



Iditarod Trail Committee
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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52 mushers officially enter Iditarod XLVI on opening day

Wasilla, Alaska – Today, 33 mushers were on location at Iditarod Trail Committee Headquarters in Wasilla to officially enter the 2018 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Another 19 signed up by mail, rounding out the total to 52 mushers who submitted their applications on the first official entry day for the 46th running of the Iditarod.

Of the 52 opening day entries, nine registered as rookies. Nine teams hail from Canada, Norway, Czech Republic and Sweden, as well as three states outside of Alaska (Michigan, Montana, and New York) are represented.

Current and three-time champion Mitch Seavey; four-time champions Jeff King, Martin Buser and Dallas Seavey, along with a highly talented field of top finishers will undoubtedly make the 46th running of the Iditarod every bit as competitive as any race in history.

During the opening day festivities, the Iditarod also paid tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who were on hand by hosting its annual volunteer appreciation picnic. Race sponsor Golden Corral provided a catered lunch, and race sponsor Pen Air flew in fresh sockeye salmon from Bristol Bay.

Each year, two mushers are randomly drawn at the end of the volunteer appreciation picnic to receive a complimentary entry fee into the race. Veteran musher Joar Leifseth Ulsom of Willow, Alaska, and rookie musher Shaynee Traska of Two Rivers, Alaska, were this year's winners.

Mushers wishing to apply to enter Iditarod XLVI have until the close of business on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, to turn in their entries. It is expected that the starting field will approach 80 teams.

Following is a list of mushers in order of their draw to be held during the mushers banquet on Thursday, March 1, 2018.

Draw #	First	Last	City	State	Country	Status
1	Tom	Schonberger	Chugiak	AK	USA	V
2	Cody	Strathe	Fairbanks	AK	USA	V
3	DeeDee	Jonrowe	Willow	AK	USA	V
4	Joar	Leifseth Ulsom	Willow	AK	USA	V
5	Mary	Helwig	Willow	AK	USA	V
6	Jason	Mackey	Nenana	AK	USA	V
7	Nick	Petit	Girdwood	AK	USA	V
8	Laura	Neese	McMillan	Mi	USA	V
9	Shaynee	Traska	Two Rivers	AK	USA	R
10	Dallas	Seavey	Willow	AK	USA	V
11	Mike	Williams, Jr	Aniak	AK	USA	V
12	Richie	Diehl	Aniak	AK	USA	V
13	Zoya	DeNure	Delta	AK	USA	V
14	Ramey	Smyth	Willow	AK	USA	V
15	Scott	Janssen	Anchorage	AK	USA	V
16	Peter	Kaiser	Bethel	AK	USA	V
17	Jesse	Holmes	Nenana	AK	USA	R
18	Lev	Shvarts	Willow	AK	USA	V
19	Brett	Bruggeman	Great Falls	MT	USA	R
20	Mitch	Seavey	Sterling	AK	USA	V
21	Tom	Knowlmayer	Wasilla	AK	USA	V
22	Linwood	Fiedler	Willow	AK	USA	V
23	Mike	Suprenant	Chugiak	AK	USA	V
24	Magnus	Kaltenborn	Whitehorse	YT	CANADA	V
25	Tara	Cicatello	Buffalo	NY	USA	R
26	Gerry	Willomitzer	Whitehorse	YT	CANADA	V
27	Misha	Wiljes	Willow	AK	USA	V
28	Matt	Hall	Two Rivers	AK	USA	R
29	Jeff	Deeter	Fairbanks	AK	USA	V
30	Alex	Buetow	Denali Park	AK	USA	V
31	Charley	Bejna	Knik	AK	USA	V
32	Anna	Berington	Knik	AK	USA	V
33	Meredith	Mapes	Knik	AK	USA	R
34	Jessie	Royer	Fairbanks	AK	USA	V
35	Martin	Buser	Big Lake	AK	USA	V
36	Jim	Lanier	Chugiak	AK	USA	V
37	Mats	Pettersson	Kiruna		SWEDEN	V

38	Rick	Casillo	Big Lake	AK	USA	V
39	Ray	Redington, Jr.	Knik	AK	USA	V
40	Rob	Cooke	Whitehorse	YT	CANADA	V
41	Robert	Redington	Willow	AK	USA	V
42	Jason	Campeau	Rocky Mountain House		CANADA	V
43	Ryan	Redington	Skagway	AK	USA	V
44	Kristy	Berington	Knik	AK	USA	V
45	Tim	Muto	Manley Hot Springs	AK	USA	R
46	Andy	Pohl	Knik	AK	USA	R
47	Allen	Moore	Two Rivers	AK	USA	V
48	Anja	Radano	Talkeetna	AK	USA	R
49	Michelle	Phillips	Tagish	YT	CANADA	V
50	Marcelle	Fressineau	Whitehorse	YT	CANADA	V
51	Aliy	Zirkle	Two Rivers	AK	USA	V
52	Jeff	King	Denali Park	AK	USA	V

Complete archival race information is available [here](#).

The ceremonial start of Iditarod XLVI takes place Saturday, March 3, 2018, at 10 a.m. in downtown Anchorage at the corner of Fourth Avenue and D Street.

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