you're at a tent checkpoint
- Small bag of high energy snack food
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight
- Camera gear

We suggest you don't bring:

- Hair dryers, curling irons, electric razors, etc.
- Large frame backpacks

SNOWMACHINING THE IDITAROD TRAIL

Things to consider in planning to snow machine the Iditarod Trail:

- **Make the Iditarod Trail Committee aware of your plans ahead of time to snow machine the trail.**
- The often harsh weather – plan accordingly.
- Prepare to be able to replace snow machine parts, purchase oil and fuel. No fuel is available in Rohn or Ophir and often hard to find in villages.
- Iditarod's fuel, oil and snow machine parts are not available for others traveling by snow machine.
- **The Trail is very fragile and designed for dog teams – excessive snow machine traffic can wipe out important snow bridges, knock out important trail markers and churn up hard packed surfaces. Impacting the trail and the ability for teams to compete is strictly prohibited by the Iditarod Trail Committee**

PHOTOGRAPHIC HINTS FOR THE TRAIL

Information provided by Jeff Schultz, Official Iditarod Photographer

So, you are going to shoot the Iditarod Trail Race at temperatures from 30 above zero to perhaps 30 or 40 below zero and in snowstorms and wind. Be prepared to minimize equipment problems.

Some of the most common problems are: short battery life in the cold, condensation on or inside lenses and use of phone connections for transmitting images especially Internet access. To combat these problems, I suggest:

Batteries: Use high-power rechargeable ni-cad packs when you can and recharge them often. Always have extra fully charged batteries on you, ideally warm ones. If it is extremely cold the best bet is to use dummy batteries in cameras, with coil cords leading to Quantum-type batteries in your pocket.

Condensation: I suggest you leave cameras outdoors during the shooting day and take along another to use indoors. At night, take the cameras and anything else you need from the camera bag and leave the cameras and lenses in the camera gab—then bring the whole bag indoors to stay warm. Do not open it up until the next morning or until it's had a LONG chance to warm up. If a camera does need to come inside it will of course condense – you'll want to have a chamois or something similar to wipe off the moisture or put it into a plastic bag and then leave it in until it's had a chance to warm up. That of course can be several hours. If you find condensation is inside of your lenses or your camera just does not seem to be operating properly, the best bet is to get the camera or lens in the warmest place available. On a drying rack above a wood stove or at the heater vent of the airplane. Leave it as long as you can to dry it out. A hair dryer works great too.

Phone/Internet Connections: GCI does a great job to get you connections on the Race, but there are still some areas without internet access. Most schools have internet access. Call ahead to confirm.

Liquid Crystal Displays: start slowing down a whole lot when it gets to 20 or 30 below and if it's too cold they will not show up at all.

IDITAROD INSIDER – GPS TRACKING PROGRAM

You can follow the race on the leaderboard and in the forums, but until you're an Insider, you won't know what you've been missing. To see a sample of the Iditarod Insider or to subscribe go to: <http://insider.iditarod.com/>

Iditarod Insider Video on Demand

\$19.95 Individual / \$39.95 Class / \$99.95 School

Brings you exclusive daily updates, expert analysis from the trail, musher interviews, behind the scenes footage, and live streaming video of the start, re-start, and always-climactic unpredictable finish. Quality and quantity you won't find anywhere else.

Hundreds of video on demand segments are generated over the course of the Iditarod, from pre-race behind-the-scenes interviews through the thrilling Live Finish in Nome. With Insider Video on Demand, you won't miss a minute of it.

Iditarod Insider GPS Tracker

\$19.95 Individual / \$39.95 Class / \$99.95 School

Let's you follow the entire field 24 hours a day until the last team reaches Nome. You'll know how fast teams are traveling, distance between teams and checkpoints along with current temperatures. Mushers change position, pull ahead, fall behind, take their 8 and 24 hour layovers ... just because a team is in the lead one minute doesn't mean it will be leading the next. The Insider GPS Tracker helps you keep tabs on everyone's position.

Ultimate Insider Video + GPS = 100% Awesome

\$33.95 Individual / \$67.95 Class / \$169.95 School

The Ultimate Insider package affords you access to all of the Insider Video on Demand content, as well as the real-time location tracking of Insider GPS Tracker. With the Ultimate Insider package, you'll know everything there is to know about the Last Great Race™.

IDITARIDER MUSHER AUCTION

One of a Kind Experience!

Not only is the IditaRider Musher Auction one of the largest fund raisers for the Iditarod, but definitely one of the most adventurous! The IditaRider Musher Auction, which opens on November 1st each year, offers the opportunity for fans to bid to ride in a sled as it leaves the Start Line in downtown Anchorage on Saturday. Riders from all over the world have been in sleds as well as famous names such as comedian Joan Rivers, actress Susan Lucci, astronaut Bernard Harris, Jr., Olympic Gold Medalist skater Dorothy Hamill, and many more. The ride goes 11 miles along some of Anchorage's beautiful trails through parks, cheering fans, snow covered woods and ends at the BLM Science Center. Never seeing a frown at the end of the ride declares being an IditaRider is the next best thing to being on the runners of a sled. Bidding opens at \$500 and generally ends with the average bids being over \$1,000 per sled, however many sleds have sold at the maximum of \$7,500. Auction begins closing a noon AKT on January 18, 2013.

2013 MUSHER BIB AUCTION

After the Race begins, an autographed bib worn by each musher from the Start line goes on auction until the end of March. Bids start at \$50. So, take a chance to own the bib of your favorite musher, champion, or rookie of the year. A great way to have a special piece of the Iditarod. Visit the auction site www.iditarodauction.com to see what this year's sleds sold for.

The Iditarod Trail Committee, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Winning bids may be used as a tax deduction. A contribution report is sent with the credit card receipt once the auction has closed.

2013 IDITAROD MUSHER LISTING (Alpha Order)

	Musher Name	Residence	Country	Status
1	Abbott, Cindy	Irvine, CA	USA	Rookie
2	Ambrose, Louie	St. Michael, AK	USA	Rookie
3	Anderson, Ken	Fairbanks, AK	USA	Veteran
4	Bailey, Jodi	Fairbanks, AK	USA	Veteran
5	Baker, John	Kotzebue, AK	USA	Veteran
6	Beals, Travis	Seward, AK	USA	Rookie
7	Bejna, Charley	Addison, IL	USA	Rookie
8	Berington, Anna	Kasilof, AK	USA	Veteran
9	Berington, Kristy	Kasilof, AK	USA	Veteran
10	Berkowitz, Jake	Big Lake, AK	USA	Veteran
11	Bundtzen, Robert	Anchorage, AK	USA	Veteran
12	Burmeister, Aaron	Nome, AK	USA	Veteran
13	Buser, Martin	Big Lake, AK	USA	Veteran
14	Cadzow, Josh	Ft. Yukon, AK	USA	Rookie
15	Chlupach, Bob	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
16	Demoski, Sr. Rudy	Wasilla, AK	USA	Veteran
17	Diehl, Richie	Aniak, AK	USA	Rookie
18	Drobny, Paige	Fairbanks, AK	USA	Rookie
19	Ellis, Mike	Two Rivers, AK	USA	Rookie
20	Failor, Matthew	Big Lake, AK	USA	Veteran
21	Fiedler, Linwood	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
22	Gallea, Cindy	Wykoff, MN	USA	Veteran
23	Gebhardt, Paul F	Kasilof, AK	USA	Veteran
24	Giblin, Matt	Sterling, AK	USA	Veteran
25	Griffin, Kelley	Wasilla, AK	USA	Veteran
26	Hendricks, Jessica	Two Rivers, AK	USA	Veteran
27	Hendrickson, Karin	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
28	Janssen, Scott	Anchorage, AK	USA	Veteran
29	Jonrowe, DeeDee	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
30	Kaiser, Peter	Bethel, AK	USA	Veteran
31	King, Jeff	Denali, AK	USA	Veteran
32	Lanier, Jim	Chugiak, AK	USA	Veteran
33	Leifseth Ulsom, Joar	Roros	NORWAY	Rookie
34	Linder, Sonny	Two Rivers, AK	USA	Veteran
35	Mackey, Jason	Wasilla, AK	USA	Veteran
36	Mackey, Lance	Fairbanks, AK	USA	Veteran
37	Maixner, Kelly	Big Lake, AK	USA	Veteran
38	Marques, Luan Ramos	Macaes	BRAZIL	Rookie
39	Marrs, Wade	Wasilla, AK	USA	Veteran
40	Marshall, Newton	St. Anne	JAMAICA	Veteran
41	Moore, Allen	Two Rivers, AK	USA	Veteran
42	Peck, Aaron	Bezanson, AB	CANADA	Veteran
43	Perano, Curt	Queenstown	NEW ZEALAND	Veteran
44	Petit, Nicolas	Girdwood, AK	USA	Veteran
45	Phillips, Michelle	Tagish, YT	CANADA	Veteran
46	Redington, Jr., Ray	Wasilla, AK	USA	Veteran
47	Roalofs, Christine	Anchorage, AK	USA	Rookie
48	Royer, Jessie	Darby, MT	USA	Veteran

49	Sass, Brent	Manley Hot Springs, AK	USA	Veteran
50	Savidis, Justin	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
51	Sawatzky, David	Healy, AK	USA	Veteran
52	Seavey, Dallas	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
53	Seavey, Mitch	Seward, AK	USA	Veteran
54	Smyth, Cim	Big Lake, AK	USA	Veteran
55	Smyth, Ramey	Willow, AK	USA	Veteran
56	Sousa, Gerald	Talkeetna, AK	USA	Veteran
57	Steves, Jan	Edmonds, WA	USA	Veteran
58	Stielstra, Ed	McMillan, MI	USA	Veteran
59	Suprenant, Michael	Chugiak, AK	USA	Veteran
60	Taggart, Angie	Ketchikan, AK	USA	Veteran
61	Telpin, Mikhail	Yanrakkynot, Chukotka	RUSSIA	Rookie
62	Volek, James	Big Lake, AK	USA	Rookie
63	Williams Jr., Michael	Akiak, AK	USA	Veteran
64	Williams, Sr., Mike	Akiak, AK	USA	Veteran
65	Willomitzer, Gerry	Whitehorse, YT	CANADA	Veteran
66	Zirkle, Aliy	Two Rivers, AK	USA	Veteran

2013 IDITA-FACTS & POTENTIAL STORY LINES

- The Iditarod starts in downtown Anchorage, Alaska, on Saturday, March 2nd (10 AM)
- The Iditarod Re-Starts in Willow Alaska, Sunday, March 3rd (2 PM)
- As of February 25, 2013 there are 66 mushers signed up for the 2013 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, including 53 veterans, 13 rookies and 16 women. To date five mushers have withdrawn for various reasons. Entrants hail from 7 states – Alaska, California, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, and Washington, as well as from Alaska and from 7 countries – United States, Canada, Russia, Jamaica, Brazil, Norway and New Zealand. The record number of mushers starting the race was 96 in 2008.
- The Iditarod traditionally pays the highest purse in sled dog racing. In 40 Iditarod races, Iditarod has paid out a total of \$13,759,174 to 237 mushers. The 2013 purse is \$600,000 going to the first 30 finishers.
- The team's average 15 dogs, which over 1,000 dogs will leave the starting line in 2013. Each musher can start with a maximum of 16 dogs down to a minimum of 12 dogs.
- Seven Iditarod champions will be attempting to regain the title. Many of the past champions from other long distance races are also racing including Yukon Quest champions, Kusko 300 champions and Beargrease champions.
- The race crosses two mountain ranges (including North America's largest mountain range, Alaska Range)
- It runs along Yukon River and over the frozen Norton Sound
- The route alternates every year. This year's route, the Southern Route, will run from Ophir through Iditarod, Shageluk, Anvik, Grayling and Eagle Island before meeting up with the Northern Route trail in Kaltag.
- There are twenty-six checkpoints (counting Anchorage & Nome), three of which are uninhabited during the rest of the year.
- There are six teams signed-up for the 2013 Iditarod that have also signed up for the 2013 Yukon Quest – Jake Berkowitz, Matthew Failor, Kelley Griffin, Lance Mackey, Allen Moore, and Brent Sass.
- Volunteers are an integral part of the Iditarod. As of February 25th, 2013 there were over 1,000 volunteers registered representing 27 states and 12 countries (Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Philippines, Scotland, S. Africa, S Korea, Switzerland, Dubai, Netherlands, Germany, and USA.) This number does not include those who volunteer in communities along the trail or the locals in Nome. The number of volunteers will continue to grow over the weeks to come and by the end of Iditarod 2013 there will be over 1,500 volunteers involved in some way or another. This number equates to over 35,000 volunteer hours. Simply amazing!
- In 2013 there are a total of 52 veterinarians – 3 for dropped dogs in Anchorage, 2 for dropped dogs in both McGrath and Unalakleet, 42 veterinarians dispersed along the trail and 3 consultants.
- The 2012 IditaRiders represented 22 states and raised \$155,000 as compared to \$185,000 in 2011 (see more info under IditaRider Musher Auction Program in the General Race History-Information & 2013 Race Information Guide). *As 2013 info comes in, we will update this Guide.*
- There have been 707 finishers (grand total of 1,954 to cross the finish line) as of 2012. Mushers hail from 23 states, five continents (North America, South America, Europe, Asia, & Australia) and 22 foreign countries (Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) have finished the Iditarod since 1973 including 118 women.

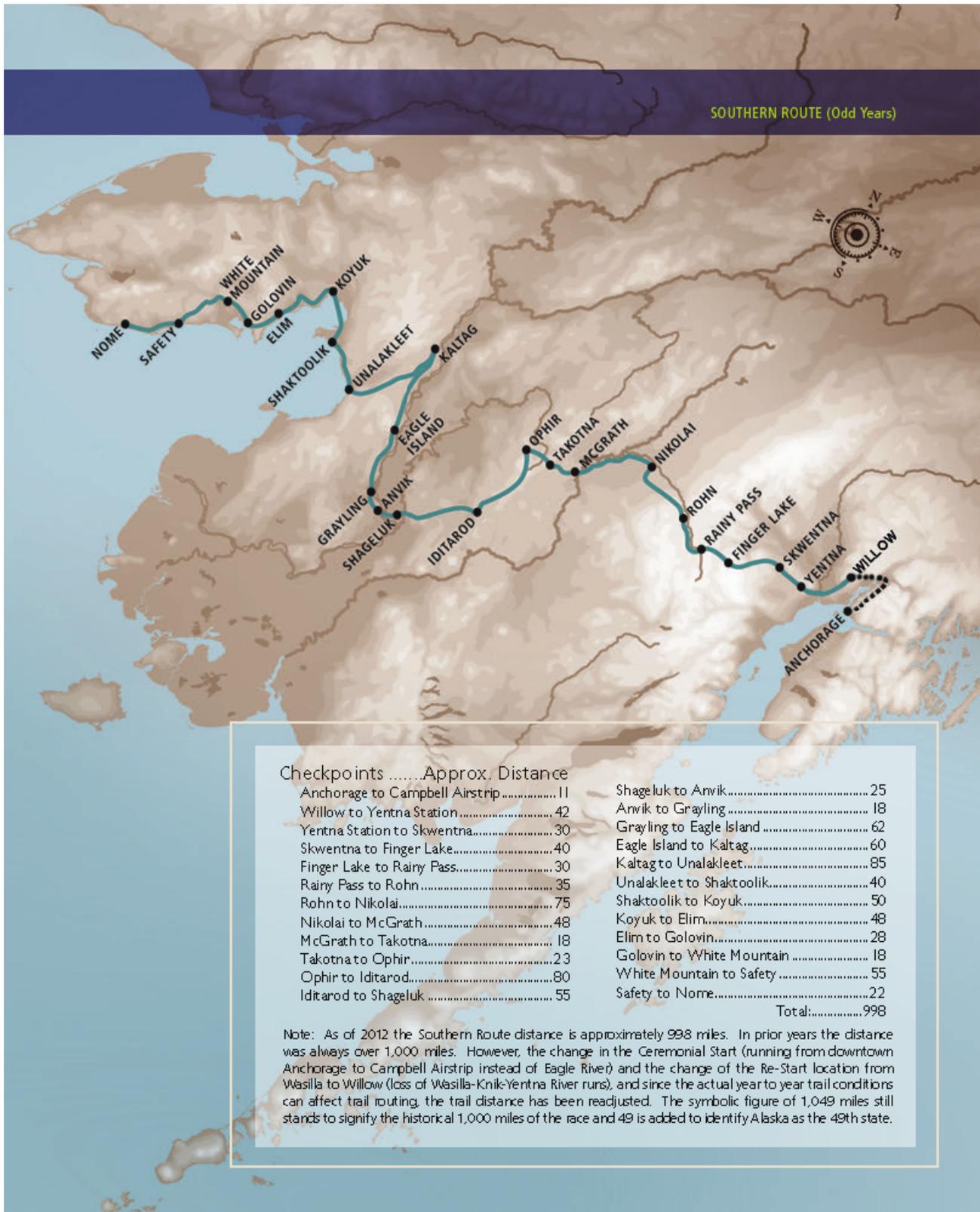
- Two generations of Seavey's, and Williams' are running again this year as well as the Berington twins and the Smyth & Mackey brothers.
- Rookie Cindy Abbott has a rare disease, Wegener's Granulomatosis. She is hoping to be the first female and second person to complete both the summiting of Mt. Everest (which she did in 2010) and the Iditarod. Website www.reachingbeyondthecLOUDS.com
- Mushers can be shy about talking about themselves; however they will usually talk your ear off about their dogs.
- Checkpoints are staffed by volunteers, who can be locals or someone who has traveled hundreds of miles to be there. Volunteers cannot provide official race information, but may provide interesting stories about their communities and/or volunteer work. Some volunteers are actually on their vacation!
- The Official Race Rules can provide useful information can be found online at: <http://iditarod.com/resources/mushers/>

INTERESTING IDITAROD FACTS

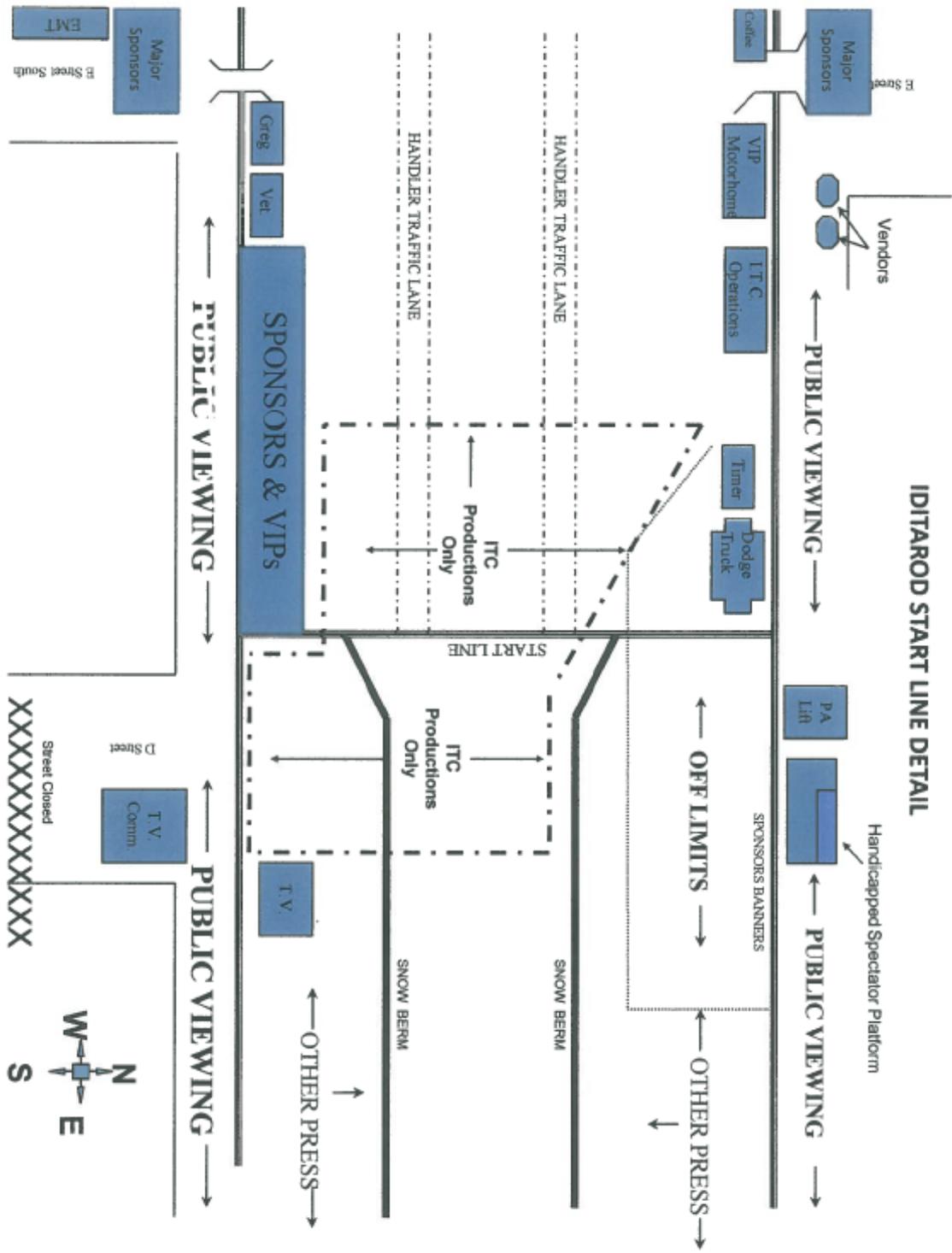
- The first Iditarod Race began on March 3, 1973 with 34 teams—22 teams finished 32 days later.
- The slowest winning time of 20 days, 15 hours, two minutes and seven seconds was recorded in 1974 by Carl Huntington. The fastest winning time was recorded in 2011 by John Baker in 8 days, 18 hours, 46 minutes and 39 seconds, which broke Martin Buser's 1992 record.
- The closest finish was in 1978—Dick Mackey beat Rick Swenson by one second, finishing in 14 days, 18 hours, 52 minutes and 24 seconds.
- The most finishers in one year occurred in 2008 when 78 teams crossed the finish line.
- Rick Swenson is the only five time winner, the only musher to win in three decades, and only musher to complete 35 of 40 Iditarod's.
- Susan Butcher, Martin Buser, Doug Swingley, Jeff King & Lance Mackey have each won four Iditarod championships. Mackey is the only musher to have won four consecutive races with Butcher and Swingley both winning three consecutive races.
- Dick Mackey, Rick Mackey & Lance Mackey (father and two sons) have won the Iditarod. All three won wearing bib #13 in their sixth race.
- Lance Mackey is the first 4 time Iditarod Champion to win all four races consecutively in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. He also won the Yukon Quest in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008, making him the first musher to win both of Alaska's premier long distance races back to back in 2007 and 2008 within weeks of each other.
- There are 24 checkpoints on the northern route and 25 on the southern route, including Anchorage and Nome.
- Four-time winner, Susan Butcher, claimed Iditarod victories in 1986, 1987, 1988, and again in 1990. Doug Swingley became the second four-time winner in 2001. His victories were in 1995, 1999, 2000 and 2001. Butcher and Swingley have the distinction of being the only Iditarod champions who have three consecutive victories.
- The youngest musher to ever compete in the Iditarod was Dallas Seavey. Dallas turned 18 on March 4, 2005. He is the youngest musher to have run the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog race (2005) as well as the youngest to have ever won in 2012. The oldest musher to ever compete is Col. Norman D Vaughan who last competed in 1992 at the age of 86.

- Rick Mackey won the race in 1983 to become the first son of an Iditarod champion to match his father's accomplishment. To further set a record, both father and son were wearing bib #13 when they crossed the finish line in first position. Anyone superstitious? (Emmitt Peters was also wearing bib #13 when he won in 1975.)
- There are 707 mushers that are members of the "Finishers Club." They represent 23 states, five continents (North America, South America, Europe, Asia, & Australia) and 22 foreign countries (Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) have finished the Iditarod since 1973 including 118 women.
- The Iditarod traditionally pays the highest purse in sled dog racing. In 40 Iditarod races, Iditarod has paid out a total of \$13,759,174 to 237 mushers.
- The biggest misconception is that Joe Redington, Sr., who founded the race, did so to commemorate the 1925 Diphtheria Serum Run. If that were the case the race would begin in Nenana and run to Nome. He founded the race to commemorate the history of sled dogs in Alaska, and to bring them back to the villages where they were fast disappearing with the advent of snowmachines.

2013 OFFICIAL MAP OF THE IDITAROD TRAIL & MILEAGES BETWEEN CHECKPOINTS



ANCHORAGE STARTING CHUTE LAYOUT



IDITAROD 41

Saturday, March 2, 2013

ANCHORAGE START INFORMATION

Welcome to the 41st Iditarod! This portion of your Press Packet includes a brief event time-line for Anchorage, and Maps depicting 4th Ave. and the Trail through Anchorage to the Bureau of Land Management complex.

There are four guidelines that concern Media and the Press at the Start:

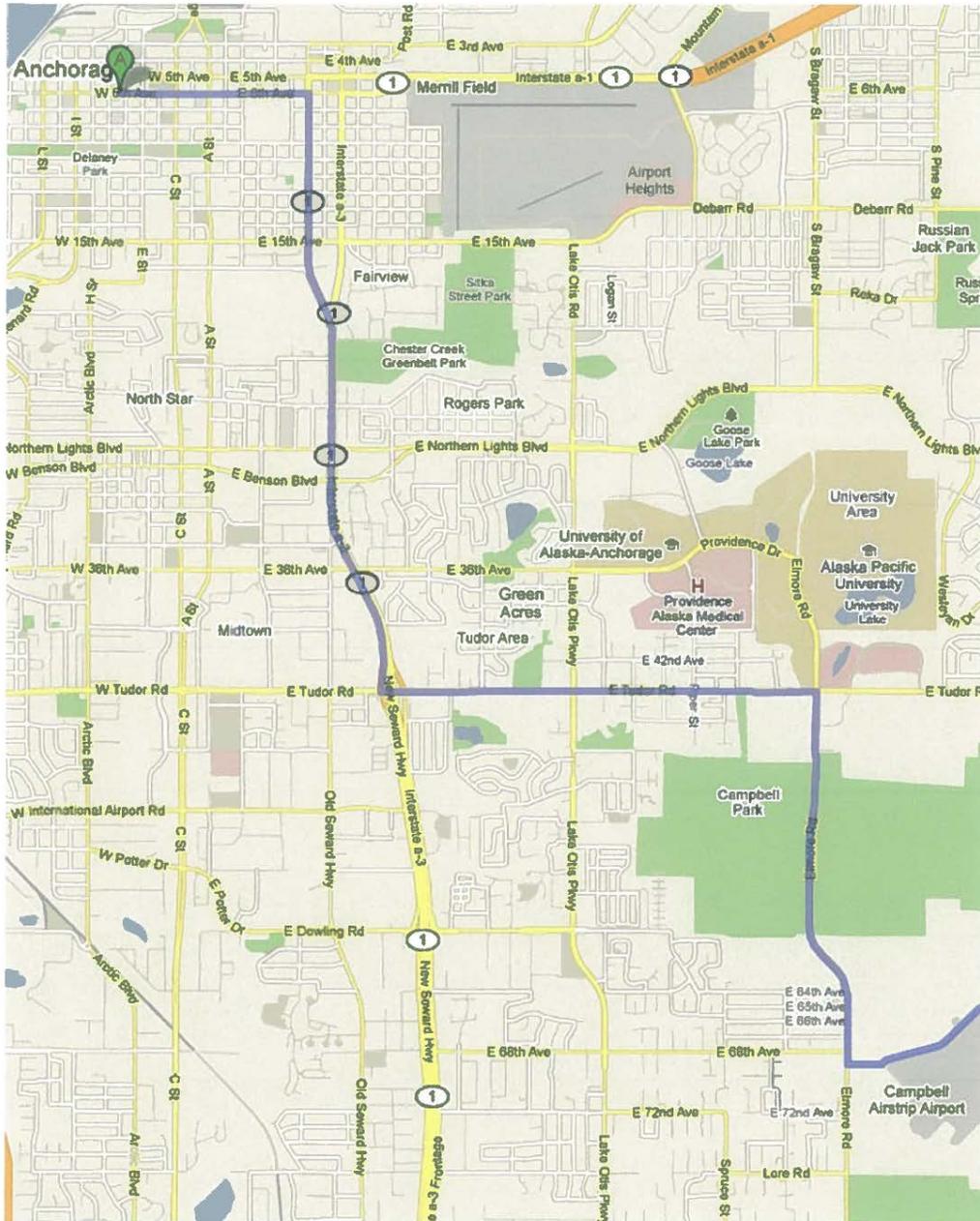
- (1) It is imperative that the Press not impede the activities of the Musher & dog teams, handlers, Officials, or any other volunteer. The Press is asked to make way for these people, as well as the teams, and to comply with Security requests.
- (2) **PRESS AND MEDIA CREDENTIALS MUST BE VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES.** Security will repeatedly ask you to produce these credentials if they are not visibly displayed. Anyone who cannot produce and display proper credentials will be asked to leave the Avenue. Personnel who have concerns regarding credentials may inquire with the I.T.C. representative at the Iditarod Operations Motorhome.
- (3) Priority positions for Start Line coverage will be reserved exclusively for the Sponsor Media, GCI, Iditarod Productions and the other production crews on contract with Iditarod. **NO OTHER PRESS OR MEDIA WILL BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE AREA BETWEEN THE IDITAROD PRODUCTIONS CAMERA PLATFORM AND THE REAR OF THE TIME KEEPERS VEHICLE.**
- (4) No person, nor any equipment, will be allowed on or over the snow berms between the Start Line and C St. **The first 75 feet on the north side of 4th Ave., running east from the Start Line, is Off-Limits to ALL, including Press, to allow for unobstructed camera view of the Sponsors' banners.**

The primary purpose and responsibility of ALL Start Volunteers is to provide for the safety and wellbeing of the Musher and their dogs. We ask simply that you respect their efforts. We sincerely hope that you enjoy this year's race. Good Luck with your stories, and if there is anything we can do to assist you please don't hesitate to call.

Karl Heidelberg
Iditarod Start Coordinator, Anchorage
(907) 223-4189 cell
ITC_start@hotmail.com

DIRECTIONS FROM DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE TO CAMPBELL AIRSTRIP/BLM

Directions to BLM Headquarters



6th Ave East (toward the mountains)
 Right at **Gamble St**
 Take exit toward **Tudor Rd**
 Left at **Tudor Rd**
 Right at **Elmore Rd**
 Left just past **68th Ave** and follow directions of Parking Crew

ALASKA VISITOR INFORMATION**Alaska Travel Industry Association**

www.travelalaska.com Telephone: 907-929-2200

Visit Anchorage

www.anchorage.net

524 W Fourth Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501

Telephone: 907-276-4118 Toll free: 800-476-1255

Downtown Log Cabin & Visitors Information Center

4th Avenue & E Street

Visitor Information Center

Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport

Mat-Su Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.alaskavisit.com

HC01 Box 6166J-21, Palmer AK 99645

Telephone: 907-746-5400

Nome Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.nomealaska.org/vc/

PO Box 240 H-P, Nome AK 99762

Telephone: 907-443-6624 E-mail: tourinfo@ci.nome.ak.us

ACCOMODATIONS ALONG THE TRAIL

(Checkpoints in alpha order)

Anchorage

- Stay with us at the "Official Hotel of the Iditarod" – the Millennium Alaska Hotel, 4800 Spenard Road, 907-243-2300 or 1-800-544-0553. Race operations headquarters is here!
- Visit Anchorage – www.anchorage.net

Anvik

- Alaska's Anvik River Lodge – 888-362-6845

Eagle Island

- No accommodations

Elim

- City Building – 907-890-3441
- Elim School – 907-890-3021

Finger Lake

- Winter Lake Lodge - 907-274-2710

Grayling

- No accommodations

Golovin

- No accommodations

Iditarod

- No accommodations

Kaltag

- No accommodations

Koyuk

- No accommodations

McGrath

- Hotel McGrath B&B - 907-524-3949

Nikolai

- Village Council 907-293-2321

Nome

- Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau – 907-443-6555
- Aurora Inn & Suites – 800-354-4606
- Bed for a Night – 907-443-3841
- Bering Sea B&B – 907-443-2936
- Chateau de Cape Nome – 907-443-7083 (after 5pm)
- Dredge No. 7 Inn – 907-304-1270
- Extra Dry Creek B&B – 907-443-7615 or 907-304-4061
- LLB LLC Bed & Breakfast – 907-443-2583
- Mai's Guest House – 907-443-4113
- Nome Sweet Homes B&B – 907-443-7368
- Nugget Inn – 907-443-4189
- Old Alaska Rooms – 907-443-4181 or 907-304-1333
- Polaris Hotel – 907-443-2000
- Solomon B&B – 907-443-2403
- Sweet Dreams B&B - 907-443-2919
- Trail End Apartments by the day
- Weeks Apartments 1-800-447-3194

Ophir

- No accommodations

Rainy Pass

- Rainy Pass Lodge - 907-248-7599

Rohn

- No Accommodations

Safety

- No Accommodations

Shageluk

- Minimum accommodations available

Shaktoolik

- Sunny Polar Bear B&B - 907-955-2487

Skwentna

- Skwentna Roadhouse - 907-733-2726
- Shell Lake Lodge – 907-733-2817

Takotna

- Checkpoint 907-298-2213 – Call about free floor space

Unalakleet

- Unalakleet Lodge - 907-624-3333
- Sleep Inn - 907-624-3035
- Covenant Church - 907-624-3361
- Unalakleet School - 907-624-3444

Wasilla

- Alaska Grandview Inns & Suites – 866-710-7666 – full service hotel
- Lake Lucille Inn – 907-373-1776
- Alaska Garden Gate B&B – 907-746-2333
- Alaska's Mat-Su Bed & Breakfast Association- www.alaskanbnbhosts.com

White Mountain

- City Hall - 907-638-3411

Willow

- Giggewood Lakeside Inn – 907-495-1014
- Sheep Creek Lodge – 907-495-6227
- Willow Trading Post Lodge – 907-495-1695
- Willow Winter Park B&B – 907-495-5884

Yentna

- Yentna Station Roadhouse 907-733-2746

AIR SERVICES

Pen Air & Alaska Airlines are major sponsors of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

For travel to McGrath and Unalakleet, contact PenAir:

- PenAir.....800-448-4226

For travel to Nome, contact Alaska Airlines:

- Alaska Airlines.....800-252-7522

Following is a list of air services which have taken an extra step in supporting the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race by becoming business members. We hope that, where possible, you will support these businesses.

- Litzen Guide Service907-776-5868
- Sky Trekking Alaska.....907-315-6098
- Talkeetna Air Taxi800-533-2219
- Sheldon Air Service.....907-240-5124

If you are unable to schedule your flights with one of the above mentioned businesses below is a list of other carriers:

Anchorage

- Alaska Sky Trekking.....907-243-1649
- ERA Aviation907-243-6633
- Ptarmigan Air907-248-4421
- Rust's Flying Service907-243-1595
- Arctic Air Transport.....907-242-7766
- Alaska Air Taxi907-243-3944
- Regal Air.....907-243-8535

Wasilla/Willow/Talkeetna Area

- Alaska Bush Expeditions.....907-495-1005
- Denali Flying Service.....907-495-5899
- K-2 Aviation907-733-2291
- Scenic Mountain Air907-288-3646
- Susitna Air Service.....907-495-6789
- Willow Air907-495-6370

McGrath

- Tanana Air Service.....907-524-3330
- Redline Air Charters.....907-524-3733
- Magnuson Airways.....907-524-3123

Unalakleet

- Bering Air.....907-624-3175
- ERA Aviation800-866-8394

Nome

- Bering Air.....800-478-5422
- ERA Aviation800-866-8394

Check local listings for additional information.

PILOT INFORMATION

Safety is of great concern to all of us. During the Iditarod trail Sled Dog Race increasing air traffic at remote landing sites creates a number of pilot safety issues. Please use radios around the landing sites. With regard to F.A.R.'s, while flying the trail, try to stay to the right hand side, decreasing the chance for a collision. When parked at these landing sites, keep your plane as safe as possible—as far from the landing area as is practical. Look closely and judge for yourself at all landing sites – **If you have doubt, DON'T!** The following is a list of conditions you may expect at the landing sites along the trail:

Willow – Good controlled strip-wheels

Skwentna – Usually good – skis. Good gravel strip – wheels. Temporary control tower --- 3/1 – ¾. Tower frequency is 120.8.

Finger Lake – Skis. Often deep snow and overflow off the packed runway and hard packed drifts.

Rainy Pass – (Puntilla Lake) Skis. Often deep snow and overflow off the packed runway and hard packed drifts.

Rohn – We would recommend that you not land here. If you do, use extreme caution the snow becomes hard packed and very slick from the crosswinds that usually blow down the canyon. Iditarod Air Force pilots always try to land uphill (NE) if possible. When the crosswinds are bad, aircraft are hard to control after touchdown – skis.

Nikolai – Good gravel strip – wheels. Snow covered sand bar—skis.

McGrath – controlled – skis and wheels

Takotna – Good gravel strip above town – wheels. River ice – skis.

Ophir – River ice and snow – can be tricky – watch for overflow and open water—possibly plowed 3,000 ft. strip, 1 mile north - skis

Iditarod- Landing is not recommended.

Shageluk - Usually good strip on river - skis. State maintained gravel strip 4.5 miles from town – wheels

Anvik - State maintained gravel strips, top of hill above town.

Grayling – Strip on the river - marginal landing conditions

Eagle Island - Good gravel strip – wheels. Usually a good strip on the river - skis

Kaltag – Good gravel strip – wheels. Usually good strip on river – skis.

Unalakleet – F.S.S. good controlled strip – wheels. Land on river ice – skis

Shaktoolik – Strip outside of town – wheels. No official strip along side of town – **use caution** – skis on lagoon behind town

Koyuk – Good gravel strip above town – wheels. Ice in front of village can be rough with pressure ridges, water holes and fishing holes. Wind can be very gusty – **caution** – skis

Elim – Good gravel strip – wheels. **Stay off ocean ice!!!**

White Mountain – Good strip above town – skis on river

Safety – Snow on lake, north side of checkpoint – **caution** – skis.

Nome – Control zone

IDITAROD BUSINESS MEMBERS

The following businesses support the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race by being Business Members. We encourage you to support the following businesses for your needs:

907 Tours, LLC

Hundreds of satisfied guests from around the world have experienced the glaciers, wildlife and world-class scenery of Alaska on our day tours. We invite you to step into one of our clean, modern vans equipped with quality sound, sit back, relax, grab a complimentary bottle of water and a snack, and get ready to enjoy your tour. We specialize in friendly service. Small groups only. No hidden costs. We offer a unique Iditarod Re-Start Tour. 907-947-9425 or reservations@907toursalaska.com.

Alaska Fur Cache

Find all your fur needs, hats, headbands, mittens, earmuffs. Beautiful work at reasonable prices - (907) 277-3877 Anchorage

Alaska Grand View Inn & Suites

The Alaska Grand View Inn & Suites is located in the beautiful Mat-Su Valley, 40 minutes north of Anchorage. One of the newest hotels in Wasilla, the Grand View offers a wide range of facilities including a full size indoor swimming pool, and features 79 comfortable suites. At the Grand View, you'll not only have a grand view, but a great stay! (907) 357-7666 or (866) 710-7666

Alaska's Anvik River Lodge

One of Alaska's most remote, yet extremely comfortable full service fishing lodges will be open this winter for guests during the 2013 Iditarod. Located on the Anvik River 22 air-miles from the village of Anvik's southern route checkpoint and about 50 miles from Unalakeet. Ski plane access only.

Alaskan Discovery RV Tours

Small Caravans, (15) Rig Limit, see and do more – for less cost. We are the only Caravan Company that has a RV repair tech and Certified CPR and Trained AED (Heart defibrillator machine) personnel, with a state of the art machine on each tour. "My commitment to you, is to show you Alaska, at an affordable price, in a fascinating and safe environment. I look forward to seeing you on our next tour." Spike Fortier, Owner/Wagonmaster USA Toll Free (800) 842-7764

All Alaska Tours

All Alaska Tours is one of Alaska's premier travel companies with over twenty years of tour operating experience in Alaska. For the Iditarod we offer a variety of scheduled guided and unguided tours. Let our experience be your guide and contact us toll free at 1-866-317-3325 or email us at MyVacation@AlaskaTours.com to start planning your dream Alaska vacation today! MyVacation@AlaskaTours.com USA Toll Free 1 (866) 317-3325

Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau

Make Anchorage the first checkpoint on your Alaska Iditarod adventure. After the dogs leave downtown Anchorage, stay to enjoy rich Alaska Native culture, a thriving city center, snow machining, skiing at Alyeska Resort, flightseeing over the trail and vast, snow-covered mountains, or experience the thrill of dog sledding yourself—all unrivaled wilderness experiences thrilling travelers of all ages. Living large just comes naturally. Discover Anchorage's Big Wild Life™.

Davis Wright Tremaine

Located in Anchorage at 701 West 8th Ave - (907) 257-5300

Diversified Systems Resources**Dream A Dream Dog Farm Mushing Adventures**

Mile 64.5 Parks Highway Summer Kennel Tours – June 1-Sept 1 Tour Hours: 11:00 a.m. / 3:00 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. Join musher Vern Halter for a personal visit at his home and kennel. Learn about his 100,000 miles with his dog team. Meet the sleddogs and cuddle with puppies. Winter and Summer camps available. USA Toll Free (866) 4AK-MUSH (425-6874)

Exer Play, Inc.**The Golden Corral**

Restaurant at the corner of C Street and Tudor in Anchorage - 4520 Union Square Drive Anchorage, Alaska 99503 (907) 563-9000

Litzen Guide Service

Popular all-inclusive guided Iditarod flightseeing adventures. Follow your favorite Iditarod team by air, experience Alaskan village culture.. Excellent trail accommodations including pilot's own private Denali-view log cabin. Summer eco-tour trips also available. mlitzen@kenai.net (907) 776-5868

Iditarod Champion, Martin Buser's Happy Trails Kennels

Iditarod Multimedia Trip, Mushing Demonstrations and pet puppies.

Mat-Su Convention & Visitors Bureau

See what is happening in the Mat-Su Valley.

'Oomingmak' Musk Ox Products Co-Operative

Musk Ox underwool (Qiviut) products handknit with traditional patterns. 605 H Street, Downtown Anchorage (907) 272-9225

Planet Earth Adventures, LLC

If you are thinking of traveling to Alaska, trust Planet Earth Adventures to provide your ultimate adventure. We have been guiding small group tours in Alaska since 1999. Our Iditarod Tour combines all of the best things that Alaska has to offer in the winter. Experience the excitement of the Last Great Race on Earth (R) combined with the magical spectacle of the Northern Lights. Our experience provides a number of exciting adventures for our customers and a personalized experience without the regular crowd. Se habla Español. (888) 513-5992

RAD Torque Systems**Salmon Berry Tours**

Unique tours with a great guide.

Sheldon Air Service

Flightseeing and "chase the race."

Sky Trekking Alaska

The leader of Iditarod Trail tours since 1994, Sky Trekking Alaska offers three, four and 12 day trail trips. Featured is the epic "Expedition Trek" following the entire race from Anchorage to Nome. Lodging, meals and ski plane transportation are included as well as guided side trips to mush dogs, snowmobile and see the insights of remote Alaska. We know the trail and the teams, and we have the experience and enthusiasm to make your tour a lifetime highlight. Contact Cilla Robbins at (907) 315-6098 or info@skytrekkingalaska.com

Solar Turbines**Thrifty Car Rental**

Thrifty Car Rental Anchorage is an Alaskan family owned company which has been operating for 33 years. With 2 convenient locations, one at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport and the second, our original location on Spenard Road, we rent a wide range of vehicles new cars, mini vans and SUVs. Use promo code DOGS or look at our city special offers by clicking thrifty.com.