



Sled Dog Summer Camp: Organizing Guidelines



About the template

This document can serve as a guide for sled dog summer camps organized by all National Federations throughout the world. The document can be updated as needed. All changes must be approved by the IFSS Council via the VP of Development.

Purpose

The aim of the program is to gather young athletes from all over the country and all race classes for a joint activity week where everyone will learn something new, meet new friends and have fun. SDSSC (Sled Dog SportSummer Camp) will create motivation among young athletes to further engage in the sport of dog sledding - both as athletes and as trainers and leaders. It is important that athletes want to return year after year.

History

The first SDSSC was first held in 1988 in Norway by the Norwegian Federation. It was only offered to athletes in the Nordic style with a lot of hard training for humans and dogs. In recent years, the focus has turned more towards the camp being a social gathering place for all young people who are interested in dogs. It should be a high priority that everyone be welcomed, regardless of dog breed, branch/class affiliation or experience. There should still be a lot of training, competitions, and teamwork, but also a lot of fun and social activities. It is important that all respect each other, learn from each other and that all the young people have good attitudes towards dog care.

Time period

SDSSC should be arranged during one of the local official school holidays, whenever possible. It is important to hold it during the same week every year - both for the organizer and for the participants. SDSSC should last for seven (7) days, if possible, and preferably Sunday to Sunday. The camp manager is responsible for finding a suitable place and date in collaboration with the Federation's development consultant. The camp manager/leader should be selected at least six (6) months before the camp and approved by the Federation's council.

Accommodations

Simple accommodations like cabins, rooms, or tents are recommended. There should be a maximum of three (3) to four (4) participants in each room with sufficient room for dogs and crates/kennels. Dogs should remain in their cages while inside the rooms. The camp manager/leader should have good dialogue with the hosts on site to ensure requirements are met and expectations set about the camp.

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner should be eaten together. This is important for the social experience. It is also a good idea to equip each cabin / room with some snacks that participants can eat between the main meals.

Program

The draft program should be ready one month before the camp begins. The program should include the following, whenever possible:

- Social activities
- Physical training for the participants (running, intervals, relays, roller skiing, cycling, etc.)

- Dog training, dressage, alternative exercises (agility, etc.)
- Lectures, games

*2019 program from the Norwegian Federation is attached in appendix 1.

Rules

Rules will be written and communicated to all prior to the start of the camp. The rules apply to all involved in the program including leaders and participants. In the case of a rule violation, participants can be cautioned and/or sent home if necessary. There will be a zero tolerance policy on alcohol and tobacco - this also applies to participants over 18 years of age. If this is not complied with, the participant in violation must be sent home immediately.

* See rules from the Norwegian Federation in 2015 in appendix 2.

Age and skills

The program will be geared toward participants ages 13 to 18 years of age. Anyone interested in dogs and sports can participate. No previous experience or skill is required. Create groups of participants from different race classes, ages, and places of residence. These groups will stay together throughout the week and train dogs, play, and have different group tasks, as well as entertainment/performance on the last night. During the practical training, it is a good idea to divide all the participants into two (2) or three (3) groups based on their physical skills and what they want to achieve.

Instructors

There must be a camp manager/leader who is responsible for the overall program. There will be one (1) instructor per six (6) to eight (8) participants. All leaders must submit a police certificate/record to the camp manager. A mix between women and men, race class affiliation and age are recommended. Leaders must be good role models. Every effort should be made to include an instructor between the age of 18 and 20.

It is the Federation's working Committee in collaboration with the Federation's development consultant who selects the camp manager. The camp manager should be identified at least six (6) months prior to the camp start date. The camp manager then determines the total number of instructors needed and selects all instructors.

The camp manager must sign a commitment agreement when he/she has been elected by the development consultant and the working Committee.

Any objections regarding the camp manager must be sent in writing to the Federation's development consultant who will then present it to the working Committee along with a proposal for a solution.

Any objections regarding instructors must be sent in writing to the camp manager who then forwards this to the development consultant along with a proposal for a solution.

Insurance for the camp manager and its instructors must be paid by the Federation.

Camp manager mandate

The camp manager is free to enter into sponsorship agreements and/or collaboration agreements for the SDSSC, but they cannot compete with the Federation's agreements and contracts. Efforts shall be made to ensure that the Federation's agreements are also used for the camp and are profiled on clothing, if the contracting party so wishes. The camp manager is responsible for informing the administration and the working Committee of all agreements made for the camp.

Dogs

There can only be a maximum of one dog per participant at the camp. Females in heat are not allowed at the camp. All dogs must be vaccinated in accordance with the Federation's vaccination regulations. It is possible to borrow a dog from an instructor, but this must be agreed upon in advance of the camp. All dogs should have a crate/kennel to stay while indoors or in a car/trailer outside. No dog should be left alone.

Equipment

All participants must receive an equipment list well in advance of the camp start date. Each participant is responsible for bringing all their own equipment. Many clubs have equipment that can be loaned out; participants should be informed of this information.

* See equipment list in appendix 3.

Social media

Facebook, Instagram, and other social media channels should be used actively before, during and after SDSSC. An event should be created online where all messages and photos will be posted. For participants under the age of 18, parents must provide a media clearance of their child at the time of registration. Participants must agree that pictures and videos can be shared on social media.

Inscriptions

Registration must be done via e-mail with a registration form which must contain the name of the guardian, telephone number, age of participant, special needs/illness, and ability to swim. Registration must be sent to the Federation's office, which administers the registration process and sends regular updates to the camp manager. If the maximum number of camp participants is exceeded, first-time participants must be given priority.

* See registration form in appendix 4.

Before the camp is finished

The camp manager and instructors must carefully inspect all cabins and rooms to ensure that all rooms are clear and free of damage to furniture, ceilings and walls, etc. Should any damage be identified the relevant participant must pay for all repairs.

It is important to check that all dog excrement has been picked up throughout the camp. Feel free to arrange a rubbish competition where each team competes to find as much rubbish as possible.

Budget

The National Federation will/should, as much as possible, support SDSSC with earmarked youth funds (15,000 Euros in 2015 in Norway). Additionally, a participation fee will be charged. The participation fee must be commensurate with what the participants receive in the way of accommodations, food, lectures, and equipment (350 Euros, in 2015 in Norway). The fee must also be in accordance with other competing alternatives (school camps, sports schools, etc).

All instructors must/should be paid for their work.

- Camp manager earns 50% more than the instructors.
- Youth leaders (18 and 20 years old) should be paid 50% of an instructor's pay.

All personnel from the camp will also be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with the country's reimbursement rates. The camp manager will have input on all travel reimbursement expenses.

The Secretary General of the Federation is responsible for the payment of wages and travel expenses.

Appendix 1: program 2019

SUNDAY JUNE 23

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
15.00	Arrivals	Instructors' cabin	
16.30-18.30	Information	Meeting room	Everybody Main Leader
19.30-20.30	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
20.30-21.00	Walk outside with 1 dogs	Outside the cabins	Everybody
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	Everybody

MONDAY JUNE 24

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
08.00-08.30	Walk dogs		
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-11.00	Dressur		Training groups
11.00-13.30	Presentation of the week plan Theory: feeding, dressur and keeping the dog healthy and happy during the week Walk dogs	Meeting room	Everybody
14.00-15.00	Lunch	Dining room	Everybody
15.30-17.00	Practice Dressage, healthy paws, small injuries, and massaging.	Designated area	Training groups
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dogs		
19.30-20.30	Team competition		
22.00	Cabins' visit	Cabins	Instructors
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	Everybody

TUESDAY JUNE 25

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
07.00-08.30	Dog training	Designated area	Training groups
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-11.00	Walk dogs		
11.00-13.30	Workshop Sled.		
13.30-14.00	Walk dogs		
14.00-15.00	Lunch	Dining room	Everybody
15.30-17.00	Team competition		
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dogs		
19.30-20.30	Free choice activity (volleyball, football, cards)		
22.00	Cabins' visit	Cabins	Everybody
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	

ONSDAG 26. JUNI

WEDNESDAY JUNE 6

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
07.00-08.30	Dog training		Training groups
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-11.00	Walk dog		
11.00-13.30	Up the mountain!		
13.30-14.00	Walk dog		
14.00-15.00	Lunch	Dining room	Everybody
15.30-17.00	Workshop Dryland and Nordic style	Meeting room	
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dog		

19.30-20.30	Free choice activity (Bike riding?)		
22.00	Cabin's visit	Cabins	Instructors
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	Everybody

THURSDAY JUNE 27

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-17.00	Day long walking trip with the dogs		
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dogs		
19.30-20.30	Presentation	Meeting room	Presenter
22.00	Cabin's visit	Cabins	Instructors
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	Everybody

FRIDAY JUNE 28

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
07.00-08.30	Dog training		Training groups
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-11.00	Walk dogs		
11.00-13.30	Team competition		
13.30-14.00	Walk dog		
14.00-15.00	Lunch	Dining room	Everybody
15.30-17.00	Mud-football	In the marsh/mud	
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dogs		
19.30-20.30	Presentation	Meeting room	Presenter

22.00	Cabin's visit	Cabins	Instructors
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	

SATURDAY JUNE 29

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
07.00-08.30	Dog training		Training groups
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-11.00	Walk dog		
11.00-13.30	Plan the night's performance		In the training groups
13.30-14.00	Walk dogs		
14.00-15.00	Lunch	Dining room	Everybody
15.30-17.00	Relay		In the training groups
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining room	Everybody
19.00-19.30	Walk dogs		
19.30-20.30	Performances	Meeting room	
22.00	Cabin's visit	Cabins	Instructors
23.00-06.00	Quiet	Cabins	Everybody

SUNDAY JUNE 30

<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Who</i>
07.00-08.30	Dog training		Everybody
09.00-10.00	Breakfast	Dining room	Everybody
10.00-10.30	Last meeting	Instructors' cabin	
10.30-13.00	Cleaning		
13.00-14.00	Lunch	Dining room	
14.00	Travel home		

Appendix 2: rules

- We must respect each other and treat each other well
- No swimming without an instructor present
- No one leaves the area without permission from the camp manager. Also applies to training and care of the dogs.
- Garbage is thrown in rubbish bins
- Dog excrement is cleaned immediately
- Obligatory use of the leash when walking the dog
- No dogs on a leash alone outside
- No dogs are allowed in bed or on a sofa
- Everyone must be in bed by 23.00 - no dogs should be outside after 23.00 or before 07.00
- Read the information board. Local rules may be necessary.

Appendix 3: equipment list

FOR THE HUMAN:	FOR THE DOG:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sleeping bag or bed linen● Towel● Warm clothes● Wool underwear● Training clothes● Rainwear● Running shoes● Mountain boots● Rubber boots● Ski boots, roller skis, poles (skate)● Reflective vest● Mosquito repellent● Small backpack● Pen and paper● Bicycle (if you have one) Scooter (if you have one) Helmet● Gloves● Sunglasses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Harness, belt, and bungee leash● Doggy backpack (if you have one)● Dog food and bowl● Booties● Vaccination card / passport● Dog blanket/jacket● Sleeping cage / kennel

Appendix 4: registration form

Registration form			
 Sled dog sports' Summer Camp			
28. JULY - 05. JUNI 2015			
NAME			
ADDRESS			
POSTAL CODE		TOWN	
TLF NUMBER PARTICIPANT		TLF NUMBER GUARDIAN	
E-MAIL PARTICIPANT		E-MAIL GUARDIAN	
AGE		HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED BEFORE?	
DOG BREED		DOG'S NAME	
CLUB/TRAINING GROUP			
SIZE FOR SWEATER/JACKET (XS, S, M, L, XL)			
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Swimming, yes or no? Pictures in social media, yes or no?		
ALLERGIES, ILLNESS			
DATE AND SIGNATURE (guardian)			
<i>Be aware! Remember to pay the participation fee when you send the registration.</i>			
Federation's name		Bank account number:	
		Price: 0000 -	
Mark the payment with the name of the participant and "participation fee for SDSSC 2015"			

Appendix 5: budget (Norway, from 2015)

	INCOMES	EXPENSES
PARTICIPANTS x 55 (350-)	19250	
Extra from IFSS	1500	
FROM THE NATIONAL FEDERATION	15000	
Sponsors	3000	
Camp manager		1200
Instructors x 8		7000
ACCOMMODATIONS, FOOD, ETC (295 pp)		21500
Sponsor sweater/jacket, prizes		4500
Transport / travel expenses		2000
Meetings before the camp		200
Extra food		500
Organization material		200
Presentations		500
Other expenses		400
TOTAL	38750	38400

IN EUROS

* Any profits from SDSSC shall be returned to the Federation earmarked as funds that shall be used for other development measures and/or youth measures in the same year.