

FOR RELEASE AT WILL

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SLED DOG RACING RETURNS TO KING PINE AND PURITY SPRING

East Madison, NH (February 4, 2010) – For the third year in a row, Purity Spring Resort and King Pine Ski Area will host the “Purity Spring Sled Dog Race Classic” on the weekend of March 6 and 7. The ISDRA sanctioned event is presented by the New England Sled Dog Club, Inc., which introduced the sport of sled dog racing to New Hampshire in 1924. The Purity Spring Classic is one of six events the NESDC will hold this season.

The Purity Spring XC & Snowshoe Reserve will again set the race course scene for the teams, who will start and finish near Purity Lake, across from King Pine Ski Area. Sled dog races taking place at Purity will be Skijoring, 3-dog, 4-dog, 6-dog, 8-dog and a 12-mile “Open” division. Most of the races will be held around Purity Lake however, the 8-dog and the “Open” class will go as far as Purity’s own Danforth Bay Camping & RV Resort in Freedom, NH.

A 1-dog Junior amateur division for spectating children will be held each day, but will be limited to 20 kids per day. Registration for the Junior amateur division is \$15 per entrant and will begin at 10am each day in the staging area and will be held on a first come, first served basis. Helmets will be mandatory and available to rent at King Pine.

After only two years of hosting the event, Dan Houde, Marketing Director for Purity Spring Resort and King Pine Ski Area, is very excited about what the event has accomplished. “During last year’s race, we had almost 100 teams registered, that’s more than any other race last season in New Hampshire, and we had over 1,100 spectators during the weekend. At the end of the season, we were voted one of the top three ISDRA open class races in North America, based on driver reports. We’re very proud of how the event is evolving.”

The public is welcome and encouraged to view the race from various vantage points, ranging from easy access areas near King Pine, to scenic spots around Purity Lake that can only be reached by cross-country skis or snowshoes. Anita Wischinski, an experienced musher and a race official on the NESDC’s Board of Directors says that Purity Spring is attractive for spectators because they have the “ability to watch and cheer-on teams along the trails, buy food and warm beverages at the staging area, and talk to drivers.”

The 2-day event will run between 9am and 3pm each day. Food and souvenirs will be available near the start/finish line across from King Pine Ski Area. Admission to the event is free. Cross-country and snowshoe rentals will be available at King Pine for interested spectators. For more information, call (800) FREE-SKI or visit www.puritysleddograce.com or www.nesdc.org.

King Pine and Purity Spring Resort, located on Route 153 in East Madison, NH, are owned and operated by the Hoyt family and have welcomed guests since the early 1900s.

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