

ALTITUDE 5000 SLEDDOG GROUP
2010 RACE WEEKEND AGENDA AND GENERAL INFORMATION

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Altitude 5000 Sleddog Group Inc would like to thank the many mushers and race volunteers offering assistance and support keeping this great event alive. This year is our 17th Sleddog Challenge and with sponsors list growing we have planned for another great weekend of sleddog activity.

Many do appreciate the opportunity of racing dogs on snow at Dinner Plain race site, in-fact this race site is unlike any other on the Australian sleddog racing circuit. As a consequence, of being welcomed back to this Alpine Community A5KSDG has negotiated and agreed to a number of strict permit conditions enabling us to continually stage this event. Please be mind full of these permit conditions and if ever in doubt about anything relating to the race site, parking of vehicles, trail access etc simply ask or telephone one of Altitude's members.

Once again we welcome a number of rookie mushers, past competitors and veterans to our race, hoping their experience of running their team on snow is well worth the year long wait.

Please take the time to read and fully understand all race documentation available for downloading, once again if in doubt shout!

RACE MARSHALL

Our 2010 Race Marshall is still to be decided however this task may possibly be managed from within Altitude 5000 Sleddog Group.

RANDOM DRUG TESTING OF DOGS

There is always the possibility of random drug testing of dogs at Altitude's race. Samples taken are sealed and signed by the race vet, race marshal; the dog's owner/musher and representative from Altitude 5000 Sleddog Group Inc. Once sealed the samples are transported by the race vet to be tested in Melbourne whereby results are later returned to the dog's owner/musher, and Altitude 5000. Any dogs testing positive, both the owner/musher and dog/s will be disqualified from entering A5K's race for 5 years. Positive test results will also be made public to other RGO's.

Whilst this may seem a drastic measure we believe it is important for the sports integrity thus ensuring a drug free environment for all dog teams.

DOG TRUCK AND TRAILER PARKING @ Scrubbers End Car Park

A condition of Altitudes race permit - all dog trailers and vehicles housing dogs must be parked in designated sleddog parking areas. Dog trailers or vehicles housing dogs are not permitted to be parked beside accommodation at Dinner Plain.

Parking in Scrubbers End will be tight hence when positioning your vehicle please avoid parking across several bays leaving space for others.

VSDRA ABUSIVE MUSER AND AGGRESSIVE DOG POLICY

Whilst the Victorian Sleddog Racing Association has long gone policies formulated and agreed to by member clubs will still be applied by Altitude 5000 Sleddog Group. What does this mean?

1. Any person, musher or handler who is reported as verbally or physically abusing a dog/team, person, musher, handler, race official or spectator may be banned from entering Altitudes race for a period of 2 years.
2. Any person, musher, handler or dog/team who attacks or bites another person, musher, handler, race official or spectator that dog/s name and owner will be reported to VSDRA and the owner of the dog and musher in charge of the dog team may be banned from Altitudes race for a period of 2 years.

GROOMING OF TRAILS

Resident snow groomers for Dinner Plain have been contracted to groom our race trails. However from a health and safety perspective the snow groomer's first priority is to ensure all roads and driveways are cleared of snow throughout the entire village.

In the past DP snow clearers have been a fantastic help across race weekend grooming trails, clearing dog-trailer parking areas and moving snow where ever and basically when ever we have needed it moved! They have again committed to groom all trails if conditions are right i.e. adequate snow depth and consistency for both training prior to and after the race and obviously during the actual race weekend.

Please do not hassle these guys, as they are often working to tight deadlines. For the race they do what they can when they can.

Be mindful of the fact that trails are only groomed when there is sufficient snow. Then the snow base must be of the correct moisture content and depth therefore avoiding environmental destruction to the earthen trail base and damage to the snow groomer. Alternatively and where warranted Altitude can organise private snow machines to break trail.

NO DOGS MEANS NO DOGS!

Trails leaving the south and western boundaries of Dinner Plain are in effect heading into National Park. Under no circumstances are dog teams permitted to follow trails across in this direction into the National Park. Persons with dog teams reported or caught running dogs inside the National Park will be automatically disqualified from racing and entering any future Altitude 5000 races for a period not less than 2 years.

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MEDIA

Being a unique snow event for Australia this race can often attract a large media contingent. Media coverage is beneficial to the sports continual growth and exposure. Wherever possible please assist the media and if you do happen to have problems with any media immediately advise an A5K official. Alternatively speak directly with Sue Simmons A5K's media liaison officer. Sue will be monitoring and ensuring media crews do not interfere with teams or impact the operations of this event.

WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday night mid-race entertainment is usually provided by one of the finer establishments of Dinner Plain. At time of print a calendar of entertainment events was unavailable. However check with your booking office on arrival otherwise keep your ear on the street and simply go with the flow!

CHAINS MUST BE CARRIED.

Chains can be hired from most ski shops around Melbourne, both directions along the Alpine Highway and also along the Mt Hotham roadside – although being a busy weekend the roadside operator may run short of certain sizes therefore it would be wise to hire chains off mountain. Remember to consider a set of chains for trailers for if road conditions are extreme access via the Mt Hotham may be refused. Alternatively, access Dinner Plain from the Omeo direction and chances are you may not be required to fit wheel chains.

**** Note - by law it is still necessary to carry chains thus being well prepared if roadside signs dictate chains are to be fitted****

TRANSIT PASS

If travelling to Dinner Plain from the Harrierville side of Mount Hotham all vehicles are required to stop at the entrance to the Alpine National Park. Advise the gate attendant you are racing at Dinner Plain and only require a transit pass. Otherwise there is a \$30 charge per day.

ANTI FREEZE AND DIESEL VEHICLES

All vehicles visiting the Alpine region should have their radiators checked and subsequently have their antifreeze tested and if need be topped up. The minimum requirement a driver should anticipate completing is to simply add anti freeze to their vehicles radiator.

We recommend diesel vehicles top up their fuel tanks at either Bright or Omeo where it is possible to obtain “Diesel Alpine Mix” Basically Alpine Mix is a diesel fuel manufactured specifically for Alpine conditions thus prevents diesel from freezing or “waxing” as they say. **Note – Fuel is no longer available form Mt Hotham or Dinner Plain.**

SNOW BUNNIES

Cross Country and beginner downhill skiing/snowboarding is available at Dinner Plain. For intermediate and advanced skiing a regular shuttle bus is available from Dinner Plain to nearby Mount Hotham. Skis, boards, boots and clothing can be hired at both Dinner Plain and Mount Hotham.

Welcome Meeting and Race Bib Draw	
19:30 Friday 13 August 2010	All classes including Touring – Venue to be advised

- Last chance race class changes accepted from **7.00pm** to **7:20pm** then closed. Teams changing classes will automatically default to the rear of the pre draw field.

Driver's Meetings	
08:00 Saturday 14 August 2010	Out side - north side of Dinner Plain public Day Shelter
12:30 Saturday – Touring Class (approx)	
08:00 Sunday 15 August 2010	Out side - north side of Dinner Plain public Day Shelter

- For safety reasons and in particular, race updates and changing trail conditions it is imperative that all drivers attend drivers meetings. If a driver is absent it will be assumed they have scratched.

Race Times	
09:15 Saturday	2 / 3 / 4 / 6 / 8 dog classes
12:30 Saturday	Touring Class - all classes
09:15 Sunday	2 / 3 / 4 / 6 / 8 dog classes
13:30 Sunday (Approx) - Race Presentations	Venue to be advised

