

**FQSCA Rules for the
Fort Kent Outdoor Center Skijoring Races
March 3 & 4, 2018**

The following is an English translation of the FQSCA (Quebec Federation of Harnessed Canine Sports) Rules for Participants.

The original French version of these rules is available at: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57bb7e988419c2441f71ec73/t/5a5f6866e2c483f7cb7f4331/1516202088673/R%C3%88GLEMENTS+POUR+LES+PARTICIPANTS+%281%29.pdf>

For more information the FQSCA website is: <http://www.fqscq.com/>

The Fort Kent Outdoor Center website is: <http://fortkentoc.org>

REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

Sanctioned Races FQSCA

Last updated: January 2018

1.1 Hardware

- During an event, the dog must be equipped with a harness that is designed for sports. traction and that is adapted to its morphology so as not to hinder it in traction or to hurt it (See Appendix 1).
- At all times, during a race, the bungee must be attached directly to the harness and no to the dog's collar.
- Only flat collars are allowed during events.
- The participant is responsible for ensuring that his race equipment complies with the present regulations. A material verification station will be available on the site of the event. The race official reserves the right to refuse any departure of a participant who has equipment that does not comply with the regulations. The participant may not require reimbursement of the organizer in such circumstances.

1.2 Minimum age of dogs for races

All disciplines:

- 2 km and under: 10 months
- More than 2 km: 12 months

Skijoring / snow scooter:

- 6 to 10 km: 15 months
- More than 10 km: 18 months

1.3 Decision regarding the ability of a dog to participate

Any decision regarding a dog's ability to compete or finish the course safely returns to the race official and / or the organizer. However, if the participant is able to present a valid certificate from a veterinarian indicating the dog's ability to participate in the event, it will take precedence over the opinion of the race official.

1.4 Dog showing weakness

A dog showing any signs of illness, infection or weakness (contagious or not) will be disqualified or expelled from the site of the event. The event organizer and the race official reserve the right to the right to make the necessary checks to that effect.

1.5 Bitch in heat

A bitch in heat will be able to participate to a test only if it is kept back on the spot of the event, so as not to disturb other dogs. In addition, it must be kept under monitoring.

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1.6 Sanction

Failure to comply with any provision of Articles 1.1 to 1.5 without the participant having first derogation from the race official entails the immediate disqualification of his team. The race official may prevent the team from leaving or leaving the team before the end of the test.

2 RULES CONCERNING DEPARTURES

2.1 Team late for departure

A team that does not start on time will not be allowed to start before the last team entered, unless they are ready to leave at the latest 30 seconds before the next departure;

The timer will start at the scheduled time of departure, however, without the possibility of changing the timing, whether the timing system is manual or bulleted.

2.2 Starting position

On the starting line, the nose of the dog is the benchmark for the respect of the line.

3 TRACK RULES

3.1 The wearing of headphones is prohibited on the course.

3.2 Teamwork with dogs

- The dog must at all times be connected to the participant with whom he / she is teamed on the course.
- The dog must never be preceded by the participant to whom he is attached, on pain of penalty of thirty seconds of penalty on the race time.
- Pulling the dog or forcing him to advance by any means is strictly prohibited.
- It is forbidden to let a dog be shot by his or her dog teammates, if any, during the event, under penalty of automatic disqualification by the race official.
- It is also forbidden to overtake his dog to cross the finish line.

3.3 Exceedances

For the purposes of this section, the term *exceeding* means "passing team" and *exceeded* , "team being overtaken".

3.3.1 Exceedances in bikejoring, skijoring scooter and scooter

In bikejoring, skijoring, scooter and scooter, the overtaking must announce itself by shouting "TRACK" or "TRAIL", so that the surpassed can hear it. It can also announce itself by indicating the side by which he will pass (eg "TRACK, LEFT").

The exceeded must:

- Leave the passage at the top, keeping the right of the track preferably, if exceeding did not specify the side by which he will pass, or by following his dog so as to form with him a straight line;
- Keep a constant speed or slow down;
- keep control over your dog;
- In skijoring, keep skis and poles parallel to the track;
- If necessary, shorten the bungee or stop.

During an overtaking, exceeding it can communicate to the overdue to slow down.

3.3.2 Canicross and canitrail overflows

In canicross, overtaking it can ask the exceeded to keep a constant speed without accelerating. This, so that beyond it can have the space and time necessary to take its lead in all security. This rule does not apply to teams that start at the same time.

3.3.3 Rule applicable after any overrun

The newly out-of-date participant must respect the request made by passing him and keep a distance of at least two teams between the passing and him. This rule does not apply to events whose departures are made in waves or for teams taking the start at the same time.

After passing, it will not be possible for the surpassed to overtake in turn before having 300 meters since passing or if less than 30 seconds have elapsed, except on authorization of the exceeding, as the latter is progressing. This rule does not apply when remains less than 400 meters before the finish, nor for events whose departures are made in waves or Canicross events.

3.3.4 Sanction

Any infringement of the rules in 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 is punishable by 30 seconds of penalty on his race time, on the decision of the race official who meets the offending participant

and, if applicable, the complainant.

4 RULES BY DISCIPLINE

4.1 Bikejoring

- This discipline is practiced with one or two dogs.
- When the team consists of two dogs, the dogs must be connected by a neckline.
- The dog is permanently attached to the bike by a bungee line

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distance between the front of the headset and the base of the dog's tail the farthest is at maximum of 2.45 meters, when stretched without elongation. However, the recommended distance is 2.20 meters.

- Helmets are mandatory for the cyclist;
- The bike must be equipped with cleated tires, and must have brakes capable of immobilizing the team.

4.2 Canicross and Canitrail

- This discipline is practiced by a dog.
- The dog is permanently attached to a participant-worn belt connected by a line bungee whose distance between the participant's abdomen and the base of the dog's tail must be up to 2 meters when stretched without elongation. However, the recommended distance is 1.70 meters.
- Cleats and racquets may be permitted provided they are not dangerous for dogs and other participants. Event organizers

determine the conditions of use of this kind of material and can decree their prohibition or any other adaptation. The race official reserves the right to refuse the use of such equipment if he considers it dangerous.

4.3 Skijoring

- This discipline is practiced with one or two dogs.
- When the team is made up of two dogs, the dogs must be connected by a neckline.
- The dog is permanently attached to a participant-worn belt connected by a line bungee whose distance between the participant's abdomen and the base of the dog's tail the most away must be at most 3 meters. However, the recommended distance is 2.75 meters.
- Only skating skis are accepted.
- Wearing a helmet is recommended.

4.4 Scooter

- This discipline is practiced with one or two dogs.
- When the team is made up of two dogs, the dogs must be connected by a neckline.
- If the team consists of only one dog, the participant must ensure that his dog is fit enough to walk the distance and, if necessary, help him further.
- The organizer can refuse a dog if he considers that the terrain is not adequate or too difficult.
- The dog is permanently attached by a bungee line whose distance from the front of the dog headset and the base of the dog's tail the farthest is maximum 2.45 meters, when stretched without elongation. However, the recommended distance is 2.20 meters.
- The scooter must not have a motor, must be equipped with cleated tires, and must have brakes powerful enough to immobilize the team.
- Wearing a helmet is mandatory.

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4.5 Snow scooter

- This discipline is practiced with one or two dogs.
- When the team is made up of two dogs, the dogs must be connected by a neckline.
- If the team consists of only one dog, the participant must ensure that his dog is fit enough to walk the distance and, if necessary, help him further.
- The organizer can refuse a dog if he considers that the terrain is not adequate or too difficult.
- Dogs are permanently attached by a bungee line whose distance between the front from the scooter the base of the tail of the dog furthest is at most 2.45 meters, when stretched without elongation.
- The scooter must be equipped with a brake system or a braking mat (snow mat) in Rubber attached to the scooter.
- The skates of the scooter must not have metal edges (metal edges).
- The helmet is mandatory for children under 18 and highly recommended for adults.

5 RULES CONCERNING BEHAVIOR

5.1 Common sense and sportsmanship

Common sense and sportsmanship prevail. If the race official judges that the behavior of a participant or a dog at one time or another is detrimental to the sport or event, it may disqualify a team and summon it to leave the event site. In this case, the re-enrollment to a future event will have to be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee.

5.2 Responsibility of the dog's behavior

All participants are responsible for the behavior of their dog (s) at the event venue, as well as than on the track.

5.2.1 Bite

In the case of a bite with or without perforation, the participant will not be able to register the dog again a race sanctioned by the FQSCA for a period determined by the official. In addition, the participant will have his dog evaluated by a behavioral veterinarian or a canine educator and so, demonstrate that the animal does not pose a danger to humans and dogs. Subsequently, his will be evaluated by the FQSCA, which, depending on the case presented, will accept the return of the animal competition.

5.2.2 Repetitive misbehavior

In the event that a dog has accumulated protests on his record during events sanctioned by the FQSCA, the participant will be questioned by the disciplinary committee and may be suspended for a period of determined time. In addition, the participant must have the dog evaluated by a veterinarian behaviorist or a canine educator and demonstrate that the animal does not pose a danger to

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humans and dogs. Subsequently, his file will be evaluated by the FQSCA, which according to the case presented, will accept or not the return of the competing animal and participant.

5.3 General behavior during an event and animal welfare

5.3.1 Responsibility for the well-being of his / her dog (s)

All participants are responsible for the well-being of their dog (s) before, during and after the event (s), under penalty of a warning by the race official.

5.3.2 Dogs at liberty

Free dogs are not allowed on the event site.

5.3.3 Abuse

Abuse of dogs with or without an instrument is forbidden, under pain of warning by the race official.

5.4 Supplementary document to be respected

The participant agrees to read the document [CODE OF ETHICS AND ANIMAL WELFARE](#) ' and to respect all the provisions therein.

5.5 Denunciation

5.5.1 Protest

Any behavior deemed harmful or unacceptable during an event must be reported to the official assigned to the event in the form of a protest. The official is entitled to protest if he is a witness an offense even if the aggrieved participant does not protest.

5.5.2 Protest for breach discovered on the day of the event

In order to file a protest regarding a breach of the rules, the complainant must file a complaint in writing to the race official on the day of the event, within a maximum of one hour the arrival of the last participant of the race on which the complaint bears. This can relate to a situation you witness or victim. The complaint will be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the official race.

Any appeal of a decision rendered in first instance by the race official shall be heard by the committee disciplinary committee of the FQSCA. A complainant who wishes to appeal the decision of the race official has a maximum of 7 days to do this, from the end of the event. An e-mail will then have to be sent to the following address: admin@fqzca.com .

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5.5.3 Protest for breach discovered after the event

The complainant must file his complaint in writing at admin@fqzca.com to the disciplinary committee in a maximum of 7 days following the end of the event in question.

5.6 Protest management process

When the race official issues a protest or a participant makes a protest, the race official perform the steps mentioned below.

The race official meets the protester and completes the form ["Form of protest at an event sanctioned by the FQSCA"](#).

After collecting the information from the injured participant, the official meets the participant having potentially committed the offense. The official performs this meeting without the injured participant. The Official entered in the form "Protest Form at an event sanctioned by the FQSCA" the description of the incident from the point of view of the potentially offending participant.

If the perception of the event is the same for the injured participant and the potential participant offense, the official decides on the actions to be taken on the spot (at the event during which the incident took place). This decision is based on the gravity of the incident and the degree of cooperation of the participant in violation.

If the perception of the event is different for the injured participant and the potential participant in violation, the official may decide to collect additional evidence and evidence before to decide what action to take immediately (at the event during which the incident took place). The official makes the decision using his professional judgment, the information he has in hand, the seriousness of the incident and the degree of cooperation of the aggrieved participant and the potential participant offense.

The official entered in the form "Protest form at an event sanctioned by the FQSCA Actions taken during the event (discussion, suspension, etc.).

The FQSCA agrees to provide paper forms for each event. So the official racing always has forms at hand.

The completed form is then sent to the Disciplinary Committee responsible for managing the file. after the event. The Disciplinary Committee may contact the official after the event for clarify certain information.

5.7 Types of Offenses

Where an infringement of this Regulation is committed, in the document "Protest Form when of an event sanctioned by the FQSCA", the official will have to choose according to 2 types.

-OUPS: Offense that did not result in psychological or physical injury (s) Participant or the participant's dog, but which in other circumstances could have given rise to

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physical or psychological injury to participant or participant's dog.
-ACCIDENT: Offense that resulted in psychological or physical injury (s) participant or the participant's dog.

5.8 Repetition of behaviors Judged Unacceptable

5.8.1 Repetitive disqualification

Any participant who, in any discipline, has been disqualified on two (2) occasions during the

same season for breaking the rules of this Regulation is suspended for the next two (2) events sanctioned by the FQSCA, all disciplines and seasons combined.

5.8.2 Repetition of behaviors Judged Unacceptable

A repetition of one or more behaviors of a dog or human deemed unacceptable (s) in context of an event will be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee.

6 CATEGORIES AND DISCIPLINES ACCEPTED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE CIRCUIT

Please refer to the document [EXPLANATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT](#) ".

7 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on the different types of tests presented by the FQSCA, the requirements of routes, regulations concerning departures, regulations concerning temperatures, details of the courses according to the discipline, the posters on the course and much more, please refer to the document [REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ORGANIZERS](#)

8 REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION BY A PARTICIPANT

An exemption request for an article of these rules may be made by the participant from the race official, who will make the decision to grant it or not. The form is available at the next address : <http://goo.gl/forms/YIQVGztr1d> . The form must be completed and sent at most late (3) days before the event.

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Appendix 1: Well Adjusted Harness Guide

When we put a harness to our dog to practice harnessed dog sports, the goal is that this one be comfortable and feel comfortable shooting. We absolutely want to avoid forcing the dog to modify his natural race pattern and thus risk physical problems in the medium or long term. Pleasure that he will withdraw to practice these sports and his ability to work will also depend on the comfort that his harnesses him off.

We recommend reading the document produced by Mathilde DeMunter in France. It details the considerations for determining if the harness fits properly, and gives examples of Photo. Good reading !

Link to the document:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4bI_sID1QrsQUN0X0VkrZnNaWM/view?usp=sharing

Examples of poorly adjusted harnesses

The sternal portion of the harness falls into the shoulder and armpit

Harness that turns and is not well supported on the sternum.

Poorly proportioned harness, the back straps are tension free, so the pressure is poorly distributed.

Harness too wide on the chest, the dog can not run freely.

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This type of harness is difficult to adjust so that the tension is adequately spread and tends to tracheate when the dog pulls in addition to turning at the level of the thorax. Harness insufficiently padded around the chest, neck and shoulders. The complete design of this harness is not suitable for sports traction, although it may be well suited to cani-hiking in because of his abdominal strap, which prevents the dog from being able to get out of his harness if he goes back. (Omnijore brand harness, Ruffware)

Harness with chest straps that pass directly on the shoulder, so not adequately designed for traction. Harness resembling the Norwegian type harness or K9 not suitable for the traction either. Does not cause an injury directly, but if it is used, the dog will never be able to offer as much traction as a suitable harness. (Canine Equipment Harness Equipment)

