

## Swedish National Amendments of IFSS Race Rules 2023/2024

### 1. General Rules for all disciplines and classes

#### 1.1 General rules for all official competitions

IFSS Race Rules is valid for all sleddog races. These amendments are valid for all official sleddog races in Sweden. National competitions include classes and groups of breeds included in these amendments. Official competitions are approved by the Swedish sleddog federation (SDSF) and are published in SDSF racecalendar.

Sled-dog competitions are grouped into the following classes:

- Sled-dog races
- Ski-dog races
- Dryland races
- Other Races

1.1.2 When registering for a competition, the competitor agrees that his e-mail address and telephone number will be shared with the organizing association. These contact details may be used for sending information related to the competition. The information can be saved by the organizing association for one month after the end date of the competition and must then be deleted.

#### 1.2 Race management

1.2.1 At least one judge authorized by SDSF must be acting in every competition. SDSFs board assign Race Marshal and when needed other judges for Swedish Championships.

1.2.2 In every competition one official appointed by the race-giving organization shall be responsible for:

- that the competition is organized and performed according to the rules
- that the tracks fulfill the specified requirements
- that sufficient number of officials are available
- that all officials are fully informed about their respective tasks
- that all necessary material and equipment are available
- that all necessary permissions for the competition are in place
- that all results are reported to SDSF within two weeks after completing the event

#### 1.3 Animal Welfare

All activities with dogs must fulfill the requirements in the regulations by the Swedish Board of Agriculture.

In competitions in which the presence of a veterinarian is not required the Race Marshal is responsible for the animal welfare. Veterinarian or other person responsible for the animal welfare shall have assistants to assist in controlling identity (chip), age, vaccinations and to organize control and/or inspection of the dogs.

## 1.4 Distinction training versus competition

*Training:* If the main purpose with the activity is to improve the performance for the participating athletes and/or dogs as a preparation for future competitions the activity is regarded as training.

Competition: If the main purpose is to compare the athletes performance and to reward the best then it is a competition which shall follow this regulation.

Clubs can organize training for members, activities for children and youths and activities in conjunction with courses. These activities can in part be organized similar to competitions. However, a training may not be organized so that it is in reality a competition.

Some characteristics for training as opposed to competition:

- For training no judge or veterinarian is required.
- Results as a list with times may be published on the clubs homepage or in social media but not via SDSF.
- No prize ceremony is allowed related to the time list.

## 1.5 Competitors

1.5.1 A Swedish competitor in an official class must be member in a club with a membership in SDSF.

1.5.2 For a competitor living outside Sweden is required a membership in the sleddog federation in the home country.

1.5.3 FID number, greencard and a competition license (which includes an accident insurance) are required for competitors who represent Swedish clubs.

However, members in The Swedish Working Dogs Association do not need a competition license if the competition is organized by a club belonging both to that organization and to SDSF. Competitors younger than 15 years do not need a competition license. SDSF has a collective accident license for them.

1.5.4 For athletes from other countries an equivalent accident insurance (license) is required.

1.5.5 For participants in exercise class or corresponding class, membership in a club, competition license, green card or FID number are not required. SDSF has a collective accident insurance for them. When starting in exercise class or equivalent, the requirement for equipment is the same as in competition class.

## 1.6 Racing season

The racing season is the period from July 1 until June 30 the following year.

## 1.7 Age of athletes

1.7.1 Age for a race class is determined as the age achieved at latest December 31 after the race season and is valid the whole season. Se 1.6.

1.7.2 Childrens class maximum age is 8. Classes for children are adapted to the participants.

- 1.7.3 Younger Youth class minimum 9 and maximum 12 years. Boys and girls compete together.
- 1.7.4 Older Youth class, minimum 13 and maximum 16 years.
- 1.7.5 Juniors minimum 17 and maximum 20 years.
- 1.7.6 Seniors minimum 19 years of age.
- 1.7.7 Veterans minimum 40 years.
- 1.7.8 Oldboys(-girls) minimum 55 years of age.
- 1.7.9 Contestants normally participate in their own age-class. Older youth and juniors from classes with few contestants are allowed to participate in an older age-class (in classes corresponding to the original class).

This opportunity only exist in national competitions.

It is a joint responsibility for parents, club leaders, judge and the contestant to decide that the contestant has sufficient experience to compete in an older age-class.

## 1.8 Doping

Swedish antidoping regulation includes separately both drivers and dogs.

- 1.8.1 Doping in sport is forbidden in the bylaws of the Swedish Sports Confederation and there specified antidoping rules. Animals used by the athlete in sport shall according to these WADA based regulation have an antidoping regulation set down by an international sport federation for sleddogsport IFSS. This international regulation is in force in Sweden with one addition, se below 1.8.2. If a country's national antidoping regulations due to e.g. animal welfare law are stricter in part than those set down by IFSS , the national amendments are applied in those parts.
- 1.8.2 A contestant has by submitting an entry to a race agreed to follow the antidoping regulations for the contestant and for dogs. For dogs both IFSS regulations and the national antidoping regulation for dogs (see [www.skk.se](http://www.skk.se)) including deferred periods and therapeutic use exemptions.
- 1.8.3 At the veterinary control before start the contestant must inform about all medication and other treatments dogs have been subject to within the deferred periods.

## 1.9 Dogs

- 1.9.1 All dogs should be inspected by the raceveterinarian before start, or in a competition in which a raceveterinarian is not required inspected and approved by a judge in order to be allowed to start.
- 1.9.2 Dogs in group B and C should be registered in the Swedish Kennel Club or in another country in a register approved by the Swedish Kennel Club.

Exceptions from this are dogs in group A and all dogs in exercise class, childrens classes and the class for younger youth.

- 1.9.3 If the team shall compete to try to obtain a working qualification this shall be stated in the entry form and the prescribed information about dog and dog owner should be given.
- 1.9.4 All dogs must have a ID-mark. The only approved ID-mark is a microchip. The organizer shall provide a microchip detector.
- 1.9.5 In sleddog races in Sweden in official classes a grouping of the dogs is used.
- Group A: All dogs.
  - Group B registered pure-bred dogs except pointing breed gun dogs, dobermann and siberian husky.
  - Group C: Dobermann and siberian husky.

Competitors with dogs in group B or C must show registration documents from a Kennel Club.

In case of to few starting in championship class, teams in group B may start in group C or A and in case of to few starting in group C teams in group C may start in group A.

Teams with more than one dog is classified according to the group for the fastest dog i.e. a team with at least one dog in group C compete in group C and teams with at least one dog in group A compete in group A.

- 1.9.6 A dog which at any time in the race area show an unacceptable behaviour being aggressive, to lunge or in any way behave threatening against people and/or other dogs shall be dismissed from the competition. Such a decision is made by the racejudge, noted in the resultdocument and in the judgereport. A copy of the decision is immediately after the race sent to SDSF. The SDSF disciplinary board may decide to suspend a dog a shorter or longer period. If it concerns a registered pure-bred dog the report is forwarded to the Swedish Kennel Club.
- 1.9.7 A dogs age is the age on the racing day, no exemptions are accepted.
- For all classes and for sled-dogs, ski-dogs and dryland the minimum age is 18 months.

#### 1.9.8 Vaccination

Dogs from other countries participating in races in Sweden must be brought to Sweden in accordance with the regulations from the Swedish Board of Agriculture

<https://djur.jordbruksverket.se/swedishboardofagriculture/engelskasidor/animal/s/import.4.6621c2fb1231eb917e680002950.html>.

Participating dogs and other dogs allowed in the area shall be vaccinated against distemper as follows:

- Dog younger than one(1) year: age at vaccination as a minimum ten(10) weeks of age.
- Dog older than one(1) year: vaccinated at a minimum age of ten(10) months and the elapsed time from previous vaccination less than four(4) years.
  - First time vaccination shall be given at a minimum fourteen(14) days prior to the race.

1.9.9 Puppies younger than four(4) months are not allowed in the racing area.

## 1.10 Equipment

1.10.1 Necklines used shall be of a security construction allowing a breaking point at high strain.

1.10.2 Helmet is mandatory in all dryland classes except canicross, in Sp4MS, in sled-dog classes for children, youth and juniors and for children in ski-dog races. Organiser and/or race marshall can command the use of helmet in sled-dog and in ski-dog classes if the conditions calls for it.

## 1.11 Start and Finish

1.2.1 When a chip-based timekeeping is used a contestant without chip or with the wrong chip is disqualified.

1.2.2 Dog(-s) shall approaching the finish line be able to discern a free passage behind the finish line. This means that from the finish line and at least further 10 m no other persons than officials are allowed.

In the area at least 10 m past the finishing area only one handler for each team passing the finish line is allowed. The teams with handlers shall as soon as possible or after permission by an official after control of the dogs leave the area.

The finishing area should be rigorously closed off on both sides.

## 1.12 Swedish Championship

1.12.1 SDSF is the formal organizer of the Swedish Championships (SM). The club effectuating SM is the coorganiser and also the technical organiser. SDSF decides at the annual meeting the SM classes to compete in.

1.12.2 It is required that a contestant in SM are a Swedish citizen or has continuously lived in Sweden the two last years.

1.12.3 The race judges in SM are appointed by SDSF.

1.12.4 In connection to SM in sleddogsport can after decision by SDSF also another competition e.g. World Cup (WCp) be performed. In such a competition foreign citizens can also participate. If SM is arranged together with another competition the results for SM and for all participants should be presented separately.

1.12.5 A Race Jury shall be appointed for SM. The Race Jury includes the race marshal, the race judges, the race organizer, two representatives for the contestants from two different classes and when needed a veterinarian and/or an official responsible for the tracks. In a combined Ski-dog and sled-dog SM two representatives for the contestants from each of them are appointed. Representatives for the contestants are appointed by the active competitors at the drivers' meeting or at the teamleader meeting. The Race Jury is advisory

and the Race Marshal (Chief Judge) make the decisions. In matters concerning animal welfare the veterinarian decides.

- 1.12.6 In the Swedish Dryland Championship there is a time qualification after the first heat within 150% of the mean time for the three fastest teams in the group. To be eligible to start in the Swedish Dryland Championships a driver must within the last two years have started and completed at least one official competition in the intended class. The two year period is from the date of the first SM heat. These rules are not valid for youth and junior classes.
- 1.12.7 The Swedish Sleddog Federations championship medals in gold, silver and bronze are only doled out in groups with at least 4 starting drivers or club teams. An exception is junior and youth classes in which medals are given in groups with at least two starting drivers or club teams. In classes/groups having fewer entries than required for medal distribution when the last day for entry submission is passed there is a possibility to change class/group within 5 days. This change is allowed between groups (A,B,C) and between age classes (see 1.7.9). The contestant has the responsibility to inform the organizer about the change at latest 5 days after the entry time has expired.
- 1.12.8 The Swedish Sport Federations championship plaques in gold, silver and bronze are doled out in senior classes with at least 4 starting drivers/club teams and in junior classes with at least two starting drivers/club teams. The plaques are given to the fastest driver in individual classes and the fastest club teams in relays.

## 2. Special rules for sled-dog races

### 2.1 Compilation of division in classes and groups and length of tracks for sled-dogs

Official class	Groups of dogs	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)
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SPRINT		1-2 dogs	3-4 dogs	4-6 dogs	5-8 dogs	Unlim. (> 7 dogs)	Masstart
Childrens class	All dogs (A)	BARNS ---					
Younger Youth	All dogs (A)	Sp2K ---					
Older Youth	A, B, C	Sp2Y 5	Sp4Y 5				
Junior	A, B, C	Sp2J 5	Sp4J 8	Sp6J 12	Sp8J 16		
Senior	A, B, C	Sp2 5	Sp4 8	Sp6 12	Sp8 16	SpU 24	Sp4MS 8

MIDDLE-, LONGMIDDLE- and LONGDISTANS		MIDDLE		LONG MIDDLE		LONG	
		4-6 dogs	8-12 dogs	5-8 dogs	Obegr. (> 8 dogs)	5-8 dogs	Obegr. (> 8 dogs)
Senior	A, B, C	MD6 40	MD12 40	LM8	LMU	LD8 >250	LDU >250

*SM (kms) is the recommended distance for SM classes. The real distance is always adapted to all circumstances. In other competitions the rganizer decides the distances.*

#### 2.1.1 Long distance (LD6J) and middle distance (MD6J) sled-dogs juniors and youth. Expanded test period over the season 2023–2024.

The rules are: achieved age 15 years up to achieved age 18 years. **Long distance** : <200 kms. Number of dogs at start 5-6. Number of dogs finishing race: at least 4.

**Middle distance:** 20–30 kms. Number of dogs at start 4–6. Number of dogs finishing race at least 3.

#### 2.1.2 Long middledistance LM8 and LMU

**Long Middle Distance:** Distance 150-200 km.

**LM8:** Number of dogs at start 5–8. Number of dogs at the finish line at least 5.

**LMU:** Number of dogs at the start at least 8. Number of dogs at the finish at least 7.

There must be at least one mandatory checkpoint and a mandatory rest of at least 6 hours must be taken during the competition. The mandatory rest must be taken in his entirety.

## 2.2 Swedish Championship Sled-dogs

- 2.2.1 SM for sled-dogs should be organized as a three days race (except Sp4MS which is an one heat race). SDSF can decide that the event will be a two day race.
- 2.2.2 SDSF can decide that a pursuit start shall be used the last day of the race.
- 2.2.3 SDSF can decide if pool systems should be applied.
- 2.2.4 For competitors in all SM classes it is mandatory to be present at the drivers' meeting.

## 2.3 The following classes for sled-dogs have SM status:

- Older Youth: Sp2Y, Sp4Y.
- Juniors: Sp2J, Sp4J, Sp6J, Sp8J.
- Seniors: Sp2, Sp4, Sp4MS, Sp6, Sp8, SpU, MD6, MD12, LD8, LDU, LM8, LMU.



### 3. Special rules for ski-dog

#### 3.1 Racing disciplines

- Pulka 1-dog (short); pulka 1-4 dogs (long).
- Skijoring 1-dog (short); 1-2 dogs (long).
- Combined Pulka + Skijoring, 1 dog.
- Relay and pair relay, pulka and or skijoring 1 dog.
- Sprint (super sprint) elimination race with heats with 2-4 teams, 1-dog.

#### 3.2 Compilation of division in classes and groups and length of tracks for ski-dogs

Official class	Groups of dogs	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)
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INDIVIDUAL CLASSES			Skijoring		PULKA Short		COMBINED		PULKA Long		Skijoring Long	
Children		All dogs (A)	BARNN	---								
Young Youth		All dogs (A)	S1K	---								
Older Youth	men	A, B, C	SMY	5	PMY	5						
Older Youth	women	A, B, C	SWY	5	PWY	5						
Older Youth*	mix	A, B, C	SY	5	PY	5						
Juniors	men	A, B, C	SMJ	10	PMJ	10	CMJ	5+5				
Juniors	women	A, B, C	SWJ	10	PWJ	10	CWJ	5+5				
Juniors*	mix	A, B, C	SJ	10	PJ	10	CJ	5+5				
Seniors	men	A	SM1	15	PM1	15	CM	7,5+7,5	PM4	25	SM2	30
Seniors	men	B, C	SM1	10	PM1	10	CM	5+5	PM4	20	SM2	25
Seniors	women	A, B, C	SW1	10	PW1	10	CW	5+5	PW4	20	SW2	25
Seniors	mix	A, B, C	S1	10	P1	10	C	5+5	P4	20	S2	25
Veterans	men	A, B, C	SMV	10	PMV	10	CMV	5+5				
Veterans	women	A, B, C	SWV	10	PWV	10	CWV	5+5				
Veterans*	mix	A, B, C	SV	10	PV	10	CV	5+5				
Oldboys	men	A, B, C	SMO	10	PMO	10						
Oldgirls	women	A, B, C	SWO	5	PWO	5						
Old veteran*	mix	A, B, C	SO	5	PO	5						

SUPERSPRINT				
Juniors	men	A, B, C	SSMJ	---
Juniors	women	A, B, C	SSWJ	---
Juniors	mix	A, B, C	SSJ	---
Seniors	men	A, B, C	SSM	---
Seniors	women	A, B, C	SSW	---
Seniors	mix	A, B, C	SS	---

RELAY CLASSES			
Juniors	All dogs	NRJ	3*5 (Skijoring+Pulka+ Skijoring)
Seniors	All dogs	NR	3*7,5 (Skijoring+Pulka+ Skijoring)
Pair relay	All dogs	PR	---

***SM (kms) is the recommended distance for SM classes. The real distance is always adapted to all circumstances. In other competitions the organiser decides the distances.***

**\* Mixed classes have been introduced based on the annual meeting in 2021. The classes do not have SM-status.**

### 3.3 Total Load (pulka)

#### 3.3.1 Total Load for dogs in group A

- The total load for dog(s) in 1-dog and 2-dog classes is 0,7\* weight of the dog(s)(kg)
- The total load for dog(s) in 3-dog class is 0,6\* weight of the dogs (kg)
- The total load for dog(s) in 4-dog class is 0,5\* weight of the dogs (kg)

#### 3.3.2 Total Load for dogs in group B and C

- The total load for dog(s) in 1-dog and 2-dog classes is 0,5\* weight of the dog(s)(kg)
- The total load for dog(s) in 3-dog class is 0,45\* weight of the dogs (kg)
- The total load for dog(s) in 4-dog class is 0,4\* weight of the dogs (kg)

When a team in group B or C compete in group A the total load shall be the same as in the original group.

### 3.4 Extreme Cold Weather

In case of extreme cold weather (-17 centigrades or colder) the race judge shall confer with the race jury and decide to postpone the first start, shorten the distances or cancel the race.

### 3.5 Swedish Championship ski-dogs

3.5.1 In SM races it is allowed to seed the participants in the order decided by a representative for the federation (SDSF). In case of more than 25 participants in a SM class it is mandatory to seed.

3.5.2 Relay for ski-dogs can be performed with mixed teams (women and/or men). Leg 1 and 3 with 1-dog skijoring and leg 2 with 1-dog pulka. In SM relays are junior relay (older youth and juniors) and senior relay (juniors and older drivers).

3.5.3 The organiser may after consulting SDSF limit the number of starting relay teams. Teams with cancellation must be informed no less than one week prior to the first SM racingday. The limitation shall be based on the order in which the entries are received and the number of teams from each club.

3.5.4 In SM relay the drivers must represent the same club.

3.5.5 The respective starting track for each club is decided by a representative for SDSF.

3.5.6 It is mandatory for all participating clubs to have a representative at the team leader meetings. Club not represented must pay a fee of 500 SEK.

**3.6 The following ski-dog classes have SM-status:**

- Older Youth: SMY, SWY, PMY, PWY.
- Juniors: SMJ, SWJ, PMJ, PWJ, CMJ, CWJ, NRJ.
- Seniors: SM1, SW1, PM1, PW1, CM, CW, PM4, PW4, SM2, SW2, NR.
- Veterans: SMV, SWV, PMV, PWV, CMV, CWV.
- Oldboys and oldgirls: SMO, SWO, PMO, PWO.

## 4 Special Rules for Dryland Races

### 4.1 Racing Disciplins

- Canicross 1-dog.
- Bikejoring 1-dog.
- Scooter 1-dog and 2-dog classes.
- Rig 2-dog, 4-dog, 6-dog and 8-dog classes.

### 4.2 Compilation of division in classes and groups and length of tracks Dryland classes

Official Classes	Group of dogs	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)	Code	SM (kms)		
INDIVIDUAL CLASSES		CANICROSS		SCOOTER 1-dog		SCOOTER 2-dogs		CYKEL 1-dog		RIG	
Children	All dogs (A)	BARN B	---							BARN B	---
Young Youth	Alla hundar (A)	DCK	---	DS1K	---					DR2K	---
Older Youth mix	A, B, C	DCY*	3	DS1Y	4			DBY	4	DR2Y	4
Older Youth men	A, B, C	DCMY	3					DBMY	4		
Older Youth women	A, B, C	DCWY	3					DBWY	4		
Juniors mix	A, B, C	DCJ*	4	DS1J	6			DBJ*	6	DR4J**	6
Juniors men	A, B, C	DCMJ	4					DBMJ	6		
Juniors women	A, B, C	DCWJ	4					DBWJ	6		
Seniors mix	A, B, C									DR4**	6
Seniors mix	A, B, C									DR6	8
Seniors mix	A, B, C	DC*	6	DS1	8	DS2**	8	DB*	8	DR8	8
Seniors men	A, B, C	DCM	6	DSM1	8			DBM	8		
Seniors women	A, B, C	DCW	6	DSW	8			DBW	8		
Veterans mix	A, B, C	DCV*	4	DS1V	6			DBV	6		
Veterans men	A, B, C	DCMV	4					DBMV	6		
Veterans women	A, B, C	DCWV	4					DBWV	6		
Oldboys and oldgirls mix	A, B, C	DCO	3	DS1O	4			DBO	4		
Oldboys men	A, B, C	DCMO	3					DBMO	4		
Oldgirls women	A, B, C	DCWO	3					DBWO	4		

RELAY CLASSES				
Juniors		All dogs	DRJ	1,5+3+3 (Canicross+Scooter1+Bike)
Seniors		All dogs	DR	1,5+3+3 (Canicross+Scooter1+Bike)

**\*\* Vehicle with 3 weels allowed**

**SM (kms) is the recommended distance for SM classes. The real distance is always adapted to all circumstances. In other competitions the organiser decides the distances.**

**\* Mixed classes have been introduced based on the annual meeting in 2021. The classes do not have SM-status.**

## 4.3 Equipment

- 4.3.1 Drivers in youth class bike and scooter should wear a back protector.

## 4.4 Swedish Championship (SM) Dryland

- 4.4.1 SM Dryland individual classes shall be two days competitions.
- 4.4.2 It is mandatory for all participating clubs to have a representative at the team leader meetings. Club not represented must pay a fee of 500 SEK.
- 4.4.3 SDSF may decide that a pursuit start is used the last day of the race.
- 4.4.4 In SM relay all drivers in a team must represent the same club.
- 4.4.5 In Dryland SM relay mixed teams are allowed (women and/or men). In SM relays are junior relay (older youth and juniors) and senior relay (juniors and older drivers). Leg 1 canicross, leg 2 scooter 1-dog and leg 3 bike.

## 4.5 The following Dryland classes have SM-status:

- Older Youth, DCMY, DCWY, DS1Y, DBMY, DBWY, DR2Y.
- Juniors, DCMJ, DCWJ, DS1J, DBMJ, DBWJ, DR4J, DRJ.
- Seniors, DCM, DCW, DS1, DSM1, DSW1, DS2, DBM, DBW, DR4, DR6, DR8, DR.
- Veterans, DCMV, DCWV, DS1V, DBMV, DBWV.
- Oldboys/Oldgirls, DCMO, DCWO, DS1O, DBMO, DBWO.

## 5 Other Races

In addition to official races and classes organisers may arrange races with specific conditions and rules ("other races"). In those races the organiser may never compromise with security or animal welfare and shall in particular take into account the capacity of the young participants. The participants shall in good time be informed about the specific rules, classes and other conditions for the race. Even in these kind of races applicable parts of chapter 1 in these rules are in force.

## 6 In races outside Sweden the following holds for Swedish contestants

- For Swedish drivers Swedish Race Rules holds concerning minimum age for dogs in competitions in other countries and in international races in Sweden.
- In case of participation in races outside the scandinavian countries SDSF should be informed and the participation must be approved by SDSF.

## Quick Reference ages for the season 2023-2024

All Disciplines	Age	Earliest Year of birth	Latest Year of birth
Children	≤ 8 years	2016	
Young Youth	9-12 years	2012	2015
Older Youth	13-16 years	2008	2011
Juniors	17-20 years	2004	2007
Seniors	from 19 years		2005
Veterans	from 40 years		1984
Oldboys/-girls	from 55 years		1969