

AMENDMENT TO YUKON QUEST ALASKA 550 2023 RULES

Official Amended Race Rules for the 2023 Yukon Quest Alaska Sled Dog Race
As adopted by Yukon Quest Alaska on January 13, 2023

Purpose of this Amendment: *Due to impassable conditions on the Yukon River this year, a route change to the originally planned Yukon Quest Alaska trail has been implemented. The race route continues to be a 550 mile trail, but most notably without remote checkpoints. The following are the significant changes to the original rules published in August 2022 and include routes and mandatory stops. This amendment lists only changes to the original rules; unless noted in this amendment, original rules apply.*

As always:

**English is the official language of the Yukon Quest Alaska Sled Dog Race
All dollar amounts are in U.S. currency**

CODE OF THE TRAIL: Competitive efforts in the spirit of the Yukon Quest are only valid if dog care is implemented at the highest level. A dog musher recognizes and accepts that honor on the trail is only achieved through the constant respect and care for the dogs. It is on this the mushers will be judged.

GENERAL RACE PROCEDURE

2. Entry Fee, Dates, Limits: Entries will now close at 11:59 pm (via email) local time Friday, January 20th, 2023.

3. Course and Checkpoints:

The course covers approximately 550 miles of mostly Arctic wilderness, some of it on and along the Tanana and Chena Rivers. The trail will be broken and marked prior to the race, but due to weather conditions there will be no guarantee of a broken trail during the race.

Official Checkpoints are as follows:

1. Fairbanks
2. Two Rivers (1)
3. Mile 101 (1)
6. Central (2)
7. Mile 101 (2)
8. Two Rivers (2)

4. Central (1)
5. Circle
9. Nenana
10. Fairbanks

Official Dog Drops:

There will be no added dog drops. Dogs may be dropped at Checkpoints only.

The Yukon Quest Alaska organization may relocate, remove, or add a checkpoint or dog drop should it deem it necessary for the benefit of the race and the participants.

4. Food/Equipment Shipment:

- Mushers will supply their own heet at all checkpoints
- Straw will be furnished by YQA at Mile 101, Central, Circle, Two Rivers (2), and Nenana
- Mushers must provide their own straw at Two Rivers (1)

The team's handlers will deliver their own drop bags to all checkpoints prior to the arrival of the team.

Remote Checkpoints:

There are no checkpoints considered remote for this year's race.

NOTE: IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE DOGS ARE ADEQUATELY CARED FOR, IN CASE OF ROAD CLOSURES, ONE DROP BAG CONTAINING FOOD AND HEET SHALL BE PREPARED FOR BOTH MILE 101 AND CENTRAL TO BE DELIVERED TO A PLACE TBD. YQA WILL TRANSPORT THOSE DROPS. HANDLERS SHALL DELIVER THE REMAINDER OF THE DROPS ON ARRIVAL.

5. Promotional Material and Events:

The following events are mandatory for Mushers:

1. Pre-race Mushers and Handlers Meeting
2. Pre-race Meet the Mushers and Draw
3. Finish and Awards Banquet (optional for non-finishers, but strongly encouraged)

Failure to attend any mandatory event will result in a \$250.00 fine for each event missed.

9. Mushers and Handlers Meeting:

All entrants are required to attend the mushers meeting, at a date and time to be announced. Handlers are encouraged to attend this meeting as well. **Failure to answer all roll calls in person will result in a \$250 fine.** The location of these meetings will be announced by YQA.

Each musher will draw their starting position in person at the Meet the Musher/Draw event.

TRAIL PROCEDURE

20. Mandatory Stops:

- Mile 101 (1) or Central (1): 4 hours

- Two Rivers (2): 4 hours
- Nenana: 6 hours

*The Start Time Differential will be adjusted in Mile 101 (1) or Central (1)

Time penalties will only be served at the following **designated mandatory stop:**
Nenana

Any penalties assessed after Nenana will be added to the overall finish time.

21. Race Course:

All teams must follow the trail as marked or as instructed by the Race Marshal.

Mileage between checkpoints:

Fairbanks – Two Rivers (1):	41
Two Rivers (1) – Mile 101 (1):	72
Mile 101(1) – Central (1):	28
Central (1) – Circle:	75
Circle – Central (2):	75
Central (2) – Mile 101 (2):	28
Mile 101 (2) – Two Rivers (2):	72
Two Rivers (2) – Nenana:	100
Nenana – Finish (Chena Pump House):	59
TOTAL MILES	550

23. Standard Race Courtesy:

Standard race courtesy shall prevail. An overtaken musher and team must relinquish the trail at the request of the overtaking musher, except within 1 mile of the finish line in Fairbanks. Ski poles may not be used withing 100 yards of another team.