



Aviemore 40th Anniversary

27 and 28 January 2024

On the trails of Glenmore Forest, Aviemore



Photo: John Evans on Loch an Eilein early 1980s. Photographer Unknown



1. Introduction

Welcome to the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain 40th Anniversary, Aviemore Sled Dog Rally, kindly sponsored by CSJ, Photizo and Leucillin

History: In 1983 Penny and John Evans were asked to help make a film about sled dogs for the BBC children's programme, Blue Peter, in Aviemore. It was while in the Scottish Highlands they conceived the idea of a sled dog race and the first Siberian Husky Club of GB Aviemore race was held in 1984 around Loch an Eilein. The rally soon moved to Glenmore and from an initial 12 teams it rapidly grew in numbers reaching its highest entry in 2005 at 235. For many years, the Aviemore event was the largest dryland race in the world and attracted significant crowds of spectators. Organising such a large event is a huge task and over its 40 year history numerous people have been involved in making the Aviemore weekend happen. There are too many to name everyone involved but some of the key people include: Penny Evans, John Evans, Alan Bowering, the first Team Aviemore of Sarah Robinson, Paul Keen, Guy Redwood and Steve Taylor; Kenny and Lindsey Sutherland, Keith Givens, Mark and Tracey Squires, Hugh and Judy Wakker, Pete and Kaz Jones and Pete Wright. Team Aviemore really is a big team.

The Aviemore race is run on Forestry and Land Scotland trails through Glenmore Forest. Over the last few years, the FLS new Land Management Plan for the area has introduced new environmental restrictions, making the race very challenging to put on. Unfortunately, we are no longer able to overcome these restrictions and it is with great sadness that we have to announce the 2024 Aviemore race will be the last.

The Siberian Husky Club of GB Aviemore race has been an iconic event and made memories for hundreds of Club members over the years. Not many sled dog races across the world have run for 40 years so as a Club we must be proud of this great achievement. It is with great sadness that we now bow out but appropriate that



our last race should be the 40th anniversary and we guarantee you, it will be a great event and a real celebration for us all.

The Race will be organised by Pete and Karen Jones, supported by Team Aviemore.

The Junior Race will be organised by Ewan and Kayleigh Robertson.

CSJ, Photizo, Leucillin and TrailBaby Sled Dog and K9 Gear are once again generously sponsoring this historic rally. CSJ focus not only on foods but also herbal supplements and suitable dog treats. Photizo light therapy is a company who have dedicated their time into developing a non-intrusive light method to heal wounds and injuries. Leucillin antiseptic skincare, it is non-irritant, non-toxic, and powerful antiseptic which has grown over the last few years as a product and company. Sharon McNicol and TrailBaby provide quality sled dog and canine equipment and wear that is strong, functional and often fun.

Important Information to Read and Note

- The FaceBook group 'Aviemore 40th Anniversary The Siberian Husky Club of GB Sleddog Rally' will be used to share information about the event.
- Training will be available at Feshiebridge from Monday 22 January to Sunday 4 February but with some restrictions. Please keep an eye on the Aviemore Facebook page for updates. No training on the race trail please.
- Press day will be at Feshiebridge on Thursday 25 January.
- Please, please get your forms in early to Pete and Kaz Jones. We will start a waiting list if we reach capacity entries for the event. **Entries close postmark Friday 29 December.**
- Class and musher changes can be made up to 12pm Monday 15 January 2024 on the forms available on the Club Website or Club Facebook page and event page. Dog changes can be made on the Friday night at the Musers' Meeting



on the form available at the Reception Desk.

- Photos of entry forms will not be accepted; entry forms will only be accepted in hard copy or word/PDF file formats. Mushers sending in photos of forms will be asked to complete in the correct format and this will change your placing in the waiting list if required.
- We shall once again be texting information and notices, so please include a mobile number on the entry form so that we can keep you up to date with any race information over the weekend.
- Running order will be by random draw unless safety concerns require adjustment by seeding.
- As all organisations' rally rules differ slightly, please read the SHC of GB rules on the website or in the 23/24 Rally Brochure before the event.
- All mushers except those running cani x MUST wear protective headgear.
- Rally organisers will be monitoring temperatures and humidity during the event. If the temperature rises to 15°C (when taken in the shade at, or near the start line) or if there are concerns about the temperature/humidity combination the organisers will review the situation and have the right to stop or postpone the event.
- Please clean up after yourselves and your dogs, including poo bags, and leave no trace anywhere at the rally site, especially where you park and on the way to the start; at Feshiebridge and around the Aviemore area.
- To help reduce cross contamination please park in the same place at the rally site on Saturday and Sunday.
- Please note that shouting and swearing or any action that is in a disrespectful manner will not be tolerated at dogs, competitors, spectators, or organisers.
- Marshalling duties will be published in advance on the FaceBook page and at the Mushers Meeting with the times you are needed for your duty. If you know of anyone not competing who would be happy to volunteer to help, please let the organisers know.



- The Musers' Market and Musers' Meeting and presentation will be at the Aviemore Macdonald Resort. The Musers Market will be at 4pm. Enquiries/bookings for stalls to Pete Jones on 07841 791973, or by email to p.jones@deltacaravans.co.uk Early booking is appreciated! £40 per 6ft table.
- The Musers Meeting will be at 5pm. All competitors must attend Friday's Musers' meeting for the class(es) that they are competing in. If due to unforeseen circumstances you are not able to get there, you **must** nominate another musher to take your items and inform you of your start time, marshal duty and any relevant notices. **The rally organisers will not be held responsible for any failure or error resulting from non-attendance.**
- We are sorry but there will be no trek this year due to the Forestry and Land Scotland Land Management Plan restricting use over sections of the trek trail.
- **Quiz Night:** Tony and Anne Nevinson and friends will be hosting their famous quiz and auction night on Monday 29 January. Donations would be really appreciated for the auction and raffle with proceeds to Welfare for Siberians, Malamutes, CEDs and Samoyeds. Come along for a great evening of lots of laughs and fun.
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- Don't forget to bring your sled as you never know, the 40th race may be a snow race!

See you in Aviemore to celebrate the 40th and last Siberian Husky Club of GB Aviemore Sled Dog Rally.

Team Aviemore and the SHC of GB Committee



2. Working with the Media

Why do we need Press and TV coverage?

We really need your help to thank our sponsors by getting as much media coverage of their name as we can, both before and after the race. Our sponsors have been amazing as all previous sponsors have been, **but they are not a charity!** They are sponsoring the Aviemore race to increase awareness of their name and their products as well as allowing us to enjoy our sport. So please, any coverage we can get is gratefully received.

The Club contact the dog and national papers in addition to radio and TV companies. We always need mushers and dogs for interviews and photos running up to the race, especially in Aviemore on Thursday and Friday of race week. Unless you have said you are not happy to be contacted on your entry form, we may call on you for help.

You can help by contacting your local paper, radio station and TV company and tell them about you and your team. Always call the race the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain and CSJ Aviemore Sled Dog Rally and please make mention of Photizo, Leucillin and TrailBaby as often as possible. Wear your Aviemore sweatshirt if you have one in any photos. Please, please NEVER wear anything with another dog food company name on it as they are not sponsoring Aviemore or the logo of another club or organisation.

There will be press releases available on the Club website you can give to the reporter and any information and advice can be gained through any of the members of Team Aviemore. Finally, it's always good to help our Welfare Team by explaining the good and bad points about owning sled dogs.

Please tell Pete Jones about any coverage you get and if possible, send a copy of any newspaper articles to him. Contact Pete Jones 07841791973/ peter.jones@deltacaravans.co.uk for any advice or help.



3. Rally Information

Class Schedule

Junior J1	Aged 8-11yrs (1 dog)
Junior J2	Aged 12-15yrs (up to 2 dog)
Scooter	1 Dog (any sled dog breed) *
Cani-Cross	1 Dog (any sled dog breed) *
Bikejor	1 Dog (any sled dog breed) *
A Class	8 Dog (full Siberian, or a mixed team)
B Class	6 Dog (full Siberian)
B.2 / B.3	6 Dog (mixed team/all freight team)
C Class	4 Dog (full Siberian)
C.2 / C.3	4 Dog (mixed team/all freight team)
E Class	3 Dog (full Siberian)
E (NP) Class	3 Dog (NP)
E.2 / E.3	3 Dog (mixed team/all freight team)
D Class	2 Dog (full Siberian)
D Class (NP)	2 Dog (NP)
D.2 / D.3	2 Dog (mixed team/all freight team)
Veteran	2-4 Dog (Average age must be equal to, or greater than 7) *

*Weather and trail conditions permitting for these classes.

PLEASE NOTE: entries will not be accepted for more than 1 team in the same class nor subsequent classes where the musher is running more than 1 team e.g.: C and E class or E and D class or E.2 and D.3. Beware .2 and .3 are sub-divisions of the same class not separate classes.

Distances:

A	7 Miles approx. (to be confirmed)
B, C, E, D	4 Miles approx.
J1, J2, Scooter, Cani x, Bike and Veteran	1.7 approx.



Rally Commences: Juniors Race: 8:30 am
Main Race: 9:15am

Local Veterinarian Surgery: Strathspey Veterinary Centre, Tel: 01479 872252

Local Medical Centre: 01479 810258 (appointments etc.) In Aviemore.

Team Aviemore

- **Race Organisers:** Pete and Kaz Jones: 07841 791973
- **Trail Marshal:** Pete Wright
- **Marshal coordinating team:** Hugh and Judy Wakker, Lee Wooliscroft, Julie Platt, Chris Leyland, Rhia Tapper.

Entries to:

Pete and Kaz Jones, 5 Faldingworth Road, Buslingthorpe, Market Rasen, Lincs, LN35AT

p.jones@deltacaravans.co.uk

Closing Date: 29 December 2023



4. Rally Diary

Thursday 10:30	25 January - Feshiebridge Trail Press and Practice Day
Friday 16:00 17:00	26 January - MacDonald Aviemore Resort (PH22 1PN) Mushers Market Mushers Meeting It is a requirement that Mushers attend Friday's meeting , if due to unforeseen circumstances you are not able to get there, you must nominate another musher to take your items and inform you of your start time, marshal duty and any relevant notices. The rally organisers will not be held responsible for any failure or error resulting from non-attendance.
Saturday 08:30 09:15	27 January - Glenmore Trails Junior Mushers' Event Rally - First Heat
Sunday 08:30 09:15 18:00	28 January - Glenmore Trails Junior Mushers' Event Rally - Second Heat Mushers' Party at MacDonald Aviemore Resort; including Welfare Raffle, and the Awards Ceremony
Monday 19:00	29 January Quiz Night in the MacDonald Hotel, once again hosted by Ann and Tony Nevison and friends - Proceeds to Welfare for Huskies, Malamutes, CED's and Samoyeds

5. The Race Trail at Glenmore Forest

The start lies just over the wooden bridge and runs parallel to the ski road for a short distance before entering the forest. The first part of the course is quite demanding, but then runs to the finish without great problem. Please note, this is a typical Scottish hard packed forest trail and can be tough on dogs' feet if they are more used to running on grass and care should always be taken.



Marshal Points

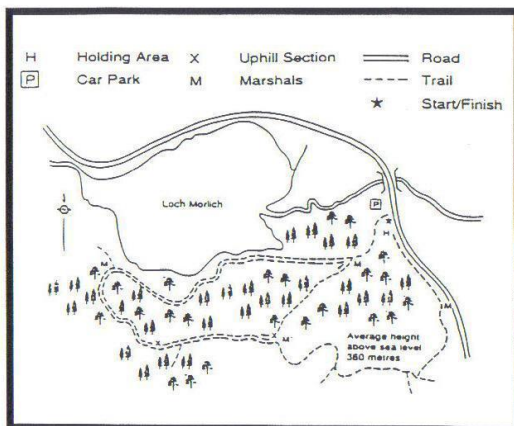
- No. 1 by Forest Entrance Gate
- No. 2 by Water Butt Turn
- No. 3 at the Eastern end of the Loch Morlich
- No. 4 by the Old Quarry

How to get there

The course can be found on Ordnance Survey Sheet no. 36 (Grantown and Cairngorm) ... reference 9709.

Take the ski road from Aviemore to Loch Morlich. After approximately 6 miles Loch Morlich will be on your right. Continue past the Loch and right into the Hayfield car park. Please follow the parking marshal's directions. We do not recommend that you park on the road, however if you do, please do not move any cones or cause any obstructions. Anyone found doing so will be asked to leave the event.

- All dogs must always be kept on leads
- This trail is not available for training at any time





6. The Practice Trails at Feshiebridge

The Course

This is the training course to be used 22 January to 4 February. There are quite steep hills on the 2.5mile course and care should be taken when meeting other teams on the trail. The same surface conditions apply as for Glenmore and care must be taken of your dogs' feet to avoid injury.

How to Get There: From Aviemore, take the B.970, turning right in Inverdrue (signed Feshiebridge). Continue for approx five miles and turn left at Feshiebridge just before a sharp bend (signed Glenfeshie).

Parking: Please turn into the forest at Feshiebridge and park along the forest trails. Care will obviously need to be taken to allow access and turning facilities for emergency, forestry and musher vehicles. Please start your teams from the cross-roads.

Course Distance - 2.5 miles approx.

- **Trails must be run clockwise**
- **All dogs must be kept on leads and all dog mess cleaned up before you leave.**

7. Junior Musers' Event

Kindly sponsored by **TRAILBABY**, hosted by **Ewan and Kayleigh Robertson** the Junior Event at this rally will be split into two age groups:

J1: 8 -11 years with one dog

J2: 2 - 16 years with two dogs

For the welfare of the dogs and safety of the mushers, please note the following:

- The musher's parent or responsible adult must be a member of the SHCGB.



- The musher must produce head protection at scrutineering time, and this must be worn, properly adjusted, when they are racing. Cycle style skull protectors are the minimum that will be accepted.
- At least one handler and marshal must be available to assist each musher for the duration of the event. This is an essential requirement - without marshals the event will not run.
- The musher must demonstrate their ability to effectively lock the braked wheels of their rig or set the claw brake of their sled to the Scrutineer. If there is any doubt about the ability of the musher to carry out the above, the Rally Organisers' decision will be final regarding the participation of the musher.
- It is expected that common sense will prevail when matching dogs to a junior musher. Dogs should be known to the musher and easily controlled by them.
- For safety reasons, in the event of snow conditions the Organisers strongly recommend that a drag mat is fitted to all juniors' sleds in addition to a claw brake.

8. Trophies on Offer

Please note as this is the final Aviemore rally these trophies will only be given for a year and must be handed back to the Club by January 2025 so they can be offered back to the person that donated them.

Aceca's Shield Mikalya's Shield Kingsbury Plate Annemarie Kolbe Plate Mikalya Trophy Ski volk Trophies Annadark Trophy Davie Hillier Memorial Kenroy Trophies Kiriak Trophy Kiniki Trophy	First Place A Class Second Place A Class Third Place A Class First Place in B + D Classes Second Place B Class Third Place in B, D + D2 classes Third Place C Class First Place in C Class Second place C & D Class First Place C2 Class Second C2 Class
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<p>Isle of Wight Trophy Silver Blaze Trophy Trophy Cool Running's Quaich Kegluneq Trophy Cinneli Plate Tamischka Trophy Malalak Trophy Staggan Trophy Arctictrek's Trophy Mikalya's Red Lamp Kayak's Trophies Sandra Henery Memorial Omega Carvings Casiat Cup Kingdon Trophy Coylumbridge Trophy Nikita's Welfare Cup Leejo Veteran Team Choudak's Trophy Linda Liddle Memorial Kayak's Trophy Vanzants Tribute Kiriak's Trophy Tigara's Trophy Sasoolka Trophies Nosnibor Trophy Saxonwood Trophy John Evans/Mikalya's Memorial Kayak's Trophy The Pugh Cup* Qimuxiq Quaich Mike Nieto Memorial** Zak Bell Trophy Trophy in Memory of Cyber Marmeko Kaska Memorial</p>	<p>Third C2 Class First Place E Class Second Place in E Class Third Place in E Class First E2 Class Second E2 Class Third E2 Class First Place D2 Class Highest placed D2 (mixed) Second Place D2 Class Last Place in each Class Highest Placed Lady Musers C + D Highest Placed All Bitch Team A, B, C Highest All Bitch Team D + E Highest All Bitch Malamute Team D2 Highest Placed Own-Bred Team Highest Placed Newcomer to the Event Highest Placed Welfare Dog/Team: D Class Team with the greatest average age Oldest Musher Highest Placed Mother Youngest Adult Musher Highest placed Malamute Newcomer Highest All Alaskan Malamute C2 Class Highest All Alaskan Malamute D2 Class Highest All Samoyed C2 + E 2 + D2 Classes Highest All Eskimo D2 Team Highest Placed All Eskimo Dog Team in any Class Fastest Run of The Event Person travelling furthest to compete Musher with most sportsmanlike attitude to the event Musher with most improved Second Day time For the Year's Most All Round Good-Egg 1st WA Weight Pull Class 2nd WA Weight Pull Class 1st WC Weight Pull Class</p>
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<p>Bonnie Trophy The Indee Cup Talon Trophy Lunar Trophy The Jedeye LeFevre Trophies Riga Trophy</p>	<p>1st WU Weight Pull Class Most Times by Weight Most Weight Pulled Best Combined Result in WP and Rally First Place J1 and J2 Most Sporting Junior Musher</p>
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*The Pugh Cup is like the Quest or Iditarod trophy given to someone at the event who has gone over and above to help others in trouble. Nominations are asked for and the race organiser will select the most rewarding candidate.

**The Mike Neito Memorial Trophy- for an unsung hero or heroes in the Club, does not have to be connected to Aviemore. Each year the recipient should nominate the next winner.

Inukshuk Iqniq O'the Night JW: 2022 Dual Champion. Photo by: Paul Campbell

