

SDRQ Inc. Sportsmanship Policy

This document aims to promote and enforce professional musher behaviour at sled dog races.

In the document, **Abusive Musher**, refers to any musher that is found to have been physically or verbally abusive to other mushers, dog/s, spectators or officials.

Abusive Musher Procedure

1. A complaint is made in writing within an hour of the incident to the SDRQ Inc. Committee or the Race Marshall at a SDRQ Inc. affiliated race, reporting the abusive musher behaviour. If a Race Marshall is present they will be invited to make comment, but this is not essential. The complaint must identify the mushers and/or dog/s involved, the event date, time and circumstances, and any witnesses.
2. The musher the complaint is made against will be notified of the complaint and will be asked if there are any extenuating circumstances.
3. If the abusive musher does not provide adequate justification of their behaviours, SDRQ Inc. may issue them a "First Written Warning". Their name will then be registered in the sportsmanship register as "Received First Written Warning". A tribunal made up of the SDRQ Inc. Executive Committee, the Race Marshall and any Musher Delegate of the event will make this decision.
4. In the event the same musher is reported of another infringement, SDRQ Inc. affiliated event procedures 1 through 3 will be followed a second time, except that the musher will receive a "Second Written Warning" and will be then listed in the sportsmanship register as having "Received Second Written Warning".
5. The musher may choose to appeal this decision. See "Right of Appeal".
6. If two written notices are received, the musher may be refused entry to further SDRQ Inc. races or events.
7. After 6 months have past from the last written complaint, the musher is entitled to make a submission to SDRQ Inc. showing just-cause for entry to future events.

Right of appeal

1. After receiving a second written warning, the abusive musher is entitled to appeal the decision by writing to SDRQ Inc. and setting out the grounds for appeal.
2. SDRQ Inc. will hold a meeting in Queensland at a time nominated by SDRQ Inc. The "Tribunal" made up of the SDRQ Inc. Executive committee, the Race Marshall and any Musher Delegate of the event, will attend the meeting.
3. The Tribunal may seek further information from any party and adjourn the appeal if necessary.
4. If it is proven that the abusive musher did not, in fact, abuse other mushers, dog/s, spectators or officials then his/her name shall be removed from the register and they will be able to attend SDRQ Inc. events freely.

NB: The SDRQ Inc. register will be freely available to other sled dog race organizations, however it is at their discretion how the information is used and SDRQ Inc. will not interfere with the individual decision of the race giving organization.

