



# Iditarod Trail Committee

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 30, 2018**

### **28 mushers enter Iditarod XLVII on opening day**

**Wasilla, Alaska** – Today, 17 mushers were on location at Iditarod Trail Committee Headquarters in Wasilla to officially enter the 2019 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Another 11 signed up by mail, rounding out the total to 28 mushers who submitted their applications on the first official entry day for the 47<sup>th</sup> running of the Iditarod.

Today's entrants include two rookies. Four teams hail from Canada, Norway and Sweden. The overwhelming majority of mushers come from Alaska, with one entrant hailing from Wisconsin.

Four-time champions Jeff King, Martin Buser and current champion, Joar Leifseth Ulsom, along with a highly talented field of top finishers will undoubtedly make the 47th running of the Iditarod every bit as competitive as any race in history.

During the opening day festivities, the Iditarod also paid tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who were on hand by hosting its annual volunteer appreciation picnic. Golden Corral provided a catered lunch, and race sponsor Pen Air flew in fresh sockeye salmon from King Cove.

Each year, two mushers names are randomly drawn at the end of the volunteer appreciation picnic to receive a complimentary entry fee into the race. Veteran mushers Anja Radano of Talkeetna, Alaska, and Jeff Deeter of Two Rivers, Alaska, were this year's winners.

Mushers wishing to apply to enter Iditarod XLVII have until the close of business on Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, to turn in their entries.

Following is a list of mushers in order of their draw to be held during the mushers banquet on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019.

| Draw # | Status  | First    | Last           | City                 | State | Country |
|--------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------------|-------|---------|
| 1      | Veteran | Matthew  | Failor         | Willow               | AK    |         |
| 2      | Veteran | Peter    | Kaiser         | Bethel               | AK    |         |
| 3      | Veteran | Jessie   | Holmes         | Nenana               | AK    |         |
| 4      | Veteran | Jessie   | Royer          | Fairbanks            | AK    |         |
| 5      | Veteran | Jason    | Campeau        | Rocky Mountain House | AB    | CANADA  |
| 6      | Veteran | Joar     | Leifseth Ulsom | Mo I Rana            |       | NORWAY  |
| 7      | Veteran | Kristy   | Berington      | Knik                 | AK    |         |
| 8      | Veteran | Richie   | Diehl          | Aniak                | AK    |         |
| 9      | Veteran | Ryan     | Redington      | Skagway              | AK    |         |
| 10     | Veteran | Mats     | Pettersson     | Kiruna               |       | SWEDEN  |
| 11     | Rookie  | Jessica  | Klejka         | Wasilla              | AK    |         |
| 12     | Veteran | Ramey    | Smyth          | Willow               | AK    |         |
| 13     | Veteran | Jeff     | King           | Denali Park          | AK    |         |
| 14     | Veteran | Aliy     | Zirkle         | Two Rivers           | AK    |         |
| 15     | Veteran | Anja     | Radano         | Talkeetna            | AK    |         |
| 16     | Rookie  | Blair    | Braverman      | Mountain             | WI    |         |
| 17     | Veteran | Nicolas  | Petit          | Girdwood             | AK    |         |
| 18     | Veteran | Martin   | Buser          | Big Lake             | AK    |         |
| 19     | Veteran | Emily    | Maxwell        | Girdwood             | AK    |         |
| 20     | Veteran | Matt     | Hall           | Two Rivers           | AK    |         |
| 21     | Veteran | Lev      | Shvarts        | Willow               | AK    |         |
| 22     | Veteran | Jeff     | Deeter         | Two Rivers           | AK    |         |
| 23     | Veteran | Linwood  | Fiedler        | Willow               | AK    |         |
| 24     | Veteran | Marcelle | Fressineau     | Whitehorse           | YT    | CANADA  |
| 25     | Veteran | Shaynee  | Traska         | Fairbanks            | AK    |         |
| 26     | Veteran | Cindy    | Abbott         | Willow               | AK    |         |
| 27     | Veteran | Anna     | Berington      | Knik                 | AK    |         |
| 28     | Veteran | Kristin  | Bacon          | Big Lake             | AK    |         |

Complete archival race information is available [here](#).

The ceremonial start of Iditarod XLVI takes place Saturday, March 2, 2019, at 10 a.m. in downtown Anchorage at the corner of Fourth Avenue and D Street.

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