

## DESDC Code of Ethics

Down East Sled Dog Club is dedicated to the promotion and education of all sled dog sports. It is the Club's goal to provide a safe, supportive and professional atmosphere in which competitors and spectators can all enjoy the sport.

Our club and race participation has grown significantly over the past few years and as a result, we have many new mushers who are racing for the first time. Below we have outlined a "code of ethics/behavior" that we ask you to agree to follow when you sign up as a member of DESDC.

All club members are expected to understand and follow Club and/or ISDRA Race Rules.

In addition we expect that you:

- Are responsible for your own conduct as well as those of your dogs and the people who are traveling with you or handling for you.
- Treat everyone at the race site and on the trail with respect (race officials, trail help, other racers, spectator's etc.). No verbal abuse to dogs or persons will be tolerated.
- Use good judgement regarding the conditioning of yourself and your dogs when choosing to race. Make sure you are both in reasonable shape to compete. Use good judgement in accessing your (or family members) capabilities when choosing the number of dogs to race or conditions to race on. Draw on the experience of fellow mushers or the race officials if you have questions.
- Are responsible for the conduct of your dogs. If you have dogs that are aggressive to people or other dogs you are responsible to manage them or drop them so that people or other teams are not in jeopardy.
- Park in the same spot both days and clean up all waste at your truck (food, straw, poop, etc.) and any you may generate at the race site. Be prepared to take home your waste or deposit it at the race site if a receptacle is provided.
- No whips are to be used during the races. No tampering with another's dogs, dog's food or equipment. When feeding on the trail, clean up uneaten food.

DESDC believes sportsmanship and "good ethics" in the race area and on the trail are paramount to the success of our races and to the promotion of our sport. Failure to follow rules set up by sanctioning organizations and DESDC may result in disqualification and/or expulsion from DESDC events.

I understand the rules as stated above and agree to follow them. \_\_\_\_\_