

# Mora Vasaloppet Skijoring Race

**CASH AWARDS:** \$100 for 1st, \$50 for 2nd and \$25 for 3rd for both mens' and womens' 10K races, provided by Skijoring USA

**DALA HORSES:** Top 3 overall finishers in both races sponsored by the Vasaloppet

- There is no age limit. However, participants need to be experienced at skate or classic skiing and have some skijoring experience. Please use discretion as to which race you enter based upon your skiing skill and skijoring experience with your dog. An experienced skier should not enter the 8.5K race without skijoring racing experience.
- IFSS World Cup Race competitors must provide DID numbers 1 week prior to this event to earn IFSS World Cup Points. Please send your name and DID number to kevinmmurphy@comcast.net
- Skijorers are expected to be skilled, athletic, experienced and knowledgeable in race rules and etiquette. Dogs need to be fit and trained. Teams must be able to complete the course distance in a reasonable amount of time.
- One dog for the 3K race. One or two dogs can be used in the 8.5K race. However, race officials may limit the number of dogs which a participant may race for safety reasons.
- Behavior: Dogs must be treated humanely at all times. Profanity is prohibited. Dogs must be controlled and kept from other teams. Loose dogs are not permitted at any time. Aggressive dogs are prohibited from the event. When the dogs are not racing, waste must be picked up immediately. Skijorers cannot interfere with or impede another skijorer's progress on the race course or in the start area. Skijorers are responsible for preventing dog fights.

## **DOG FITNESS:**

Dogs must be fit to be able to complete the course without injury. They must be vaccinated for Rabies and DHPP and the owner must have proof at registration. A Rabies tag is proof of vaccination. Sick dogs are not permitted. No performance enhancing drugs can be used by human or dog. A veterinarian will inspect dogs.

**EQUIPMENT:** All equipment must be in good working order and safe.

- Skis/Poles: Nordic or classic permitted. No metal ski edges. Pole wrist straps and baskets must be used.
- Skijor Belt: (required) Must be padded and a minimum of three inches wide. No tow-bars allowed.
- Quick Release: (required) must be capable of releasing under a load. Carabineers and bolt snaps are prohibited. Quick release cannot remain with towline upon release. Must be positioned in arm's reach of skijorer.
- Towline: Internal bungee required. There needs to be a minimum of 7 ft. and maximum of 13 ft. 8 inches between skijorer and dog. This assumes maximum elongation from skijorer to rear of dog.
- Dog Harness: Pulling style harness is required with padding around neck area. Under no circumstances can towline be attached to dog's collar or any harness not specifically designed for pulling.
- Dog Collar: (required for every dog) it must fit snugly to prevent the dog from slipping out. Collars with plastic quick release are strongly discouraged.
- Necklines: Required if running two dogs and must be attached to the collars of both dogs. Dogs may not run in single file.
- Helmets are allowed by, but not required.
- Pulks/sleds, carriers are not allowed.

## **START**

- Skijorers must provide their own handler if there is any concern about maintaining adequate control in the start area. All dog handlers need to be on the left side of the teams and must remain still after the start until all team have passed.
- Starting line assignment will first be given to all IFSS World Cup Competitors. Next priority seeding will be given to applicants that have completed and returned race results 2 weeks prior to the event. Please send documented and verifiable race results information to kevinmmurphy@comcast.net to be included in priority seeding. Additional competitors will be randomly seeded behind the seeded competitors.
- Front tips of skijorer's skis must be behind the start line until the race official signals start.
- No flying starts. Team must be at a complete stop before starting.
- Race bib number must be clearly visible to race officials.
- Skijorers must at all times be aware of teams nearby and must keep control over their ski pole tips to avoid injuring dogs or skijorers.

## **PASSING**

- The passing skijorer must execute a pass only when conditions are safe and clearly shout "TRAIL" before attempting a pass. Passing skijorer must exercise extreme caution when poling during pass.
- Skijorer being passed should slow and move to the side if possible. (Teams do not need to stop).
- Skijorer being passed must stop poling and hold poles behind, low and away from passing team. They should maintain at least a 40 ft. distance behind passing team.
- Any skijorer whose dog that is aggressive towards another dog must stop and permit the other team to pass.

## **FINISHING**

- Timing ends when the skijorer's ski tips cross the finish line.
- All dogs must cross the finish line in front of the skijorer's ski tip.
- Skijorers must exit finish area to make room for subsequent finishers.
- Personal dog handlers are welcome, but must stay clear of finishing team traffic.

**INJURED DOG:** Skijorer must stay with injured dog until trail help arrives.

## **PROTEST**

- Protests must be made within 10 minutes of finishing the race with a \$10 fee.
- Skijorer must arrange to meet privately with race officials.
- Skijorer must not discuss complaint with any person who is not a race official.
- Protest not received in time cannot be addressed.

## **RACE OFFICIAL AUTHORITY**

- Race officials have final authority on rules, finishing and infractions.
- Rule violations may be reported to governing organizations.
- The attending Veterinarian will rule on dog safety and health issues. Dogs determined unfit for racing must be removed from the team.