

POCAR 2018 RACE RULES

Race Deadline:

At 10 a.m. Monday, January 15, 2018, the race is officially over. All teams still on course must immediately proceed to the nearest patrolled road to be picked up by volunteers.

Race Checkout:

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

When teams are finished racing, all teams must check out with all remaining racers present at **Maumee Scout Reservation** in Hoosier National 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 Maumee Scout Reservation in Hoosier National Forest.

IMPORTANT: Any team or racer announcing dropout at a remote Fire/Water station or to a POCAR shuttle driver DOES NOT constitute race check-out. All checkouts must be completed at **Maumee Scout Reservation** in Hoosier National 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 check-out may result in race disqualification. **You must check-out at headquarters prior to leaving Hoosier National.**

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.

In the event of a legitimate medical emergency, other teams are **REQUIRED** to find help or provide aid if possible as soon as possible. If another team needs assistance that is non-life threatening, teams are required to 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 any way. Teams altering, obscuring, moving or purposefully damaging control points in any way will be disqualified.

Race Area:

Entering private property within Hoosier National 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 may 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, cell phones, radio, and computers. Teams utilizing electronic devices which may or may not assist navigation during the race will be disqualified and may not be allowed to participate in future races. Devices that record the route taken are allowed, as long as the person(s) are not able to access it during the race.

CELLPHONE USE OF ANY KIND IS NOT ALLOWED. You may NOT use a cellphone at any point during the race, even as a timepiece or camera (a **WATCH IS a REQUIRED** piece of gear). Race officials have no way to ensure you are not using it for communication purposes.

There is no need to contact family, friends or otherwise during the race – race officials will have emergency contact information and will handle emergency situations should the need arise. **IF A CELLPHONE IS SEEN IN USE AT ANY TIME DURING THE RACE YOUR TEAM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IMMEDIATELY, NO QUESTIONS.**

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 include, but are 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, dirt bikes 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 systems 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 who 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 chaperone the beast of

burden. (Please do not register a chimpanzee and make me regret the use of the word 'simian').

Also note that beasts of burden must be registered as team members (open division only) and many of the challenge events require that all team members have opposable thumbs. Also, despite what your teammates say, you are not a beast of burden. Even if you train like an animal.

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.

Animals that are not registered support animals may not be allowed this year due to forest regulations. This year we are at Hoosier National Forest and in most cases animals may not be allowed, therefore it is your responsibility to check the regulations before coming to POCAR.

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 or 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.

Leave No Trace:

All teams are required to follow the Leave No Trace principles while in the forest. Most importantly, dispose of waste properly, leave what you find, camp in appropriate spaces, respect wildlife, and be considerate of other visitors.

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.

Weather Restrictions:

Weather will be monitored by the event organizers. At a 10 minute time to frostbite, as determined by the NWS frostbite chart, the race will be stopped and racers are to make their way to the nearest F/W station or patrolled road. The race may be cancelled due to weather conditions or acts of god at any time should the organizers deem the conditions overly hazardous. That decision will be made by the race coordinator.

Fire/Water Stations and Patrol Roads:

IMPORTANT: Teams must check in with volunteers at a F/W station when they arrive for the first time. Volunteers will have a binder with sheets to record the team name and time of arrival/departure. If a team stops at the F/W station aside from the first time, they just need to check in with the volunteers.

Patrol cars will be flashing their hazard lights while on the course and shall have other markings (such as flags) denoting they are affiliated with the race.

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 may count as a sleeping bag and shelter for a person, but does 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!

Organizers may disqualify a team should they be determined as ill-equipped for the conditions or otherwise posing an undue danger upon themselves, other teams, volunteers, or other park visitors.