

2023 Bogus Creek 150 Rules

The Bogus Creek 150 is a sled dog race from Bethel, Alaska to a turn-around at Bogus Creek near Tuluksak, Alaska, and back to Bethel.

1. The Bogus Creek 150 begins at 3:00 PM in Bethel, Alaska on Saturday January 14, 2023.
2. Membership is required to participate in K300 purse races. The fee is \$100. There is no entry fee for the 2023 Bogus Creek 150. Teams may enter in the name of the owner, sponsors, racer, or any other name the entrant chooses. The racer must be designated at the time of entry. A substitute racer may replace the designated racer at any time before the pre-race meeting. Substitutions after that time are subject to Race Marshal approval.
3. Registration is required for the race and must be completed by Thursday, January 12, 2023. Racers will be assigned bib numbers and starting line positions according to the order of registration. Racers must wear numbered bibs or banners provided by the Race Committee at all times during the race and must attach numbered sled plates to their sled. Racers who do not return bibs or plates to the Race Committee after the event may be charged for replacement costs.
4. All racers must arrange their own lodging and transportation in Bethel, and for any transportation to and from Bethel from out of town.
5. Racers must sign in with the official checker at the Bogus Creek Checkpoint and declare how many dogs will be dropped at that checkpoint.
6. Racers must follow the marked and/or broken race trail. Leaving the marked and/or broken trail for the purpose of gaining a competitive advantage over other racers is not allowed. Racers may not travel on the truck road except in the rare case that the marked race trail is on the truck road.
7. A team finishes the race when the nose of any dog in the team crosses the finish line in Bethel.
8. Each racer (and at least one of their handlers) must be present at the pre-race meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 12, located at The Longhouse Hotel.
9. Racers must provide as many handlers as are required to keep their teams under control at the starting line. Each team may be required to carry a handler from the starting line to a point determined by race officials. The race will begin with a mass start.
10. Racers must begin the race with no fewer than 7 dogs and no more than 10 dogs and complete the race with no fewer than 5 dogs. At no time may a team travel with less than 5 dogs in harness and attached to the gang line. No dogs are to be added to a team after leaving the starting line.
11. All dogs are subject to a veterinary check at any time prior to, during, or after the race. Dogs not fit to begin or continue the race may be removed from the race at the discretion of the Race

Veterinarian. The Race Veterinarian may also require a racer to delay their team at the Bogus Creek checkpoint if the Veterinarian believes dogs in the team require additional rest. No injectable substances may be used on any dog at any point during the race.

12. Inhumane treatment of dogs is not permitted. Whips may not be carried or used during the race. All race sleds must be equipped with a sled bag suitable for carrying injured or weary dogs. The bag must be equipped with closures sufficient to keep a dog from escaping or sticking legs outside of the bag. Any racer who appears without a suitable sled bag will be fined \$200.
13. Racers may drop dogs from their team during the race, but dogs may be left only at Bogus Creek, the official checkpoint. Racers may not sign in at Bogus Creek Checkpoint unless all dogs in their team, which left the start line are present. Dropped dogs may not be put back in the team. Racers must make arrangements for transportation of and care for dropped dogs. Each racer must have a support crew consisting of at least one person, to be identified at the pre-race meeting. This support crew must be available on the trail to transport dropped dogs. The race committee will not be responsible for dropped dog transport.
14. Racers are responsible for the transportation of all dog food and gear. The committee will not be responsible for the transportation or storage of dog food or gear. Food may be sent to the Bogus Creek Checkpoint with the racers support crew. Racers may not utilize food from any other location along the trail except in an emergency situation. Use of such food in an emergency must be reported to a race official. Any food fed to dogs outside of the Bogus Creek Checkpoint must be hauled during the race by the dog team using the food.
15. Racers may not accept help in the care or feeding of their dogs, or in the establishment of their camps at any point along the trail except at Bogus Creek. At the Bogus Creek Checkpoint, racers may have one or more handlers/support crew assisting in the care and feeding of dogs and in the establishment of their camp. Use of alcohol by racers or their crew is prohibited during the race. Racers are responsible for the conduct of their crew members.
16. Prize Money: The 2023 Total Purse is \$60,000 dispersed over 15 places. An exact breakdown of the payment may be found on the K300 website, www.k300.org.
17. The highest finishing rookie racer will receive recognition. A rookie is defined as any racer who has not competed in a race of 150 miles, or longer, prior to the 2023 Bogus Creek 150 race. Racers wishing to compete for the rookie award must identify themselves at the pre-race meeting.
18. Motorized vehicles may not lead, pace or follow teams unless at the direction of the race officials. The race officials include the Race Marshal, the Race Veterinarian, and Race Judges. All officials will be identified to the racers at the pre-race meeting.
19. Each racer must carry, as required equipment at all times, a sleeping bag and an ax. In addition, each racer must start the race with four dog booties for each dog. Additionally, every sled will be equipped with a GPS tracker which must be carried at all times.

20. Each racer must execute a Release of Liability before entering the race. Each racer must show proof that dogs in their team have been vaccinated for rabies. It is recommended that all dogs also have distemper and parvo vaccinations before competing in the race.
21. No racer under the age of 16 may enter the race, unless they have previously applied for and received approval based on their qualifications and experience by the Race Committee. Applications for such approval must be made prior to January 9, 2023.
22. Racers must take a 4-hour layover **only at the Bogus Creek checkpoint**. The layover begins when the racer declares their intention to the official checker and signs in. The layover ends when the racer signs out with the checker. During the 4-hour mandatory layover each team is subject to any time adjustments if required.
23. Bogus Creek is the only checkpoint for the 2023 race.
24. Any racer who becomes separated from their team may use whatever means are possible to recover this team. Once the team is recovered, the racer may return to the trail at any point and continue the race. Should it be determined that any time was gained by the lost team, a time adjustment may occur at the next timed stop or the finish line.
25. When any team approaches within 50 feet of another team, the team behind has the immediate right of way upon demand. The racer ahead must stop their dogs and hold them to the best of their ability for a maximum of one minute or until the other team has passed, whichever occurs first. The passed team **must remain behind** at least 15 minutes before demanding the trail from the passing team. The passing rule does not apply in *No Man's Land*, which will be identified to racers at the pre-race meeting.
26. All litter must be properly disposed of at checkpoint and may not be left along the trail.
27. Racers must conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner. Discussion about these rules or other aspects of the race must be conducted with race officials at an appropriate time and place. At all race functions, conduct detrimental to the Race Committee, its sponsors, or its volunteers is subject to penalty.
28. Any observed violations of the Race Rules must be reported to a race official within 12 hours of the time that the racer registering the protest crosses the finish line. Any decisions by race officials are final.
29. Racers who have outstanding accounts with the K-300 will have their prize money adjusted accordingly.
30. Rule violations subject the violator to the following range of penalties:
 1. Warning (oral or written)
 2. Censure (public or private)
 3. Monetary
 4. Time delay

5. Disqualification
6. Ineligibility for future races.

Penalties 1 through 5 may be administered by Race Officials. Penalty 6 may be administered by the Race Committee.

The Race Committee urges each entrant in this year's race to fully prepare themselves and their team for possible hazardous trail conditions. Southwest Alaska is subject to high winds, low temperatures, and severe snowstorms during the month of January. Racers might also experience temperatures as high as 40 degrees with rain. Arctic style cold weather gear is recommended, including a heavy-duty sleeping bag with an outer bag or tarp to break the wind. A set of rain gear is also recommended. Daylight can be expected from 9:30AM to 6PM Part of the trail will be lightly traveled areas and racers who lose the trail must be prepared for survival in such an emergency situation. The trail will be extensively marked and the progress of racers will be closely monitored; however, weather conditions and other factors beyond the control of the Race Committee may prevent a racer from being helped in the event that they are lost. Please plan accordingly.

The race will adhere to its schedule unless weather or trail conditions force a delay. If that should occur before the race start, the start could be delayed on a day-to-day basis. This has happened in the past, and racers will be given reasonable notice of such changes through race headquarters. Once the race has begun, such delays will be communicated through checkers and race officials on the trail. Any such delay would involve teams not being able to advance along the trail once notified of the delay. This procedure would be employed only at checkpoints. In addition to a delay, the race route may be altered either before or during the race if conditions require such a change. This could result in a longer or shorter race trail than advertised. One of the potential results would be a race that is stopped at a point short of the expected finish line, after teams have reached that location, if trail conditions do not allow the race to continue. In all of the above situations, the committee recognizes that changes would possibly affect the outcome of the race. Thus, such changes would not be made except in extraordinary circumstances. If such changes are required, the committee will make every effort to assure that dog care is not adversely affected by the change. The Kuskokwim 300 endeavors at all times to conduct a safe event that is fair for all competitors.

If you have questions about these Rules or other aspects of the race, contact the Race Committee at 543-2972 or 545-3300 in Bethel or at Box 3001, Bethel, Alaska 99559.