Attachment 1a
H151

Gary Ness 2010

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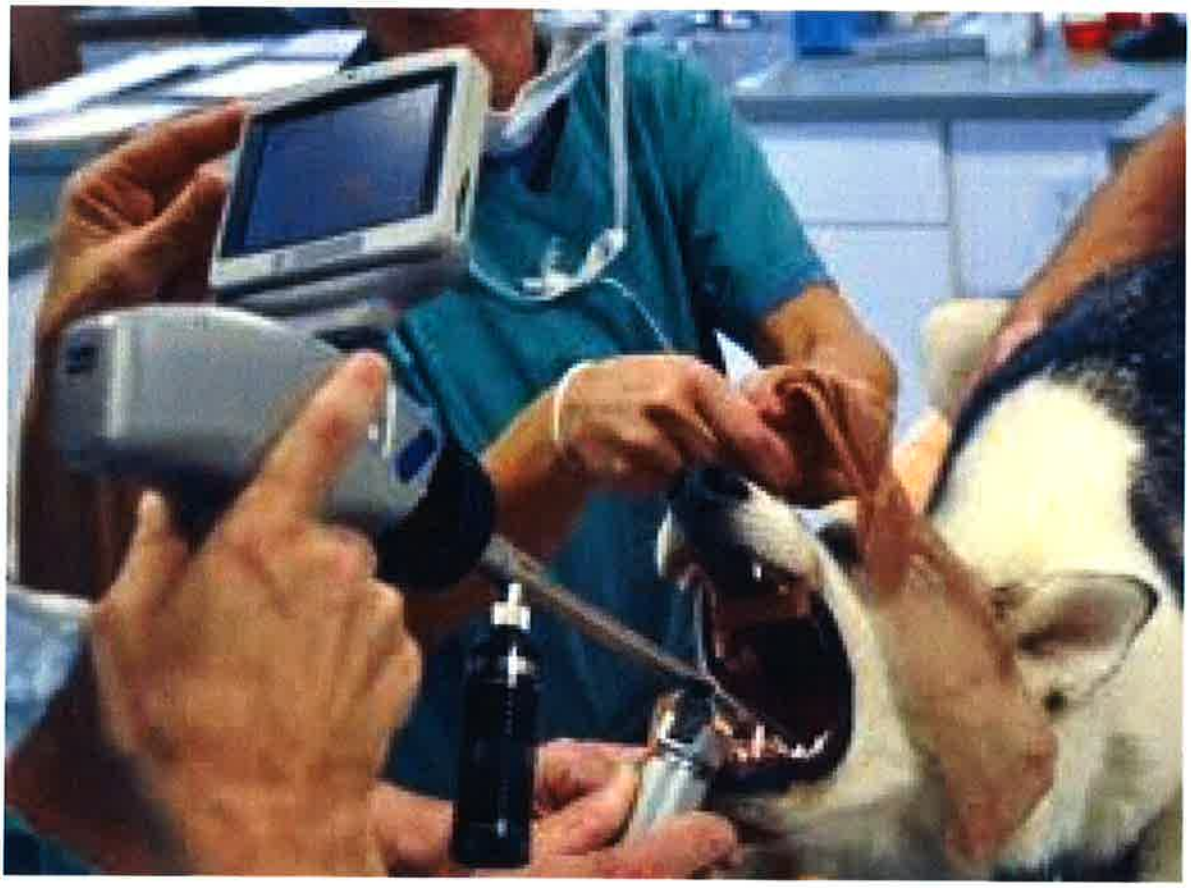

Attachment 1b - HIS

The First American Dog Derby

By Neal C. Wickham
2/2/09

The dog sledding tradition in Ashton owes its existence to Union Pacific Railroad. Ashton was founded and constructed with the coming of railroad in 1906. The construction of the Yellowstone Branch continued from Asthon into the high country of Island Park and completed at West Yellowstone 1908. A few years later, the Teton Valley Branch, was constructed from Ashton into the Lamont and Teton Valley areas and completed to Victor in 1912. Due to the deep snows, however, these two railroads were closed down in winter and not plowed until spring. This made Ashton the wintertime rail terminus for the entire region. In winter, mail, people, and supplies could only be transported to developments in these high country areas via dog sled. By 1917, mushing, in Ashton, was a serious business with dozens carving out a living training and maintaining dog sled teams that transported mail, people, and supplies to the high country in winter.

Tud Kent in Island Park in 1918. The sign on which Kent is sitting is purported to be 12 feet off the ground. Photo illustrates problems of mushing in deep snow. This is the same dog team Kent used to win in 1917.

The idea for the first dog sled race has a traditional history that a popular barber in Ashton, named Jay Ball, dreamed it up after reading about the All-Alaska Sweepstakes in Nome, Alaska and the new Hudson Bay Dog Derby in Las Pas, Manitoba, Canada that began the year before in 1916. This is a nice story and it may well be true but it should be pointed out that two of the four founders of the American Dog Derby were direct employees of Union Pacific Railroad and that Union Pacific spent tens of thousands of dollars promoting the American Dog Derby over the following decades and made a wildly popular international event and made mushers international celebrities. A popular female musher named Lydia Hutchinson even starred in a movie.

Although this photo was taken several years later, ski jumping with skiers towed by horse, entertained the crowd at the first American Dog Derby in 1917 along with other events.

The rules for the American Dog Derby would be based on those of the Hudson Bay Dog Derby, the course would be the unplowed Yellowstone Branch railroad from West Yellowstone to Ashton, and the date would be Sunday, March 4th, 1917. Promoters must have been please when 16 teams registered in Ashton between February 25th and March 1st for the first big race. All were local. There were two teams from Harriman's Railroad Ranch (owned by Union Pacific), one team from the Utida Gun Club, one from the Trude Ranch, several from West Yellowstone, one team from Henry's Lake, one team from Kilgore, one team from Spencer, two from Marysville, one team from the Mesa Hunting Lodge, and several teams from Ashton. It looked to be a grand affair

One boy, one dog, one sliegh each lined up for the start of 200 yard Boys Race down Main Street at the first American Dog Derby, Sunday, March 4th, 1917 before what was then called a "large" crowd.

The heavy snows started falling in Island Park the beginning of March. Between 20 and 40 inches of fresh snow fell by the 3rd. It was deep and soft enough that only four teams were able to make their way through Island Park to the starting point at West Yellowstone. In spite of the elimination of 12 of the 16 entrants, things went well, Sunday morning, for the remaining four teams at the start of this 55-mile run down to Ashton. It was still snowing, however, and at 8 miles, assenting to Rea's Pass on the Continental Divide, the teams encountered 20 more inches of new light powdery snow. They took turns at breaking trail. At 14 miles and entering Island Park near Big Springs, the winds began to blow and the snow storm became a blizzard. The mushing became even slower and more exhausting but the four teams pushed on through the flat Island Park country all day in the blizzard. With fading daylight, the teams realized that an exciting finish before a cheering crowd was not to be. They finally holed up for the night at a fish hatchery on Warm River at the 40 mile mark.

Boys Race at the first American Dog Derby. One reporter described the Boys Race as 15 dogs in one big dog fight with 15 boys trying to untangle them. The "large" crowd was thoroughly entertained.

Meanwhile in Ashton, the spectators waiting for them in the milder climbs of the valley were having a pretty good time. It was described as a "large" crowd by the papers but the numbers were tiny when compared to those of following years. They watched or participated in the many other events of the American Dog Derby such as ski races, ski jumping, and a 200-yard boy's dog sled race. Each "team" in the Boy's Race consisted of one boy, one sled, and one dog. There were 15 teams, and at one point, it was reported, all 15 dogs were in one big fight with all 15 boys trying to untangle them. It was all great fun and, though going home and not seeing the big race finish, most spectators had a wonderful time and would be back the following year. Next morning, the four stranded teams at the fish hatchery raced down the Warm River grade, into the valley, and ran the final few miles into Ashton. Tud Kent, one of the four original organizers, racing for Harriman's Railroad Ranch, was the first winner of the American Dog Derby, winning by over 20 minutes. He did this while breaking trail and would go on to win five more Dog Derbies for a total of six. This was more wins than any other musher.

Tud Kent (standing behind sliegh) and his dog team after winning the first American Dog Derby amid a deserted Main Street as mushers did not arrive in Ashton until the Monday morning after the race day.

The race was promoted and held again the following year but in a figure-eight course in the valley around Ashton where 40 inch snowfalls are less common. By the early 1920's, the American Dog Derby attracted crowds estimated at 10 to 15 thousand and had officially displaced the All-Alaska Sweepstakes as the American Championship race. In fact, the All-Alaska Sweepstakes held its last race in 1919 making the American Dog Derby the oldest surviving American dog sled race. The American Dog Derby became so internationally popular, it would be considered the World Championship in dog sled racing. The prize money growing to $1000 in the 1920's would be equivalent to $130,000 today. With the wild success, the glamour, and the international press coverage of the American Dog Derby, dog sledding was popularized and dozens of other dog sled races soon sprang up across America, Canada, and in Europe making dog sled racing what it is today.

http://americandogderby.com/history/first-american-dog-derby

Race Director Contact

1-208-360-0988

There are 5 different races offered and a start/finish line full of activities including a celebrity race, a snowshoe race, and a weight pull in which spectators and their dogs can compete.

The American Dog Derby ~ Celebrating 100 Years Of Dog Sled Racing

Submitted by Krystal Anderson on Wed, 01/25/2017 - 9:45am

In the high country of eastern Idaho just west of the Teton mountains lies a little town full of snow. Ashton was founded and built in 1906 because of the Union Pacific railroad. The rails were closed due to heavy snowfall during winter and weren't plowed until spring, so Ashton became the winter rail terminus for the entire region. Mushing – a sled and rider pulled by a team of dogs - became a serious business as it was the only way mail, people, and supplies could be delivered throughout winter.

Read more on goidaho.com

http://americandogderby.com/

FRIDAY

8:30 am RACE STARTS
-100 Miler first, followed by 60 Miler, 40 Miler, 20 Miler & Jr. Race, teams leave at 2 minute intervals
- Celebrity Race: High noon
- 3 pm: Sno-Cross at the old NFHS football field
- Soup Challenge: Friday Night - Presented by Ashton Chamber of Commerce Friday Night at the Community Center For more information call 652-3355 or visit ashtonidaho.com
- Dance following soup challenge with music provided by Rockin A Team $3 a person, $5 a couple and $10 a family.

SATURDAY

8:30 am RACE RESTARTS, Slowest time in each class will start first
- 100 Miler first, followed by 60 Miler, 40 Miler, 20 Miler & Jr. Race
- Celebrity Race: High noon
- 9am: Sno-Cross at the old NFHS football field
- 11:00 am Kids Snowshoe Races
- 11:30 am Mutt Race
- 1:00 p.m. Weight Pull
- Awards presentation to follow race on Main Street

Find excellent spectator viewing opportunities along our race route with our derby race maps.

http://americandogderby.com/sponsor

Welcome!

This is the 48th year of the Priest Lake Sled Dog Race, sponsored by the Inland Empire Sled Dog Association, and administered under permit with the US Forest Service. It is a fun event for the whole family and a great way to spend the day.

To defray the cost of plowing the parking lot, we MAY collect a $5 fee per spectator car per day. Thank you for helping!

Here are a few guidelines to ensure you have a safe and enjoyable time:

- We discourage bringing pets to the race. If you do bring your pets, please keep them in your car.
- Do not approach a dog on a truck or in a team without the owner/handler's permission.
- DO NOT leave children unattended.
- Always ask permission before petting a dog.
- Stay out of the way of teams going to or coming from the starting chute. Give them lots of room.
- Feel free to talk with the mushers/skijorers, but be considerate if they are hooking up their team for a race.

Inland Empire Sled Dog Association

www.iesda.org
www.facebook.com/Inland.Empire.Sled.Dog.Association

48th Annual Priest Lake Sled Dog Race

A Pacific Northwest Championship Event

Hosted by IESDA and the USFS

Attachment 1c - HSI

We would like to thank our generous sponsors for their continuing support of this race!

Alpine Outfitters

Adanec Sleds & Equipment

Arctura Kennels

Dashing Kennel

Elkin's Resort

Hill's Resort

Howling Dog Alaska

Jackpine Farms

Keahi Siberian Huskies

Priest Lake Chamber of Commerce

Seeber's Pharmacy

Sled Dog Central/Race Beacon

Spirit of the Wind Siberians

Race Schedule

(Start times depend on trail conditions, the number of entries and prior event finish times. Not all events may have entries.)

Saturday

8:30—Driver's Meeting

9:45—8 Dog , then 6 Dog Mid Distance (20 miles)

10:00—8 Dog Sprint (9 miles)

11:00—6 Dog Sprint (5.7 miles)

12:00—3 and 4 Dog Sprint (4.7 miles)

1:00—Skijoring (4.7 miles)

2:00—Novice 2-3 Dog Sprint (2.3 miles)

2:30 Novice Skijoring (2.3 miles)

Pee Wee (Saturday only) and Teddy Bear will race between 11:00 and 2:00 as safety permits

Pee Wee—4 to 8 years old, 1 dog runs a short loop

Teddy Bear—7 to 14 years old, 1-2 dogs 1 mile.

Sunday

All classes will start about one hour earlier than on Saturday (except Pee Wee which doesn't race on Sunday).

Race Descriptions

Sprints

Most of the races here at Priest Lake are sprints. The dogs are divided into classes based upon the number racing in the team. The distance of each race course depends on the number of dogs competing. In a sprint race, the objective is to go as fast as possible over the entire length of the course and come up with the fastest time. The event is run over two days, with the winner having the lowest two-day combined time.

Mid-Distance

The team size is usually 6 dogs or more, and mileage for the two days varies depending on the venue from 25 miles to 200 miles. Dogs are expected to run at a strong, steady pace but not all out as in the sprint races. Our mid-distance class covers 40 miles over 2 days.

Distance

Similar to the mid-distance race except mileage varies from between 200 miles to over 1200 miles. Well known examples are the Iditarod and the Yukon Quest. Teams often have 16 dogs and the sleds are large enough to carry enough food and gear to last days.

Skijoring

Skijoring, literally ski-driving in Norwegian, is a sport where the driver is on cross country skis and is pulled by up to 3 dogs. In Norway, the origin of the sport used horses for pulling! It requires good fitness and skill on skis as well as having a well trained dog team. Our race allows up to 2 dogs and travels 4.7 miles each day.

Attachment Id-H151

2017 STANLEY SLED DOG RENDEZVOUS

DATE: February 24 - 26, 2017 **TIME:** 5:00pm/7:30am/8:30am

LOCATION: Stanley Community Building/Mountain Village Resort

Stanley is hosting its 8th annual Sled Dog Rendezvous on Saturday, February 25th and Sunday, February 26th. Check-in for this event begins at 5:00pm on Friday, February 24th, with a Mushers Meeting at 7:00pm at The Stanley Community Building. On Saturday, race information and check-in are available from 7:30am at the Mountain Village Restaurant, with races starting at 8:30am. This is a two-day event, with mileage split between Saturday and Sunday (8,20,48 total Mileage/4,10,24 miles per heat/per day). Skijoring will take place over both days. Junior races will be held on Saturday only. Come gather around the bonfire and watch these exuberant dogs and trainers under the backdrop of the Sawtooth Mountains.

CONTACT & DETAILS LINK: stanley.id.gov **TEL:** 208-774-2286

Aannual Dog Sled Rendezvous. Mushers and sled dogs from Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and elsewhere will descend on the City of Stanley to compete in a……

2015-2016 USA West Race Calendar

Please confirm all details with the race giving organization.

Stanley Sled Dog Rendezvous

Sprint 4 dog class (8 Miles)
Skijor 2 dog class (4 Miles)
Distance 8 dog (48 Miles); 6 dog (20 Miles)

 Attachment 1e

Idaho radio station cancels wiener dog race to avoid felony charges

by Morgan Wagner Wednesday, April 20th 2016 (KBOI)

BOISE, Idaho (KBOI) — A local country music station, WOW 104.3, has canceled its wiener dog race... because, quite simply, that part of the event is illegal in the state of Idaho.

Most states that ban live-dog racing only do so to stop the betting process, however, Idaho's law does that and then some.

Policy advisor, Russell Westerberg, tells KBOI 2News it was back in 1996 when he helped lawmakers write the bill that would end Greyhound Dog Racing in the Gem State. As they were writing the policy, state leaders chose to use broader terms in order to protect any dog breed from these type of races, because they were concerned about the animals' safety in the whole ordeal.

"If you look at the statute it doesn't say 'Greyhound Racing' it says dog racing, and it says that dog racing is a felony," Westerberg said. "The legislature, back then, I believe was very serious about banning dog racing otherwise they simply would have banned Greyhound Racing."

Westerburg says although he is not personally against the wiener dog racing events, he says the law is clear. Those who hold events like WOW's Arena-Wiena Cross, can face felony charges.

"I think the law is what it says it is... dog racing is a felony in Idaho." Westerberg said.

Whether you are betting or not?

"It doesn't say anything about betting. It simply says dog racing is a felony."

And if you are charged and convicted of live-dog racing, you could be sentenced up to five years in prison and fines up to $50,000.

The radio station released a statement about the law on its website, revealing their intentions as harmless and reassuring their listeners that the station considers animal safety very important.

"We, here at WOW 104.3 had nothing but good intentions with Rick and Carly's Arena-Wiena Cross. Good old family fun with some great people and their beautiful, little wiener dogs. The run would've been thirty or forty feet and absolutely no wagering or any kind of abuse or mistreatment would be present.

With that said, we understand and respect our laws and more importantly, the safety of these animals. Every WOW 104.3 employee is a dog owner, lover, and advocate and their safety and treatment is top priority."

One resident, says the law is ridiculous, at least, in this case.

"I think we have bigger and better things to worry about," said Diane Foote, a Boise resident. "...than worrying about little wiener dogs running around and people betting on them, if it's for a fundraiser, then goodness gracious let people earn money for their non-profits."

In 2015, the Boise Host Lions Club changed its run to a 'Doxie Show-n-Stroll' to continue with the event.

On Thursday, some KBOI 2News viewers asked about dog sled races held in various parts of the state. Westerberg told KBOI 2News that these races are considered legal because the dogs aren't technically racing other individual dogs.