



RULES FOR VINDELÄLVSDRAGET 2016

1. Teams, dog team and musher

- 1.1 A team consists of at least two dog sled teams
- 1.2 Each sled dog team is allowed to go a voluntary number of stages.
- 1.3 Mushers can only be part of one team.
- 1.4 Teams consisting of more than two dog sled teams can complete a number of stages of their choosing by skjoring with one or two dogs.
- 1.5 Teams consisting of more than two dog sled teams can start with eight dogs/team and stage at the most.
- 1.6 The minimum age of a musher is 15 years of age. (Exemption with reserve can be granted from the age of 12)
- 1.7 To start in Nome style with four dogs the musher must be 15 years of age.
- 1.8 To start in Nome style with five or six dogs the musher must be 17 years of age.
- 1.9 To start in Nome style with seven or eight dogs the musher must be 19 years of age.

2. Dogs

- 2.1 Dogs shall be 17 months old, i.e. born before 2014-10-17.
- 2.2 Dogs shall have identification marking by tattoo in the ear or microchip.
- 2.3 Vaccination of the dog shall be done after the age of one year (regardless of previous vaccination). Vaccination against distemper must not be older than four years.
- 2.4 Vaccination certificate for all dogs on the team shall be presented before start. A representative for the team will present this to the Secretariat no later than 16-03-16 between 4 pm-10 pm (16.00-22.00), or send a copy of the vaccination certificate to VINDELÄLVSDRAGET before 2016-03-09 (See competition information under Dogs)
- 2.5 VINDELÄLVSDRAGETS dog form/chip-form where all the dogs in the team are listed shall be turned in to the Secretariat with the team registration in Ammarnäs or Sorsele 2016-03-16.
- 2.6 Dogs who during the last 14 days have shown signs of or been in contact with a dog that have had a contagious disease, like diarrhea or cough, cannot take part in or be brought to VINDELÄLVSDRAGET.
- 2.7 Veterinary has the right to exclude a dog from the competition.
- 2.8 Abuse or harsh handling of dogs that is perceived as offensive to other competitors or audience is forbidden
- 2.9 Dogs who bites a person or dog can be excluded from further participation in the competition
- 2.10 Teams who have not inspected all of the competing sled dogs in the team before 2 pm (17.00) 2016-03-19 will be disqualified

3. Relay

- 3.1 The relay shall be brought with the team during the whole stage with the exception of the team that has a new start at 3 pm (15.00). Lost relay adds 10 minutes to the stage where the loss occurred.

4. Equipment

- 4.1 All dogs in teams with sleds or pulka shall be fastened to the sled with a thug line, a shaft or a pole.
- 4.2 If sleds or pulka without breaks are used, the dog or dogs closest to the sled or pulka shall be fastened with a shaft or a pole.
- 4.3 If more than one dog goes with loose lines they shall be connected by a neckline.
- 4.4 If the musher is going by skis the musher shall be fastened to the sled, the shaft or the dog/dogs with an expander line. The line cannot have metal hooks or rings at the part of the line that the musher is fastened to.
- 4.5 Sleds and/or gear for fastening are not allowed to be a risk for injury to dog/s or musher.
- 4.6 Sled shall have sufficient breaks, brush bow, snow anchor and dog bag.
- 4.7 Muzzle and collar that can be connected as a choker leash or other means of coercion are forbidden.
- 4.8 Necklines cannot consist of pure metal.
- 4.9 Bib- number shall be worn visibly on the chest and back of the musher.
- 4.10 Nome style mushers must wear a helmet.

5. Mass Start

- 5.1 Introduction of dogs to the starting pen shall be done from the back.
- 5.2 Dogs can stand in front of the starting line. Sleds shall be behind the starting line.
- 5.3 The smallest gap allowed between sleds is approximately 75 cm.
- 5.4 The teams that finished 1-10 in last years competition or after completed competition day has a better total result than 10th, gets to start by the front starting line. The teams with placing 11-20 by the second starting line. The rest of the teams start by the last starting line.
- 5.5 All teams shall be present in the starting pens at least 5 minutes before start.
- 5.6 All handlers shall stand to the LEFT of their team and at the starting moment stand stock still.

6. Trail rules

- 6.1 The trail marked by VINDELÄLVDRAGET shall be followed.
- 6.2 Sled teams that go outside of the marked trail shall immediately return to the trail.
- 6.3 Mushers shall according to their own judgement, during shorter distances ski or walk in front of the dogs in order to help in difficult situations.
- 6.4 Loose dog or loose dog team shall not delay, obstruct or be a danger to other sled teams.
- 6.5 Pacing on or outside the trail are forbidden.

7. Passing

- 7.1 It is incumbent upon both mushers that passing is done in a both safe and sport like manner.
- 7.2 When one team intend to overtake another, the passing team has a right to request a free trail ("trail") when the dogs in the front is approximately 15 m behind the team that will be passed.
- 7.3 Teams that are being passed shall slow their speed and keep to the side.

8. Exchange

- 8.1 At the exchange the whole sled team shall be changed (only the relay and ski gear are allowed to be handed over). After proposal to the organizer the incoming musher can be allowed to continue with a new dog team or incoming dog teams are allowed to continue with a new musher.
- 8.2 Incoming musher shall hand over (do not throw!) the relay to the next musher.
- 8.3 Exchange shall occur immediately after the exchange pen.

9. Time penalty

9.1 A team that abstains from a stage will receive a time equivalent to the slowest time on that stage + 10 minutes.

9.2 A team that because of an accident are forced to interrupt a stage will receive the same time as the slowest team of that stage.

9.3 A team that carries out so called voluntary exchange receives a time penalty of 10 minutes of the stage if it is more than 15 km or 5 minutes if it is less than 15 km.

10. Finish

10.1 Handlers and team mates in connection to the finish shall not behave loudly or in other ways disturbing manner causing dogs in other teams to become frightened when finishing.

10.2 A team shall finish or exchange with the same number of dogs as it started with.

10.3 A team has finished when the first dog has crossed the finish line.

10.4 If a team without a musher crosses the finish line before the musher, it is viewed to have finished when the musher crosses the finish line.

11. Additional rules for teams consisting of only two sled teams (mid distance)

11.1 Rules 1.2 and 1.4 are not valid.

11.2 A two-sled team can compete with a maximum of 24 dogs.

11.3 The dogs can be arranged freely between the two teams.

11.4 A team can start with a maximum of 12 dogs but cannot finish with less than six dogs for sled teams and less than two for Ski-dog teams.

11.5 Starting number shall be brought visibly from the front.

11.6 One round of booties for each dog shall be brought in the sled or on the dog.

11.7 Stage division:

Day 1: Ammarnäs - Jeribäcken . Jeribäcken - Sorsele

Day 2: Sorsele - Torviksele . Torviksele - Björksele

Day 3: Björksele - Siksele . Siksele - Hällnäs

Day 4: Hällnäs - Vindelheden . Vindelheden - Vännäsby

12. Protest

12.1 A protest shall be turned in to the Secretariat no later than 30 minutes after the last team has finished.

12.2 The protest shall be in writing and written on the form provided by the Secretariat.

12.3 The protest shall be signed by the team leader.

13. Team leader meetings

13.1 A representative for the team shall be present at meetings.

14. Disciplinary actions

14.1 If team, team leader, musher, handlers or dogs does not follow VINDELÄLVSDRAGET's rules, conducts unsportsmanlike-like, damages the reputation of mushing or VINDELÄLVSDRAGET, the jury shall issue a warning, a 5 or 10 minutes penalty or in more severe cases disqualification. If disqualification is imposed, it means for the disqualified part exclusion from further participation in VINDELÄLVSDRAGET.

14.2 The jury will interview involved mushers, functionaries or other witnesses that could provide information about the incident before a decision is made.

14.3 The jury's decision is reported in writing as soon as possible, but no later than 30 minutes before the next day's start or the last day's prize ceremony.

14.4 The jury's decision cannot be appealed.

Abbreviations that may occur on the list of results:

U	Youth, 15-20 years old
UD	Youth with exemption (younger than 15 years old)
A	The team has abstained from the stage = the stage's slowest time + 10 minutes
F5	Voluntary exchange, 5 minutes penalty per voluntary exchange
F10	Voluntary exchange, 10 minutes penalty per voluntary exchange
B	Interrupted stage = the stage's slowest time
DV	Disciplinary action, warning
D5	Disciplinary action, 5 minutes penalty
D10	Disciplinary action, 10 minutes penalty
DD	Disciplinary action, disqualification

The application for exemption from the age demand shall be filled out in a specific form and be available to the Race Marshal no later than 2016-03-04.

Vindelälvsdraget 2016

Application for exemption for mushers under the age of 15

Team:

Name:

Born:

Conditions:

1. The musher cannot be younger than 12 years old.
2. The musher shall be trusted with the dog/s and be an "experienced musher"
3. If the musher is not a member of a dog club one of the adults in the mushers own home club must have a license for competing. If any of these demands cannot be met the parents must secure a sufficient insurance coverage. Vindelälvsdraget cannot take on any demands for compensation of damages.
4. Mushers shall wear helmets, cannot use guide rope or painters and also not start with more than 3 dogs.
5. Ski-dog mushers cannot start with more than one dog.
6. The musher is not allowed to go the starting stage nor a stage longer than 11 km.

We have read the conditions above.

Place:

Date:

Parent:

Team leader:

The application for exemption shall be sent before 2016-03-04 to:

VINDELÄLVSDRAGET

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