



## LE DEFI RHONE ALPES 2008

### OFFICIAL REGULATIONS

#### 1. GENERAL RULES:

The DEFI RHONE ALPES is a stage sprint race taking place in Savoie and Haute Savoie (France) between Saturday January 19 and Sunday January 27, 2008. It will be possible to run the weekend races only.

The race rules are the F.F.S.T. official race rules eventually supplemented and modified by the points listed in these regulations. In case of discrepancy between the F.F.S.T. rules and those listed in these regulations, these regulations will prevail.

The race rules may be modified by the organization of the DEFI RHONE ALPES which will be responsible for informing the competitors of the new rules.

#### 2. PROGRAM:

Saturday January 19	:	BRISON-SOLAISON (74)	10h00
Saturday January 19	:	BRISON-SOLAISON	19h00 (evening stage)
Sunday January 20	:	BRISON-SOLAISON	10h00
Monday January 21	:	FLAINE (74)	14h00
Tuesday January 22	:	FLAINE	10h00
Wednesday January 23	:	Rest day	
Thursday January 24	:	LES AILLONS (73)	14h00
Friday January 25	:	LES AILLONS	10h00
Saturday January 26	:	BEAUREGARD (74)	14h00
Sunday January 27	:	BEAUREGARD	10h00
Sunday January 27	:	Awards ceremony	15h00

The organization reserves the right to modify the program, in particular (but not exclusively) to meet local conditions.

### 3. ENTRIES:

The competitors can enter the following classes:

- Skijoring junior men (born between 1988 and 1991 included)
- Skijoring junior women (born between 1988 and 1991 included)
- Skijoring 1-dog senior men (born in 1989 or before)
- Skijoring 1-dog senior women (born in 1989 or before)
- 2- dog team junior (born in 1992/1993/1994)
- 2-dog team senior (born in 1991 or before)
- 4- dog team junior (born in 1992/1993/1994)
- 4-dog team senior (born in 1991 or before)
- 6-dog team senior (born in 1991 or before)
- 8-dog team senior (born in 1991 or before)

The competitors shall specify on their entry form if their team includes only pure Nordic sled dogs (as per FCI definition).

#### Entry fees:

Up to December 31, 2007: 180 € for the 9 races and two meals.

After December 31, 2007: 230 € for the 9 races and 2 meals.

50 € pour 9 races in the junior classes (without meals)

Weekend of January 19/20 only (3 races): 35 €

Weekend of January 20/27 only (2 races): 35 €

Entry forms shall be sent to: ASSOCIATION SPORT ET CHIENS, 35,5 Rue Antoine Lumière, Les Houdières 69150 Décines, France

Along with the corresponding check (on a French bank) or money order to the ASC.

The entries not paid for at the time of the registration shall be disregarded.

The organization of the DEFI RHONE ALPES reserves the right to stop registering competitors at any time subject to the parking possibilities of the race locations.

The competitors shall be holding a valid competition license delivered by either the F.F.S.T., the F.F.P.T.C., a club of WSA or a club affiliated to ESDRA. For competitors from foreign countries holding a license other than from the F.F.S.T., the organization may require a health certificate (legal obligation for sport competition in France).

### 4. RESULT LISTS:

Result lists will be provided after the races of Jan 20, Jan 22, Jan 25 and Jan 27 in each race location. These lists shall include, for each class, the results of the two days of racing in the location and the provisional general result list. The final result list, provided on Sunday January 27 during the awards ceremony, will include the competitors having completed all the stages.

For each class, there will be a specific result list for the pure Nordic breed teams (as per FCI definition).

A competitor not completing a stage, not starting a stage or being disqualified in a stage shall not be included in the final result list but may be allowed, at the discretion of the organizer, to continue in the following stages.

Special result lists will be provided for the weekend races which are included in the French Cup series.

## 5. THE RACE:

A mandatory mushers 'meeting for all competitors will take place before the start of the first race in each location. The date, the time and the location will be provided at a later time.

Depending on the stage, there could be individual starts, two by two or mass start. In the cases of individual starts or starts two by two the time intervals could be 30 sec., 1 or 2 minutes depending on the class.

## 6. PARKING AND STAKE-OUT:

Parking space being often very limited, the competitors will be requested to park as close as possible to one another and shall follow the instructions they may receive from volunteers of the organization.

Parking and stake-out shall be kept in an impeccable cleanliness. Some volunteers will be in charge to check it.

## 7. EQUIPMENT:

The sled shall be equipped as per the FFST rules for sprint races (minimum size of the basket, dog bag, braking pad, etc.).

Mushers will be allowed to change sled between stages but not during a stage.

Two snow hooks will be mandatory on the sled for the 8 dog class teams (addition to the FFST Race Rules).

The equipment used in the skijoring classes will be according to the FFST Race Rules (panic snap attached to the belt, etc.).

The competitors of the junior sled classes shall wear a helmet.

## 8. THE DOGS:

NO CRUAL OR INHUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS THAT IMPLIES ANY ACTION OR NON-ACTION CAUSING PAIN OR SUFFERING TO A DOG WILL BE TOLERATED. FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

The dogs shall be at least 12 months old in sled classes and 18 months old in Skijoring on the first day of the race.

### Number of dogs:

Each competitor will be allowed a pool of dogs depending on the class. The competitor will be allowed to use the dogs of his/her pool to his/her liking within the minimum and maximum number authorized for his/her class. He/she shall not be authorized to change dogs during a stage. Dogs removed from the race by the race vet shall not be returned in the pool without the race authorization.

### Pool of dogs:

Skijoring 1-dog classes: 2 dogs

2-dog classes: 3 dogs

4-dog classes: 5 dogs

6-dog class: 8 dogs

8-dog class: 10 dogs

Before the beginning of the race and at the latest at the first mandatory mushers meeting, each competitor shall provide a list of the dogs of his/her pool with their name and chip (or tattoo) number.

Mandatory vaccinations:

All the dogs carried by the competitors and their handlers (including the dogs not racing) in their vehicles shall be vaccinated against:

Rabies

Parvovirus

Distemper

Leptospirosis

Kennel cough

Controls might be carried by the organization at any time between Friday January 18 at 12:00 p.m. and Sunday January 27 at 20:00.

Medical treatment to dogs:

No medical treatment will be authorized to dogs between Friday January 18 at 12:00 and Sunday January 27 at 20:00 without the authorization of the race vet.

9. ANTIDOPING CONTROL:

Anti doping control might be performed on dogs and/or competitors during the event.

10. OFFICIALS AND PENALTIES:

Race Jury:

The Race Marshal, the Race Judges and the Race Vet are the officials of the race in charge of the application of the race regulations. They constitute the Race Jury. The Race Marshal's decisions are final.

Protests:

A competitor may protest against an action of a competitor which he considers not in agreement with the spirit of these regulations. In order to be acceptable, this protest must be done verbally to a judge upon arrival at the finish of the stage during which the alleged infraction has been witnessed and in writing (in French or in English) to the Race Marshal within one hour after the reporting competitor finishes.

11. ADVERTIZING, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY:

The organization of the DEFI RHONE ALPES has the unrestricted authority to authorize the photographing and collecting of information about the race, the participants, their dogs and to use such photographs and information in advertizing, public relations and other publicity.

Entering the competition is an implicit authorization by the competitor to the organization to photograph and to film him/her. This authorization includes his/her dogs and his/her handlers providing these pictures are directly related with the race and that they do not undermine his/her private life or his/her reputation. These pictures may be used by the organization for its own use or by its sponsors without any restriction in time, location or media.

The competitors will be free to carry the names and the logos of their personal sponsors on their cloths and on their sled. No publicity will be allowed on the dogs except for the name of the harness manufacturer on the harness straps.

#### 12. CLAIMS:

Each competitor agrees to hold the organization and the sponsors of the event harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or inaction by the mushers, his/her dogs, his/her handlers and from any claim or demand resulting from injuries to the competitor, his/her dogs, his/her handlers or his/her property.

#### 13. ACCEPTANCE OF THE REGULATIOS:

The payment of the entry fee implies the unconditional acceptance of these regulations.

