

17 day countdown to 2019 Rendezvous!

Rondy Drivers! As you make your plans for the Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Open World Championship, I want to overview a few important points:

◦ **Trails.** Tozier Track trails are open and in good condition. We anticipate using the traditional route for the Rondy trail to equal a 25-mile run.

I can't emphasize enough how important it is for your Rondy team to experience the challenges of our trail system which includes bridges, culverts, intersections with busy trails for skiers and bikers, and some physically demanding topography. I encourage you to build enough time in your travel plans to run our trail system which forms the "backtrail" of the Rondy course. We generally close the trails to training at sundown on the Wednesday before Rondy (this year - Feb 20). All drivers have the opportunity to examine the entire trail - from downtown and around the course - after the Thursday morning driver's meeting.

◦ **Draw for Position.** The draw will be held the evening of Wednesday, Feb 20 at the Hard Rock Café in downtown Anchorage (6 PM sign-up, 7 PM draw). Your families and handlers are all welcome at the draw. Food will be available for purchase. Every driver must have paperwork completed and entry fees paid before the draw for position. **The draw is a required event for all drivers. Please contact me if you have a concern related to your presence at the draw.**

◦ **Driver's Meeting. Another required event for all drivers is the Thursday morning driver's meeting.** We will hold an early morning rookie meeting followed by a driver's breakfast and then a meeting for the entire field. Drivers must attend. One handler is welcome but not required.

◦ **Race Procedures.**

1. Teams in the Rendezvous will be randomly drug tested. This week, you should expect to see an introductory letter and instructions for providing documentation related to the drug testing process.
2. The Facebook Live coverage of the race will include images of the start/finish and teams at checkpoints. I encourage you to take time now to put your equipment (truck, sleds, lines, harnesses, personal gear) in the very best condition possible.

Please contact me with any questions, suggestions, or concerns about the information in this letter. Details of the Rondy week will follow soon.

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