

Dog Sleigh Ride

Memorial of Václav Vojtěch

February 13 - 15, 2016





Dog Sleigh Ride – Memorial of Václav Vojtěch - an exceptional race in which the team consists of a musher, dogsled and skier

This exceptional race has been held since 1986. The first year of this race was organized in the Krkonoše Mountains and named in honour of the first Czech polar explorer, Václav Vojtěch, who was born nearby, in Skřivany next to Nový Bydžov. His legacy continues to keep the tradition of this race and in comparison with other similar races it is more expeditionary. The team consists not only of a musher and his dogs, but also a skier who is an integral part of the team.

The race is regularly attended by experienced mushers who pursue long races and who belong to the world leaders in this sport. The regular participants are for example Jiří Vondrák and Radek Havrda who belong to the best ones not only in the Czech Republic but also abroad. The race is organized in recent years as an international one, because of participants from Austria, Germany, Poland and this year Hungary as well.



The objective of the race is to manage the planned route that goes through the paths of the Krkonoše Mountains and is divided into the individual stages and days. Teams have all necessary equipment with them and sleep in tents in the wild nature.



25th year of Dog Sleigh Ride

Dates: February 13 – 15, 2016
Start: Ski Family in Dolní Dvůr (www.skifamily.cz)
Number of participants: in total 30 teams (290 dogs)
Overall route: 178 km with an elevation of 6,652 m (3 stages)

Unique facts about this race:

- The race starts on Saturday at 6 pm and the first stage is **a night one**. Competitors must be ready for this and well equipped.
- The start of the race that is directly from the ski area Family (Family Ski) is organized as **a mass start** of all participants at once.
- After the start competitors need to manage the **lit downhill slope**, which is just after the start very difficult.
- Competitors **spend the night in tents** and they take with them all their equipment throughout the whole race.
- The route is challenging, with a high elevation and difficult technical parts.

The route leads through the National park of the Krkonoše Mountains and also through one zone of the park. Therefore, the number of competitors is limited and their behaviour must correspond to the rules applied in the national park.



Where you can experience the race as a visitor

Race routes also lead through the main ways of the Krkonoše Mountains and pass the important places that are highly visited. The main spectacle for visitors is on Saturday at the start of the race. You can meet personally all competitors, see their equipment, get acquainted with dogs and hear interviews and stories of some of mushers and skiers.



Saturday night mass start is a unique event that can be seen only in this race. Other races start with time intervals, which is a lengthy procedure that is not so interesting for visitors.

On Sunday and Monday, we recommend to visitors meetings with competitors at the mountain ridges, especially near Luční Bouda, Pražská and Kolínská Bouda, where visitors can arrive from the area of Jánské lázně, but also from the other side of Pec pod Sněžkou or the upper cable car station in Špindlerův Mlýn in Svatý Petr (Sunday after 3 pm).

We heartily invite you to this unique spectacle,

Aleš Pícl
Director of the Dog Sleigh Ride
Sportovní klub Krakonoš, z.s.
Vrchlabí
ID No. 620 48 499
Tel: +420 602 111 670
E-mail: ales.picl@ledovajizda.cz

