

POCAR 2017 Race Rules

Race Deadline:

At 10 a.m. Monday, January 16, 2017, the race is officially over. All teams still on course must immediately proceed to the nearest patrolled road to be picked up by volunteers.

Teams helping teams:

Teams may not assist or hinder each other in any way. Teams giving or receiving assistance (providing navigational support, exchange of supplies, pacing or otherwise) will be disqualified. This rule is to prevent scout or supply teams from unfairly helping someone win the race. Good sportsmanship is always encouraged.

If another team needs assistance, teams are required to notify race officials at their CONVENIENCE. Teams are not required, or expected to provide assistance to other racers, even those in need. Teams should notify race officials at their convenience, and then continue with the race. The Purdue Outing Club and its complement of volunteers will handle all emergency situations. As always, good sportsmanship is encouraged.

Teams may not hinder or sabotage other racers or the race course in anyway. Teams altering, obscuring, moving or purposefully damaging control points in any way will be disqualified.

Race Checkout:

Race Checkout occurs at the same location as pre-race registration. This year race checkout will take place at.

When teams are finished racing, all teams must check out with all remaining racers present at the picnic shelter house in Yellowwood State Forest. During checkout, teams must complete a roll call of remaining racers, present boxed cell phones for inspection, and turn in any incomplete punch cards for tabulation in race results. Individual racers dropping out early will check out individually at the picnic shelter house in Yellowwood State Forest.

IMPORTANT: Any team or racer announcing dropout at a remote Fire/Water station or to a POCAR shuttle driver does not constitute race checkout. All checkouts must be completed at the picnic shelter house in Yellowwood State Forest. Proper checkout of all teams ensures that we do not initiate an unnecessary search and rescue in the race area. Failure to complete a proper checkout may result in race disqualification.

Race Area:

Entering private property within Yellowwood State Forest and/or leaving the designated race area is strictly forbidden and grounds for disqualification. Bounds of private property are marked on all maps; we expect all racers to respect these bounds.

Logistic support:

Teams can keep a supply of personal items/race gear at the race start, which they can access at their discretion during the race. The Purdue Outing Club will not be responsible for the loss or damage of these items. Aside from the supply at the race start, teams are expected to carry all gear and supplies they will use during the race.

Teams are strictly forbidden from stashing gear, food, supplies or otherwise in the forest to be used during the race, and from discarding gear, supplies or otherwise into the forest. Similarly, all trash should be disposed of into appropriate containers. Teams are encouraged to resupply themselves with potable water whenever available, but may not stash supplies of potable water in the race area. This includes stashing gear at a fire/water station on their way to obtaining a point.

Electronic Navigation aids:

Electronic navigation aids are strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to GPS, cellphones, radio and computers. Teams utilizing electronic devices which may or may not assist navigation during the race will be disqualified and may not be able to participate in future races. Devices that record the route taken are allowable so long as the person(s) are not able to access it during the race.

Mechanical Navigation Aids:

Simple mechanical aids such as rulers, slide rules and protractors are allowed. Compasses are required. Although not prohibited, you can leave your sextant at home.

Signaling:

Racers may not engage in long-distance communications within or between teams, except in emergency situations. Long distance communications includes, but is not limited to loud sounds (whistle, bull horn or otherwise), visual displays (smoke signals, signal lights, or otherwise) and electronic transmissions (receiving of radio signals or otherwise).

Transmission of radio signals is limited to remote GPS recorders, whose records can only be accessed after the race. If you are using such a device, or something similar, please inform race officials so unnecessary confusion can be avoided on race day.

Locomotion:

Racers must complete the entire race under their own physical power. All vehicles are prohibited, including those with a source of stored energy (gasoline/battery powered ATVs, dirtbikes or otherwise) and those without a source of stored energy (solar powered vehicle, mountain bike, or otherwise). During the race, cars may be used as a shelter, but the power system cannot be engaged. i.e. use of the car radio, heaters, headlights, etc. is prohibited. The only electronic system of a car which may be used are electronic door locks or passive cabin lights.

Devices which mechanically store energy for the purpose of locomotion are also prohibited (power striders or otherwise). However, pogo sticks are allowed. In fact, any racer which completes the entire course propelled only by a pogo stick will race for free. Probably forever.

Beasts of Burden:

A beast of burden is any animal that accompanies the teams for the duration of the race. Beasts of burden physically capable, legally possessed and permitted by park regulations may race. However, the Purdue Outing Club must be able to provide the beast of burden the same level of safety as every other racer. For example, the POC does not possess the materials or resources to safely move and administer first aid to an injured horse. Therefore, horses cannot race. Similarly, the Purdue Outing Club does not possess the ware withal to supervise lone beasts of burden. Therefore, should a beast of burden be unable to complete the race, a simian teammate may also resign from the race to properly chaperon the beast of burden. (Please do not register a chimpanzee and make me regret the use of the word 'simian').

Keep the weather in mind. Temperatures are known to frequently dip below 0°F during January and can be harmful to your dog/beast of burden.

Permitted locomotion aids:

First aid material (non-prescription braces, mole skin and otherwise) and medical devices (braces, prosthetics, and otherwise) are permitted. Walking sticks with and without shock absorbers are also permitted.

Drugs and alcohol:

Alcohol is strictly prohibited for all participants. Over the counter medicine and prescription medication dispensed by a licensed doctor is permitted to the extent that it does not compromise the safety of the racers or volunteers. Please carefully consider the side effects of any medication you currently take, or plan to take, during the race.

Crossing rivers, lakes or other significant bodies of water:

Crossing frozen rivers, lakes or any other significant body of water is strictly forbidden. If the ice does not hold you, there is no possibility for a rescue; only a recovery.

Failure to comply with these rules may result in disqualification, and may also jeopardize eligibility for future entry in POCAR.

Required Gear:

1 Sleeping bag rated for the temperatures and 1 survival blanket; or 2 sleeping bags

First-aid kit (1 ACE bandage, 2 adhesive bandages, 2 3X3 gauze pads, 1 antiseptic tube, 10 tablets aspirin, ibuprofen, naproxen, or acetaminophen, as a minimum)

Maps (will be provided)

Compass

Whistle

Water filter, iodine tablets, or micro-pur tablets

Shelter - tarp, tent or equivalent that all team members can fit under/in; note: bivy sacks can count as a sleeping bag and shelter for a person, but do not count as the shelter for the whole team as only one person can fit in it.

Watch

Each racer should carry: water bottles (2-3 quarts per person), warm hat, gloves, rain jacket or poncho, headlamp or flashlight, spare batteries, and warm clothing.

We will check throughout the race to make sure you have the required gear at all times!