

## ***Gin Gin 200***

Hello Racers!

Here is the latest update on the status of the Gin Gin 200. The trail from Paxson to Maclaren along the Denali Highway has received a couple feet of snow over the past three days. However, there are several long stretches of asphalt between mile 10 and Tangle Lakes; in light of teams' experiences in the 2008 race, the Gin Gin Race Organization has made the decision to move the start of the Gin Gin 200 to Wolverine Lodge on Lake Louise.

The format of the race will also change slightly; there will be a mass start at Wolverine Lodge on Lake Louise; the Womens Division will start at 11:00 am on the 28<sup>th</sup>, the Men will mass start at Noon. The race course will go to Maclaren Lodge where there will be an 8-hour mandatory lay-over before returning, (over the same trail), to the finish at Wolverine Lodge.

- 12/28/09 8am mandatory mushers meeting
- 12/28/09 9:00 am vet check
- 12/30/09 3:00 pm Awards ceremony
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The trail description is as follows; the trail leaves Wolverine on the established Lake Louise trail, traversing Lakes Louise, Susitna and Tyone, (22.5 miles) before entering the Tyone River. It is an additional 32 miles to the confluence of the Tyone and the Susitna River. You will be on the Sue for 13 miles, then turning up the Maclaren on the route to Maclaren Lodge; 42 miles. So it is 54 miles to the mouth of the Tyone, 67 to the mouth of the Maclaren and 109 miles to Maclaren Lodge. This is measured distance.

We would like to caution participants that this is not an easy course, in spite of being relatively flat. This course covers some of the coldest and remote areas of the Copper River Basin; you should come prepared for temperatures of minus 50. There is overflow on the Tyone in several locations, the Maclaren has some overflow just above the canyon, between 15 and 20 miles below Maclaren Lodge. The ice bridges in the Maclaren canyon are intact and in very good shape. The trail stays on the River the entire way. There is open water on both the Susitna and the Maclaren Rivers. There are several shelter cabins along this route, though not necessarily in strategic locations.

The trail crew will consist of two groups; 2 machines leaving immediately in front of the teams and another couple machines coming down from Maclaren at the same time. The trail will be maintained during the race as necessary. Questions on the trail; e-mail John or Zoya at [zdenure@yahoo.com](mailto:zdenure@yahoo.com) or [schandelmeier@yahoo.com](mailto:schandelmeier@yahoo.com)

Happy trails!

Zoya DeNure

907-347-9013

Wolverene Lodge; 822-3988

Lake Louise Lodge; 822-3311

Lake Louise turn-off is at milepost 160 on the Glenn Highway; it is 16 miles to Wolverine Lodge along the Lake Louise road.